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THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SVFFRAGE NEWS

THE MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SVFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

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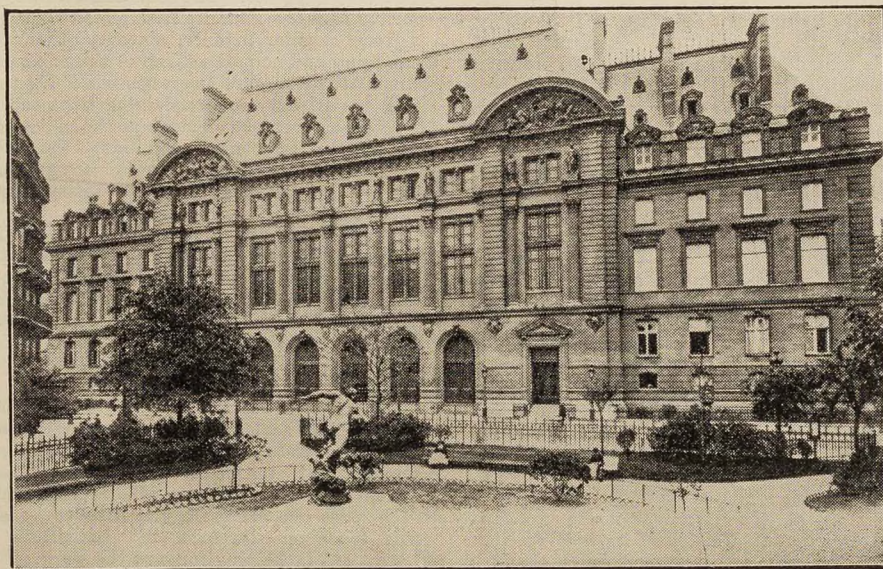
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TENTH CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

CHANGE OF DATE.

As a result of the recent Board meeting and full consultation with the French Auxiliary, the date of the Congress has been changed to May 30—June 6, thus being put forward by one week. This date avoids the Whitsuntide holiday, when many people would be out

of Paris, and means that the Congress may be held in the beautiful halls of the Sorbonne, most kindly placed at the disposal of the Congress by the Rector, Monsieur Lapie. This is great news, and is, indeed, a good augury for the brilliant success of our Congress.



THE SORBONNE, PARIS.

BOARD MEETING IN PARIS.

THIS businesslike title conceals such pleasant friendly meetings with our French colleagues, such a wonderful round of delightful entertainments, that I have tried, though in vain, to find one more suitable.

My first duty in Paris was to slip away quietly to the Louvre to pay my homage to those wonderful symbols of womanhood, the Victory of Samothrace and the gentle ladies of Botticelli who face her. We have forgotten the tiny naval battle, and see the victory as one over petty materialism.

After a hard morning's work on the current business of the Alliance, Mme. Schumann entertained us at an exquisite lunch to meet the delightful members of the French Committee. Of course we talked Congress, nothing but Congress! In the evening Mme. Brunswick gave us, the members of the Board, a dinner in her beautiful house, so that we might have an informal talk and exchange news.

To our International Committee next day we were delighted to welcome Dr. Aletta Jacobs, of Holland, who at 70 is a constant challenge in energy and enthusiasm to the rest of us, who wonder ruefully if we really are younger after all. Mme. Ivalo, of Finland, proxy to Miss Furuhejm, was a delightful new friend. Mrs. Kitchevatz represented Jugo-Slavia with all the authority of her three years' work as hon. secretary, and Mme. Sadoveanu brought us inspiring tales of the hard work and success of the woman's movement in Roumania. Last, but not least, Miss Collisson represented most ably the enfranchised women of the vast southern continent of Australia. With their able help we almost succeeded in getting all we wanted to discuss into our week's meetings: the reports of our special commissions, the question of women police, the entry of women into business and professional work, and into the Diplomatic and Consular Services, their position in the Civil Service, and the relation of unenfranchised women to political parties.

Various interesting amendments to the constitution were brought forward. First, a change of title to impress the value of the Alliance for the women voters. The Board suggests International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship. Secondly, that a larger number of members to be elected by the Congress (21 instead of 11) should choose from amongst themselves a small executive of seven members able and willing to meet frequently.

Our hard labours were rewarded by the greatly appreciated privilege of a tea at the Sorbonne. Mme. Lapie, the wife of the distinguished Rector of the University, announced that he had agreed very willingly to lend us the Sorbonne for the meetings of the Congress. We could hardly believe our good fortune as she showed us the beautiful salons, superbly decorated, the vast amphitheatre with its excellent acoustics, and the nobly planned entrance and staircase. It was a real relief when M. Lapie himself joined us and we could murmur our deep gratitude.

Next day, with renewed energy, we could discuss each practical point of organisation and programme. The evening meetings planned by the French Auxiliary should draw "tout Paris." At the formal opening on Sunday, May 30, we shall hear Mme. Brunswick, the French president, and other official greetings. On Monday our auxiliaries will present their greetings in a three-minute speech. On Wednesday the women of the Latin countries will hold a demonstration against the Code Napoléon, organised by the talented Mme. Grinberg, avocate à la Cour. On Thursday we hope the statesmen of the enfranchised lands will pay their tribute to the value of women's co-operation. On Friday, women M.P.s will speak of solid legislative achievements, and on Sunday we shall close with the united women of the world declaring for peace and the League of Nations.

In between the arduous sessions of the Board we were able to meet many sympathisers. Senators, Deputies, well-known women, and the all-powerful Press were entertained by us at the Lyceum, whose gracious president, the Duchess of Usés, and its indefatigable directress, Mme. Brignoli, we cannot sufficiently thank.

I was able to address a crowded meeting of women university students at Mlle. Bonnet's kind suggestion,

and also to meet with the leaders of many women's organisations. The notice was short, and many could not come, but it was a great pleasure to consult Mme. Avril de Ste. Croix, veteran president of the French National Council of Women, and Mme. Duchesne, equally distinguished in Labour as in peace circles.

Mme. Kraemer Bach, who has undertaken French publicity for the Congress, gave some of us so delightful a dinner that we almost forgot the approaching trial when four of us victims spoke on the Congress and Alliance to the tiny uninspiring ventilator which we were assured was the wireless!

Mme. La Maziere, well known for her work in connection with the Peace prize, invited us to dine with the Soroptimists (the feminine counterpart of the Rotary Club). There is only one other in Europe—that in London. Here we were brought into contact with the cleverest professional and artistic women and the women pioneers on industry and commerce. They kindly agreed to beautify our Congress with an exhibition of their work, to challenge the beauty of the International Stall we are planning.

It seemed impossible to leave Paris and our many friends.

M. Briand was in the country, but, on his behalf, M. Bertholot assured us of Government help and goodwill. M. Guillaumin, president of the Paris City Council, received us equally warmly, and offered us a reception in the magnificent and historic Hotel de Ville, a much-prized privilege.

To sum up, I can seriously affirm that the French side of the Congress will be definitely a great success. They hope that we on our side will convert the Senate and public opinion. This can only happen if the business of the Congress is carried out in the most orderly, systematic, and enthusiastic manner. Presidents of delegations must assist the president in maintaining good discipline in compelling silence in the Hall during speeches. Delegates, carefully chosen for expert knowledge, must speak briefly and to the point, and by steady attendance, in spite of Paris attractions elsewhere, show an unselfish determination to make our world movement a great example of international peace.

M. CORBETT ASHBY.

FUNDS FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE PARIS CONGRESS.

Owing, presumably, to a failure of the post, the treasurer has only just now received the good news that the Leslie Commission at its meeting in 1924 had already taken into consideration the needs of the Congress, and had voted the very generous donation of \$2,000 for Congress expenses. The Commission has grounds for feeling that the Alliance has treated their generosity in a very cavalier manner, since no thanks have been expressed and no notice taken of this substantial promise when estimating for Congress needs. We therefore take this opportunity of explaining that no notification reached us, and our silence was the silence of ignorance and not of lack of appreciation. This big gift does indeed help to lighten the load of anxiety as to how the expenses of the Congress are to be met, and our gratitude, though belated, is fervent.

Moreover, help is forthcoming from other kind friends of the Alliance. Dame Millicent Fawcett, to whom much of the success of the British Fund for Rome was due, has promised us £50; Mr. Charles Corbett, our president's father, has given £100; Lady Beilby, £50; the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship has sent £100, which with these other donations is a promising start for the British Appeal Committee which is being formed by the three societies of the British Auxiliary. Certain sums have also come from collections made at local meetings addressed by Mrs. Corbett Ashby. One of these collections was made at a meeting of working women, who decided that they could each spare one penny: a nice little sum resulted, while this touching expression of goodwill is an equally potent aid in helping forward the work.

This all sounds so promising that we feel it is necessary to accompany our heartfelt thanks to those

who have already come forward with a word of warning to those who may feel that strenuous effort is no longer needed. Indeed it is, for it would be a sad thing if after a brilliant Congress, with its message of inspiration for the future, the Alliance had to face that future with pockets so empty as to curtail its activities almost to the point of extinction.

The anxious position in France with regard to finance and consequent further depreciation of the franc, is having its effect on our work. Over a year ago, after taking much expert advice, we added to our account in Paris by the purchase of Government bills, etc., nearly £200, as these were considered to be readily saleable, and we estimated they should bring in money just when we needed it for Congress expenses. Who shall say what loss we may not have to face under this head? Again, the wholesale prices for paper and other things we shall need in large quantities are fluctuating wildly, and we can get no clear fixed estimates for anything.

So it all comes back to the same point: Help us, good friends, to put the Alliance on a sound basis *now*, not only for the Congress, but also for the future.

FRANCES M. STERLING, Hon. Treasurer.

DRAFT OF PROGRAMME FOR THE TENTH CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE, PARIS, MAY 30-JUNE 6, 1926.

May 26, Wednesday, Morning and Afternoon: Preliminary meeting of Board and Presidents' Council (simultaneous meetings). Mrs. Ashby's lunch to Board and Presidents.

May 27, Thursday, Morning and Afternoon: Meeting of International Committee (Board and Presidents), ballot for seats, etc.

May 28, Friday, Morning: Simultaneous private meetings of Committees on—The Situation of the Unmarried Mother and Her Child; the Nationality of the Married Woman; Enfranchised Women. Afternoon: Open meeting of the Commission on the Unmarried Mother and Her Child. Evening: Simultaneous private meetings of Committees on—Like Conditions of Work for Men and Women; Equal Moral Standard and Against Traffic in Women; Family Endowment.

May 29, Saturday, Morning: Open meeting of the Commission on the Equal Moral Standard. Afternoon: Open meeting of the Commission on Like Conditions of Work. Evening: Board's reception to delegates.

May 30, Sunday, Morning: Delegations meet their Presidents. Afternoon: Open meeting of Commission on Family Endowment. Evening: *Opening of Congress.*

May 31, Monday, Morning: Seating of delegates, report of Admissions Committee, etc.; presentation of report and resolutions from the Equal Moral Standard Commission. Afternoon: Presentation of report and resolutions from Like Conditions of Work Commission; general resolutions. Evening: Public meeting—messages from women of all nations.

June 1, Tuesday, Morning: (a) Presentation of report and resolutions from the Commission on the Unmarried Mother and Her Child; (b) presentation of report and resolutions from the Commission on the Nationality of the Married Woman. Afternoon: (a) Presentation of report and resolutions from the Family Endowment Commission; (b) general resolutions.

June 2, Wednesday, Morning: Resolutions arising from reports on *Jus* and from affiliated societies (all circulated); amendments to constitution; nominations for President and Board. Afternoon: Conference on Methods of Work in Unenfranchised Countries. Evening: Public meeting—Women Against the Code Napoleon.

June 3, Thursday, Morning and Afternoon: Free for excursion. Evening: Public meeting—Men's Tribute to the Success of Woman Franchise.

June 4, Friday, Morning and Afternoon: Problems of women voters; election of President and Board during the day. Evening: Public meeting—Women Members of Parliament.

June 5, Saturday, Morning: Report of Board; finance; amendments to constitution (continued). Afternoon: General resolutions (women police); result of ballot, etc.; President's concluding speech. Evening: Reception by French Auxiliary.

June 6, Sunday, Afternoon: Peace and League of Nations. Evening: Public meeting—Women for World Peace.

June 7, Monday, Morning and Afternoon: Final Board Meeting.

ITALY.

WE have just received a telegram as we go to press from the Italian Auxiliary to say that the Bill giving the Administrative vote to women has been definitely approved by the Senate. Our heartiest congratulations to the Italian women on this successful conclusion to their long fight for this first instalment of enfranchisement. As our readers know, Signor Mussolini promised to introduce a measure of this kind during our Congress in Rome, and, unlike some politicians, he has kept his promise. The scope of the Bill is regrettably limited, but that we already knew, and therefore its success, even if it does not give by any means what the women of Italy need and deserve, does give what was promised to them. Therefore its passing is cause for congratulation, and must be a stimulus to their work for securing full enfranchisement. The Alliance well knows how hard and unremitting that work has been, and wishes to express its full measure of appreciation and gratitude.

NOTE.—After sending to the printer the above note founded on a telegram from Italy, we received further news giving the actual figures of the debate in the Senate—157 votes for, to 68 against the Bill for the Women's Administrative Vote. Further, it appears that women will thereby be enabled to take a share in the activities of their country on matters connected with trade unions and industrial courts, both of which are dealt with by important laws now introduced.

THE NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN IN SCANDINAVIA.

IT will be remembered that as the result of a joint conference of the Governments of Norway, Sweden, and Denmark it was decided to introduce into the legislatures of the respective Parliaments the same proposals with regard to nationality.* As information came to hand we have, from time to time, reported progress, but as we have just received copies of the three parallel statutes which have been adopted in these countries, either in 1924 or 1925, it may be useful to set out exactly the position in each so far as married women are concerned.

In all three countries the old rule that a foreign woman who marries one of the nationals of these countries acquires her husband's nationality is retained (Sec. 3). The Danish law also provides that a woman whose husband becomes a naturalised Dane, herself becomes a Dane, unless for special reasons it is otherwise determined (Art. 4). Norway in such a case gives the choice to the woman and says that (Sec. 6) "a declaration of allegiance must in such a case be made also by the wife." By the Swedish law (Sec. 6) the wife of an alien who acquires Swedish nationality becomes a Swede. This is, however, modified by a proviso that "unless special reasons otherwise prescribe, an opportunity shall be afforded to the wife to make a declaration on the question."

But the really important alterations in the law (Sweden: Sec. 8; Norway: Sec. 8; and Denmark: Sec. 5) of each of these countries are the provisions which make it possible in many cases for a woman to retain her own nationality on marriage with a foreigner. The laws of all three countries provide that a natural born Swede, Norwegian, or Danish woman, as the case may be, shall not lose her nationality on marriage with a foreigner unless

two conditions are satisfied: (a) She must by the law of her husband's country acquire his nationality, and (b) she must have ceased to reside in her own country. Sweden and Norway appear to extend this right also to naturalised Swedish or Norwegian women. Sweden goes even further in her protection of her women citizens, because before a Swedish woman who marries a foreigner loses her nationality, yet another condition must be satisfied. She must go and settle in the country of her husband. This means that if a Swedish woman married to a foreigner goes abroad to settle, but not to her husband's country, she is still a Swede and has the right to Swedish diplomatic protection—a valuable concession.

It has now become impossible for a woman of one of these countries living and settled in her own country to be treated as a foreigner. It is also now impossible that a natural-born woman of any of these countries should be reduced to a state of Statelessness by reason of marriage with a foreigner.

The Danish law includes a beneficent provision making the law retrospective (Sec. 8). That is to say, women who were born Danish subjects and who have constantly resided in Denmark, but who at the time of the passing of the Act were, under the old law, considered foreigners because of marriage, are given the right to claim Danish nationality (Art. 8). Natural-born Swedish women who have lost their nationality on marriage are also given the right to claim to be readmitted. This may be the case in Norway, but it does not appear on the face of the new Act, where this matter is dealt with by reference to a previous statute of which the writer has not a copy.

The Scandinavian women are to be congratulated on the substantial gains embodied in these three laws, which are the result of their steady, persistent work, both independently and in co-operation with each other.

CRYSTAL MACMILLAN,

Chairman of the Committee on the Nationality of Married Women.

*Swedish Law of May 23, 1924, on the Acquisition and Loss of Swedish Nationality.

Norwegian Law of August 1, 1924, on Norwegian Nationality.

Danish Law of 1925, on the Acquisition and loss of Nationality.

A LEADER AMONG THE VARIOUS RACES IN THE LEBANON.

IT is very much to be hoped that Miss Fareedah el Akl from the Syrian mountain villages and Beyrouth will be able to come to Paris next May for the International Suffrage Congress.

There are few women in the Lebanon who have had quite so long a record of service for their country as this teacher of at least two generations, Christian, Moslem, and Druse; from the extent of old Phœnicia to Damascus her activities have spread themselves out over those who are now fathers and mothers, to the young people enthusiastic for self-determination who have survived the war, and those too young to know much more than that perhaps some relation had died of wounds or—more horrible still—of starvation!

Miss el Akl was educated by the Society of Friends in Brummana, and taught with American and English schools, and proved always a light and inspiration to her own people. During the war, when Beyrouth was Turkish, and hunger, terror, and misery were rife, she proved her worth, always hoping for delivery. It came when the British entered Beyrouth.

The refugee camps of Armenians—the best hospitality the poor country had to offer—were one of her preoccupations, and later the effort to build up a trade school for these children.

As a worker on woman questions Miss el Akl showed herself a leader when she sent a petition to Gen. Gouraud, then High Commissioner for Syria, on behalf of the women teachers in Beyrouth, regarding their high taxation. She was successful. It was also due to her efforts that a first group of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom was started in Beyrouth. She is much beloved and respected.—E. F. RIEDER.

BOOK REVIEWS.

THE PIONEER POLICEMAN. By Commandant Mary S. Allen. Published by Chatto and Windus, London. Price 10s. 6d.

The question of women police is one which interests, or is beginning to interest, women in nearly every country in the world. In the highly organised communities of to-day, police work is a very different thing from the rough-and-ready methods of preserving public order of an earlier day, and so much of social well-being depends on the right choice and adequate training of police personnel, that no one interested in social problems can neglect some study of the subject. Commandant Allen must be personally known to very many of our readers, and by reputation to almost all, and the picture of her which we publish will readily recall memories of a smartness and efficiency which must surely in themselves be one of her most valuable pieces of propaganda. She was in the English movement for the creation of women police from the very first, and her book is therefore an authoritative statement of the history of that movement. Throughout she pays a touching tribute of admiration and affection to Miss Damer Dawson, the first chief of the Women Police Service—the original title of what is now known as the Women's Auxiliary Service.

After a brief but fascinating introduction dealing with the growth of police in England, the book proceeds to tell how the outbreak of war brought the need, and how Miss Dawson saw that need, and with wonderful courage and perseverance forced others to see it, too, and to allow her to supply it. For it is a curious commentary on human nature that women longing to serve and able to demonstrate how well they know how to serve, are nevertheless greeted with suspicion and grudging permission to "try." How the women police tried and succeeded during the long years of the war is told here with admirable lucidity and with just the right amount of detail. The book keeps an admirable balance between the danger of that dullness which is too often found in "official" narratives, and the aggressive lightness of touch which reminds you all the time that the writer would not for the world suspect you of being capable of giving serious attention to any question. It gives glimpses of some of the horrors with which these women had to deal; it gives wonderful records of the mere physical courage and endurance of which they proved capable, and a brief history of the very special work they did in the great munition factories. Then came the end of the war, and following the warm tributes paid by every authority for whom they worked, comes the amazing tale of how they were treated by the new Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, who refused to avail himself of the services of this force of ready-trained women, and preferred on the flimsiest of pretexts to enrol untried individuals for the small body of women patrols he instituted. Even this small number was menaced with complete disappearance in 1922, and was only saved by a vigorous campaign on the part of organised women. A very small number was retained, but with increased powers, and they are now fully sworn constables, with power of arrest, and their number has recently been increased. A very necessary but brief survey of the conditions under which the police forces are organised in England is given, which explains how it was that though in London official work ceased, in the provinces it was still continued, though here, too, economy was the excuse for many reductions.

The Women's Auxiliary Service was enabled to find further useful outlets for its activities in supplying police both in Ireland and, later on, in Cologne, interesting accounts being given of the work they did there. The latter case has a special interest for us, since both Mrs. Corbett Ashby, the President of the Alliance, and Frau Lindemann, one of our vice-presidents, had much to do with the organisation of the Cologne service.

A brief survey of the work done by women police in the United States as seen during a short visit in 1924, is followed by a section entitled "The Future," which deals in a constructive way with the work which lies waiting for women police to do, both in the prevention of crime and in the administration of police duties

specially connected with women and children. It is in the wider social implications of modern police work that women are so urgently needed, and this book should help us to realise why and how they are needed, so that we in turn may help towards getting women permitted to make their special contribution to the difficult problems which women have not perhaps had quite a half share in creating, but in whose solutions they are eager to take the fullest responsibility.



Commandant Allen, O.B.E.

UNCLE SAM NEEDS A WIFE. By Ida Clyde Clarke. Published by Stanley Paul and Co., 8, Endsleigh Gardens, London, N.W. 1. Price 7s. 6d.

The author's preface to this book is really a good review of it, as it sets forth succinctly the various points taken to show why women are needed in public life. As, because women are needed in national as in domestic housekeeping; because the woman's viewpoint and method of working are different from men's; because women are more inclined to conserve and less inclined to waste than men; because they are more resourceful; because until they get a larger opportunity they will not themselves recognise their capacities. And after this, perhaps the main text is that women must believe in women and must recognise their value, and in this way get men to recognise it, too. That point is really one of the crucial points of the women's movement, and Mrs. Clarke declares that it is the inferiority complex developed in women by centuries of suppression, and that women don't bother to know what women are doing, and don't back women by adopting and financing their ideas—ideas which put forward by a man find ample support among women. If we think of replying to this by saying that women don't have much money to support anything with, we are met by an amusing but very shrewd survey of the money women do spend—in the United States at any rate—on their organisations and the conventions held by them. And even in other countries it is not unknown that a convention sometimes proves to be, in fact, an end in itself, and not merely, as it is intended to be, the beginning of active work. This is contrasted with the difficulty of raising money from these same people for the programme of active work which should follow on the conventions.

The chapters giving suggestions as to how women should begin to take a practical hand in putting their

theories into effect, and how they should co-operate and learn to present a solid front in dealing with great national problems, are followed by a chapter entitled "Wanted—a Female Moses," which calls for the rise of a great woman leader to call the scattered forces together and concentrate their really great energies on the gaining of some definite objective.

Altogether, this is a stimulating book, and while written for the American woman, problems are not so different elsewhere that it will not be found suggestive by women of other countries. It is profusely and amusingly illustrated, and the type is admirably clear and readable.

REPORT OF A CONFERENCE ON THE CITIZEN RIGHTS OF WOMEN WITHIN THE BRITISH EMPIRE, HELD BY THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH LEAGUE. Price 1s. 6d., from the Headquarters of the League, 17, Buckingham Street, London, W.C. 2.

A report on this Conference appeared in the August-September number of *Jus*, so that we cannot devote a great deal of space to this Report. It has a foreword by Dame Millicent Fawcett, and contains an admirable report on the speeches, and well-arranged information about the objects and organisation of the League. The addresses to the Conference were made by people who were experts in their subjects, and are not, therefore, merely rhetorical statements designed to impress the public, but are full of detailed information which will make the Report a useful work of reference. A specially full and interesting section is that dealing with marriage laws in South Africa, Canada, Australia, and India. We very strongly recommend all our readers in the British countries to buy this little book, which not only supplies invaluable information, but also shows how the interests of those countries are specially linked together, and what a field for co-operation among women exists.

WOMEN AT WORK IN THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS. By D. M. Northcroft. Price 6d. Published by Page and Pratt, 151, Great Safron Hill, London, E.C. 1.

This is an up-to-date edition of a valuable pamphlet, previous issues of which have been reviewed in this paper. It gives the former clear little statement of the organisation of the League, followed by brief notices of the women delegates to the Assembly, women members of the Commissions and of the Secretariat. The Assembly sees always some new women among its delegates, and it is very useful to have in this handy form their names and a short note on their activities.

TENTH REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR MORAL AND SOCIAL HYGIENE, Orchard House, Great Smith Street, London, S.W. 1.

This Association is the British Branch of the International Abolitionist Federation, and as it does a good deal of foreign work the Report is far from being of interest to British readers alone. The British aspect of the work must, indeed, in itself be of interest to all those who are striving for the equal moral standard, since in the great fight against prostitution the experience of one country cannot but be of use to others, and the work of the Association is always so full of the spirit of sanity and justice that its statements inspire one with a stimulating feeling of hopefulness and confidence.

TABLE OF WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

In the table of woman suffrage published in our last issue we had to state that the conditions of municipal suffrage in Hungary were not known to us, and a correspondent has now brought to our attention the following information from the Report of the International Council of Women's Committee on Suffrage and Rights of Citizenship, as submitted to the Congress in Washington:—

Hungary.—The new Municipal Election Law of 1925 treats women both as electors and as eligible members of municipalities on a fully equal standard with men.

We are very glad to publish this information, with thanks to Miss Tancred, the British representative on the committee.

REPORTS FROM AUXILIARIES.

AUSTRALIA.

South Australian Women's Non-Party Association. Nationality of Married Women.

KEEN disappointment has been experienced in connection with this question. Mr. Duncan-Hughes, M.H.R., had given notice that he would bring forward on September 3, in the Federal House of Representatives, the motion for which we have so long been working in conjunction with other auxiliaries of the Australian Federation. The motion was to be as follows: "That, in the opinion of this House, a British woman should not lose, or be deemed to lose, her nationality by the mere act of marriage with an alien, but that it should be open to her to make a declaration of alienage." On the preceding day a motion was passed that Government business should take precedence of all other, meaning an indefinite postponement of the Nationality motion. Mr. Duncan-Hughes wrote at once to the Association, enclosing copies of the protest he had made, and assuring us that he and others would do their best to bring the matter to the fore. Now the sudden dissolution of Parliament has dashed all our hopes. After the immense amount of work that has been done by the Association in this connection it is hard to resign ourselves to further delay. Nothing more can be done till the election is over and a new session of Parliament begins. Our thanks are due to Mr. Duncan-Hughes for all the practical interest he has devoted to the matter.

Legal Adoption of Children Bill.

In answer to our letter urging that the magistrate, in deciding when legal adoption may take place, should consult two justices, of whom one at least should be a woman, the Attorney-General stated that further amendments would be considered. We therefore arranged an interview with Mr. Birrell, M.P., and asked if he would move the desired amendment. Though unable to promise this, he expressed himself in complete sympathy with the idea embodied in the amendment, and undertook to lay it before the Government.

Women Justices and the Children's Court.

No action having been taken in Parliament to amend the Justices Act so as to enable justices legally to assist the Special Magistrate at the Children's Court, it was decided to move further in the matter and endeavour to get the Act amended during the session if possible. We are deeply interested in this matter, because we feel that in the Children's Court it should be possible for women justices to share in the judgment of the cases.

The Marriage Laws of South Australia were the subject of an interesting report presented to the meeting on September 16 by a special sub-committee appointed some time ago. The present position was reviewed, weaknesses pointed out, and alterations recommended. The law now prevailing is extraordinarily lax in several particulars, and a thoroughly interesting discussion took place over the different points and the manner in which they might be improved. With several alterations and deletions the recommendations were handed back to the sub-committee for a second consideration.

Victoria.

The Victorian Women Citizens' Movement held a deputation to the Home and Territories Department on September 14 to urge that the Government support the principle of Free Choice of Nationality for a Married Woman. Mr. J. Duncan-Hughes, M.H.R., the member in charge of the motion to be brought before Parliament, introduced the deputation, and Mr. Latham, M.H.R., supported it.

New South Wales.

The maiden speech of Miss Preston Stanley, the first woman member of the N.S.W. Parliament, was one to rouse the approval of all her fellow-women. She stressed the importance and value of humanitarian measures, the need for saving the lives of mothers and babies (so much more urgent than any such matter as a 44-hour week), and the social danger of failing to deal adequately with the problem of mental defectives. Miss Preston Stanley

urged that humanitarian principles should be the vital principles of every Government.

A Bill is being introduced by the N.S.W. Government to permit the appointment of women to the Legislative Council. (This body is appointed, not elected.) Mrs. Kate Dwyer, an unsuccessful Labour candidate at the last elections, is regarded as certain to receive an appointment.

The Women's League have moved into more spacious quarters in order to accommodate increased membership and allow for expansion of activities. The Central Council is showing keen interest in Municipal Government, and an effort is being made to secure the return of women on various municipal councils at the approaching elections. Several names have already been endorsed, and others are under consideration.

As an outcome of the election campaign to return Mrs. Jamieson-Williams to Parliament for Greenwich, the Greenwich Political Education League has been formed. It is intended to keep voters in touch with what is being done in the political world, by means of public addresses, educational meetings, etc.

AUSTRIA.

Propaganda for Women Police.

ON the 30th of October the lecture of Commandant Allen, so long expected, arranged by the National Council of Austrian Women and by the Association of Women's Political Interests, took place. It is to be noticed with satisfaction that this lecture has aroused and strengthened the general interest in the question of Women Police. Not only did a numerous audience listen with liveliest attention to the clear and eloquent speech of Commandant Allen, but all the leading papers published long articles and reports, so that persons who did not attend the meeting could read at length authentic facts on the activity of Women Police. It is very important that Commandant Allen got into personal contact with our Police authorities. She was received in the most amiable manner by the Police President Hans Schober, the former Chancellor of Austria, who did not only explain the organisation of the Vienna Police, but also mentioned that only owing to economic reasons it was not possible to engage new forces for the Police, and therefore Women Police could not be considered now.

Commandant Allen visited different institutions of the Police. The prison where the women's department is excited her interest; further, the asylum for homeless women and girls, and the Police Hospital, erected by the Police President Schober, in which, first of all, men who injure their health in the service are nursed with the greatest care, but also all other employees of the Police and their families may be received. At last Commandant Allen looked at the Police Juveniles' Home, where vagrant, forsaken, neglected children are kept, and also those who are sent by the Juveniles' Court, or those who are hard to educate. Very thoroughly was the information given to Commandant Allen in the department against traffic in women and children, our former moral Police. She could state with satisfaction that in this office work is done in a way which realises the most progressive ideas in the work of Women Police. Women and girls are to be tried only by a woman, the investigations are also made by women; finally, a woman probation officer endeavours to procure work and homes for those who can still be saved.

After this first move in propaganda for Women Police, the Austrian Women's organisations will surely do their best to stand up for the demand for Women Police, so that when the time comes to make new engagements possible, the question of Women Police will be considered. The Austrian women are very thankful to Commandant Allen that she inaugurated the propaganda by her visit and lecture.

The First Woman in the List of Counsels.

It is nearly two years since we reported that Dr. Marianne Beth was the first woman who had passed her

law examinations and was admitted as a law candidate. Now she is the first woman put on the list of Counsels. By this she is enabled to carry through the defence in criminal cases. In order to be admitted as a lawyer she has still to work two years in practice. Dr. Beth is, as already reported, not only a law doctor, but also a philosophy doctor. She is the wife of a well-known university professor, and mother of two children.

Foundation of a Hospitality Committee in Vienna.

Some weeks ago Dame Adelaide Livingstone was in Vienna in order to take a share in the foundation of a Hospitality Committee. Many politicians and other official personalities attended this meeting. Lady Livingstone discussed the aim of the organisation, at the same time pointing out the important work of the Union of the League of Nations. The Vienna Hospitality Committee is led by Frau Helene Granitsch.

A Woman's Bill in Parliament.

The woman Member of Parliament, Frau Olga Rudel-Zeynek, for a long time appreciated by the Austrian women as a representative of the people who has a deep understanding of social needs, has introduced a Bill for the regulation of the institution of wet-nurses. This Bill demands a compulsory certification for women who want to take children to nurse, and also a compulsory certification of babies at nurse. These certificates are to be signed by official physicians who also should be enabled to demand an examination of these women and children in hospitals or by specialists. The Bill provides for a fine up to 200 Schilling or imprisonment up to two weeks in cases where the law is disregarded.

A Woman's Distinction.

It was three years ago that in Vienna the organisation of the Junior Red Cross was started. This organisation was carried through by Miss Spencer, who came from America in order to organise our school children for the work of peace and benevolence. Miss Spencer has fulfilled her task so admirably that the President of the State, Dr. Michael Hainisch, has bestowed on her the golden medal for services to the Republic. This is a decoration very seldom awarded.

A Bishop Against Girls' Gymnastic Exercises.

The Bishop of Linz, the capital of Upper Austria, published an official circular in which he objects to girls' gymnastic exercises, and orders, first of all, that the gymnastic exercises must be separate for men and women, and that the lessons in gymnastics can only be given by teachers of the same sex. Bathing dresses are not to be tolerated in gymnastic lessons. Naked exercises are to be forbidden. Girls may do gymnastic exercises only in halls and places where the public is excluded. Show exercises and matches are to be avoided. All people who want the physical education of women must stand against this regulation of the Bishop. Women also must resist the condemnation of show exercises and matches, which in the circular are said to develop an "unwomanly nature." Is it not first of all necessary to fix the fundamental conceptions of ideal womanliness? Besides, the strict Bishop does not seem to know that the women of to-day are forced to work for their living like men, and, therefore, need health and strength, which are so much improved by gymnastic exercises and sports.

GISELA URBAN.

BULGARIA.

THE Nineteenth Congress of the National Union of Bulgarian Women took place in Sofia from the 4th to the 7th October, thirty-six women's societies being represented by 104 delegates. As the meeting was called at a moment when the internal affairs of the country had barely returned to normal, the Congress could not fail to take these matters into account in its work and in the drafting of its resolutions.

In addition to discussion on purely administrative questions, the following reports were read: Women's Part in the Education of the Young; Direction of the Cultural Education of the Bulgarian Peasant Women;

Protection of the Woman Worker; Women's Fight Against Infant Mortality; Bulgarian Women and the Social Problems of the Day; Social-Political Problems. The following resolutions and expressions of opinion resulted:—

That a closer co-operation between family and school in the education of children should be aimed at, through the foundation and encouragement of meetings between parents and teachers—that is, that women should help the teachers to secure the best results from the child's education; that the influence of women should make itself felt in the whole environment of their children; that women should strive against everything which threatens youth physically or morally, and especially against the degradation of the Bulgarian citizen; that women should take part in social and political affairs on equal terms, so that through their co-operation evolution shall proceed on the best lines, and, most important of all, peaceful and cultural work shall be made possible.

With regard to the recent political events in our country, which have caused the Government to introduce the death penalty, our Congress, after expressing its condemnation of all disturbers of the peace and its demand for universal reconciliation, protested against the death penalty and called upon the Government for its repeal.

The Congress also decided to open a fund for the purpose of building a house for the Union. It was also decided that the Union, together with its organ, *Frauen Stimme*, should undertake the formation of a library of books dealing with the woman movement in our own and other countries. In July the Union will celebrate its twenty-fifth birthday.

A new Executive was elected, as follows:—Fr. J. Malinowa, president; Dr. Med. B. Beron, vice-president; Fr. R. Mladenowa, secretary; Fr. Draga. Danailowa, treasurer and foreign correspondent; Fr. D. Iwanowa, editor of the paper; Fr. Karaiwanowa, librarian; Fr. D. Petrowa, Fr. R. Staliska, Fr. E. Tschakalowa, members of committee.

JULIE MALINOFF.
D. DANAILOFF.

GREAT BRITAIN.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

PARLIAMENT has opened again for the last stage of one of the longest sessions that have ever been held, and will be sitting until December 18. In spite of the short time at their disposal, the House of Commons will be discussing several measures of special interest to women. The Legitimacy Bill and the Married Women (Torts) Bill will be coming up the first week.

The Legitimacy Bill has been long familiar to us, as it is among those measures which have been in Parliament year after year, but it has never been able to complete its career, owing to the paralysing effect of successive general elections. The Bill, it will be remembered, provides for the legitimation of a child on the marriage of its parents, except in those cases where at the time of the child's birth either or both of its parents were married to a third person. Having already passed through the House of Lords, it will meet with no opposition in the Lower House. The Married Women (Torts) Bill, which has also been sent down by the Upper Chamber, is a simple little Bill which will remove one of the inequalities in the law between husband and wife which bears hardly on the husband. It removes the liability for damages which has hitherto devolved upon a husband for the "torts" or civil wrongs for which his wife is guilty. When this Bill becomes law, a man run over, for instance, by a married woman with no money of her own, will find himself exactly in the same position as if he were run over by any other impecunious person—i.e., that he will have to content himself with no damages, being no longer able to claim them against her husband. So far so good, but, as Lord Buckmaster pointed out when the Bill was before the House of Lords last summer, what is required is a comprehensive Bill removing not this alone, but also the other anomalies in the law which arise from the wife's position under coverture. Why, indeed, should this

grievance of the husband's alone be removed, while the far larger number of grievances felt by the wife, such as those relating to her nationality, domicile, and her right to make contracts, remain?

The Lead Paint (Protection Against Poisoning) Bill will, it is expected, be discussed some time during the next fortnight. This Bill incorporates recommendations made by the International Labour Organisation, and gives the Home Secretary power to make regulations with regard to precautions in the use of lead paint for workers. It also prohibits women and young persons from using lead paint at all. The N.U.S.E.C. is protesting against this prohibition being extended to women. Figures prove that the disastrous consequences often felt by the children of parents suffering from this disease are equally great whether the father or mother is affected by lead poisoning; in fact, the figures tend to show that women are less susceptible to this form of poisoning than men. Any restriction of women's work naturally limits the field of their employment, and is greatly to be deplored unless a very clear case can be made out in favour of its being imposed.

Equal Franchise Campaign.

A large number of women organisations are combining, on the instance of the Six Point Group, to consider holding a joint demonstration in Hyde Park during the summer in favour of franchise for women on the same terms as for men. Should this materialise it will feel like old times to all those suffrage workers who remember the days when processions and demonstrations were a very familiar occupation.

Lunacy Reform.

The N.U.S.E.C. is sending in evidence to the Royal Commission on Lunacy and Mental Disorder on the following points:—

1. The need for more women on the Board of Control (which is responsible for all certified insane people).
2. The need for the appointment of women doctors in asylums where there are women patients.
3. The need for the appointment of more women to the visiting committees of lunatic asylums.

Local Government Elections.

On the whole, the number of women elected was satisfactory in comparison with former years, 140 women having been elected to Councils in London alone, and six women in different parts of the country having been elected as mayors.

Women Police.

On December 8, Miss Ellen Wilkinson will be moving, under the Ten Minutes Rule, a Bill which will make it incumbent on the Watch Committees of the larger towns to appoint women police in their areas. It is unlikely that a Bill introduced in this way will have much chance of passing into law, but from the point of view of propaganda it will be very valuable. The N.U.S.E.C. is hoping to take a deputation to the Home Secretary before the Bill comes up. EVA M. HUBBACK.

ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE.

We are very glad to be able to report that our three members who were candidates at the recent municipal elections—Mrs. V. M. Crawford (Labour), St. Marylebone; Mrs. Russell, J.P. (Ratepayers' Association), Hampstead; and Miss Forty, J.P. (Labour), Leicester—were all successful.

From now until Christmas we shall be taking part in three bazaars, the results of which we hope will give us financial help for our campaign in the New Year. Equal franchise will be our first concern.

HUNGARY. Woman Suffrage.

WHEN this year in August our latest Suffrage Bill became law and with it woman suffrage for the first time became part of the Hungarian constitution, this fact passed almost unnoticed. No Te Deums were arranged. We, who fought for 20 years for our suffrage,

had imagined that it would be our privilege to celebrate this event. But no cablegrams or wireless messages carried the news all round the world to our dear comrades, that they might rejoice with us, or, should they be in need of encouragement, take heart and hope for their own ultimate victory.

Times have changed since 1905, when we began our struggle, and we have changed with them, but only the reactionary spirit of our Government has not changed, or, if it has, it has but grown stronger. The fact is that Hungarian women had practised their suffrage several times, at the order of Ministers, for the two National Assemblies as well as in local elections before becoming full-grown and enfranchised citizens, and even in much greater numbers than those entitled under the new laws. That is why this event, far from raising emotions, caused rather disappointment and dissatisfaction. It fell very short indeed of our ambitious aim: equal rights for women. Considered from the perspective of general politics the Government's attitude concerning women suffrage was not surprising. The whole law tramples on citizens' rights and self-respect. It orders open voting—a thing long since unknown in Europe—and grants the secret ballot only in a few cities and larger towns; it threatens Members of Parliament with loss of their mandates for reasons which from an international point of view are very surprising and incomprehensible. No genuinely progressive measure can be expected from a spirit which created such a constitutional basis for Hungary, a country which was always known to love its own freedom and respect that of other people. In recent times several suffrage laws passed in Parliament, some of which were not put into force at all. Let us hope that this one will be equally ephemeral and will soon be succeeded by an adult suffrage law for both sexes. We shall avail ourselves of every occasion to work for it and hasten its advent.

Protection of Children.

We reported our activities concerning the restrictions of child labour in the last winter season. We presented the resolutions of our meeting to the two Ministers concerned. We asked the Minister of Education to prepare measures to prolong compulsory education till the age of 14. We begged the Minister of Commerce to extend to the factories the prohibitory regulations valid for private masters—i.e., no child under fourteen should be allowed to work without explicit permission and a certificate of health from the district physician. This request of ours was granted, and already in spring the Minister of Commerce, in a very gracious letter, promised to issue this order. We are still looking forward to this and further progress in the protection of child labour.

Our Vice-President, Irma de Szirmay, represented our Society at a conference invited by the Minister of Public Health to discuss the regulations for the sale of spirits in inns, restaurants, etc. She protested against the sale of liquors to children under the age of 20, even if they come to fetch it. This amendment was accepted, but since the Minister found that another conference with innkeepers was necessary, the amendment of our Vice-President was defeated.

In an application to the Minister for Public Health we begged for the prohibition of the general sale of caustic soda, which causes every year cruel suffering and death to many hundreds of unfortunate children neglected by their parents. As yet we have had no answer to this.

Education.

Our opening lecture of this season was held on the 9th of October by an eminent pedagogue, Mrs. Martha M. Nemes, who reported on the new principles of modern pedagogy presented to the Congress of Educationists convened last Summer in Heidelberg, Germany. A great number of interested parents and pedagogues listened with sincere admiration and great pleasure to the zealous, efficient and scientific teacher, the enthusiastic and self-sacrificing headmistress and owner of an excellent elementary reform school. She earned the gratitude of our committee and audience with a concise and clear explanation of all the new methods and experiments which were brought before the Heidelberg Congress, and thereby gave some compensation to those who could not attend the Congress.

NEWS OF THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

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A WORLD TOURIST. (Continued.)

By MISS ETHEL STEVENSON.

WE said goodbye very regretfully to lovely, picturesque Japan and crossed the straits to Korea. There at Seoul, we had a very delightful welcome at the railway station by a deputation from our Association. Korean girls are very enterprising, and having heard of the Y.W.C.A. some three years ago from two students who went as delegates to the student conference in Peking, they applied at once to the World's Committee for membership and help. As no one could be sent immediately they decided to start on their own, and have, in this short time, succeeded in enrolling some two thousand girls and women throughout the country, and have raised the greater part of the expense for one of their number to accept a scholarship in the New York Training School, and all this by themselves. They were very anxious to entertain us in Korean style, and asked Marchioness Pak to give a luncheon for us. She is a delightful woman, wife of Marquis Pak, one of the old aristocracy of Korea, and they live now very quietly just outside one of the beautiful gates of Seoul, and are both keenly interested in everything that may help girls. Our Korean members had arranged everything most perfectly, and two of their number came to fetch us, and we were driven in jinrickshas to the house where we were received by Marchioness Pak and her daughter-in-law, the former in a long flowing skirt of the finest pale blue linen, with a tiny jacket of maize-coloured brocade tied with crimson ribbon, and the latter in a brighter blue skirt and a short white jacket. The ordinary dress in Korea is white, a rather full white skirt, very short white jacket which is, in the case of a young married woman, sometimes fastened with cherry-coloured ribbons. Seven of our members in their white dresses were present at the luncheon party, and very interesting girls they were, with such nice, clever faces. We sat on a heated floor, for in Korea they have solved the problem of central heating by lighting fires from the outside of the houses, and flues go under the stone floors, making it very comfortable in the cold weather. Of course, we took off our shoes before entering the house at all, and in this case the floor was covered with beautiful oil parchment, giving the effect of a wonderfully polished parquet floor. Those of us who could, sat in the Korean fashion, squatting back on our heels; those who could not put their feet out under the low table. There were about ten courses, everything excellent and most beautifully cooked, and served by two little Korean maids, mostly on their knees. Some of the dishes, the Marchioness told us, she had prepared herself, and, indeed, the preparation of the meal must have taken a great deal of time, so many things were delicately cut up and prettily decorated. After lunch we went into the pretty garden, for Koreans are very fond of flowers, and met the Marquis and later were driven in our 'rickshas

to the Association room, which is really one of the old summer houses of the late Queen of Korea. It is a most picturesque and really beautiful little building with a pretty strip of garden, but these girls do not think it is good enough, and are very anxious to have a building of their own. They have an excellent little company of Girl Reserves, which Countess Elsa Bernadotte inspected, besides the ordinary membership.

Seoul was the only Association in Korea which we were able to visit, as we had to go on to Manchuria. The beautiful mountains of Korea followed us almost all the way to Moukden, though that city itself lies in the centre of a huge, flat plain, and as we saw it in the end of October, it seemed to be all one dull, mud colour, but in the spring it must be beautiful with its miles of waving corn. Here, too, we found a group of Association members. Right inside the Chinese city, not far from the palace of Chang-Tso-Lin, the great war lord of North China, we entered a little courtyard through a door in the wall, and were introduced to the Chinese Secretary. An interesting club had been organised where young husbands and wives came together and discussed all kinds of subjects connected with home life. This was apparently meeting a real need, and Miss Hotchkiss found it was being very well attended.

Tientsin lies several miles from the mouth of the Pei-Ho river, and is a curiously European-looking city according to one's first impression, the Chinese city lying some distance from the landing stage. Our Association is close to a very beautiful Confucian temple right in the heart of the Chinese city. We found it full of Chinese girls, and some older women too, busily engaged in the various classes, and later, on the Day of Prayer for Students, when I paid another visit, quite a large number of students gathered for prayer and intercession, in spite of the fact that Tientsin was in a very unsettled state owing to the fighting which just then was close to its walls. It was pathetic to see the long strings of 'rickshas and carts coming in from the country round, heaped with the possessions of poor people who hoped to find safer refuge in the city. During part of our stay Miss Wells felt some anxiety about the safety of the Chinese Secretaries, and made them come and sleep for two or three nights with her. By sharing beds and spreading mattresses on the floor six or eight people managed to fit into rooms intended to hold three. That is an everyday occurrence in the life of an Association Secretary, not only in disturbed China but in other more settled countries, too.

From Tientsin we took train to Peking, in ordinary times a journey of two or three hours, and we were fortunate to be able to accomplish it in ten. Some of our friends took as much as thirty-six, owing to the disturbed state of the country. It is almost impossible in a short article to describe the beauty and the fascination of that wonderful city. Its streets had a never-failing interest, trains of camels from Mongolia; carriages with their

wealthy merchants or noblemen inside and a runner in front; jinrickshas drawn by blue-clad, often half-naked, coolies; wheelbarrows, creaking along with their heavy loads as they have creaked for centuries, for the noise helps to ward off the evil spirits; rough carters in their padded coats sitting on the shafts of their carts, the nail-studded wheels caked with ancient mud; processions of light-coloured donkeys with packs of merchandise swinging from each side; Chinese carts with their blue hoods, from which peeps perhaps a Manchurian lady with a high, black headdress decorated with flowers; funeral processions, with their brilliant silk embroideries; through them all and running in and out, numberless blue-clad figures, men carrying heavy loads slung from bamboos across their shoulders, others carrying their wares in the same way—all this made a picture which I was never tired of watching, and over it all was the glorious clear sunshine sparkling on the green and yellow and blue tiled roofs, which are Peking's glory, while beyond the walls, with their huge and beautiful gates, lie the Western hills, blue and amethyst and violet in the clear atmosphere, forming a great semi-circle round the city. Our Association building is a delightful Chinese house, which you enter from the narrow street as usual through a door in the wall. This opens on to a courtyard, with another inner courtyard beyond, and round this are the rooms which are used for classes and meetings of all kinds, and where I had the pleasure of meeting some of the committee members, delightful Chinese ladies, who were holding one of their committee meetings. Our secretaries also live in a Chinese house, one-storeyed, so that their bedrooms open off the courtyard, and, as is usual in China, the entrance gate opens directly on to a blank wall, you have to turn left or right to get into the courtyard. This is the Chinese way of cheating the evil spirits, they can never go round corners, so that if they are faced with a wall, having to turn left or right, they miss the entrance to the house!

Passing over our visit to Chefoo and Shanghai, we come



Committee Members and Secretaries, Hong Kong.

to our journey up the Yangtze, some 800 miles to Hangkew and Wu-chang, twin cities lying on opposite banks of the river. The Association is in Wu-chang, a purely Chinese city, with narrow, crowded streets, just wide enough for two rickshas to pass, and shops on each side with their open fronts, so that you can see all that goes on, while the shopowner often stands in front singing his wares in a curious sing-song. The Association there works chiefly among students and schoolgirls, of whom there are a very large number, and has its rooms off a narrow little alley. There is accommodation for some of the students to live there with the secretary, and these girls began to realise their responsibility for the families living in their immediate neighbourhood, and started a kindergarten for the children living in the alley. Such a dear little group they were as I saw them one afternoon, the only time they can meet, as the girls are busy the rest of the day; they sang their songs so lustily and with such real happiness that one realised what a joy this school was to them. Miss Liu, the Chinese secretary, was beginning to be recognised by the whole street as the dispenser of justice, and all the

children brought their quarrels to her to settle! Miss Mackinnon was carrying on a big work among the students in the various colleges, some of whom I visited.

On the way back to Shanghai I stopped at Nanking, where there is a big Women's University, a delightful place, and where our Association has a good many members, students and others. Nanking lies about five miles from the river, and in driving through the gate we were asked to show our cards. Miss Stroh, our Secretary, handed hers to the policeman in charge, and when he saw it he called out cheerfully, "I, too, go to a Bible class," and let us pass. He probably attended one of the many classes held by the Y.M.C.A., who have work in that old city, which at one time was the capital of China.

From Shanghai I took a boat down to South China, visiting Amoy and Swatow, where as yet we have no Associations, and finally reached Hongkong, with its beautiful harbour, one of the most beautiful places I have seen. Here we have a flourishing Association, which has done a great deal of welfare work, as well as reaching the students. Here, too, members have begun to realise their responsibility for others, and the "Pioneer Club" has opened a night school for girls in factories and servant girls, who are quite illiterate, and five nights a week they teach them to read and write.

From Hongkong I went up to Canton and spent a day with our Association there. It was just before Christmas, and some of the younger members were giving an entertainment. The hall was prettily decorated with Chinese lanterns and coloured paper, and the children acted the story of Bethlehem in the most realistic manner, and were listened to with the greatest interest by their parents and a great number of visitors, to whom the story was quite new. It is sad to think of the disturbances which have happened since, but the Chinese secretaries are very well able to carry on, and I do not think that work there would suffer as much as in other places by the removal of a foreign secretary.

(To be concluded.)

WHERE THE GIRLS OF EIGHT RACES MEET.

IN Honolulu, the Queen City of the Pacific, the work of the Y.W.C.A. is carried out in two divisions. In the first place there is the central building in the heart of the town, where work is carried on for the English-speaking people of whatever race. Secondly, there is the International Y.W.C.A., which is situated in that part of the town where most of the people of Asiatic parentage live, and it exists principally for those girls and women whose knowledge of the English-speaking language and of European customs is limited.

The population of Honolulu is made up of eight different races. There are the native Hawaiians, a Polynesian people, first cousins to the Maoris; then there are Chinese, Japanese, Koreans, Filipinos, Portuguese, and Porto Ricans. The total white population is very small in proportion to the coloured population. The Hawaiian Islands are a territory of the United States, so that the administration is in American hands. When there are people of so many different nationalities living

in the same town, it would be natural to suppose that there would be a certain amount of racial ill-feeling. As a matter of fact, there is none at all. All children born on American territory are counted as American citizens, no matter what their parentage may be.

But although there is no racial friction in Hawaii there are other difficulties due to race which must be met. Looking at it from the women's angle, one outstanding problem of the Asiatic population is this: that in many cases the mothers of these young Asiatic American citizens cannot speak English, and do not understand western ways of living. They have, therefore, little chance of keeping in touch with their children as they grow up in the American atmosphere. One of the big pieces of work done by the International Y.W.C.A. is to bridge the gulf between mothers and children by holding classes in the English language and in such subjects as housewifery, nutrition, cooking and hygiene for the benefit of the mothers. Instruction is given in English, with the aid of an interpreter when necessary. The classes are usually held in national groups; e.g., Chinese, Japanese, Koreans, etc., and in many cases the instructresses are girls and women of the same nationality as the group they teach, who give their time and energy voluntarily.

The care of children plays a very important part in the international Y.W.C.A. programme. A little while ago a very interesting experiment was in progress. The Association had made a model cottage on wheels, which was taken through all the back streets of the town, being used as a demonstration centre for showing the women the best methods of home craft. It was a huge success. Whenever a demonstration was held, not only did all the women and children turn out to see it, but it was also an object of very real interest to their men folk. In one case where a lecture on food values was being given, it happened that a couple of Japanese sailors in port for a few days happened to stroll in. They were so interested that not only did they stay till the end of the lecture, but they asked the teacher if she would go down with them to their ship that evening and repeat the lecture to their fellow-sailors there because, they said, "We want our women in Japan to know about these things too." The teacher consented, and she had a most enthralled audience of some sixty Japanese sailors, most of whom took notes of her lecture to take back to their wives in Japan.

To the visitor perhaps the most attractive feature about the International Y.W.C.A. is the picturesque effect of the different nationalities in costume. Quite a large number of the older Chinese, Japanese and Korean women still wear their national dress, though most of the younger people have adopted European dress. The dainty colourings of the native dresses have a charm and effect as they fit over the rich green lawns under the glorious tropical trees. Perhaps the prettiest costume of all is the Filipino. The skirt is a piece of gay brocade or silk with a "wrapped-round effect," while the bodice is lace, the sleeves and collar wired out, which gives a kind of mediæval effect. The whole costume is suggestive of the Spanish ancestry of the people.—Reprinted from *Every Girl*, the magazine of the Y.W.C.A. of Auckland, New Zealand.

A VISIT TO HUNGARY.

(Concluded.)

By BARONESS OLGA MEYENDORFF.

AFTER the Conference I started on my tour through the provinces, accompanied by Miss Mándoki, one of the young secretaries, who proved to be a very nice travelling companion. I had not longer than a week to give to this tour, and therefore it proved to be rather a tiring one, for I had to cross the country in all directions, travelling many hours at a stretch, and sometimes only staying for half a day at a place, having to meet and speak to two or three different groups.

Kecksmet has besides a General Association a Student Association, the only one of its kind in Hungary, which has been founded and developed by Dr. Gabrielle Victor in the Teachers' Seminary, in which she is one of the teachers. It was interesting to be present at a little

graduation ceremony arranged by the Association for the class going out this year. The principle of self-government is observed in this Association. I saw it from the way in which reports were read by last year's office-bearers and by the way in which new officers were elected. The Pastor and Dr. Gabrielle Victor made speeches, in which it was pointed out to the outgoing students that they were the leaders to come in the towns or villages where they would be teachers, and the girls seemed much moved. I was asked to speak to them about the world-wide character of the Association, which they seemed to appreciate. This meeting was a short one, merely lasting two hours, while the next one at the General Association lasted five hours, though some part of that time was spent in feasting.

My next visit was paid to Miskolc, a large prosperous town near the Czecho-Slovakian frontier. It was a very short one—I arrived at 4 p.m. and had to leave next morning at 4; but in spite of this I got a strong impression of the vitality and promise of the work there, and especially of the charming people, both women and men, who are willing to put their best efforts into the development of the Association. The work is of quite recent date, it was started last January only, but has grown very quickly, so that the members are already numbered by hundreds. The pastor and his wife are the leading spirits, and the latter was the most conspicuous of the Hungarian students who attended the Visegrád course. In the course of these few months quite a varied Association programme has been set going, a camp site has been secured, and enthusiasm runs high; perhaps the most unusual feature is that there seems to be no lack of money! Meetings are held in a large girls' school, and there is an eager staff of young volunteer workers. After giving an address to a large crowd in the school gymnasium, I spent the evening at the house of one of the presidents of the Association—they prefer to have several of them—who had invited the other committee members to come and meet me.

Haiduböszermenye is the impossible name of the place I visited next. Here, too, the pastor is the heart and soul of the work, an eager man, whom I had already met at the conference in Czegled, where he had interviewed me, because he wanted to put up a poster in his town announcing the lecture which I was to hold in the cinema. It came off according to the programme, and seemed to be much appreciated, as lectures illustrated by slides always are, but besides speaking to one or two ladies and a little group of eager Girl Guides, I could hardly gain an impression of the possibilities for work this town affords, for my visit was not longer than the one at Miskolc. I was told, however, that money had been collected to put up a building, which was to be shared with the Y.M.C.A., and which they hoped to see completed by next year. I was invited most cordially to come and help inaugurate it. To have a building, or at least a few rooms of their own, is the longing of every Association in Hungary, for most Associations are guests in the buildings, which belong to the church. One of the Associations I visited has just seen this longing realised. It is the one at Pest-Erszbeth, an industrial village near Buda-Pest. Two very modest rooms have been built as an addition to a community building, in which the meetings of the girls have been held until now. These rooms have been put up at considerable sacrifice, for all the money for their building has been collected by the members, who are nearly all working girls. They were very proud of being able to serve tea in their own rooms before we went to the large common room where I gave my lecture. Here, like everywhere else, the girls presented me with a bunch of lovely flowers.

There still remains to mention among the places which I visited a prosperous village named Dereczke. Here the Association work had a special interest for me, because it was entirely different from any of the other types I had seen. It was a real peasant girls' Association. The work is done by two young school teachers under the supervision of the pastor. I was struck by the extreme youth of the members; none of the girls were older than sixteen, and I was told that this is so because they marry very early. After being married they pass into the Women's Association, which is a very active group, look-

ing to the pastor for advice and spiritual guidance, but carrying out many useful activities independently. I gave a lantern lecture at the village cinema, where all the village attended, and then I met the girls' group privately. I spoke to them, and was very much interested, because they reminded me so much in every way of the Estonian village girls among whom I used to work in old times. The racial and linguistic relationship among the Hungarians and the Estonians is rather a close one, and I thought it particularly noticeable in this village. Afterwards I was honoured by a deputation from the Women's Association. The women first sang a hymn, then the president took my hand in both hers and made a beautiful little speech, which expressed gratitude for my visit, and which I could understand perfectly well, though it was in Hungarian, because it was so expressive. After I had answered with a few appropriate words, they all humbly kissed my hand, again reminding me of the dear old Estonian women of our villages in Estonia.

I was very much interested in a school for handweaving which the Association had started at Dereczke. The instructress showed me how the looms were worked, and produced some very pretty cotton material in various colours and designs. They only had two looms at present, but a third one had been ordered, and I was told that if they had a larger workroom at their disposal they would have several more, for the girls cannot weave enough to satisfy the demand, and the parents are very willing that their daughters should take up this work rather than agriculture, because it is easier and more remunerative in the long run, not being a seasonal work like agriculture.



Girls' Camp, Czecho-Slovakia.

THE ASSOCIATION IN CZECHO-SLOVAKIA.

EARLY this summer at a Girls' Conference held in Prerov nad Labem (Bohemia) many proposals were formulated and carried with a view to developing the work along new lines. Many of these concern the education of the membership; for instance, it was decided to make some definite plan for a kind of seminary for girls who have signed the Y.W.C.A. basis, led by prominent religious teachers; also to have a systematic programme of moral education, to give the girls an opportunity to realise the ideal of the new woman as a religious, courageous, morally responsible and independent being. Further, it was agreed to reorganise the membership system. For the future, a girl wishing to become a full member must be able to answer questions concerning the World's Y.W.C.A. and the relation of her national Association to it; the basis and the duties of members; the organisation and location of the different centres in Czecho-Slovakia. A wider aspect of education was reached in the decision to organise excursions from Czecho-Slovakia to other countries in order to study the Associations in foreign countries and to strengthen the friendly ties between the women of various countries.

A good deal of discussion centred round the need of an Association periodical, in order to create a bond between the headquarters in Prague and the country branches.

During the summer four camps were held, receiving respectively 300, 165, 65, and 300 girls during the holiday period. Three were for girls of all classes; the smallest was chiefly for poor Moravian students, most of whom could afford to pay little or nothing for their holiday.

The work of the emigration department of the Association has been almost entirely taken over by the workers of the International Migration Service. As a matter of fact, owing to the present restriction of immigration into America, the number of emigrants from Czecho-Slovakia has decreased very considerably. Meantime the chairman of the Y.W.C.A. Emigration Committee is spending a few months in the United States, studying the immigration problem from the American angle.

The offices of the Prague Association are in Prague III., while the club rooms are in Prague I. Here there is a dining-room, always crowded in the middle of the day, a library and reading-room, with Czech, German, French, and English books, and a dormitory. There are also club-rooms in Prague VII.; these are specially for the use of industrial girls. Evening classes are very popular, and cover such a range of subjects as foreign languages, dressmaking, millinery, bookbinding, hair-dressing, and embroidery. Then in the poorest quarter of the city, Prague XI., there is still another club and a small hostel.

So much for the work in Prague. In Hradec Kralove (North Bohemia) the Y.W.C.A. has rooms in the new City Social Welfare Centre. The Association rooms consist of a prettily furnished club-room, a dining-room, and dormitory. All the usual club activities in this place are in a very flourishing condition.

In Brno (the capital of Moravia) the Y.W.C.A. has rooms in a disused school. Two of the biggest classrooms are now clubrooms, and are a favourite resort of a large number of schoolgirls, who, having homes in the country, and making the journey daily by train, need such a place in which to spend the lunch hour and the time after school before the departure of their trains.

The Association in Bratislava (Slovakia) is building a new headquarters, which it is hoped will be opened in January. This is an event eagerly anticipated by hundreds of girls for whom nothing has yet been done owing to lack of accommodation.

WORLD'S Y.W.C.A. PUBLICATIONS.

The publications of the World's office during 1925 have included:—

DIRECTORY of principal centres throughout the world. 1s. 2d.

UNITY IN DIVERSITY: Some aspects of the work of the Y.W.C.A. throughout the world, as seen by leaders of different countries. 1s. 3d.

VOCATION ET PREPARATION. The translation of a chapter of the above prepared by the Training Committee of the World's Y.W.C.A. 3d.

Other recent publications are:—
A STUDY OF THE WORLD'S Y.W.C.A. 2s. 6d.
Outline for discussion of the above. 2d.

Young People's Group.

The work of our Young People's Group has also begun with a short course by Otto Salgó on the causes of war, and we are looking forward to lively discussions and other lectures from the Group.

Miss Emily Leaf and Mademoiselle Stes each granted them an address. The latter gave them a short report of the work for the emancipation of Turkish women.

Winter Programme of Lectures.

An enquête on the International Problems of Public Economics is planned by our committee, and we hope to gain some prominent scholars to this end. We hope to be able to give a final programme of this course of lectures in our next month's report.

EUGENIE MISKOLCZY MELLER.

INDIA.

Woman Suffrage for All India.

IN our March issue of this year we noted with satisfaction that the Majority Report of the Reforms Enquiry Committee had included resolutions in favour of the removal of the sex disqualification for the franchise throughout India. It also included a recommendation that even women in places which would not ordinarily come in under this rule through a vote of the Legislative Council—namely, the women of the Delhi and Ajmere-Merwar constituencies,—should become eligible for the suffrage by the passing of a resolution in the Assembly. The report also recommended that "the bar against women being elected or nominated as members of either Chamber of the Indian Legislature or of the Provincial Councils should be removable by the passing of resolutions in the Chambers and the Councils." Sir Alexander Muddiman has this month brought these matters one stage nearer success. He moved a resolution in the Assembly to find out whether the Assembly were in favour of the recommendations of the report regarding woman suffrage. The vote in its favour then taken was unanimous, which is a matter for congratulation. Sir A. Muddiman said that before it was given effect to the rules connected with elections, etc., would have to be altered, and that will take time, but the conferring of the vote on all qualified women in India and the recognition of their right of entry to the Legislature is assured. This is very good news.

NOTES FROM IRELAND.

Belfast Women's Advisory Council.

THE most important event of the last few months has been the introduction and rapid passage into law of the Widows and Orphans Contributory Pensions Act. Framed on the British model, it is far from a satisfactory measure. Rates of allowances are inadequate, and there will be large numbers of widows with dependent children outside its scope, yet the measure does represent a real step in advance. It is an official recognition for the first time that the widow with dependent children is an object, not for charity, or for help from the Poor Law, but for State provision. As to those who do come within its scope, the numbers of letters received by the Advisory Council from poor widows is evidence that the help proposed under the measure, though inadequate, is real. I quote from a typical example of these letters: "I beg your pardon for troubling you, only I recently seen a letter you put in the paper very kindly, concerning widow woman's penshins. It was cut out and given to me by another widow woman. She said I could write to you and see what you would say. They were tears in her eyes as she did so. Well, I see too in the papers a public notice that all the widow women in England and Scotland is getting it. I am a poor desolate widow myself. I have no means to live on. I am trying to keep a house, and I have nothing, simply nothing. Please let me know if there are any prospect of it coming here soon, or could you get it from the Imperial Parliament here? I sincerely hope that the widow woman's Penshin will soon come here, it will be a great relief, and the means of keeping

poor desolate widows in a home. There's no sewing or sprigging to be got in the country now, the like of what there used to be."

The "penshins" will come on January 5, and this widow woman will be less desolate. But the sprigging and sewing are well nigh things of the past, with the present depression in the linen trade. A sad comment on this is furnished by the rise in the figures of maternal mortality. The figures for 1922 were 5.86 per thousand births. For 1923 they are 6.05 per thousand births. The infant mortality figures, on the other hand, show an improvement, the 1923 figure being 76 per thousand against an average for the last ten years of 95 per thousand. The moral, which applies to North and South equally, was set out by Dr. Ella Webb, O.B.E., one of the leading Child Welfare workers in Dublin. In describing a recent effort to organise dinners for expectant mothers, she referred to the uselessness of giving food at home in these cases. Knowing that mothers cannot be got to take food themselves while the children are hungry, the helpers insist on the dinner provided for the mothers being eaten on the premises. Unless you actually put the food down the woman's throat, it will be taken away for the children.

The decrease in infant mortality, in spite of the general distress resulting from unemployment, is gratifying evidence as to the value of the Child Welfare work. In this connection it is interesting to note that the increase in ante-natal expenditure, asked for by a deputation from the Advisory Council to the Belfast Corporation in February last, has now been sanctioned, and the ante-natal work in Belfast will be largely increased in consequence.

The National Council for Women in Ireland, the National Auxiliary for the I.W.S.A., is engaged in drafting a report on the figures of maternal mortality in the Irish Free State and in Northern Ireland, which will be submitted to the Standing Committee during the May Congress.

The work of the Advisory Council has borne fruit in other directions. As a result of pressure, two women magistrates have been appointed to Armagh gaol, the principal woman's prison in Northern Ireland. A woman factory inspector for Northern Ireland has also been appointed during the last year. What will the women's organisations of, say, fifty years hence think of the fact that pressure was necessary to effect these things?

DORA MELLONE,

Hon. Press Sec., Belfast Women's Advisory Council.

NOTES FROM NEW ZEALAND.

THE session has just come to an end. It has not been unfruitful as a feminist year. Besides an increase of half a crown weekly to the old-age pension, it has witnessed the passing of three useful bills. By amendment of the National Provident Fund Act of 1910 a long-standing grievance is removed by providing a retiring allowance for hospital nurses and other employees of a Hospital Board who choose that form of provision for age. The National Provident Fund is an excellent form of national insurance open to any contributors who keep up the required payments till the appointed date of withdrawal. This pension is now secured to hospital nurses, since Hospital Boards are now required to contribute on their behalf under the National Provident Scheme. The women's societies made efforts to have midwives included in the Act, and deep disappointment was felt when they were finally left out.

Following on this extension of benefit to hospital nurses is the restrictive principle of the Nurses and Midwives Registration Act, shutting out irregular or partially-trained women from nursing and maternity work. Under this Act, a Nurses and Midwives Registration Board is set up, consisting of the Director-General of Health, the Director of the Division of Nursing, a registered medical practitioner, appointed by the Minister of Health, and two other persons, one a registered nurse and the other a registered midwife appointed on the recommendation of the New Zealand Trained Nurses'

Association or other society approved by the Minister. No woman may describe herself as a registered nurse, maternity nurse, or midwife who has not been regularly trained in a State Hospital or a State Maternity Home, nor may any unregistered person act in a maternity case, save in emergency. This Act, though aiming to reduce maternal mortality, has been strongly criticised in certain quarters as placing the motherhood of the community too much under the direction of men doctors, and tending to force patients into maternity hospitals who otherwise would be attended in their own homes by kindly and capable, though unregistered, midwives.

In this connection we may note with satisfaction the previous innovation this year of ante-natal clinics for treatment and advice. These clinics, not yet all fully established, are to be directed by Dr. Elaine Gurr, a New Zealand medical woman.

The third and greatest of the three Bills before-mentioned is the Child Welfare Act, carried through by the Minister for Education, who is also the Minister for Justice. It deals comprehensively with the maintenance, care and control of children under the care of the State, and the protection and training of indigent, neglected or delinquent children. "Child" means generally a person under sixteen. Under this Act is created the Child Welfare Branch of the Education Department, directed by a special Superintendent and Deputy-Superintendent. Besides institutions already existing for such wards of the State, there will now be established such others as temporary Receiving Homes, Probation Homes, Training Farms, Training Schools, and Convalescent Homes, all institutions to be widely and thoroughly inspected. Under ordinary circumstances, institutional life is only temporary, a boarding-out system under adequate supervision being preferred. The Superintendent will, in normal cases, discharge all young persons at twenty-one, and may do so earlier, if judged best. In the case of moral degenerates or others to whom discharge would be dangerous, the Superintendent may apply to a magistrate of a Children's Court for an order extending detention for four years longer, this order to be renewed for periods of four years as it may be found necessary, the inmate to have Counsel and a hearing before such order is granted. (This clause meets a long-expressed demand of our women, as eliminating in time the present danger of degenerates left uncontrolled.) The Governor-General will set up Children's Courts throughout the country, each under a specially appointed stipendiary magistrate, with whom shall be associated one or more persons of either sex, appointed for their fitness and experience. (The Women's Societies strove hard for the appointment of a woman Associate with the status of a J.P.) The premises of the Children's Court, wherever possible, are to be separate from the premises of any other Court. In these Children's Courts will be tried all cases dealing with children or offences against them. No persons will be admitted to such Courts save those connected with the case, related to the child, or themselves officers of the Child Welfare Department or other accredited societies for social welfare. No reports will be published of proceedings, and the greatest secrecy as to the names of children and their parents or guardians will be maintained. Another merciful provision is that empowering an ordinary Court, Supreme or other, to direct the trial of an alleged misdemeanant between sixteen and eighteen to be transferred to a Children's Court. No child is now required to give evidence on oath. Inmates of institutions may be paid wages, such wages, deducting pocket-money, to be held by the Superintendent in the Post Office Savings Bank, to be paid on discharge or prior to discharge, or at such times as may be deemed best for the young person. A hotly contested clause was that providing for notification of every illegitimate birth to a Child Welfare officer, who shall satisfy himself as to the circumstances of mother and child and whether removal of the latter to State care would be desirable in its interest—these inquiries to be conducted with secrecy under heavy penalties. Nothing in this Act superseded the working of the Borstal Institutions already established. It will be confessed, we think, that nowhere has Child Welfare been better codified than in this Act.

I cannot refrain from quoting another instance of advanced legality, this time in a recent judgment of the Appeal Court. A man of considerable means was the father of an illegitimate female child. Subsequently he married the mother before the birth of another baby, a boy, but died before the Legitimation Act of 1921. The mother, deeming the Act retrospective, registered the legitimacy of the daughter herself. The Public Trustee questioned the validity of her action, no names being published, and the Appeal Court has upheld the legitimacy of the girl.

An innovation is recorded in the appointment of a woman, Miss Sutherland, as an officer in the Forest Department.

The annual Conference of the National Council of Women was held at Hamilton last month. Mrs. C. A. Fraer and Miss Amy Kane (retiring President) gave interesting accounts of the Quinquennial Congress in Washington, and an amount of helpful discussion followed. The new Dominion President is Mrs. Cook of Auckland.

It is disappointing to have to record that only one woman stands for Parliament this year. But that lady, Miss Ellen Melville, barrister and town councillor of Auckland, is the official candidate for the present Government in her electorate.

Women are working with more thoroughness than ever before for Prohibition. The result will be cabled home ere these notes are read there. JESSIE MACKAY.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

THE winter programme of the National League of Women Voters had an auspicious beginning the first week in November, when officers and directors from various parts of the country gathered in the League's Washington headquarters for a week of conferences. Leaders in the organisation came from as far East as Rhode Island, as far North as Minnesota, as far South as North Carolina, and as far West as California.

Discussions in the board sessions gave evidence of the continuous growth of the League, especially in the West and Middle West, where special organisation work has been carried on recently. The sessions on legislation, at which the federal programme was put into final form, were particularly interesting, in that Mrs. Maud Park, former president of the League, came back to the board in a new capacity as "counsellor on legislation." Mrs. Park's reputation as an expert on legislative work and methods is known far and wide, and her experience in handling federal measures makes her advice much sought after and heeded by a score of Washington women lobbyists. Miss Julia Lathrop, former vice-president of the League, and now its counsellor on public welfare in Government, also attended some of the sessions.

On the eve of Election Day (November 3) Miss Belle Sherwin, president of the League, issued a statement urging voters to cast their ballots guided by facts, not hearsay or propaganda. As a result of observations and studies in her three years' directorship of the League's programme in "training for citizenship," Miss Sherwin lays down definite standards by which citizens may be guided. She defines these four tests: First, seeking accurate information on public questions; second, taking party membership responsibly; third, accepting individual responsibility for forming public opinion; and fourth, voting.

In outlining these obligations which she believes voters should meet in order to make democracy successful, Miss Sherwin emphasises the "need for self-education." She considers reading of newspapers with different political points of view essential, and that the habit of taking hearsay evidence must be gradually overcome by questioning the trustworthiness of sources of information and by certifying it. She maintains citizens have a daily obligation to make sure of facts, and to use them constantly as an antitoxin to destroy the poison of propaganda.

Election Day was quiet this year, being known as an "off" year. This always occurs in the "local election year," when virtually all the elections are concerned with municipal offices. There were two States, however,

which held gubernatorial elections, and because of vacancies or death, elections for three members of the House of Representatives were held. Women voters took an active part in the most intensive municipal campaigns, and scores of local Leagues of Women Voters had candidates' meetings, issued questionnaires to candidates, and made special appeals to get out a heavy vote.

The 1926 elections loom up as particularly interesting. Hardly had the 1925 Election Day passed into history before political parties and many candidates began laying the groundwork for what promises to be a very partisan campaign in 1926. One-third of the United States Senate membership will be up for election, the entire body of the House of Representatives is to be elected, and in thirty-one States gubernatorial elections will take place.

League women were heartened especially by the announcement by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labour, that Labour's fight for ratification of the child-labour amendment will be carried on vigorously. Mr. Green's statement was made at the forty-fifth annual convention of the Federation in Atlantic City in October. Mr. Green was an ardent supporter of the suffrage amendment, and he is regarded as very friendly to women's interests in general.

It would be difficult to present a better illustration of the political independence of some women voters than is expressed by Mrs. Eddie McCall Priest, of Huntingdon, a little town in Western Tennessee. Mrs. Priest is a Republican; her husband is a Democrat. Her political independence, regardless of marriage ties, has brought her high honours recently. President Coolidge appointed Mrs. Priest as collector of Customs for Tennessee and Arkansas, and she has established headquarters in Memphis. Mrs. Priest says she is a Republican by inheritance, although her friends claim she is qualified to think "political things out for herself." Her political sagacity—and some say it is marked—may be traced to her father, the late John E. McCall, former member of Congress, and the United States District Judge at the time of his death. ANNE WILLIAMS.

NEWS OF DIVERS WOMEN.

[These paragraphs are taken from varied Press sources, and their accuracy is not vouched for by our National Auxiliaries.]

CHINA.

Miss Ting-Shu-Ching, the new National General Secretary of the Chinese Y.W.C.A., who is at present paying a short visit to India, will, on her return to China, head a secretarial staff of fifty-four Americans, sixty Chinese, and a small number from other countries. The Y.W.C.A. conducts work in thirteen of the largest cities of China.

CUBA.

Dr. Maria R. Ruz Rojas has been appointed a municipal judge, being the first woman in Cuba to occupy such a position.

GERMANY.

The first woman to qualify for appointment as a judge in Germany is said to be Dr. Aenne Kurowski, of Dantzig, who recently passed her final professional examination.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Women Councillors.

There were 140 successful women councillors in the recent London borough elections.

Colonial Medical Service

As a result of the Colonial Office policy of appointing women to the medical service in the Colonies, wherever their special qualifications are needed, lady doctors will soon form an important branch of the Colonial Medical Service, especially in West and East Africa. The power of the witch doctor in West Africa is passing, and it is found that native women prefer treatment by a woman doctor.

SPAIN.

It is stated that after peace has been declared single women of 23 years of age and widows who were heads of families will be eligible for the vote.

TURKEY.

The Turkish Women's Association has applied for permission to give weekly lectures in mosques on such subjects as the Turkish Revolution, the position of Turkish women, how to bring up children, and how to manage the household. The association is also demanding that the Prefecture should appoint women inspectors to control the exhibition of cinematograph films, in the interests of public morals.

For the first time Turkish women are to become taxable entities, as the price of their emancipation.

UNITED STATES.

By 66 votes to 27 the House of Bishops of the American Protestant Episcopal Church has concurred with the House of Deputies in the elimination of the word "obey" from the wedding ceremony.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Dear Madam,—I was very interested in reading your report of the Dutch Auxiliary in the October number of *Jus Suffragii*.

You mention that "the Roman Catholic Labour Party has on its platform the legal prohibition of all paid work for women." This statement has so astonished me that I am anxious for further particulars, as, though I am aware, and regret, that in many countries there is a campaign against the paid employment of married women, I could hardly have believed that any party, in any country, would go so far as to include unmarried women.

I should be grateful, therefore, if you would be so kind as to let me have further particulars about this, and should be glad to know the name and address of the headquarters of the party to which you allude.

Hoping that the outlook for feminism in Holland is not quite so dark as your correspondent seems to think.—

Yours, etc., F. A. BARRY,
St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance,
55, Berners St., London, W. 1.

November 19, 1925.

WORLD'S YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

We would specially call the attention of our readers to an item in the "Supplement" published by the Association in our issue this month, which gives a list of the Y.W.C.A. publications, including "The Directory of the World's Y.W.C.A.," which gives a list of hostels in various countries. This costs only 1s. 2d., to be obtained from the Association's Headquarters, 34, Baker Street, London, W. 1, and should prove very useful to those who are travelling and would be glad to know of comfortable quarters at moderate cost.

(Continued from page 44.)

décider quel est le meilleur régime pour administrer une société si intime que le mariage. Les familles déjà établies, dont la femme ne voudrait pas faire valoir ses droits de co-administratrice, seraient, étonnées de toute démarche.*

Quoique convaincue que les lectrices du "Jus" n'ignoreraient pas les efforts faits par les féministes uruguayennes en vue de réaliser leurs idéals, je tiens à dire que ce projet, élaboré par un homme, un homme éminent soit dit en passant, ne représente pas une *générosité* de sa part envers des femmes qui subissent passivement, le sourire aux lèvres, l'état actuel des choses. Il est un reflet des aspirations des féministes uruguayennes. Malheureusement, ce d'être privées de tout droit politique oblige ces femmes à travailler derrière les coulisses.

Londres, Octobre, 1925. SARA REY ALVAREZ.

* Je tiens à laisser établi que les objections ci-dessus formulées n'engagent nullement la personnalité collective d'aucune association féministe uruguayenne, je ne les formule même pas en ma qualité de membre de l'Alliance des Femmes Uruguayennes, mais strictement en mon nom personnel.

SECTION FRANÇAISE.

URUGUAY.

L'Égalité des Droits Civils et Politiques entre les Deux Sexes devant la Chambre Uruguayenne.

Le 13 Septembre la Chambre de Représentants de l'Uruguay commença la discussion d'un projet sur l'égalité des droits civils et politiques entre hommes et femmes. Ce projet élaboré dans l'année 1923, pendant son mandat, par l'ancien Président de la République, le docteur Baltasar Brum, bien connu par ses idées féministes, constitue l'effort le plus complet, le plus audacieux qui ait été intenté dans ce sens dans l'Amérique Latine. Il vise rien moins qu'à la révision de la Constitution, et des Codes civil, penal, militaire, et de commerce, à l'objet d'établir la parfaite égalité entre les deux sexes.

Dans la croyance que cela intéressera les lectrices du "Jus," je vais tâcher d'analyser les points essentiels du dit projet, et de leur en montrer toute la portée.

1°—Les femmes deviennent citoyennes au même titre que les hommes.*

2°—On confère aux femmes le droit de devenir électrices et éligibles dans les mêmes conditions que les hommes. La Nation ayant le droit de réclamer les services de tous les citoyens en cas de guerre, et les femmes devenant aussi des citoyens, on a ajouté une incise à cet article du code militaire, en vertu duquel des lois ultérieures pourront déterminer la façon dont les femmes devront servir le pays.

3°—On confère aux femmes l'accès aux professions qui leur étaient défendues par le code actuel: juge, magistrat, notaire, courtier, arbitre, etc.

4°—On modifie l'article du Code de Commerce actuel en vertu duquel une femme qui formait partie d'une société commerciale ne jouissait pas des mêmes droits ni avait pas les mêmes responsabilités que les hommes, en rayant toute différence en raison du sexe.

5°—On habilite la femme pour être tuteur et témoin dans le testament solennel.

6°—On supprime la disposition qui défendait à la femme majeure de quitter le foyer paternel avant les 30 ans.

7°—On porte à 21 ans pour hommes et femmes l'âge requis pour se marier sans consentement des parents.

8°—Le consentement pour contracter mariage devra être donné par les père et mère, au lieu de suffire celui du père comme l'établit le code actuel.

9°—L'article: "Le mari doit protection à sa femme, la femme obéissance à son mari," est substitué par celui-ci: "Les conjoints se doivent réciproquement respect et protection."

10°—On exonère la femme de l'obligation de suivre son mari et d'adopter son domicile. Le domicile devra être fixé de commun accord par les époux, en cas de désaccord à ce sujet, tant un conjoint que l'autre peuvent demander aux Tribunaux de déclarer la "séparation de fait" (établissement de domicile séparé).

11°—L'un des conjoints (même s'ils sont séparés de fait) peut demander à l'autre en justice par le fait de ne pas avoir accompli l'obligation de contribuer à l'entretien de la famille en rapport avec ses ressources. Le juge pourra décréter la saisie des biens meubles ou immeubles, appointements ou salaires du dit conjoint, jusqu'à une quantité suffisante pour subvenir à l'entretien de la famille et des enfants communs.

12°—La disposition en vertu de laquelle par le fait du mariage les époux contractent communauté de biens reste en vigueur, avec ces variantes: (a) La femme assumera avec le mari les droits et les responsabilités de l'administration des biens communs et de l'usufruit des biens des enfants mineurs, mais le mari pourra assumer les charges d'administrateur sans devoir se munir d'un mandat de sa femme. (b) Tant sous le régime de la co-administration ou sous celui de l'administration maritale, le conjoint qui posséderait des rentes ou des économies provenant de l'exercice d'une profession, industrie, ou travail quelconque, sera considéré comme séparé de biens en ce qui concerne l'administration des dites rentes ou économies.

13°—La séparation de biens pourra être demandée à tout moment par un ou les deux conjoints.

* La disposition en vertu de laquelle la femme mariée ne perd pas sa nationalité est en vigueur depuis quelques années.

14°—La femme mariée ne devra plus demander l'autorisation de son mari pour exercer une profession, industrie, métier, ou travail donné ou pour présenter litige devant les autorités judiciaires.

15°—La puissance paternelle sera exercée par les deux conjoints au lieu d'être exercée par le père, et à défaut de celui-ci par la mère, comme l'établit le code actuel. La femme veuve ou divorcée qui se remarie ne perdra plus la puissance paternelle sur les enfants du mariage ou des mariages antérieurs.

16°—L'adultère du mari devient cause de divorce ou de séparation de corps dans les mêmes conditions que celui de la femme.

17°—Si le divorce ou la séparation de corps ont été prononcés par adultère de la femme celle-ci ne perd plus ses droits aux acquêts.

18°—On étend au mari le droit de demander divorce par sa seule volonté. (Le code actuel accorde seulement à la femme cette faculté.)

19°—Quand le divorce ou la séparation de corps aurait été accordé à la demande des deux conjoints, ou même quand il aurait été prononcé en faveur de l'un d'eux, le mari et la femme restent obligés de pourvoir d'une pension alimentaire le conjoint resté sans ressources. Cette obligation cesse quand le conjoint favorisé mène une vie déréglée ou se remarie. (En vertu du code actuel seulement la femme non coupable du divorce ou de la séparation de corps pouvait bénéficier d'une pension alimentaire.)

20°—On étend à la femme qui, ayant surpris son mari en flagrant délit d'adultère le tuerait, ou le blesserait, l'exonération de responsabilité pénale que le code actuel confère seulement au mari.

21°—L'investigation de la paternité pourra être initiée par la mère pendant toute la minorité de l'enfant, ou par son tuteur si elle est mineure. Par cela on s'opprime le délai de deux ans après la naissance accordé à la mère et de six mois s'il s'agit du tuteur, fixé par le code actuel pour pouvoir initier la dite action.

De tout ce qui précède se dégage que le projet en question vise à supprimer au même temps au mari ses droits de protecteur, à la femme mariée ses prérogatives de protégée, et, d'une façon générale, il modifie toutes les dispositions qui conservaient la femme dans un injuste état d'incapacité juridique ou politique et raye les avantages dérivés de cette même incapacité, en instaurant ainsi la parfaite égalité de droits et de responsabilités entre les deux sexes. A ce point de vue il répond pleinement à l'idéal féministe. Néanmoins, il présente, à mon avis, quelques points faibles, notamment en ce qui concerne l'administration des biens.

Je ne crois pas que ce d'instaurer l'administration commune comme règle générale favorise l'émancipation de la femme mariée. En vertu du dit projet la société conjugale reste établie sous le régime de la co-administration: mais le mari peut assumer l'administration des biens communs sans devoir se munir d'un renoncement ou déclaration expresse de sa femme. L'auteur du projet appuie cette disposition sur une raison d'ordre pratique: l'obligation de se pourvoir d'un mandat causerait des dérangements inutiles aux ménages déjà établis sous le régime de l'administration maritale et qui ne désiraient pas un changement, quant aux mariages contractés après la mise en vigueur du projet, le mari pourrait bénéficier de cette prérogative seulement dans le cas où la femme ne tiendrait pas à faire valoir ses droits de co-administratrice. A côté de cela il appuie aussi sa proposition sur des motifs idéologiques: le mariage doit être basé sur la communion d'âmes, la communion d'âmes doit entraîner la communauté des biens. Mais, si l'on concède à la femme la libre administration du produit de son travail, et si l'on ne croit pas que cela puisse atteindre la communion d'âmes, sur quelles raisons peut-on alors fonder l'imposition de l'administration commune? A mon avis, on aurait mieux résolu le problème en permettant d'opter, au moment du mariage, pour un des trois régimes: administration maritale, co-administration ou séparation de biens. Je ne pense pas que ce soit au législateur qui incombé de

(Concluded on previous page.)

FRANCE.

Les Femmes et le Problème du Logement.

Nous avons dit, déjà, notre satisfaction de voir une femme appelée au Comité Consultatif des Loyers. Nous signalons aujourd'hui une victoire plus complète: Mme. Maria Vérone est désignée comme secrétaire à la Section du Logement.

Toutes celles qui ont entendu Mme. Vérone se réjouissent à la pensée que, sur une question si nettement d'intérêt féminin, son grand bon sens que sert une belle puissance d'argumentation pourra intervenir. Souhaitons qu'elle aide à résoudre une des plus grosses difficultés économiques de l'heure présente.

GRÈCE.

Une Victoire du Féminisme.

La commission parlementaire sur les décrets de loi a voté un décret par lequel il est accordé aux femmes docteurs en droit qui ont rempli les conditions prévues par la loi sur les avocats, le droit de plaider devant les tribunaux. La Ligue Hellénique pour le Droit des Femmes qui, à plusieurs reprises, a fait des démarches auprès des divers gouvernements sur ce sujet, et a travaillé avec insistance par des articles et par tous les moyens de propagande pour influencer l'opinion publique en faveur de cette réforme, est fière de cette victoire du féminisme en Grèce qui démontre que, même les esprits les plus réactionnaires se trouvent incapables de résister à la force du progrès et de la justice. Pour le moment le décret contient malheureusement quelques restrictions qui mettent surtout des obstacles à la promotion des femmes employées aux services publics.

Cette restriction cependant, qui n'est basée sur aucune raison valable sera sûrement enlevée par les législateurs mêmes de cette loi lorsqu'ils conviendront qu'il est indigne aux hommes d'avoir recours à de pareils moyens pour arriver à avoir le dessus dans une concurrence professionnelle.

Le Vote Municipal.

L'amendement sur la loi municipale par lequel il a été accordé aux femmes le droit de vote pour les élections municipales a été publié dans le journal officiel du gouvernement après quoi cette loi entre en vigueur. Voici le texte exact de la loi:

"Depuis l'année 1927 il peut être accordé par décret aux femmes âgées de 30 ans et au dessus et sachant lire et écrire le droit de vote pour les élections municipales et communales."

La Troisième Conférence de la P.E.F.

La troisième conférence de la Petite Entente des femmes aura lieu à Athènes au commencement du mois de Décembre. Les principaux sujets qui y seront discutés seront: les conditions de travail et de promotion des femmes employées, les rapports économiques des pays de la P.E.F., le code civil, et la question des minorités.

—La Lutte de la Femme.

SUISSE.

Association Nationale Suisse pour le Suffrage Féminin.

Le Comité Central a tenu à Berne, le 25 octobre, sa séance annuelle d'automne, avec un ordre du jour très chargé. Il avait, en effet, à s'occuper en première ligne de l'emploi du Fonds Leslie de 1925, qui atteint maintenant la somme respectable des 7500 fr., et il a pris à ce sujet quelques décisions d'ordre financier qui seront extrêmement agréables aux Sections, auxquelles elles seront communiquées prochainement par circulaire spéciale. D'autres propositions doivent faire l'objet d'une étude plus approfondie et seront reprises à la séance de janvier du C.C.—La propagande a également occupé ce dernier, qui a enregistré avec grand plaisir l'adhésion de deux nouvelles Sections: Bienne, langue allemande, et Lucerne (Commission pour le suffrage féminin de l'Union Féministe), le nombre des Sections suffragistes étant de ce fait porté à 24. Mme. Debrit-Vogel, secrétaire, a fourni des détails sur la propagande faite par la plupart des Sections à l'occasion des élections fédérales du 25 octobre, ainsi que sur la tournée de conférences que va faire en Suisse, dans la seconde quinzaine

de novembre, Mme. Malaterre, secrétaire de l'Union française pour le Suffrage: Bâle, Saint-Gall, Lucerne, Berne, Fribourg, Bienne, Lausanne, Genève et Vevey auront le privilège d'entendre cette brillante oratrice, qui donnera certainement un élan nouveau au travail de certains groupements en leur amenant de nouvelles adhésions.—Le C.C. a encore longuement discuté son attitude en face de la votation populaire du 6 décembre (article constitutionnel introduisant le principe de l'assurance-vieillesse et invalidité) en faveur duquel il a décidé de prendre position, et de manifester de même façon que lors des élections fédérales: tous les détails à ce sujet seront aussi prochainement donnés aux Sections par circulaire.—Enfin, Mlle. Gourd a entretenu ses collègues de façon détaillée du travail du Comité Exécutif de l'Alliance Internationale pour le Suffrage, pour préparer le Congrès de Paris (mai 1925), Congrès auquel il est à souhaiter que la Suisse soit représentée par une délégation nombreuse et bien au courant des questions traitées.—Quelques mises au point de problèmes d'administration intérieure ont encore occupé les membres du C.C., et une charmante réception offerte par M. et Mme. Leuch a coupé de la façon la plus agréable ce travail très intense, mais très intéressant. E. Gp.

NOUVELLES INTERNATIONALES.

Réunion du Board International à Paris.

Ce titre abstrait ne rend pas l'impression que nous ont laissée ces charmantes réunions amicales avec nos collègues françaises, cette série prodigieuse de réceptions. Mon premier soin, à Paris, fut d'aller au musée du Louvre pour rendre mon hommage à ces merveilleux symboles féminins: la Victoire de Samothrace et les nobles dames de Botticelli qui lui font face. Nous avons oublié aujourd'hui les mesquines guerres navales et ne voulons voir dans la "Victoire" que celle contre le matérialisme.

Après une matinée de dur travail pour les affaires courantes de l'Alliance, Mme. Schumann nous invita à un déjeuner, qui fut exquis, pour rencontrer les femmes délicieuses du Comité de l'Union française pour le Suffrage. Naturellement, nous parlâmes du congrès et rien que du congrès. Le soir, Mme. Brunschwig offrit à tous les membres du Board un dîner dans son bel hôtel, afin que nous pussions faire plus intimement connaissance et échanger les nouvelles. Le lendemain, à notre comité international, nous eûmes le plaisir de recevoir Dr. Aletta Jacobs, de Hollande, qui, à 70 ans, est un exemple constant d'énergie et d'enthousiasme. Mme. Ivalo, de Finlande, mandataire de Miss Furuhjelm, fut une agréable nouvelle amie. Mme. Kitchevatz représentait la Yougoslavie avec toute l'autorité de ses trois années d'activité comme hon. secrétaire, et Mme. Sadoveanu nous apporta des détails réconfortants sur l'œuvre intense et le succès du mouvement féminin en Roumanie. Enfin, Miss Collisson représentait dignement les femmes affranchies de l'Australie du Sud. Avec leur aide expérimentée, nous réussîmes presque à obtenir tous les éléments nécessaires aux discussions de nos meetings de la semaine: les rapports de nos commissions spéciales, la question des femmes dans la police, l'entrée des femmes dans les affaires et les professions libérales, dans les services diplomatique et consulaire, la position des femmes fonctionnaires, et les rapports entre les femmes non affranchies et les partis politiques. Quelques importantes modifications à la constitution furent présentées: 1° Un changement de titre qui fasse comprendre l'utilité de l'Alliance pour les femmes électrices. Le Board suggère: Alliance internationale pour le suffrage et pour l'action civique et politique des femmes. 2° Qu'un nombre plus grand de membres élus par le congrès (21 au lieu de 11) choisissent parmi elles un comité exécutif restreint de 7 membres qui puissent et veuillent se réunir fréquemment. Notre travail acharné fut récompensé par le privilège très apprécié d'un thé à la Sorbonne, offert par Mme. Lapié, femme du distingué recteur de l'Université de Paris. Elle nous annonça que son mari avait consenti de très bonne grâce à nous prêter la Sorbonne pour les réunions du Congrès. Nous pûmes à peine croire à notre bonne fortune, quand elle nous montra les splendides salons superbement décorés, le vaste amphithéâtre avec son excellente acoustique, le

vestibule et l'escalier majestueux. Ce fut une joie pour nous, lorsque M. Lapie vint nous rejoindre, de lui exprimer notre profonde gratitude.

Avec une énergie nouvelle, nous pûmes discuter tous les détails pratiques de l'organisation et du programme. Les réunions du soir, arrangées par l'Union française, attirèrent Tout-Paris. A l'inauguration officielle du dimanche 30 mai, nous recevrons la bienvenue de Mme. Brunschwig, présidente de l'Union française pour le suffrage et des membres du Gouvernement, etc. Le lundi, les Unions de tous les pays affiliés, présenteront leurs compliments en un speech de trois minutes. Le mercredi, les femmes des contrées latines feront contre le Code Napoléon, une démonstration organisée par la femme de talent, Mme. Grinberg, avocate à la Cour. Le jeudi, nous espérons entendre des hommes d'état des pays affranchis, qui paieront leur tribut à la valeur de la coopération des femmes. Le vendredi, des femmes députées parleront des réformes législatives obtenues et le dimanche, les débats se termineront par une déclaration des femmes unies du monde entier en faveur de la paix et de la Société des Nations.

Entre les sessions ardues du Board, nous pûmes rencontrer quelques partisans de la cause. Sénateurs, députés, femmes célèbres, et toute la presse furent invités par nous au Lyceum, dont la gracieuse présidente, la duchesse d'Uzès et l'infatigable directrice, Mme. Brignoli, ne sauraient être trop remerciées.

Je pus faire un discours devant un nombreux public d'étudiants sur l'invitation aimable de Mlle. Bonnet, et je pus aussi rencontrer les présidentes de plusieurs sociétés féminines. Ce fut un grand plaisir pour moi de consulter Mme. Avril de Sainte-Croix, présidente et doyenne du Conseil National des Femmes françaises, et Mme. Duchesne, également apprécié dans les milieux féministes et travaillistes. Mme. Kraemer Bach, qui s'est chargée de la publicité française pour le Congrès, nous offrit un dîner si intéressant que nous arrivâmes juste à temps pour le discours que quatre victimes d'entre nous durent faire sur le congrès de l'Alliance devant un auditoire peu exigeant de petits ventilateurs qu'on nous dit être des radiophones. Mme. La Mazière, bien connue par son œuvre concernant le prix de la paix, nous invita à dîner avec les Soroptimistes (pendant féminin du Rotary Club). Il n'y a que ce groupe et celui de Londres en Europe. Là, nous entrâmes en contact avec les femmes les plus distinguées du monde artiste et des professions libérales, et les pionnières de l'industrie et du commerce. Elles acceptèrent d'embellir notre Congrès par une exposition de leurs œuvres qui rivalisera avec la beauté de l'Exposition internationale que nous projetons.

Nous nous arrachâmes avec peine à Paris et à nos nombreux amis. M. Briand était en province, mais le Secrétaire Général, M. Berthelot, nous assura de l'appui et de la bonne volonté du gouvernement. M. Guillaumin, président du Conseil municipal de Paris, nous offrit une réception dans le magnifique Hôtel de Ville historique, privilège très apprécié. En résumé, la partie française du Congrès s'annonce comme un grand succès. Les Françaises espèrent que, de notre côté, nous convertirons le Sénat et l'opinion publique. Cela ne peut se faire que si les travaux du Congrès sont conduits avec ordre, méthode, et enthousiasme. Les présidentes des délégations devront assister la présidente du Congrès en maintenant une bonne discipline, en obligeant au silence dans la salle, pendant les discours. Les déléguées, choisies avec soin pour leur compétence, devront parler brièvement et se tenir à leur sujet, et, par leur assiduité, en dépit des attractions de Paris, montrer une volonté bien arrêtée de faire, de notre mouvement mondial, un grand exemple de paix internationale. M. CORBETT ASHBY.

Fonds pour les Dépenses du Congrès de Paris.

Par un retard de la poste, la trésorière n'a reçu que maintenant la bonne nouvelle que la "Leslie Commission," à sa réunion de 1924, a voté le don généreux de 2,000 dollars pour les dépenses du Congrès. La "Commission" pourrait croire que l'Alliance a traité cette générosité d'une manière bien cavalière, puisqu'elle n'a pas exprimé de remerciements et n'a pas annoncé ce

don quand elle a établi l'estimation des dépenses du Congrès. Notre silence était le silence de l'ignorance et non de l'indifférence. Ce don important soulage notre anxiété au sujet des dépenses du Congrès et notre gratitude, quoique tardive, n'en est pas moins fervente.

De plus, d'autres aides nous viennent encore par des amis de l'Alliance. Dame Millicent Fawcett, à qui est due une grande partie du succès du Congrès de Rome, a promis 50 livres; Mr. Charles Corbett, père de notre présidente, a donné 100 livres; Lady Beilby, 50 livres; l'Union nationale des sociétés pour l'égalité civique, 100 livres. Ces dons sont un point de départ encourageant pour le Comité d'appel formé par les trois sociétés britanniques. D'autres sommes nous sont venues aussi par les collectes faites à des meetings où parlait Mrs. Corbett Ashby. Citons la collecte faite à un meeting d'ouvrières qui donnèrent chacune un penny; une jolie somme fut ainsi recueillie et cette expression touchante de bonne volonté fut un véritable réconfort. Tout cela promet beaucoup. Mais avec nos remerciements cordiaux à ceux qui ont déjà donné, nous devons joindre un avertissement à ceux qui croient qu'il n'est plus nécessaire de faire aucun effort. Ce serait une grave erreur, car après un brillant congrès donnant tout espoir, il serait triste que l'Alliance fut ensuite obligée de ralentir son activité jusqu'à l'extinction, parce que sa caisse serait vide. La situation financière de la France et la dépréciation du franc ont eu leur repercussion sur nos affaires. Il y a un an, sur l'avis de personnes expertes, nous avons acheté 200 livres de bons du Trésor. Nous ne savons pas combien nous pourrions perdre de ce chef. De même, les fluctuations sur les prix du papier, et d'autres matières que nous emploierons en grandes quantités nous empêchent d'estimer à l'avance nos dépenses. Aussi nous en revenons toujours au même point: aidez-nous, chères amies, à établir dès maintenant l'Alliance sur une base solide, non seulement pour le congrès, mais pour l'avenir.

Grande-Bretagne.

Union nationale des Sociétés pour l'égalité civique.—La Chambre des Communes va discuter le Bill sur la légitimation et le Bill sur les femmes mariées. Le vote du "Legitimacy Bill" a été retardé par les élections successives de ces dernières années. Ce bill accordera la légitimation des enfants par le mariage subséquent des parents, à condition que l'un des parents n'ait pas été marié au moment de la naissance. Le "Married Women Bill" supprime la responsabilité du mari pour les torts causés par sa femme. Mais il y a beaucoup d'autres anomalies à corriger, comme le faisait remarquer Lord Buckmaster, celles relatives à la nationalité des femmes mariées, au domicile, au droit de contrat, etc. Le bill sur l'empoisonnement par le plomb sera discuté bientôt; il indique les précautions à imposer pour les ouvriers et prohibe l'emploi des substances à base de plomb pour les femmes et les enfants. C'est, malheureusement, une nouvelle restriction au travail féminin.

Campagne pour l'affranchissement.—De grandes manifestations vont avoir lieu à Hyde Park pendant tout l'été pour l'obtention des mêmes droits civils et politiques pour les deux sexes.

Réforme de la législation sur les aliénés.—L'Union a envoyé à la Commission royale les desideratas suivants: nomination d'un plus grand nombre de femmes dans les comités de contrôle qui fournissent les certificats d'aliénation. 2° Nomination de femmes docteurs dans les asiles de femmes aliénées. 3° Nomination d'un plus grand nombre de femmes visiteuses dans ces mêmes asiles.

Elections municipales.—Dans l'ensemble, le nombre de femmes élues a été satisfaisant: 140 femmes ont été élues dans les conseils municipaux à Londres seulement, et dans les différentes parties du pays il y a eu six femmes maires.

Police.—Le 8 décembre, Miss Ellen Wilkinson présentera un bill pour obtenir la nomination de femmes dans la police de toutes les grandes villes.

Irlande.

L'événement le plus important des derniers mois a été l'introduction et le vote de la loi sur les pensions aux veuves et aux orphelins, loi établie sur le modèle de la

loi anglaise. Cette loi est incomplète et ne s'étend pas à toutes les catégories de veuves avec enfants, mais elle représente déjà un progrès. Pour la première fois, la loi reconnaît que la maternité est un service d'état et ne doit pas être payée comme une aumône. La décroissance des industries textiles a amené beaucoup de misères. La mortalité des femmes en couches a augmenté de 5.86 pour 1,000 en 1922, au 6.50 pour 1,000 en 1923. Cependant, la mortalité infantile a diminué; elle a été de 76 pour 1,000 en 1923 contre 95 pour 1,000 en moyenne, dans les dix années précédentes, grâce aux œuvres de protection de l'enfance. Deux femmes magistrats ont été nommées à Armagh et une inspectrice du travail pour l'Irlande du Nord.

Etats-Unis.

Ligue nationale des électriciennes.—Les déléguées de tous les pays se sont réunies au siège central de Washington en novembre. Les rapports ont montré que la Ligue s'accroît surtout dans l'Ouest. Mrs. Maud Park, ancienne présidente de la Ligue, spécialement qualifiée pour les questions de droit, fait de nouveau partie du Conseil comme "conseillère sur la législation." Miss Julia Lathrop, vice-présidente, et maintenant conseillère pour les questions de bien public, assista aussi aux conférences. 1925 a été l'année des élections municipales dans tous les états. Pour ces élections, la Ligue a organisé des meetings de candidates et leur a présenté des questionnaires. 1926 sera une année politique intéressante; un tiers du sénat est renouvelable, ainsi que toute la Chambre des représentants. Il y a 31 élections "gubernatoriales." Mr. Green, président de la Fédération travailliste, partisan ardent du suffrage des femmes, a annoncé que le parti travailliste allait demander énergiquement la rectification des lois sur le travail des enfants. A la veille des élections du 3 novembre, Miss Bell Sherwin, présidente de la Ligue, a déclaré que d'après ses observations de trois années de présidence, elle pouvait établir les quatre principes-guides du citoyen: 1° Etudier avec soin les questions d'intérêt public; 2° se considérer comme membre responsable dans son parti; 3° accepter toute responsabilité individuelle pour former l'opinion publique; 4° pas d'abstention.

Autriche.

Les femmes dans la police.—La conférence de la Commandante Allen, organisée par le Conseil national des femmes autrichiennes et l'Association des intérêts politiques des femmes, le 30 octobre, a attiré l'attention sur l'organisation possible d'un corps de police féminin. Le Président de la police, Hans Schober, ancien chancelier d'Autriche, qui reçut avec bienveillance la Commandante Allen, lui dit que c'était uniquement pour des raisons financières que des femmes ne pouvaient pas être engagées actuellement dans la police. La Commandante Allen a visité les différentes institutions de la police: la prison des femmes, l'asile pour les femmes et jeunes filles sans domicile, l'hôpital de la police, érigé par Hans Schober, où sont soignés non seulement les hommes blessés dans le service, mais tous les employés de la police et leurs familles, enfin les homes d'enfants où sont reçus les enfants abandonnés ou errants et aussi les enfants coupables ou indociles. Dans la lutte contre la traite des femmes, les mesures les plus intelligentes ont été prises; les femmes et les jeunes filles ne sont interrogées que par des femmes, les enquêtes sont menées par des femmes, et une femme est chargée spécialement de trouver une occupation honnête pour celles qui peuvent encore être sauvées.

Un projet de loi féminin.—Frau Olga Rudel-Zeyneck a présenté un projet de loi pour la réglementation de la profession de nourrice. Toute nourrice devra être munie d'un certificat signé d'un médecin officiel. Miss Spencer, organisatrice de la Junior Red Cross (Croix-Rouge), a reçu la médaille d'or.

Hongrie.

Suffrage.—La loi de 1925 sur les élections parlementaires donne aux femmes hongroises certains droits d'élection et d'éligibilité. Quand cette loi est entrée dans la constitution hongroise, le fait a passé presque inaperçu. C'est que le suffrage universel est devenu une illusion; le scrutin n'est pas secret et les membres du Parlement sont menacés de perdre leur mandat pour

les raisons les plus futiles. Les lois ne tiennent plus aucun compte de la dignité des citoyens.

Protection des enfants.—Nous avons demandé au Ministre de l'Instruction publique de prolonger l'enseignement obligatoire jusqu'à l'âge de 14 ans; et au Ministre du Commerce, d'étendre aux usines les règlements appliqués aux maîtres particuliers: qu'aucun enfant au dessous de 14 ans ne puisse travailler sans une autorisation et un certificat de santé d'un médecin du district. Dans une lettre très gracieuse, le Ministre du Commerce a accédé à notre demande et a promis de donner les ordres nécessaires. Notre vice-présidente, Irma de Szirmai, a représenté notre société à une conférence sur l'invitation du Ministre de l'Hygiène. Elle a protesté contre la vente de liqueurs aux jeunes gens au dessous de 20 ans. L'amendement fut accepté. Mais, après une conférence du ministre avec les aubergistes, l'amendement fut retiré. Nous avons aussi demandé au Ministre de l'Hygiène la prohibition de la vente de soude caustique qui cause chaque année des maladies et même la mort de plusieurs centaines d'enfants. Nous n'avons pas encore reçu de réponse.

Italie.

Le projet de loi donnant aux femmes le vote municipal vient d'être approuvé définitivement par le Sénat. Nos félicitations aux Italiennes et à Mussolini qui, contrairement à tant de politiciens, a tenu ses promesses.

Bulgarie.

Le 19^e Congrès de l'Union nationale des femmes bulgares s'est réuni à Sofia du 4 au 7 octobre. 36 sociétés féministes étaient représentées par 104 déléguées. Les questions suivantes ont été traitées: Part de la femme dans l'éducation des enfants et nécessité d'une collaboration plus étroite entre la famille et l'école. Education des paysannes bulgares. Protection des ouvrières. Les femmes bulgares et les problèmes sociaux actuels. Nécessité pour les femmes de prendre part aux affaires politiques et sociales dans les mêmes conditions que les hommes. En ce qui concerne les événements politiques récents qui ont déterminé le gouvernement à établir la peine de mort, le Congrès, après avoir flétri tous les fauteurs de troubles, a protesté contre la peine de mort et réclamé sa suppression au gouvernement. Le Congrès a décidé d'ouvrir une souscription pour construire une maison et fonder une bibliothèque.

Pays Scandinaves.

Nationalité de la femme mariée.—On se rappelle qu'à la conférence des gouvernements de Norvège, Suède, et Danemark, il a été décidé d'unifier la législation en ce qui concerne la nationalité des femmes mariées. Voici les statuts parallèles:

1° Pour les femmes étrangères. En Danemark, toute femme dont le mari est danois ou naturalisé danois devient danoise. En Suède, idem, mais elle peut demander à garder sa nationalité. En Norvège, la femme a le choix et doit fournir une déclaration d'allegeance.

2° Pour les femmes du pays mariées à des étrangers: les trois pays admettent que ces femmes ne perdront pas leur nationalité, à moins que: (a) elles n'acquiescent, de droit, la nationalité de leur mari; (b) elles cessent d'habiter leur pays (la Suède et la Norvège maintiennent ces droits aux femmes naturalisées). La Suède va plus loin dans la protection: si la femme quitte son pays pour aller dans un autre pays que celui de son mari, elle garde sa nationalité.

Ces lois sont rétrospectives.

Nouvelle-Zélande.

La session parlementaire vient de finir. Elle a apporté, entre autres réformes, l'augmentation d'une demi-couronne par semaine pour les vieillards, une retraite pour les infirmières et autres employées des hôpitaux; malheureusement, la retraite ne s'étend pas aux sages-femmes. La "Registration Act" défend aux femmes non enregistrées d'exercer le métier d'infirmière et de sage-femme; notons aussi la fondation de cliniques et salles de consultation pour les femmes enceintes. Ces cliniques seront dirigées par une femme docteur Elaine Gurr. Le "Child Welfare Act" s'applique aux enfants au-dessous de 16 ans. Il a pour objet la protection, l'adoption, l'éducation des enfants aux soins de l'Etat.

ou indigents, ou délinquants; une section du Ministère de l'Instruction publique s'occupera spécialement de cette question. D'autres institutions vont être établies: asiles temporaires, maisons de réforme, écoles d'agriculture, d'apprentissage, maisons de convalescence. Toutes ces institutions seront inspectées sérieusement. Des tribunaux pour enfants seront établis dans tout le pays; personne n'y sera admis que les intéressés et le plus grand secret sera gardé sur le nom des enfants. Aucun enfant ne sera admis à prêter serment. Toute naissance illégitime devra être notifiée à une société de protection qui s'assurera, sous le secret, que la santé de la mère et de l'enfant soit sauvegardée. Nulle part, le bien-être

de l'enfant n'a été aussi bien codifié que dans cette loi. Mentionnons une innovation: une femme, Miss Sutherland, a été nommée membre du Conseil du Département des forêts. Il est à regretter qu'une seule femme, Miss Ellen Melville, se présente au Parlement cette année; mais cette femme, avocate et conseillère municipale d'Auckland, est la candidate officielle du gouvernement. Les femmes travaillent avec plus d'ardeur que jamais pour la prohibition. La conférence annuelle du Conseil national des femmes s'est tenue à Hamilton le mois dernier; Miss Fraer et Miss Kane ont donné un compte-rendu intéressant du Congrès de Washington.

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