

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

AND THE COMMON CAUSE

Vol. XVI. No. 37. One Penny.

REGISTERED AS
A NEWSPAPER.

Friday, October 10, 1924.

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Annual Subscription for Postal Subscribers: British Isles and Abroad, 6/6.

Common Cause Publishing Co., 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

NOTES AND NEWS.

"A Plague on all your Houses."

Political crises appear to have an unfortunate habit of timing themselves to occur just after we go to press, and it is impossible at the time of writing to predict the issue of the present one, though we admit that all portents that have declared themselves so far point to an early, if not an immediate, General Election. But one fact is startlingly clear; a General Election this autumn would be universally unpopular, and no party wishes to take on the odium of appearing responsible for it. We are not in a position to apportion praise or blame among the various disputants in the present quarrel, but we do hold very strongly that none of the present bones of contention, such as the action of the Attorney-General, or the Russian Treaty, appear to us as sufficient reasons for a General Election which is bound to prevent that stability of Government which is so essential, if the present unhappy state of affairs is to be put right. An Election for the third year running could only be justified by the very gravest of causes. An Election will, of course, mean that any number of important Bills, partly through their Parliamentary stages, will be entirely scrapped, and all the work that has been done on them will have to be started over again next Session. In this general ruin will, of course, be included every one of those measures in which this paper is particularly interested—the Equal Franchise Bill, the Guardianship of Infants Bill, the Legitimacy Bill, the Summary Jurisdiction (Separation and Maintenance) Bill, these will all, some of them for the third time running, be cast into the melting-pot. Surely the wasted efforts following a General Election at this time will be a heavy item on the debit side of its account.

Widows' Pensions.

A deputation on the subject of widows' pensions was received on Wednesday, 14th October, by the Chancellor of the Exchequer at the House of Commons, representing the General Council of the Trade Union Congress, the Executive Committee of the Labour Party, the Executive Committee of the Parliamentary Labour Party, and the Standing Joint Committee of Industrial Women's Organizations. The deputation was introduced by Mr. Robert Smillie, M.P., and the speakers were Dr. Marion Phillips, Mr. George Lansbury, M.P., Miss Susan Lawrence, M.P., and Mr. Ben Turner, M.P.

There was considerable discussion on various aspects of the question, during which Mr. Snowden stated that legislation dealing with widows' pensions would be included in the Government programme for next Session and pressed forward as rapidly as possible.

No information has been published with regard to the nature of the scheme that is in the Chancellor's mind. Possibly it is not even settled. In any case, there is still time for those who, like ourselves, prefer a non-contributory scheme, to one included in a general insurance scheme of any kind to press forward with their demands. Had the shadow of an immediate General Election not suddenly loomed ahead we should have expressed our keen disappointment at their having been no proposal at least to outline a scheme to the House of Commons this autumn!

The National Council of Women.

A correspondent writes:—The annual meeting of the National Council of Women was opened at Brighton on the 7th, by the Mayor, and after a presidential address by Mrs. Morgan, amendments to the Constitution were discussed and declared carried. Urgency resolutions included one that provided that in view of the strong divergence of opinion within the Executive Committee regarding the proviso inserted in the Legitimacy Bill by the House of Lords, excluding from its operation cases in which either parents were married when the child was born, "no action be taken by the Council with regard to this proviso." The divergence was illustrated in the speeches of the mover, Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, and the seconder, Miss Helen Ward, and, supported by a statement that the Government would grant facilities for the Bill provided that the Lords' amendments passed the Commons, the resolution was carried by a large majority. Motions to support the Bill allowing marriage with a nephew or a niece by marriage, and to make the sale of intoxicating liquors at clubs subject to the local justices, were passed with very few dissentients. The resolution of the National Council of Women Executive, seconded by the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, urging the Home Secretary and the Secretary for Scotland to give effect to the report of the Departmental Committee on Women Police by issuing them as statutory regulations, aroused more discussion, Sergeant Campbell and others contending that a better plan was the one followed in Detroit, U.S.A., where the Women Police are an independent body. The motion was, however, carried. The Conference was preceded by a most successful meeting for girls in the Dome. Notwithstanding wind and rain, a huge audience assembled, and many were turned away from the doors. The Chair was taken by Lady Astor, who said that never in her life had she presided over a better or more attentive audience. Miss Cumberbirch and Mrs. Morgan spoke on "Openings for Social Work, paid and unpaid," and "The Spirit behind work." Mrs. Wintringham and Miss Ishbel MacDonald—whose mother had been a speaker 20 years ago when the Council last met at Brighton—also addressed the meeting.

Women Medical Students.

The discussion centring round the question of the continuation of co-education of medical students at St. Mary's appears to have given rise to many articles and correspondence in the Press with regard to Women Medical Students, mostly entirely sympathetic. *The Times* makes the following interesting statements with regard to entries of the coming year. "The total number of new entries of women students in the medical schools for the coming year is not yet known. At the four great hospitals, where women receive training on equal terms with men students, there seems no prejudice against them on the part of the committees, the professors, or the students nor any evidence of any desire to alter the existing conditions. At King's College Medical School the Dean of the Medical Faculty stated that the proportion of women among the new entries (which are not yet complete) was being fully maintained. In his opinion it was from the woman's point of view advisable to be associated in their work with the men students as early

as possible. At the hospital it was stated that there was no trouble or ill feeling of any kind on either side. At Charing Cross Hospital Medical School, the secretary of the school stated that the entries of women students were not yet complete, but it was likely that they might be lower than last year, which was bigger than was anticipated. They were quite satisfied with medical co-education, of which they had been the pioneers, having been the first school to admit women on equal terms with men. At University College Hospital it was stated that they only admitted a limited number of women students, which did not vary, and that they were going on as usual. The medical entries of medical students at University College is not yet complete. At Westminster Hospital School there is a slight increase in the entries of women medical students this year. The secretary said there was no feeling of any kind against the women students, who were very attentive and good workers. There was also an increase in the entry of new students.

The League of the Church Militant and the Church Congress.

During the Church Congress which was held last week at Oxford, the League of the Church Militant did some effective work in educating public opinion on the need for women priests and ministers within the Church and the desirability of a thorough revision of the Marriage Service. The Rev. H. R. L. Sheppard was prevented from presiding at the public meeting on the Marriage Service which was held in the Randolph Hotel on 1st October, but Miss Royden, speaking on that subject, was a host in herself, so that the meeting was most successful, even in his absence. Mrs. Marston Acres occupied the chair. The two services, at which Miss Royden preached—at mid-day in the church of St. Peter-le-Bailey and in the evening at St. Ebbe's—were very well attended, and her argument in favour of women's ministry in the Church was listened to with the closest attention. Mr. and Mrs. Dixon had generously put a house in the Blackhall Road at the disposal of the L.C.M., and here, with furniture kindly supplied by friends, the workers lived the "simple life," holding afternoon discussions over the tea-cups, to which the public were invited. Miss Escreets' talk on "Women and the Industrial System," from her own observation, as H.M. Factory Inspector, and Mrs. Pollard's address on "The State and the Child," were much appreciated.

Church Congress Speakers.

In discussing Church problems under the general title of "The Church of To-morrow," the Church Congress at Oxford displayed the interesting spectacle of age listening to youth. At one of the sessions on "What Youth asks of the Church," Miss Highley, a student of Somerville, said that youth wanted to know why the Church did not use the hundreds of women who wanted to do something more satisfying than Church needlework or district visiting. The next speaker, putting the male undergraduate point of view, asked to be "saved" from women in the pulpit. Lady Maud Warrender suggested that women should be ordained to meet the needs of the Church in the villages where there was such a shortage of men.

Miss Haddow, of Barnett House, Mrs. Salmon, Dame Hudson Lyall, and Miss Sandbach Marshall, were other speakers who read papers or spoke to the Congress.

A "School" for Women Unionists.

A correspondent writes:—A new departure was embarked upon by the Penrith and Cockermouth Women's Unionist Association last month. A School of Study, to which women Unionists from all the Cumbrian constituencies were invited, was held on the 24th and 25th of September, at Keswick. The response was most encouraging—all five meetings being well attended, one or two almost crowded out. The subjects at three of the sessions were the Empire, Economics, and Social Reform. Miss Crichton Imrie, from Australia House, spoke with the knowledge of personal experience on Empire Food, etc., and drove it home to housewives that they had it in their own power to insist on tradespeople supplying colonial produce. Mr. Corfield, speaking on questions concerning Trade and Industry, arrested and kept the attention of all his hearers. Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan, who spoke on Social Reforms of the Unionist Party, dealt with her subject forcibly and at the same time sympathetically. She dwelt at length on widows' pensions, and referred to "Family Endowment," though not yet in the realm of practical politics. Discussion followed each speech, and as each speaker was free to deal from his or her own standpoint and air individual opinions, it led to animated discussion. Everyone felt that some-

thing had been learnt, and the kind hospitality of Lady Baxter—the Divisional chairman—at the close of each day, when she entertained the members of the School to tea, concluded very delightfully the business of the day.

Women Candidates for Parliament.

The approach of a General Election will be sure to bring many more Women Candidates into the field. We now learn that Mrs. Mary Ann Mercer has been announced as prospective Parliamentary Labour Candidate for the Fairfield Division of Liverpool. Mrs. Mercer is also Mayor Elect of Birkenhead, and when she takes office will achieve two records, as she will be not only the first Labour Mayor for the town, but also the first Woman Mayor. She has been Chairman of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, and an active member of other Committees, including the Health, Estates, and Development Committees, etc. We are glad to hear also that Dame Helen Gwynne Vaughan is once again standing for North Camberwell. Few candidates would make a more useful Member.

A Woman Deputy in the Channel Islands.

We are grateful to our contemporary, *The Vote*, for an interesting interview with Miss Marie Randall, published in their last week's issue. She is the first woman Member of Parliament in the Channel Islands, or, to give her her official title, the first Woman Deputy of the States of Guernsey. Miss Randall is one of the 18 directly elected Members of the States which have the privilege of adopting or adapting to their own use any English Act of Parliament or section of an Act of which they desire to avail themselves. Miss Randall sits on five States Committees, including Education and Homes for Workers, and is particularly interested in the provision of better facilities for the recreation of young people. She is a keen feminist, and is hoping soon to see on the Guernsey Statute Book, a Married Women's Property Act.

A Woman Lobby Correspondent.

We congratulate the *Daily Sketch* on being the first paper to appoint a woman Lobby correspondent. Miss Stella Wolfe Murray, well-known to readers of this paper as director of "Women's News and Views" has, after a struggle extending over many years, succeeded in obtaining a place on the "Lobby list" of candidates. Miss Wolfe Murray's duties will be to report specially on legislation likely to be of particular interest to women. We wish her good luck in this most important of new openings for women.

Questions in Parliament.

CIVIL SERVICE (EQUALITY OF PAY).—Sir W. de Frece asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer if he is aware of the feeling in the Civil Service regarding the absence of equality of pay; and whether he will consider the appointment of a Committee of Inquiry to inquire provisionally into the principle of such equality of pay?

Mr. Snowden: I presume that the Hon. Member in speaking of equality of pay is referring to equality as between men and women. This question was fully considered by the Government in July last, when they decided that the state of the country's finances was such as to make it impossible to justify the enormous increase of expenditure that would be involved, and, in the circumstances, I am not prepared to agree to the appointment of a Committee of Inquiry as suggested.

We would remind our readers that in answer to a question to Mr. Foot on 29th July Mr. Graham stated that to introduce the principle of Equal Pay for Equal Work in the Civil Service only would cost £3,000,000 a year, and that it would be necessary to extend the question to Women Teachers, and on this basis the cost would be £10,000,000 a year.

SCOTLAND (SEXUAL OFFENCES).—On 30th September the Duchess of Atholl asked the Secretary for Scotland how many cases of assault or sexual offences committed in regard to children and girls below the age of 16 were reported to the Police in Scotland during the last three years; in how many of these cases convictions were obtained; how many children were concerned in these cases; how many of the children were below the age of five years, and in how many of these cases were there records of previous convictions for similar offences? Mr. Adamson supplied the following return, giving the information desired:—Number of cases reported, 2,108; number in which convictions obtained, 809; number of children concerned, 2,680; number of children below five years of age, 352; number of cases in which there were records of previous convictions for similar offences, 70.

"DEVIL A MONK WAS HE!"

In pre-suffrage days the woman's movement was the broad-based thing that a woman's movement should be. It drew its strength from all ages and all occupations. It flourished under the divergent conditions of town and countryside—among the textile workers of the industrial North as among the "unoccupied" fundholders of the residential South. And the young women pulled their weight through the machinery of the vigorous little suffrage societies which every college and university boasted. In those days the anti-suffrage woman student was obliged to declare her infidelity, face up to its implications, and take the consequences. But she was a rare bird.

Then came the franchise, floating, so to speak, on a tide of adulation. Doors flew open at a touch. There seemed to those who observed the surface of things (the play of favourable winds on an imperceptible tide) nothing more to fight for. One by one, as the records of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship show, the college societies melted away, and a new generation of young women embarked upon life in the comfortable (but, as time proved, erroneous) belief that all was well with the world as far as the position of its women was concerned.

It is only during the past two years or so that the general public, apart from the watchful and distrustful veterans of the suffrage movement, and certain categories of wage- and salary-earning women specially concerned, have grown aware of the subsequent slump in women's interests. To-day it requires no peculiar perspicacity to be aware of it. Press and public are in full cry. The praise and flattery and sloppy sentiment that was lavished upon women's work during the war is revealed as the ephemeral thing it really was—an inadequate top-dressing upon the obstinate clay of age-long and world-wide male dominance, in which nothing could take permanent root.

On Friday last the newspaper hoardings up and down the country were plastered with the *Daily Sketch* headline, "Women Doctors Doomed." Nobody supposes that women doctors really are doomed. Of course they aren't. It was a silly headline, prompted by a silly assumption, and worthy of our country's "stunt press." But what lay behind it? The sharp decline in the number of women entrants to the medical profession recorded during the week has its bearing. So has the persistent closing down of opportunity to women students in the London medical schools. The precarious case of St. Mary's Hospital we have discussed elsewhere. It is said that in this case action was prompted by representations on behalf of the

men students—inspired, so Dr. Scharlieb opined to a *Daily Sketch* interviewer, by jealousy. The closing of the London Hospital to women students two years ago will be fresh in the minds of our readers. At St. George's and St. Thomas's the more generous outlook of the war period had even shorter shrift. "The Devil was sick; the Devil a monk would be. The Devil got well; and devil a monk was he!" is an old proverb. The women of this country have reason to believe that it is not an obsolete one.

It cannot, however, be applied to another manifestation of obstinate anti-feminism recorded during the week. We refer to the proceedings of the Church Congress at Oxford. The Church, whatever its degree of sickness, has never in its dealings with women, been tempted to offer the Devil's pledge to fate. It has faced and is facing a growing deficiency of intelligent ordination candidates with an uncompromising refusal to widen its field of choice by exploiting the rich mine of women's spiritual and intellectual force. "Whatever happens, save us from women in the pulpit," said a male undergraduate exponent of the spiritual needs of Youth in session of the above-mentioned Congress. And no Bishop, Priest, or Deacon appears, in public at least, to have rebuked him for what was (putting it mildly) an offensive combination of bad manners and conceit. Indeed, the Church Congress appears generally to have agreed with him. We were not present, and are therefore unable accurately to gauge its atmosphere. But Press records suggest something like coherent and conscious hostility in the "murmurs of dissent" which greeted Lady Maud Warrender's obvious and reasonable suggestion that the dwindling ranks of male ordination candidates should be supplemented by women. The same atmosphere is discernible in the repeated "loud cheers" which punctuated Mrs. Illingworth's repudiation "in the name of the whole Messenger Movement" of the suggestion that women desired to enter the priesthood. Such an idea would, she said, if it got about, "do untold harm." Clearly, Lady Maud Warrender, with commendable courage and irrefuted (we believe irrefutable) sense, was swimming against the tide. And Mrs. Illingworth, like a certain obscure Englishman who sometime ago addressed a Berlin audience on the misdeeds of his own countrymen, was buoyantly drifting with it.

So there is still a chance for the younger women to win their spurs. It is regrettable that they should be offered the opportunity, for sex-war, like class-war or any other war, is a poisonous thing: perhaps only one whit less poisonous than the stagnant oppression to which it is the natural reaction.

THE FIFTH ASSEMBLY OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT AT GENEVA.

THE CLOSING DAYS.

The Fifth Assembly of the League of Nations came to an end on 2nd October. The main interest of the work at Geneva this year lay, of course, in the drafting of the Protocol for the pacific settlement of international disputes, and it was to this Protocol that the concluding days of the Assembly were devoted. Never in the history of international affairs has a document of such momentous importance been drafted in such a short time. Barely three weeks elapsed between the presentation by Dr. Benes, of Czecho-Slovakia, of his original draft and the presentation to the Assembly of the finished article. The reason why such extraordinary expedition proved possible was that for the first time in the annals of the League all the nations represented at Geneva were genuinely anxious to co-operate and not to hinder in the common task. This spirit of co-operation was by far the most noticeable feature of the Fifth Assembly. The speeches delivered on the last two days varied from the brilliantly cold and legal exposition of M. Politis to the tremendous Gallic oratory of M. Briand, who set the seal on the indefatigable work of the French delegation with one of his oratorical efforts. The Protocol itself is now before the Governments of the world, and it is for them to decide whether they will sign it and present it to their respective Parliaments for ratification. The position of Great Britain with regard to signature and ratification is extremely important. In order that the Protocol may become operative even in the smallest degree it must be ratified, before 1st May, 1925, by three out of the four Great Powers (Great Britain, France, Japan, and Italy). France has already announced that she will sign, but if the House of Commons of Great Britain refuses to ratify it, then it is likely that Italy will follow our lead, and the whole work of the Assembly will fall to the ground. At the same time the British people cannot be asked to ratify a document

of such vital importance unless they fully understand the contents of that document, and it is for the enlightened Press of this country to do its utmost to explain and elucidate to the people the meaning and importance of the Protocol so that Great Britain by ratifying may show her earnest desire to lead the movement towards the general reduction of armaments and permanent peace and stability.

OUR WOMAN DELEGATE AT THE FIFTH ASSEMBLY.

It is customary for the British Government to send one woman as a substitute delegate to the Assemblies of the League of Nations. This year their choice fell on Mrs. H. M. Swanwick, whose work for peace as a member of the Executive, both of the Union of Democratic Control and the Women's International League, made her a particularly suitable representative at an Assembly, the main subject of whose deliberations was disarmament. Mrs. Swanwick had followed the work of the League from the beginning, and as the authoress of a book on the Covenant, was already well acquainted with its principles and machinery. As a member of the Fifth Committee she acquitted herself well and worked energetically. She was *rappporteur* on the refugee work which is still going on under Dr. Nansen, and effectively defended its value against attacks by certain delegates who consider that it is outside the scope of the Covenant. "These refugees," she said, "are the result of our corporate failure all the world over to make the world a fit place to live in. This is a great moral issue which we cannot avoid." She pointed out that in order to make peace it is necessary not only to prevent war but to eliminate the causes of war, and stressed the importance of the League's humanitarian work in any effort to attain that end. Mrs. Swanwick's speech on Disarmament in the Assembly was described by another delegate as one of

(Continued on page 297).

TWO SPRING VISITS TO PALESTINE, 1921, 1922.¹

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

CHAPTER II.—THE WALLED CITY.

There is always a peculiar interest and picturesqueness in an ancient walled town and probably few people realize before they see them with their own eyes how perfect the walls of Jerusalem are. There is one stretch along Jaffa Street in which they are hidden by common-place houses, but the walls are there, and it may be hoped that when financial prosperity arrives they will be uncovered so as to restore them to sight. Nowhere, I believe, have the actual walls been gashed or destroyed except in one place near the Jaffa gate where the ex-Emperor William made his state entry into the city in 1898. The walls are in the main, and in all their upper courses, mediæval; but the lower stones are cyclopean in size and must be of immense antiquity. The Tower of David and another Tower, called Hippicus, are within the walls and in good preservation. The general appearance of the walls is very similar to those of the castellated villages that one sees in Northern Italy, on the Lago di Garda, for instance. A walk completely round the outside of the walls of Jerusalem is well worth while and helps one to understand the topography of the city. It is also possible to walk on the walls for the greater part of their circumference. By walking round the walls, either on them or outside, one gets a good general idea of the whole locality; the position of the Mount of Olives, of the valleys of Jehosaphat and Hinnom, of the Tyropæon brook, of the Garden of Gethsemane, of the Damascus Gate, Herod's Gate, Stephen's Gate, of the Temple area and the wailing place of the Jews, of Siloam and its Pool; and, lying further away to the north, of Scopus, and Neby Samwil, the Mount Joy of the Crusaders and the place from which Cœur de Lion was first brought within sight of Jerusalem, but holding his surcoat before his eyes, he refused to gaze upon it, "saying to our Lord, 'Fair Lord God, I pray Thee that thou suffer me not to behold thy Holy City, since I cannot deliver it from the hands of Thy enemies.'" Neby Samwil is also the place from which Lord Allenby made his victorious entry in 1917.

We did not take this walk round the walls until we have been a few days in Jerusalem; but if I were acting as cicerone to a newcomer, I would advise that this should be a preliminary to all other excursions. It presupposes, of course, that the visitor should be capable of walking or riding on a donkey for an hour or an hour and a half, because there is no other way of getting round the walls. But the general rule, which we followed, is to go first of all to the most famous Christian churches in the world, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, in Jerusalem, and the Church of the Nativity, at Bethlehem, about six miles to the south. In both these very famous churches the custom has been adopted, which appears to be universal in the East, of dividing their area among all or nearly all the Christian sects which existed prior to the Reformation.² Of course from one point of view, and in theory, there is something attractive in this arrangement; it seems generous and to be prompted by a friendly catholic spirit, but in actual working it does not operate in this way. Such fierce antagonism has sprung up between the various bodies of Christians among whom these churches are divided that murderous conflicts break out between them, and it is well known, especially in the chapel which occupies what is believed to be the actual site of the Nativity at Bethlehem, that under Turkish rule a Turkish soldier kept guard to prevent the Christians from attacking one another; the place of the Turkish soldier is now taken by one of our own lads, and his presence seems to be but a sorry comment on the practical working-out of nearly twenty centuries of Christianity. One could not help feeling thankful that while Greeks, Latins (as the Roman Catholics are called here), Maronites, Copts, Syrians, Armenians, and Abyssinians are among the Christian organizations which divide these churches between them, the Protestant Churches of Europe and the United States are conspicuous by their absence. The maintenance of order and peace between the different Christian sects which share these ancient churches is one of the standing difficulties of the civic governors of the localities where they stand. Especially at Easter do these flames of hatred and jealousy break out, and it is a matter of serious relief and comparative freedom from anxiety when the Greek and Latin Easters do not coincide. They nearly coincided in 1920 when, as is well known, there

¹ This is the second of a series of weekly articles which will extend over a period of about six months.

² *Richard the Lion Heart*, by Kate Norgate, p. 244.

³ Dean Stanley, in his *Sinai and Palestine*, speaks of a similar arrangement being made in the Christian churches on Sinai.

was a very bad outbreak on Easter Sunday, during which many lives were lost; but in 1921 there was an interval of nearly six weeks between them, and Easter was got over without bloodshed except for a comparatively insignificant outbreak at Haifa. Nevertheless, even in 1921 considerable preparations were made for a possible riot in Jerusalem, and it was not a little impressive to me when I was being driven by friends from Jerusalem towards Jaffa, on the Wednesday before Good Friday, to meet troops of Indian Cavalry, presumably Moslem by faith, advancing towards Jerusalem to guarantee the keeping of the peace among the Christians, who were about to celebrate the rising from the grave of their Master, the Prince of Peace.

There is, however, one aspect of these terrible quarrels which one can contemplate with cheerfulness. They are not nearly so bad as they used to be. Readers of *The Monasteries of the Levant*, by the Hon. Robert Curzon, will remember his account of the devilish fury which possessed the mob attracted to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre at Easter, 1833, to witness the supposed miracle of the Descent of the Holy Fire. Then, as he says, fully four hundred people were trampled to death, and he saw dead and dying promiscuously heaped on one another, in some places in piles five feet high.

Such indecent tragedies, one may hope, are now things for ever past, but there is a more trivial consequence of the division of the great Church between rival Christians which in its measure is almost equally to be regretted. The Greeks, the Latins, and the Armenians are the chief Christian bodies which divide the Church of the Holy Sepulchre between them. Each of them is enormously wealthy. Each of them expends great sums in ornamenting its own portion of the church. What is claimed to be the actual site of the Holy Sepulchre belongs to the Greek Church. It is covered, in great profusion, by small silver filigree lamps. One may recognize the pious intention, but the effect is entirely lacking in simplicity and dignity. One dislikes to think it, or say it, but one cannot help being reminded of a Christmas tree; and one cannot but deeply regret that the interior of the church does not more closely correspond with its solemn and majestic associations, nor with its exterior with its beautiful court and stately approaches.

The Church of the Nativity at Bethlehem is not defaced to anything like the same extent by over-done and trivial ornament. The nave is splendid and quite unspoiled. On either side is a double row of rose-coloured marble columns which we were told might possibly once have formed part of Solomon's Temple. Crests of Crusaders are cut on some of them. While we were gazing at the columns and then carrying our eyes upwards to the remains of mosaic on the walls and thence to the roof, our dragoman hastily interrupted and warned us not to admire the roof, which he said was quite modern, repaired with English oak sent by Edward IV of England so recently as 1472!

The dragomans are a curious race. We had a very good one, well educated, and with a wonderful knowledge of the Bible, but he had the antiquarian's fierceness on behalf of his particular interpretation of the ancient monuments. His face was a study of deep resentment when we were visiting what is known as the Garden Tomb. And as we were driving to Bethlehem, and were yet almost under the walls of Jerusalem, he pointed to a tree on the left and said: "That is the tree on which Judas hanged himself." I replied: "No, no, we cannot believe that: Mr. Chesterton was here a year ago, and he says in his book that the tree on which Judas hanged himself was destroyed by the great snowstorm of 1920." But the dragoman only scowled and said over again, "That is the tree on which Judas hanged himself," and we felt it was part of his trade stock and could not be parted with.

Bethlehem, over and above the great interest of its famous church, is attractive. It is a Christian village; the women are unveiled, handsome, fearless, and independent in their bearing. It was a great centre of the Crusaders, and its people are said to have the blood of the Crusaders in their veins. The women still wear the white peaked head-dress which was fashionable with ladies in Western Europe in the twelfth century. This is an example, perhaps, of the extraordinary influence of the Crusaders, and also of the extraordinary conservatism of the East. Under the influence of the public opinion created by the Crusaders, the women of Bethlehem adopted their religion and the head-dress of Blanche of Castile and the wife of Cœur de Lion. But the Crusades over, the Crusaders defeated and driven away, no

other social influence was ever introduced sufficiently strong to induce the women of Bethlehem to make another change in their method of tiring their heads, and they alone probably, of all the women in the world, are still wearing the European fashions of eight hundred years ago.

Miss Kate Norgate points out, in her *England under the Angevin Kings* (vol. i, pp. 362-3), that if the Crusaders did nothing for Palestine, they did much for England. They gave a trumpet-call which roused many "a brave knight to forsake the miserable party strife with which perhaps in his secret soul he was already disgusted"; and moreover, the organization of the second Crusade afforded the English an opportunity of organizing themselves under leaders chosen by themselves and of achieving the triumph of freeing Christian Portugal from the Moors and of handing it over to its native sovereign; a success which found a strange contrast to the failure of other crusading armies led by royal and imperial champions whose "countless hosts met with nothing but disaster and disgrace."

THE MANCHESTER AND SALFORD WOMEN CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION.

The Manchester and Salford Women Citizens' Association was formed in January, 1914, to work for a better, cleaner, and brighter city, and provides a non-party and non-sectarian meeting ground for women of all kinds of experience. At present there are fifteen branches in the city and borough, some covering two or three wards, but we aim at having a branch in each one. They arrange their own programmes, but may not take action without the sanction of the Central Committee. They invite members of the two Councils, officials, and other experts, to talk about their work, so that they learn what powers the local authority possesses in regard to such matters as the purity of milk and other foods, health, housing, and education—and where those powers need extending; they also arrange debates on controversial questions like Sunday games, equal pay and married women's work.

Our monthly magazine, *The Woman Citizen*, contains full reports of the Council meetings by our own reporters, articles on questions of special interest to women, and, in the October number, interviews with women candidates for the two Councils. Visits are organized to municipal undertakings and institutions supported by the rates. All this helps to arouse interest in local government, and to make the municipal elections much more vital and important.

Although we are anxious to have more women on our two Councils—there are now only five among the hundred and forty members of the Manchester City Council, and one among sixty-three of the Salford Borough Council—we do not, as an Association, take any part in elections, for in the past we found this seriously affected our non-party status and the educational side of our work. Individual members are, of course, free to work and vote for whom they please, and the knowledge gained within the Association naturally adds to their qualifications and keenness as electors, workers, or candidates.

While we consider the educational side to be the most important part of our work, we do not neglect to make practical use of our influence, and by means of resolutions and deputations we press our views on the authorities. This we have done with varying success, and it may be of interest to give two illustrations of our methods. We actively supported the Public Health Committee in its schemes for Child Welfare, and soon after the city became responsible for this work we set up a sub-committee of experts to consider how the original scheme should be extended. Their report formed the basis of further propaganda, and all their recommendations have now been adopted. We have also worked very closely with the Housing Committee on the various housing schemes. In 1917 we prepared the way by issuing a questionnaire to members. Then in 1919, when the Council began to build and appointed a Women's Advisory Committee, we set up our own Standing Committee on Housing to advise our representatives on the Council Committee. When the preliminary work had been done and the first houses were inhabited, we sent out a questionnaire to the tenants to find out whether they were as comfortable to live in as we hoped, or what improvements could be suggested. Much useful criticism of the plans and fittings resulted, which was summarized, investigated, and sent on to the Housing Committee, so that the same mistakes should not be repeated in the newer houses. We also discovered that some of the tenants were having difficulty with a new form of combination grate, while others found them very satisfactory. So we persuaded the Corporation to lend us a partly finished house,

and some of the tenants who could manage the grates showed those who couldn't how it was done. In some cases, further investigation proved that the flues were faulty, and the contractors were called in to make them good. The majority of tenants are so afraid of losing the house they have secured, after much waiting, they hesitate to complain, but an unofficial body like our own offers a useful channel through which well founded criticisms may be conveyed to the Council.

While we can claim to have helped to sway the pendulum in some cases in the direction we have wished—in the extension of child welfare work, the provision of more public wash-houses, the acknowledgement that a parlour is a necessity in a working-class house, the reduction in the price of gas, the allowance of more adequate out-relief for widows with dependent children, the need for women on the governing boards of hospitals, the inclusion of women on the staff of V. D. clinics—there are other directions in which we have apparently had little or no influence. We have not yet succeeded in securing women police, pensions for widows with dependent children, clean air, clean streets, or a modern method of collecting refuse. Our schools are probably no worse than those of other cities, but we do not consider many of them good enough for our children. We want clean, light, airy rooms for small classes; we want more nursery, elementary, secondary, and special schools; we want the school-leaving age to be raised with maintenance grants where necessary, so that boys and girls may continue to develop their powers, moral, mental, and physical, instead of losing ground as they must, when out of work, with nothing to occupy their time. All these things, and more, we want, some of them may come soon, and for some of them we may have to wait, but we shall go on talking about them and working for them until they come. And in doing this we are training ourselves, learning committee procedure, and the technique of public work (which seems to come so much more readily to men); we are learning to think and talk on our feet, and one day the many women who are now too shy to speak at a meeting, but who are very eloquent at their own tea table, will express themselves as clearly and forcefully in public as at home, and will thus be able to throw their full contribution into the common pool.

ANNE V. BAYNES,
General Secretary.

THE WORLD'S CHILDREN!

We can warmly recommend the International Year Book of Child Care and Protection, published for the Save the Children Fund, to all speakers on, and students of, Child Welfare. Mr. Percy Alden, M.P., Chairman of the Save the Children Fund, contributes a valuable introduction, in which he points out that when Queen Victoria came to the throne there was not a single Act on the Statute Book of Great Britain that could be said to have been framed in the interests of the child. Every country, from great Powers to native states, is dealt with separately under headings, Marriage, Divorce, etc., Child Welfare, Education, Employment, Delinquency, Legislation, Voluntary Societies and Institutions, and the comparative results are very useful reading. An admirable index greatly facilitates easy reference to special points, and the inclusion of a section on the activities of the League of Nations with regard to the protection of children adds greatly to the value of the volume. Year Books are, as Mr. Alden says, "as the sand on the seashore for multitude," but it is curious that this is the first time an attempt has been made to present facts relating to the welfare of the world's children. This book will certainly fill a hitherto vacant place on the bookshelf of the social worker.

THE FIFTH ASSEMBLY OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

(Continued from page 295.)

the most beautiful speeches that have ever been delivered from its platform. "I am not afraid," she said, "to address the Assembly as a woman, because modern life has shown some women who have looked into the future and realized the great responsibility of women. We English are proud to number among our patriotic women Edith Cavell, who said that patriotism was not enough." "It has been said that arbitration is going to take the place of war, and that security will be attained. It is to be hoped that security will be of a different kind from that which women have been promised by men all down the ages. We should not forget the cry of Astyanax: 'Remember that when you turn your arms against each other, brothers, the first victim is the child.'"

ARCHIE MACDONELL.

¹ *An International Year Book of Child Care and Protection*. Longman, Green, and Co., 1924. (7s. 6d. net.)

THE LAW AT WORK.¹

REPORT ON SCOTTISH PRISONS.

There was last year an increase in the number of persons sent to prison in Scotland. The increase has been most marked in sentences of 14 days and under, and it is impossible not to think that a good many of these minor offences might have been punished by some other method than imprisonment. The number of persons sent to penal servitude during last year was only 47, as compared with 89 in the year before.

An increase is shown in the crimes of murder, incest, common and indecent assault, indecent exposure, and a large increase in drunkenness and in breaches of the peace. But there has been a decrease in cruelty to children, rape, housebreaking, and theft. There is a slight decrease in the number committed to prison for their first offence. Some shocking cases of recidivism are quoted, no less than 72 men and 216 women have been in prison for as many as 50 times. With regard to Borstal treatment, of 119 lads liberated in 1922, 38 have had their licenses revoked; of 20 girls, 12 are unsatisfactory. These figures especially as regards the girls are not very encouraging, and make one wonder whether it is the method of treatment as well as the human material that is at fault.

Some interesting experiments in prison reform have been made. Persons awaiting trial are now allowed to smoke. It is difficult to see what justification there can be for forbidding smoking as is still the case in England. Untried persons are only in prison for safe custody, and there seems no reason for making rules for them beyond what are necessary for maintaining order in the prison. Smoking is not incompatible with good order. At Peterhead the prisoners now take their meals in association, and may talk while so doing. Football is allowed; some prisoners also conduct classes in various subjects for their fellows. After reading of these relaxations, it is depressing to learn that four inmates of this prison were flogged during the year for assaults on officers. There were 12 attempts at suicide in prisons generally during the year, two of which were successful.

The Commissioners are much dissatisfied with the present system of Probation, and urge that grants should be made from the Treasury in aid of the salaries of Probation Officers. They hope that legislation will soon be passed which will ensure a supply of whole-time, salaried officers, and they also ask for volunteers to work under the Probation officers and supervise one or two cases.

A very interesting feature of the Report consists of accounts of 25 convicted prisoners taken quite by chance from the prison records. Of the 20 men, drink is a factor in the downfall of all but two. Ten had lost one or both parents before they grew up. Of the five women every one has had a bad husband: one drunk, three ill-treated their wives, and one was a deserter. Every one of the women is now a drunkard. One of the women at the age of 46 has 45 previous convictions. These five cases present as deplorable a picture of degraded human nature as can be imagined.

A few points of interest from the reports of individual prisons may be noted. The Governor of Glasgow Prison notes a marked decrease in the prison population during the period covered by the two General Elections in 1922 and 1923. He considers that the interest shown in the elections, and particularly the outdoor meetings and demonstrations, have kept people out of prison. At the end of the Report on each prison a list is printed of the lectures which have been given during the year and the number of prisoners who attended each. In the Juvenile Adult Section at Glasgow, out of 520 admitted, 352 were first offenders and 407 were for a term of less than one month. Only 99 appear to be enrolled in the classes, presumably because the great majority remain in prison for such a short time that it is not worth while for them to join. The Headmaster remarks, in his report of this school:—"It has now been definitely decided that literature of a high class is not fully appreciated, and the teachers confine the study to lighter works of Stevenson, London, Scott, and Doyle." We are glad to think that young offenders have *Treasure Island* and *Sherlock Holmes* to read, and we are sure that the knowledge that their works were enjoyed would be ample compensation to these authors for not being considered "high class."

C. D. RACKHAM.

¹ Under the direction of Mrs. C. D. Rackham, J.P., Miss S. Margery Fry, J.P., with Mrs. Crofts, M.A., LL.B., as Hon. Solicitor.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

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

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

GENERAL ELECTION.

At the time of going to press we know nothing definite, but an early, if not immediate election, appears inevitable. It is quite clear that it is absolutely necessary that our Societies should at once consider and report to us what form of Election Work they will be able to undertake. A Bureau for Voluntary Workers for Women Candidates will be opened at Headquarters directly an Election is announced.

RECEPTION TO MRS. SWANWICK, CAXTON HALL, WESTMINSTER, Friday, 24th October, at 3.45 p.m.

The President and Executive Committee extend a cordial invitation to all members and friends of the National Union for the Reception to be held on Friday, 24th October, at 3.45 p.m. in the Caxton Hall, Westminster, S.W. 1, to meet Mrs. Swanwick, substitute delegate for Great Britain at the recent Assembly of the League of Nations, and other Women who took part in the Assembly of the League. Tickets (price 2s. 6d., including Tea) can be obtained from The Secretary, N.U.S.E.C. Members are urged to make this meeting known to their friends, and to make early application for tickets. Leaflets for advertising the meeting will be sent on application.

AT HOMES DURING THE AUTUMN AND WINTER.

It has been felt for some time that owing to the small accommodation at Headquarters it was impossible to offer to visitors from the country or overseas such hospitality as the Officers would have wished. This feeling has been accentuated by the presence in England during the summer of many visitors to the British Empire Exhibition from overseas, many of whom were anxious to hear of the work of the National Union. The Entertainments Committee has now taken the matter in hand, and its untiring Hon. Secretary, Lady Pares, has arranged a series of At Homes to take place once a fortnight—at 4 to 6.30 on Wednesdays—at each of which a member of the Union will welcome guests to her house. To members from the country and their friends an open invitation is now extended to come to any At Home announced in this column, or under "Coming Events." Those intending to do so are asked to communicate beforehand with Headquarters, or with the hostess at her private address. The following arrangements have already been made: Mrs. Clement Davies, At Home at 11 Vicarage Gate, W. 8, 22nd October; Lady Pares, At Home at 32 Belsize Park Gardens, N.W. 3, 19th November. The Officers hope that Secretaries of Societies, when in London, will also call at Headquarters, preferably by appointment, as they very much value the opportunity of hearing informal reports of local work.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON BY-ELECTION.

A deputation organized by the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship and the London Society for Women's Service waited on Dr. Bushnell (Labour) on Wednesday, 1st October, and on Sir John Rose Bradford (Conservative) on Thursday, 2nd October. Dr. Bushnell answered all our questions in the affirmative, but with regard to that referring to his "opposing legislation which makes women or any class of woman subject to special penalties or special health regulations different from those commonly exercised on all persons equally," he made the following statement:—"I am of the opinion that equal standards of moral justice should be maintained for women and men, both as regards 'special penalties' and 'special health regulations.' I do not think that inspections of women should be ordered by male police or should be in their hands, and special health regulations would be dependent on natural physiological and pathological differences inherent in the two sexes, and be affected by the social habits and life of male and female, as classes or individuals."

Sir John Rose Bradford was in favour of Equal Franchise for University Graduates, but with regard to the general question of Equal Franchise he stated he would follow the lead of his Party. He gave favourable answers to the questions on Equal Pay, the League of Nations, the Guardianship of Children, the Children of Unmarried Parents, Separation and Maintenance Orders, Women Police, the Nationality of Married Women, the Separate Taxation of the Incomes of Married Persons, Women in the House of Lords, the Legal Status of Married Women, and Women Jurors. He was in general sympathy "with the questions on the Compulsory Retirement of Women on Marriage, Unemployment, Widows' Pensions, Abolishing the present Solicitation Laws, Opposing Legislation to impose special Penalties on any class of Women." He was not in favour of legislation to prevent the exclusion of Women Jurors, and would not be

CORRESPONDENCE.

"THE NEW INSCRIPTION."

MADAM,—In your leader of 26th September I saw the phrase, "The flagrancy of its injustice," applied to the execution of Nurse Cavell, though it is true the writer says this was less than that of another execution which followed. But can this description be upheld? If we had found a German woman arranging the escape of German prisoners should we not have sentenced her to death? Did not the heroic nurse herself recognize the risk she was running when she undertook her brave work? Do we know for certain that such things were never done by us? I quote for what it is worth the spontaneous outburst of a young English soldier on leave from Flanders at the time. "What on earth is all the fuss about Nurse Cavell? Why, we shoot Belgian women at sight if they are suspected of tampering with the enemy, without a trial. I've shot dozens myself." Allowing something for exaggeration, would he have invented the whole thing?

THEODORA FLOWER MILLS.

[We sincerely hope that he did invent the whole thing, and we believe it to be not improbable. As to our correspondent's main point, we agree with her that under martial law, rigorously administered, the sentence in question was not flagrantly unjust. All the same, like many another rigorous administration of that peculiar (and perhaps expedient) form of legalized lawlessness, it was in this particular application offensive to the moral sense of everybody outside Germany—and quite a number of persons inside Germany.—Ed.]

MRS. FAWCETT'S REMINISCENCES.

MADAM,—In reply to Miss Dorothy Ward's letter in your issue of 3rd October, while I gladly accept her evidence as conclusive on the point she raises on the relations between the Anti-Suffrage Committee and their leader, I think I owe it to your readers to let them know the evidence on which my statement was founded. It was contained in a few sentences written by Mrs. Ward herself in a letter to the *Morning Post*, 14th January, 1918, immediately after the division. After speaking of active communications having taken place between the anti-Suffrage League and Lord Curzon during the weeks immediately preceding the division, she added without qualification of any kind:—"We had no reason whatever to suppose that he (Lord Curzon) would take the line of action he did take. No warning of any kind was given us." MILICENT GARRETT FAWCETT.

BIRTH CONTROL.

MADAM,—I am glad your columns are open to a discussion of Birth Control, because, although highly controversial owing to the vehemence of a small reactionary section of the community (who cry out against it as their spiritual forebears cried out against the introduction of chloroform to relieve women's pains in child-birth), it is a subject which is of such enormous importance to humanity that its reiterated discussion cannot fail to do good.

If some of your readers who object to birth control would first read my "Letter to Working Mothers" (which will only cost them 3d., and is obtainable from the Mothers' Clinic for Constructive Birth Control, Marlborough Road, Holloway) they will find that a good many of their objections to our attitude is due to misrepresentation. The whole work of Constructive Birth Control is pro-baby, and is based on a high spiritual ideal of the value of healthy, happy, sex life between the parents.

At the Clinic we are just analysing and investigating the record sheets of five thousand cases of poor women who have personally visited us, and it would be hard indeed to convince them of any moral degradation involved in the use of an appliance as simple and hygienic as a tooth brush or a gargle, while on the other hand, we relieve them from the moral degradation of bringing into the world a child whose too hasty advent renders it liable to be an unfit citizen. "Wait and get strong to bear a strong baby" is our advice to women weakened by childbirth. Comfortable, well-fed, luxurious women little realize how the poor woman's vitality is depleted, when, on food lacking sufficient vitamins, she has just nourished in her womb one child and at her breast another.

MARIE C. STOPES,

President, Society for Constructive Birth Control and Racial Progress.

MADAM,—I have not followed all the correspondence on the subject of Birth Control, but I feel I should like to thank Mrs. Naomi Mitchison for her admirable article and to say how entirely I agree with it.

Personally, I cannot understand how anyone can work among the poor and not realize that some remedy *must* be found for those women who, living in miserable surroundings, with their husbands often out of work or in chronic ill-health, still give birth to a child every year. These children are often weakly and backward, and it is not an uncommon sight to see a mother with three children that cannot walk. I agree with Mrs. Mitchison that there are some women whose health does not suffer from frequent child-bearing, but I consider these are exceptional—the majority of women, especially those living under bad conditions, become pale and thin, without any energy and physically incapable of bringing up their children well. Often health is permanently impaired, and many suffer from womb troubles and varicose veins for the rest of their lives. Birth Control methods are at present frequently practised by the upper classes, but not by the poor—the working-class mother thinks that there is no way out of frequent child-bearing except by denying herself to her husband, in which case he will probably go elsewhere and may desert her. Birth Control is not ideal. I am convinced that self-control in marriage is possible and not injurious to the health, but at present I consider it a "counsel of perfection." Alcohol is a great enemy to self-control—it weakens the will and stimulates the sex appetite. I should like to suggest that those who feel that Birth Control is wrong should throw themselves into the work of educating boys and girls in total abstinence.

ALICE M. BENHAM, M.D., B.S., Lond.

[This correspondence must now cease.—Ed.]

prepared to take any steps which might be possible to prevent the closing of medical schools to women.

Professor Pollard has not had time to answer the questionnaire, but we have permission to quote his answers given during the General Election of 1922. He is in favour of all the questions except that on the Separate Taxation of the Incomes of Married Persons; with regard to Equal Pay he qualifies his agreement by stating, "if the responsibilities are also equal." He is also not in favour of the employment of Married Women as he considers that a living wage should be sufficient to maintain a family.

CO-EDUCATION IN MEDICAL SCHOOLS.

At the present moment the question of whether the women medical students are to be turned out of London Hospitals is under discussion in various quarters. A special meeting on the subject is to be held at Women's Service House (35 Marsham Street, Westminster) on Friday, 17th October, at 3 p.m., admission free. At this meeting the women's case will be put by the well-known woman doctor, Lady Barrett, M.D., and discussion will follow.

INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.—BRITISH OVERSEAS COMMITTEE.

In order to raise funds for the British Empire Exhibition work, a small sale is being organized at the Office of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, 11 Adam Street, Adelphi, W.C. 1, on 14th November. It is quite small and informal, so that it will not matter how varied in character the contributions are. Produce of any sort would be particularly welcome. We much hope that our members will make a note of this sale, as we feel sure that they will readily understand that the Hut at Wembley has cost a great deal.

IMPRESSIONS OF THE NEWCASTLE CONFERENCE.

The 1st session of the Annual Conference of the National Unionist Association, to be known in future as "The National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations," opened at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on 2nd October, with an official welcome from the Lord Mayor of that city, and subsequent business was practically entirely concerned with re-organization and suggestions of future policy.

Throughout the deliberations the prevailing note was one of progress and democratic development, which, coupled with an absence of reactionary obstruction, proved that the Unionist party is awake and alive to the exigencies of a new world. Lord Selborne discharged his duties as chairman with the unflinching courtesy, impartiality, and firmness one expects from him, and the outstanding moment of the conference was when the whole audience rose as one man in tribute to his statesmanlike speech in support of the resolution moved by a woman delegate, Mrs. Atkinson, from the Northern Division of Norfolk, urging the immediate declaration of a Conservative Agricultural policy.

Naturally expectation focused most keenly on Mr. Stanley Baldwin's speech, which was to give us our programme, and the reception of the speech and the welcome accorded to himself must have sent him back to Westminster encouraged and assured of continued confidence in his leadership.

The two resolutions, one protesting against the Russian Loan, the endorsement of which protest was a foregone conclusion in that assembly, and the one moved by Lord Cecil urging the reform of the House of Lords, were the two other most important items on the agenda of the conference. Following on the conclusion of the conference the proceedings of the week terminated most appropriately on 4th October with a mass meeting of some 4,000 women gathered from all parts of the country, but chiefly from the northern area, with Lady Grey as chairman. Splendidly organized at short notice, this women's meeting was a triumphant and inspiring demonstration of the readiness and capacity of Unionist women to do their part in the coming conflict. Throughout the conference the sun, in what we trust is hopeful augury, continued to shine upon us, and despite the enforced absence of many expected friends, detained in London by the political situation, all delegates to the conference of 1924 will, I think, carry away with them happy recollections of efficient organization and the kindly welcome extended to us by the city of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. We also return to our constituencies fortified for the strenuous work in front of us.

MINNA RATHBONE,

Representing Penrith and Cockermouth Conservative and Unionist Association.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

The PRESIDENT and EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

ARE GIVING A

RECEPTION to meet Mrs. SWANWICK

AT THE

CAXTON HALL, WESTMINSTER.

On FRIDAY, 24th OCTOBER, at 3.45 p.m.

TICKETS (price 2/6, including Tea), can be obtained from THE SECRETARY, N.U.S.E.C., 15 Dean's Yard, S.W. 1.

COMING EVENTS.

GUILDHOUSE W.C.S.

OCT. 13. 3-4.30 p.m. Special Invitation Meeting and Tea. Lady Barrett, C.B.E., M.D., M.S., on "Women Citizens."

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE.

OCT. 14. 3 p.m. Mrs. Oliver Strachey on "The First Factory Acts."
OCT. 17. 3 p.m. 35 Marsham Street, Westminster. Lady Barrett, C.B.E., M.D., M.S., on "Medical Co-education and the London Hospitals."

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

OCT. 24. 3.45 p.m. Caxton Hall, Westminster. Reception to meet Mrs. Swanwick and other women who took part in the Assembly of the League.

MISS RATHBONE'S SCOTTISH TOUR. OCT. 13. 8 p.m. Glasgow School of Social Study. OCT. 14. 8 p.m. Edinburgh S.E.C. OCT. 15. 8 p.m. Central Halls, Bath Street, Glasgow. "Pensions for Civilian Widows with Dependent Children."

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP (continued).

EDINBURGH S.E.C. OCT. 14. 7 p.m., Annual Meeting. 8 p.m., Dinner. Speaker: Miss Eleanor Rathbone, J.P., C.C. Tickets, 5s. 6d.

KENSINGTON S.E.C. OCT. 14. 5.30 p.m. 76 Campden Hill Road, W.8. Captain Reiss on "Housing." Chairman: Lady Trustram Eve, L.C.C.

ROYAL HOLLOWAY COLLEGE S.E.C. OCT. 16. 8 p.m. Mrs. White on "The Position of Women in the Civil Service."

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

OCT. 10. 8 p.m. Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand. "Pass the Women's Bill" Meeting. Speakers: Councillor Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P., Miss D. M. Elliott, Miss Eleanor Fitzgerald, Miss Helen Fraser, Miss Froud, Miss Enid Laphorn, Dr. Lewin, Miss Anna Munro, Mrs. Mustard, Miss Smyth, and others.

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TO LET, furnished SITTING-ROOM and two BED-ROOMS, with or without attendance; terms moderate; near Kew Gardens.—Apply, Hartley, "Koti," Ennerdale Road, Richmond.

TO LET, from end October to June, small well-furnished stone BUNGALOW; lovely situation, close golf links, sea; 1½ miles from St. Davids, Pembrokeshire; good rough shooting; nominal rent to careful tenants.—Box 1,096, WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

SMALL attractive HOUSE in Westminster (near House of Commons) to let, furnished, for some months. Very moderate rent if one or two rooms could be retained for occasional use by owner. Excellent housekeeper.—Box 1,097, WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

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.

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 377.

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THE TAYLOR HOME SET OF THERMOMETERS, including book of tested recipes and instructions for their use. (The sugar-boiling and frying thermometers are in silver-plated copper cases.) Price 28s.—Write, Box 1,089, WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

100 PAIRS snow-white Irish Linen sheets, made from real good heavy linen yarn, standard quality which will wear for a lifetime. Bleached on the green fields of Northern Ireland. These sheets will always retain their silky snowy sheen. Single bed size, 2 x 3 yards, 55s. per pair; double-bed size, 2½ x 3 yards, 55s. per pair; double-bed size, 2½ x 3 yards, 55s. per pair. These sheets are 20s. per pair below today's shop prices. Write for Bargain List—TO-DAY.—HUTTON'S, 41, Main Street, Larne, Northern Ireland.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 35 Marsham Street, Westminster. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Weekly "At Homes," Tuesdays in October at 3 p.m. 17th October, 3 p.m., Lady Barrett, C.B.E., M.D., M.S., on "Medical Co-education and the London Hospitals."

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

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