

SPEYER.

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Bedford College,
Regents Park,
N.W.1.

14th October 1939.

Dear Miss Speyer,

I am glad to be able to send you some cheering news on the subject of your nationality.

The matter is very far from being overlooked and this Society, in conjunction with others, is taking an active part in pressing further action upon the Government.

A Parliamentary Committee composed of members of both Houses has been set up and has been working on this for the last six months or so, with Lord Alness as Chairman and with other very influential and experienced members upon it, and there seems a good prospect of an Urgency Bill being accepted which will relieve those in your position, although it will not completely meet our desires.

It does not appear that a Bill could at present be passed that did not give to the Home Secretary the power of veto in individual cases, and in the circumstances we think we must accept this as a reasonable provision, although it will mean no doubt that each case will be investigated, with consequent delay, before the British nationality is restored.

We are nevertheless feeling very much encouraged by the sympathetic attitude of the authorities and of the press, which

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has given a great deal of help and support, and I hope that it is now mainly a matter of finding time to introduce this Bill in the mass of Government legislation that is being crowded through Parliament.

The women's organisations have been working for years past on this matter in a Joint Committee with the cumbrous title of "The Nationality of Married Women (Pass the Bill) Committee." Its Hon. Secretary is:

Mrs. Donzé,
10 Bedford Gardens House,
W.8.

and I know she would be extremely thankful for any help you could give her and would be interested also to hear from you, as she likes to get into touch with those who like herself are suffering from this injustice. I hope therefore that you will write to her and will tell her that you are a member of our Society and that I advised you to do so.

With much sympathy,

I am,

Yours very truly,

Secretary.

Miss Marian Speyer,
Yew Tree Cottage,
Crockham Hill,
Edenbridge,
Kent.