

found all the time. So I try to pick out the things of principle and peg away everlastingly at them and do not worry about the rest."

A CONFERENCE ON A FARM IN DENMARK.

FROM Copenhagen the train takes you without a change to Slagelse, the little town where Hans Christian Andersen's school stands in the shadow of the big red parish church. From Slagelse it is a bare mile's walk, first through the town and then along a tree-bordered road, past fields guarded by ditches, to Liselund. The paved entrance leads straight into the square cobbled yard round which stand the farm and house buildings, forming a courtyard or quadrangle which is both a sun-trap and a refuge from the tireless winds of this part of Denmark. On one side of the yard an open arch leads through to a whitewashed building, similar in style, yet larger and stater than the white-walled, thatched buildings of the quadrangle. This is the church of an interesting little group of "Independents," opened only this summer. On another side a door, over which hangs a bell, opens into the flagged ante-room of a conference hall, which may once have been a barn, and which is connected with the church by a passage. The third side gives entrance to three sitting-rooms, opening the one out of the other, and the last on to the garden, and on the fourth side of the quadrangle there are the long low dining-rooms, with the portraits of beruffed Danish Lutheran pastors on the walls, and long windows looking into the garden. Bedrooms are tucked away everywhere, upstairs and down, which seldom seem empty, for when Liselund is not overflowing with Bible students, come to sit at the feet of Pastor Dael, conferences take their place, or meetings such as that for Sadhu Sundar Singh, which drew literally thousands of people from the countryside for miles around.

But the quaint old farm with its air of busy tranquility is not the only attraction of Liselund. Sloping down the hillside are the lawns and gardens, where winding paths bring you to unsuspected beauty spots, and there is cool shade on the hottest day, or sheltered corners in which to enjoy the winter sun. Two tall masts carry the Danish and Swedish flags (the latter for Fru. Dael), hoisted and lowered each day while the national anthems are sung; and a third mast gives hospitality to the national flag of any visitor from another country who may be staying at Liselund.

It would be hard to find a more ideal spot for a conference, and it was here that the Mariaforbund, a society for educated girls affiliated to the Danish K.F.U.K. (Young Women's Christian Association), held its summer meeting in July this year.

Two outstanding features of the conference were the high intellectual level of the lectures and addresses, and the number of times in the day that it burst forth into song. The presence, or absence, of song-books seemed to make no difference. Whether it was walking in the woods, or sitting in the garden, or before and after lectures in the conference hall, or in church, or at the hoisting or lowering of the flags, the conference sang, and sung well. Even grace at meals was usually sung, not said. Campers who need convincing that good music makes a difference in the atmosphere and the effect of a camp or conference should ask for an invitation to Denmark.

The greater part of each day was given up to the consideration of theological and devotional subjects, but there was no sense of overcrowding or of a narrow concentration. Questions of principle led, as a matter of course, to questions of practice, for the "girl of leisure" in Denmark, with few exceptions, is a creature of the past, and the members of the Mariaforbund are in all manner of professions and in touch with very varied aspects of life.

The scene on the last night, in its simplicity and its colour, could only be described by Hans Christian Andersen himself. The conference came out of the house to find the dark garden lit with splashes of colour, now high up in the trees, now on low bushes or on the ground itself. Quite spontaneously everyone from every

part of Liselund dropped into a long procession that marched, singing, in and out of the winding paths of the garden, round an enclosed grass plot, downhill into a half-wild shrubbery, up again to the Swedish summer-house, through kitchen and herb gardens, under fruit trees, past flag poles, here walking cautiously in the dark, there slowing down to catch a new effect of lights and shadows, until the dark, colour-splashed serpent made a circle round the great acacia on the big lawn where Pastor and Fru. Dael stood silhouetted against the white garden benches. And here we may leave them.

SEEING ALL THE SIGHTS IN CONSTANTINOPLE.

THE Young Women's Christian Association in the Near East evidently feels some responsibility for the tourist, for a neat little folded leaflet is now at his disposal, on the back of which is a numbered plan of Constantinople, showing such landmarks as the American Express Company, the Grand Bazaar, the Red Cross Headquarters, the Seraglio Palace, St. Sophia, the Y.M.C.A. and the Y.W.C.A., and so forth. On the inner three sheets are the addresses and telephone numbers of various hotels, firms, clubs, embassies and societies, and some remarkable figures summing up the work of the Y.W.C.A. in the city. Thus the tourist discovers that the membership of over a thousand includes girls of twenty-six nationalities (beginning with Albanian and ending with Tartar) and eight religious faiths. Four hundred and forty-three girls attend educational classes (language lessons, business courses, gymnastics, domestic courses, etc.). Three hundred more are members of clubs. (Clubs in Constantinople!) More than two thousand orphans are provided with organized recreation. Two hundred and seventy-five girls are using the summer camp on the Sea of Marmora, which goes by the name of the Garden of Happiness, and where Turk, Greek, Jew and Armenian play happily together, not to mention a sprinkling of the other twenty-two nationalities. The Employment Bureau handles monthly almost as many. The leaflet invites the tourist with a modest cordiality to visit any of the five centres, and certainly the impression remains that any tourist visiting the other institutions and "sights" and leaving out the Y.W.C.A. will have missed seeing something very alive and full of hope.

EASTERN TOUR OF THE WORLD'S Y.W.C.A. INDUSTRIAL SECRETARY

MISS MARY A. DINGMAN, Industrial Secretary to the World's Y.W.C.A., left England in September for the United States, en route for Japan, China and Australasia. Miss Dingman will spend between two and three months in the United States, part of which time will be given to advisory and consultative work with the Industrial Department of the Y.W.C.A. She will only pass a few weeks in Japan, but hopes to return there after six months with the Chinese Y.W.C.A., leaving in time to reach Australia in October, 1923. The growth of industrial work and opportunities for further service of the industrial girl by the Y.W.C.A. will probably make it necessary for Miss Dingman to spend some months between Australia and New Zealand. Returning possibly by way of South America, Miss Dingman will complete her tour in time to report at the Biennial Meeting of the World's Y.W.C.A. Committee in 1924.

WEEK OF WORLD FRIENDSHIP AND PRAYER.

YOUNG Women's Christian Associations throughout the world will observe the seven days between Sunday, November 12, and Saturday, November 18, as their annual week of World Friendship and Prayer. Efforts will be made to put the membership in touch with the developments in other countries, and to build up a spirit of sympathetic knowledge and a desire for co-operation between different races and nations, on the various questions which affect the full development of women and the general welfare of the community.

JVS SVFFRAGII.

THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SVFFRAGE NEWS

THE MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SVFFRAGE ALLIANCE.



Volume 17. No. 2. PRICE 6d. NOVEMBER, 1922. Annual Subscription, 6/-

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WORLD'S Y.W.C.A. SUPPLEMENT

CENTRE PAGES.

HAVE WOMEN A GIFT FOR POLITICS?

By GISELA URBAN (Vienna).

THE question if women have a gift for politics is not new. It did not arise in recent years only, when many countries acknowledged the full rights of women as citizens. During the struggle for women's suffrage the question whether women are gifted for politics or not was much discussed. This question dates still further back than that. As early as the French Revolution it was dealt with. And still earlier periods not only discussed the question, but also acknowledged unanimously the political talents of certain women. Female monarchs of old ruling races, wives and friends of emperors, kings, and princes, of powerful statesmen, of influential politicians were often skilful enough to rule the life and fate of a whole people according to their will.

Let us first put this question: Were these women who, owing to birth, to a happy chance, to some peculiarity of outward appearance, or to mental qualities, walked on the heights of human life, actually gifted for politics? Gifted in the spirit of modern women's tendency? The manner in which some of these women enforced their will—in an indirect way over men whom they fascinated—is condemned by thinking modern women. And, in addition, that which women's politics aimed at in bygone times has nothing in common with the intellectual aims of women's politics in our times.

Formerly women entering public life were only led by the views of men: by questions of power and property. To win power and to secure it, to obtain possessions and extend them; these were the causes of the political activity of women. The prosperity enjoyed by some nations when ruled by a woman's will, of which historical works make honourable mention, was, with few exceptions, not due to sympathy, to a wish to promote and develop life, but to a selfish impetus to enjoy power and personal possessions undisturbed and unrestrained.

Even this short retrospect is sufficient to show that the question if women have political talents or not cannot be solved by applying the hitherto acknowledged standards. Hitherto, a person has been pronounced to have political talents when he was strong enough to influence life by his own ideas, by his ardent will that inflamed the masses of the people, thus giving aim and direction to events. Presence of mind, superiority, ready wit, stubbornness, energy, the passionate gesture of a flashing temperament, or the imposing reserve of intellectual concentration, all these belong to the outfit of a person favoured with political gifts. His work is based on a systematic, often underhand, struggle against the convictions of others. Victory over the political adversary and the enforcing of his own ideas are the trade marks of success. But all these

gifted ones were men and are men, and masculine views have laid down the lines of political work and its criterion. Are women to be judged by the same standard? Should they not, conscious of their own differently organized natures, bring their own original thought and feeling with them when entering political life?

Woman's mission in politics is not so easily reduced to words as is a political programme. Whoever has rightly considered the disparity between the two sexes will know that for a woman politics cannot be an aim in themselves; no ground on which she may fight for power and possessions. That she can only use politics as a means to introduce into our modern order of life the forces that are essentially her own by nature: the forces of care-taking and protective motherliness, which have founded families and homes, and which now, in consequence of the equal rights of women in society, should serve all interests of human life.

People in general are still far from appreciating rightly women's activity in public life. Politicians, too, judge women according to the fixed standard of their traditional ideas. Woman is still a novice in political life. In the short time that has elapsed since the women of those European countries which have given equal citizenship rights to man and woman obtained the right of suffrage (only the Finnish, Norwegian and Swedish women's rights are of an earlier date), a political will of women in politics has had no time to develop, still less to obtain a decisive influence. Let us consider: We live in a disorganized world. Misery, despair and chaotic conditions weigh heavily not only on the unhappy nations who were defeated in the war. The others too—the whole of Europe—suffer from the consequences of that terrible catastrophe. Economic misery of an unheard-of extent and other destructive forces shake the countries that are most deeply stricken. But economic chaos does not respect any frontiers. Obeying the eternal laws of economic circulation of blood, it seizes one country after another. Factories stand still, industrious hands are idle, the spectre of unemployment checks the most flourishing industrial life. Nor is that all. Acts of violence, riots, social struggles that separate the classes still more fatally, political wars that make the nations more and more greedy for spoil and destruction flare up everywhere. The Balkans resound again to the din of battle; Austria cannot live; Poland writhes under economic disasters; in Czecho-Slovakia the symptoms of social revolts, caused by unemployment, are getting more and more numerous. Where is there a country in Europe in which peaceful conditions favour the progress of culture and social development? Is it possible that, in this poisoned atmosphere of mutual incitement and mistrust and of political harassings, peaceful foreign policy, aiming at a reconciliation of the nations, can prosper? Is it possible for efficient political reforms to thrive in this confused state of affairs in which morality and honesty are being destroyed; in this disorder fostering coarsest materialism? Even bold politicians, who once dreamt of great political reforms which were to lead us to the promised land of a perfect social system, have had to learn that our times are thwarting their endeavours. Is it possible then that women should succeed at once, in forming a new world such as they wish to help in forming?

Political work first sprouts within the parties before it can blossom in public life. Therefore, women must first try to get influence in the parties.

Now the parties are, almost without exception, still blinded by the old ideas of politics only serving constituencies, instead of uniting in common, honest work for the welfare of the people. The parties—especially in Austria—make their members submit to the strictest party discipline. For the elected women this is often a fetter, hindering them in a more devoted work for women's interests. Besides, these women, being novices on the political stage, must first learn the mysteries of technical proceedings in order to master parliamentary procedure. Their tactics must be to observe and to find their way. For parliamentary technicalities are rich in complicated, often tiresome, work on a small scale. The most important work is done in the committees, to which as yet women are rarely nominated. In the full sittings of Parliaments the members are generally restrained by party considerations. Could it be expected that women would be able from the first moment of their parliamentary work to give a new impulse to this clumsy political machine?

No: even the parties have no clear notion nowadays about the tasks of women's political work. If it were so, they would free women from the hindering restraint of faction, under which the originality of women's thought and feeling suffers so much. The women working within the parties know but too well that great struggles are in store for them in the secrecy of the party before they can reach the nearest goal of women's politics: the transformation of the party, which is still essentially masculine, on a basis of co-operation of men and women with equal rights. Not before the parties understand and appreciate the essence of women's politics will the process of transformation be continued in our whole political life. Only then the wide circles of woman voters who are still in many countries reproached with indifference will discover inner connections with politics. Then they will fulfill their political duties with a livelier interest, with a deeper insight, and will give a brighter and more discernible colour to women's politics. But the effects of women's political work will become obvious only when they succeed in causing their ideals of motherhood to pervade home and foreign politics. And then the question if women are gifted for politics will be solved.

MEMORIAL TO FRAU MINNA CAUER.

WE are asked to bring to the notice of our readers the proposed Memorial to the late Frau Minna Cauer, who was for many years the leader of the German Feminist Movement. Her friends have resolved to erect a monument on her grave, and they trust that everyone who loved and esteemed Minna Cauer will contribute to it. Such contributions should be sent to the National Bank für Deutschland, 24, Jerusalemstrasse, Berlin, C. 19. Account "Ehrendenkmal Minna Cauer."

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM.

Conference at The Hague.

THE Executive Committee of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom has issued a call for a women's conference at The Hague on December 7. This will consider "how the ruin now impending over Europe can be averted by the substitution of a real and practical peace for the present destructive treaties."

October, 1922.

A BIRD'S-EYE VIEW.

[We have received the following article from a contributor who, though not actively connected with the Alliance, reads our paper and follows both the work of the Alliance and of the League of Nations with interest. We print it with pleasure because in a very short space it summarizes the findings of the Assembly on those questions in which women are most interested. True, the "Raven" croaks somewhat! But an occasional croak is a healthy counter-irritant to complacency.]

THE League of Nations during its Third Session (September 4 to 30, 1922) recorded its satisfaction at the assistance given by the Health Organization to the work of the Warsaw Conference, authorized the Council to take advantage of such general sanitary conferences as may be convoked, and even considered that it may be possible, before the meeting of the Fourth Assembly, to prepare the constitution of a permanent Health Organization. Meanwhile, the persistence of epidemics in Eastern Europe constitutes a serious danger to the world, and that danger will not diminish until the principle of the participation of all European States in the expenditure necessary for the anti-epidemic campaign—a principle accepted at the Genoa Conference—is put into practice.

Among other resolutions and recommendations adopted, we note the approval of the establishment of a special sub-committee to report on the probable effects of chemical discoveries in future wars, and the request that the fullest publicity should be given to the reports of this sub-committee. As to disarmament, while declaring that the reduction of armaments contemplated by Article 8 of the Covenant cannot achieve its full effect for world-peace unless it be general, the League is of opinion that, in the present state of the world, many Governments would be unable to accept the responsibility for a serious reduction of armaments unless they received in exchange a satisfactory guarantee of the safety of their country; and the question of a general "Treaty of Mutual Guarantee" still is—a question.

As regards the traffic in opium and other dangerous drugs, the Assembly, being convinced that the most practical means of controlling it is by the import and export certificate system, and believing that only international action can make this system a success, urges on all Governments to adopt this system without delay, and to begin by supplying statements showing the amount of drugs required by each country for legitimate uses. In none of these recommendations can we detect anything dangerous.

The traffic in women and children has also received the Assembly's attention, and we note with satisfaction the decision that "in view of the fact that the system of State regulation which exists in certain countries is thought in many quarters to encourage the traffic in women, the Advisory Committee should be asked by the Council to consider whether, pending the abolition of the system, it would be agreed that no foreign woman should be employed or carry on her profession as a prostitute in any licensed house." This is the first hope held out of the League considering the abolition of the system, and as such it must be warmly welcomed.

Equally welcome is the decision that the question of slavery shall be included in the agenda of the Fourth Assembly, and the request that the Council should present to that Assembly a report on the information which it shall have received on the matter.

The subject is, however, in many ways connected with the question of mandates, and it is not very encouraging to find that the Assembly, having considered the matter of the right of petition, has thought fit to express the hope that this right may be defined in such a manner as to ensure its stultification. Even thus:—

"(a) All petitions emanating from inhabitants of mandated areas will be sent to the Permanent Mandates Commission through the intermediary of the local administration and of the mandatory Power;

"(b) No petition concerning the welfare of the inhabitants of mandated areas emanating from

other sources will be considered by the Permanent Mandates Commission before the mandatory Power has had full opportunity of expressing its views."

The recommendations concerning the protection of minorities can at best be described only as pious aspirations. While, in cases of grave infraction of the Minorities Treaties, the Assembly recognizes that the Council should retain its full power of direct action, it also opines that, in ordinary circumstances, the League can best promote good relations between the various signatory Governments and persons belonging to minorities placed under their sovereignty by benevolent and informal communications with those Governments. For this purpose the Assembly suggests that the Council might require to have a larger secretarial staff at its disposal.

As to the States which are not bound by any legal obligations to the League with respect to minorities, the Assembly does not suggest any increase of secretarial staffs or of consumption of stationery. It simply "expresses the hope that" the States in question "will observe in the treatment of their own racial, religious, or linguistic minorities at least as high a standard of justice and toleration as is required by any of the Treaties."

If the League of Nations can do nothing more for the protection of minorities the matter might well be left to the British and Foreign Bible Society.

"RAVEN."

THIRD ASSEMBLY OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS AND THE TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

Proceedings of the Fifth Committee, Sept. 20, 1922.

[Blessings on our women delegates to the League of Nations. Who can pretend that without the power and influence of women in the League, the Third Assembly would have passed unanimously (Spain abstained from the vote) the resolution quoted below—a resolution which, containing, as it does, the words "pending the abolition of the system," means that the countries represented in the League realize that regulation must go. We congratulate M. Sokal on his fine step, and we publish a report of the Fifth Committee, as little abridged as possible, for it gives a valuable insight into the position of many Governments on this question.]

(a) Statements by Delegates.

M. ADOR (Switzerland) made the following statement on behalf of his Government: "Without waiting for the coming into force of the Swiss Penal Code of 1918, the Federal Council will very shortly bring before the Federal Assembly the question of the adhesion of Switzerland to the Convention of 1910 and that of the ratification of the Convention of 1921. The Federal Council will, at the same time, introduce into Parliament a special Bill incorporating the provisions of the two agreements of 1910 and 1921."

M. CHAO-JSIN CHU (China) said that China had not ratified the 1921 Convention, but, immediately after the termination of the Assembly, the Chinese delegates would do their best to expedite the ratification of the Convention by China.

M. FERREIRA (Portugal) said that the Portuguese Government had immediately signed the Convention, and had subsequently instructed the competent committee of its Parliament to examine the different questions raised by the Convention, with a view to the adoption of practical measures for their solution.

The geographical situation of Portugal imposed particularly exacting duties upon it; for, Portugal being on a route which was very favourable for this infamous traffic, it was necessary to exercise special vigilance with regard to the individuals concerned.

M. Ferreira announced that he had just received from his Government a telegram informing him that the matter had been placed on the agenda of the coming session of Parliament, which would take place in October. The ratification would thus not be long delayed.

The world's situation was not so brilliant that any civilized country could afford to ignore a problem such as this, the solution of which might certainly contribute, in part at any rate, towards establishing a firm basis for the future of society, which was now so profoundly shaken.

(b) Motion by M. Sokal.

M. SOKAL (Poland) said that the Polish Government had ratified the Agreement of 1904 and the Convention of 1910, but they had not yet been able to ratify the Convention of 1921. However, preparatory measures were being taken, so that the ratification of the 1921 Convention would not be longer delayed.

Poland was especially interested in the question, as Polish women were being recruited by traffickers and conveyed to licensed brothels, chiefly in America. The Council of the League of Nations had recognized the importance of the question for Poland by offering a seat on the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Women and Children to that Government.

The Warsaw Police had recently discovered that passports were being forged in order to get women to America. The Polish Government had recently created a central authority, recommended by the Agreement of 1904; this central authority was now co-operating with the Polish Emigration Office.

The representatives of the Polish Catholic, Protestant and Jewish associations for the protection of women, and the Polish societies against race degeneration, organized, on September 14 of this year, with the assistance of the representatives of the Government, a national Polish committee against the traffic in women; moreover, the Polish Minister of Health has just forbidden licensed brothels by decree.

But the best way to stop the traffic in women was to abolish all licensed houses. Until that step had been taken, he thought it would be extremely advisable to forbid the admission of foreign women into licensed houses in the countries where those houses were not yet suppressed.

The Fifth Committee, not being a committee of experts in the matter, he only proposed that his resolution should be transmitted by the Council to the Advisory Committee on this traffic.

With regard to the motion he was submitting to the Committee, he stated that he was particularly anxious to lay down a principle. He did not insist upon the actual wording of the motion. It read as follows:—

"The Fifth Committee recommends to the Assembly that in view of the fact that the system of State regulation which exists in certain countries is often considered as likely to encourage the traffic in women, the Advisory Committee should be asked by the Council to consider whether, pending the abolition of the system, it could be agreed that no foreign women should be employed in or carry on her profession as a prostitute in any licensed brothels, and that the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the subject should be included in its next report to the Council."

At the present moment the most important step was to forbid foreign women to stay in licensed brothels. It was evident that such a prohibition would greatly lessen traffic in women. It was well known that licensed brothels were a very important factor in the organization which existed for traffic in women.

Mrs. DALE (Australia) seconded the motion moved by M. Sokal. In view of the close connection which a very large body of public opinion considered to exist between licensed houses and the traffic, it followed that if the proposal of M. Sokal could be carried out it would be the most severe blow which the traffic had ever had. The motion recognized a principle for which people in increasing numbers had been fighting ever since the days of Josephine Butler, namely, that of fighting against State regulation. She referred to the splendid work that had been done by Governments in the suppression of the traffic, and said that the action of the French Government in calling conferences on the question had been most admirable. The International Woman Suffrage Alliance, at their Eighth Conference at Geneva, passed the following resolution: "This Congress affirms its belief that (a) a high moral standard equal for men and women should be recognized; (b) that laws which strike at women without touching men are ineffective and unjust; (c) that the regulation of prostitution in any form should be abolished. . . . This Congress notes the resolution of the League of Nations on the question of the traffic in women and children. Since the regulation of prostitution is an important contributive cause of the continuance of this traffic in women, this Congress declares for its abolition both nationally and internationally. It therefore urges the League of Nations to adopt the following policy: (a) To recommend to the constituent States the abolition of the State regulation of prostitution," and so on.

Regulation had been shown to be on the decline; no country which had ever abolished it had ever returned to it. For ethical and practical reasons, it was seen to be not only unjust but inefficient. She recommended to the earnest consideration of the members of the Committee the question of regulation in its broadest aspects, and asked them to pass the resolution.

Mlle. FORCHHAMMER (Denmark) supported the resolution. She said that the International Council of Women, which had been in existence since 1890, had at nearly all of its conferences adopted resolutions to the effect that the regulation of prostitution was at the root of the traffic in women and children, and that therefore it should be abolished everywhere. She believed that if the motion proposed by M. Sokal was adopted by the Committee and by the Assembly it would be accepted with great satisfaction by women's organizations all over the world.

M. REYNALD (France) recalled the attitude adopted last year by the French Delegation when this question was discussed.

France not only desired regulations for the mother countries, but also for the colonies. In so far as the principles were concerned, the French Delegation accepted them entirely.

As France had been represented on the Advisory Committee, she has had an opportunity of expressing her opinions.

The speaker thanked Mrs. Dale for having referred to the part played by France in the matter. The speaker appreciated M. Sokal's idea. He wished by his resolution to arrive at a complete suppression of licensed houses. That question was a very delicate one, for it affected the whole system of the regulation of prostitution. All countries which had adopted such a regulation had certainly not done so with a view to facilitating prostitution, but because they believed, rightly or wrongly, that official regulation might be of use and would exercise a more effective control over public health. Further, it was believed that with such a regulation, families would be preserved from contamination.

Dr. PRIVAT (Persia), on behalf of the Persian Delegation, supported the motion as brought forward in the modified text, which he considered better than the first.

Persia had signed the Convention of 1921. The Persian Government would immediately present a Bill in Parliament regarding the ratification of the Convention.

His delegation considered M. Sokal's proposal highly important. Indeed, if the Advisory Committee approved the resolution a great advance would have been made in the matter of the restriction of traffic in women. If a decision could be reached that only nationals should be tolerated in licensed houses, public opinion would certainly oppose the continued existence of licensed brothels on the ground of national dignity alone.

M. AVRAMOVITCH (Serb-Croat-Slovene State) said the Serb-Croat-Slovene State earnestly desired the suppression of this ignoble traffic.

The fact that the Serb-Croat-Slovene Parliament had not yet ratified the Convention was because it was at present engaged in the elaboration of constitutional laws which prevented it from dealing with the matter at present.

He expressed approval of M. Sokal's proposal.

M. LOEFGREN (Sweden) hoped that at the beginning of next year Sweden would be in a position to ratify the different Conventions on this subject. He hoped that that Committee would recommend the Council of the League to advise the members of the League to abolish the system of State regulation. That would be the only way of achieving an effective result in the matter.

Mlle. VACARESCO (Roumania) supported M. Sokal's motion most warmly.

Mrs. COOMBE TENNANT (British Empire) also supported M. Sokal's motion. In England there was no State regulation of prostitution. Practically every women's society in Great Britain was strongly opposed to any sort of State regulation, however limited in its extent. As to the remarks which had fallen from M. Reynald, suggesting how those countries which had continued to keep State regulation in force based their attitude upon the belief that it was to the advantage of family life, she would like to say that in Great Britain it was felt that regulation, far from protecting family life, was a very serious danger to it, because as it was at present impossible to make vice safe, the illusion of safety which regulation gave actually turned out to be a far greater danger in the shape of infection.

M. SOKAL (Poland) thanked the various members of the Committee who had supported his motion. As some members considered his proposals inadequate and others thought them too advanced, he ventured to hope that he had found the happy medium.

As he had already said, his proposal aimed at the complete suppression of brothels.

M. VALDES (Chile) observed that the Chilean Government had signed the Convention of 1921. It had been submitted to Parliament for ratification and he hoped that the ratification would take place next October.

M. AVRAMOVITCH (Serb-Croat-Slovene State) thought that it was chiefly the duty of women's associations to work in the interests of girls who were taken away to foreign countries. It was not enough to prohibit the traffic; they must also give girls a sufficient measure of education in their own country which would provide them with the means necessary for their existence.

The Serb-Croat-Slovene State was fortunately not affected by this traffic.

M. ADOR (Switzerland) did not wish that the silence of members of the committee who were not taking part in the discussion should be taken as implying that those members were in favour of prostitution.

He wished to make a personal statement. He had long been a great opponent of the regulation of brothels. At Geneva he had strongly opposed their continued existence, and would continue in his views.

In Switzerland the question was not within the competence of the Confederation, but of the Cantons.

M. DE YANGUAS (Spain) supported M. Sokal's proposal. He did not agree with M. Loefgren in thinking that the question should be settled in a radical manner. It should not be forgotten that the question had two aspects—it was one of national law and also of international law. He thought that they should refer to the Advisory Committee the examination of the question from an international point of view, and that they should leave the matter on one side in so far as national law was concerned.

Personally, he was in favour of abolition, but public opinion in Spain was at present in favour of regulation.

M. CASTORKIS (Greece) pointed out that they were digressing. The committee was now discussing the whole question of the regulation of prostitution. He was not a supporter of official regulation, but they must distinguish between the two aspects of the question, as the Spanish delegate had just done.

A vote being taken, M. Sokal's motion was carried.

The Assembly passed M. Sokal's resolution unanimously, Spain abstaining from the vote.

AUSTRALIA.**How Mrs. Dale was Appointed Delegate to the League of Nations.**

News in private letters just received from Australia concerning the appointment of Mrs. Dale as alternate delegate to the League of Nations is of a nature which should greatly encourage all women who are striving to secure recognition of the equality of the sexes in international as well as in national affairs. From the first the women in almost every one of the States of Australia had taken very seriously the question of the appointment of a woman delegate, and quite a large number of candidates were put forward by the various women's societies. The Premier, Mr. Hughes, received a deputation from the Women's Service Guild of Western Australia during his visit to Perth, and as these women could speak for the new Federation of Australian Women's Societies, their representations carried great weight. They followed up the impression created by ceaselessly keeping the question of sending a woman delegate before the attention of the House, through their own Federal members. The situation became very exciting. The president of the Women's Service Guild (Mrs. Rischbieth), who was travelling in the Eastern States, took the opportunity of calling at Federal House (Melbourne), where she interviewed all the Western Australian Federal members, and also had another audience of the Premier. At this interview Mr. Hughes told her that he had done all he could, but that the Cabinet had chosen three men and that no woman would be appointed. He gave her, however, the use of his own room in which to interview the members who were most strongly opposed to the appointment of a woman. At first these gentlemen were reluctant to come, but a better mood soon prevailed, and thanks to Mr. Bruce, the treasurer, himself delegate to last year's Assembly, Mrs. Rischbieth succeeded in overcoming the active opposition of the members in question. Mr. Hughes then commissioned Mrs. Rischbieth to consult again with the women of Victoria and the other States. To their honour, the Australian women in every State showed readiness to sink their local preferences and to concentrate upon the one candidate who best fulfilled the conditions upon which all were agreed. The woman to be chosen must be an Australian, and returning to Australia, educated, able to speak French, non-party in politics, and a good public speaker. Mrs. Dale best fulfilled all these conditions, her firm attitude upon the question of social hygiene turning the scale. Though her appointment is only that of alternate delegate, it is a great victory. Mr. Bruce and her other supporters wish Mrs. Dale to be a missioner for the League on her return to Australia. Arrangements are being made for her to address meetings at the various ports of call in Australia on the way to Sydney.

Communicated by H. C. NEWCOMB,
Hon. Sec. British Dominions
Women Citizens' Union.

London, October 25, 1922.

FORMATION OF BRITISH ROME CONGRESS COMMITTEE TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE I.W.S.A. CONGRESS IN ROME.

A CONFERENCE was held at the Women's Institute, London, on October 10, 1922, for the purpose of forming the British Rome Congress Committee.

MISS MACMILLAN, in the chair, spoke of the excellent work done in connection with the last Congress in Geneva, 1920, by the British Committee, and expressed the hope that the Committee now to be formed would be equally successful.

MRS. CORBETT ASHBY said that after her visit to Rome she felt that a Congress there at this moment might be a

real turning-point in the history of the movement for women's enfranchisement there, and that this seemed to justify an appeal for support for the Congress, though she knew it was a bad time to appeal for money. There was a great lack of rank-and-file support in the woman's movement in Italy, and she thought that nothing less than this great world Congress would bring in this support. Among the difficulties of the movement in Italy were the violent political differences and the strong religious cleavage which made it difficult for women of different faiths to work together. Also, though Italians were very ready to recognize outstanding merit in their women, they were not ready at all to grant equal opportunity to the average woman. But the greatest obstacle to the meeting in Rome was the poverty. The Italian women were going to make a great effort to raise a considerable sum of money, but we must remember that our money had so great a value there that anything sent from here would be infinitely valuable there.

With regard to Germany, the poverty there was far worse than people here had any conception of, and while a certain amount of charitable work was possible for the women, anything in the way of organization was very difficult. They felt their isolation from the main current of the woman's movement, and their presence in Rome would be a practical contribution to the peace of the world.

MISS FITZGERALD spoke on behalf of the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society. She referred to the fact that, as one of the affiliated societies of the Alliance in England, they felt their responsibility with regard to the Congress. A large proportion of the population of Italy consisted of women, but while the cultured women would be easy to win to the cause, it was the ordinary woman who was the important person to get hold of. The Popular Party—which was the Catholic Party—had placed women's suffrage on its programme, which was an encouraging sign. She also bade the meeting remember that both Austria and Ireland—predominantly Catholic countries—had given the vote to their women.

MISS CHRISTITCH said that women had not yet won the vote in her own country, Serbia or Yugo-Slavia, and she hoped that this Congress in Rome might be of service in their struggle, as a large percentage of the population was Catholic. She then referred to her recent visit to Quebec and of the changing opinion of the Catholics there on the question of women's enfranchisement.

MISS ROYDEN explained that she had asked not to be placed among the official speakers at the meeting, as she had something to say which she did not think would be altogether welcome. She spoke of her meeting with Mrs. McCormick, the Treasurer of the Alliance, who had said that she had felt the Geneva Congress had failed in that, in spite of much individual effort, there had been a lack of unity between the enfranchised and the unenfranchised women—perhaps partly due to a failure to tackle boldly thorny questions. She wanted to emphasize the fact that the woman's movement would never succeed until it recognized that it needed a world based on peace and the power of spiritual things, and not on the supremacy of force. If this great principle was at the back of the movement, the fact that some women had the vote and some had it not would become a small thing. The women of America had a passion for peace—every organized body of women felt the same, and if the woman's movement would stand for that, American women would be with them. She had been told that the Italian women felt that any discussion of this question would completely wreck their movement, but she hoped that the time was not coming when women would be afraid to tackle the discussion of any question.

MRS. ABBOTT, in reply to Miss Royden, said that however much women, individually or collectively, desired peace, the first concern of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance was not to stand for peace, but to demand that perfect equality and freedom for women without which they could not, effectively, "stand for" anything. It was essential to have an international organization which worked definitely for suffrage and equality. Even when the actual vote was

won, women were by no means fully emancipated—such emancipation could only be won by a strenuous fight, not only for equal laws for women, but for a revolution of thought concerning women. One of the most fundamental equalities necessary was the Equal Moral Standard. That was a subject which must be dealt with internationally by women. At present there was a world-wide campaign known as "Social Hygiene," which, though it favoured the abolition of regulation of prostitution, substituted other evils such as compulsory treatment, compulsory detention, and compulsory examination for venereal disease. It was essential that women in international conference should take a clear and instructed view on this question.

MRS. BOMPAS urged the importance of the question of equal pay, and the necessity of women understanding the difficulties of the economic problem involved.

MISS NINA BOYLE asked if the Congress was to be a suffrage congress, or whether it was to consider the points outlined by Miss Royden.

MISS MACMILLAN explained that the preparations must follow the lines of the existing equality programme of the Alliance, but nothing could prevent a resolution to alter that programme from being brought up at the Congress itself.

MISS WARD, on behalf of the N.U.S.E.C., urged the importance of forming a strong Committee and appealed to everyone present to put their names on the forms provided as being willing to serve on it, with the object of collecting funds and undertaking propaganda.

At the close of the Conference the following offered to serve in the B.R.C.C.:

Miss Barry, Catholic Women's Suffrage Society, 55, Berners Street, W. 1; Miss Baumann, "The Oaks," King's Avenue, Clapham Park; Miss Beaumont, 17, Campden House Road, W. 8; Miss Boschetti, 74, Grosvenor Square, W. 1; Miss Nina Boyle, Talbot House, St. Martin's Lane, W.C. 2; Miss Christitch, 33, Brooke Street, E.C. 1; Miss Clegg, 17, Cromwell Crescent, S.W. 5; Mrs. Corner, "Junipers," Milford, Surrey; Miss de Alberti, 306, Scott Ellis Gardens, London, N.W.; Miss Fitzgerald, c/o Catholic Women's Suffrage Society, 55, Berners Street, W.; Mrs. Fox Strangeways, 24, Abercorn Place, St. John's Wood, N.W. 8; Mrs. Fyffe, 79, Victoria Road, Kensington, W. 8; Supt. Goldingham, Women's Auxiliary Service, 7, Rochester Row, Westminster, S.W. 1; Mrs. Henderson, 9, Temple Fortune Court, N.W. 11; Mrs. Hanscomb, 14, Gray's Inn Residences, E.C. 1; Miss Hoc, 75, Hereford Road, Bayswater, W. 2; Miss Newcomb, 13, Temple Fortune Court, N.W. 11; Miss McGowan, 40, Nevein Square, S.W. 5; Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, 34, Abbey Road, N.W. 8; Miss Royden, 16, Rosslyn Hill, Hampstead, N.W. 3; Mrs. Rustomji Faridonji, Hotel Spencer, Portman Street, W. 1; Miss Solomon, 64, Pattison Road, N.W. 2; Miss Sterling, "Homewood," Hartfield, Sussex; Miss Tovey, 6, Gossage Road, Plumstead, S.E. 18; Miss Ward, 34, Marlborough Hill, N.W. 8; Mrs. E. Abbott, 10, Elm Park Road, Chelsea, S.W. 3; Mrs. Corbett Ashby, 33, Upper Richmond Road, S.W. 15; Mrs. Auerbach, "Heathersett," Reigate, Surrey; Mrs. M. G. Fawcett, L.L.D., 2, Gower Street, W.C. 2; Miss Margaret Hodge, 13, Temple Fortune Court, N.W. 11; Dr. E. Knight, Women's Freedom League, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1; Miss C. Macmillan, 71, Harcourt Terrace, S.W. 10; Miss Eleanor Rathbone, "Oakfield," Penny Lane, Liverpool; Miss Rosamond Smith, 12, Eaton Place, Eaton Square, S.W. 1; Miss Underwood, Women's Freedom League, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1; Mrs. Villiers Stuart, 18, Pelham Street, S.W. 7; Miss N. B. Colona, 1, Moreton Place, Belgrave Road, Victoria, S.W. 1; Miss G. E. Steyn, 13, Theobald's Road, W.C. 1.

AFGHANISTAN.

A Woman's University, for the study of medicine, has been begun in Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan, with five hundred women students in attendance. Pashtu, Persian, Urdu and Russian are also taught in the University. This means a distinct step in the progress of women, and now that Afghan women are travelling more, it will not be long until they come out openly, discard their veils, and contribute a valuable part to the progress of the nation.

September, 1922.

Sri Dharmā.

AUSTRIA.

Bericht über die Wiener Tagungen des Internationalen Demokratischen und den Soziologischen Kongresses.

UNTER den vielen internationalen Zusammenkünften, die im Laufe der letzten Wochen in Wien abgehalten wurden, sind die Veranstaltung eines demokratischen und eines soziologischen Kongresses zu erwähnen.

Der internationale demokratische Kongress, der vom 26. September bis zum 1. Oktober tagte, wurde vom internationalen demokratischen Ausschuss auf Anregung von Marc Sangnier, Deputierter der Stadt Paris, einberufen. Die bedeutendsten Vereinigungen, die der demokratischen und der Friedensidee dienen, hatten aus 18 Ländern der Einberufung Folge geleistet, so aus Amerika, Deutschland, Grossbritannien, Italien, Holland, Portugal, Rumänien, Ungarn, Bulgarien, Russland, Schweiz, Polen, Lithauen, Tschechoslowakei, Venezuela, Österreich. Das stärkste Kontingent der Teilnehmerzahl stellte Frankreich. Die Tagesordnung des Kongresses umfasste die heute wichtigsten Fragen, und die besondere Bedeutung des Kongresses lag in der steten Betonung des Strebens nach Völkerverständigung und internationaler Zusammenarbeit auf demokratischer Grundlage. Sehr treffend charakterisierte Marc Sangnier die Ziele des Kongresses in seiner Eröffnungsrede, indem er ausführte, dass eine internationale Verfassung vorbereitet werden müsse, die die Versöhnung aller Völker und den Wiederaufbau der Welt ermögliche. Nicht nur die Entwaffnung der Waffen, sondern auch die Entwaffnung des Geistes des Hasses sei notwendig. Von den Verhandlungen des Kongresses sind hervorzuheben, die Berichte der Vertreter Bulgariens, Lithauens und Ungarns über die Lage der Länder Mittel- und Ost-europas nach dem Weltkriege. Die Frage der ethischen und religiösen Friedensaktionen wurden eingehend besprochen, ebenso die Frage des Erziehungsproblems. Über das Erstarken der katholischen Gewerkschaftsbewegung erstattete der belgische Vertreter einen sehr interessanten Bericht, an den sich eine lebhaftes Wechselrede schloss.

Die Behandlung der Frage der Rolle der Frauen im politischen Leben war eine eigene Sitzung gewidmet, in der die österreichische Bundesrätin Starhemberg den Vorsitz führte. Miss Jane Bell sprach als Vertreterin der Society of Friends, Mlle. Germaine Swarts namens der französischen katholischen Studentinnen, Miss Pottecher für die Fellowship of Reconciliation, Frau Lola Marschall für die katholischen Frauen Österreichs, Fräulein Reicher für die polnischen Frauen, Mlle. de Cosler namens der syndikalistischen Frauenbewegung in Belgien, und Frau Ernestine Fürth (Wien) als Delegierte der Internationalen Women's Suffrage Alliance. Alle Rednerinnen wiesen darauf hin, dass es in erster Linie Aufgabe der politisch vollberechtigten Frauen sei, den neugewonnenen Einfluss im Sinne der Demokratie und des Friedens zu entfalten. Der belgische Abgeordnete Hexman und Fürst della Scaletta aus Italien sicherten den Frauen ihre werktätige Unterstützung im Kampfe um die politische Gleichberechtigung in Belgien und Italien zu. Zum Schlusse berichtete die Vicepräsidentin der Association française pour le Suffrage des Femmes, Mme. Malaterre-Sellier, über die französische Stimmrechtsbewegung.

Die letzte Arbeitssitzung des Kongresses war einer Zusammenfassung aller vorgebrachter Resolutionen gewidmet. Einstimmig wurden die Resolutionen angenommen, welche sowohl eine französisch-deutsche, als auch eine allgemeine internationale Zusammenarbeit zur Lösung der grossen durch den Krieg geschaffenen Probleme fordern.

Den Ausklang bildete eine Rede Marc Sangniers, in der er, unter allgemeiner Akklamation, die Interessengemeinschaft aller Nationen ausführte und betonte, dass man nicht eine einzige Nation retten könne, ohne die durch den Krieg erschütterte allgemeine Lage wieder herzustellen. Es sprachen hierauf noch Dr. Bauer aus Deutschland, Prälat Giesswein aus Ungarn, Fürst della Scaletta aus Italien, Dr. Broda aus der Schweiz, Her José

Bareelo aus Portugal, Mr. Dickinson aus England, namens ihrer Delegationen ihren begeisterten Anschluss an die Tendenzen des Kongresses aus.

Der Bundespräsident der Republik, Dr. Michael Hainisch, hat durch einen Empfang der Kongressteilnehmer sein Interesse und seine Sympathie für die vom Kongress vertretenen Ideen zum Ausdruck gebracht.

Sehr wenig befriedigend war die Organisation und der Verlauf des soziologischen Kongresses, der vom 2. bis 9. Oktober in Wien tagte. Professor Cosentini, der tüchtige und eifrige Direktor des Institutes für angewandte Soziologie in Turin, hatte offenbar die Schwierigkeiten der Veranstaltung eines internationalen Kongresses in einem ihm unbekanntem Milieu gründlich unterschätzt. Es war weder ein vorbereitendes Bureau geschaffen worden, noch irgend welcher Informationsdienst eingerichtet; auch müssen interne *faux-pas* unterlaufen sein, denn von den angekündigten 300 Delegierten aus 35 Staaten, hatten sich nur eine verschwindend kleine Anzahl eingefunden. Die führenden Soziologen der Universität Wien, sowie der Wiener Soziologischen Gesellschaft blieben den Verhandlungen des Kongresses vollkommen fern, was gewiss nicht mangelndem Interesse oder fehlendem Sinn für zu erweisende Gastfreundschaft zuzuschreiben ist, sondern nur auf unterlaufene Missverständnisse und Fehler bei der Organisation des Kongresses beruhen kann. So ergab sich die bedauerliche Tatsache, dass die Tagung einen sehr schwachen Besuch aufzuweisen hatte und dass das Niveau der Diskussionen einer wissenschaftlichen Kritik nicht standhalten konnte. Zur Beratung standen auch auf diesem Kongresse alle die Fragen, die jetzt im Mittelpunkt des allgemeinen Interesses stehen und deren gründliche Erörterung von grossem Werte sein können. Den Vorsitz in den Arbeitssitzungen führte die Herren Professor Blondel aus Paris, Professor Cosentini aus Turin, Professor Michel aus Turin, Professor Heller aus Ungarn, Professor Turoll aus Barcelona und der Direktor der russischen Völkerbundliga Briantschinow. An den Debatten beteiligten sich in anregender und sachverständiger Weise unter anderen, Herr Rodolphe Broda aus der Schweiz, Mme Cosentini-Frank aus Turin, Mme Schiavoni aus Rom, die Vertreterin des Bundes italienischer Frauenvereine. Zu lebhaftesten Erörterungen führte das von Professor Corread aus Paris eingesandte Referat über die Einführung eines internationalen Clearingzentrums. Der Kongress stimmte mit geringer Mehrheit dem Antrag auf Bildung solch eines internationalen Clearingbüros zu und wählte eine Kommission zur Durchberatung und Erforschung des Valutaproblems. Auch die Frage, ob Schutz Zoll oder Freihandel zur Wiederbelebung der Weltwirtschaft zu propagieren sei wurde erörtert, ohne jedoch zu einer präzisen Stellungnahme der Mehrheit der Kongressteilnehmer zu gelangen. Ebenso verlief die Debatte über Massnahmen zur Verhinderung von Revolutionen ohne Beschlussfassung. Auf Antrag von Mme Schiavoni wurde die Beratung über die Frage der Co-education für den nächsten Kongress vertagt, da diesmal nicht genügendes Material über die gemachten Erfahrungen auf diesem Gebiet vorlag. In einer vom Soziologischen Institut in Turin ausgearbeiteten „Magna Charta“ wurde, als wichtigster Grundsatz für die weiteren Arbeiten des Kongresses, das Selbstbestimmungsrecht der Völker, der Schutz der Minoritäten durch den Völkerbund und die unbedingte Freizügigkeit im Verkehr der Völker untereinander angenommen. Einen besonderen Beratungsgegenstand bildete die Frage der Wiederaufrichtung von Österreich. Wohl erwies sich die bedauerliche Tatsache, dass Kenntnis über die tatsächlichen Verhältnisse Österreichs im Auslande recht mangelhaft ist, aber das Bemühen, diese schwierige Frage mit voller Objektivität zu behandeln und das wohlthuende Verständnis, das von den Vertretern aller Länder für die traurige Lage Österreichs bekundet wurde, bildete eines der erfreulichsten und wertvollsten Momente dieses Kongresses.

Bei der Schlussitzung führte der Bundespräsident der Republik Österreichs, der die Kongressmitglieder auch zu einem Empfang geladen hatte, den Vorsitz.

ERNESTINE FÜRTH.

DENMARK.

A Correction.

The Editor of JUS SUFFRAGII (I.W.S.A.), 11, Adam Street, Adelphi, London, W.C. 2.

DEAR MADAM,

In the report which you were kind enough to print in the September number of JUS, there is a misprint in the resolution about marriage laws which changes the meaning. I would be very much obliged if you could find space for a correction to the following effect:—

At the section—

“On February 7, 1922 . . . asking no amendment of paragraph 2 in the Bill, etc.,” ought to be “asking an amendment of paragraph 2.”

I should like this section reprinted, and as supplement I hereby give a translation of the paragraph in question as it stands in the new Marriage Law:—

“If a man impregnates his betrothed and the engagement is thereafter broken off under such circumstances that he must be held substantially responsible for the rupture, he shall pay her a suitable compensation for the disturbance caused thereby in her position and circumstances.”

Under the old Danish Marriage Law a woman of unspotted reputation could in such circumstances force the man in question to marry her. This stipulation was not found in accordance with modern ideas when the Law was recently revised. Dansk Kvindesamfund wanting, however, that the *child* should not suffer, asked for the amendment mentioned in the resolution, but without success.

With cordial greetings,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) LOUISE NEERGAARD,
Secretary of Dansk Kvindesamfund.

FRANCE.

M. JULES SIEGFRIED.

UN nouveau deuil vient de frapper notre Conseil National; après la perte très grande que fut pour nous la disparition de Madame Jules Siegfried, notre chère Présidente, M. Jules Siegfried vient de mourir subitement, le mardi 26 septembre, à l'âge de 85 ans, en pleine activité, faisant l'admiration de tous ceux qui purent constater combien, malgré le coup terrible qui l'avait frappé au mois de mai dernier, il était resté le bon et grand ouvrier de son pays.

Né à Mulhouse, le 12 février 1837, il vint avant la guerre de 1870 s'établir au Havre où sa bienfaisante activité, son dévouement à la chose publique ne se relâchèrent pas un instant. Pendant cinquante-deux ans, il dépensa sans compter son temps, son intelligence, sa bonté, sa fortune au bénéfice de tous. Membre du Parlement depuis 1885, il y eut une réelle influence; il fut deux fois Ministre du Commerce. Depuis trois ans, M. Jules Siegfried était le doyen de la Chambre des députés.

Président d'honneur du Groupe féministe de la Chambre des députés, il ne manqua pas une fois de prendre la défense de notre cause lorsque les intérêts de la femme étaient en jeu et, à chacun de ses discours d'ouverture, il réclamait comme un acte de justice les droits politiques pour les femmes.

Avec Mme et M. Jules Siegfried s'éteint un des plus beaux foyers de France. Leur union a été idéale et la disparition de l'un devait fatalement entraîner la disparition de l'autre. Ils laissent derrière eux un vide immense; leur vie a été un merveilleux exemple de dévouement, de travail et d'honneur.

G. AVRIL DE SAINTE-CROIX.

La discussion du Vote des Femmes au Sénat est remise au 7 Novembre.

Dès la rentrée, le 12 octobre, le président du Sénat lui-même a rappelé l'engagement pris le 23 juin par les sénateurs de discuter la loi sur le vote des femmes le premier mardi qui suivrait l'ouverture de la session et qui allait se trouver le 17 octobre.

M. Alexandre Bérard, une fois de plus, s'est porté malade et a réclamé un nouveau délai. Il a lui-même proposé la date du 7 novembre. M. Gourju et M. Louis Martin sont intervenus. Voici un extrait des paroles de M. Gourju :

Les convenances de M. le rapporteur, aujourd'hui comme au mois de juin dernier, sont de celles que j'entends respecter. Mais il m'est, à tout le moins, permis de regretter qu'il n'ait pas cédé aux insinuations que je me suis permises plusieurs fois, dans nos conversations privées, de vouloir bien se faire adjoindre l'un de nos collègues comme second rapporteur, à son défaut, pour le cas où la maladie le gênerait encore. Il ne l'a pas fait. C'est son affaire ; je n'y insiste pas.

Aujourd'hui il nous demande derechef un nouvel ajournement pour le même motif. Je suis tout prêt à l'accorder, pour ce qui me regarde ; je n'aurais pas besoin de vous le dire. Mais ce que je désire expressément et ce que désirent sans doute tous les membres du Sénat qui doivent être mêlés à cette grande discussion, c'est que nous en finissions un jour enfin d'une manière précise et ferme. (Approbation.)

Il faut que, cette fois, la date soit ferme et que nous ne nous entendions pas dire, nous qui devons défendre le suffrage des femmes, que nous sommes de mauvais plaisants, que nous nous accordons dans la coulisse avec ceux qui n'en veulent pas (Bruit), que nous ne cherchons qu'à ajourner ce débat et que c'est pain bénit quand il est ajourné une fois de plus. (Très bien !)

Il faut en finir : il faut aboutir à une solution, déjà trop longtemps attendue, de cette question qui, en définitive, est des plus considérables et qui devrait être réglée depuis longtemps, ne serait-ce que par égard pour la Chambre des députés.

Dans ces circonstances, je me plie au désir suprême de M. le rapporteur ; mais je conjure le Sénat de vouloir bien fixer une date "ne varietur", après laquelle nous ne serons plus obligés de monter encore à cette tribune pour régler uniquement des questions préliminaires. (Applaudissements.)

Ainsi que nous l'espérons, M. Viviani fait partie du Sénat depuis le 15 octobre. C'est un puissant appui acquis dans la Haute Assemblée à la cause du suffrage des femmes.

NOUVELLES FÉMINISTES.

Roumanie.—CONCERNANT L'ACTIVITÉ DE LA LIGUE POUR LES DROITS ET LES DEVOIRS DE LA FEMME.—La ligue D.D.F. est la première association féministe qui a lutté et qui lutte encore pour l'émancipation de la femme.

La grave maladie de la présidente, Madame Eugénie de Reuss Jancoulesco, a beaucoup retardé l'avancement de la ligue, dont le succès est en grande partie dû à son intelligence et à ses efforts constants. Aussitôt remise de sa maladie, Madame Reuss a repris son œuvre avec zèle et a prononcé un discours remarquable en répondant à une brochure contre le féminisme, intitulée "La femme telle qu'elle est." Son discours fut reçu avec enthousiasme par une salle comble.

Le 18 juin un nouveau triomphe féministe fut obtenu par la création de la "Filiade de Ploesti." Une grande réunion fut organisée dans la salle de la Bibliothèque Nicolas Jorga, et parmi les nombreux partisans du féminisme se trouvaient plusieurs hommes très connus. Madame de Reuss fut très bien reçue par l'Assemblée et prit ensuite la parole. Son discours ayant comme titre "Féminisme et patriotisme" fut fort applaudi.

Monsieur le docteur Zaharia Popescu démontra ensuite l'importance sociale du féminisme et exprima son admiration pour l'activité de Madame de Reuss et pour le progrès du féminisme. Madame le docteur Alexandra Stoica fut ensuite nommée présidente de la Société, et Madame Papescu Démétrian fut nommée Secrétaire Générale. La Société se réunit tour les jeudis.

Le 28 juin la "Ligue Centrale de Bukarest" s'est réunie en assemblée générale sous la présidence de Madame Lucia Teodorescu Nichifer, très connue dans le monde politique et qui travaille beaucoup pour améliorer les pensions des veuves de guerre. 4000

femmes signèrent une pétition demandant que les veuves de guerre reçoivent la même pension que les invalides de guerre.

A l'ouverture des Chambres parlementaires, la ligue se propose de présenter une pétition féministe déjà couverte de signatures.

Nous avons perdu un grand ami de la cause féministe par la mort de l'éminent orateur Monsieur Take Jonescu.

Tchécoslovaquie.—La nouvelle loi concernant les maladies vénériennes abolit la réglementation des prostituées, mais elle établit en même temps la notification obligatoire, la visite et le traitement obligatoire des maladies vénériennes. Cette loi fournit aussi des moyens d'éducation, en ce qui concerne les matières de sexe, pour les mineurs ainsi que pour les adultes. Nous sommes heureux que la réglementation soit abolie, mais nous regrettons l'introduction de l'examen et du traitement obligatoire.

Allemagne.—La première élection de jurés et de magistrats, depuis que les femmes sont devenues éligibles, va bientôt avoir lieu.

Par un amendement à la loi électorale, les femmes deviennent éligibles pour tous les emplois ayant rapport aux Conseils d'assurances de l'État, et peuvent aussi être nommées arbitres dans les procès se poursuivant devant ces corps d'État.

Une nouvelle loi fut passée le 1^{er} octobre, qui oblige l'établissement d'agences ouvrières (labour bureau) dans toutes les villes et dans les communes rurales. Des bureaux peuvent être établis tout spécialement pour les femmes employées, sous la direction de femmes experts. Les femmes sont aussi éligibles pour n'importe quel poste dans ces bureaux et l'un des membres du conseil d'administration doit même être une femme.

Etats-Unis d'Amérique.—LES FEMMES MARIÉES ONT LE DROIT DE GARDER LEUR NATIONALITÉ.—Les femmes du monde entier envoient leurs félicitations aux femmes des Etats-Unis d'Amérique pour avoir obtenu si vite, après l'Amendement à la loi fédérale du suffrage, le vote du "Cable Act" qui donne aux femmes mariées le droit de garder leur nationalité après le mariage. On se souviendra que cette réforme a été secondée par toutes les sociétés féministes d'une importance nationale et c'est bien à cause de ceci une des réformes que les candidats à la présidence, n'importe de quel parti, se trouvèrent obligés de faire figurer à leur programme lors des dernières élections.

L'acte signé par le président Harding, le 22 septembre, est conçu comme suit :

1. Une femme américaine épousant un étranger ne perdra pas sa nationalité, à moins que :

a) Elle renonce formellement, devant un tribunal accepté, à être citoyenne américaine.

b) Si son mari n'était pas éligible pour les droits de citoyen américain.

2. Une femme étrangère qui épouserait un Américain ne devient pas du fait Américaine, mais elle peut adopter cette nationalité en se faisant naturaliser Américaine. Il ne sera pas nécessaire qu'elle déclare son intention ni qu'elle ait habité l'Amérique depuis cinq ans et un an dans le territoire ou l'Etat où elle ferait sa demande à la cour : il sera simplement nécessaire qu'elle ait habité une année consécutive dans les Etats-Unis ou à Hawaï, Alaska ou Porto-Rico avant de faire sa demande de naturalisation.

3. Une femme américaine qui aurait, avant que cette loi ne fut passée, épousé un étranger et, en conséquence, perdu ses droits de citoyenne américaine, peut être naturalisée avec les mêmes avantages qu'une étrangère

(La suite à la page 25.)

(Suite de la page 24.)
qui épouse un Américain (voir l'article 2 ci-dessus), à moins cependant que son mari ne soit pas éligible aux droits de citoyen. En obtenant le passage de cette loi, la femme américaine a matériellement induit les autres nations à suivre le progrès de cette réforme.

GERMANY.

The Rising Flood.

THE most burning question of all woman questions is at present, in view of the coming winter's hardships and needs, the tremendous *dearness*, in consequence of our political and economic situation, which is increasing rapidly from one day to the other—yea, even in the course of a few hours. It is not only absorbing the means and time and thoughts of the housewives of all classes, but it is also paralysing the activity of the social and political organizations of women. The halls, the fuel and light for meetings, advertisements, street cars, etc., will, in a very short time, become *unattainable* if things are going on in this way. Most of the many women's papers, which have been such a great help for our work, have, by reason of the enormous printing costs, ceased to exist. It is to be hoped that the rising flood will not wash away the rest of them, and bring our movement to a momentary standstill. This would be so much the more fatal as energetic efforts on different lines are necessary just now to carry out into practice the new rights of the women citizens. I will only mention this time the first elections of jurors and magistrates under the new law which will take place during the next few weeks. On the results, on behalf of the women, I shall report later on.

The Restrictions in the Insurance Law Abolished.

Our National Insurance Law (*Reichsversicherungsgesetz*) providing for the self-government of the insured had, from the beginning, granted women the vote to all the administrative bodies, but eligibility only to the lower grades, explicitly excluding them even on such posts from *all* judicial and arbitrary functions. By an amendment to the electoral law these restrictions have now, according to the German Constitution, and to the new law on Lay-jurisdiction, been abolished : women henceforth can be elected, under the same conditions as men, to all honorary offices, as representatives of employers or employees, and as members of the State Insurance Boards, and can act as arbiters at all the lawsuits brought before these bodies.

The Labour-Providing Law.

A new national law of great importance for the working women has come into force on October 1 : the law on the public labour-providing boards (*Arbeitsnachweisgesetz*), which shall be established in every town or rural district, and which shall, by and by, replace all the private establishments of that kind (they will be forbidden from 1921). These new boards shall work according to their own local constitution, which may stipulate that a special office has to be established for the *women employees*, under the management of women experts. This is, of course, the case, and has proved itself as a most practical arrangement in our large cities where such public labour-providing offices already

exist. Relying upon this experience, the first draft of the Bill contained an article which made such special women's bureaux obligatory for the large places ; why the "must," then, has been changed into "may," I cannot tell ; in practice it will not make much difference. The administrative committees for these offices are composed of the President, and, at least, three employers and three employees. Women can, of course, be elected to all posts ; nevertheless Article 7 of the Law explicitly says that "women shall be amongst them," and also amongst the members of the Administrative State Boards. In the Administrative Council of the Central Board (*Reichsamt für Arbeitsvermittlung*) at least one of the members *must* be a woman.

The Illegitimate Children's Bill.

The coming session of the Reichstag, which re-opens to-day, will at last bring the long-looked-for Bill on the rights of the illegitimate children (as an amendment to the civil code), the Government's draft being already announced by the Reichs-ministry of Justice. It will certainly cause very lively discussions, not only in the house, but also in the public opinion, and especially with the jurists, as very important questions of principle and world's view are concerned. While in the National Assembly the majority had decided for the wording of Article 121 in the Constitution that "the legislation shall provide for the same conditions" for the corporal, mental, and social development of the illegitimates as it does for legitimate children—the Socialist parties had claimed exactly the same legal position towards mother *and father* (including his name), for legitimate and illegitimate children. It seems probable that the draft will carry out the demand of the constitution upon the basis of the Norwegian law, perhaps going still further. I shall report more on the subject when the draft has been published.

MARIE STRITT.

Dresden, October 17.

GREAT BRITAIN.

National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship. The General Election.

POLITICAL events have moved very rapidly during the last few days, and the General Election is announced for November 15. From the point of view of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, it is impossible not to be disappointed that the expected short autumn session will not take place, as at least that might have seen a successful issue to our efforts on behalf of the Separation and Maintenance Orders Bill and the Legitimation Bill, both of which had been taken over by the Government. As it is, all our work for Parliamentary Bills is hung up for an indefinite period. There is, however, a brighter side to the present situation ; we have in a General Election not only a great opportunity of securing the return of Members of Parliament educated in and pledged to our reforms, but also the chance of securing more women Members, which is, after all, by far the best way of attaining the ends we have in view.

Our Election Campaign.

The N.U.S.E.C. has all its plans for the General Election fairly well advanced. Questions for all Parliamentary candidates, printed below, have been revised and printed, and will be sent to every man or woman seeking election throughout the country.

Meetings and deputations to intending candidates will as far as possible be organized by our societies in the constituencies. Preliminary help has been carried on for over a year in constituencies of suitable women candidates of all political parties, and a "flying column" of voluntary workers is now being arranged to give active assistance during the actual campaign.

In addition to this a large stock of election literature is in readiness, including pamphlets on election law, suggestions for canvassing, different aspects of the women's programme, Bills concerning women before the country, as well as leaflets for wide distribution among the electorate.

Women Candidates for Parliament.

We have every hope of securing the safe return of our present two women Members. It is not too much, however, to assume that the electorate both in Sutton (Plymouth), Lady Astor's constituency, and the Louth Division of Lincolnshire will show their good sense and enlightened public spirit, as well as their grateful appreciation of the success of their present representatives, by returning them to Westminster with overwhelming majorities. Twenty-six other women have up to the present time been adopted as prospective candidates. A list of these, with the parties they represent, may be of interest to the readers of this paper. It is difficult to foresee what their chances are. It must be borne in mind that not a single one is standing for a safe seat, and in every case any candidate—man or woman—would have to put up a hard fight for success.

In the present state of political chaos there is little data on which to base an estimate of possible results, but we venture to predict with some degree of confidence that the new House of Commons will see a group composed of six or eight women instead of as at present. More than that we dare not hope.

List of Prospective Women Candidates.

The following list of prospective women candidates may be of interest to the women of other countries, arranged as far as possible according to party:—

Conservative.—Lady Cooper, Dame Helen Gwynne Vaughan. *National Liberal.*—Mrs. Coombe Tennant, Miss Helen Fraser, Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, Miss M. P. Grant. *Independent Liberal.*—Councillor Mrs. Alderton, Commandant Allen, Mrs. Corbett Ashby, Lady Barlow, Mrs. Egerton Stewart-Brown, Lady Currie, Miss Alison Garland, Mrs. Scott Gatty, Lady Lawson, Mrs. Burnett Smith. *Labour.*—Dr. Ethel Benthall, Miss Margaret Bondfield, Mrs. Ayrton Gould, Miss Susan Lawrence, Mrs. Pease, Miss Picton-Turbervill. *Independent.*—Miss Eleanor Rathbone, Mrs. Oliver Strachey. *Co-operative (supported by Labour).*—Mrs. Barton.

QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES AT PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS.

GENERAL ELECTION, NOVEMBER, 1922.

I.—Equal Franchise.*

If elected, will you urge the Government to introduce legislation to extend the Parliamentary Franchise to women on the same residential qualifications and from the same age as men, and to pass it through all its stages next session? Will you make a statement to this effect in your election address?

II.—Equal Pay and Opportunities.*

(a) If elected, will you support legislative and administrative measures to secure in the Civil Service, in local authorities and elsewhere: (1) Full professional and industrial freedom and opportunities for women, with equal rights of training, entry and promotion; (2) Equal Pay for Equal Work, i.e., that men and women should be paid at the same rate, whether this is to be computed by time or by piece in the same occupation or grade?

(b) Will you oppose the compulsory retirement on marriage of women employed by the State and by local authorities?

III.—Unemployment.

If elected, will you include provision for women as well as for men in any scheme for the training or relief of the

unemployed, and will you pay special regard to the claims of those, whether men or women, who have dependents?

IV.—Equal Guardianship of Children.*

If elected, will you urge the Government to introduce and to pass through all its stages next session a Bill based on the Guardianship, Maintenance, Custody and Marriage of Infants Bill, 1922, which gives to women equal rights and responsibilities with men as regards their children?

V.—Equal Moral Standard.*

If elected, will you support legislation for an Equal Moral Standard between men and women, by giving your vote and influence on behalf of: (a) Abolishing the present Solicitation Laws; (b) Ensuring that the grounds for divorce, nullity and separation shall be the same for men as for women; (c) Raising the age of consent for both boys and girls to 18; and against legislation which makes women, or any class of women, subject to special penalties or to special health regulations different from that commonly exercised on all persons equally?

VI.—League of Nations.*

If elected, will you do all in your power to strengthen and develop the existing League upon such lines as shall secure (a) the inclusion within it of all nations, and (b) equal opportunity in fact as well as in principle for men and women?

VII.—Women in the House of Lords.

If elected, will you support: (a) Legislation to enable women peeresses in their own right to sit in the House of Lords; (b) The inclusion of women on equal terms with men in any scheme for a reformed Second Chamber?

VIII.—Children of Unmarried Mothers.

If elected, will you support legislation which will: (a) Place on the father of an illegitimate child equal responsibilities with the mother; (b) Provide for the legitimation of a child by subsequent marriage of the parents; (c) Strengthen the machinery with regard to the payment of affiliation orders?

IX.—Women Police.

If elected, will you support legislation to make compulsory on local authorities the appointment in all police areas of an adequate number of women police with powers and status equal to those of men police? Will you further urge upon the Government the immediate reinstatement of an adequate force of women police in London, also with powers and status equal to those of the men police?

X.—Separation and Maintenance Orders.

If elected, will you urge the Government to introduce legislation on the lines of the Separation and Maintenance Orders Bill, 1922, which makes the grounds for separation the same for men as for women, and which strengthens the machinery enabling a wife and her children to obtain maintenance from a neglectful husband and father?

XI.—British Women's Nationality.

If elected, will you support by your vote and influence legislation on the lines of the British Nationality (Married Women) Bill, 1922, which proposes to give to married women the same rights to retain or change their nationality as have single women and single men?

XII.—Women Jurors.

If elected, will you support legislation which will extend the liability to jury service to wives of men qualified to serve as jurors, and which will prevent the exclusion of women jurors?

XIII.—Widows' Pensions.

If elected, will you support legislation to give pensions to civilian widows with dependent children?

XIV.—Admission of Women to Membership of Cambridge University.

If elected, will you support parliamentary action to enable women to obtain full degrees and membership of Cambridge University?

XV.—Taxation of Incomes of Married Persons.

If elected, will you support in the next Finance Bill provision for the separate taxation of the incomes of married persons?

XVI.—Proportional Representation.

Are you in favour of Proportional Representation?

October 24, 1922.

ELIZABETH MACADAM.

The Women's Freedom League.

The winter's work of the Women's Freedom League has begun. We are urging upon the Government, the Press and the public, the necessity of securing an Equal

* Indicates most important questions.

Franchise measure, so that women may vote at the next General Election at the same age and on the same terms as men. We are pressing upon the Government and upon the local governing authorities the claim of unemployed women to be included in any schemes devised for the employment of workless men, and we are protesting on every occasion against the dismissal of women from any kind of employment solely on the ground of their marriage. In view of the forthcoming borough council elections we have prepared a list of questions to be put to men and women candidates. These questions seek to find out how these candidates stand in regard to equal opportunities for men and women, the need for more facilities in the education of young people, and the recognition of one moral standard for men and women in the eyes of the law. In connection with the Appeal made for the London Hospitals, the Women's Freedom League has pointed out that women are working hard to make it a success, that much that is contributed will come from women, that women number half the patients now in our general hospitals, and that there are thousands of children in the general and children's Hospitals, but the curious thing is that very few women are to be found on any of the hospitals' management committees or on their staffs, and that the organization, control and management of their hospitals, together with the treatment prescribed for patients, are practically solely in the hands of men. We have, therefore, put forward the plea that now the hospitals have a fair chance of being freed from financial embarrassment, it should be a recognized thing that women as well as men should be on all the management committees of our hospitals, and that appointments to their staffs should be open to efficient women as well as to efficient men. We ask this in the interest of the public, who demand women doctors, as well as in the interest of medical women who, whether they train for work as general practitioners or as specialists, would find experience on the staffs of our general hospitals of the utmost value.

F. A. UNDERWOOD.

INDIA.

A Step Forward for Women in Behar and Orissa.

A REFORMED Municipal Act has just been passed in the Behar and Orissa Legislative Council. In the Bill as originally framed women were altogether excluded from the Municipal Franchise, but with great difficulty, in its Select Committee stage, a clause was incorporated whereby women having certain educational qualifications (Matriculation, Sanskrit or Arabic title examinations) were recommended to be granted the franchise. This clause gave rise to a very animated discussion when it came up for ratification by the Legislative Council. An old Mohammedan member moved its deletion. His motion was, to the great relief and satisfaction of its supporters, defeated by a majority of 31 votes to 19. Then a plucky attempt was made to get the vote for women on the same terms as men get it, i.e., on the purely property qualification. This was moved by those constant supporters of women's rights in Behar, Babu Devaki Prasad Sinha and Rao Bahadur Purnendranath Sinha, but it was defeated by a majority. An attempt to grant the opportunity of voting to European and Indian Christian women only was justly defeated and then, after an eloquent speech by the Hon. M. S. Das in support of the Select Committee's recommendation, the suffrage clause was retained in the Act. It was very satisfactory to find that eight Orissa members, who last November voted against women getting the Provincial Council suffrage, this time voted for this reform. On general principles it is not desirable that women should be allowed into citizenship on unequal and more stringent terms than men. For that reason one is glad that the equal terms amendment was brought forward and that it put on record that a substantial number of members desire more than what has been given. Behar is, however, a Province where such exceptionally strict *pardah* prevails and where women's education is so backward that one must be glad

that a first step, even though so limited, has been taken, as it is the earnest of further extension in the future. It will be remembered that the Women's Indian Association had an organizer working in Behar for two months last year and the Patna Branch of the Association was then started, of which the President was Miss S. B. Das, whose father may be said to have won this victory for the Behar women. All these things helped to bring about a change on which Behar is to be congratulated. It has given a lead to the elder Province, Bengal, whose Council will soon be tested on its own Calcutta Municipal Bill.

Women Graduates.

Convocation Days are now being held in all the University cities and it is a thrilling sight to see the number of young women who are now annually taking their degrees on terms of perfect equality with men, and who, though numerically very few in proportion to the men graduates, still hold their own in gaining distinctions, indeed, proportionately far surpassing the men. In Calcutta a young Muslim lady, Sakina Farikh Sultan Muyayidzada, has passed the B.A. examination this year with first-class honours. Her sister stood first in the preliminary B.L. examination, securing the highest marks in Roman and Hindu Law. In Madras two women graduates took second and third place in the only six first-class Honour passes in English. Further information will doubtless tell of equal successes in other Universities and they all go to swell one's pride in one's sex and in the high intellectual ability of Indian womanhood. It is gratifying to record that in each Convocation the greatest enthusiasm and appreciation shows itself on the appearance of the women candidates to take their diplomas from their Chancellor. In Madras there were over 1,400 men graduates in the Hall and they rose to their feet to a man to cheer the forty women who had secured their degrees. It was entirely indicative of the chivalry that exists in Indian manhood and its desire that women should have all the benefits of education.

Headquarters Work of the Women's Indian Association.

Letters have been sent to the candidates for the Madras Municipal Council requesting them to state their views in regard to the inclusion of girls in the Madras Compulsory Education Scheme, regarding prohibition, and regarding their support of health schemes for the city. A circular letter has been sent to all branches. Communications have been made to various Municipalities regarding compulsory education for girls, and with representative men and women in Bengal, Behar and the U.P. Provinces concerning the Municipal and Provincial franchises of those Provinces.

At the request of the Municipal Councillor who has drafted the Compulsory Education Scheme for Cocanada, Madras Presidency, Mrs. Cousins visited that town and spent three days there. She interviewed the Rani of Pithapur, the Chairman of the Municipal Council, and many of the influential men and women of the town. A public meeting of the women was held in the Town Hall in the afternoon, and after it one for men, at which Mr. Seshagiri Rao, M.L.C., presided. Both were well attended and drew public attention vividly to the demand for the application of the compulsory elementary scheme to girls and boys alike. Three special meetings of the Council on the subject have since been held, the last of which was open to the public, and a vote of the audience was taken on the subject. The matter is still undecided.

September, 1922.

Stri Dharma.

The September Session of the Indian Legislative Assembly and Reforms Affecting Women.

Nothing could be more indicative of the value of the enfranchisement of large numbers of women in any country than the reports of the September Session of the Legislative

Assembly of the Government of India. Five questions of supreme importance to women were discussed during that session, and in every case women found earnest champions of reform. We mentioned last month the Age of Consent Bill. Fuller reports have now been received, and we print them below. It is deplorable that the Assembly did not agree to this Bill being sent to Select Committee; and Sir William Vincent did not seem to be abreast of advances in Criminal Law in England. The following report is from the *Burma Observer* of September 29:—

Age of Consent Bill.

On September 26 Mr. Bakshi Sohan Lal asked leave of the House for a Select Committee on his Bill, which proposed to raise the age of consent in the case of girls from 12 to 14 years. Thus under this Bill any intercourse with a girl, whether married or unmarried, before the age of 14 would be penalized.

Sir William Vincent said the Bill has received a mixed reception, but Government thought that it was in advance of time and its provisions were more drastic than those in England, where intercourse with a girl under the age of 13 was heavily punished, and the case of rape and intercourse between the age of 13 and 16 was treated as misdemeanour and was less severely dealt with. Under this Bill, however, the heavy sentence was to be inflicted up to the age of 14. Government's greater objection was to the inclusion of married women in the Bill. He therefore informed the mover that Government could support his Bill only subject to two conditions—firstly, that it did not include married girls, and, secondly, the offence of intercourse between the age of 12 and 14 in the case of unmarried girls should be less severely penalized than that under 12 years.

Mr. Allan strongly supported the Bill, and gave a harrowing account of mortality of mothers due to early marriage in a generation. He said India lost 32,000,000 mothers. He asked the House to imagine the space the tombs of these mothers would occupy, and asked whether India was not losing more mothers in a generation than the chief combatants lost men in the Great War. The condition was indeed pitiable. Although he did not like agitation, and had enough of it, in this case of social reform, if agitation was set on foot by any section, he would say: "Agitate and be damned." (Applause.)

Mr. Subramanyam opposed the Bill, and asked the House to look to facts presented by social customs and not to the high-sounding theory of hygiene.

Mr. Amjad Ali thought that if the Bill was passed all husbands would have to go to jail. (Laughter.)

Sir William Vincent intimated that the mover had agreed to accept the limitations proposed by him on behalf of the Government.

But when the motion for Select Committee was put to the House it was rejected by 41 to 29.

Married Women's Property Act.

On September 12 the Legislative Assembly agreed without discussion to Mr. Kamat's motion for a Select Committee on his Bill, which proposes to amend the Married Women's Property Act with a view to prove that an insurance policy carried out by a Hindu, Mohammedan, Buddhist, Sikh or Jain husband for his wife or wife and children, or for either of them, should benefit those for whom it was mentioned and not form part of the estate of the deceased, as had been held by the Bombay High Court. Sir William Vincent announced that the Bill had received universal support at the hands of the Local Government.

September 15, 1922.

Burma Observer.

Restitution of Conjugal Rights.

Girl Wives not to be Imprisoned.

On September 20 Dr. Gour moved the Bill to amend the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, with regard to the restitution of conjugal rights, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Mr. Samarth, Mr. Ahmed, Mr. Joshi, and the mover.

Sir William Vincent said Government recognized this was a social measure and they thought it should be settled by the votes of the non-official members. The Executive Council would not vote at all, and all other official members would be unfettered in their decision.

Mr. Rangachariar doubted if the law required any revision and he asked members to vote against the Bill.

Mr. Yamin Khan and Mr. J. Mukherjee then followed suit in condemning the measure.

Munshi Iswar Saran thought it was distressing how Bills affecting social reform were obstructed in the name of religion, and he strongly resented a young girl being committed to jail for refusing to live with an aged husband. The defects in the Bill, he said, could be remedied in Select Committee, and he made a hot attack on Dr. Gour's opponents or obscurantists as he sarcastically called them. Loud cries of "Put the question" here arose.

Dr. Gour briefly replied to those who had criticized his Bill. The justice of his Bill was obvious, and it was very simple, and he asked the House to vote on the main principle, i.e., to remove the penalty of imprisonment from the woman. The motion was pressed to a division. It was carried by 39 votes to 23 votes.

50,000 Women Employed in Mines.

On September 20 Mr. Innes moved that the Bill to amend and consolidate the Mining Laws be referred to a Joint Select Committee of both Houses, which should consist of eighteen members.

Mr. Joshi, the Labour member, then rose and made a lengthy speech on various points connected with the subject.

He laid great stress on the fact that the employment of women underground was most undesirable, and though the hours of work were limited for a week, no limit was placed on the hours which could be worked in a day, and he hoped the Joint Committee would pay special attention to these points.

Mr. Innes then gave the Assembly a picturesque account of a coal-mine and the conditions of working in it. If it was possible to arrange a system of shifts, half the difficulties would disappear. Personally, he would prefer women should not be employed in mines, but the system of working mines was a family system, and there were 50,000 women now working in mines. What would be the effect on India's consumption if their women were suddenly prevented from working? The production of coal in India was to-day insufficient. As children were being prohibited from entering the mines, no doubt some women would give up their work in them. The introduction of coal-cutters would also have some effect. There was no idea of taking any drastic steps to dislocate an industry on which so many other industries depended.

Women Lawyers' Bill Introduced.

On September 20 Dr. Gour moved for leave to amend the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879, and said the Bill was intended to make it clear that the word "person" should include females and allow them to perform the duties of Advocates or Vakils. The Allahabad High Court had admitted their rights, but the Patna High Court had held them disqualified. In England the sex bar had now been swept away by statute. He said that Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and the Punjab were generally in favour of the Bill, while Assam and Delhi were neutral.

Sir William Vincent congratulated Dr. Gour on his championship of women's rights. He said the local Governments had been consulted, but copies of their replies had not been circulated to all the members. On the whole there was no objection to the proposal. He therefore said that Government would not commit themselves in supporting the Bill or oppose its introduction. The Bill was then introduced amidst some applause.

September 21.

Times of India.

Traffic in Women and Children.

Amendment to Indian Penal Code.

On September 23 Sir William Vincent introduced his Bill amending Sections 362 and 366 of the Indian Penal Code, thus giving effect to resolutions adopted by both Houses of the Indian Legislature in Delhi last session on the question of suppression of white slave traffic in the case of India. The minor age of a girl is proposed by this to be fixed at sixteen. The Home Member said that this interpretation of the Act was that even an agent sent out to procure a girl to visit a man for immoral purposes would be guilty of an offence under the Act.

Mr. Chowdhri protested that if the age had been fixed at sixteen, Indian girls needed protection more than in European countries, and the minor age urged should be at least twenty-one as in the case of European countries.

September 27.

Burma Observer.

BURMA.

Suppression of Brothels.

The *Burma Observer* (September 11 and 13) reports that the Burma Suppression of Brothels Act, 1921, has

been extended to the area comprised within the Municipality of Myanaung; and, further, that the Y.M.B.A. Moulmein has applied to the authorities to extend to Moulmein Municipality the provisions of the Burma Suppression of Brothels Act.

Women Visitors for Bassein Central Jail.

The local Government has appointed the following ladies to be visitors of the female section of the Bassein Central Jail for a period of two years: Mrs. A. S. B. Roberts, Mrs. Nyun Maung and Mrs. Ya Ba.

September 27.

Burma Observer.

NORWAY.

Norwegian Inheritance Laws.

[We are indebted to the Editor of *The Vote* for the following information on the Norwegian Inheritance Laws which has been supplied by Mr. M. Mjelle, representative of the Norwegian Foreign Office Press Department.]

MR. J. CASTBERG, Norwegian ex-Minister of Justice, in the *Nineteenth Century* of February, 1912, wrote an exhaustive article on the position of the women in Norway. This article in all essentials still holds good. With regard to inheritance, I will quote below what it says about that matter, only adding, on my account, that women in Norway have since 1854 enjoyed equal inheritance privileges with men. The only preference given to men is in respect of landed estate. The law of "Aasædesret" (right of retaining possession of the paternal landed estate) prescribes that the taking over of the paternal landed property is a privilege for the eldest son or the eldest son of the latter, etc., or second eldest son or his male descendants, etc.; only if no male heir exists the "Aasædesret" goes over to the female descendant. But in any case the heir of the landed estate has to pay for the property at a "low price," so that the other heirs, male and female, are thus in the main compensated for his (or her) special privilege. Another little difference between males and females in respect of inheritance is pointed out by Mr. Castberg in the quotation below regarding a widow and a widower. As far as I can remember, those two instances are the only instances of women having unequal inheritance privileges with men, and, practically, they do not amount to very much.

The following is a quotation from Mr. Castberg's article:—

"In Norway the age of consent is sixteen years. The age of majority is the same for women as for men, viz., twenty-one. This holds good both for married and unmarried women. In every marriage, when not otherwise arranged by marriage contract, all the property becomes the joint property of husband and wife, and is divided equally should the marriage be dissolved. When a married person dies, one-half of the estate is thus the property of the surviving consort—man or wife. This is his or her part of the joint property. A person who leaves children cannot bequeath away from them more than one-fourth of his or her half; the other three-fourths must go to the children, girls and boys alike. There is, however, this difference—that a widower, even when he has children, has the right to use and manage the whole estate so long as he does not re-marry, whilst a widow must divide the estate with the children when any of them have reached the age of twenty-five years and demand such division. If there are no children, the surviving consort, besides his or her half, takes as inheritance also one-third of the deceased's half.

"While the marriage exists, the husband is the manager of the joint property; but real estate which the wife may have contributed cannot be mortgaged or sold without her explicit consent. All debts incurred by the wife for the benefit and requirements of the family are binding upon the joint property, and must be paid by the husband. On the other hand, the wife has full right to the exclusive management and use of all she may earn by her personal work and industry. As the manager of the home she has a legal right to be

supported by the husband in accordance with his social and economic standard of life.

"If the husband deserts his wife, or if by want of judgment or laxity in his management of the joint property he arouses apprehension that he may waste or squander it, the wife is entitled to require it to be divided, so that she shall have one-half of the joint property under her exclusive ownership and management. Here may be mentioned, as a further safeguard of the rights of women, the law under which a person may be declared incapable of managing his affairs. When a man becomes insane, or is so given to drink or so dull-witted or so prodigal of his means as to endanger the welfare of himself or his family, a court constituted for this purpose shall, at the request of his relatives or of the authorities, issue a decree declaring him incapable of managing his own affairs. The request may be set forth by the wife when her husband, for the reason mentioned, has neglected his duties towards his family, thereby exposing his wife and children to want or to the loss of the common property. The whole property is then put under the control of a guardian, who is appointed by the magistrates, and who is responsible to the Committee for the Management of the Estates of minors.

"By marriage contract, as well as by a later agreement, it may be provided that either party shall have the exclusive ownership and management of all that he or she has contributed or may afterwards acquire by work, donation, inheritance or otherwise. In that case dissolution of the marriage has for its only legal consequence, in regard to the property of the consorts, that the survivor takes as inheritance one-third of the estate of the deceased should there be no children."

September 22, 1922.

TURKEY.

A Turkish Woman Leader.

Halid Edib Hanum.

HALID EDIB HANUM, the Turkish authoress, who, two years ago, fled from Constantinople to Angora, has now obtained a very great influence in Mustapha Kemal's Government, and is described as "The Woman who stands behind Kemal." After her arrival in Angora she worked for the freedom of women.

Halid Edib was born in the neighbourhood of Constantinople thirty-two years ago. She is beautiful, clever, and has a decided character. She was the first Turkish woman to enter the American College in Constantinople. The Sultan was absolutely aghast at this, and her relations were ashamed of her. At last public opinion forced her to withdraw. But she continued her studies in secret, and travelled to London and Paris. When she was sixteen years of age she wrote her first book on Turkish life, and in this book speaks of her ideas as regards both the "yashmak" and the harems.

During the war she was the Turkish "Florence Nightingale," and taught her fellow Turkish sisters nursing in spite of the authorities and the Mohammedan religion. In Angora she established a school for women and men, and her influence spread over the whole of Asia Minor. She exhorted women to leave off wearing the "yashmak," and taught them to read and write and to take part in public life. She has made no secret of the fact that her mission in life is to rebuild the ruined Turkish kingdom. Halid Edib soon became known as the leader of the new Woman's Movement in Islam. She has openly declared that Turkey will never go forward unless her women are emancipated.

Last year, during the war with the Greeks, she fought with the Nationalist troops, and handled a rifle after very little practice. Mustapha Kemal made her an officer, took her back with him to Angora, and encouraged and helped her in her pedagogic work. He has placed her in the position of Minister of Education in the first Nationalist Ministry, which will be set up in Constantinople.

Halid Edib is married to a Turkish doctor, Halid Bey.

October 14, 1922.

Norges Kvinder.

THE INTERESTS OF AMERICAN WOMEN.

ALL over the United States club-women and women engaged in business and household pursuits have returned to their homes and various spheres of activity, and have commenced the public and private work that is to keep them occupied for months to come. Club programmes have been planned, organizers and speakers have been put into the field, committees have been mustered into service, and the winter's work has started with its customary vim.

Politics.

Politics is the great question of the hour, and will be a public feature until the fall elections are over. Candidates, parties, party platforms, political intentions, deals, conjectures and prophecies are absorbing much public attention. Campaign issues are emerging slowly but surely out of the welter of ideas, Prohibition enforcement and the retention or abolition of the Direct Primary taking the lead.

In both these questions women are vitally interested. The National League of Women Voters has for some time stood strongly for Prohibition, which at present means the strict enforcement of the Volstead Act, and for the retention of the Direct Primary system of nominating candidates, a system whose extinction is now threatened in many States.

Prohibition.—The *Literary Digest*, a leading weekly magazine, which took a straw vote of those who were in favour of enforcing the Volstead Act, of modifying it to permit the sale of light wines and beers, and of repealing the Prohibition Amendment, has shown that 88,115 women voted on the question, and that 38,211 were for enforcement, 32,569 were for modification, and 17,335 for repeal of the present law. The women showed about six per cent. greater dryness than was shown in the general poll. Organized women have come out strongly for law enforcement. Among the great organizations whose combined membership amounts to millions that have endorsed it are the National League of Women Voters, the General Federation of Women's Clubs, the Young Women's Christian Association, and the Women's Christian Temperance Union.

The Primary.—Women all over the country are taking up the fight for the direct primary, which permits the enrolled voters in a party to cast their votes for the purpose of nominating candidates on the party ticket. Miss Mary Garrett Hay, chairman of the New York City League of Women Voters, a strong defender of the primary, is rapidly becoming the chief adviser of the men and women throughout the country who are preparing to work gallantly and assiduously for its continuance. The two recent State party conventions of the Democrats and the Republicans held in New York State, each being controlled by one man or a group of men, the delegates functioning for the most part with sheeplike docility, is being used as an illustration of what the return of the convention system for the nomination of all candidates will mean in loss of independence and responsibility on the part of American voters.

In party platforms it is interesting to see that both the dominant parties take note of the needs and desires of women. Typical of the women's planks are those in the Democratic platform of New York, which advocates "the removal of all unjust discriminations against women by specific amendments, while retaining existing legal protection for them in the home and in industry," and the creation of a real bureau of women in industry in the United States Department of Labour, an eight-hour work day, and a minimum wage commission to fix a living wage for women and miners.

A Republican woman lawyer of New York City, Mrs. Olive Stott Gabriel, who is a political co-leader of a district, has electrified the politicians by protesting to Nathan Miller, Governor of the State of New York, over the head of her Republican county chairman, against a deal made by the county chairman and the Democratic

boss to remove an efficient surrogate from the bench. At the present time such a course of action takes considerable courage to prosecute, and many women are pleased to find one of their sex undauntedly defying her immediate political superior.

Facts about American Children.

Child Labour.—Women who are interested in child welfare are much disturbed over recent statistics that have been presented to them concerning American children. Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover has said that the waste of child-life is more deplorable than the waste of war, for the latest census figures show that approximately one million children between the ages of ten and fifteen years, out of a total of twelve millions, are engaged in gainful occupations. "Facts like these," a newspaper comments, "give our civilization a black eye," and it adds that those States which do not restrict the hours of the labour of children and debar unsuitable occupations are "mortgaging the future of the new generation." Since congressional legislation on this subject has been declared unconstitutional, the belief is more and more prevailing that a federal amendment to the United States Constitution abolishing child-labour is the only way to remedy the present situation.

The Church and the Child.—The International Sunday School Council of Religious Education, which has had a convention in Kansas City, Mo., reports that investigation shows that 27,000,000 American children are not enrolled in any Sunday school or cradle roll department, and receive no formal or systematic religious instruction, and that 8,000,000 American children less than 10 years old grow up in non-church homes. Estimating the total number of youth under 25 years of age in the country as 42,000,000, it is computed that 19 out of every 20 Jewish children under 25 years of age receive no formal religious instruction, three out of every four Catholics, two out of every three Protestants, and that out of the country as a whole seven out of every ten children and youth under 25 years of age are not reached by the church. These figures have roused the public interested in religious instruction to the necessity for intensive work along Church lines.

Education.

Education is presenting many problems to the men and women educators of the country. The number of applicants for admission to colleges and universities has within four or five years increased threefold, so that college and university officers and faculties are often at their wits' end to make provision for the young seekers after learning. Various plans are now being considered to meet the situation. It is suggested that it would be a good idea to cut off a whole or a part of the undergraduate work; to have freshman and sophomore work done by preparatory schools; to raise the entrance requirements; to admit as many students as usual, but in the course of the first year to get rid of the less promising material; to make a class or racial limitation, or to establish branch institutions to private endowed colleges, the former to be of either junior college grade or for the entire undergraduate curriculum in such professional courses as agriculture or engineering. Out of the general consideration of the subject some changes of the present system will doubtless be evolved.

An interesting and unusual educational suggestion has been made by two business organizations and is being carried out in a practical way. Realizing that thousands of dollars would be saved to the people of the United States if the standard of honesty were raised, and if truth-telling in advertising, stock promotion, manufacturing and retail business were enforced, the Association of Advertising Clubs has induced the University of Pennsylvania to add to its curriculum a course on truth-telling, and business experts are preparing a series of lectures to form a course of instruction for students. The National Surety Company is launching a movement to secure the co-operation of school boards, teachers and public welfare institutions throughout the United States in teaching common honesty, while the Better Business

Bureau, composed of representative merchants and manufacturers, and the Federal Trade Commission is aiding the truth-telling campaign and working to put a stop to deceptive business practices, teaching the youth that deceit does not pay either morally or financially in the long run. Business women as well as women teachers are enthusiastically helping in this moral movement.

Legislation.

The fact that the President has signed the Cable Bill which provides for the independent citizenship of married American women and stipulates that the marriage of an alien woman to an American citizen shall not confer citizenship upon her, but requires her to become naturalized on her own account, has brought satisfaction to the women of the country who have long felt that women who are married should be treated as individuals and not as adjuncts to their husbands. Aliens married to aliens at the time of the passage of the law (September 22, 1922) are not affected by it, but may become naturalized by complying with all the old law requirements, including declaration, five years' continuous residence in the United States, presentation of certificate of entry, ability to speak the English language and sign their names in their own handwriting, and single aliens may continue as in the past to file declarations and petitions for naturalization. But no woman citizen of the United States shall cease to be a citizen by reason of her marriage, unless she makes a formal renunciation of her citizenship before a court having jurisdiction over the naturalization of aliens, or unless she marries an alien ineligible to citizenship. Both alien and American women may become naturalized without filing a declaration of intention, and after only one year's continuous residence in the United States or its dependencies.

Concerning Women.

An historical event in women's world was the Women's Activities Exhibit at the Hotel Commodore in New York City recently, conducted by the New York League of Business and Professional Women, which drew big crowds and was pronounced such a great success that it is to be held annually hereafter. There was everything in the exhibit, from a sample of a home savings department of a savings bank, managed entirely by women, to a sample of a candy-making school, the only one in the country. Every invention made by a woman, every type of handicraft, every branch of household science, a school for design, advertising, all branches of interior decorating and clothing of all types were displayed and listed, and the great surprise of the exhibit was the variety of the businesses that are now carried on by American women. The New York City League of Women Voters had a booth where voting and political information was given out and where the demonstration of a voting machine aroused much interest.

Governor Hardwick, of Georgia, has appointed Mrs. W. H. Felton, Junr., eighty-seven years old, to act as United States Senator for her State, to fill the unexpired term of the late Thomas Watson, and until a new Senator is elected on November 7. This is rather an empty honour, since, even if Congress is called for a special session for November 15, the properly elected Senator will be ready to act, and it is unlikely that Mrs. Felton will be able to take part in Senatorial deliberations even for an hour. But Mrs. Felton believes that her appointment is significant because "it means for women another step upward in public life." More important in the estimation of most women is the fact that Miss Ruth Taylor, a woman lawyer, defeated Arthur L. Strang by 3,000 in the recent primary at White Plains, N.Y., and is therefore the first woman nominated as a candidate for judge of the Children's Court of Westchester County, N.Y.

At the present time in New York City 8,000 bankers from every State in the Union are assembled in one of the most important bankers' conventions ever held. Even here women are in evidence professionally. What is described as "the latest thing in business women," the woman banker and bank assistant, is a feature of

the convention's social hours, and is noticeable among the many delegates. Typical among them is Mrs. J. D. Cusanberry, vice-president of the Bank of Hydro, Oklahoma, and Miss Adele Kirby, assistant secretary and assistant treasurer of the New Jersey Trust Company, who report that thousands of women are employed in the banking institutions of the country, and that the present tendency to limit the activities of the women executives to the management of the women's departments will be succeeded soon by a broader-gauge policy. "For," says Miss Kirby, "banking is not a matter of sex, and a woman who is fitted to hold an executive position should have the same freedom in dealing with both men and women as the woman physician, attorney or merchant." Thus the women bankers sound the feminist note that is familiar to the progressive, thinking women of the civilized world.

OREOLA WILLIAMS HASKELL.

New York City, October 5, 1922.

THE BOOKSHELF.

"Troisième Congrès International d'Education Morale. Rapport et Mémoires." Genève. Secrétariat du Congrès; Institut J.-J. Rousseau.

THE Third International Congress for Moral Education, held at Geneva at the end of July last, was attended by delegates from a very large number of countries, eighteen of which were officially represented by the nominees of their respective Governments. Among these were China, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Norway and Turkey. The object of the Congress is summed up in a single sentence by M. Veenstra, of The Hague: "Chacun sait qu'un changement véritable ne pourra être obtenu que si les hommes et les femmes deviennent meilleurs: voilà pourquoi nous travaillons!" Of the methods advocated in the pursuit of this difficult object the two small volumes issued by the Secretariat of the Congress form a concise summary; and if they contain no notable contribution of original thought, the mere fact of their publication is in itself a matter for congratulation and thankfulness among men and women of goodwill. Nothing can contribute more certainly to the probability of peace in the world than the constant meeting together of the representatives of all peoples to discuss, in a spirit of mutual helpfulness and co-operation, problems, of whatever nature, common to them all; and the untiring reiteration of sound ideas, however platitudinous, is the necessary condition of their universal acceptance. New ideas are not inevitably good ideas, and old ideas are not of necessity out of date and useless. There is little that is new in these volumes; there is much that is valuable and encouraging. "Give us the young!" is the cry echoed by almost every contributor, for in education alone lies the road to salvation, and education comprises not only—and conspicuously—the rightful teaching of History, but the hearty discipline of the Boy Scout and Girl Guide Movements, the altruism of the Junior Red Cross, the hygienic principles of the Health Cause. Upon the right teaching of history great stress is very wisely laid. "If I plead that history be made the central theme of education," says one delegate, "it is because . . . I believe that no other method has the same power of developing the highest moral and intellectual faculties of the growing soul." But history, if it is to be a school of civics and internationalism, must be history rightly taught and interpreted. The interdependence of nations must never be left out of sight; pride of place must not be given to the spirit of nationality. "Le principal mérite de l'ouvrage de M. Wells, 'Outline of History,' est d'envisager l'histoire de la civilisation comme une coopération continue, et l'immense succès de ce livre est d'un heureux augure pour le triomphe de l'idée de solidarité." But the perfect International History remains to be written. It might

perhaps not unfitly be undertaken by the Committee for Intellectual Co-operation of the League of Nations.

ANGELA GORDON.

"Safe Marriage." By *Ellie Rout*. Heinemann, London. 3s. 6d. net.

Miss Rout advances the opinion that there are many men to whom, at times, every woman is better than no woman. She appears to hold the same opinion about women, for surely few intelligent women—unless they felt that they must marry at any cost—would be irresponsible enough to marry if they knew their future husbands to be diseased. To such, then, the book is addressed—for to recommend the measures indicated to every woman on the eve of marriage implies a depth of cynicism towards all men, natural in a keeper of public brothels but not really widespread in England. To a woman about to marry a diseased man this book might prove useful if it fulfilled its twofold claim, viz., to teach (1) how to prevent the birth of the unfit and (2) how to secure the birth of the fit. But it does not. Miss Rout knows that there is no method of ensuring that a woman—no matter how healthy and prudent—

will bear healthy children by a diseased man, and accordingly wastes no further time on the second part of her claim, save for one brief reference to the obvious fact that the man should take steps to get cured.

As to the first part of the claim, the only reliable information contained in the book is summed up in the pregnant sentences:—

(1) "None of these methods in practical application by ordinary women can be said to be absolutely certain."

(2) "Personal instruction is far the best. Every man and every woman should seek an opportunity of learning from competent authority what to do."

It hardly seems worth while to pay 3s. 6d. to learn that much. The only comment we have to make on the book is that it is not likely that women, being the healthy partners, will long tolerate that the whole onus of the attempt to prevent infection, with all its attendant discomforts and inconveniences, be thrust on them by their diseased husbands. Marriage is and can only be safe between healthy people.

HELEN O'BRIEN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

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LECTURES.
 Sat., Nov. 4th, Recital: "Herod" (Stephen Phillips). Miss CLARA REED.
 Wed., Nov. 8th, "What are Women doing with their Vote?" Mrs. MANSELL.
 8.15 p.m. **Chairman:** Mr. J. WELLS THATCHER (Barrister-at-Law).
 Wed., Nov. 15th, "Mind and Brain." Mr. WILLIAM BROWN, M.D., D.Sc.
 8.15 p.m. **Chairman:** Lady BARRETT, C.B.E., M.D.
 Wed., Nov. 22nd, HOUSE DINNER.
 7.30 p.m.
 Wed., Nov. 29th, "The Bible as a Book." The Very Rev. JOSEPH HERTZ,
 Ph. D., Heb. Litt. D., Chief Rabbi.
 8.15 p.m. **Chairman:** Miss C. NINA BOYLE.

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 "St. Paul's Views on Dress." Miss K. RALEIGH.
 Wednesday, November 29th, at 3 p.m.—
 "The Health of Its Women a National Asset to the State."
 Mrs. GATTY.
 Monday, November 20th, at 7 p.m. (Debate)—
 "Should Boys be Trained in Housecraft and Cookery?"
 Dr. SLOAN CHESSEY. Mr. CLEPHAN PALMER.
 Monday, December 4th, at 7 p.m.—
 "Domestic Drudgery; Woman's Failure." Miss HELEN FRASER.

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The Advertising Manager, Miss F. L. Fuller, 99, New Bond Street, London, W. 1. Telephone: 2421 MAYPAIR.

Printed by WILLIAMS, LEA & Co., LTD., Clifton House, Worship Street, London, E. C. 2.

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Published by the World's Young Women's Christian Association
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JOVENS DO TRIANGULO AZUL.

FUNDADA a 15 de Junho de 1920 a Associação Christã Feminina do Rio de Janeiro, com 805 socias fundadoras, tem até hoje cerca de 1,600 socias não sendo mais a prometedora esperança do passado, mas sim, a dulcíssima realidade do presente.

Desenvolvendo em grande parte um programma dedicado á mocidade brasileira, ella o tem cumprido na medida de suas forças.

Foi creado então o Departamento de Menores e Moças para as Jovens do Triangulo Azul, que se acha em um progresso bastante animador, mais do que isto, muito surpreendente mesmo.

E assim que, em 1920, contava esse Departamento, que é organizado para menores de 10 a 20 annos, 288 associadas, e, hoje dois annos após tem em seu seio



Group Leaders in training for the "Jovens do Triangulo Azul" of Brazil.

482 socias, 6 "leaders" ou Directoras que dirigem os Clubs, tendo cada uma a sua conselheira, escolhida entre os 12 membros da Commissão do Departamento de Menores e Moças, que superintende esse trabalho.

Dizer do esforço e do trabalho desse Departamento durante esse tempo, é cousa que não se pôde descrever em um artigo como este, onde temos que abrange tantos topicos. Diremos somente que, os Clubs são fundados consoantes os bairros, havendo dois que funcionam no centro da cidade, com 42 socias; um em Copacabana, com 10; um em Botafogo, com 10; um nos Suburbio, com 10; e um em Nictheroy, com 15.

Esses Clubs, que têm reuniões semanaes, denominam-se: Esperança, Patria, Colombia, Caridade, Cruzeiro do Sul e Geminés. Estes nomes escolhidos pelas proprias socias têm a seguinte significação:

Esperança: Representa o ardente desejo que sentem essas moças por se tornarem melhores filhas, irmãs mais carinhosas, esposas mais virtuosas, mães mais dedicadas ainda e rectas cumpridoras de seus deveres.

Patria: Significa o amor que ellas têm á sua patria, e a vontade que sentem em engrandecel-a, derramando sobre o seu sólo tão bello, sentimentos mais bellos ainda!

Colombia: A união fraternal entre as duas Americas, e do Norte e a do Sul; para que nunca se vejam em desacordo e possam sempre de mãos dadas caminhar pela senda do porvir.

Caridade: Por si só o seu nome é um hymno, basta acreditar em Deus, para saber da significação do symbolo desta virtude.

Cruzeiro do Sul: É inspirado no querido emblema das cinco constellações pois, embora vivamos na terra, devemos ter sempre os olhos voltados para as cousas do céu, onde nos guia e deslumbra o Cruzeiro do Sul!

Geminés: Refere-se á amizade e fraternidade que devem existir entre a Associação Christã Feminina e a sua irmã Associação Christã de Moços.

Tem o Club Esperança uma directora a quem está affecto o trabalho do Club, que é quem subscreve estas linhas, 20 socias, tendo por symbolo uma ancora e por côr a verde. Este Club foi fundado a 18 de Maio de 1921, com 14 socias.

O Club Patria, fundado em Junho de 1922, tem por directora D. Emílie Saldanha da Gama, 22 socias, por symbolo a bandeira brasileira, e por côres a verde e amarello.

Clúb Colombia, fundado em Junho de 1921, é sua directora D. Maria Ferreira, e tem por symbolo duas mãos apertadas sendo as suas côres encarnado, verde e amarello.

Club Cruzeiro do Sul, fundado em Junho de 1921, tem por directora D. Izaura Luppi Killer, por symbolo essa constellação e as côres azul e branco, representando o céu e suas estrellas.

Club Geminés, fundado em Maio de 1921, tem por directora D. Zelinda Santos Costa, por symbolo essa constellação, e por côres a vermelha (que é da Associação Christã de Moços) e a azul (que é da Associação Christã Feminina).

O uniforme usado pelas "Jovens do Triangulo Azul" é branco, por ellas mesmo confeccionado e semelhante ao das Jovens da America do Norte. Têm ellas deveres e obrigações a cumprir quer no lar, na rua, na escola ou officina e, conforme os vão cumprindo, vão angariando pontos e alcançando grãos. Quem cumpriu 10 pontos da lista dos deveres facultativos, alcança o grão de

voluntária; 30 pontos: sementeira; 60 pontos: cultivadora; 110 pontos: floricultura; e 150 pontos: germinadora. Os deveres obrigatórios para ganhar estes grãos estão publicados no *Triangulo Azul* incluso nesta carta. Esses deveres, quer obrigatórios, quer facultativos, são todos um incentivo para o bem estar do lar, das crianças, das donas de casa, das professoras, da comunidade; em fim, de toda a humanidade, pois o seu objectivo é tornar a moça mais forte, mais obediente, mais meiga, mais consciente de sua responsabilidade no mundo, tornando-se assim mais cumpridora de suas obrigações.

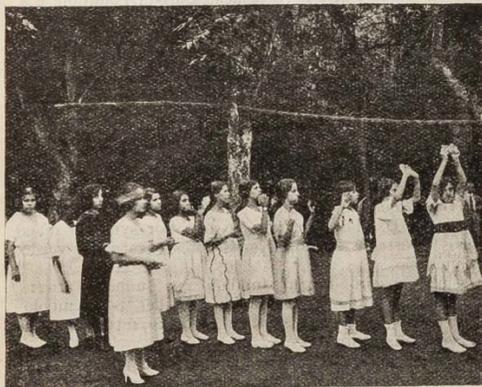
Quando a socia é eleita recebe um certificado onde ha um Triangulo Azul, symbolo do nosso ideal, representando os tres lados da individualidade: o corpo, a mente e o espirito. Ha no meio desse Triangulo, uma palmeira, que é o symbolo da Perfeição, pois, é a ella que desejamos chegar por meio desta triplíce orientação:

Ser perfeita no Corpo!
Ser perfeita na Mente!
Ser perfeita no Espirito!

Eis a grande ambição das Jovens do Triangulo Azul! Si ella é hoje uma utopia, praz aos Ceus que não esteja longe o dia em que ella seja a mais dulcissima das verdades!

Felizmente, a moça brasileira em quasi toda a sua totalidade é pura e dedicada e é por isso mesmo que deve ter uma possante barreira, uma atalaia forte, atravez da qual possa se defender das tentações mundanas que agora, depois da grande guerra, andam em um crescendo assustador, com um cataclysmo avassalando em seu redemoinho infrene tudo o que está ao seu alcance e a todos que vivem despreocupados e felizes. Data de pouco tempo a vida activa da brasileira fóra do lar, pois, sendo extraordinariamente amavel e terna, é ainda hoje o lar o seu principal ideal e encantamento. Quantas e quantas mães heroínas de amor e de dedicação não se sacrificaram por seus lares e seus filhos, preferindo-os á propria vida!

Esta é a principal virtude da brasileira, mas, não quer dizer que ella não saiba cumprir os seus deveres, seja qual fóra a actividade a que se dedique, principalmente nas artes e no magisterio, onde ella occupa o lugar de uma porcentagem muito lisongeira, se tivermos em consideração que o Brasil é um paiz de hontem e que ainda hoje existe a grande difficuldade de uma mocinha sahir sem ser acompanhada por seu pae, mãe ou outra qualquer pessoa de responsabilidade, o que torna a matricula e assiduidade nos Clubs um pouco difficil.



Team games which encourage unselfishness, "playing the game" and co-operation. The young leader of the younger "Jovens" wears her badge round her head.

Muitas mocinhas desejam ardentemente pertencer aos Clubs, mas não o podem fazer em virtude de não disporem de uma companhia e não lhes ser permitido andar só. Como iamoz dizendo, o Brasil é um paiz de hontem; porém isto pouco importa, se o seu adiantamento e progresso, principalmente no Rio de Janeiro, são fabulosos e inacreditaveis!

Completando o Brasil ainda agora o seu primeiro Centenario da Independência, têm no Rio de Janeiro uma das primeiras cidades do mundo em belleza (essa é a voz de todos os estrangeiros que a conhecem), o que não será pois do seu progresso e intensidade de vida, quando commemorar o segundo Centenario? Nós, que não chegaremos até lá, pedimos a Deus que abençoe o trabalho d'aquelles que a desejam vêr como primeira cidade do mundo, pois são todos os que têm a dita de conhecê-la sabendo que o brasileiro acima de ser um povo dos mais hospitaleiros tem por divisa um lema que por si só vale uma glorificação: Ordem e Progresso!

Ordem e Progresso! É esse o grito do Brasil, e é com este brado que nós terminamos estas modestas linhas, saudando as boas irmãs de alem-mar, gritando aos quatro ventos: Ordem e Progresso!

Ordem e Progresso! Não só para todo o Brasil, como para todas as Americas e para todo o mundo, afim de que possamos deste modo ter pelo mundo em fóra, a Paz Universal, tão sabiamente instituida por Deus e tão mal comprehendida pelos homens!

CARMEN CARVALHO.

THE FOURFOLD LIFE AS A GIRL'S IDEAL.

IF, as a modern writer has said, the goal of a child's development is complete adjustment to life in all its aspects, the necessity for all-round training becomes clear.

No girl physically undeveloped can satisfactorily meet the demands of life in business, much less those of marriage and motherhood.

A splendidly developed but unintellectual young woman cannot be said to be able to pass the test of adjusting herself to life when her brain never grasps the arithmetic for household accounts nor the politics of the day, which all the intelligent are discussing. Some would perhaps think, however, that if body and mind be at least adjusting themselves well to the demands of life, no other development is necessary. Yet life does ask more; it requires of us constantly those qualities of spirit and of character which are no easy growth, but presuppose a spiritual nurture and religious training; for that, too, provision must be made.

This threefold life of body, mind and spirit seems now to present to us a complete whole, all we need to aim at. But how sterile would such development be if it were ego-centric! Life and religion demand relationship, and the adjustment to life cannot be considered complete until that development of body-mind-spirit has passed over into the corporate life, has been dedicated to service! Life has then been socialized, and a fourth standard (that of service) added to the other three.

A fourfold life, then, is the ideal that alone will give promise of a sense of real achievement and the joy of being increasingly prepared to meet the varied demands of life.

Search any of the best schemes drawn up for adolescent girls, and it will be found that more or less they acknowledge and work towards this ideal. Y.W.C.A. clubs, "Girl Guides," "Girl Reserves" (U.S.A.), "Girl Citizens" (Australia), "Canadian Girls in Training," "Camp Fire," and other such organizations, all lay stress on physical, mental and spiritual growth and on high ideals of social service.

Here they follow instinctively the way marked out for us by God, for Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, in favour with God and with man, and, following His example, they challenge all girls to "Cherish health, seek truth, know God, serve others."

This is no modern discovery, every true educator has known it, but we use modern methods to achieve it—and many of these methods can best be followed by uniting with others in a group or club or Girl Guide patrol which uses its meetings to carry out gradually a well-balanced programme, in which provision is made for all four kinds of development.

It may be worth while to analyse this fourfold ideal a little more practically, showing how this physical,

intellectual, spiritual and social standard of life can be helped by the facilities that home and school and community, as well as girls' club, can put at the disposal of most girls to-day.

As the writer has more intimate knowledge of "Canadian Girls in Training" than of other organizations, the suggestions will follow its scheme in main outline.

I.—PHYSICAL LIFE;

The modern girl laughs as she reads some early Victorian novels, and discovers that the heroine appears to faint on all occasions and to be unequal to any steady exertion.

Adjustment to life to-day means a different standard of health. It demands strength of limb and of nerve, power to meet emergencies, the good temper and equanimity that as a rule can only be relied on in a healthy body.

To gain a high-physical standard herself and help others to gain it, some of the best means will be:—

- (a) The knowledge of simple laws of hygiene and practice in carrying them out systematically. Here lies the advantage of the "Girls' Code" drawn up by some organizations, giving girls certain definite suggestions on hygienic life (open windows, cleanliness, proper food, etc.), and demanding steady but progressive obedience.
- (b) First aid and home nursing. Each girls' group should aim at taking a course from a competent doctor or nurse on such things as accidents, poisons, care of patients, invalid cookery, etc.
- (c) Team and group games. Not only for physical health, but for training in adjustment to others, such games have a special place: exhilaration, fun, lessons in self-control, perseverance, power of combination; these and much more are the outcome of supervised games, such as basket-ball, tennis, etc.
- (d) Open-air life, with all its delights of outdoor sports (summer and winter), its camping, its study of nature, etc.
- (e) Physical culture, folk-games and dancing. This should include all that makes for rhythm and grace of movement, for flexibility and adaptability of nerve and muscle to various forms of activity.
- (f) "Self-knowledge, self-reverence, self-control"—the gradual unfolding of the meaning of life and the creation of life, so that the beauty of God's gift of parenthood may be discerned, and all physical life be realized as sacramental in character, the expression through material means of that which is spiritual in its essence.

Other ways of making real God's call to us to cherish the health He has given us and to dedicate it to Him will occur to many. The Association in all lands is seeking to make possible many of the means of physical growth and recreation as part of its service to girls for the sake of the Kingdom of God.

UNA M. SAUNDERS.

[Three more articles on "The Fourfold Life" will follow.]

WHAT THE GIRLS THEMSELVES SAY.

THE following translations of comments on camp life speak for themselves. Their authors are girls of different classes and nationalities, most of whom had never been to a camp before, and for some of them the experience was a veritable revelation—in more respects than one.

"With tears in my eyes did I spend the first two days in camp. 'I will never be glad here,' I thought. But with tears in my eyes I now leave, for I have learnt to love it very much. 'I will hate you all' was my resolution, and it has come that I love you all. 'Never again will I set foot in this place,' was my thought, and my parting word is 'Till we meet again.'"

"The days passed quickly. They form a line of beautiful pearls, leaving behind their colours: the blue, belief in oneself; green, hope in a better life; red, love to one's fellow-man; and the last, white, the pure joy of all God's gifts."

"I try to arrange at home the camp order, but, alas! the result is still very sad. For the morning exercises I did not win any of my sisters. Z. and J. always say that the cleaning of the house and the cooking are enough of jumping for them; but I hope that in three days' time their opposition will be broken, for they look at me very curiously in the morning when I am doing my exercises and saying 'one, two, three, four,' etc. Still, one of my reforms was accepted with enthusiasm, for I organized volley ball on the school playing field, and now we play every evening."

"The autobus moved slowly along the dusty highway, which seemed endless, among dry fields and meadows. The sun, although not yet far in its course, scorched. The traveller looks impatiently out of the window, trying to find something beautiful. Slowly the bus turns and the unlovely view changes. In a valley of blue-black forests, among fresh green trees, the steeples of a small village reach up toward heaven. In a short while we are there, the bus stops, I get out and wonder what I should do with my luggage. I do not have to think long, for three girls approach me timidly with a cordial 'Welcome.' I respond, and we shake hands. Two of them take my trunk and the third helps me with my blankets and pillows. In a few minutes we are in a beautiful park. In front of us stands a large, light-coloured building with a red roof and many windows, from which the buzz of happy voices is heard. We go farther. Everywhere is light and happiness, everywhere happy sounds and laughing faces. I am told that the morning conference is just over, and I hear the girls talking, one to another, very enthusiastically."

"I am led into the bedroom, where there is a whole row of beds, and I am allowed to choose one for my own. I choose one and a wardrobe. One of the campers quickly tugs a mattress over for me and I unpack hurriedly and make my bed. I must hurry, for the gong is sounding for the 10 o'clock bread and butter. In a happy throng the girls go down to the dining-room. Here more greetings and getting acquainted await me. I do not have to remember all the names, for they have them embroidered on the head-bands which they wear all the time. Afterwards I made my own head-band, and am now like all the rest. With one of the girls I become acquainted with the house and gardens. The other girls go swimming or play tennis. At dinner I already feel quite at home. The girls are my sisters, and our two leaders, with their sweet smiles and bright eyes, are just as kind to me as father and mother at home. After dinner we must be quiet for a whole hour. This is the only time of the day that the happy hum and ringing laughter is hushed. Some of the girls read or write, others sleep. I gladly accept the invitation of my neighbour to go into the garden and lie under the trees. Soon she fell asleep and I was left alone with my thoughts and emotions. Slowly I go over the events of the day—my arrival, the greetings, words, all the faces and what I have read in each one of them. A wave of deep feeling and thankfulness overpowers me. The sky seems so very, very near. It seems that if I stretched my arms to the green pines above I could touch them. The hours pass swiftly. We have returned from a tramp in the vineyards. The bell announces supper. Again there is a great skirmish and hurry on the stairs."

"After supper we go quickly to the volley-ball court. Two captains choose aids. I am also chosen, though I have no idea of what volley ball is. The game begins. The trained captain sends the ball spinning over the net to the expectant team on the other side. The ball is hurried from hand to hand in a frantic effort to send it back, until someone sent it flying out. At this a very great roar of laughter from both teams. Everyone gets a chance to serve. When my chance came I wanted

to serve beautifully as our captain, but, alas! the ball flew in exactly the opposite direction. I satisfied myself that all beginners encounter the same experience. Our side won, and again the great noise arose. I yelled with the rest, though I do not know why.

The day is slowly turning into evening. The sun has set behind the forests, and only now and then the last golden rays glitter through the darkness. Chubby clouds sink into the crimson horizon.

The shadows in the garden lengthen, and a long row of girls are on their way to the villa of our leaders. We come into the tiny house, pure white inside and out, all overgrown with green vines. Our hostess greets us and says: "I greet you in our new home. We have come together to give it a new name and make holy its heart." We then proceed with the regular forms of house-warming. The girls sit where they can, on the floor, beds, tables and window-sills. In the course of the evening we decided upon a name. Two candles were lit, one of Friendship and the other of Service. Each of us then and there decided to light that fire in our hearts. Our hostess spoke with us and lit the sticks of wood on the hearth. The fire crackled and the flames spread as they do only in fairy tales. Around this fairy hearth we sat in meditation, the girls' heads sinking lower and lower. For a while perfect quiet reigned in the room; then the melodious voice of our hostess rose in a parting good-night song. Softly we joined in the chorus, and the different hushed and soft voices gave a beautiful harmony. We were so happy.

And in the night, as we were falling asleep, prayers from thankful hearts, of different religions and different nationalities joined by service and love, went up to heaven. Into these the stars poured peace and confidence. The tired eyelids slowly drooped and the hearts fled to the land of dreams.

"It is with great pleasure that I will try to tell you in a few words how much we . . . girls like and enjoy ourselves in this 'very posh Camp' of yours. In fact, I think that we are the most fortunate girls to spend our vacations in your Y.W.C.A. Camp among so bright and nice girls and in your beautiful country. Since our arrival we have been feeling so much at home, we have received so warm and affectionate a welcome and this Y.W.C.A. looks so like the one we left in . . . that it seems to us like a very large family, whose good mother and little sisters are very dear to our hearts. Our greatest desire is now to have you all to come to . . . and visit our Y.W.C.A., in which, we are sure, you will receive at all times the most hearty welcome. And now, dear little friends, as the great French poet, Rosemond Gerard said:—

"Je t'aime aujourd'hui plus qu'hier,
Eh bien moins que demain."

ELEVENTH BIENNIAL CONFERENCE OF THE BRITISH Y.W.C.A.

THE British Young Women's Christian Association is holding its eleventh Biennial Conference at The Hayes, Swanwick, from October 20 to October 25. The subject of the Conference is "The Interpretation of Christ in a World Fellowship," and the programme of speeches, reports and discussions shows the wide outreach of this Association. One morning is to be given to a discussion, first among small groups and then of the Conference as a whole, of "The Place and Service of the Association in the Community," bringing together the principles guiding the practical (and increasingly varied) work of the British Y.W.C.A. for town and country girls alike. A special talk on "A Christian Association in Relation to Political Life," and a whole evening devoted to new developments in the Y.W.C.A. in other countries than Great Britain show that the membership are realizing that in these days the scope of Christian citizenship is not merely local, but national and international. The programme and list of speakers bear testimony to the fact that the British Y.W.C.A. is carrying on the traditions of its founders at the same time that it is conscious of

and sympathetic with the needs of the girl of to-day, and that it could ill be dispensed with in this reconstruction period.

UNDER THE SKY IN ROUMANIA.

CAMP life for the Girl Reserves of Roumania had a number of meanings this year. First of all it meant an airy school building at Satulung, near Brasov (Transylvania), with a good level playground and tall poplars to shade the volley-ball courts from the afternoon sun. It also meant physical examinations before



The tree-shaded volley-ball courts. The physical work of the Y.W.C.A. in Roumania has been much appreciated and is becoming very popular.

you were allowed to book a place—an exciting performance for many (including the camp director, who had to plan food that would fatten the thin, bring pink into the cheeks of the anæmic, stimulate the lethargic, etc.). It also meant the pleasant, orderly routine of a well-run camp, with its insistence on the comfort of the group, not of the individual, and careful balancing of exercise, rest, fun, discussion and study. But above all, to those who went and those who stayed at home, camp meant a first experience of sleeping under the stars.

A group of about thirty girls and camp councillors climbed a wonderful mountain near Brasov, over one thousand metres elevation from their starting point, and slept out on the ground, rolled in their blankets and with rain-coats underneath. Only one girl out of the whole party had ever camped in the open before, and all were deeply impressed by the beauty of stars, moon and sunrise, and by the silence of the night. Lying far below they could see the plain of Transylvania with villages like wooden toys laid out on it, and even the school-house from which they had started. Crowning joy, no one had even a cold, much less the rheumatism and worse that tradition promised them as the reward of such unheard-of behaviour. Encouraged by this experience, another expedition was made to the Royal Palace at Sinaia, and to a wood beyond the neighbouring village, where the party slept soundly round a great bonfire. At eight the next morning they were on their way to a fine waterfall near Busteni, and still were in time to catch (or rather to wedge into) a crowded train that took them back to camp in time to take their share in the regular programme.

All camps have their exciting moments, and Satulung was no exception. Didn't they eat their fill of the wild strawberries and raspberries which are such a treat to the town-bred girl? Didn't they go for tramps in the moonlight, singing all the dreamy gipsy and peasant songs that are so perfectly adapted for such a place and hour? Didn't they have a prize distribution of fir-twigs with gilded cones and blue ribbons, more thrilling than any school prize-giving of mere books and certificates? And didn't they nearly hit a royal princess on the head with a vigorously thrown volley-ball? But it is useless for the outsider to try to catch the glamour; she can only remember the camps of her youth and be glad that the camp movement is spreading, and that it still holds to the high ideals of those who saw years ago what camp could do for the girl at the age when body, mind and spirit are reaching out to new realms.

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THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWS

THE MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

Volume 17. No. 3.

PRICE 6d.

DECEMBER, 1922.

Annual Subscription, 6/-

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ALL ROADS LEAD TO ROME.

Ninth Congress of the
International Woman Suffrage Alliance,
Rome, May 12th to 19th, 1923.

Christmas Greetings to our Auxiliaries, Members, Subscribers, Friends,
all over the World!

Our wish for the New Year is that we may meet you in Rome in May, 1923.

At this great Congress of Women held in the Eternal City we
shall once more demand enfranchisement and equal rights
for the women of all nations.

Rome, May 12th to 19th, 1923.