

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

AND THE COMMON CAUSE

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NOTES AND NEWS.

The Turn of the Tide.

Last week, be it confessed with some trepidation, we hailed the triumphant issue of the London Conference. This week justifies our triumph. For the first time since the ill-fated Peace of Versailles, allied and ex-enemy representatives have left a conference table with expressions of mutual good-will, expectations of mutual good faith, and a workable plan in their pockets. All Europe breathes more freely, for, quite apart from the practical exigencies of the reparations problem, there is no doubt that, as *The Times* points out, "the conclusion of the London Agreement, with the liberal provision made in it for arbitration, has reinforced what may be called 'the League of Nations idea.'" A good background has thus been provided for the League's Assembly Meeting on 1st September, at which it is expected, the Prime Ministers of Great Britain and France will be present in person. Will the League's next advance embody the inclusion of Germany? We sincerely hope so. The Dawes plan, workable as we believe it to be, imposes upon Germany a heavier and more humiliating economic obligation than any modern European power has ever been called upon to discharge. Her social and political life is, at the same time, menaced by a peculiarly reactionary and savage Nationalist party which will fish assiduously in the troubled waters of German humiliation. We believe that membership of the League, carrying with it that guarantee of just treatment which the League would (or should) offer, would immensely strengthen the hands of the parties of the Left, and through them all that is pacific and equitable in European political life.

Women and the Police Service.

The report of the Departmental Committee on the Employment of Policewomen has done a good turn for the woman's movement by its appearance in the holiday month. The terms "vinegary spinster" and "blighted middle-aged fanatic" in letters quoted by Sir Nevil Macready are obviously destined for an August newspaper stunt. As to the report itself, we shall express our views at greater length next week, but we must say frankly that we are disappointed, though the friendly Press it has received mollifies our feelings. Something has, however, been gained. The statement in an official report that the efficiency of the police service has been improved by the employment of women has been broadcast throughout the country. The recommendation that women should as far as possible become an integral part of the Force and with a view to this make the declaration of a constable, and the recommendation that deals with the use of policewomen for statements of women and children when sexual crimes are in question, both give a strong lead to local authorities. We specially welcome the statement of Sir Nevil

Macready that 200 women police might be usefully employed in London, especially in view of the fact that there are only 110 at present in the whole country, and the recommendation that as many women as were employed before the axe fell in 1922 should be appointed in the Metropolitan Police District and that a woman should be attached to Headquarters to advise the Commissioner with regard to their employment. All this is excellent, but it is not enough, and next week we will deal more fully with the shortcomings of the report; in the meantime we advise our readers to invest in a copy and spare a little of their holiday leisure in mastering its contents.¹

The Fitness of the Nation.

We wonder whether there has been any generation which has not had to listen to Jeremias on its own decay. For this very reason it is easy enough to brush them aside with a contemptuous but unhelpful statement that that is ancient history, and therefore presumably untrue. But, after all, though the pessimists of every age have foreseen the early decay of their country, it does not follow that a time may not come when there is a real justification for their cry of "wolf", and when so distinguished a thinker as Professor McDougall takes up the cry it is time for everyone to consider the matter seriously. In an address to the British Eugenics Educational Society at Toronto, Professor McDougall declared that both the United States and this country were in a desperate condition owing to the disregard of eugenic methods of maintaining and improving the human stock, and he believed that in the future, 200 years hence, they would be included amongst the nations whose decline was due to deterioration of their members.

A more optimistic view was taken by Sir William Beveridge, who maintained that there is no evidence to show that the average physique and health of the people is on the decline. The evidence from the lengthening of the expectation of life and the decline of infant mortality is all the other way. What he regards as the disquieting feature is the fact that in every generation it is the classes that economically are most valuable to the community which contribute least to the numbers of the next generation.

Perhaps the most important feature of the two speeches to readers of this paper, whatever their own opinions may be, was the fact that in spite of their different views both speakers advocated the same solutions, namely a spread in the knowledge of birth control, and the grading of wages according to the size of the family.

Industrial Women and Motherhood.

A deputation from the Joint Committee of Industrial Women's Organizations on the subject of maternity welfare was received recently by Mr. Wheatley. One point urged was that the teaching of methods of birth control at maternity centres should no longer be prohibited. Mr. Wheatley has expressed his views on this point more than once in the House lately, and did not, of course, modify his attitude that the maternity centres should not be used for propaganda on such a controversial subject. He did promise, however, to consider a proposal from Dr. Marion Phillips that an expert inquiry on the subject of birth control should be held. The other points urged were the ratification of the Washington Maternity Convention and that an inquiry should be made into the working of maternity benefit and general provision for maternal welfare. The nursing mother, it was contended, does not get any of the maternity benefit which was designed to secure her proper nourishment, but in practice it goes to pay for the midwife and for extra domestic assistance. An inquiry into the causes of maternal mortality was also urged.

¹ Copies may be had at N.U.S.E.C. Office, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

Another Woman Mayor?

A correspondent writes: Cambridge, according to information which reaches us, is likely to have a woman mayor when the elections take place next November. At Cambridge it is the custom for the Liberals and Conservatives on the Town Council to take it in turn to nominate the candidate for the mayoralty. For the ensuing municipal year the choice rests with the Liberals, who have approached Mrs. Hartree, and have nominated her for the office. The nomination must be submitted to the Conservative members of the Council, but it is thought to be highly unlikely that they would refuse to accept so excellent a candidate. Mrs. Hartree is herself an independent member of the Town Council. She was brought forward and run by the Cambridge and District Women Citizens' Association, an organization of which she is at present Hon. Secretary. She is also one of the Hon. Secretaries of the Cambridge branch of the National Council of Women. During her three years on the Town Council, she has served on five of its important committees, and has been a watchful and sympathetic visitor at the Mental Hospital. She has a special knowledge of health and educational matters, and has been of the most active of Police Court Visitors, following up the cases and trying to lessen the evil conditions which have led to interviews with the magistrates. Mrs. Hartree, who is a former student of Girton College (where she took honours in the Natural Sciences tripos), is a member of the Cambridge Standing Committee of the N.U.S.E.C., member of the Cambridge Executive Committee of the League of Nations Union, has been chairman of her own Parish Council at Trumpington, and is chairman of the Trumpington group of Women's Institutes. And all these doings represent only a portion of the duties she undertakes and does excellently. Mrs. Hartree, it is understood, hesitated for some time to accept the invitation which quite unexpectedly came to her; but she overcame her scruples when she realized that fellow-workers in Cambridge would have been deeply disappointed had she felt compelled to let this great opportunity for public service go by.

The Wastage of Ill-health.

The report of the Chief Medical Officer which has just been published contains many facts and figures that shed light on discussions such as that described elsewhere between Sir William Beveridge and Professor McDougall. It is in some respects an encouraging report. The death-rate and the infant mortality rate for 1923 are the lowest on record, 11.6 per 1,000 and 69 per 1,000 respectively. The reduction in the death-rate from consumption is also satisfactory. On the other hand, the loss to the nation through sickness and physical impairment is staggering. It is possible to get some measure of this through the sickness and disabled payments. It is estimated that in 1923 20½ million weeks work were lost through sickness. Besides this, the loss through strikes sinks into comparative insignificance; according to Sir George Newman, the loss through sickness is at least ten times that through labour disputes. It becomes more than ever obvious when the meaning of these figures is grasped that State Health measures are the soundest form of national investment.

Women Park Keepers.

In view of the report on the employment of Women Police, which we allude to elsewhere, it is interesting to learn that the Birmingham Parks Committee has appointed twenty additional park-keepers, of whom five are women. There was a widespread demand for the introduction of women patrols in the parks owing to frequent occurrences of undesirable behaviour. The memorial presented on this subject had over 10,000 signatures. The same question is arising, we learn, on the far side of the globe. In Australia the women of Victoria have been roused by a remarkable increase in sexual crime, mainly against children. The Women's National Council have urged the State Government to increase the punishment for such offences, and to appoint a large number of policewomen.

Women and the Civil Service.

The recent report of the Committee on Common Seniority Lists for Men and Women in the Civil Service, which has already been referred to in these pages, affords an interesting commentary on the correspondence we published last week on Equal Opportunity in the Civil Service. The Seniority Lists are used for determining the choice of leave and similar privileges, and also for the purposes of promotion, since seniority is one of the factors, though, of course, not the only one, taken into account when questions of promotion arise. We understood that the principle of common seniority had been accepted by the Government, and that the Committee was appointed to explore the best method of putting the principle into effect, but the

Committee leaves it to the Departments individually to decide whether they will have a common list or not and how it should be drawn up. Thus, not only is no compulsion, and even no pressure, brought to bear on the departments to introduce a common list, but if they do it will be open to the Departmental Whitley Councils, mainly composed of men, to choose the methods which place the women in the least advantageous position. The minority report signed by Mr. W. T. Brown and Miss Maguire, the representatives of the Civil Service Clerical Association, would postpone the whole question of seniority arrangement until the end of the experimental period, when the position of women will be reviewed by the National Whitley Council for the Civil Service. But the National Whitley Council, like the Departmental Councils, is predominantly masculine; any review of women's position should therefore be made by an outside body, and not by an organization which can hardly fail to be biased. It is regrettable that this Committee on Common Seniority Lists should have been unwilling to review the situation even to the extent that its terms of reference would allow, and should have refused to make any recommendations of a general nature regarding the principles of seniority.

We notice that the representative of the Women Civil Servants, as well as the women members from the Departments, signed the majority report. We wonder whether they really thought it the best possible line to take, or whether they only acquiesced *faute de mieux!*

The Salesman and the Customer.

The account of the second annual summer school arranged by the Drapers' Chamber of Trade makes interesting reading. One lecture was delivered by a woman, Miss Gladys Boulton, who spoke of the new spirit penetrating the business world. Remuneration, she claimed, was coming to be regarded as the logical outcome of the service to the client, rather than as its sole object. The duty of the salesman to the customer she placed above that due to the employer; pushing unsuitable goods on to the customer was in the long run bad business, even if it appeared to pay at the moment. It is perhaps salutary to realize that the young ladies behind the counters are not automata measuring out yards of silk, but members of an industry with its own technique and its own scope for idealism.

The Scientific Approach to Religion.

The Conference of Modern Churchmen promises to be even more interesting than usual. The subjects chosen including Psychology and Religion, Immorality, absolute and conditional, Creative Prayer, the natural and the supernatural, are those which arouse speculative interest in the minds of those of widely differing creeds and philosophies of life. On Sunday, 31st August, the sermon will be preached by Canon E. W. Barnes, the new Bishop of Birmingham, on Faith and the Future.

An International Peace Congress.

The fourth Democratic Congress for Peace to be held from 16th to 20th September, will be marked by practical hopes which have been absent in previous gatherings. We are informed that about one hundred French delegates are expected, as well as fifty of other nationalities. The Congress has been intentionally arranged in the University vacation, as many of the delegates are unable to leave their countries at another time, and the Committee are very anxious to make the gathering successful in spite of the fact that September is not a good month for large public functions in London. A programme on Peace by International Collaboration has been announced, including several public meetings, one of which, on Friday, 19th September, is to take the form of a young people's demonstration. Miss Ruth Fry, Hon. Secretary of the Committee, invites help of various kinds—hospitality for board or for occasional meals, dinner, afternoon tea to delegates, offers of help in taking delegate to Wembley or London entertainments or sights, or help as interpreters. Full particulars may be had from Millbank House, Wood Street, Westminster.

"What I Remember."

Our readers will learn with regret that Mrs. Fawcett's reminiscences, continued for almost a year, will come to an end in the issue of 5th September. Many of us will find Friday a little duller without the weekly article to look forward to. We are glad to know that they will shortly reappear in book form. All who love and admire Mrs. Fawcett must have felt it a great privilege to follow with her in retrospect the events of a very unusual life, and it is good to think we are able to look forward to more, as Mrs. Fawcett has promised to contribute a series of articles on her recent travels in the East. Fuller particulars about these and about our autumn and winter plans will shortly appear.

INDUSTRIAL WOMEN WORKERS.

The Annual Report of the Chief Inspector of Factories for 1923 contains the usual interesting and informative summary of the work accomplished by his Department during the year. Readers of this paper will turn with special eagerness to that section of the Report dealing with the work of women. They will find it stated that the reversal of the process of substitution, which was so striking a feature of war-time industry, is now practically complete. "Women have returned to women's industries, and very few of them are to be found even in those sections of men's trades for which war-time observation and experience showed them to be peculiarly well-fitted."

The *New Statesman*, commenting on this fact, talks of the failure of the "confident predictions" that war-time dilution would usher in a new epoch of women's employment on work previously done by men. It would be of interest to be given chapter and verse for these "confident predictions": we have no remembrance of them. We remember, however, a humble hope that in the fulfilling of the needs that (we thought) Peace must inevitably bring, women would find their war-time training of use. This opportunity has never come. The economic muddle has not allowed us to get busy in refitting damaged Europe. Instead, work has been short and women were called upon to fulfil (as this Report shows) the promises made under agreements in practically every industry wherein women undertook to work as substitutes and to retire when the men returned. The *New Statesman* does not mention the Restoration of Pre-War Practices Act among the reasons it lays down for the departure of women from men's trades. However much we may regret that the established men's craft unions do not open their doors to women, it is surely not desired that they should enter, as it were, by a back door. The *New Statesman* might give the war-time industrial woman some credit for honouring her agreements; instead of that, it puts the result down entirely to reasons well out of her control.

As to the force of some of these, we are in complete accord: "mere conservatism" is indeed a powerful factor in causing the reversion to pre-war practices, and when it is reinforced by much unemployment in the ranks of the traditional breadwinner—the husband and father—its strength is increased tenfold, in spite of the fact that there are many more women than formerly with persons dependent upon them.

The shorter duration of women's industrial life also has always been a handicap to them in the industrial world, and this handicap is an ever-present challenge to those of us who desire them to take not only an honourable but also an honoured place in that world. The problem—industrial or professional—is not solved by the mere keeping open of the door to allow employment after marriage; in many branches of industry this is already the case, for good or for ill. The person who complicates the matter for her professional and technical sisters is not the young married woman who desires to continue work outside the home after marriage, but the young married woman who does not. At present she is in a majority, and she makes the pace for the rest, who, because of her, do not always get the training they desire.

The *New Statesman's* third reason is somewhat vague, but so far as it can be understood it does not seem to be altogether sound. It speaks of the "special provisions that have to be made where women are employed." We presume the reference is to legislative restrictions, and it leaves us cold. The main difference between the restrictions on the labour of men and women or—to put it another way—the main direction in which women are protected while men are not is in the matter of hours. Yet, except in certain branches of industry, men's hours are not longer than women's. Indeed, they have often obtained for themselves by combination better terms than fall to women under the law. And where this is not the case, they have often not disdained, as of old, to accept the benefits that shelter "behind the women's petticoats" brings with it. Further, the Women, Young Persons and Children Act, 1920, dealt with this very disability by specially allowing shift work for women by special Order. Yet the Report under review tells us that only 323 of these Orders are in force all over the country, and that only a proportion of the 323 are in actual operation. Thus, although these Orders (the obtaining of which is no very serious matter) deliberately relax the main restriction on women's hours, we yet find that they are not applied for, and even when granted are only used to a comparatively small extent.

There will, of course, be some readers who are very conscious of the effect (psychological as well as practical) of any measure

which differentiates between men and women, and the attention of these is directed to two interesting new Bills now before Parliament. The Factories Bill, introduced by the Home Secretary, is largely a consolidatory measure, and as such retains the old restrictions upon women's hours, already mentioned. But it also seeks to amend the law and to extend the principle of the regulation of hours to men also. The clauses in this Bill prohibiting night work in baking and requiring a weekly rest period of twenty-four hours, affect men, and in these respects bring them into line with the existing legal position of women. Most of the other parts of the Bill touch men and women alike. Women are protected in regard to exposure to the risk of lead-poisoning—the result of the consolidation of existing Acts and Regulations—and there is some differentiation in smaller points like the provision of seats and the carrying of heavy weights. But the bulk of the provisions, including those under the head of "Welfare," make no distinction.

A further indication of the intention to treat men and women alike is given in the other measure known as the Hours of Industrial Employment Bill, introduced by the Minister of Labour and backed by the Home Secretary. This Bill, framed to ratify a Draft Convention, entered into at the first Conference of the International Labour Organization at Washington in 1919, puts a limit on the normal working hours of adult men, just as the Factory Act limits the normal working hours of women. The trend of social legislation generally is all in the same direction.

H. C. ESCRETT.

A CHOICE OF BOOKS.

MOVE OBITER DICTA. By AUGUSTINE BIRRELL. (Heinemann, 7s. 6d.)

This is the very book for a holiday—light, malicious, varied—where nothing is talked of for long or very seriously. One may or may not agree with Mr. Birrell's remarks about poets or statesmen, creeds or theories, but one cannot help chuckling over them.

CARLYLE TO THE FRENCH REVOLUTION. By D. A. WILSON. (Kegan Paul, 15s.)

In this volume Mr. Wilson carries his great biography one stage further toward completion. As the material becomes more and more abundant, the pace grows slower, and this section covers the first years of marriage, of which two were spent in Edinburgh, seven at Craigenputtock, and the earlier years—till 1837—of life in London. Much of this volume is taken up with the relations between the Carlyles and Francis Jeffrey, of whom Mr. Wilson draws a very attractive picture.

FALSE DAWN—THE OLD MAID—THE SPARK—NEW YEAR'S EVE. By EDITH WHARTON. (D. Appleton, 4s. 6d. each; four in box, 18s.)

The theme of Old New York—in the forties, fifties, sixties, and seventies—is one which Mrs. Wharton evidently finds sympathetic and which she has used with great success in *The Age of Innocence*. These four volumes are each of them shorter than the average novel, and slip the more readily into a holiday pocket. They have the qualities of crispness and good workmanship which we expect from their author, and she brings back to us in great detail a life which, though it lies in the memories of many living people, yet is as far off and long ago as the Middle Ages. Perhaps the first story is the best, of the young man who is sent to Europe with strict orders to bring back a Sassoferato or a Carlo Dolce, who falls in with Ruskin and returns with a priceless collection of pre-Raphaelite pictures only to be disinherited for his pains.

CORNISH SILHOUETTES. By C. C. ROGERS. (John Lane, 6s.)

These are leisurely chapters, some "the rounded story dear to the human heart," others sketches of village life, while in two we go to look at Cornish folk in far Australia. The author has a real feeling for the Duchy, and is at her best in the intimate description of its beauties.

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

EVERY FRIDAY.

ONE PENNY.

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WHAT I REMEMBER. L.

By MILLICENT GARRETT FAWCETT, J.P., LL.D.

CONTINUED PROGRESS (Continued).

In a further letter to Lady Betty, Lord Northcliffe said that he was going to read my letter, the fierce and angry one of which I have no copy, "at the Prime Minister to-morrow." So I felt I had done well to be angry. My next letter from Lord Northcliffe is characteristic. It was dated 27th December, 1916.

DEAR MRS. FAWCETT,

I talked for some time last night with the Prime Minister, who is very keen on the subject and very practical, too. I make the suggestion to you and Lady Betty that you get up a large and representative Deputation. That will give the newspapers the opportunity of dealing with the matter.

I shall speak to the Editor of the *Times* on the question to-day. I believe he is entirely favourable.

Yours sincerely, NORTHCLIFFE.

"Have done so. He is."

Lord Northcliffe's support was of great value to our movement. He was constantly talking to his friends on our subject. He, who had been a few years earlier one of our chief opponents in the Press, was now reported to have said: "The women were wonderful. Their freshness of mind, their organizing skill were magnificent. Men were making too great a mess of the world, and needed helpers without their own prejudices, idleness, and self-indulgence."

We did not agree with Lord Northcliffe's diatribes against his own sex, but we welcomed his support as an indication of the great change in public opinion. From this time onward we made steady and rapid progress. In January, 1917, the Report of the Speaker's Conference was published. It recommended that some measure of Women's Suffrage should be conferred, and also that it should be based on the Local Government Register with the very important addition of including the names of women whose husbands were on that Register, but that the age limit for women should be considerably higher than that for men. Eventually the age limit for women was fixed at 30, while for men it remained 21, although boys even as young as 18 were allowed to vote if they had actually been in the fighting services. The high age limit for women was accepted by our friends in the Conference, because they believed that to insist on absolute equality would imperil our cause and might for the time be even fatal to it. The recommendation of Women's Franchise by the Speaker's Conference was welcomed with scarcely an exception by the Press of the country. It soon became apparent that the measures of enfranchisement recommended would, if adopted by Parliament, result in by far the largest number of votes being added to the Register that had ever been authorized by any previous Reform Bill. Our friends on the Speaker's Conference had aimed at a constituency in which the proportion of women to men in the new electorate would be two to three. This anticipation proved very nearly correct, for the new Register published in 1919 gave the number of men voters 12,913,000 and the number of women voters as 8,470,150. We now found ourselves in the unprecedented position of receiving praise on all sides. Dear old Dr. Clifford, who had been our friend throughout, preached a sermon about us in which he said, among other things, "Opponents have changed into advocates with a suddenness that shows that winds of the spirit of Liberty have swept their minds clear of traditional prejudice and made them ready for a welcome. Think of it: A few years ago a few solitary voices like John Stuart Mills' exposed and denounced the 'subjection of women,' a few women like Mrs. Fawcett agitated for the Suffrage. Then came the revolt, violent, vehement, and desperate, of a few more, and now the war has placed their cause in such a position that it can never be put back. British women must be enfranchised."

From the dawn of 1917 until 16th February, 1918, when the new Reform Bill received the Royal Assent, so far as our work for women's citizenship was concerned, it was "Roses, roses all the way" without the dismal sequel which Browning's hero had experienced. We hurried up with the organization of the deputation which Lord Northcliffe had recommended to give the papers something to write about. The organization of this deputation was in the able hands of Mrs. O. Strachey, she made it picturesque as well as representative of the National Services given by women during the war, but it was really unnecessary; we were pushing against an open door.

As there has been quite recently (1924) some controversy on the subject, I wish to make it plain that we never relinquished our full demand, "Suffrage for women on the same terms as it is, or may be, granted to men." As soon as the report of the Speaker's Conference was in our hands I, as President of the

N.U.W.S.S., wrote in our paper, *The Common Cause*, now *WOMAN'S LEADER*, that if anyone asked me if I were entirely satisfied by the proposals embodied in the Report I should answer by a distinct negative, and I continued, "we are asking, and shall continue to ask, for the Suffrage for women on the same terms as it is, or may be, granted to men. But I do not think it is very wonderful if, at one stroke, Parliament should refuse to enfranchise the whole female population. Men in this country have never been enfranchised in this wholesale fashion," etc.

Notwithstanding its superfluous character our deputation to Mr. Lloyd George on 29th March was a very agreeable function. It was representative of the whole Suffrage movement. I had to explain that our original intention had been to ask the Prime Minister to introduce without delay legislation embodying the recommendations of the Speaker's Conference, but as I had learned from his own speech, made two days earlier, that such legislation was already being framed, I contented myself with adding that if the Prime Minister should see his way when the Bill was in Committee to improve in a democratic direction upon the recommendations of the Conference—but only so far as was consistent with the safety of the whole scheme—I and Suffragists generally would be very gratified. I added on my own account that personally I greatly preferred an imperfect Bill which could be passed to the most perfect scheme in the world which could not pass.

In order to make the deputation more agreeable to the Prime Minister, Mrs. O. Strachey had had the happy thought of bringing a Welsh-speaking lady with us. What she said and what Mr. Lloyd George replied remained unknown to us, but we believe it was something very agreeable and pleasant, judging by the expression on the faces of the two Welsh scholars. Before we left I told Mr. Lloyd George that it was only through an accident that Miss Violet Markham had not joined us, and the Prime Minister exclaimed, "Miss Markham a convert! This is welcome news indeed."

It is unnecessary to go through the details of the victories for the women's Cause signalled by the size of our majorities when the Reform Bill was in the House of Commons. But it came to our knowledge afterwards that it was the overwhelming character of the majorities in the Commons that gave us deep water enough to float our measure over the rocks of the House of Lords. In the Commons the second reading of the Bill was carried by 329 to 40, and when Committee was reached the division on the clause which enfranchised women resulted in giving 385 votes in our favour to 55 against, or exactly 7 to 1, with a majority within each party into which the House was divided. The leaders of each of these parties supported us by speech in the House. Mr. Asquith, the most persistent and most effective of our former opponents, had just moved a resolution in the House, calling upon the Government to produce a Bill founded upon the recommendations of the Conference. He had confessed his errors and had likened himself to Stesichorus, who had been smitten with blindness for insulting Helen of Troy. He added, "Some of my friends may think that, like him, my eyes which for years in this matter have been clouded by fallacies and sealed by illusions, at last have been opened to the truth." I sometimes smile to myself when I remember these things and also when I remember the French proverb, "Plus cela change, plus c'est la même chose." The prejudices of a lifetime may bow to the inevitable, but it takes more than a Parliamentary majority to entirely uproot them.

The immense majorities by which the women's clauses of the Reform Bill had been carried in the Commons had encouraged us to press for the application to the Local Government Register of the principles already accepted by the House in regard to the Parliamentary Franchise, i.e. to give the vote not only to women who were already entitled to be on the Local Government Register, but also to the wives of the men who were upon it. We obviously had a strong case for urging this, and we approached ministers on the subject with confidence, but found them obdurate. Then we turned on the tap of electoral pressure and urged our many hundreds of societies all over the country to take up the matter with their own members, and also with the Minister concerned. This they did, with the result that the President of the Local Government Board was snowed under with letters and telegrams urging that the principle adopted for the extension of the Parliamentary vote to women should also apply to Local elections. We were almost startled by our success. We were not then so accustomed as we have since become to the greater weight given to protests and resolutions when they proceed from voters. The Minister in charge, Mr. W. Long (now Lord Long) gave way. He said he had received almost innumerable letters and telegrams all urging one thing, and not a single communication on the other side, and he agreed to apply to the Local Government

¹ See *Common Cause*, 9th February, 1917.

A POLISH MEDICAL WOMAN OF THE 18th CENTURY.

The Conference in London this month of the International Medical Women's Association, suggests an account of the remarkable manuscript autobiography of Salome Halpir. The narrative, given with some fullness in Dr. Melanie Lipinstra's *Histoire des Femmes Medecins*, is derived from this manuscript, which she consulted in the library of Prince Czartoryski at Cracow.

The story is full of incident. It appears that Salome was born in the palatinate of Nowogrodek, Lithuania, in 1718, the daughter of one Joachim Rusiecki, and was married at the age of thirteen to a German oculist, Jacob Halpir, who had a large practice at Constantinople. The young wife became her husband's assistant in ophthalmic operations, and acquired in time a considerable range of medical knowledge, so that it was not long before she too was consulted professionally.

Among Halpir's patients was a Turkish high functionary who had been suffering for seven years from cataract and from a form of paralysis, and who offered him a large sum if he could effect a cure. As luck or skill willed, the man was soon able to read and write, and to walk without a stick. The Sultan, rejoiced at such a result, showed Halpir signal marks of favour, and his reputation seemed made. But alas, while the patient was still undergoing treatment, death suddenly overtook him. Whereupon his incensed relatives accused the oculist of having administered poison in a certain potion, and the Grand Vizier immediately condemned him to death.

Owing to his wife's efforts on his behalf, the death penalty was commuted for a fine, but, not satisfied with this, she pursued an investigation into the composition of the potion and—(are we reading a sensation story, or is it sober truth?)—it turned out that a rival doctor had been in the chemist's shop when it was being mixed and had contrived to infuse poison in order to get Halpir into trouble. This man confessed his crime and was ordered to a heavy pecuniary forfeit in addition to repayment of the fine imposed on Halpir. But, moved to revenge, he went to Hakim, doctor-in-chief for the Turkish Empire, and what did he ask and get but a prohibition against the practice of medicine by Madame Halpir. She retained only the right to treat diseases of the eye, and then in the case of women patients only.

None the less, she was soon called in to prescribe for the son-in-law of a dignitary who was suffering from an internal malady, and her success resulted in the chief Janissary giving her a letter to Hakim desiring permission for her to practise in Constantinople without such restriction. Hakim was a French doctor turned Mussulman. After a personal interview he tested Salome Halpir's powers on an old blind woman of his household, and with so happy a result that she became henceforth a recognized medical practitioner. Hakim bought her a house near the imperial quarters, and set her up with a pharmacy.

Was her husband jealous of her success? or did he grudge the expense entailed by a long illness which now beset her, or weary of his sick wife? They had a little girl of two named Constance, when Halpir deserted wife and child, leaving a mere pittance to maintain them.

Another series of adventures was before the young woman. Still suffering from illness and now faced with new anxieties, she decided to return to her native country, and started, accompanied by an old Tartar who knew some Polish, on the road to Adrianople. While there she frequented the baths to regain her strength and met some Turkish ladies who invited her to their houses. It happened too that she was able to treat successfully a young shoemaker, who paid her with an outfit of shoes. His customers spread abroad her fame, so that she was soon maintaining herself and putting by money for her further journey.

By similar means she pursued her way until she reached the barrier of the Balkans, and here she was obliged to take horse, the road to Sofia being impassable for carriages and, moreover, infested with brigands. Dressed as a man and with an escort of thirty, she was suddenly stopped by a hand on her horse's rein and the cry: "My greetings, *doctress*; whither away with child and belongings?" She knew this must be Housseinaga, the chief of the brigands himself, and it was not in vain that she cast herself on his generosity. He sent his son to conduct her to his home at Karlowa, where she attended him and his family medically, and was suitably rewarded before proceeding to Sofia. There a court appointment was bestowed on her, and her fortunes seemed assured.

(Continued on page 242).

Register the principle already adopted for the Parliamentary vote. Miss Rathbone was our leader in this part of our work. I was at first rather timid and feared to risk a setback in our main work; but I was wrong, and the enormous extension given to the representation of women in Local Government has worked extraordinarily well, and did not at all injure any other branch of our activities.

The victory in the Commons was complete and sweeping, and the next question was how should we fare in the Lords? We had great and important friends there: Lord Selborne, Lord Lytton, Lord Courtney, Lord Morley, Lord Burnham, Lord Buckmaster, Lord Milner, Lord Haldane, the Archbishops of Canterbury, and York, and most of the Bishops. But we had great and important enemies also: Lord Bryce, Lord Lansdowne, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, and more powerful than all, Lord Curzon, who represented the Government in the House, and was therefore its leader and moreover was the President of the Anti-Suffrage League. As the debate proceeded it was impossible to feel any certainty as to how the voting would go. It all depended on Lord Curzon and what he said as the leader of the House. Mrs. Strachey and I had been so fortunate as to secure seats in the very small space allotted to ladies, other than peeresses, in the House. About eight of us were packed into a small pew-like enclosure level with the floor of the House. My next neighbour on one side was Mrs. Oliver Strachey and on the other Mrs. Humphry Ward. Mr. Arnold Ward, M.P., her son, stood at the bar and was in frequent communication with his mother. The excitement was intense, the debate on this one clause had lasted over two days and now a decisive vote was about to be taken. In one of our snatches of conversation, Mrs. Humphry Ward had asked me, "in the event, which I do not anticipate, of the view I take being unsuccessful," would I support her in an agitation for the Referendum? I replied at once in the negative, and said I had no affection for the Referendum, and believed it was an instrument of government most respected when it was least known. I had made, I told her, at one time a collection of the sayings of members of a former Government about the Referendum. One had called it "an expensive way of denying justice," while another described it as "just the thing for female suffrage." But, of course, while Lord Curzon was speaking our whole attention was centred on him; at first fears and then hopes prevailed. He began with a skilful, but not at all original anti-suffrage speech. He quoted, I am glad to recall now, a resolution recently adopted by the N.U.W.S.S. stating plainly that even if the Bill then before the House went through and became law, the N.U. would of course continue to work for suffrage for women on the same terms as for men. (Sir William Bull and Lord Eustace Percy, please note.) Continuing the discussion on anti-suffrage lines for a considerable time, he paused and asked the House to consider the subject carefully from another point of view—what would happen if they put themselves in opposition to the House of Commons on this matter within a few weeks of the other House having given a very large majority in favour of women's votes? And he continued:—

Your Lordships can vote as you please. You can cut this clause out of the Bill. You have a perfect right to do so. But if you think that by killing the clause you can also save the Bill I believe you to be mistaken. Nothing to my mind is more certain . . . than if your Lordships cut this clause out of the Bill, as you may perhaps be going to do, the House of Commons will return the Bill to you with the clause re-inserted. Will you be prepared to put it back? Will you be content if you eliminate the clause with this vigorous protest that you have made, or will you be prepared to give way? Or, if you do not give way, are you prepared to embark upon a conflict with a majority of 350 in the House of Commons, of whom nearly 150 belong to the party to which most of your Lordships belong? . . . Therefore, my Lords, I cannot vote either this way upon the amendment, for I am loth to assume the responsibility of embarking upon a course which I might not be able to pursue and as regards which I might be accused of having precipitated a conflict from which your Lordships could not emerge with credit.

These words made our victory in the Lords a certainty. It was, I think, the greatest moment of my life. We had won fairly and squarely after a fight lasting just 50 years. Henceforth, women would be free citizens. I spoke to Lord Aberconway, son of our valiant old friend Mrs. Maclaren, of Edinburgh, who happened to be standing near me at the bar, and asked what majority he thought we should have. He replied, "at least thirty." The numbers actually were: For the clause 134, against it 71, or nearly two to one. It was a complete and triumphant victory, only twelve anti-suffrage peers followed Lord Curzon's example and abstained from voting, so that if they had all voted against us we should still have won. The Royal Assent was given by deputy in the House of Lords on 6th February, 1918, a gorgeous ceremony which I had the pleasure of witnessing.

¹ See *Hansard*, House of Lords, January 10th, 1918, vol. xxvii, No. 108.

NOTES FROM IRELAND IS THERE A CASE AGAINST PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION?

An ancient anecdote relates how Tennyson, asked for an opinion on Browning's "Sordello," replied that he could only understand two lines, and both were totally inaccurate. These were the first, "Who will, shall hear Sordello's story told," and the last, "Who would, has heard Sordello's story told." The tale comes to mind after toiling through the seventeen pages of the Fabian pamphlet dealing with P.R. The style is extremely difficult to follow; one sentence, for instance, runs to nine lines, while such phrases as "aspirant Ministry," words like "representativeness," which is not exactly a specimen of English pure and undefiled; and "ministrable groups" abound. Advocates of the despised electoral method at one moment are said to "occupy their time in preserving an ancient and sterile faith," and at another they are cranks eager to foist a new fad in place of a method which has proved its value by long usage. The author remarks "that it is the traditional practice of advocates of P.R. who have a special fondness for argument from the unknown to cite conditions in foreign countries." This may account for his silence as to results of P.R. in Ireland! But, at least, the reproach of ignorance does not apply to the present writers. One of us has stood as a candidate under P.R., both have carried on active election work and voted in five elections conducted on that method.

Space renders detailed criticism of this singular piece of special pleading impossible. Five points are cited as instances of arguments raised on behalf of P.R. The first three were never advanced at any meetings held in connection with this question in Ireland. The last two are relevant and both have been proved absolutely by Irish experience. They are as follows:—

"The dominance of party organizations in a single member constituency crushes out small groups and the independent member. Under P.R. this will be mitigated and the freedom of the member be enhanced." The reply is a series of elaborate assertions to the contrary, without evidence; as, for instance, "The actual processes of politics would not in such a system leave room for the independence claimed." No reason is given. Why, then, in the Free State Parliament are there five parties, including a group of seventeen Independents, when the total membership of the Dail is only 153? If, as stated on page 11, P.R. does not tend to weaken the party system, why, on the same page, refer to "the threat to the two party system and party discipline as a threat to responsibility in the democratic system?" Either group representation and the independent member are good things or bad, and P.R. either tends to secure these or does not.

The last argument given by the author on behalf of P.R. is as follows: "The minority in each single member constituency is directly unrepresented." In a recent letter in the WOMAN'S LEADER a definite and typical instance of minority representation under P.R. compared with minority disfranchisement under the old method was given from personal experience in Ireland. So much for this point.

As for the practical defects of P.R., we have first the time-dishonoured argument of the unfortunate elector faced "with a ballot paper containing ten or fifteen names." It is sufficient to quote the proportion of spoilt papers in the Irish elections. This stood at 2 per cent. The areas included the tenement house electors of Dublin City, peasants in Connemara, and the Antrim farmer cultivating his few acres won from the mountain and bog.

After painful study, the real points which seem to distress the author are these.

Under P.R. the "invaluable periodical referenda on the action of the Government secured by bye-elections would be lost." The answer is in the negative. They are not lost. The Free State elections were held at the end of August, 1923. Since even under the blessings of P.R. members are still subject to the common fate of mortals, four vacancies have occurred. Three have been filled by bye-elections held under P.R. A fourth is impending. In the North one bye-election has been held by a postal vote for a University constituency, another by the ordinary P.R. method. The cost of bye-elections seems to be considered an insuperable difficulty; expenses are, however, regulated by Acts of Parliament. In any case, what can be afforded in the Free State, where political existence was risked to secure economy, may presumably be afforded elsewhere.

The second point about which the author is gravely concerned is the supposed loss under P.R. of the personal relation between the member and the electors. "The close personal relationship between the member and the constituency gives way to a dehumanized operation of the party machine." The reply is again in the negative. It does not. In County Dublin one

member, an Independent, has already held several meetings for the special purpose of reporting on his work. Further, can any close personal relationship exist in a large single member constituency? The absence of personal feeling during election contests, very noticeable in Irish elections, North and South, is a very strong argument in favour of the method. The advantages of canvassing are questionable. In scattered areas it is often a means of indirect bribery, and in the opinion of many the abolition of this form of "political education" would be an unmixed benefit. In any case, there is nothing in P.R. to render canvassing impossible, though the larger areas may make it more difficult. We have organized such canvassing ourselves.

In the third place, the author repeatedly points out that "accurate mathematical representation" is impossible. Such accuracy has never been claimed. Figures have been given in the WOMAN'S LEADER to show how close is the representation in Ireland, but it is not exact to a decimal point.

To return to the question of minority representation. This is dismissed in the cryptic statement, "the present-day issue is the quantitative one of how much representativeness will the nature of the whole national complex of political conditions allow." This, with the context, appears when translated into the vulgar tongue to mean that minority representation on any adequate scale is incompatible with efficient working of the elected assembly. In reply the Free State Parliament has sat for nine months. During that period the entire judicial system of the country has been reorganized. Grave financial changes have been introduced. An attempt has been made to deal with the railway problem. Legislation has been carried dealing with Fisheries and Agriculture. In the North two measures of the first importance and of a most contentious character, dealing with Education and Temperance, have been carried, and a very large number of Bills dealing with Local Government, necessitated by the setting up of a new Parliament, have been passed. The advantages or disadvantages of these various measures are not here under discussion, but it is desired to emphasize "the quantitative representativeness" of the output. For a country whose "national complex" is somewhat complicated, it seems to be considerable.

The inference would seem to be that effective working is to be sought not by retention of a method which disfranchises the minority, but in some other direction.

This question of disfranchisement is serious. To quote President Cosgrave, "Representation is a sacred thing." Whatever tends to weaken the representative element in the Government is to be distrusted. In Northern Ireland P.R. has been abolished in the Local Government elections. This is viewed by the Catholics as "excluding the minority" to quote a Catholic newspaper, which goes on to say: "The minority succeeded at the last Local Government elections in obtaining what they never got before, representation which in most cases accorded with their numerical strength." This "attack on the liberties of Catholics" has had a considerable share in the exacerbation of feeling in the present Boundary crisis. We cannot enter into any discussion as to the correctness or incorrectness of this view, but it is widely held. In modern politics minorities cannot be ignored with safety.

The author throughout ignores the case of the elector and writes only from the standpoint of the good party man. The case, not against, but for P.R. may be summed up in the protest of the Belfast Labour Party against the proposed abolition. "We still believe that through the application of Proportional Representation lies the only just method of ensuring that majorities shall rule, while at the same time ensuring that minorities shall be represented."

E. S. MONTGOMERY.

DORA MELLONE.

A POLISH MEDICAL WOMAN OF THE 18th CENTURY.

(Continued from page 241.)

There followed a dramatic meeting with her husband, who had settled in Bosnia with a view to certain waters curing a disease from which he was suffering, and had learnt of her presence at Sofia. "He had himself carried to my house, and scarcely could I ask who he was before he exclaimed with emotion, 'God be with you, wife!' Then I knew him by his voice, for he was quite changed, pale and thin and ill... we both dissolved in tears." He begged her to undertake his cure, and this she did with the help of a Maltese physician, prisoner of the Turks, who had accompanied him from Bosnia. The husband and wife decided to live together again, but first Halpir, being court physician, had to return to settle his affairs, and while there an epidemic carried him off.

[This article, which is one of a series dealing with pioneer medical women, will be concluded in our next issue.—ED.]

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

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

Offices: 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.
Telephone: Victoria 6188.

HEADQUARTERS IN AUGUST.

Officers and members of Societies are reminded that they will find a warm welcome at Headquarters if they are in town during August and find time to call either with or without an appointment. August in London brings its own compensations, and we have had some interesting visitors. They are also reminded that representatives of the National Union are still to be found at the Hut at Wembley, organized by the British Overseas Committee of the I.W.S.A. Our day for manning the hut is Wednesday, 27th August, and the workers in charge on that day will especially welcome visits from members of the National Union. The Hut is situated between the Amusements Park and the tall State Express Cigarettes tower, and its address is 2, Cleanway, Eastern Station, North 30.

NEWS FROM SOCIETIES.

BIRKENHEAD W.C.A. AND THE PROGRAMME OF CONSTRUCTIVE WORK.

Section 1 (Legislation before Parliament).—Both M.P.s have been interviewed by deputations, and the attitude of our Society explained in connexion with all the important reforms in which we are interested. Frequent letters are, of course, sent to them on special points. All local women's societies—including party ones—are represented on our Committee, and the constituent societies are frequently asked to take action in support of resolutions sent up by us.

Section 2 (Women and Political Parties).—Through their representatives on our Committee our immediate programme is constantly being brought before the local political associations. At election times the views of all the candidates are ascertained by our Association, and made public in the Press. All parties have been approached with a view to their bringing forward women candidates in the municipal elections.

Section 3 (Registration of Voters).—We have always had a Registration Secretary, who has received and sent in claims and represented the Association in the Claims Court, and have had no difficulty in getting through our claims. The Register of Voters is always available at our office. Last year we made a house-to-house inquiry in one of the most representative wards to ascertain the proportion of women who would be added to the register under equal franchise, dividing them into wives, daughters and others (chiefly lodgers). The results were most interesting, and the inquirers very well received.

Section 4 (Employment of Married Women).—Resolutions have been sent to the Town Council.

Section 8 (Women Police).—Letters have been written to the Town Council and the local Press, members of the Watch Committee have been interviewed, and a Petition (signed by 900 householders) has been organized.

Section 11 (Solicitation of Laws).—The operation of these is specially watched by our Police Court Rota. Special meetings have been arranged for next season.

Section 12 and 13 (Prostitutes and Women Prisoners).—The Police Court Rota is specially interested in these. Local arrangements appear to be satisfactory, but further inquiries will be made.

Section 14 (Family Endowment).—No special action has been taken, though the matter has been discussed by meetings and study circles. Two copies of the "Disinherited Family" are in the library and are in constant demand.

Section 15 (Birth Control).—A very well-attended meeting was held, with speakers from London and Manchester for and against.

Section 16 (Housing).—This is constantly under consideration, and much information as to local conditions was obtained during the inquiry referred to in Section 3, which included the worst

part of the town. Action has been taken on several occasions in connexion with individual complaints of insanitary conditions. A Social Inquiry Committee has been formed; visits have been paid to local housing schemes; plans have been examined; and a representative was sent to the International Housing Congress.

Section 17 (Information).—The Information Committee meets weekly and issues a monthly News Sheet, calling the attention of members to matters of special interest. A library has been started, and is augmented by book-boxes from Headquarters.

Section 18 (WOMAN'S LEADER).—50 copies are taken weekly; extra copies are ordered for most big meetings and special occasions.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE PREVENTION OF WAR.

MADAM,—The movement set on foot a few years ago on the Continent to make one day in the year an occasion for demonstrating the desire of the mass of the people to end war for ever, has now taken very wide extension in Great Britain. Its observance is in no way confined to those who favour one special means of ending war, but during the last year or two has been shared by very many who, differing as to means, agree as to the overwhelming importance of the end.

The observance, which this year has been fixed for the third week-end in September, is generally taking the form of outdoor and indoor demonstrations, either on the Saturday or the Sunday, organized by local committees, inclusive of bodies such as Peace Societies, the League of Nations Union, Trade Unions, Co-operative Societies, Adult Schools, Y.M.C.A.s, etc.

These demonstrations will take place this year at a crucial juncture of Europe's affairs: at a time which marks a turning point. Upon the direction then taken may well depend the fate of our civilization. The Assembly of the League of Nations will be in Session, and Great Britain will be represented there by her Prime Minister; a new French Government favourable to the admission of both Germany and Russia into the League, and a German Government favourable to the Dawes Report, are likely to be in power. If, in this combination of circumstances, European public opinion asserts itself decisively, so that all governments will be encouraged to seize the opportunity which may not recur, a very great step will have been taken towards the settlement of Europe. If that opportunity is not taken, the European nations may slip further and further into chaos, with all the social disasters which wait upon it.

JAMES H. HUDSON,

For the Executive Committee,
National Council for Prevention of War.

A NEW OPENING.

MADAM,—E. H. almost disarms me by her kindness. I should so much like to say "You are right, I was wrong," but I can't. Of course, I agree with her that a scientific training is necessary for a dietitian, but practical kitchen work, as it is now carried on, should be studied for a time by girls of 16 aiming at higher positions, because there is nothing else that quite gives the insight into the conditions of the work and the psychology of the workers. Unless one knows what one is up against, how is it possible to make the best conditions as an administrative dietitian? Kitchen work is most illuminating to an educated woman. I know, because I did it for five years in cap and apron amongst absolute strangers, whose only aim was to get someone who could cook decently. It was no joy-ride. Let anyone who doubts my words try it and see. The one regret of my life is that I did not take a place as a scullery-maid when I was 16, because it is impossible to get the same character and practical training when one is older, and nothing in after-life quite makes up for it. The training given by a first-class cook to her subordinates is excellent. My ideal would be to matriculate at the London University at sixteen, go home and dance and walk for a month, six months scullery work in a girls' school, six months junior kitchenmaid, in the same school, six months kitchenmaid in another large establishment, six months first kitchenmaid in a different large establishment, with a month's interval of dancing and walking or rowing between each engagement. At 18½ I should hope to be a nurse-probationer at the London Hospital for three years, taking my certificates; then six months' holiday in Switzerland, before starting a B.Sc. degree course at Campden Hill. The degree won, a post-graduate course at Cornell should follow. I should then only be 26, but quite well qualified. Of course, this costs money, and everyone can't afford such expensive training, but the first five years would be self-supporting, and the girl who had matriculated, had two years as a domestic servant, and three as a nurse-probationer at the London Hospital, would be quite able to take a post as housekeeper of some small hospital or institution, and complete her training by means of books and a correspondence course, and might even turn out the better dietitian! A kitchen is a very good laboratory. All my life I have been handicapped through not having had the benefit of being a university woman. The chief drawback has been that I have been less well-paid. I have also lacked university influence; but from the educational standpoint I have not found its loss a handicap. The world is a very excellent university, and coupled with the resources of science, literature, and art, provides more education than one person can possibly absorb even in a long life. Personal research and investigation are enthralling and enchanting even at 61.

On the whole, after 46 years incessant work and play I confess if I couldn't have the domestic service and hospital nursing training as well as the university I would prefer to give up the latter, as being more easily replaced.

ANN POPE,

Member of the American Home Economics Association.

COMING EVENTS.

CONFERENCE OF MODERN CHURCHMEN, AUG. 25-SEPT. 1. Oxford. Somerville College and St. Hugh's College. Subject: "The Scientific Approach to Religion." Opening address by the Dean of St. Paul's, C.V.O., D.D., F.B.A. Tickets (including board and lodging) £3 15s. per week; £2 15s. for first five days. Tickets for meetings only, 15s.; for those engaged in teaching, 7s. 6d. Admission to single meetings, 2s. Applications for tickets accompanied by Full Remittance and Stamped Addressed Envelope to Miss Nussey, c/o Somerville College.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

GLASGOW S.E.C. and W.C.A., Waverley Hydropathic, Melrose. OCT. 9-OCT. 13. Autumn School. Inclusive terms for Board-residence (single room): Registration and Lecture Fees £3; for part-time attendance 15s. per day. Applications for membership of the School not later than 15th September, to be made to Hon. Secretaries, 172 Bath Street, Glasgow.

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TO LET AND WANTED.

CHILTERN HILLS.—Cottage home (bath). Miss Taylor, 93 Cheyne Walk, S.W., recommends Board-residence, 2 gns. a week each. Free FROM 15th September.—Mrs. Clare, 6 Station Road, Chinnor, Oxon.

THE ISIS CLUB (15 minutes Oxford Street).—Holiday visitors and permanent residents. Large garden; beautiful situation, sandy soil. Magnificent reception rooms. Central heating; electric fires. Excellent cuisine. Lectures, dancing, wireless, tennis. From 2½ guineas.—79 Fitzjohn's Avenue. Telephone: Hampstead 2869.

RESIDENTIAL CLUB, near Gloucester Road and Earl's Court Stations. Verandah leading into shady garden. Constant hot water; gas fires in bedrooms; separate tables.—4 Bramham Gardens, S.W. 5. Telephone: Kensington 8465.

LOW GREEN HOUSE, Thoraby, Aysgarth, Yorks.—Comfortable BOARD-RESIDENCE. Good centre, moors and dales. Three guineas per week.

PROFESSIONAL.

PUBLIC SPEAKING.—Miss Geraldine Cooke, 2 George Street, Portman Square, W. 1, is free to address meetings on Citizenship and kindred subjects. Terms on application.

LEARN TO KEEP ACCOUNTS.—There are especially good lessons in book-keeping at Miss Blakeney's School of Typewriting and Shorthand, Wentworth House, Mauresa Road, Chelsea, S.W. 3. "I learnt more there in a week," says an old pupil, "than I learnt elsewhere in a month." Pupils prepared for every kind of secretarial post.

INCOME TAX RECOVERED AND ADJUSTED. Consult H. M. Baker, 275 High Holborn, W.C. 1, the only Income Tax Agency owned and managed by a woman. Telephone: Holborn 377.

POST VACANT.

PRIVATE SECRETARY required (previous secretary resigned after 12 years). Must be thoroughly trained and experienced; preference given to one who is also musical.—Apply, Hon. Mrs. Franklin, 50 Porchester Terrace, W.

CANNING TOWN WOMEN'S SETTLEMENT, LONDON, E. 16.—Full-time Voluntary Workers Wanted in the Autumn for all departments of Settlement Work. Vacancy for student to train in social work.—Full particulars from the Warden.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

COTTON PILLOW-CASES.—100 dozen linen-finished cotton pillow-cases, real good quality which we can recommend. These cases are well suited for hard wear and will give every satisfaction. Size 20x30 ins., 4 for 8s. 9d. Write for Bargain List—TO-DAY.—HUTTON'S, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ireland.

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

DRESS.

MISS MALCOLM'S DRESS ASSOCIATION, 239 Fulham Road, London, S.W. 3. Bargain Gowns, Evening and Afternoon, at 21s.

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LACE.—All kinds mended, cleaned and restored, embroidery undertaken; church work, monograms, initials.—Beatrice, Box 1,017, WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 35 Marsham Street, Westminster. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Information Bureau. Interviews, 10 to 1, except Saturdays. Members' Centre open daily. Restaurant open to 7.30 (not Saturdays).

THE PIONEER CLUB has reopened at 12 Cavendish Place. Town Members £5 5s.; Country and Professional Members £4 4s. Entrance fee in abeyance (*pro tem.*).

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 22nd August, 7 p.m., Maude Royden: "Faust."

THE HOUSE ASSISTANTS' CENTRE,
510 King's Road, Chelsea, S.W. 10.

is now definitely **CLOSED**, as Ann Pope has, by medical advice, had to discontinue all active participation in social work. An article on the work of the Centre (which is being carried on as a fresh undertaking at Ealing) will appear shortly in the WOMAN'S LEADER.

HOME-MADE CAKES, made with butter and eggs (no substitutes), can be obtained from Nan's Kitchen, 15 Furnival Street, Holborn, London, W.C. Layer cakes, éclairs, meringues, etc. Regular orders undertaken. A room for tea and light luncheons. Recommended by Ann Pope.

THE WOMAN'S LEADER can be supplied direct from this Office for **1½d.** including postage. Send 6/6 to the Manager, WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1, and the paper will be sent to you at any address for a whole year. Persuade your friends to do the same.

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Address

PREPAID CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS 1d. a WORD, 6d. EXTRA FOR BOX NUMBER.