

WOMEN'S SERVICE
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THE WOMAN'S LEADER

AND THE COMMON CAUSE

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NOTES AND NEWS.

The Guardianship of Infants Act.

The Guardianship of Infants Act has again been coming in for a great deal of criticism at the hands of metropolitan magistrates. Mr. Bingley objects to the power given under the Act for a magistrate to be appealed to to give consent to the marriage of minors. It will be remembered that this clause was put in at the instance of the Home Office, as apparently experience had shown that awkward situations arise when the father cannot be found, or when parents refuse permission for no good reason. In the Marylebone Police Court, before Mr. Hay Halkett, a father stated that he wished to send his boy of 7 to a boarding school, but his wife objected, and he asked for a decision under the Act. Mr. Hay Halkett explained that the father's right to educate his child as he likes has not been affected by the present law, but that if he sent the child to school, and the wife applied for the custody of the child, then the court would under the Act have to decide according to the welfare of the child. We cannot see that in such a case the father is being treated in any way unfairly. That the shoe can pinch the father is shown in a case a week or two ago which came before Mr. Bingley. In this case the mother had taken the custody of the child, having deserted the father and denied the father access. The father was quite content to allow the mother to keep the custody, but wished to see the child occasionally. As the Act gave the father no right to apply, and the father did not wish to take advantage of his rights to obtain actual possession of the child, this was a hard case. We would again remind our readers that the Bill as drafted by the N.U.S.E.C. gave complete equality to mothers and fathers to apply to the Courts. It is, moreover, we feel sure, only inadvertency that this equality of rights was not given in the Government measure. We hope the matter will soon be put right.

The Bastardy Bill.

The Bastardy Bill came up for Second Reading in the House of Lords on March 17th. It was opposed by Lord Desborough on behalf of the Home Office, and rejected. Viscount Astor, in moving the second reading of the Bill, made an excellent speech, which showed the real grip he had acquired of his subject. Unfortunately, an important legal Member of the House, who had promised to support the Bill, was detained at the last moment, and others were apparently quelled by the opposition of the the Home Office. We understand, however, that neither Lord Astor nor the promoters of the Bill are downhearted; they realize that a great deal of hard work will be necessary

in order to convince the Home Office that there is a real demand for such legislation. The Bill is supported by a large number of thoughtful and experienced people who fully understand the dangers and difficulties involved in the administration of all bastardy laws, but refuse to accept the statement that these dangers would be increased by the new proposals. It is probable that the Bill may appear again shortly in the House of Commons, after certain amendments have been made, which it is hoped may meet to some extent the criticisms of the Home Office.

The Mental Deficiency Bill.

The Bill to amend the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913, introduced last week by Mr. Crompton Wood, as a private member's Bill, had a very favourable reception, in spite of the opposition aroused by the very similar Government Bill, 1926, which was withdrawn at the Report stage last session. In some respects, however, the present Bill which obtained its second reading is less open to criticism, and only Colonel Wedgwood rose to oppose it on the grounds of undue interference with the liberty of the individual. In a useful memorandum issued by the Central Association for Mental Welfare, it is pointed out that the object of the Bill is to facilitate the administration of the Mental Deficiency Act, rather than to widen its original scope. A definition of defectives is for the first time introduced which describes mental defect as a condition of arrested or incomplete development of mind arising before the age of 18 years, whether due to inherent causes or induced by disease or injury. The words "or other cause" which in last year's Bill followed after "disease or injury" which were much criticized, have been omitted, and the insertion of an age limit at the same time extends the benefits of the Act to those who might under the old phraseology have been regarded as ineligible, and prevents, as the above-quoted memorandum explains, an unduly wide interpretation. We sincerely hope that time will be found for the remaining stages of this necessary amendment to the present Act; in a subsequent issue we hope to deal more fully with its provisions.

Midwives and Maternity Homes (Scotland) Bill.

This useful little measure, based on the English Act of last year, passed its second reading in the House of Commons on Friday, 18th March. It is virtually the same as the English Act in prohibiting any uncertified person, whether man or woman, from attending a woman in child-birth unless under the direct supervision of a doctor, and in providing also for the registration of maternity homes. We note that the Scottish Bill does not contain a clause which we regard as a weakness in the English Act, to the effect that maternity homes under the charge of a doctor should be exempt from the need of registration and inspection.

The Unchanging East and Women.

One of the most interesting features of the revolutionary regime in China is the woman's movement. An International Woman's Day was celebrated last week at Nanking, in which thousands of women took part, and in which the slogans were, equality of the sexes, down with polygamy; women remarrying not to be despised; freedom of marriage and divorce. We hear, moreover, that equal opportunities for girls with boys are to be given in education, and that the girl slaves of the Southern Provinces are to be freed and are to be known as "adopted daughters" with opportunities for education and for marriage. The important part being played by women in the Labour Unions gives a striking proof of the rapidity with which changes in the life of the women have come about.

Family Endowment Overseas.

On 1st April, the New Zealand Family Endowment Act will come into force, and a state subsidy of 2s. per week will henceforth be paid for each child in excess of two in a family, up to the age of 15 years, provided the total income of the parents is not more than £4 a week. Applications are already being made. Two shillings a week for the third and subsequent children is, of course, a mere apology for family endowment, and we have repeatedly given our reasons for disliking "thrifty disqualifications" for state benefits. In principle they do violence to the conception of Family Endowment as a social recognition of the mother's service to the community; in practice they cause "disturbance at the margin." Nevertheless a slice is better than no bread. We hope that with the machinery of Family Endowment ready to hand, and the habit of Family Endowment gradually acquiring familiarity, the wedge may be driven in by successive hammer blows until its thick end is firmly and comfortably embedded in the New Zealand social system. Meanwhile, in New South Wales, the precariousness of the Labour Government's intentions with regard to a Family Endowment Bill appear to be intensified by a dispute over the question of whether the existing basic minimum wage of £4 4s. calculated with reference to the subsistence needs of a man and wife and two children, should be reduced to a sum sufficient for the needs of a man and wife, and then supplemented by family allowances, or whether the family allowances should be superimposed upon the existing basic minimum wage. A conference between the leaders of the two Houses of the New South Wales Parliament appears to have produced complete deadlock. It is, however, a little difficult to gather from the daily Press, exactly what is going on in New South Wales, for the Bill recently drafted by the Labour Government involved the payment of allowances so insignificant in amount as to offer no adequate substitute for the reduction of the basic minimum wage. The distant observer of these tangled happenings is almost tempted to suspect that the present New South Wales Government is handling the whole matter with a certain lack of force and logic.

Women at Oxford.

There has been considerable correspondence in the Press with regard to the proposals to limit the number of women at Oxford University, referred to in our last number. The Master of Wadham and the Provost of Worcester Colleges have both written to *The Times* in support of their petition that the number of women students should be limited to one in four of the total number of students. They hold the view that the women's societies not being "Colleges" in the Oxford sense, "there is no reason why they should object to the infringement of the right of a College, always hitherto acknowledged, to fix its own numbers"; and further that if the "Societies of women students were really content with their present numbers it is incredible that they should so bitterly oppose any and every proposal to prevent them by statute from increasing much more." To this the Master of Balliol retorts: "It is almost incredible to me that the Head of a College should not appreciate that the women's colleges prize that reasonable independence and power of self-determination which is so precious to every collegiate society in a university, whether it is a college in the full technical and legal sense or not." This is indeed the point, as although the Women's Colleges have announced that they do not wish to increase their numbers, it is a very different matter whether such a restriction is self-imposed or is insisted on from without.

Pass Men and Honours Women.

In an obituary notice of the late Sir Henry Craik in *The Times*, his "unrepentant opposition to woman suffrage" was mentioned. Lady Simon replied to this by a very interesting extract from a letter from Sir Henry Craik written last August, in response to what he termed "a most interesting and weighty brochure on Woman's Franchise," written to him by her opposing an extension to women. "I have always been an opponent of women's suffrage," he writes, "on grounds which I still hold to be good and which have nothing whatever to do with moral or intellectual comparisons. But that is a battle which is over, and I have no thought of repining over what has been done, save on one point . . . the presence of women in Parliament . . . which as a profound respecter of women I deeply regret . . . But on one point I feel great difficulty; it is hard to see why a suffrage, conferred on educational grounds, should be given to a Pass man

of 21 and denied to an Honours woman of 29. But illogical as that may be, I attach great weight to your argument, and I intend to be governed by considerations of the public good when the subject comes up." Our readers may remember that it was Sir Henry Craik who first pointed out that the proposal to raise the age of the franchise for men to 25 was unconstitutional, and that no government would venture to take such a step. We believe that if he had lived to join in the final debates on this subject, "considerations of the public good" as well as those of logic and justice would have induced him to give his influence and vote on our side.

Feminism by Decree.

The Turkish Government has set itself to the task of Westernizing its women, even to the extent of forcibly depriving of their veils those ladies who are desirous of retaining them. Now the Constantinople Courts appear to be adding their weight to the cause of official feminism by a sturdy championship of the women's cause. According to the *Manchester Guardian* of last Saturday, a Turkish paper which published a cartoon depicting a group of women citizens rising in a balloon out of which such ballast as "conscience," "honour," and "virtue," was being thrown, has been convicted of a defamation of Turkish women. As a result a number of its employees, including its editor, have been condemned to varying periods of imprisonment. We cannot help regretting this verdict. Apart from the undoubted artistic merit of the cartoonist's conception, we feel that Turkish women have on the whole more to gain than to lose by the freedom of the Press. Indeed, the time may come when they themselves will be desirous of expressing their opinion of the Government. As the *Manchester Guardian* points out, such standards if adopted in Great Britain would involve half the Roman prelates in Ireland in similar penalties by virtue of their recent Lenten pronouncements on the abominations of the modern woman. And on the whole the Press would be all the duller, and our understanding of social psychology the more defective if such expressions of mental outlook were inhibited.

Local Authorities Please Copy.

The Oldham Royal Infirmary is a hospital of high repute, for whose posts there is keen competition. Thus it is of some significance that it has recently appointed as anaesthetist a woman doctor who possesses the crowning disability of being married, and married to a colleague who was at the same time appointed acting assistant surgeon. It does not appear that the Board of Governors took any steps to inquire into the domestic affairs of these eminent fellow workers, for the purpose of determining whether there were any "special circumstances" connected with their private married life which might render it desirable or undesirable for the wife to abandon her specialized skill in order to undertake the more suitable occupation of cleaning, washing, and cooking within the domestic circle. No—unlike other responsible public authorities, the Oldham Royal Infirmary appears to have ordered its staff arrangements with the single view of getting the best person for the job. And the choice happened to fall—as indeed by such an exclusive test it sometimes will—upon a married woman!

A Wife's Income Tax.

At the Hanley County Court last week, Judge Ruegg expressed himself forcibly on the subject of a husband's liability for the payment of his wife's income tax. "He considered it most unjust that a man should be made liable for his wife's income tax, and he did not hesitate to say so." The other side of the picture, of course, is that many wives consider it most unjust that for assessment purposes the Inland Revenue Department should treat their incomes as an integral part of their husband's incomes and tax them jointly at what may happen to be a higher rate. We share Judge Ruegg's disgust at the present assumption of a husband's responsibility for the taxation of his wife's property, but we feel that he has not put his finger on the real inequity—merely upon one of its unfortunate implications.

POLICY.—The sole policy of THE WOMAN'S LEADER is to advocate a real equality of liberties, status and opportunities between men and women. So far as space permits, however, it will offer an impartial platform for topics not directly included in the objects of the women's movement but of special interest to women. Articles on these subjects will always be signed, at least by initials or a pseudonym, and for the opinions expressed in them the Editor accepts no responsibility.

TRAFFIC IN WOMEN.

By ALISON NEILANS.

"Profit is at the bottom of the whole business."—Experts' Report.

Readers of THE WOMAN'S LEADER will remember that in 1923 women's organizations were asked to send to the League of Nations resolutions calling for the prohibition of foreign women in licensed houses. The Association for Moral and Social Hygiene begged British women to have nothing to do with any resolutions saying which women should or should not be in licensed houses, but to concentrate on demanding that licensed houses should be abolished, since such houses constitute the very centre of the traffic in women.

THE WOMAN'S LEADER at that time opened its pages to a discussion on the subject, and much interest was aroused by the controversy and active propaganda which followed. The result was that the League of Nations Assembly clearly perceived that tremendous feeling existed in Abolitionist countries against the whole licensed house and Regulation system. The Assembly, therefore, after transmitting to all Governments the diverse views expressed, dropped the question of prohibiting the employment of foreign women in these houses, and set up a world-wide investigation by a body of experts on the whole subject of conditions under which the traffic is carried on. Commenting on this action, the A.M.S.H. in the *Shield* (April, 1924) said:—

"We hope and expect that the result of the inquiry will be to show that the *maisons tolérées*, the traffic in women, and the *police des moeurs* all form part of one system, namely, the State regulation of prostitution, and that to get rid of the traffic in women we must also get rid of the *police des moeurs* and the *maisons tolérées*."

The Experts' Report has now been presented to the Council of the League. The Report is in two parts, only one of which is at present available. The first part contains a concise account of the facts disclosed by the investigation and a statement of the conclusions founded upon them. The more important part of the material, arranged according to countries, is contained in the second part, which has been referred to the various Governments. There has been some suggestion that this second part will be kept from the public in deference to the opinion of certain Governments whose countries (though not necessarily their nationals) are heavily implicated in the traffic. Public opinion, however, is already expressing itself on that point, and any attempt to prevent publication will arouse widespread anger.

What do we learn from this Report? Detailed inquiries have been made in twenty-eight countries, 112 cities and districts were visited, and 5,000 persons of the underworld, mostly *souteneurs* and prostitutes, were unsuspectingly interviewed by investigators. The results are summarized at the end of the Report, and may be shortly stated as follows:—

A traffic of considerable dimensions is being carried on. It is

NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER.

BY OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT.

Except for the Film Bill, it has been an unexciting week. On Monday, 14th March, Mr. Bridgeman introduced the Naval Estimates. These were at the alarming figure of £58,000,000, and all the talk which had been going about that there was to be a £3,000,000 cut proved unsubstantial. Mr. Bridgeman is an able Parliamentarian, and in addition the naval element is strongly represented in the House, so he got his votes without much difficulty; but there is a general feeling, both that we are spending more than we can afford upon defence generally, and in particular that we should spend more on the air and less on the sea. Hence the call for a Ministry of Defence, the only means of getting out of the present intolerable and extravagant rut, in which the amount assigned to each fighting service is allotted on no principle, and co-ordinated by no system, but depends on the persuasiveness or pugnacity of the Minister and his assistants.

On Tuesday, 15th March, the Bill changing the Royal and Parliamentary titles got through Committee. The Diseases of Animals Bill and the Royal Naval Reserve Bill passed Second Reading, and the Forestry Bill got through Third Reading. Thus the road was cleared for Mr. Kelly's motion that wages, even in sheltered industries, were not sufficient to maintain a decent standard of life. A discussion of some interest followed a discussion moreover which improved as it went on, until finally Mr. Sidney Webb, winding up for the Labour party,

a sinister business in which the traffickers seek to supply a demand with the greatest possible gain to themselves. Many hundreds of women and girls, some of them very young and 10 per cent. under the age of 21, are transported each year from one country to another for purposes of prostitution. At any given centre the majority of the women are likely to be foreign women because they are deliberately imported to places where there is a surplus of men or a temporary visitation by soldiers, ships or tourists. Notorious vice centres and the system of licensed houses stimulate in a marked way the demand for foreign women, and also facilitate traffic in them, as where such vice areas or houses are tolerated it is found more profitable to move the women round from one centre to another in order to provide a continuous change of inmates for the men who visit the houses. The traffic is mainly supplied from four classes of women: the regular prostitute, whose earnings in her own country are decreasing; the semi-professional young girl, early led astray by love of pleasure or finery; girls who perform in low-class cabarets or travelling troupes and who are induced by low wages or pressure by employers to prostitute themselves. The fourth and most pitiable class are innocent girls drawn from poor homes and with ignorant parents, say, in Poland or Roumania, with whom the traffickers may contract pretended or even real marriages in order to obtain their confidence and affection.

The main routes of the traffic appear to be from Europe to South and Central America, Egypt and some parts of North Africa. Documents of every description are readily procured or forged; while frontiers, passports, birth and marriage certificates, and identity cards offer few difficulties to the traffickers, who, by various clandestine methods, find a way to pass freely with their human wares.

This Report should prove the death blow to the licensed house system which, now at last in 1927, it shows up as the very heart and centre of this vile traffic. Josephine Butler and her colleagues told that truth to the world in 1880, and the Abolitionist Federation has never ceased to proclaim it aloud. Even now this report has avoided one essential fact. Where does the money come from which makes it worth while to take girls long journeys over oceans and continents and to organize bribery, corruption and forgery in order to cross frontiers with impunity? Perhaps, the, as yet, invisible second part of the Report will answer this question. If it does not do so the League will have missed a great chance of striking a real blow at the whole business of paid prostitution. *Why is it profitable to traffic in women?* Because all over the world there are thousands of otherwise decent and kindly men who are willing to pay their 5s., 10s., or 20s. for casual sexual gratification. *It is for them the traffic is run.*

made a speech of great interest. Though we are better off than we were fifty years ago, and the standard of life has risen many times, the distribution of the product of industry has remained much the same, though there has been a rise in favour of Labour. Up to 1895, wages increased at the same rate as, or faster than, the national income, but from then till 1913, the increase of prices caused a fall in real wages. On the whole, therefore, Mr. Webb attributed the real rise which has taken place in the standard of life not to higher wages, but to the £300,000,000 a year which we are now paying for social services.

On Wednesday, 16th March, came the much-debated Cinematograph Films Bill. Upon this it was well known that Sir Philip Cunliffe-Lister had been opposed to the quota system, and that he was driven to it because he could not find an alternative. Leaving things as they are meant the continued dominance of our market, our emotions, and our imaginations by American productions, and without egotism, our standards are not the standards of the United States. Therefore this powerful industry, with its immense appeal, was directed by those who did not share all our culture. Moreover, the Imperial Conference had spoken very strongly. Hence Sir Philip's prohibition of block-booking and blind booking, whereunder in practice British audiences have to see such pictures as American producers choose to send them, and his insistence on a small British quota, starting in 1928 with 7½ per cent., rising 2½ per cent. each year. The debate

(Continued at foot of next page.)

THINGS INDUSTRIAL SEEN IN CHINA.¹

By DAME ADELAIDE M. ANDERSON.
V.

The helpful access we had to foreign and Chinese employers in Shanghai, both individually and in their associations, has been dealt with elsewhere.² The readiness of Chinese manufacturers in Chinese cities, far less affected than Shanghai by foreign influences, to meet and greet us as reformers of labour conditions, now calls for some notice. Particularly the initiative they sometimes took in seeking us out was a great encouragement.

Early in January, 1924, after several weeks spent in seeing Shanghai factories and manufacturers, inside and outside the International Settlement, our first invitation of an official character from a city outside Shanghai came from the great seaport of Ningpo in Chékiang. They wished my colleagues and myself of the Industrial Committee (N.C.C.C.) to see their industries and to speak of their regulation in the interest of the health and safety of the workers.

This impressive old walled city of over 400,000 inhabitants, inclusive of suburbs, which was opened as a Treaty Port in 1842, has no defined foreign concession or separate settlement. It is rather a trading and commercial than a modern manufacturing centre, yet there are textile factories, one being large and well equipped with modern machinery and there are various smaller busy and growing factories, while the city has features and inhabitants of a character to make it specially interesting to factory reformers. From the Ningpo Guildhouse at Shanghai and the frequency with which the words "men of the Ningpo Gild" are heard, one infers that the city must have played a part of some consequence in Chinese history. And that indeed its inhabitants have done.

The character of its houses, many of them with beautiful and interesting exterior carvings—and its great wall, on one of its sides facing the tidal Yung River up which the steamers come 15 miles from the sea, stirred the imagination. In this city glimpses of numerous small workplaces, which had just begun to instal motor power in aid of parts of their processes, showed that the earliest steps have been taken towards transformation of its industries from the ancient to the modern basis. The very words "Ningpo varnish" so familiar to foreign sojourners in China for its staying properties on wood floors and furniture—reputed to have in its moist state powerfully inconvenient effects on those unaccustomed to its manipulation—points to the existence of a considerable furniture industry. This, however, I had no time to explore. It was its position as the commercial centre of Chékiang Province, and as a seaport, and the virility of its people, that made Ningpo significant for me. The many old-time Chinese Ice Houses for cooling the "harvest of the sea," show how important the fisheries have always been. First impressions were strengthened by subsequent visits and particularly in 1926.

The manufacturers, to whom we had to speak at the Chamber of Commerce, were all Chinese, and the foreign community also asked for a meeting under the Chairmanship of the British Consul, which took place at the house of the Anglican Bishop of the Diocese of Chékiang, the Right Rev. H. J. Molony, where I stayed. There was also an educational meeting at a large girls' school, where Miss Dingman gave an historical account of the modern movement for labour legislation. And there was a "gala" visit to the largest textile factory.

We arrived by night steamer from Shanghai early in the morning one day in January, 1924, and began our inspection of factories without delay. At 2.30 p.m. we were due for the crowded and interesting meeting at the Chamber of Commerce, where among the many Chinese employers present the two most impressive, picturesque figures with persuasive gifts to win adherents to our cause were the very "benevolent" chief district Mandarin, the Tao-Yin, who presided, and the Anglican Bishop, who also spoke. The Tao-Yin gave the address of welcome on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce and the Employers, saying that he "zealously endorsed" our mission. He went on to say:—

"Ningpo, with its large volume of business, is a well-known commercial centre. As a rule, commercial prosperity depends mostly on the development of industry which always stands at the back of the former. Industrially, Ningpo is still in her infancy. . . . But in course of time and with the rapid growth of production, the commerce of this city will no doubt attain gigantic proportions. As the Tao-Yin of Ningpo, I ever hope to see the realization of this prospect."

¹ Previous articles appeared in our issues of 4th, 18th, and 25th February, and 18th March.

² e.g. in my article for the *International Labour Review*, May, 1925, on the Child Labour Commission of Shanghai, and in a book in preparation on *Humanity and Labour in China*.

He expressed the belief that my own official experience would benefit them and their city at large and concluded by saying that he had called together the directors of all factories here, and the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to meet us, and "We all feel certain that she will spare us nothing in her speech."

This address was given, naturally, in Chinese, for the Tao-Yin spoke no English, but he courteously handed me a typed copy of the English version, before asking me to begin. The audience seemed eager and I retain an impression of the keen and friendly faces of the Chinese employers attentively leaning forward, first to listen and then to ask lively questions and finally to present a series of friendly individual invitations for a personal visit to their factories, small and large.

Here, as in a succession of such meetings, the main endeavour of my address was:—

(a) To express briefly the great change for the better that had been wrought in British factory industry through national legislation as applied by trained inspectors, first in a humanitarian spirit, and secondly with the aid of all the growing scientific knowledge that had become available in the past forty or more years;

(b) To unfold some idea of the underlying differences between domestic or hand industry and mechanical or factory industry as regards risks for the workers, especially for the children;

(c) To point to the practical certainty that—in China as much as in Western lands—no working people will ever remain quiet or satisfied as mere appendages to machines, or if the physiological and psychological capacities of the human body and mind are neglected, or the social instincts starved, in organizing production under a power-driven system of industry;

(d) To show that in Europe those concerned with industry, employers, workers, the general public and governments had been pledged to international co-operation in this matter—for no state could stand alone in it without loss—and that now the co-operation of China was needed both for her own sake and for the general cause of humanity.

Miss Agatha Harrison followed with warm, enlightening testimony from personal experience, to the dependence of good welfare work in individual factories on the establishment and enforcement of national, legal standards for maintaining the general conditions for health and safety of the labourers.

Even through the barriers of interpretation the message was evidently understood, and our promise was given to visit as many factories as possible in our stay of two and a half working days.

One very attractive function at Ningpo, to our regret, could not be attended as it was planned for a time when we had to be on our way back to our base for other engagements. The crimson sheet lies before me containing an invitation to dinner from four Chinese gentlemen, engaged in various commercial enterprises, who desire "to promote friendship with foreigners." "At the Ningpo Commercial Bank, second story, first month, fifteenth day, afternoon, 6 o'clock, set-out dinner awaits you." Their honourable names subscribed were deciphered to me as: Chu Ch'ang-Huan, Ch'ien Hsien K'ai, Yü Yün, Shen T'ai-Yung and the crimson cover was addressed to me at the Bishop's house, "An, Lady Scholar." All in the terse, expressive and courteous Chinese manner.

(To be continued.)

NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER (continued from page 55).

was curious, for while many attacked the Bill, all admitted the evil, and yet had no constructive remedy. Mr. Runciman was the most consistent, for he held the strict Free Trade doctrine, that you should not interfere at all. On the whole, however, the Government benefited by the absence of an alternative; and, when the measure is again discussed, it is certain that it will pass Second Reading.

On Wednesday evening, Sir Clive Morrison-Bell carried a motion approving of the Government sending the Shanghai Defence Force, after a lively but good-tempered discussion. Mr. Wellock, the Labour Member who has just won Stourbridge, made an agreeable speech.

On Thursday, 17th March, the Report stage of the Air estimate was taken. As was the case last week, the discussion ranged over a wide area, but was chiefly interesting for Mr. Ponsoby's motion, calling for the abolition of the Force, or, rather its reduction to a nominal one thousand men. He was rebuffed from his own benches by Mr. Sexton, and could only find 24 supporters in the Lobby.

Lastly, on Friday, 18th March, Mr. Crompton Wood, in a good maiden speech, moved the Second Reading of the Mental Deficiency Bill. It was opposed by Colonel Wedgwood, that gallant champion of the liberty of the subject in season and out of season, but finally it passed without a division, and moreover passed in time for the Midwives and Maternity (Scotland) Bill to go through.

"A CITY COUNCIL FROM WITHIN."¹

This book makes a notable and valuable contribution to a badly neglected subject—that of the structure and working of municipal government in this country. Every student of the subject knows Mr. and Mrs. Webb's studies of the history of local government. But it is a curious fact that most of the very few books which describe and discuss existing conditions in Great Britain are by American or foreign observers, and even these are out of date.

Mr. Simon's book is none the less interesting because it treats of a single City Council—that of Manchester—and generalizes when at all, from his localized experience. This fact, indeed, lends a concreteness and vividness to his presentation which would have been difficult to achieve in a general study. Those whose experience, either as City Councillors or citizens, has lain in other towns, will find the book absorbingly interesting. They may possibly be gratified to note that, even in the eyes of a patriotic Manchester citizen, everything is not perfect in "the northern metropolis." They will probably find recorded in the book precisely those defects and merits which they have noted in their own local government authority, at least if that is a county borough in an industrial area. The book indeed affords a surprising illustration of the extent to which national character, given similar circumstances, tends to exhibit itself in similar ways.

For example, what social student has not noted and deplored in his own city, the tendency of the Council to pass almost without discussion vast and costly schemes, and then to waste hours in debating some trivial point which has excited the ire of an individual councillor or group. Mr. Simon cites the case of a great superannuation scheme, affecting the entire Corporation staff, which passed the Finance Committee after five minutes' discussion, the Council after 15 minutes' debate, but when presented as a Parliamentary Bill was withdrawn and deferred for years, because an old Alderman who had happened to read and misunderstand the first page of figures, made an attack upon it which alarmed the Council. He notes again the Haweswater scheme, costing £10,000,000, which passed the Council after a verbal presentation by the chairman and one opposing speech. Only one councillor (outside the Water Committee) accepted the chairman's invitation to peruse the confidential report of the engineer on which the whole scheme was based!

Again, what intelligent student has not noticed that City Councils, while apparently able to carry on huge trading enterprises and a vast machinery of public health activities with remarkable efficiency, are as a rule remarkably little interested in new proposals lying outside their present scope and very rarely initiate such proposals, whether in the shape of reforms in method and procedure or new kinds of enterprise. The classic instance is Housing, as to which extensive parliamentary powers were given to local authorities a generation or more before any serious effort (and that only in a few localities) was made to put them into effect.

On the other hand, the author notes that in matters of detail, on which local councils and officials surely deserve to be trusted to manage their own concerns, much unnecessary and grandmotherly control is exercised from Whitehall. Amusing instances cited are the Government's refusal to allow the Manchester City Council to supply poor mothers with cheap sugar during the war or to permit the Salford Town Council to indulge in the luxury of an additional swimming bath.

Mr. Simon's list of proposed reforms will excite much controversy. It is significant of the influence exerted by his book that one of them has actually been adopted already by the Manchester City Council. In future no one is to remain Chairman of a Standing Committee for more than three consecutive years. The necessity for this reform will be apparent from Mr. Simon's remark that the average age for chairmen has hitherto been 65, and that office has usually been terminated only by death or senility. (Lucky Manchester, if senility has always been reckoned a sufficient cause!)

Another proposal which has a special importance at present is "That the practice of co-opting persons of suitable experience both on Committees and Sub-Committees should be extended; particularly as a means of strengthening the Public Health Committees when they take over the hospitals of the Poor Law Guardians."

An increased use of co-optation would unquestionably do much to secure the fuller participation of women in local administration,

¹ *A City Council from Within*, by E. D. Simon. (Longmans, 7s. 6d.)

and it may prove the only means of retaining the services of many of the women guardians.

Women again have a double interest in the suggestion that the system of recruitment and promotion in the municipal service should be thoroughly reorganized and systematized. There can be no doubt that the present utter chaos which prevails in these respects is the cloak not only for much patronage and jobbery, but also for the free exercise of sex prejudice, which tends to keep women out as far as possible and to relegate them to the least important posts. That this subject has hitherto excited so little interest in comparison with that taken in the question of the national Civil Service is truly amazing when one remembers the immense size and importance of the local government service. This will be brought home to the average reader by the fact mentioned on the first page of Mr. Simon's book, that (including dependents) "no less than 75,000 people, or almost exactly one-tenth of the population of Manchester, live on salaries or wages provided by the City Council."

Readers of this paper will note with satisfaction several references in the book to the successful activities of the Manchester Women Citizens' Association. One of the most interesting of the many surprising facts it records is the graph drawn up by Councillor Shena Simon, which depicts the relative incidence of rates and taxes on the incomes of the poor and the well-to-do. Nothing could more effectively bring home to those whose sympathies are with the "have-nots," the necessity for a reform of our local rating system.

Altogether, this is a book which every intelligent woman citizen should not merely read, but buy, keep, and lend.

E. F. R.

OBITUARY.

SHELLEY GULICK.

Many readers of THE WOMAN'S LEADER will learn with deep regret of the death of Mrs. Shelley Gulick, on 26th February. Mrs. Gulick was a staunch supporter of the claim of women to equality of sex before the law—and she lived this belief in every action of her life, and with the same vigour she put into everything she touched.

Shelley Gulick was keenly alive to the difficulties of women wage-earners of the professional and business classes when faced with illness, and about 1909 she and some other business women founded the Professional and Business Women's Hospital League, to provide hospital treatment for such women for a small sum. She entered the service of the Commercial Union Assurance Company, Limited, in July, 1909. She took the appointment not only with the view of earning a livelihood for herself, but also having in mind the possibility of opening a new field for women workers amongst those already committed to professional and business careers. She succeeded in her aims, and proved conclusively that women could prosper in the field of insurance.

In February, 1914, Mrs. Gulick resigned her position with the "Commercial Union," and commenced business on her own account as an insurance broker. She had all the characteristics essential for pioneer work. Her keenness and enthusiasm were evident to all and her grip of details, happy disposition, and sense of humour not only secured her success from a business point of view, but endeared her to all with whom she came in contact.

Shelley Gulick never left undone an opportunity of doing a good turn to anyone who needed help. The sympathy of all who knew her and who appreciated her gaiety of spirit and her affectionate nature, will be extended to her husband and family.

MILDRED RANSOM.

THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWS (Jus Suffragii)

Is an international record of the women's movement, which is unique in its scope. Every woman with a wide interest in world events ought to be a subscriber. Send 6/- for a twelve months' subscription (post free) to—

THE INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE OF WOMEN FOR SUFFRAGE AND EQUAL CITIZENSHIP,

11 Adam Street, Adelphi, London, England.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEWS.

By BERTHA MASON.

COUNTY AND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCILS.

It is often stated, and with truth, that one of the obstacles which confront women who may wish to seek election to County Councils is that outside London the constituencies are *single-membered*, i.e. the administrative county which is the area for which a County Council is elected, is divided (except the part covered by County Boroughs) into single electoral divisions. One councillor is elected for each electoral division. There are sixty-two counties for purposes of local government administration in England and Wales, on which 130 women, including aldermen, are serving at the present time. County Councils, as a rule, hold only their statutory meetings, viz. an annual meeting and four quarterly meetings.

County boroughs form separate administrative counties for the purposes of the Local Government Act, 1888. Hence their name. These boroughs, of which there are eighty-two in England and Wales, have the powers of County Councils with other and additional functions.

Abolition of Overseers of the Poor.

On 1st March, the Overseers Order, 1927, was issued by the Ministry of Health, under the Rating and Valuation Act, 1925. This Act, it will be remembered, effects a transfer of functions from existing to new authorities. It also effects important changes in the law of rating and assessment. The Act provides for the abolition of the office of overseer and the transfer of their powers and duties to other rating authorities, i.e. to borough and district councils. Union areas will no longer be recognized as Valuation and Assessment areas. Each County Borough is given power to become a separate assessment area and to appoint its own assessment committee. The remainder of the county will be cut up between County Councils and borough and district councils, who will prepare schemes to be approved by the Minister of Health. Town councils and district councils have been notified that the overseers and union assessment committee will cease to exist on the appointed day, 1st April, 1927. Upon the authorities which take over the duties and powers of the overseers will devolve also the appointment of persons to replace overseers or churchwardens who have been acting with others in the holding or management of parish property. On the same day, i.e. 1st April, medical relief and the keeping of registers of outdoor relief will be placed in the charge of Boards of Guardians and Relieving Officers. The office of Overseer of the Poor, which ceases to exist at the end of this month, dates back to 1551, and became a permanent feature of local government in 1601.

Municipal Elections in Wolverhampton.

On 22nd March municipal elections took place for the new council of the extended borough of Wolverhampton. The scheme, which comes into operation on 1st April of this year, is the outcome of an Act which doubles, we understand, the area of the borough, increases its population by something like 20 per cent, and its rateable value by nearly 16 per cent. The existing Council consists of 36 councillors and 12 aldermen. The new Council will be composed of 39 councillors and 13 aldermen.

The first meeting of the newly elected councillors will take place on 5th April, at which the aldermen will be elected. Candidates are being put forward in each ward. The total number of candidates, including a number of women, is reported to number nearly 70 up to the time of writing.

A RECOMMENDATION TO WOMEN CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS.

We read of an interesting new move of the Kent County Council, who have accepted new by-laws which prohibit the use of any advertisement which disfigures or injuriously affects the amenities of public parks or pleasure promenades, which disfigures the view of rural scenery from a highway or railway, or from any public place or village, or which disfigures the amenities of any historic or public buildings or monument. The announcement that the by-laws were contemplated has already led to the withdrawal or alteration of many advertisements. It would be a boon to the whole country if Women Citizens' Associations would bring pressure to bear on their local authorities to take similar action.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

President: MISS ELEANOR RATHBONE, C.C., J.P. Parliamentary Secretary: MRS. HUBBACK.
Offices: 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.
Telephone: Victoria 6188.

DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

Members of our Societies and others are urged to approach all candidates at the forthcoming Urban and Rural District Council Elections and to put to them questions from the following questionnaire. As on similar occasions such questions can be put most effectively by deputations representative of our own Societies and other organizations. Arrangements should be made also to have questions put at all meetings in order that the attention not only of the candidates but of the electors present may be drawn to them. If neither of these are possible, letters containing the question should be sent, the answers to which can be published in the local press.

QUESTIONNAIRE.

- *1. Will you support the application of the principle of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, 1919, so that a woman shall not be disqualified on account of her sex from any post or office under the Council, including the higher responsible posts—medical, educational, and administrative?
2. Will you oppose the compulsory retirement on marriage of women employees of the Council?
- **3. Will you support equal pay for equal work and equal opportunities of training, entry and promotion for all men and women employed by the Council?
- †4. Will you, in any scheme for the training or relief of the unemployed, include provision for women as well as for men, and will you pay special regard to the claims of those, whether men or women, who have dependents?
- ‡5. Will you urge your Watch Committee, or your Standing Joint Committee for County Police to carry out the recommendations of the Report of the Departmental Committee on the Employment of Women Police, 1924, and to appoint Women Police in your area?
- ††6. Are you in favour of providing equal facilities for girls and boys in general, technical, and industrial education and in particular in connection with day trade schools?
7. Will you endeavour to secure the appointment of an adequate representation of women on all Committees and Sub-Committees of your Council, either as elected or as co-opted members?

* Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, 1919, Section 1:—"A person shall not be disqualified by sex or marriage from the exercise of any public function or from being appointed to or holding any civil or judicial office or post, or from entering or assuming or carrying on any civil profession or vocation, or for admission to any incorporated society (whether incorporated by Royal Charter or otherwise)."

** Equal Pay for Equal Work means 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.

† These questions do not apply to Rural District Councils.
‡ This in Scotland only applies to Elections for Education Authorities.
§ This question does not apply to Urban District Councils nor to certain Borough Councils.

LEITH BY-ELECTION.

The Edinburgh S.E.C. has been undertaking work in connection with the above by-election. Although the candidates have not answered the questionnaire, they have made the following statements: Mr. Allan Beaton, Conservative, did not want to give detailed answers to the questions as they were sent by an organization not in his own constituency, but added: "Because I feel very strongly on the matter, however, I wish to assure you that on the question of Equal Franchise I am entirely in favour of women being put on exactly the same position as men at the age of 21. I have every confidence in the intentions of the Prime Minister to introduce legislation to this effect during the life-time of the present Parliament; and if I am returned for Leith such legislation would have my support." Mr. Ernest Brown, Liberal, who ranks as a tried friend, stated that he had frequently replied to the questionnaire in the affirmative and added: "I am fully in sympathy with your movement, and if you will ask Mrs. Hubback she will tell you that I proved it in a practical way in the last House of Commons. Equal Franchise will appear in my Election Address." Mr. Wilson, Labour candidate, stated that he had answered the questionnaire on previous occasions.

SOUTHWARK BY-ELECTION.

Miss Auld is organizing deputations to the candidates in this by-election. Their answers will be published next week.

RESIGNED MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

We regret having had to postpone the appreciation of the work of the resigned members of the Executive Committee until next week.

NEWS FROM SOCIETIES.

MAIDENHEAD W.C.A.

A meeting was held on 8th March at which Mrs. Robie Uniacke took the chair, and Miss F. M. Beaumont spoke on Equal Franchise. A resolution was passed which has been sent to the Prime Minister, the Home Secretary, and Mr. A. A. Somerville, Member of Parliament for the constituency.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WHAT IS EQUALITY?

MADAM,—By one of those ironies of circumstance which sometimes make the actions of the wisest seem foolish, the N.U.S.E.C. Council which was the occasion of the resignation of eleven valuable members of the Executive, passed by enormous majorities a resolution affirming that the primary function of the Union is to secure a real equality of citizenship between men and women, all other things whatsoever being subsidiary to this, and another once more re-affirming its conviction that protection of the worker should be based not upon sex, but upon occupation. Each of these resolutions had an amendment, in one case merely explanatory, in the other making certain qualifications. In the case of the "protection" resolution its amendment, viz. that the views of the "workers concerned" (presumably the small body of organized women workers) should be taken into account, was ambiguous, and I believe it only got its majority of one because some of the delegates had an idea that a certain distinguished leader who sponsored it was being too fiercely assailed in the ardour of the fray. Some of us greatly regret that it got its one majority because it seemed to imply that people had not taken into account certain facts, whereas many of us who have worked for the occupational principle have always "taken into account" the fact that some workers think it the lesser of two evils. In the older suffrage days we "took into account" the opposition of workers to anything less than adult suffrage, and the Family Endowment group doubtless "take into account" the fact that many workers who will be affected (among them some teachers) are opposed to it. "Taking into account" certain facts need not make us ignore other facts more important.

In regard to the amendment of the nature of an addendum to the equality resolution, all will agree that equality of opportunity within the League of Nations is a fundamental. In reference to Family Endowment and freedom for working women to have access to legitimate sources of knowledge regarding birth control, there is room for a thousand differences of opinion as to the way in which the liberties and status of women are involved. But this amendment, which I had the honour of seconding, is, nevertheless, though not in every way satisfactory, of importance for a special reason. It raises the whole issue, dealt with in the interesting letter just issued to National Union Societies by the eleven resigning members, is it, or is it not desirable for feminists, whether old, new, or merely present-day to tackle highly complex problems affecting not only the social reformer's idea of well-being, but also the status of women, though these problems by their nature do not allow of a direct parallelism between men and women? It is here that some of us, while holding strongly that the "equalitarian" (ugly word) principle is essential in the large sphere which it governs, nevertheless join issue with the eleven resigned. It seems to us that not one or the other, but both classes of problems must be dealt with in these days. The second sphere offers scope for brilliant experimental work for any feminist, young or old. Let us keep a sense of proportion and take as our equality in its obvious sense—no gibes should make us neglect work for that—and also certain other questions, less obvious, but intimately affecting the liberties and status of women. An amusing leader in a weekly contemporary seems to suggest that the only feminists in the Union are the eleven who have resigned from the Committee. As one who has been accounted the whitest of sheep, though now assigned by some a place among the goats, may I assure our contemporary that the N.U.S.E.C. has as many feminists in it as any other Society whatsoever and almost certainly more—only they have a disconcerting way of managing their own affairs in their own way, and even of allowing tares and wheat to grow together. Most annoying, but not fatal to the progress of the movement. We are told that we are adopting a "dangerous new policy." That is so, to tackle complex problems is dangerous—those who prefer to do so can cling to the lamp-posts labelled by the L.C.C. "Safety first." They are static. But feminists like to blaze a trail, for this is more interesting and more fruitful. The contemporary referred to above says it is impossible to foretell the issue of recent occurrences. That is so, but it is not difficult to make a shrewd guess as follows: On the strength of our big majorities for the "primary object" of equality, work for that will be pursued with increasing vigour (the resignees encouraging us with tongue and pen), those who are present-day realists as well as feminists will continue to tackle certain complex problems in regard to which "parallelism is impossible," but nevertheless intimately affecting the liberties and status of women, and, in general the recent field days of somewhat brutal frankness having cleared the air, each individual member of the National Union will clarify his or her mind about the points at issue, subtle or otherwise, and each one of us will take heart of grace in the thought that any movement which becomes too polite becomes also anaemic!

A. HELEN WARD.

MADAM,—As one who feels convinced that equal opportunities for men and women will be more rapidly secured by working as an Executive Member of the N.U.S.E.C. than by leaving it, I am yet compelled to dissociate myself from a statement in the manifesto signed by the President and others which appeared in THE WOMAN'S LEADER of 11th March. The statement is as follows: "The Council . . . refused to declare that the reforms on the immediate programme which concern Family Allowances, Information on Methods of Birth Control, and the League of Nations are an inferior brand of equality." I do not so interpret the acceptance by the Council of the Executive Committee's amendment to Resolution 40, moreover nor do I believe that it was the Council's interpretation. To me it is clear that the equality items on the immediate programme coming first are superior, and that 5 (a and b) and 6 from an equality standpoint, which is the fundamental standpoint of the N.U.S.E.C., are secondary and therefore inferior. The fact that in the last twelve months 150 meetings have been held by the N.U.S.E.C. for Equal Franchise and less than 10 for Family Allowances shows that this is held by the vast majority of our members.

E. PICTON-TURBERVILL.

[If Miss Picton-Turbervill will read the Manifesto in question again, she will see it explicitly stated that Equal Franchise "invariably receives priority over all other reforms," and also that "political considerations, coupled with the rough indication afforded by the order in which reforms have been placed on the Immediate Programme by the Council afford adequate 'Guiding Principles' as to their claim to priority." For the rest the Council rejected by a large majority an Amendment saying that points 5 (a) and (b) "involve the principle of equality of liberties, status, and opportunities, between men and women to a lesser degree than the first four points on the programme." "To reject by a large majority" seems to me to be the same thing as to "refuse to declare."—ED.]

FEMINISM IN ANCIENT CHINA.

MADAM,—The following quotations are not from a modern feminist propagandist novel, but from the Japanese novel *Genji*, written by a court lady in the year A.D. 1008.

"Then there is the zealous house-wife, who, regardless of her appearance, twists her hair behind her ears and devotes herself entirely to the details of our domestic welfare. The husband, in his comings and goings about the world, is certain to see and hear many things which he cannot discuss with strangers, but would gladly talk over with an intimate who could listen with sympathy and understanding, someone who could laugh with him or weep if need be. It often happens too that some political event will greatly perturb or amuse him, and he sits apart, longing to tell someone about it. He suddenly laughs at some secret recollection, or sighs audibly. But the wife only says lightly, 'What is the matter?' and shows no interest . . ."

" . . . She was so good a performer that she was often called upon to play with the professional male musicians in the Imperial orchestra . . ."

H. FRANKLIN.

"THE EVOLUTION OF WOMAN."

MADAM,—Your reviewer, in an otherwise excellent review of the late Mr. G. W. Johnson's book *The Evolution of Woman*, has given (perhaps unconsciously) the impression that it is aggressively feminist, and is not (which Mr. Johnson did not intend it should be) a history of human evolution rather than the evolution of women. With regard to the first point, no one who knew Mr. Johnson could believe him guilty of "aggressive feminism" either in life or in a book. He was far too human in the best sense of the word. With regard to the second point, anyone who reads the book carefully will be as aware, I think, of "the uncounted hosts of women whose subjection made up . . . the true history of their sex," as he is of their cleverer sisters who managed to rise above it, and the book as a whole does give an accurate, clear, and interesting account of woman's relation to man in her progress from subjection to comradeship.

Golders Green.

(Miss) E. M. TURNER.

[We hope to deal with certain aspects of Mr. Johnson's book, which should be in the library of every feminist, in a later issue.—ED.]

TAXATION OF CATS.

MADAM,—Taxation is probably the best all-round solution to the Sisyphian problem of the stray and unwanted cat. Those who would secure this protection for the cat must be prepared to fight for it as persistently and as courageously as did the friends of the dog, who met with long opposition and ridicule both in and out of Parliament.

In this connection will you allow me to inform those kind subscribers who responded to the appeal to Cat-lovers to which you generously gave space in 1922, that the residue of the "Cat Fund" (left owing to Mrs. More Nisbett's withdrawal from the Parliamentary contest) has now been spent in an appeal in the advertisement columns of the Press for support for taxation, and we beg other cat-lovers to keep the ball of publicity rolling.

Edinburgh.

M. S. BERTRAM.

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COMING EVENTS.

ELECTRICAL ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN.

APRIL 6. 7 p.m. E.L.M.A. Lighting Service Bureau, Strand, W.C.2. Mr. T. Settle on "Women's Place in the American Electrical Industry."

GUILDHOUSE WOMEN CITIZENS' SOCIETY.

APRIL 4. Visit to Rachel McMillan Open-air School and Training Centre, Church Street, Deptford, S.E.8.

LEAGUE OF THE CHURCH MILITANT.

MAR. 25. 8.30 p.m. Church House, Westminster. Public Meeting. Miss Maude Royden on "Christ and International Relationships"; Miss Margaret Bondfield, M.P., on "Christ and Industry"; the Rev. Canon Raven on "Christ and the Ministry of Women." Chair: His Honour Judge Shervell Cooper.

LONDON GROUP OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY AND THE SIX POINT GROUP.

MAR. 29. 5 p.m. 92 Victoria Street, S.W.1. Debate on "Partnership v. Salaries for Wives" by Mr. John E. Mitchell and Mr. Raymond Gram-Swing. Chair: Miss Rose Macaulay.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

Kensington and Paddington S.E.C. MAR. 28. 3.30 p.m. South Villa, 76 Campden Hill Road, W.8. Mr. Cecil Chapman on "Children's Courts." Chair: Mrs. Rackham, J.P.

Sunderland W.C.A. (in conjunction with N.U.W.T.). MAR. 31. 7.30 p.m. Subscription Library Hall. Public Meeting in support of Equal Suffrage. Speakers: Miss Agnes Dawson and Miss Macadam.

OPEN DOOR COUNCIL.

APRIL 4. 8 p.m. Caxton Hall, Westminster. Annual Meeting. Speakers: Miss Monica Whately, Mrs. Abbott, Mrs. Aldridge, and others. Chair: Professor Winifred Cullis.

SOCIETY FOR CONSTRUCTIVE BIRTH CONTROL AND RACIAL PROGRESS.

APRIL 6. 8 p.m. Temperance Hall, Temple Street, Birmingham. Dr. Marie Stopes on "Ideals and Practice of Constructive Birth Control." Chair: Alderman J. S. Pritchett.

TYPEWRITING.

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BED-SITTINGROOMS from 28s., including breakfast.—
Misses Brackenbury, 2 Campden Hill Square.

COTTAGE close sea and golf-links, lovely country, Morfa, Portmadoc, Wales; vacant May; 3 guineas weekly, and 15th June to 9th July, 4 guineas weekly; 4 bed, 2 sitting, bathroom, kitchen.—Write, 61 Deodar Road, Putney.

COTTAGE on Little Hampden Common, Missenden; vacant May; 2 bed, 1 sittingroom, kitchen; charming garden; 30s. weekly.—Write, Townshend, 61 Deodar Road, Putney.

UNFURNISHED ROOM wanted, near Fitzroy Square, suitable for use by day as study.—Particulars to Mrs. Lawson Dodd, 12 Park Crescent, W.

PARSON'S GREEN.—To let, furnished, comfortable BEDROOM and SITTINGROOM; 30s. a week.—Box 1,409, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W.1.

100 GROSVENOR ROAD, WESTMINSTER, S.W.1.—
Good ROOMS for girl students and women workers in house overlooking the river; 24 bus passes.—Apply, Miss Purves. Victoria 1496.

AYSGARTH, YORKS.—Comfortable BOARD-RESIDENCE in house well situated for exploring the moors and dales. Exactly on the central line for seeing the total solar eclipse, 29th June.—Miss Smith, Low Green House, Thoralby.

FURNISHED COTTAGE to let near High Wycombe; close golf links, tennis; 7 rooms; company's water, in floor sanitation; 35s. week; long let.—Mrs. Stevens, Burton Mere, Burton Bradstock, Bridport, Dorset.

AN UNUSUAL HOLIDAY!—Sea and glen, comfort, good food, tennis, large library, dancing, handicraft and art studios for practice; most beautiful scenery.—Rocklands Vacation Guest House, East Hill, Hastings. Terms, 3 guineas (reduction sharing bedroom).

CHELSEA, near Sloane Square.—To let, unfurnished, ground-floor FLAT of 2 rooms and small kitchen; slot gas fires and cooking-stove, running water in kitchen and bedroom, use of bathroom with slot geyser; rent 30s. Also basement Flat, of large front room, kitchen and cellar; slot gas fire and stove, use of bathroom; rent 16s. House newly decorated inside and out. Modern drainage. To be seen by appointment.—Write E. H., 44 Glebe Place, S.W.3, or telephone Kensington 4605.

PROFESSIONAL.

INCOME TAX RECOVERED AND ADJUSTED.
Consult Miss H. M. Baker, 275 High Holborn, W.C.1. Income Tax Returns, Super Tax Returns, Repayment Claims of all descriptions. Telephone: Holborn 0377.

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IRISH LINEN TABLE NAPKINS, good reliable quality in assorted designs, and highly recommended, size 22 ins., 12s. 6d. per doz. Also special odd lot of tossed and soiled cotton Napkins for everyday use. Assorted sizes and designs, 7s. per dozen. Write for Complete Bargain List To-day.—HUTTON'S, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ulster.

NEVER-FADE LINENS.—For all those purposes for which coloured Linens are now so popular, Hutton's Never-Fade genuine Irish Linens are ideal. Guaranteed absolutely fadeless by sun or washing and this year reduced to 2s. 10d. per yard (36 ins. wide), they are increasingly in demand for curtains, bedspreads, table-runners, etc., as well as for dresses and children's frocks. There are 64 artistic colours to select from, including ten of the newest shades. Every yard stamped "Hutton's Never-Fade Linen." Send for full range of patterns FREE.—HUTTON'S, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ulster.

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.)

POST VACANT.

SOCIAL WORKER, 3 mornings weekly, Holland Park district; small remuneration.—Apply, Box 1,404, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W.1.

EDUCATED WOMEN.—Wanted three, preferably friends, strong, capable (essential one good cook), to undertake work large country house near Glasgow.—Box 1,410, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, S.W.1.

POSTS WANTED.

TEACHER (33), trained, experienced, desires post, family or institution. Nurse and educate delicate child; house-keeper where motherless children; companion-nurse to invalid. Daily or residential.—Box 1,406, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W.1.

AU PAIR.—Lady as COMPANION. Light duties, not cooking. South country.—Miss G. Sharpe, Nutley, Uckfield, Sussex.

YOUNG Swedish lady (speaks English) requires situation 1st April as COMPANION-HELP; willing to undertake all household duties; excellent needlewoman.—Apply, Miss Allard, c/o Mrs. Stocks, Beverley, Shanklin, I. of W.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON AND NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 35 Marsham Street, Westminster. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Expert advice on Openings and Trainings for professional women; interviews 10-1 (except Saturdays) or by appointment.

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Sunday, 27th March; 3.30 Music. The Very Rev. Joseph Herman Hertz, Ph.D., on "Fundamental Ideals and Proclamations of Judaism." 6.30, Maude Royden: "Beethoven."

C.B.C. Society for Constructive Birth Control and the Women's Service. Free Birth Control Clinic, founded by Dr. Marie Stopes and Councillor H. V. Roe. New address: 108 Whitfield Street, off Tottenham Court Road.

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