

Catholic Citizen

Organ of St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance (formerly Catholic Women's Suffrage Society), 55 Berners Street, London, W. 1.

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Price Twopence.

Daughter of the ancient Eve,
We know the gifts ye gave and give;
Who knows the gifts which you shall give,
Daughter of the Newer Eve?

—Francis Thompson

Service Standard as a Basis of Salary Scales.

BY HILDA R. WALMESLEY, L.L.A.

(Vice-President National Union of Women Teachers.)

The general reader may be tempted to exclaim, "A very distasteful subject and entirely out of place as a subject for discussion in these times of financial crisis." For we are all a little fearful of questions of pay as making too heavy demands on slender incomes or as quite absorbing the latter altogether unexpectedly and irretrievably.

Yet this question of payment for Service or "Equal Pay for Equal Work" as it appears when attired as the commonplace formula is the highest barrier to be shot in the track of Women's modern canter along the course which leads to the goal of common Citizenship with men and women as equal partners sharing the common responsibilities, rights and duties thereby involved. What has the payment to do with the work? we ask. Or rather we should ask what has the payment *standard* to do with the work? for in that subtle difference in the form of the question lies the essence of the problem.

We work often very hard, very wholeheartedly, very joyfully for just the recompense of activity in service, the ever joyful though sometimes slow progressive achievement of an end which absorbs our loyalties, and we are amply recompensed in wealth of spirit even though we may be financially much poorer. But when we do contractual work for a standard of payment there is another element involved, for the standard of payment is the yard stick, or balance, or equating term or whatever

you may like to call it for the *value of the work* under contract, and the work done is the measure of the purchasing power of the standard of payment.

Since we each have a fundamental human desire and intention to obtain what we pay for according to standard we can ask:

1. Do we only require inferior work from women because we pay them below standard? or
2. Do we pay women less than the accepted standard only because they are women, and yet require and accept standard quality of work?

The first answer, if in the affirmative, would disclose moral dishonesty of a serious kind since it would involve a demoralising standard of activity for the worker; the second answer, if in the affirmative—and we contend this to be the only possible answer consistent with facts, discloses a condition of moral dishonesty not a whit less serious in that it results in defrauding the woman worker of honest payment, according to standard, for work well up to standard. The sense of injustice developed by the wrong condition vitiates the social and moral atmosphere for both parties in this inequitable contract: the woman concentrates on the factors which are delimiting to the operation of Justice in her case and is resentful of their action against her, while her employer is in the highly dangerous position of either

receiving something for which he has made no payment or compensating the consequent uneasiness of mind by a false depreciating assessment of the dignity and rights of the worker on whom such wrong conditions can be imposed. This is wrong and bad for both parties. As a corollary it resolves a spurious value for the standard worker who is a man.

The circumstances outlined, obtain in all work professional or otherwise where women are forced to accept a standard of payment less than that of a man colleague who does similar standard work.

And they destroy confidence!

As I know best, though not exclusively, the Teaching Profession it will be simpler to show how this variability of standard operates there.

Because the moral, cultural, spiritual and academic contents of teaching cannot each be quantitatively assessed and evaluated, by reason of their nature, we are obliged to speak of Teaching as the academical training of mentality of a given age range by means of a stated curriculum in a given time by persons professionally qualified to undertake this work.

This definition is sexless for Teacher and Taught. But if the Teacher is a Woman (I am quoting a certain standard type known as Scale III, Grade III in the Primary Service) during her range of standard teaching experience (between 30 and 40 years) she receives the following sums of money *less* than the Standard Salary Scale paid to her man colleague.

- (a) £18 less on her annual salary at minimum.
- (b) £60 less on her annual salary at maximum.
- (c) £2,500 aggregate during years of standard work.
- (d) £160 less on retirement at sixty or sixty-five.
- (e) £57 less on annual pension (since pensions though contributed are based on salary).

If in the Secondary Service the discrepancy under (c) above would stand at £2,880, and the remaining difference would be proportionate to this.

Further details cannot be necessary in illustration of the patent injustices to educated women; but at whatever point of the scale of

twenty-one grades analysis is made, it will be found that a Woman Teacher never receives more than four-fifths of the Standard Scale equivalent to the work done whether as Head or Assistant on a Teaching Staff. Why? Honest thinking will give no respectable answer to the query; there is always the accommodating compensatory theory that what is called Salary to the Man Teacher is really the Family Wage—that is that this apparent Salary consists of two portions:

- (a) Payment for Standard Work.
- (b) A gratuity to be allocated to reducing the financial responsibilities of Family Life or to help to make the housewife financially independent.

We do not agree that "b" achieves either end even to partial satisfaction, but if the argument as stated is valid we say, most emphatically, that these two component parts of what is called a Standard Salary should be always definitely and unequivocally stated when contracts for Teaching work are entered into.

But it would be interesting at the same time to obtain the answers to two pertinent questions:

1. Have Women no responsibilities, often without choice which become increasingly burdensome financially as age advances instead of lifting, as Family responsibilities normally lift? If so, why is no count taken of these?
2. Why do discrepancies increase to £60 at maximum and continue to include pension whether there is a Family or none at all? (The Census average 1921 of Schoolmasters Families was .9.)

Perhaps the most pertinent question of all remains to be asked? Why do Women, especially articulate educated women, support such a wrong adjustment of modern Society? And the answer must come to the conscious and conscientious mind of every thinking woman bringing the realisation that Society is paying too heavily now and will pay much more heavily in the future for its false standards and dishonesty of adjustment; that an equitable settlement with no confusion of issues must be substituted in the immediate future for a system which defaults in Justice. And each woman in the light of that conviction will resolve, that at whatever cost to herself, she will bring her quota of thought and activity to strengthen the common effort that will establish a new order of honest bargaining.

Notes and Comments.

We were glad to see a good gathering of members at our Annual Meeting, and the interest displayed by them is an encouragement to the Committee for the coming year. Details of the meeting will be found on another page.

* * * *

We call the attention of our readers to the Conferences on Family Allowances to be held at the London School of Economics on Friday, April 29th. The subject is of considerable interest, more especially as the principle has been adopted in other countries: New South Wales and New Zealand, France and Belgium. The two latter having tried the system for a sufficient length of time, have recently passed legislation making the payment of Family Allowances compulsory on all employers. There is a growing body of opinion in this country which favours Family Allowances; this Conference will afford an opportunity of threshing the matter out.

* * * *

St. Joan's S.P.A. was represented by Miss Jeffery at the unveiling in Westminster Abbey of the memorial to Dame Millicent Fawcett by Lord Cecil. It forms an extension to the Memorial to her husband, and bears the inscription "A wise, constant and courageous English-woman. She won citizenship for women." We rejoice that this great woman is honoured in the Abbey, and we congratulate the societies responsible: the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, and the London and National Society for Women's Service.

* * * *

COMING OF AGE CELEBRATION.

Monday, May 30th, will be a great day in the history of St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance, for on that day will be officially celebrated the twenty-first anniversary of its founding under the name of the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society. The celebration will take the form of a Public Dinner, to be held at Rumpelmayer's Restaurant (72 St. James's Street, S.W.1.).

It is hoped that there will be a very large gathering of friends of the Alliance (both Catholic and non-Catholic) and we feel sure that all our members will do their utmost to make this a really historic occasion. Many distinguished men and women have already promised to be present to testify to the work of St. Joan's Alliance and to the advance in the cause of women's emancipation, and among the speakers will be His Lordship the Bishop

of Pella, Miss Irene Ward, M.P., Miss Kathleen FitzGerald, and Miss Alison Neilans. We also hope to have Mrs. Despard with us.

Tickets, price 7s. 6d., and all information may be obtained from Miss Barry at 55 Berners Street, W.1.

New Committee.

Only one nomination having been received—that of Miss Gunning, she was elected to fill the vacancy caused by Miss Douglas Irvine's leaving the country, the rest of the Committee were re-elected *en bloc*. As a result of the Ballot for Chairman, Mrs. Laughton Mathews was elected. We offer our sincere thanks to Miss Douglas Irvine for her zealous work for St. Joan's S.P.A. Mrs. Laughton Mathews, as our members know, is one of our early members, who as a young girl, was instrumental in founding our Wimbledon Branch. Her work for St. Joan's is well known to us all.

OBITUARY.

We ask the prayers of our readers for the repose of the soul of Mr. Howell (R.I.P.), father of our member, Miss Dorothy Howell, F.R.A.M., to whom we offer our sincere sympathy.

We also ask our members to pray for Miss Mary Stafford (R.I.P.), who died recently, and we offer our deep sympathy to her sister, our member, Miss B. Stafford.

WOMEN'S STATUS IN INDIA.

The following statement, recently issued to the Press in India, has been sent to us by Mrs. Hannah Sen:—

Claims Reiterated.

The following joint statement (signed by Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddi, ex-President, A.I.W.C., and Secretary, W.I.A., Amrit Kuar, Rajkumari of Kapurthala, Chairwoman, A.I.W.C., Begum Shah Nawaz, Vice-President, A.I.W.C., Mrs. Rustomji Faridoonji, Vice-President, A.I.W.C., Mrs. Swaminadhan of W.I.A., Mrs. Jinarajadasa of the W.I.A., Mrs. Hamid Ali of the A.I.W.C., Mrs. Sultan Singh, Mrs. Lakshmikutti Menon, Lakshmbai Rajwade, Rani Rajwade, Organising Secretary, Mrs. Miles Irwing, Miss Forezuddin and Miss Vincent of the A.I.W.C.) has been issued to the Press:

"The joint memorandum on the status of Indian women in the proposed new constitution of India issued last year by the All-India Women's Conference, the Women's Indian Association and the Central Executive Committee of the National Council of Women in India has already received publicity through circulation to all the members of the Round Table Conference, the British as well as the Indian Governments, the Members of the British Parliament, the Members of the Indian Legislatures and other men and women interested in the question, both in England and in India. The Indian Press, when publishing the memorandum, commented very favourably on the principles embodied therein.

(Continued on page 34)

ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE,

AND

Editorial Office of "Catholic Citizen":

55 BERNERS STREET, LONDON, W.1. Tel. Museum 4181

Signed articles do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Society.

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Union Internationale Des Ligues Féminines Catholiques.

It is only very recently that a reader of "The Catholic Citizen" let me know that our Union was quoted in the number of November 15th, 1931. We regret this very much, as we now were unable to clear the misunderstanding at once. We hope that whenever we are quoted again the editorial staff will be kind enough to send us a copy.

Since our presentation of the Memorandum regarding nationality of married women at Geneva, it appeared to us that a great number of people inferred that our wish to safeguard family-unity implied a demand for equal* nationality of husband and wife. If we could have imagined that so many Catholics do not seem to know that no Catholic principle is involved here, we would of course have made this clear in our Memorandum.

The first women that made this mistake were the officers of the Catholic Women's League of England, one of our affiliated bodies; they made another mistake in wiring to Geneva without asking further information at international headquarters. This is especially regrettable as one of their vice-presidents is an officer of the international board and she might have told her fellow-workers that the minutes of the board-meeting where the Memorandum was discussed say with as many words that a difference of nationality between husband and wife does not endanger necessarily family-unity.

As soon as the real meaning of our Memorandum had been made clear after this incident, the C.W.L. board understood that the Memorandum did not in any way disagree with

their supporting in England the demand that a woman shall not lose her nationality on marriage to a foreigner. On October 7th, 1931, the C.W.L. board wrote to Sir Eric Drummond accordingly.

Another point we regret is that nobody seems to have thought it necessary to put things right in one of the later numbers of "The Catholic Citizen."

Now the question of the consulting of the Leagues. The four-annual Congress is the legislative body of our Union. However the statutes which were made up by the Congress of 1925 state that the Bureau can take in the meantime decisions that cannot wait for the next Congress. If a congress elects the permanent Bureau, it seems to us that they elect officers in whom they confide. If they do not any more, the Congress is perfectly free not to re-elect them. If any League does not agree with the above-mentioned clause of the statutes, it is perfectly free to bring forward at the next Congress a proposition to have it changed.

Moreover it seems to us that in the actual case, not a single Catholic League can be against our stating that family-unity must be safeguarded, when the Memorandum leaves the obtaining of the necessary reform for married women to the League of Nations.

M. ROMME,
 Hon. Sec., U.I.L.F.C.

The Hague, March 1st, 1932.

* We take it that "equal" here should be "same"?—Editor.

Editor's Note.

We are glad to receive the above letter from the Union Internationale des Ligues Féminines Catholiques, and regret that no copy of the article on nationality, which appeared in our November issue, was forwarded to the U.I.L.F.C.

It is a great satisfaction to us to note in the above letter that the Memorandum presented at Geneva was not intended to convey that any Catholic principle was involved in the question of the nationality of married women.

We regret that a misunderstanding as to the meaning of the Memorandum should have arisen, not only on our part and the part of the British C.W.L., but also on the part of delegates present at Geneva.

We welcome the statement that the Memorandum did not in any way disagree with the support in England of the demand that a woman shall not lose her nationality on marriage to a foreigner. For our part we should like this freedom of choice to be given to the women of all nations.

EDITOR.

THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S NEWS

The Monthly Organ of

THE INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE OF WOMEN
 FOR SUFFRAGE AND EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

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Correspondence.

Catholic Women's League,
 Under the Patronage of His
 Eminence Cardinal Bourne.
 116 Victoria Street,
 London. S.W.1.

The Editor,
 "The Catholic Citizen,"
 55 Berners Street,
 Oxford Street, W.1.

It has been brought to our notice by the President of the Union Internationale des Ligues Féminines Catholiques that in your leading Article on Nov. 1931, you quoted the English C.W.L. as having sent a telegram to Sir Eric Drummond dissociating ourselves from the Memorandum sent by the International Union of Catholic Women's Leagues on the subject of the Nationality of Married Women.

We regret that we did not see the Article at the time as if we had done so, we should have asked you to report our subsequent action in the matter. The C.W.L. wired to Sir Eric Drummond, Secretary-General of the League of Nations on September 16th, 1931, because the C.W.L. had already supported the choice of Nationality for Married Women and we were under the impression at that time that such action was incompatible with the terms of the Memorandum. This impression, as it was subsequently explained to us by the Headquarters of the Union, was erroneous, so we then wrote a letter to Sir Eric Drummond explaining our position. We append the text for publication and beg that it may appear *in full* since it explains our considered views. Since our League has been quoted in your paper in November 1931, we feel sure that you will do us the justice to publish this letter in your next issue. This is urgent.

Yours faithfully,

Audrey M. Petre, President.
 Kathleen M. Balfe, Vice-
 President. (Signed on behalf
 of the C.W.L.)

4th April, 1932.

Correspondence.

(Continued.)

Catholic Women's League,
116 Victoria Street,
London, N.W.8.

Copy of Letter to Sir Eric Drummond.

7th October, 1931.

Sir,

We hear that our telegram of the 16th September dissociating ourselves from the Memorandum of the International Union of Catholic Women's Leagues on the subject of the Nationality of Married Women has given rise at Geneva to the idea that the Catholic Women's League of England disapproves of the Memorandum as a whole. This is not the case. We were unable to support the Memorandum as it stood, having already as a National League supported a deputation of Women's Societies on January 30th, 1930, to Mr. Clynes pressing for legislation throughout the Empire to give effect to the principle "that a British woman on marriage to an alien should not thereby lose her British Nationality without her consent and that a foreign woman should not by reason of her marriage to a British subject, thereby acquire British nationality without her consent."

This previous action therefore caused us to send the telegram dissociating ourselves from the Memorandum. We recognise however, that the memorandum *does* state the general wish of Catholic women throughout the world that the Unity of the Family should be safeguarded. We, together with our fellow Catholics in other countries, regard this as the ideal which we all desire. The Memorandum also states the general wish of Catholics that International legislation should aim at *maintaining* Family Unity wherever possible. All Catholic women are united in the hope that the various measures of International Legislation devised according to local circumstances may all tend towards the protection of Family Life.

The decision of your Council to leave the question to further study for a year permits us to hope that a satisfactory formula may be found which will take into consideration the necessities of women in different countries and in varying situations.

(Signed):

Audrey M. Petre, President.
Kathleen M. Balfe, Vice-President and Member International Bureau.

Review.

The Way of the Cross. By Romano Guardini. Sheed & Ward, 2s. 6d.

The Way of the Cross, one of the most beautiful and ancient of popular devotions, has its origin, we are told, in the pilgrimages to the Holy Land, when pilgrims followed the footsteps of Our Saviour on His way to Calvary. The idea of making pictures of the incidents on the sorrowful way, and of erecting the Stations in church evolved in the West, the spreading of the devotion being in main due to the Franciscans. Even when unable to get to church to perform the Stations, Dr. Guardini's moving book will serve as a meditation on the Passion; its aim is to make known the treasures contained in the Way of the Cross. It is intended to give aid in daily troubles and sufferings, to help a weary soul to face the everyday routine, the dreary task, and not to lose courage. It should be a support to many a weary pilgrim struggling among the Path.

L. DE A.

WOMEN'S STATUS IN INDIA—continued.

The signatories to this declaration, however, feel that in spite of the unanimous opinion of the main women's organisations in India, their views have not received the consideration that was and is their due, and lest the weighty demands of the thinking womanhood of India be lightly set aside, we wish once more, on behalf of the organisations which we have the honour to represent, to inform the Governments of Britain and India, as well as the general public, that we firmly adhere to our opinions as already expressed in our Joint Memorandum. Any constitution for India which does not provide for adult suffrage and no special expedients, and does not recognise the fundamental rights of citizenship in India, as interpreted by us in the aforesaid Memorandum, will meet with our unqualified disapproval.

Undesirable Expedients.

We are aware that certain expedients have been suggested, e.g.:

- (a) property qualification for franchise on the basis of wifehood or widowhood, if the woman does not hold property in her own right.
- (b) Literacy qualification for franchise.
- (c) Nomination for Legislatures.
- (d) Reservation of seats or co-option in Legislatures.

All such expedients are, in our opinion, wholly undesirable for the following reasons:—

1.—We look upon any qualifications for the vote based on property as undemocratic and, as such, wholly against the spirit of the age. At the same time an expedient of this nature is quite contrary to the interests of the humble poor who constitute India's main population.

2.—Owing to the almost incredible illiteracy prevalent amongst the women of India any such qualification stands clearly self condemned.

(Continued on page 37)

Our Twenty-First Annual Meeting.

The Twenty-First Annual Meeting of St. Joan's S.P.A. was held at St. Patrick's Club, Soho, on Saturday, March 12th; Mrs. Laughton Mathews presiding. The Annual Report was read by Miss Brandt, and its adoption moved by Miss Kathleen FitzGerald, the first Chairman of the Alliance, then known as the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society. Miss FitzGerald spoke with enthusiasm of the work done by the Alliance, not only during the past year, but during the whole course of its existence. The Report, seconded by Mrs. Manning Harte, was carried unanimously.

The entrance of Miss Nancy Stewart Parnell and her colleagues just arrived from Liverpool, was greeted with warm applause. Miss Parnell brought greetings from Liverpool and read the report of the Liverpool and District Branch. Liverpool, she said, was scarcely a paradise for feminists. Only recently the University there had rejected a woman candidate of outstanding qualifications simply on the grounds that no woman had ever held the particular post before. The persistent refusal of the Watch Committee to appoint women police, the proposal of the City Council to economise by postponing the addition of maternity blocks to certain hospitals, the lack of playing fields for the girls' clubs of the city, whereas the boys enjoyed the use of magnificent ones, were all evidence of the need for action on the part of the women. On the other hand, there were signs that feminist claims were receiving considerable attention since several societies, composed of men only, had held debates on feminist topics.

Miss Brandt read the Financial Statement, pointing out that there was a drop in donations, owing no doubt to the fact that members having given generously to St. Joan's Quincentenary Appeal, were unable to give more to St. Joan's S.P.A. She hoped members would give generously this year; the rent was always our chief item of expense. We have several guarantors of £5, we need others.

Miss Grace Bumpstead (a prisoner and hunger-striker of the W.S.P.U.), in moving the adoption of the Financial Statement, suggested that those who could not pay £1 at a time, should put aside 5d. a week, which would amount to £1 in the year. If many did this it would be a great increase in the funds of the Alliance. Miss Havers, one of our earliest members, in seconding, said she had only one phrase to say which was: if the Chancellor of the Exchequer wanted a lesson in balancing his Budget, he should come to 55 Berners Street.

The Chairman, in greeting members, spoke of reforms still to be won, and urged each one to work for the programme put forward by St. Joan's S.P.A.

The following resolutions were then put from the Chair and carried:

1.—EQUAL POLITICAL RIGHTS.

(a) Franchise.

(i) *India.* St. Joan's S.P.A. assures the women of India of their wholehearted support for their demand for equal political right, and calls upon the Government to embody the principle of equality between men and women in the new constitution of India.

(ii) *Malta.* St. Joan's S.P.A. regrets that the members of the Malta Royal Commission did not

recommend the extension of the franchise to women, in spite of the petition presented to them by Maltese women.

It sends to the suffragists of Malta its best wishes for early success.

(iii) *Quebec and Bermuda.* St. Joan's S.P.A. regrets that the long years of effort of suffragists in Quebec and Bermuda have not yet been crowned with success.

(b) *Women in the House of Lords.* St. Joan's S.P.A. demands that peeresses, in their own right, should have a seat and vote in the House of Lords, and further, that in any measure designed to reform the Second Chamber men and women should have the same right to sit and to be elected.

2.—EQUAL MORAL STANDARD.

(a) *Solicitation Laws.* St. Joan's S.P.A. regrets that the Government has taken no action to remedy the present unjust Solicitation Laws, calls for their repeal and the substitution of a measure on the lines of the Public Places (Order) Bill, which deals with street solicitation by general legislation against annoyance or molestation, and under which the evidence of the person annoyed or molested would be necessary in order to obtain a conviction.

(b) *Abolition of Brothels.* St. Joan's S.P.A. expresses its satisfaction at the action of the Government in announcing the abolition of tolerated brothels in the Federated Malay States, Cyprus and Hong Kong and trust that the new laws will be strictly enforced.

(c) *Illegitimate Children.* St. Joan's S.P.A. calls upon the Government to introduce and pass without delay a Bill providing for the enforcement of Affiliation Orders overseas on similar lines to the Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement) Act, 1920.

(d) *Child Assault.* St. Joan's S.P.A. calls upon the Government to introduce a Bill providing more effective safeguards for the protection of young children from sexual assault.

3.—EQUAL PAY AND OPPORTUNITIES.

(a) St. Joan's S.P.A. calls upon the Government and Local Authorities to establish among their employees, a system of equal pay and opportunities for men and women, and freedom for married women to decide for themselves whether or not they shall engage in paid employment after marriage.

(b) *"Protective" Legislation.* St. Joan's S.P.A., while believing that protection should be afforded to Industrial Workers, declares that to impose restrictions on women only, is to treat them permanently as minors, and to lower their status as workers.

It believes that the only policy which safeguards their individual liberty and responsibility is that of basing all labour regulations and restrictions upon the nature of the work and not upon the sex of the worker, and calls upon the Government to apply this principle to all legislation, and to instruct its Delegates to support it at all Conferences of the International Labour Office.

4.—NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN.

St. Joan's S.P.A. urges the Government not to ratify the Hague Nationality Convention, but to take all possible steps at the League of Nations Assembly, to secure the reconsideration of that Convention and the submission to all Governments of a new Convention embodying the principle of equality between men and women, so that adhering states may provide that a woman shall have the same right as a man to the independent control of her nationality.

5.—SLAVERY.

(a) St. Joan's S.P.A. calls upon the Government to take all possible steps to discountenance among indigenous peoples any practices whatsoever involving the bartering of women and children into domestic or other forms of slavery.

(b) *Mui Tsai.*

(i) St. Joan's S.P.A. demands that the pledge given by the British Government for the inspection of *Mui Tsai* in Hong Kong should be implemented by the immediate appointment of the necessary number of inspectors, including women inspectors, to carry out this inspection fully and systematically.

(2) That so-called "adopted daughters" should be registered forthwith, such registration to be followed by inspection, observing that "Deeds of Presentation" and "Adoption Deeds" show that such "adopted daughters" are purchased, and the subterfuge of adoption is used as a means of obtaining *mui tsai*, as shown by the evidence in the Courts.

6.—MATERNAL MORTALITY.

St. Joan's S.P.A. calls upon the Ministry of Health to provide adequate maternity services throughout the country, and further urges upon its members the duty of pressing their Local Authorities to carry out to the full their powers in this respect.

7.—CHILDREN'S BILL.

St. Joan's S.P.A. calls upon the Government to amend the Children's and Young Persons Bill so that no discrimination be made between boys and girls.

8.—INCOME TAX.

St. Joan's S.P.A. demands that the income of married persons should be separately assessed and separately taxed.

9.—WOMEN POLICE.

St. Joan's S.P.A. calls upon the Government to increase the number of policewomen in the Metropolitan area, and to further legislation making it compulsory for Watch Committees and standing Joint Committees to appoint a sufficient number of women police.

10.—UNEMPLOYMENT.

(a) St. Joan's S.P.A. calls upon the Government to allocate for the training and relief of unemployed women an equal sum of money in proportion to their numbers, as it expended upon men.

(b) Protests against a married woman's right to unemployment benefit being restricted by reason only of marriage.

11.—LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

St. Joan's S.P.A. expresses its conviction that the only satisfactory basis for the co-operation of women in the League of Nations is that of carrying into effect the principle of the absolute equality of status and opportunity between men and women in all delegations and committees of the League of Nations and of the Secretariat.

12.—CATHOLIC EDUCATION.

St. Joan's S.P.A. calls for fair and adequate financial treatment of Catholic elementary and secondary schools.

13.—BIRTH CONTROL.

St. Joan's S.P.A. deplors the policy of the Ministry of Health in allowing in certain cases information on artificial birth control to be given at centres maintained out of public funds. It urges its members to watch the matter in their local Councils.

14.—DIVORCE.

St. Joan's S.P.A. regrets the action of certain Societies in pressing for further facilities for divorce, and trusts that all Christian bodies will unite in opposing this demand.

The Chairman then read a letter from our late Chairman, Miss Douglas Irvine, who is on her way to Chile. After expressing her regret at not being able to attend the meeting, except in spirit, Miss Irvine recalls the fine achievement of the year, and continues: I wish St. Joan's a continuance of its present vigorous usefulness. May it always be, as it has ever been, keen, courageous, disinterested, generous! May it preserve that sense of humour which societies can lack as woefully as individuals, and may it ever shun vain glory!

After tea it was announced that as a result of Miss Brandt's appeal the sum of £25 had been collected.

The Suffragette Spirit.

After our Annual Meeting, a public meeting was held on March 12th, at St. Patrick's Club, under the auspices of St. Joan's S.P.A., when Miss Geraldine Lennox gave a lecture on the "Suffragette Spirit." Mrs. Laughton Mathews, in the chair, recalled the old fighting days when Miss Lennox and she had first met. The young sub-editor of the "Suffragette," Miss Lennox, had been arrested, and another young girl, Vera Laughton, took her place.

Miss Lennox, in her interesting lecture, traced the early beginnings of the women's movement. She quoted Thucydides as thinking woman should remain at home; Plutarch as maintaining that many worthy things, both public and private, had been done by women.

She had much to tell us of the courage and devotion of British women, from Boadicea to Emmeline Pankhurst; ran briefly through the militant suffrage campaign, and begged young voters to carry on the torch.

Miss Nancy Stewart Parnell, in moving a vote of thanks, spoke eloquently on her hope that the young women would be worthy of the pioneers, and Miss Fedden, in seconding, spoke with enthusiasm of the militant suffragists.

Miss Lennox's lecture is in print, and can be obtained from the Suffragette Fellowship, price 3d.

LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

Hon. Secretary: Miss N. S. Parnell, B.A.,
45 Falkner Street, Liverpool.

The chief event to be recorded is our Annual Party. This was held on February 25th at Bluecoat Chambers, and realised over £3 profit. While thanking all who contributed to its success, we should especially like to mention in this connection Mr. A. S. Mason, our M.C., Mrs. Finlayson, a non-member, who presented us with a handsome box of chocolates to be raffled, and Miss Mary Parnell, on whom fell the very arduous task of preparing the rooms and clearing away afterwards.

Unfortunately, only three of us—Miss Byrne and the Misses Parnell—were able to attend the Annual Meeting in London on March 12th. The Hon. Secretary conveyed the greetings of the Branch and presented its Annual Report. As usual, the time passed all too quickly, thanks to the kindly forethought and planning of the London members.

WOMEN'S STATUS IN INDIA—continued.

3.—We look upon nominations, reservation of seats, and co-option in any sphere of activity as a pernicious and humiliating system which must run counter to all real progress. However impartially carried out it must, by its very nature, engender an inferiority complex amongst those for whom it caters—a contingency to be avoided at all costs. It may even tend to create a spirit of communalism amongst women which we, at any rate, are determined shall not be the case. We realise to the full and with immeasurable sorrow to what an extent this canker amongst men has retarded and is retarding the progress of our beloved land.

We submit, therefore, that adult franchise, immediately applied, without special expedients, constitutes the only way by which the men and women of India can possibly come in to their own. We do not think that there will be insurmountable difficulties in achieving these objects forthwith, if sufficient efforts are made.

Even if men are in favour of expedients meanwhile, we wish to make it quite clear that women do not stand by them in this demand. For ourselves, we have made up our minds that, even if a few or no women are returned for the present to the Legislatures by the open door of competition, we shall not attach any importance thereto—for we are certain that our cause is righteous and that in the end it will prevail.

We urge the Governments of Britain and India not to ignore the principle that we are setting before them and we call upon all our brothers and any individual sisters who may differ from us to follow our lead. There can be no live consciousness of nationhood or true patriotism until we are willing to sacrifice to the uttermost for a principle.

As representatives of important Women's Organisations we know that we have a strong body of opinion which lends full support to these views, besides that which is voiceless to-day behind prison bars, and we hope our declaration will be the means of securing for Indian men and women a real voice in the governance of their country.

Appeal to Women of the World from India.

Finally we wish to broadcast an earnest appeal to Women's Organisations throughout the world—

removed in distance but kindred, no doubt, in spirit—to stand by the women of India in their fight for real emancipation at this important stage in the history of India.

TREASURER'S NOTE.

Many thanks to all those who have paid their annual subscriptions or have given us donations.

May I remind readers of the coming 21st birthday of the Alliance, which we are going to celebrate on May 30th—St. Joan's feast day—as the actual anniversary fell on Good Friday this year. We wish to have a really worthy celebration, and contributions to the Birthday Fund will be gratefully received.

P. M. BRANDT (Hon. Treasurer).

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS.

February 1st to March 12th.		£	s.	d.
Alberti, Miss L. de .. .. .	.. .. .	1	0	0
Anon. .. .. .	.. .. .	1	6	
Anon. .. .. .	.. .. .	2	0	
Anon. .. .. .	.. .. .	2	6	
Aylward, Miss .. .. .	.. .. .	3	6	
Bach, Miss .. .. .	.. .. .	2	0	
Bacon, Miss Harley .. .. .	.. .. .	2	6	
Bain, Miss .. .. .	.. .. .	1	5	0
Bodenham, Miss .. .. .	.. .. .	2	0	
Brady, Miss E. .. .. .	.. .. .	1	17	6
Buckley, Mrs. .. .. .	.. .. .	2	6	
Bulbeck, Mrs. .. .. .	.. .. .	2	6	
Butler-Bowdon, Miss E. .. .. .	.. .. .	5	0	0
Byrne, Miss .. .. .	.. .. .	2	6	
Clark, Dr. Adams .. .. .	.. .. .	2	6	
Dennis, Miss .. .. .	.. .. .	2	6	
Douglas, Mrs. Stuart .. .. .	.. .. .	3	0	
Dupplin, Viscountess (R.I.P.) .. .. .	.. .. .	2	6	
Ellingworth, Mrs. .. .. .	.. .. .	2	6	
Ernaelsteen, Mrs. .. .. .	.. .. .	2	6	
Gadsby, Miss .. .. .	.. .. .	2	6	
Grant, Hon. Miss .. .. .	.. .. .	2	6	
Griffiths, Mrs. .. .. .	.. .. .	2	0	
Hall, Miss A. L. .. .. .	.. .. .	2	0	
Hanlon, Misses M. and F. .. .. .	.. .. .	5	0	
Haslam, Miss .. .. .	.. .. .	2	0	
Havers, Miss .. .. .	.. .. .	2	6	
Jeffery, Miss G. .. .. .	.. .. .	1	0	0
Kennett, Miss .. .. .	.. .. .	1	6	
Keogh, Miss .. .. .	.. .. .	7	0	
Kilgallen, Miss .. .. .	.. .. .	2	0	
Lowndes, Mrs. Belloc .. .. .	.. .. .	7	6	
McEntee, Miss .. .. .	.. .. .	1	2	10
McEwen, Miss .. .. .	.. .. .	5	0	
Madden, Miss .. .. .	.. .. .	2	6	
Malleson, Mrs. Hope .. .. .	.. .. .	2	6	
Mathews, Mrs. Laughton .. .. .	.. .. .	3	0	0
Mathews, Mrs. Laughton per .. .. .	.. .. .	3	0	0
Newman, Mrs. .. .. .	.. .. .	4	6	
O'Connor, Mrs. .. .. .	.. .. .	2	6	
O'Connor, Misses E. and M. .. .. .	.. .. .	4	0	
O'Gorman, Miss .. .. .	.. .. .	5	0	
O'Hart, Miss .. .. .	.. .. .	7	6	
Parnell, Miss N. S. .. .. .	.. .. .	10	0	
Parnell, Miss M. .. .. .	.. .. .	2	6	
Robson, Mrs. Hope .. .. .	.. .. .	2	6	
Russell, Mrs., J.P. .. .. .	.. .. .	18	6	
St. John, Miss Christopher .. .. .	.. .. .	7	6	
Shattock, Mrs. .. .. .	.. .. .	1	0	0
Sherwin, Miss C. .. .. .	.. .. .	2	6	
Sullivan, Miss E. .. .. .	.. .. .	2	0	
Tilsley, Miss	1	6	
Walpole, Miss	5	0	
Welch, Miss I. R. V.	2	6	
White, Miss	3	3	
Whitaker, Mrs. Ryland	2	6	
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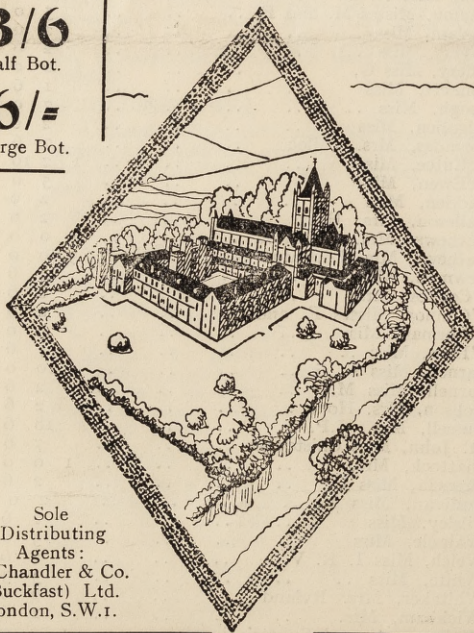
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