

THE  
WOMAN'S LEADER

IN POLITICS  
IN THE HOME  
IN INDUSTRY

IN LITERATURE AND ART  
IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
IN THE PROFESSIONS

AND

THE COMMON CAUSE

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# THE WOMAN'S LEADER

AND  
COMMON CAUSE.

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

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## NOTES AND NEWS.

### The International Federation of University Women.

The International Federation of University Women, which is holding its first Annual Conference in London this week, was formed last year at a meeting between the American Association of Collegiate Alumæ and the British Federation of University Women. Since then the organisation of the Federation has grown rapidly, and representatives from many countries of Europe, as well as from all parts of the British Empire and the United States, are gathered together this week. The ideal inspiring the Federation is the promotion of understanding among the educated women of the world, and of that international sympathy on which alone a real League of Nations can be built. The Federation proposes to work towards this ideal by very practical steps, such as the exchange of students and professors between one country and another, and the establishment of club rooms and hostels in University centres for the use of members of the Federation from other countries. By this means, as Lord Grey said at the opening meeting, friendship and understanding will come from a common interest in a common work, and it will be a surer and truer thing than the friendship of propaganda. He welcomed the Federation as one of the steps towards real international understanding. Truth and knowledge, as he said, are the two objects of University research; they are the two essentials for co-operation between nations; and it is only by the wide dissemination of both that true peace can be secured. The Federation is to be congratulated upon having in hand a task which is both valuable in itself and valuable for its international results, and the enthusiasm with which its first meeting has been conducted is a most encouraging augury for the future.

### Amritsar.

The passions which have been aroused by the unhappy story of events at Amritsar last year, and of General Dyer's share in them, recall those which were awakened in 1865 and 1866 over the case of Governor Eyre. Eyre, like Dyer, was a responsible official called on to face what he believed to be an exceedingly dangerous situation, in which British rule might crumble and the white population suffer untold horrors. Like Dyer, he acted with promptitude and, from his own point of view, saved the situation. Like Dyer, he was recalled, and like Dyer, he was attacked with passion by those who believed that his cruelty had been inadequately punished, and defended with equal passion by those who thought he had done his duty bravely, and that to give him any punishment at all was a horrible injustice. The former were led by John Stuart Mill; the latter included Carlyle, Ruskin, and Charles Kingsley. But Eyre had no such wholesale massacre to

his account as Dyer, and many things have happened since the Jamaica rebellion of 1865 which make it less easy to tolerate the plea that slaughter of unarmed persons is to be condoned if it can be shown that those who perpetrated it thought it necessary in the interest of their country's rule. We have seen the outcome of this doctrine of necessity—and of the policy of using terror to produce a "moral effect"—and through the years of agony which began in 1914, when Germany was "forced" to invade Belgium and to produce a "moral effect" on her population, we have gradually struggled on to a different conception of the relation of nations and races to each other. At least, some of us have.

### The Choice in India.

Mr. Montagu irritated the House of Commons in the Debate on July 8th, but his chief point was a good one. "Choose," he said in effect, "between a policy of terrorisation and the policy of co-operation and freedom which I have been trying to build up in India, but choose with the full knowledge that my policy is not only the one you have adopted, but it is the only one by which you can maintain any connection between Great Britain and India at all. At this hour of the day we cannot, if we would, hold India by the sword." Honourable members were very angry. Some who would not if they could use the sword, did not like having it put to them that it would be no use; others were entirely taken up with the question of injustice to an individual, whose wrongs and feelings they can imagine much more easily than those of the Indians who died at Amritsar. A broad question of policy is never very acceptable to the House of Commons, but we think that the Secretary for India did well to put things on that ground, and we like him none the worse because he put them with passion.

### Woman Suffrage in India.

The Joint Select Committee of both Houses which has been considering the draft rules formulated under the Government of India Act, has reported, among other matters, on the question of the Provincial enfranchisement of women. The Indian Central Legislature is not to have power to extend the enfranchisement of women to a Province unless that Province has previously taken action in this direction, but it has been decided that protection shall be given to any Provincial Government which resolves to remove the sex disqualification for enfranchisement. The proposer of such a resolution will be obliged, however, to give at least a month's notice of his motion, so that no rushing tactics can be adopted. It will be deeply interesting to see how rapidly progress is made under this scheme.

### Indian Professional Women.

The prospects of progress towards Women's Suffrage are likely to improve as the numbers of professional women in India increase. We are glad to hear that the India Office has been concerned for some time past with providing suitable accommodation for women who come from India to study medicine in London, and with the co-operation of the London School of Medicine for Women, a hostel will be opened shortly in Mecklenburg Square, which will cater specially for them. There are at present seven Indian women medical students at the London School, and there are likely to be more. The women who come over have, as a rule, already qualified at one of the great Indian medical colleges, and have been chosen for their special capacities to receive scholarships entitling them to training in this country. Several Indian women students have also begun their legal training in this country, Miss Tata being the first to "eat her dinners" at Lincoln's Inn.

### Unemployment Insurance.

The Unemployment Insurance Bill has reached its Report Stage. As it now stands, the benefits payable to women amount to twelve shillings, and those of men to fifteen, while their contributions are threepence and fourpence respectively. Employers pay threepence-halfpenny in respect of women, and fourpence for male employees. Lieutenant-Commander Kenworthy put down an amendment equalising the benefits of the two sexes, but it was rejected on the ground that the smaller contributor was not entitled to an equal return. There seems no very good reason why the employer and the State should contribute less in aid of a woman worker than they do for a man. An unemployed man is really idle except in so far as he is seeking new employment, but the woman temporarily debarred from wage-earning is probably spending most of her leisure in looking after the nation's children, so that the State secures a *quid pro quo* for its munificent one and two-thirds of a penny which is lacking in the case of the twopenny it gives a man. The compromise by which friendly societies may administer the Act, if they undertake to ascertain the wages and conditions obtaining in industries engaged in by their members, is on the whole equitable, but it remains to be seen what the friendly societies will make of the job. Negotiations are still in progress on Clause 8, which now excludes from benefit workers who are unemployed owing to trade disputes in which they are not participating. The importance of this clause in relation to the possibility of a general strike of transport or other workers is obvious, and the case of the men thrown out by the long-continued moulders' strike is fresh in our minds. This Bill is important in all its bearings, direct and indirect.

### Workman's Compensation.

The employer's liability to provide to some extent for the future of a workman disabled in his service, and for the dependents of a worker killed at his post, was until recently quite indeterminate. The Act of 1906 fixed the scale of compensation to be paid; the number of workers coming under the Act is now fifteen millions; the scale has, with the lapse of time and the rise in the cost of living, become inadequate, and the whole matter was ripe for revision when the Home Secretary appointed a Committee to enquire into its working. The chief feature of this Committee's Report is the recommendation that employers should be compelled to insure against their liability. The worker must no longer run the risk of losing his compensation because of the employer's poverty and neglect to insure against being swamped by demands for compensation. The only employers to be excused insurance are the Crown, local or public authorities, and statutory companies (whose solvency is assured) and employers of domestic servants, who for the most part are already insured, and in whose case compulsion would need costly machinery. The benefits of the Act are extended to non-manual workers earning less than £350 a year (the previous limit being £250), to taxi-cab drivers, and to trawlers and shore fishermen and golf caddies, who were previously excluded. The amounts payable as compensation are much increased, the widow's benefit being £350 and the weekly allowances for children under fifteen raised to ten shillings for the first child, seven and sixpence for the second, and six shillings for each additional child. The maximum liability for compensation for a workman's death is thus raised from £300 to £800. Regret will be felt in some quarters that the Committee does not recommend a State scheme, and there is much to be said for the even-

tual union of health, accident, and unemployment insurance under the same authority. But the homely advice not to put all one's eggs in the same basket is good so long as there is any doubt as to the adequacy of the basket. The National Health Insurance scheme is not beyond criticism, and the continuance of private enterprise in accident insurance will afford opportunity for experiment. Experiments will be made, but the risk of experiment will in no case fall upon the workman, whose position is that of a non-contributory beneficiary. The Labour Party, while preferring a State scheme, will recognise this and will probably, like the workman's representatives on the Committee, acquiesce in the scheme as a whole.

### Criminal Law Amendment.

The Joint Committee of the Lords and Commons to which the various existing Bills on the Criminal Law Amendment and on Sexual Offences have been referred, met on Tuesday, July 13th, and again on July 15th, to hear evidence from the Ministry of Health and the Home Office. Future meetings will be held in the House of Lords, and the dates, not yet settled, can be obtained from the Secretary of the Committee Office, House of Lords. Members of the public who are anxious to attend will be admitted. The Committee is able to receive evidence from any quarter it thinks desirable, and any societies or other bodies interested and desiring to give evidence can communicate with the Chairman, Lord Muir-Mackenzie, at the House of Lords.

### The Proposed Divorce Bill in Italy.

Last week in Rome the Socialist Deputy Marangoni introduced a Divorce Bill which was received very favourably by the various Standing Committees of the Chamber. There was a majority in favour of the Bill in eight out of nine of the Committees, and the result of all the votes showed 189 Deputies for and 112 against. It is proposed that all divorce should be made dependent on a separation of at least two years, with the single exception of soldiers returning from the war, who, on proving the infidelity of their wives, may demand immediate divorce. In all other cases divorce may be granted where, as the result of separation, the marriage no longer fulfils its true functions. In cases where there are no children, two years after legal separation is the interval specified, but where there is a family, it is extended to three years. To the usual reasons for separation are added "transmissible disease declared incurable, which cannot be mitigated by the care of the other partner," incurable mental affliction, a five year imprisonment, and impotence. Divorce is not at present allowed in Italy on any ground at all, and it is possible that some of the voting may have meant approval of the principle of divorce rather than enthusiasm for this particular Bill, which would be regarded as extremely advanced in any country. The whole proposal is extremely interesting, both politically and socially. Whether it will pass the House is a doubtful question, in spite of the result of the voting in the Committees. The Catholics will naturally oppose it bitterly, and the Government will hesitate to offend them, but the introduction of any Bill at all marks a great change in public feeling on this subject.

### Divorce Law Reform.

Now that the Matrimonial Causes Act introduced by Lord Buckmaster has passed through the House of Lords the activities of those who are interested in it are concentrated upon its chances in the House of Commons. It is understood that the Government proposes to give it facilities, and that Sir Gordon Hewart will introduce it into the House. Support in the House of Commons is steadily growing, but members are naturally seeking the opinion of their women constituents. One point about the Bill that is being busily discussed during this period of suspended action is the arrangement for divorce after three years on the ground of desertion. Many people oppose this provision in the belief that under this Bill separation after three years will involve automatic divorce, a proposal which would indeed revolutionise the Marriage Laws. In point of fact, however, the Bill does not make any such proposal, for the case will have to come before the Courts as hitherto, and in all cases where an application is made on the ground of desertion after three years the other party will have the right to put in a defence. This whole matter is of urgent importance to women. Our readers, whatever their views on the general question, should make a point of understanding the Bill correctly, for now is the moment during which public opinion can be most effective.

**Imported Flour.**

An official order has been sent out to millers directing them in future to mix ten per cent. of imported flour with all home produce. The wastefulness of this device, with its consequent diversion to remote inland districts of imported flour which is normally consumed in the neighbourhood of ports and main line railways is obvious to the least instructed observer. The great biscuit factories which mix imported and home-grown flour with as much care as the tea-blender mixes his various flavours, will find themselves confronted with haphazard conglomerations, and the costly transport of imported flour will still further congest our transport systems. It is said, we do not know with what truth, that the order is the result of the Wheat Control's attempt to mislead America with regard to the stock of flour held in this country. America is to be persuaded that we have a surplus and is to reduce her prices! It would need a better reason than this to justify so curious an order. In the meantime, the Government of the Argentine announces that only 500,000 tons of wheat may be exported instead of the five millions we were expecting. There is every probability that bread will be both scarce and dear in Europe if these manœuvres continue, though the world crop seems to promise well for full storehouses and barns.

**Municipal Milk Schemes.**

Under the Milk and Dairies Bill local authorities have powers to undertake the retail distribution of milk, and great hopes are entertained in some quarters of the economies which would be possible if the milk trade were established on what might be called a territorial basis, and milk rounds mapped out so that the number of men and vehicles employed in carrying milk to the consumer were materially lessened. Milk is, however, a baffling commodity; its chemistry is still little understood; its finance is apt to be too much for the amateur trader. Scarborough has discarded its herd of cows as unprofitable; Liverpool and Bradford, after exhaustive enquiry, have decided against any such undertaking. And most of us have more confidence in local authorities' strict censuring of impurities and inadequacies of milk supply if they are not themselves the exploiters of the cow. Drastic economy in distribution would take little account of the customers' preference for the delivery of milk before meals rather than after, and the elasticity of meal hours is limited if one would not, like the hunters of the Snark, "breakfast at five o'clock tea and dine on the following day." But no one could wish to discourage local authorities from interesting themselves in the milk question. Few commodities are more important, none is more carelessly marketed, and no traffic needs more supervision.

**Mothercraft Competitions.**

The St. Pancras School for Mothers was the proud winner of the silver shield awarded by the Association of Infant Welfare in the Mothercraft Competition held in the sixty-five most advanced infant welfare centres of the country. The results of the competitions showed a great advance on previous years, and Mrs. H. B. Irving, talking to the two hundred London mothers who came to hear the results, spoke of the wider outlook which these competitions helped to give, and of the deep knowledge and experience shown by the writers of the essays. She urged the mothers to mix more in the world and to get out of their own surroundings as often as possible. If only the difficulties of practical life would allow the mothers of small children to take her advice, how much better it would be for the whole family. Fathers take notice!

**The Empress Eugénie.**

The death of the Empress Eugénie at the age of ninety-four, after fifty years of exile from the country she loved, removes a figure that has long been a historic example of the vicissitudes of fortune. Widowed, exiled, bereft of her only child, she might well have seemed to have nothing to live for; but with admirable courage and discretion she continued to use her influence in promoting Anglo-French amity. Disregarding deprivations and infirmities with mingled gaiety and resignation, she showed at their best the qualities of that *ancien régime* to which she belonged only by adoption, qualities which shine more in defeat than in victory and adorn losing rather than winning causes.

**NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER.**

BY OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT.

On Wednesday, July 7th, in a Committee Room of the House of Commons, the Duke of Northumberland set himself to prove that a world-wide conspiracy existed, with headquarters in America, for destroying the British Empire, and to demonstrate how close was the connection between disturbances in India and disturbances in Ireland. On the following day, in the House itself, Sir Edward Carson, rising to lead the attack on the Government over the Dyer case, showed another aspect of the connection between India and Ireland. No doubt he was convinced of the justice of General Dyer's case, and was not merely using it as a means of attacking the Government; but Sir Edward Carson's eye is never off Ireland, and he was not unwilling to travel to India in order to discredit a Government for whose Irish policy he has never hidden his dislike and distrust. But there is a closer connection still; for nearly all the members who cheered his speech with such amazing sincerity were those who combine dislike of Mr. Montagu's rule of India with dislike of Mr. Lloyd George's Irish Bill; and even at this late stage it is not impossible that there might be a revolt of the Conservative Right if the malcontents on India and on Ireland could be combined. But political revolts, if they are to live, want leaders, and political leaders are made not born, and made only by long apprenticeship. Hence the significance of the action of Sir Edward Carson, one of the very few leaders existing. The revolt went deep, for it included many solid, silent elements in the Coalition, and with a leader it might go far. The possibility of Sir Edward Carson becoming such a leader has to be considered. The possibility must be considered, but a more disastrous one can scarcely be imagined; it would, of course, split the Coalition, and though Party disasters never have the importance which politicians attach to them, still, this is hardly a time when the troubled waters of politics can stand further agitation; and, far beyond that, it would destroy all chance of settlement in Ireland and would sooner or later lose India. But to come to the debate itself.

Mr. Montagu's speech was unfortunate. He has devoted himself to India with a single-mindedness which is most commendable; and he carried a great Reform Bill with singular success. But when he came to speak of General Dyer he made several bad Parliamentary mistakes. He did not prove his case, but assumed that the House knew it, and hurried to his conclusions; a grave forensic error, for with an audience largely hostile, his only chance of convincing lay in a patient exposure of facts and in forcing members to recognise that his conclusions, unpalatable though they might be, were the only ones possible. He ought to have compelled the House to look at the facts and compelled them to admit that in those facts no other action could have been taken. Then, while quite rightly stating that General Dyer's evidence before the Hunter Commission and his action at Amritsar laid down a principle which never has been accepted in similar cases, he made the mistake of accusing all those who defended him of supporting naked force and unlimited frightfulness; an accusation not only offensive but untrue, for many who exonerated General Dyer did so on the ground that an honest man who took a wrong course under dangerous and perplexing circumstances ought not to be punished. Thus having succeeded in converting the House from sullen suspicion to active hostility, Sir Edward Carson's clever, personal, but really quite indefensible, appeal fell on fruitful soil. Mr. Churchill had to follow him, so rapidly was the temper of the assembly rising against the Government, and he spoke quite admirably, doing, indeed, what Mr. Montagu should have done. But it was too late to undo all the harm, and the discussion got more and more exacerbated. General Dyer disappeared, and the attack became a personal one against Mr. Montagu. Sir W. Joynson-Hicks began it, and it was carried home by Mr. Rupert Gwynne with considerable heat and vigour, and no little effect. Mr. Bonar Law wound up, less happy than usual, and in the end 129 Coalitionists voted against the Government.

Such was the debate. If it is permissible to anticipate history, the verdict will be that General Dyer, though honest and brave, erred through a misconception of his duties. Parliament had not only to mete out justice, but also to bear in mind the grave consequences of any action it might take. General Dyer and Amritsar lie in the past, and, right or wrong, what has been done cannot be undone; but the action of Parliament is in the present and in the future, and condoning General Dyer would not only have meant forgiving an error, but would have laid down a rule of government, sinister and far-reaching, the consequences of which would have been incalculable.

**WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT ECONOMY?**

It is a long time since politicians first began to talk about economy. We have had debate after debate upon the subject, and committee after committee. By-elections have been fought, Cabinet Ministers have spoken, private members have asked questions, newspapers have published articles, letters have been written to the *Times*, and, as far as words can avail, the whole country has been rocking with economy for months past. But on this subject words avail very little. There are things which are amenable to talking, and other things which yield at once to public opinion, but money is not one of them, and, in spite of the most vigorous language, official expenditure goes merrily on.

In the House of Lords, on July 7th, a motion for the immediate appointment of Special Commissioners "with power to wind up existing Departments for special war services, and to reduce other inflated establishments to a normal level," was carried against the Government by ninety-five votes to twenty-three. On the same day a public meeting of business men was held at the Cannon Street Hotel to demand a drastic cutting down of the Government's expenditure, "and to enforce in all the public Departments a return to administrative economy and thrift," while that morning an appeal to women, signed by ten prominent ladies, appeared in the *Times*. This appeal urged that the "reckless spending" of the Government should be ended, and that "the women of the country should make a stand against the financial ruin which threatens us." After summarising some of the reports of the Committee on National Expenditure, and detailing a few of the glaring extravagancies of the present moment, the letter continued:—

"All of us who have done any public work know how hardly the taxation necessitated by these 'vast schemes' presses upon the homes of the country. We women are their national guardians. Are we going to stand by and say nothing? We appeal to the women of the country to insist upon every possible means of retrenchment on the part of the Government. The Committee on National Expenditure calculates the cost of housing the enormous staffs of the new Ministries and Departments at from £13 to £30 per head—besides all other expenses. We cannot afford it. We ask that the Ministries of Munitions, Food, Shipping, Labour, and Transport should be abolished within a short period, and also some of the new departments of the older Ministries. We ask the closest scrutiny and supervision through the British Parliament of the internal organisation, expenditure, and administration of all the Ministries and of the public services. We ask for a reconsideration of all doles, subsidies and bounties.

"We urge women to remember their responsibilities as voters; to take all measures by holding meetings in their constituencies; and by writing to their Members of Parliament to let the Government know their determination. Women are willing to play their part and to exercise economy in their homes and family budgets, but all eagerness to do so will vanish if the country's money continues to be so lavishly spent in time of peace, when our hope of salvation lies in economy all round."

All these are signs of public protest and public anxiety which are of grave importance. They point, as surely as did the curious economy by-election of Mr. Esmond Harmsworth, at a full-grown public uneasiness. Every income-tax payer in the land is dismayed; every employer is in a state of semi-panic, every working man in revolt against the indirect taxation of high prices. All the units of the nation are ready for drastic economies, and the Government alone appears to hold out.

There are two main lines of official expenditure which could be reduced—the expenditure abroad, due to the Government's policy, and the home expenditure.

Some people say, with great vigour, that our foreign policy is the worst of our financial troubles. We do not propose to discuss this aspect of the economy question here. Whether the policy of the Government is right or wrong, economy at home is still necessary, and it is this aspect of the question which is the one most easily within the control of individual electors. It is round this point that discussion chiefly centres. The House of Lords and the signatories to the appeal to women want to see wholesale and drastic destruction of the Civil Service; others go even further, and, like the late Lord Fisher, would love to "sack the lot." The cry goes louder and louder, and yet the Government sits tight.

This unparalleled state of affairs is worth a close examination, for it is not like this Government, or any other, to resist an overwhelming popular sentiment, and, as far as words go, the economy sentiment of the country is truly overwhelming to-day. Day by day the Government sees itself attacked. Day by day the Government Departments are abused; their destruction is loudly called for, yet the Government stands quite firm, destroys nothing, and even quietly engages more staff. In view of this state of affairs it is worth our while to consider how the Government could go in shutting up the Civil Service? Could they really and truly lop off the new Ministries and abolish their "swollen" staffs? It seems the only economy open to them, and the figures of people employed, now numbering three hundred and sixty-eight thousand nine hundred and ten persons, look so dreadful when they are turned into a salary list that it looks as if it might effect a considerable saving. But what would happen if the Government did this? It is of no practical use at all to say that staffs must be reduced unless we are prepared to reduce their work also; and this is what the Government sees. In the last few years, while these alarming Civil Service estimates have been growing up, we have been passing law after law which requires most elaborate administration. Our social institutions or industrial regulations, our health administration and our educational systems have been recast, and every change has been towards greater socialisation. The Government, being responsible, knows that you cannot, for example, administer an almost universal out-of-work insurance scheme without a staff to do it. You cannot inspect workshops without inspectors, nor teach continuation schools without teachers; the large growth of Civil Service Estimates is the inevitable consequence of the sort of legislation which we desired and secured. Nor are we as yet anywhere near the end. Are we then reduced to saying that economy is impossible? In the face of the figures of the Budget we dare not say it, for the present expenditure is more impossible still and somehow ends must meet. What then are we to do?

We shall have to admit, pushed by the logic of necessity, that home administration must be reduced, and that to do this we must limit some of our old expenditures and our new social reforms, at any rate for the present. But if we are going to drop off, in which direction is it to be? On every side claims are pouring in, and how are we to decide between them? Clearly, if limit we must, we should use a reasonable criterion, and we suggest that the best to use would be to cut off for the present all expenditure on things that are not investments. Health, education, and housing are solid national investments which we cannot afford to neglect. Let the Government save on Customs officials, on passport offices, on Ministries of Transport, on ancient monuments, museums, and the like. Let it be a little stingy to the Law Officers, and the ex-Lord Chancellors; let it be positively niggardly to the Heralds College and the Foreign Office, and put the screw very tight upon the officials of the Duchy of Cornwall and the Co. Palatine of Durham, but let it remember that infants and children are the very future of our race, and that health and housing come before legal usages and old-established precedents in a world where women vote.

## BURNING QUESTIONS.

We call the attention of our readers to the fact that in the heading of "Burning Questions" we endeavour to present the principal views on each question held by differing groups of political thinkers. We do not ourselves express an editorial opinion, beyond this, that it is each woman's business first to be well-informed and then to come to her own opinion.

### I.—IRELAND AS THE NON-PARTY WOMAN SEES IT.

By DORA MELLONE.

There has been endless writing and talking on this particular "burning question"; much of it directly harmful, and most of it deprived of political value by the yielding to the temptation to prefer the picturesque to the true. I have lived just twenty-one years in Ireland, and may, therefore, be considered to have reached years of discretion, if the writing of this article be not proof to the contrary. For the last ten years I have worked for non-party feminist organisations in Belfast and Dublin, and for the last five years my home has been in what the Ulster press is commencing to call the "Southern metropolis." I write, therefore, as one whose main interest is the advancement of social reform.

Just now I watched the latest consignment of armoured cars arriving from Kingstown. Friends who are so unlucky as to live inside the city boundaries tell me they get no sleep for military lorries and tanks parading the streets, searchlights turned on, while nightly some house is raided by armed parties, generally the house of a well-disposed citizen. This does not tend to increase loyalty.

Just now soldiers are busy digging trenches and piling sandbags in the streets of Londonderry, apparently on the principle that "What once befell befalls again," a principle implicitly accepted by the Irish Executive, though Sinn Fein, whose Intelligence Department is organised and staffed to perfection, will certainly not attempt another offensive in that special district at present. Meanwhile, evidences of the increasing strength of Sinn Fein multiply daily. This week in Waterford the Summer Assizes could not be held, as the majority of those summoned to act on either the grand or petty jury had received a notice from the "competent military authority of the Irish Republican Army" that such service would be considered an act of treason, and would be dealt with as such. As this military authority has been repeatedly proved to be "competent" in fact as well as in name the warning was heeded. I, for one, pass no censure. Jury service is one thing; an obligation to put yourself in peril of your life is another.

"Law and order must be maintained" has been said repeatedly by the Government in the House of Commons. Perhaps they feel this phrase means something, and that something is being done towards that end. In truth the law and order that certainly do exist in Ireland do not emanate from Downing Street, and the military measures taken to restore the "Ancient Régime" are, from the nature of the case, hopeless. In the year of grace 1920 it is not possible for a British Government to hold down a small nationality by force. To be effective machine guns would have to be used on the crowd, not merely driven through the streets, or fired off with blank cartridge in the air. Districts where outrages have occurred would have to be dealt with in the German manner. Force, as employed in Ireland at present, is clenching the hold of Sinn Fein on the people as no propaganda could do. This is not the fault of the Executive, though incredible shortsightedness is often displayed in detail, as in sending 3,000 gallons of petrol across a disturbed district without an armed guard. The whole method is wrong. The reduction of Ireland by armed force, if carried out effectively, would raise such a storm as would drive the British political party responsible from power for a generation. Therefore, force is employed to meet the outcry of those who demand it, and who also represent votes, without resort to those measures of really drastic repression which alone could subdue the country—in other words, enough to exasperate, and to keep the fires burning, not enough to trample them out. Once again, "force" is proved to be "no remedy."

Meanwhile, the present method is carried on at the cost of brave men's lives, or, for those who are not struck down by the bullet, of a social boycott which is a very real form of martyrdom. Irish Republicanism has adopted a method of warfare undistinguishable in the eyes of most people from crime, justified by themselves as legitimate for an oppressed people struggling against heavy odds. With this warfare the Executive is powerless to cope. The police go about their duties with splendid loyalty, and here recognition should be given to the courage and capacity of a much-abused body of men. A

young servant girl said to me the other day, "But for then, we girls could not go on the roads." After months of close attendance at the Children's Court it was easy to feel the truth of the words. Crime in Ireland, apart from political outrage, is less common than in Great Britain, especially as regards crimes of violence, but even here the police are indispensable. As long as they remain loyal there is nothing to prevent the present state of affairs continuing for an indefinite time. The Government cannot enforce order, but it can keep up a certain semblance of it. Sinn Fein probably cannot do very much more in the direction of "offensives" than it has so far undertaken, though that might appear a rash statement, and, of course, there is always the possibility that in the North, where lies the real danger, an outbreak might develop of such character that both England and Ireland would be forced to mend it or end it. The Irish people love "playing pretence," they have a natural craving after dramatic effect, and they love the whole business of a secret and officially suppressed Parliament, issuing decrees that must be carried out on pain of death, waging successful war with the country that has defeated the greatest military Power in the world, organising efficient Land Courts, to say nothing of the spectacular doings, such as kidnapping a British general and maintaining order, in the absence of the police, at a big race meeting. Moreover, there is behind it a passion of national feeling hard to describe, backed by a complete system of terrorism, and an organisation whose ability is beyond praise, as its methods are frequently beyond any moral code acknowledged by Christian nations. At the same time, it must be remembered the majority of Irish Republicans believe firmly there are the gravest reasons for what seem the most outrageous crimes. Thus, there is no prospect that Sinn Fein will change its present methods, or that the Government will be in a position to deal with them effectively.

What then is to be done? First recognise facts. Let the Government admit its failure to govern Ireland, as proved in the recent Derry riots. Then let the often advocated method of a Constituent Assembly elected by P.R. be tried in real earnest, and with absolutely free terms of reference. Ulster would send representatives to such an Assembly, if they understood that the proposal was definite and serious. There could be no coercion of Ulster, as pointed out in a recent issue of this paper. Whatever conclusion the Constituent Assembly arrive at, leave must be given to any Ulster county which wishes to do so to contract out of it by a county referendum. If it be objected that such a method involves the abandonment of Southern Unionists to the tender mercies of a Sinn Fein Parliament, the only reply is that they are at present at the mercy of such a Parliament, and the Government does not appear able to do much to temper its rigour.

The emigration rate among women and girls from one centre alone is now 300 a week. By regulations of the United States these must be physically fit and with some money. An unusually wet summer, following an unhealthy winter has sent up the rate of infant mortality; the coal shortage of the coming winter will continue that work. Thus, while the Government are "playing pretence" with the Home Rule Bill, the children are dying, or growing up sickly, and the young men and women are leaving the country. It is useless to pursue an ostrich-like policy and disregard the problem.

English men and women, however much bored they may be with the condition of Ireland, cannot evade responsibility. Thought must be given to the matter, even in spite of inevitable preoccupation with such vital questions as railways and coal supply. It should not be left for an Autumn Session. Will, at least, the women voters of Great Britain come to the help of the women of Ireland, and make their members understand that it must be dealt with at once? I have already indicated my belief that the only possible method is by a Constituent Assembly. The Home Rule Bill is not worth consideration, as far as the problem of the rest of Ireland is concerned. It is not serious politics; it is a way of pretending to do something, while in reality doing nothing.

## II.—INSTIGATED BLOODSHED IN IRELAND.

By HENRY HARRISON.

The publicist whose endeavours are aimed at securing peace between Ireland and England has much greater difficulties to meet now than was the case before the war. New and burning issues have arisen in British politics, and parties and sections are more preoccupied with the protection and aggrandisement of their several interests than about the application of their time-honoured principles of constitutional and democratic government. New methods of political organisation have been created in which that blessed word "propaganda" figures largely, and which consist in saying very loudly and very often in varying forms the thing which the organiser desires the public to believe, and in securing, through financial or proprietorial control of the public Press, that reports of contemporary events shall be so presented—by the prominence given to some, by the suppression of others, and by the colouration skilfully added to all—as to support the views which the organiser desires to implant in the public mind. A minority relying upon the simple truth is left in a very hard case, unless it has a journalistic megaphone through which to shout it at the public at large.

One hopeful element, however, is to be found in the entrance into the political arena of women. Without accentuating unduly the possibilities of divergence between the feminine and the masculine mind in politics, there can be little doubt that there will be new view-points, a certain detached criticism of that which has been previously unquestioned, which should tend to make public opinion more vital, more wholesome, and more vigorous. Britain, that is England, Scotland, and Wales, lost some 620,000 dead in the war—mostly men in their early manhood—and to these may be added a tragically large number of men wrecked and shattered by wounds or disease, who are as much lost to the civic life of Britain as the war-dead themselves. These men whose number must be at least three-quarters of a million—represented all that was best and bravest in her young manhood; they were the men who were most readily affected by moral ideals, honourable obligations, justice, fair play, and hatred of oppression which are the traits which distinguish the high-minded from those who are made of baser clay. They are gone—three-quarters of a million out of a total population of forty millions—and the electorate of Britain is thus drained of an enormous proportion of its best elements. The positions which they would have occupied by national right are filled by the profiteers and the war wealthy, and others who beheld the fighting from a safe distance. The high standards of the pre-war days, the moral exaltation of the war days, alike are gone. It is with the women that we look to find the beginning of the process of moral recuperation—the high-minded element whose male counterpart was destroyed by the war. With this element there survives the last hope of the optimist.

Ireland is in open revolt against British rule; Ireland passionately asserts her separate nationhood and her rights to self-determination; Ireland will not discuss compromises with the agents of British Statesmanship. Why? Because the Ireland which, for more than a generation, confined itself to constitutional methods of ventilating its political grievances has been cheated out of the triumph which it achieved in 1914. It secured its Home Rule Act, 1914, subject to a postponement of its operation pending the end of the war, and Irishmen volunteered in large numbers for service in the British Army, because of the passing of that Act. The war is over, but Ireland is not to be allowed to have the Act for which she toiled for nearly forty years—nor, in so far as it can be alleged to be inapplicable to existing conditions, is it to be replaced by another Act in any way equivalent or in any way acceptable. Again why? Because the North-East corner of Ulster—about one-quarter of the total population of Ireland—objected to Ireland having Home Rule. Ulster, having exhausted constitutional methods of protest, betook itself to preparations for armed revolt and to an intensive campaign of seditious speech-making. Ulster succeeded by these means in postponing the Home Rule Act and ultimately in pledging the Government to repeal it, and the Ulster leaders secured for themselves Cabinet Ministerships, Lord Chancellors, Judgeships, and Law Officerships of the Crown. The rest of Ireland not unnaturally reviewed its position, and finding that forty years of constitutional agitation by 75 per cent. of the population was not so effective as two years seditious agitation by 25 per cent. of the population, decided almost unanimously to adopt the latter method. That, in brief outline, is the reason why Ireland is in revolt to-day.

But there are other reasons why Ireland is in a state of acute exasperation. Large numbers of patriotic Nationalists joined

the Army because of the passing of the Home Rule Act, which is now to be repealed without ever having come into operation—save as an inducement to recruiting. But not merely are they to be robbed of the Home Rule Act, but the very fact that Nationalist Ireland took part in the war is denied! And yet the figures show that under voluntary service Ireland's percentage of war dead to total population number at least five-sixths of the corresponding figure for Britain under compulsory service. Irish people whose dear ones fell regard this partisan denial of Ireland's participation in the war as a slander on Ireland's dead. Can they be blamed? Again, both the reason for and the result of the success of N.E. Ulster's seditious agitation was the watchword "Ulster must not be coerced." Irish Nationalists who are not fond of British coercion for Irishmen acquiesced if the watchword were to mean, as unquestionably at first it did only mean, that Ulster was not to be coerced by the armed forces of the Crown to submit to a Home Rule Parliament in Dublin. That meaning has now been extended in an indefinite way so that it has come to be regarded somehow as a "coercion of Ulster" if the rest of Ireland were to be given anything which Ulster does not wish it to have. So true is this that the present Government Bill, which proposes to confer some very limited powers of self-government upon Southern and Northern Ireland, actually gives Ulster a veto upon the acquisition by Southern Ireland of further powers, and generally upon its political development to full national self-government. Southern Ireland rejects that Bill with passionate indignation, and Southern Ireland is undergoing the full rigour of coercion by the armed forces of the Crown, while the N.E. Ulster leaders clamour that it shall be made even more stringent. Hence 75 per cent. of Irishmen are to be coerced in order to vindicate the right of 25 per cent. of Ulstermen not to be coerced. And this coercion is being applied to a large extent by law officers, judges, and officials who figured prominently amongst the successful seditious members of N.E. Ulster. If this be a typical case, and I think that it is, it must be conceded that the Parliamentary Union of Ireland with great Britain has not brought us equal laws, an even-handed administration of justice or any of the rights of equal citizenship.

Within the last few weeks the Government has come to realise that to persist in passing and applying its Bill for the Better Government of Ireland will not merely add fuel to the flames in Ireland but will bring down upon itself the condemnation of all informed and fair-minded opinion of the civilised world. Quite recently the Viceroy of Ireland has announced that Ireland can have any settlement which she desires so long as it does not involve either sovereign independence for Ireland or the coercion of Ulster, and at almost the same time the Prime Minister spoke in similar terms in the House of Commons. The Irish Dominion League under the presidency of Sir Horace Plunkett thereupon produced a Bill, introduced into the House of Lords by Lord Monteagle, for conferring upon Ireland the status of a self-governing Dominion within the British Empire, and giving N.E. Ulster the right of securing its own exclusion from the new Dominion. Yet that Bill was opposed by the Lord Chancellor, who procured its rejection on behalf of the Government. There the matter stands to-day. The Government is without a constructive policy, and the situation in Ireland is surely developing towards disaster.

There is a section both in Britain and in Ireland that seeks to precipitate that disaster in the hope that bloodshed in Ireland may occur on such a scale as to produce national exhaustion and the suppression of Ireland's national claims. Extremism is fostered by an anti-Irish propaganda of great bitterness designed to exasperate British feeling against Ireland. It has recently blossomed forth in certain venomous columnies, of which two specimens may be given. The first was a story of a midnight visit of thirty Sinn Feiners to the house of two girls, whose farm was coveted by their neighbours, which was alleged to have resulted in the girls being ravished by all the members of the visiting party. The story was proved to be a grotesque fabrication; but does the denial always overtake the falsehood? The second was a story that a Limerick priest announced from the altar that a hundred indulgences would be given to any man who shot a policeman. This very obvious lie was exposed, with the result that the two treasurers of the organisation which spread it, Mr. Turton, M.P., and Lord Denbigh, have publicly resigned their positions. Such are the methods of the anti-Irish propaganda designed to precipitate military bloodshed in Ireland.

Are the women of Great Britain prepared for further warfare? Are they prepared for it in such a cause?

## WOMAN'S PLACE IS THE HOME.

The Housing Problem is one of the most serious of the domestic difficulties which face us to-day. We all know that it is difficult; we none of us know exactly what the difficulties are, or how they can be met. Money is said to be one, scarcity of labour another, scarcity of materials a third, contractors' rings a fourth, Government delays a fifth, and so on. It is high time that women looked into these difficulties to see if they are all real, and if so, to try and remedy them. "The Woman's Leader" proposes, therefore, to publish articles on various aspects of housing during the summer months, in order to suggest to its readers subjects for their own investigations. We shall have articles on policy and on plans, on facts and on failures, and we invite correspondence on any aspect of the question.

### THE WORK OF A WOMAN BUILDER.

(Mrs. Dott, who is an Expert in the Erection of Cottages, Interviewed by Agnes M. Miall.)

It has become more apparent lately that a field is opening to women architects, who will bear in mind the needs of the housewife when designing dwellings; but so far no one seems to have conceived of the possibility of women becoming builders as well as planners of the national homes. Far less do people guess that we have in our midst at least one woman builder whose experience of the trade extends to pre-war years.

"It began when I was out in South Africa, where my husband, a clergyman, was working," said Mrs. Dott. "One of his duties was to be responsible for certain Church property out there. Among these was one of South Africa's very few historical buildings—the house where the treaty by which the Dutch ceded Cape Colony to England was signed. It had fallen into considerable disrepair. There were difficulties in the way of getting it put in order, and I had the inspiration of undertaking the job myself.

"I knew nothing of building; the native men whom I hired almost as little. We had to learn by doing things wrong and then doing them over again. But in the end we saved the house.

"A little later there was a question of the schools attached to the Church being condemned by the Government inspectors. Emboldened by my previous success I undertook to put them right, and did so, with such success that the Government not only leased the school from us at a rental above the average, because the fabric was in such good condition, but allowed my husband special concessions in the way of visiting the classes."

By this time the fascination of building had taken firm hold of Mrs. Dott, and, back in England and recuperating on the Yorkshire moors after illness, she began a systematic self-training in the theory and practice of the trade. She read technical books on cottage-building, plumbing, drainage, brick-making and joinery, and worked at the examination papers set for clerks of works until she began to feel that she had the subject at her fingers' ends. She also acquired what she considers the essential art of giving directions to workmen in technical terms.

Then Mrs. Dott had the opportunity of buying a piece of ground at Goathland, and in 1919 undertook the great adventure of building a group of cottages on it. She made her own plans for the houses, intending to get a builder to carry them out, but this plan fell through because the man refused to employ local labour.

"And I wanted my Goathland houses to be built by Goathland men," said Mrs. Dott. "Well, there remained only one thing to do, and that was to put them up myself. So I gathered together the bricklayers, masons, and joiners round about and explained to them what I wanted to do. I said frankly that I wasn't an expert builder, and that they could cheat me in a hundred ways if they chose. But I'm glad to say that only two did—out of thirty-eight."

So the cottages were built, ten of them, entirely by Goathland men, and both the men themselves and the bold woman builder were justified by the fact that when the houses were completed people came from twenty miles round to see them. A further compliment was that one house was sold as a country cottage to a rich York manufacturer for the high price of £2,000.

Since the war Mrs. Dott has generously presented the little colony for use as a settlement for disabled officers; it was the first of its kind to be opened in this country. The gift included furniture as well as dwellings, and in selecting this Mrs. Dott made the fullest use of the convenience and labour-saving qualities of fitments, which are built in in every possible place.

Her description of these furnishings makes any woman's mouth water for one of her Goathland homes. Imagine window-seats, inglenooks, screens and cupboards fitted into the most convenient places. All are of oak or mahogany bought from yards where ships are dismantled; some of the fitments were those used in a yacht owned by the King of Portugal. In the

bedrooms dressing-tables, with drawers of all sizes built in underneath and washstands with boot cupboards fitted below, awaited the lucky families who took possession, and there are polished floors, doing away with the necessity for carpets. If the day ever comes when all homes are built on the Goathland plan furniture removers will be forced to go out of business.

In fact Mrs. Dott, like every woman who knows how much work a house can make, believes in designing homes so that they do not exhaust an unnecessary ounce of the housewife's energy and temper; and from this standpoint particularly she believes that there is a future awaiting the woman builder. She repudiates the idea that this is a difficult trade for a woman to take up.

"It is no harder than learning a new language or the violin," she assured me, "and I can say from my own experience that it is fascinating. The great thing is to master the subject so thoroughly, both theoretically and practically, that you can test the workmanship of your labourers and know whether it is well done. The only other qualification is to be able to handle men. Labour troubles?" She smiled when I hinted that builders' workmen have an inconvenient habit of striking. "I have never had any labour troubles. Pull with your workers, treat them not as hands but as men, and they will respond by giving you good service.

"The great thing is to try with all your might to be just. The men appreciate this very keenly. And always," Mrs. Dott emphasised more than once, "always abide by their trade customs, even when they tell against you. If there is any dispute call up three or four men, find out the usual practice in the trade regarding the contested point, and adhere strictly to it. In addition pay Trades Union rates (and a little more), with a half-penny an hour above for specially good work, and you ought not to have any difficulties whatever with your men.

"As to the planning of houses, I believe above all in sound construction, an avoidance of ornament and plenty of space to move about in. All homes ought to be so designed as to save the housewife's steps in every possible way."

Mrs. Dott's building adventures do not lie merely in the past; when I saw her she was busy planning new schemes for the near future, and she is firmly of opinion that even under post-war conditions building can be made a very profitable investment. One cannot help hoping that her pioneer example will inspire many other women to take up, from the practical constructive standpoint, the question of providing healthy, beautiful, and easily-run homes for the next generation.

### SWANPOOL GARDEN SUBURB, LINCOLN.

#### The Beginning of a New Era in the Use of Electrical Generating Plant and Heat Distribution.

The Swanpool Garden Suburb, which is being built by Messrs. G. N. Haden & Sons Ltd., Engineers, in conjunction with Messrs. Thompson, Kennell & James, Architects, is an experiment in home making on sound lines.

The origin of this Garden City was in no small measure due to Col. J. S. Ruston, Chairman of the Board of Directors for Messrs. Ruston and Hornsby, and Mr. Sharpley, Managing Director of the same firm. In approaching the scheme it was felt that a serious effort should be made to make each house a real home in every sense without in any way sacrificing the artistic features that are so readily obtainable from a well-laid-out Garden City.

For a house to be a "home" it must be comfortable and healthy. Modern life tends to concentrate itself in the home; consequently, keener interest and attention is now given to all that is essential to render our indoor life as agreeable as possible.

In the past the enjoyment was spoilt, and health lost, through insufficient and uneven warming of the building, inadequate and uncertain hot water supply, and unsatisfactory lighting. In many instances, also, extremely poor facilities were provided

for the cooking of meals, although this was the main daily task of the woman in the home.

Strange it is such problems most vital to our comfort and health are often passed over with little, if any, proper consideration. Many years' prejudice existed against a central heating apparatus, under the mistaken belief that radiators caused stuffiness in the rooms. Some feared chills when going from a warmed building into the cold outside air; some went so far as to say that a great difference in the temperature of the rooms was favourable to health. Everyone who studies questions of ventilation and health knows now that such beliefs are entirely unfounded. The truth is that the efficient warming of a house—such as is attained in the cheapest, most economical and reliable manner by a central heating apparatus, makes it possible for children and adults to occupy any room comfortably at will, or pass through any corridor in the house without risk of contracting chills, even in cold weather. The even distribution of heat in all parts of a house makes it agreeable, cosy, and comfortable throughout. In each room, too, it is an advantage; proximity to windows will cause no discomfort; fuss and anxiety about draughts will disappear, and it will not be necessary to crowd round the fireplace in order to be comfortable. It is true that nothing can compare with a bright fire for cheerfulness, but it is the most extravagant method of warming, and often ineffectual, and if we reserve open fires for appearance only we shall eliminate dust, dirt—we shall not need to remove ashes or to clear pans—and, in addition, we shall save money.

In these days there must be no waste, especially is this so with fuel. A single source of heat such as a power station where the boiler plant is designed to make the greatest possible use of the heat before the gases make their exit through the chimney, must, obviously, be far more economical than a number of grate fires in each house. It has this further and most important advantage, that it ensures a constant supply of really hot water.

The provision of a supply of hot water from a boiler in the kitchen range is wasteful, inconvenient, and uncertain. The range is not always in use when hot water is required, and an arrangement by which hot baths may be had at any time of the day or night gives immense additional comfort.

Electric power, which is certainly the cheapest and most convenient source of lighting and heating, has a great economical advantage when combined, as it is in this scheme, with central heating. The steam that passes through the turbines of the electric generating sets is used for heating the water for the domestic supply, and thus there is no waste energy lost. In other generating stations this waste heat is turned into the river or dissipated in cooling towers. At Swanpool it is used for home comfort. This device, which is simple when once the main idea has been accepted, is the outstanding feature of the Swanpool scheme.

During the heating season the exhaust steam from the turbines will be condensed in heater caloriferes adjacent to the engines, and the water thus heated will be pumped through circulating mains and distributed to each and every house, to the public buildings, such as schools, institutes, etc., as well as the public laundry and swimming baths.

During the summer months the heating system in each house will be shut off, leaving the hot water supply available for use.

The question of what to do with the exhaust steam during the summer months, when the heat is only required for the domestic service, has been given most careful thought, and a scheme is now under consideration by which the whole of the surplus steam can be put to a profitable use. The plant under these circumstances will be working under the most economical conditions at all times throughout the year. The electrical energy generated at the station is bound to be cheap when produced under these most favourable conditions, and by this means a high thermal efficiency will be obtained.

The combined installation has been so designed that the electrical energy can be supplied at less than a penny a unit for both lighting and cooking purposes. The calculation upon which this charge is based was worked out by a section of the Housing Committee, formed of working men and women, who determined a figure representing the average cost per week per house for coal required for heating, cooking, etc., under the existing conditions. To this was added the cost of gas for lighting, etc., etc., and it is estimated that this figure of a penny a unit will cover the cost of fuel, establishment charges, interest on capital, and depreciation, etc., for the plant as designed.

This scheme therefore can be recommended to the consideration of all women who are practically concerned in housing schemes, because it combines health, comfort, and economy with labour-saving and common sense.

F. H. HORTON.

## SOME THINGS THAT MATTER.

By HAROLD COX.

[This column will be the scene of a weekly controversy between Sir Leo Chiozza Money and Mr. Harold Cox upon things that matter. Our readers will find in it new subjects for their consideration and new views of familiar subjects. The Editor accepts no responsibility for any of the views expressed by these two eminent economists.]

Sir Leo Chiozza Money's article is essentially an appeal to women to support an unlimited expansion of State expenditure. Curiously enough just before his article was published there appeared in the daily press an appeal signed by a number of distinguished English women urging all women to use their influence in favour of national economy. There is here a direct conflict between two policies. On the one side is the Socialist policy of making everyone dependent upon the State; on the other side is the Individualist policy of appealing to individuals to help the nation. Throughout Sir Leo's article there is not a single suggestion that any responsibility rests upon the individual to do anything whatever for the benefit of the State. He begins by urging women to defend themselves from "the new economic indignities" which are being offered them. By this phrase he means that women whose work is no longer wanted on the land or in munition factories have properly been told to go back to their pre-war occupations, or otherwise to make their own arrangements for their own lives. He evidently holds that it is the business of the nation to keep these war-workers for ever on the national pay-sheet, even though there is no longer any war work for them to do.

What he fails to explain is where the money is to come from with which to pay people for doing work which nobody wants done. The State is entirely dependent for its financial resources upon the proceeds of individual enterprise. Not a single State undertaking yields any balance of profit to the public exchequer. Consequently so fast as State enterprise is extended at the expense of private enterprise the financial resources of the nation are diminished, and when Sir Leo's ideal of universal State enterprise is complete there will be no financial balance out of which people can be paid for doing work that nobody wants. In other words, Sir Leo Chiozza Money's demand that land girls and munition girls should continue to receive payment from the State is only possible if private enterprise is allowed to continue, and to make profits out of which the State can obtain revenue. Yet the essence of the Socialist creed is the destruction of private enterprise.

Sir Leo cannot escape from this conclusion by arguing that he would employ the women who are no longer wanted on the land or in munition factories in making other things, for as a matter of fact whenever schemes of employment are started merely for the sake of making work for the unemployed the labour is in effect absolutely wasted. The history of our old Poor Law is conclusive on this point. Boards of Guardians were permitted to invent work for the benefit of the unemployed, and in practice the proceedings were at least as costly as if the unemployed had received a dole for doing nothing. A more modern example is furnished by some of the Government munition factories which kept on working after the war in order to avoid discharging employees. The result was that men and women were employed in one factory making munitions, which were passed on to another factory where other men and women were employed in breaking them to pieces. That is the true reality of the Socialist dream that the State has an unlimited capacity for finding employment.

Incidentally to his attack on private enterprise Sir Leo Chiozza Money puts in a plea for the Excess Profits Duty, arguing that the opposition to that duty is entirely due to the greed of the profiteer. If he had gone a little more fully into the matter he would have known that the opposition to the Excess Profits Duty is based, not upon the fact that it takes a large amount of money from people who have made large profits, for that is already done, and fairly done, by means of the income tax. The Excess Profits Duty is a bad tax because it is based upon an

arbitrary standard of profits, with the result that some people who are making large fortunes suffer very little from it, while others who are struggling to build up a new business have to pay an enormous proportion of their total gains. Further, the tax is mischievous because it encourages employers to waste money on useless outlay in order to hide their profits, and because it encourages workmen to demand an exorbitant rate of pay on the expressed plea that by so doing they are taking the money not from their employer but from the State. The Excess Profits Duty is a direct cause of wasteful production, and consequently an indirect cause of high prices.

## EQUAL PAY IN THE DANISH CIVIL SERVICE.

By THORA PEDERSEN.

In 1917 the Danish Government appointed a Committee to enquire into the principles for the payment of salaries to State officials, their pension and support, and to draft a proposal for an Act about salaries for the different State officials.

In the summer of 1919 the said Committee submitted its report, and a few months later Parliament passed an Act about salaries for State officials and teachers in elementary schools, which Act was in all essentials drafted on the suggestions contained in the Committee's report.

One of the questions dealt with by the Committee was the question of the salaries to be paid to women for their work. In regard to this point the Committee became divided into two groups, a majority of fifteen members and a minority of six. The majority took up the attitude—on principle—that women should be granted the same salary as men when they held offices of the same kind, while the minority maintained that the salary to be paid to women officials should be lower than that paid to men officials. The Government adopted the proposal of the majority, and it was passed into law by the Danish Parliament.

Being the only woman member of the Committee, it was my duty to advance the demands of the women. As is well known, this demand has been expressed in the words: Equal pay for equal work. I found, however, that it would not be opportune to bring forward the women's demand in this form, as it might have been justly objected that this sentence embodies a demand containing something else, and more than, the women's demand for equality with men. The only thing which I, on behalf of the women, thought myself justified in claiming was that the principles which were made the basis of the fixing of the salaries for men should also be made the basis of the fixing of the salaries for women.

When we came to the fixing of the salaries for State officials apart from the question of sex, it was the nature of the work, the responsibility attached to it and the education required of the person who performed the work concerned which were taken into consideration. It was maintained by members of the Committee that women officials were not, as a rule, able to fill a position so well as men, as neither the quantity nor the quality of the work performed by women came up to that performed by men. These remarks alluded to the notion that sickness among women officials is presumed to be greater than among men, and that there are special kinds of work in the different branches in the State service which a woman, according to an opinion current among men, is unable to perform, or in any case is not so well fitted for as a man.

As no proof was offered of the correctness of these assertions, and in order to take the bull by the horns for once, I insisted on these circumstances being made the subject of a closer investigation.

Consequently the Committee sent out to the various Ministries a number of interrogatories in order to obtain information about the employment of women within the different Ministries; furthermore the Committee caused statistics to be worked out about the sickness of men and women officials during a period of five years.

Unfortunately it is not possible for me in the short space at

Sir Leo finishes with the quaint suggestion that people who object to the Excess Profits Duty can quite easily escape it by lowering their prices, so that there will be no net margin of profit on which to pay the duty. It does not seem to have occurred to him that if he were in business and were to sell his products appreciably below the market price the purchaser would re-sell them at the full price and pocket for himself the profit which Sir Leo had foregone in order to escape Excess Profits Duty. Sir Leo would lose not only the 60 per cent. Excess Profits Duty, but also the remaining 40 per cent., which would go to the intermediate speculator. What advantage that would be to the community it is not easy to understand.

my disposal to expatiate on the replies given to these interrogatories, tempting as it is to do so, but I will summarise the conclusions arrived at by the majority of the Committee from these investigations.

After carefully considering and tabulating the replies the Committee reported that the information received from the different State institutions and from the elementary schools can hardly be said to contain any justification for paying women officials lower salaries than men in those positions where men and women perform the same kind of work, and for the performance of which work the same kind of education is required.

Upon the whole it is hardly possible to bring forward any argument in support of the assertion that women and men for technical reasons should be paid different salaries. When the laws then in force contained provisions in consequence of which the salaries now paid to men and women are different, it was surely due to circumstances which had no bearing upon the value of the work.

Three main objections were made by the minority to these findings. In the first place, that women as a rule are not, to the same extent as men, bound to support and maintain other persons. In the second place, that it will be much easier for a sensible and clever woman to live upon a modest salary than it will generally be for a man. In the third place, that a woman proves to be willing to undertake work for a much lower salary than a man is.

It is quite true that it is considerations like the two last mentioned which up till now have been decisive for the fixing of women's salaries; nevertheless I think that it is a rather bold thing to advance reasons of this nature in a country where women have the franchise and are eligible for Parliament!

In respect of the question about support and maintenance the Committee in its deliberations touched upon this point. From the point of view of a woman I could have no objections to salaries being fixed in a certain proportion to the actual obligations of an official towards the maintenance of other persons; I supported the proposal that the maintenance grant in addition to salary should be paid to any woman or man official who is supporting dependents.

But the members of the Committee were unable to agree about an actual extra payment to be made to people who are bound to maintain others; it was especially the men officials who opposed the introduction of such additional payment. And the form for maintenance payment which had been proposed by the minority and which was regarded with much sympathy by other members of the Committee was not, when it came to the point, accepted by the other members; neither could they agree that all women should be paid lower salaries than all men because some men were supporting other persons.

Thus we were caught by the logic of things. It was impossible to bring forward any actual ground to show that women officials should be paid lower salaries than men officials in similar positions, and the result was that the Committee reported that men and women in similar offices should be paid equal salaries. The report has been acted upon; the law was passed, and the Civil Service of Denmark is now carrying it into effect.

## ANOTHER EMINENT VICTORIAN.

DIZZY.

By LYTTON STRACHEY.

**The Life of Benjamin Disraeli, Earl of Beaconsfield.** By George Earle Buckle, in succession to W. F. Monypenny. Vols. V. and VI. (John Murray. Price 36s.)

The absurd Jew-boy, who set out to conquer the world, reached his destination. It is true that he had gone through a great deal, a very great deal, to get there—four volumes by Mr. Buckle and Mr. Monypenny. But there he was. After a lifetime of relentless determination, infinite perseverance and superhuman egotism, he found himself at last old, hideous, battered, widowed, solitary, diseased, but Prime Minister of England. Mr. Buckle's last two volumes show him to us in this final stage—the stage of attainment. The efflorescent Dizzy, Earl of Beaconsfield and Knight of the Garter, stands before us. It is a full-length portrait: twelve hundred pages tell the story of twelve years. Much is revealed to us—much of the highest interest, both personal and public—the curious details of political complexities, a royal correspondence, the internecine quarrels of cabinets, a strange love affair, the thrilling *peripeleia* of world-shaking negotiations, the outside and the inside of high affairs, and yet—why is it?—the revelation seems to be incomplete. Is this really everything, one wonders, or was there something else? Can this be everything? Is this, in truth, greatness? Can this, and nothing more, have been the end of all those palpitating struggles, the reward of energies so extraordinary, and capacities so amazing? The sinister, mysterious features return one's stare with their mummy-like inscrutability. "What more do you want to know?" they seem to whisper. "I have conquered the world." "Yes, you have conquered the world—granted," we answer. "But then —?" Silence.

A moralist, with the pen of a Thackeray, might, indeed, make great play with these twelve hundred pages. He could compile a very pretty sermon out of them, on the text of the vanity of human ambition. He could draw a striking picture of the aged vainglorious creature, racked by gout and asthma, dyed and corseted, with the curl on his miserable old forehead kept in its place all night by a bandana handkerchief, clutching at power, prostrating himself before royalty, tottering to congresses, wheezing out his last gasps, with indefatigable snobbery, at fashionable dinner-tables; and then, with all his shrewdness and his worldly wisdom, so easily taken in!—a dupe of the glittering outsiders of things; a silly, septuagenarian child, keeping itself quiet with a rattle of unrealities, unreal patriotism, and unreal loyalty, and unreal literature, and unreal love. Only, unfortunately, the picture would be a little crude. There would be a considerable degree of truth in it, no doubt, but it would miss the really interesting point. It would be the picture of a remarkable, entertaining, edifying figure, but not an important one—a figure that might, after all, be ignored. And Dizzy could not be ignored. He was formidable—one of the most formidable men who ever lived. His conduct of the European negotiations which reached their climax in the Congress of Berlin—laid before us with illuminating detail by Mr. Buckle—reveals a mind in which all the great qualities of action—strength, courage, decision, foresight—were combined to form an engine of tremendous power. It is clear that Bismarck was right in treating him almost, if not quite, as an equal; and to have been almost the equal of Bismarck is to have been something very

considerable indeed. Nor, of course, was he merely a man of action. He had the nervous sensibility of an artist, living every moment of his life with acute self-consciousness, and observing the world around him with the quick discrimination of an artist's eye. His letters, like his novels, are full of a curious brilliance—an irony more latent than expressed, an artificiality which, somehow or other, is always to the point; and some of his phrases have probably achieved immortality. The puzzle is that so many varied and splendid qualities should, in the aggregate, leave such an unsatisfying impression upon the mind. The gorgeous sphinx seems to ring hollow after all. Never, one guesses, was so much power combined with so little profundity. The intrepid statesman drifts through politics without a purpose; the veteran man of the world is fascinated by the paraphernalia of smart parties; the author of *Endymion* is more ridiculously ingenuous than the author of *The Young Visitors*. He could not, he said, at the age of seventy-four, "at all agree with the great King that all is vanity." One wonders why. It is certainly very difficult to find anything in these twelve hundred pages which is not vanity—excepting, of course, the approbation of Queen Victoria. The correspondence with Lady Bradford is typical of the whole strange case. To pursue, when one is seventy and Prime Minister, a Countess who is fifty-six and a grandmother, with protestations of eternal passion, appears to have presented itself to Dizzy quite genuinely, as the secret culmination of his career. Thus, under the rococo facilities of his adoration, a feeling that is not entirely a simulacrum is perceptible—a feeling, not towards the lady, but towards himself and the romantic, the dazzling, and yet the melancholy circumstances of his life. One perceives that in spite of his years and his experience and his cynicism, he never grew old; under all his trappings the absurd Jew-boy is visible till the very end.

But perhaps, in reality, it is a mistake to look at the matter from the moralist's point of view. Perhaps it is as a history, not of values, but of forces, that this long, ambiguous, agitated existence should be considered. One would see it then as a mighty demonstration of energies—energies pitted against enormous obstacles, desperately struggling, miraculously triumphant, and attaining at last the apogee of self-expression, perfect and, from the very beginning, pre-ordained. Perhaps it is useless to enquire the object of it all. "Joy's life lies in the doing." Perhaps! Only, if that is so, joy's life is a singularly insubstantial thing. "Condition de l'homme—inconscience, ennui, inquiétude!" Let us moralise with Pascal, if we must moralise at all. And, in Dizzy's case, those three grim spectres seem always to be crouching behind the painted pasteboard scene. Probably, indeed, he never noticed them; for the old comedian, acting in his own most private theatre, with himself for audience, preferred not to question the solidity of the fairy palaces in which he played his marvellous part. But we, who, thanks to Mr. Buckle and Mr. Monypenny, have been provided with seats in the wings, can see only too clearly what lies on the other side of those flimsy erections. Such is the doom of the egotist. While he is alive, he devours all the happiness about him, like a grub on a leaf; but when he goes, the spectacle is not exhilarating. "Le dernier acte est sanglant, quelque belle que soit la comédie en tout le reste. On jette enfin de la terre sur la tête, et en voilà pour jamais."

## ST. SÉNAN AND ST. CANAIR.

## AN ANCIENT DIALOGUE IN THE BOOK OF LISMORE.

Arranged by EDITH LYTTTELTON.

## CHARACTERS.

SAINT SÉNAN ..... Of Inis Cathaig.  
 GILDAS, MOCHUA, COS CORACH, CATMAEL Monks of Inis Cathaig.  
 SAINT CANAIR ..... Of the Benntraige.

[The actual dialogue between SÉNAN, the monk, and CANAIR, the nun—both of them Irish Saints and contemporaries of St. Patrick—is faithfully transcribed from the Book of Lismore, an old manuscript of the ninth century, written in Erse, and rendered into English by Professor Whitely Stokes.

I have added very little to the words of either Saint, but have arranged some accessories and a setting for the curious controversy between two protagonists—a controversy both very ancient and very modern.]

(The SAINT SÉNAN is seated on a rock under a willow tree, which stands at the entrance of his cell on the island of Inis Cathaig. He is dressed in the rough frieze habit of his order, and it is pure white. White also is his face and the hand which holds his missal. He looks out over the blue sea, so close to him on two sides that in rough weather the spray must surely wet his hair. But on this day the wind has only raised little crests of white, which fleck the blue of sea and sky. SÉNAN is troubled—he sighs deeply, then he raises himself, and looks earnestly out over the water on all sides, shading his eyes that he may see the better. He is satisfied, and turning back he calls.)

SÉNAN: Come hither, Brother Gildas.

(GILDAS hastens to him from the other side; he is dressed in the same habit, but his face is young and brown.)

SÉNAN: Canst thou see anything coming across the water?

GILDAS: Nothing, O Sénan!

SÉNAN: That is well. Brother Gildas, I am troubled; thrice have I seen in a vision a woman who cometh towards this island. It will not be got from me, that a woman should set her voice upon Inis Cathaig; we have lived in community, without quarrel, without disgrace—these things would follow in the train of the woman.

GILDAS: Most holy Sénan, thou hast said it; but to me it seemeth that a fair and holy virgin, such as Brigit, would bring us abundance of dignity, and wisdom, and even grace.

SÉNAN: Oft have I talked with Brigit. She is a loveable, clear, pure lamp, she is a flame golden, delightful, but not she, nor any woman, would bring peace to this island. I will not let any woman land on Inis Cathaig or share in our rule.

GILDAS: Now thou hast spoken, Sénan, I will tell thee. There are many among the monks here who would fain see a rule for women established on Inis Cathaig.

SÉNAN: I will not —.

GILDAS: But thou wilt hear the monks? Mochua and Cos Corach are come from those who think like them to speak with thee.

SÉNAN: Must I hear them?

GILDAS: It will not be said of thee, O Sénan, that thou would'st not listen to thy monks. Thou hast ever been a man mild, gentle, and tender to the sons of life—rough and ungentle only to the sons of death.

SÉNAN: Call them to me if it must be —.

(GILDAS runs to a projecting point and beckons two monks, MOCHUA and COS, who come forward somewhat timidly.)

SÉNAN: Which of you is charged to speak with me?

MOCHUA: Both, O Sénan, but I will be first. Here in Inis Cathaig we sing the hymns of the Gael, but we have no voice of a woman. And that voice is sweeter than any other in the world.

SÉNAN: Not by sweet notes only is the Lord worshipped, Mochua.

COS: True, O Sénan, and also I have heard a young cleric sing so that no other music seemed to me worth the listening—but not for that alone would the rule of nuns bring a blessing on Inis Cathaig. A woman is a great boon to an island; it is she that helpeth everyone who is in a strait and in danger; it is she that abateth the pestilence; it is she that knoweth how to bind a wound and medicine a sickness —.

SÉNAN: Is it for thy comfort, then, Cos, that thou desirest this of me? And not for the glory of God?

(COS stops ashamed, yet insistent. After a moment he goes on.)

COS: Hath not God shown wonders through the workings of women, as well as of men, O Sénan? Did He not fashion them both, and give to them both a tongue, and a vision above the beasts of the field?

SÉNAN: I do not deny this, my brother. Many saints of God are there among women. But the Satan himself hath meddled with this matter between men and women. It is more safe and more wise to let the man and the woman work apart, so that no evil thought may come between them.

COS: There be other rules on the Islands of the East, where the nuns and the monks sing praises together.

SÉNAN: What is this talk? Will God ask for the shrill notes of a woman in our songs? Will God weigh our deeds and find them light because a woman hath no share in them? Will God look less kindly on Inis Cathaig because no nuns are here? Peace, Cos, and ask no further. If thy thoughts were set singly upon God these questionings would not come from thee.

COS: Hear Brother Gildas, O Sénan! Thou knowest his great zeal and his close commune with the God of Heaven. Hear him, before thou turn away from us!

SÉNAN (to GILDAS): Speak, then, and show me thy heart in this strife.

GILDAS: I ask for a rule of nuns here on Inis Cathaig because a watch of angels is always over them, and they build the meditation of their minds in the hallowed heavens. Most sweet and pure are they; stars of heaven are they; souls which fill all between heaven and earth.

SÉNAN (rising and speaking sternly): Thou shalt not come over me. It will not be got from me that women should dwell on Inis Cathaig by such talk as this . . . God hath not spoken. . . . If He show me —.

(The voice of Brother CATMAEL is heard calling wildly for SÉNAN, and GILDAS moves to an opening and beckons to him. CATMAEL is spare and old, with sharp eyes. He is in great distress.)

CATMAEL: Sénan, O Sénan, not good news it is I have for thee! Mine own eyes have seen it. A woman cometh over the water standing in a little boat, which moveth like a bird on the tide, so still it is!

(SÉNAN leans against the rock in despair.)

SÉNAN: It is she of my dream. Lord, hast Thou sent her to plague me? Lord, what have I done that thou shouldst punish me?

CATMAEL: Sénan! Thou wilt not yield! Dost thou know what women are? I know—without rest, without stay are they! Wretched, deep, occult, base are they! Full of wailing and screaming and hurt, and sad cries and great lamentations! Without honesty, evil speakers, greedy of power, cruel when they have their desire, without grace or thought. Save us, Sénan, oh save us! Many years have we lived here in peace, praying to God and preparing for our resurrection. Are we to be defeated because a woman is curious and clever, and wishes to play her game with us? . . . She will be meek in seeming, but she will yoke us to her. Demons inhabit the shapes of women most readily—who can tell whether it be not the Satan himself?

SÉNAN: Peace, Catmael. If it be the Devil I shall know how to answer him, but I fear it is not the Devil!

(GILDAS has been standing upon a rock looking out to sea, and now turns, speaking eagerly.)

GILDAS: I see her! I see her! Yellow haired is she. Of the world's women I have never seen a woman who was better in mine eyes.

SÉNAN (sternly): Come to me, Gildas. The world's woman sayest thou? Put the cross over thine eyes and over thine heart, for there is danger for thee here!

(GILDAS trembles, and makes the sign twice, as he was told. Then he comes near to SÉNAN.)

GILDAS: It is clearly shown to me, O Sénan, this is no world's woman, but a saint. Give her leave to land. . . She is a sun among stars.

CATMAEL: He is mad . . . listen not to him!

GILDAS (softly): See, she is nigh.

(SÉNAN turns reluctantly as CANAIR, standing up in a skin-covered boat, the shape of a shoe, comes gliding across the water. SÉNAN does not speak, but moves slowly to the edge of the land and waits. When CANAIR is close to him she stays still and leans upon her staff.)

CANAIR: Greeting to thee, O Sénan, and a blessing upon thee, O Monk, with thy fair cell; and heaven to thee for it! I am Canair the Pious, of the Benntraige of the South of Ireland, and I have set me up an hermitage in mine own territory. One night after nocturns, when I was praying, all the churches of Ireland appeared to me, and it seemed that a tower of fire rose up to heaven from each of the churches; but the greatest of the towers and the straightest towards heaven was that which rose from Inis Cathaig. Fair is yon cell, said I, and thither will I go, that my resurrection may be near it!

SÉNAN (after a little silence): I greet thee, Canair of the Benntraige . . . I have known this thing, that thou wast mindful to come.

CANAIR: Yea! I have come!

SÉNAN: Know, O Canair, that my heart hath been set against women. Very fearful am I of their thoughts and their strange manner of being. When I was yet a youth, the Lord showed to me in a vision three women and three men, and between them stood a man that I knew to be mine own self. The side of his face nearest the woman was dark, but the other shone like the morning light. What should this mean?

CANAIR: Thy fear of women, this it was that made thy face dark . . . for, indeed, how could the women make it dark? The Lord meant thee to read that thy face should shine on women as on men.

SÉNAN: This thing is hard for me, Canair—why shouldst thou come here? Go to thy sister who dwelleth in yon island in the East; thou mayst have guesting therein.

CANAIR: Not for that have I come, but that I may have guesting with thee in this island.

SÉNAN: Women enter not this island.

CANAIR: How canst thou say that? Christ is no worse than thou. Christ came to redeem women no less than to redeem men—no less did He suffer for the sake of women than for the sake of men. Women have given service and tendance unto Christ and His Apostles. A woman it was who bore Him. A woman stood by His cross. A woman was the first with whom He spake on Easter Morn. No less than men do women enter the Heavenly Kingdom. Why, then, shouldst thou not take women to thee in thine island?

SÉNAN: Thou art stubborn!

CANAIR: What then? Shall I get what I ask for, a place for my side in the isle, and the Sacrament from thee to me?

(There is a long silence while SÉNAN looks at the ground. He raises his head at length and speaks with an unwilling air.)

SÉNAN: A place of resurrection will be given thee here on the brink of the wave. But I fear that the sea will carry off thy remains.

CANAIR: God will grant me that the spot wherein I shall lie will not be the first that the sea will bear away!

SÉNAN: Thou hast leave then to come on shore.

(The boat moves forward till it touches the land when CANAIR steps out of it. She comes close to SÉNAN, who watches her with a trouble still upon his face. GILDAS falls on his knees before her.)

GILDAS (on his knees): O Canair, O shining one—for thy holiness will I serve thee; thy grave shall be safe from the wave. Pray the Lord that it may be easy for me to go to heaven.

CANAIR: Happy is he that goeth the journey!

SÉNAN (turns to CATMAEL): What sayest thou, Brother Catmael?

CATMAEL: Not for this, that she hath seen the flame from thy head reaching to heaven, O Sénan, not for this shall she stay here. What did I tell thee? She is cunning, she is fair, she is to be feared. She goeth from Inis Cathaig or I go!

SÉNAN: That is idle talk. The maid is from God. How else should she read my vision, and find the word to shame me with? How else should she come here in that same hour the monks have asked for a rule of women? She is a throne of rest for the spirit. Thou must sing thanks to God with thy mind fixed upon Him. Kneel now while I give her the blessing.

(CATMAEL hesitates for a moment, but he looks up and sees a light from heaven shining down upon CANAIR so that her hair is brighter than that of the angels, and he falls upon his knees and hides his eyes.)

CATMAEL: It must be as God wills.

SÉNAN: Kneel, Canair, and all shall be well—here will a cell be built for thee. Gildas shall build it; here wilt thou pray beside me and the monks; here will be the place of thy resurrection, which may come to pass before theirs or mine. Deep and unfathomable are the ways of God.

(All the monks kneel, while SÉNAN raises his hand in blessing.)

## "THE WOMAN'S LEADER" IN DRAMA.

### "Brown Sugar" at the Duke of York's.

This play will stand or fall by the acting of Miss Edna Best. The chances are that it will stand, Miss Best has so much on her side. To begin with, she is really young. It is a common fallacy that everyone is young once. It is true that every grown person has passed through the ages of seventeen, eighteen, and nineteen, and most people have been shy, aggressive, inexperienced, immature at this period. These are qualities generally associated with youth, but are quite distinct from it. To be really young is a rare gift. Miss Edna Best has it. It is a short-lived gift, especially on the stage. She will not keep it. In February of this year she was a child in "Mumsee." In April a flapper in "Uncle Ned." By July she is a married woman. She is growing rapidly, but for the present she is young. There is a freshness in her voice, a slimmness in her figure, combined with a roundness in her face which cannot long survive the age of eighteen. The curtain rose once before she was quite ready, and caught her in an unpremeditated skip which no stage flapper could counterfeit.

But even when she is ready and the curtain is really up Miss Edna Best is natural. Her naturalness may be a gift of a very complicated form of art, but there it is. She is one of those actresses who appear not to be saying what they have learnt by heart, but to think of it as they go along, as people do in real life—to be reacting naturally to their circumstances. Compared with her Miss Jane Anstel is monotonous, mincing, prim; Miss Madeline Robinson hopelessly starchy. Both conceal their inexperience under a manner either invented by them or learnt from others. Miss Edna Best does not do this, she has no need. She has a singular power of expressing emotion, down to the slightest shade of feeling. Her work is really thoughtful with a surprising depth and variety.

These are great gifts. There is another which is essential to the real actress. The power of expressing emotion and reacting to imaginary circumstances, not as she would herself but as someone else would; the power of being literally someone else on the stage. This power Miss Best may or may not have, but so far she has not shown it. In "Mumsee" and "Uncle Ned" it was not necessary. All that was required was that she should behave on the stage exactly as she would have behaved had she been in the same curious circumstances in real life. This she did excellently. She did it excellently in "Brown Sugar" too. Stella Deering on the stage rebelled against and finally conquered her husband's difficult family much as Miss Edna Best would do it in real life. (This, of course, applies to her manner, not to her words and actions, which are provided by Lady Lever and bear no relation to real life.) But this was not enough. Stella Deering was a chorus girl, in the second row of the chorus too. Anything less like a chorus girl than Miss Edna Best's performance can hardly be conceived. She was a very high-spirited, natural, affectionate girl of the same class as her husband's people. Indeed her courage and her frankness made her far more attractive than any of them. It was curious how Miss Best managed to remove every trace of vulgarity from the part. When her father-in-law offers her a light she says, "No, thanks, not half," and turns from his proffered match to her husband's cigarette. The action was obviously meant to be provocative and "fast." It was merely pretty. She challenges Lady Honoria to a comparison of legs. One can imagine how a real chorus girl would have done this. Miss Best did it as a schoolgirl who is not yet really used to long skirts.

One unfortunate result of this treatment of the character was that Miss Best made the Knightsbridges more extraordinary members of the aristocracy than Lady Lever has done. Had

she been a real chorus girl they might have benefited by the contrast. As it was it seemed as if a charming young lady had married into a family of parvenues. A countess in the forties who is shocked at the word "damn" and can hardly bring herself to say "devilish" is surprising in these days. One glance at the Earl of Knightsbridge (played by Mr. Eric Lewis) showed that this was by no means the first time that the heir of this ancient family had married a chorus girl—or worse. His son, Lord Sloane, was a nice, serious young man, who ought really to have been a curate. He did well to take a wife from the music-halls, however, if his cousin Lady Honoria is at all a fair specimen of the women of his own circle. The only really convincing member of the family was the Hon. Archie Wentworth. His part is better written than the others, and was played excellently by Mr. Martin Walker. His "Well, I do get about a bit" was perfect.

D. H.

### "The 'Ruined' Lady" at the Comedy.

The first play produced by Miss Rosa Lynd at the Comedy ("Why Marry?") showed the struggles of a man and woman who could get all they wanted without marriage against the conventions of a society which tried to force them into it. Her new play, "The 'Ruined' Lady," shows the struggle of a woman who cannot get what she wants without marriage, and her daring use of convention to get it. In other words, Ann knows that Bill has been in love with her for the last eight years. He has forgotten to propose to her for the last five, however. She therefore spends a night in his flat—alone with him. Her reputation is of course "ruined" by this. So she insists on Bill marrying her—to his great joy and her own.

The play is slight enough, with just sufficient salt to carry it through. It is full of "points"—"I haven't got a past, and unless I am very careful I shan't have a future either." "What a fool a woman is not always to be a fool." The play, both in the writing and the acting, has a fault characteristic of American humour, at least to English taste—it is far too long-drawn-out. The action is so very simple that but for the necessity of making a full evening's entertainment it could have been got through in less than an hour. Especially in the second and third acts the characters seem almost always in the same position. It takes the heroine an interminable time to take off her wet shoes and settle down in the hero's flat. When the hero unexpectedly returns it takes her an even longer time to give her official explanation as to why she is there. But when it comes to explaining what it is she really wants, it seemed as if we were going to spend the whole night in the theatre. The denseness of Bill was hardly natural, and was equalled only by the delicacy of Ann. It seems hardly credible that a man who is really in love with a woman, as we are to understand that Bill is with Ann, should have to have it pointed out to him at least six times that she is in her nightgown; that it should take another twenty minutes before he even thinks of putting his arm round her waist, in spite of many subtle invitations to do so—while as for the rest, Bill would never have thought of it at all if all Ann's family had not broken in unexpectedly and pointed it out to him. If the actor had not been Mr. Aubrey Smith, one would have noticed it less. One cannot believe that he should be such a fool. His acting will never disguise his charm and sense. Miss Rosa Lynd, on the other hand, dragged the acting even more than the author has dragged the words. She was a real person—and attractive in a way. But she makes her points far too heavily, and waits for the laughter after them in a way which really is not done. Miss Eva Moore was the brisk woman of the world she is so often and so well.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### SINN FEIN.

MADAM.—As one who is sincerely anxious that orderly government may be established in Ireland with the consent of its people, may I ask "S. F.," whose article appears in your previous issue, some questions?

If Sinn Fein has established courts and is successfully administering justice why have they not brought to justice the murderers of policemen? Is it because the same power that established these courts is also responsible for these murders?

If complete self-government is all that is required to make Ireland a contented and well-governed country why will they not accept the present Home Rule Bill?

Is it because they prefer to take their independence by force rather than accept it from the British Government?

Or is it because they will not allow those counties of Ireland, who do not consent to be governed by Sinn Fein, to remain under the government they approve of?

Or is it because they will take nothing less than complete separation from the British Empire? In which case will they not be in a very dangerous position if there is another European war, and they are no longer protected by the British Army and Fleet?

May I also suggest that it is a mistake to speak of "English rule"—Imperial Parliament is not exclusively composed of members elected in English counties.

M. E. D.

### MOTHERS' PENSIONS.

MADAM.—It was a pleasure to read the article by Katharine Tynan, on "Mothers' Pensions," in your issue of the 9th inst. She pays a well deserved tribute to Judge Henry Neil as the pioneer of "Mothers' Pensions." The infinite blessing such a man is bringing to mankind can best be realised by those who have suffered the separation from parents and been handed over to charitable organisations to be "institutionally treated." For her kind reference to my book, "The Child She Bares," I am also grateful.

Charitable organisations are wrong; their systems are cruel and have much to answer for in this world of strife and sorrow. While they supply a means of living for many, the recipients of their "charity" invariably suffer. The very word "charity" stands for insult and degradation, and is a counterfeit of the *real*, as spoken in St. Paul's Epistle to the Corinthians, 13th chapter. But they may yet retrieve their past errors (if done in ignorance). They can do their duty towards God and neighbour by allowing every mother and child their right place in the world: they could provide money for every mother to work and keep herself and child in a home of their own, if only a humble bed-sitting-room, and thus cover a multitude of sins inflicted on these mothers and babies in times past. Knowing as one does the hatred there is in the mind of many for wrongs inflicted, the writer will continue, so long as she has breath, to denounce any system which advocates the separation of mother and child, forcing the mother out to work, while strangers are paid to look after her offspring. The mother suffers, the child loses in every way. Love of mother and home tends to make good citizens, deprivation of such *does not*.

As Katharine Tynan states, another question is raised—"that of the illegitimate child, as though any child could be illegitimate or bear stain coming innocently into life." I deny emphatically that these innocent babies, unable to defend themselves, have any right to the term "illegitimate" or to the disgraceful epithet "Child of Shame." Those who use such epithets are deserving of censure. God's creation is spiritual. (Genesis, chapter 1.)

Society should cease from holding before the public gaze a sin which it persists in fastening on to the unmarried mother, who has but succumbed to a human passion—one which the whole race of Adam is heir to. Its frailty is seen even in the marriage state. Meanwhile, the poverty-stricken mother is the one who suffers most, and is held up as an example. Not often is she an immodest woman, but a betrayed one.

Mothers and babies *must have justice*. When this is done we might turn our attention to another problem—that of our unfortunate sisters who live by their immorality, believed by some to be a necessity, that others may dwell in safety.

"And judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter."

AUTHOR OF "THE CHILD SHE BARES."

### THE PLUMAGE BILL.

MADAM.—I am duly grateful for the courteous lecture which Mr. Massingham has thought fit to give on the natural history of the egrets and other birds in your columns. Sweet reasonableness of Mr. Massingham's blend is admirably adapted to make converts to his point of view and I have no doubt that the ease with which the Plumage Bill is passing through Committee is due to the exhibition of the same qualities that he displays for the edification of your readers.

But putting aside abuse, in which I have no desire to follow in Mr. Massingham's footsteps, I should like to point out that his reply to my letter is entirely unconvincing. He and the other supporters of the Plumage Bill have made great play with stories of cruelty to the Venezuelan egret. The Venezuelan Minister in London has conclusively shown that these stories are contrary to the facts. The supporters of the Plumage Bill have for a long while denied that egrets could be or were farmed in India. Now Col. Yate, M.P., admits the existence of these farms and also contemplates the growth in a few years' time of a considerable native industry

from the collection and sale of the plumage of domesticated birds. With that probability in view he has promised to submit an Amendment to the Bill. The current issue of the *Spectator* contains a letter signed "Civil Surgeon" describing a visit as late as 1914 to an egret farm on the banks of the Indus. This is only one testimony out of many that have appeared in the same paper testifying to the existence of these farms. Yet Mr. Massingham is content to dismiss the whole matter as "a laughable fabrication." Such methods of carrying on an agitation may convince unthinking sentimentalists, but they are not calculated to win support for the Plumage Bill from those who are able to weigh evidence and who refuse to be brow-beaten by intemperate advocates of the Massingham type.

E. FLORENCE YATES.

### THE KITCHEN RANGE.

MADAM.—Miss Madge Mears's article in your last issue on "Kitchen Ranges" leads me to write and see how that abomination may be successfully done away with, and a plentiful supply of hot water obtained without the use of either gas or coal.

Two years ago, to the horror of all my friends, I moved into a four-storied basement London house. The kitchen, when I first saw it, was in a very damp and miserable condition, and there was a huge old-fashioned kitchener which I at once said I should never use.

We had a fresh damp course put in the kitchen and a portion of the floor re-laid. The basement is, fortunately, a light one, and the kitchen has a sunny bow window.

Ignoring the kitchener we put in alongside of it an upright coke stove, and had all the hot-water pipes connected on to it. Since then we have lived in bliss as regards hot water. We could have a hot bath every half-hour if we wished. The stove is not kept up after 9 p.m., but my daughter had a glorious bath at 1 a.m. the other night, or rather, morning.

Our particular stove, which is a large one, keeps two bath-rooms and a radiator in the dining-room going. In one bath-room is a hot cupboard for airing clothes, and this bath-room is always pleasantly warm—a great boon in winter.

Since the stove has been put in the kitchen has been as dry as a bone, and the whole house has a comfortable feeling in winter. At the back of our kitchen there are three poles, and there the family washing dries beautifully.

I may say that you can have little ovens fixed on the top of these stoves where plates and other things can be kept warm for dinner; that at the ribs below you can make excellent toast, and that if you like to use a box iron with bolts you can also do the family ironing by it.

I may say that I first heard of this stove through a little housing circle we held in 1917. We women met to discuss how we could improve our own and other people's houses, and this is how I learned to improve mine.

F. A. DOUGLAS.

216, Putney Bridge-road, S.W. 15.

### Y.W.C.A. WORLD'S CONFERENCE.

MADAM.—In the report of the Y.W.C.A. World's Conference sent to your issue of July 2nd, after mentioning that the Association would discourage the emigration of girls without their families I omitted an important footnote as follows—

"This is understood not to apply to emigration from Great Britain to its own English-speaking dominions."

I shall be most grateful if you can find room for this correction in your next issue.

MARY E. PHILLIPS.

### THE LONDON FUR TRADE ASSOCIATION.

MADAM.—There have lately appeared in the Press articles indicating a fall in the prices of furs. These articles show that the ruling conditions of the fur industry are not understood, and as they give the public an entirely false impression the real facts will be of interest.

There are three auction sales of fur skins held in London in the months of February, May, and October, attended by buyers from all parts of the world. In the last two years prices have risen enormously owing to the shortage of supplies and reached their highest in the sales in February this year. The very high prices at this auction were caused partly by speculators for a further rise and partly by large American purchases induced by high rate of exchange between Great Britain and the United States. Few or no purchases were made by London houses at these high figures.

In the May sale the speculator and the American buyer dropped out and consequently prices fell but were still above those realised in October.

The manufactured article sold to-day is made from the raw skins sold in the auctions at the last October and even the previous May sales. Practically none of the skins bought in February at the highest prices ever known are yet on sale as garments.

France, Belgium, Italy, and Germany have practically no stocks of skins, not having been able to buy owing to the high rate of exchange. The probable drop in this latter will bring them in as large customers.

The original value of the raw skins alone is only a proportion of the cost of the purchased product. Raw skins have to be dressed and often dyed and then manufactured. The cost of these three processes are on the increase, together with the cost of all the accessories.

The idea, therefore, of great reductions in the present cost of fur garments is, as we have shown, not supported by a survey of all the factors of the situation.

For the London Fur Trade Association (Inc.), C. M. BLUNT Secretary.



## LADY ASTOR'S STATEMENT.

We have received, and are glad to print, the text of the statement made by Lady Astor at the Annual Meeting of the Unionist Association at Plymouth on July 9th.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—I have waited for this annual meeting of your association to deal with charges made in a paper called *John Bull* which, if true, would affect my position as your representative.

You asked me to come forward at the by-election and would have been entitled to ask whether the charges made against me were true. I assume that you have not done so because you trusted me and may have guessed the motive behind them. If you assumed there was no justification for the attack, you were right.

But I do not want to depend only upon your trust.

No one likes discussing their private life in public. But I have nothing to hide from you in mine, and I have nothing to be ashamed of in my conduct in Parliament.

However unpleasant it is to deal with the period of great unhappiness I went through seventeen years ago, I prefer to tell you all about it.

At the beginning of May, the streets of London and of the provinces were flooded with placards in large type on which appeared the words "Lady Astor's Divorce" and nothing else. I know that the view taken by many people at the time was that those words referred to impending divorce proceedings between myself and my husband. By now the public knows that this was not the case and I only refer to the incident as an example of the type of method employed by the paper which attacked me.

I was charged in the article with collusive conduct in regard to a divorce case in which, in the year 1903, I was the petitioner, and with insincerity and hypocrisy. In particular it was said of me that while in the House of Commons I urged that desertion should not be made a ground for divorce, I tried to obtain my own divorce on that very ground. This statement is absolutely false. The ground of my divorce was adultery on the part of my husband, and adultery alone. There was only one petition; there was none claiming divorce on the ground of desertion.

For my part I preferred a separation, and for a time my husband and I lived apart, I having the custody of the child. This separation without divorce might have provided a permanent method of dealing with my unhappy marriage, and this is what I desired. Subsequently my husband's conduct became so open that on the advice of my father I was left with no alternative but to take proceedings for a divorce on the ground of adultery, and this I did.

This is the history of these painful occurrences, which is all that requires to be told. There was, from first to last, no collusion of any sort in the course of the case. As I have been forced to drag my private affairs into publicity, I wish to leave nothing untold, whether it seems at first sight to tell for me or against me. In the separation between my former husband and myself his lawyer, in the interest of his own client, insisted on preserving a position which enabled a divorce to be obtained even on grounds of desertion when the time limited by Virginian law for divorce on that ground had run out. If any person is malicious enough to say that this implies that I was in favour of desertion being treated as a ground for divorce, or that I attempted to avail myself of it, they are at liberty to say so, even though it is not true. To you I may say what I know you will believe, and what the Counsel for my former husband will testify to be true—that all through these wretched family difficulties, I did not want a divorce at all, and did not believe in or intend to take proceedings for divorce on the ground of desertion. Adultery was the ground for divorce in which I believed and when proceedings became inevitable, these were the principles on which I acted.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I have told you fully of the sorrows of my early life. You have now the facts.

I do not propose dealing with the matter again.

There are indications that certain influences which often lead to corruption in politics are trying to undermine my position. The article I have been discussing is only part of a campaign against me. It will be for you to decide whether you will allow this campaign to succeed.

I knew when I set out from Plymouth to Westminster I would encounter gales, and that I would be buffeted by storms. I come to you to-night because when the tempest rages outside I like to return to rest in the Port of Plymouth. When hidden currents try to drive me on to quicksands and rocks I think of the dangers overcome in the past by the men who sailed out from Plymouth, and I harden my heart to do the same.

I am proud to be your Member; I am deeply interested in the work which it involves. But I will not pretend that it requires no sacrifices; and of these sacrifices the one I find hardest to bear is being so much away from my children and my home.

It is only when I think of the number of children in and out of Plymouth who suffer or die through preventable causes, or when I think of the men who gave up all for their country—that I feel how trifling by comparison are any sacrifices that it is within my power to make. It is through your kind confidence and through that alone, that I can hope to make even the minutest contribution towards the great work of national reconstruction.

## REPORTS.

## CHURCH HOUSE MEETING IN SUPPORT OF THE OPENING OF THE LAY MINISTRIES OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND TO WOMEN.

On the evening of July 9th a meeting in support of the above object, organised by the League of the Church Militant (affiliated to the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship), was held in the Church House, Canon Simpson, of St. Paul's Cathedral, took the chair and at once set a brisk tune by remarking that though the resolution was drafted in modest terms he did not doubt that at least all on the platform were in favour of all the Ministries of the Church being opened to women. Miss Maude Royden moved the resolution and giving assent to Canon Simpson's observation, explained that its terms were what they were because the subject of the Lay Ministries of Women only was the subject under discussion by the Lambeth Conference of Bishops. She added that in her opinion the ecclesiastical authorities were at present hardly in a fit state to arrive at a right judgment on the larger question, because they had not as yet given it serious consideration. If such serious consideration were much longer delayed it would result in a spirit of disorder and of alienation on the part of women, especially of the younger generation, who should be a strength to the Church.

A few Bishops and a fair sprinkling of clergy were in the audience, and Miss Royden made her address an appeal to the evidence of modern scholarship in Biblical exegesis, rather than to the enticives. The other speakers were Rev. Hudson Shaw, Rector of St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, who testified to the value of the work done by women preachers in his church, Rev. F. Green, editor of the official organ of the League of the Church Militant, Rev. D. Dearmer and Dr. Letitia Fairfield. The resolution was carried by a very large majority, with two dissentients, and the meeting closed with an urgent appeal for funds to carry out the programme of the Society—donations to be sent to the Treasurer, at 6, York Buildings, Adelphi, W.C. The platform was adorned with banners, including a series bearing mottoes such as "Usage is but greater than truth," "Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy," &c., &c., made by Miss Cicely Ellis and a group of helpers.

## AN IMPRESSION OF THE WOMEN'S SECTION OF THE IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM, CRYSTAL PALACE.

Although the Women's Section fills a comparatively small space in this vast Exhibition, the record it contains of patient, careful, willing labour, and the proof it gives of the value of women's work, both during a time of stress and danger, and for the future, is interesting and valuable. Nothing makes one realise the diversity of women's work in war-time so much as the variety of uniforms for every conceivable form of work.

The section set aside for women's work in the British Army includes photographs of Dame Florence Leach and the work of the Q.M.A.A.C., the Women's Legion, the Forage Corps, and the Ladies' Army Remount Depot. Models in the W.R.N.S. section show the skilled work which women performed, valve and depth-charge testing, sail making, &c.

The exhibits of women's munition work are particularly interesting, containing models of shells made in the National Projectile Factories of Hendon and the North of England. Two five-inch shells, the first ever made by women, were completed in the Cunard Shell Factory, and are shown among many of later date. This section includes sheet metal work, acetylene welding and optical work. Among the work on aeroplanes was an aero engine made completely by women, and models of propellers and aeroplane compasses.

The Industrial Substitution Section, besides its photographs of women in the accustomed posts of bus conductresses, gatemen on the underground railways, lift workers, telegraph girls, ticket collectors, &c., shows them as stokers in gas works, signal workers and porters, which makes one realise the arduous and difficult work they undertook; and how readily they responded to the call when their country needed them.

Women's work for the Allied armies includes the famous Scottish Women's Hospitals, with a model of Dr. Elsie Inglis nursing the Serbian wounded in the Dobrudja, the British Committee of the French Red Cross, and the Women's Emergency Canteens, and Hospital and Motor Units under the Serbian Relief Fund. Another name which this section boasts of and one which we are all proud to acknowledge as that of a national heroine, is that of Miss Flora Sandes. In 1914 she went to Serbia and became involved in the great retreat. The Commandant of her Division who saw her influence with the men wanted her to enlist, and she remained in the Serbian Army throughout the war, fighting originally as a private and rising step by step until she won her commission. Nor was that all, for in November, 1918, she was seriously wounded.

The Memorial and Decorations Section is a tribute to those women who laid down their lives. Two busts, one of Nurse Cavell, and one, by Meshovic, of Dr. Elsie Inglis, guard two bound volumes of photographs of the women who died on active service, while the glass cases show the decorations given.

Other sections include the work of women on the land, for prisoners of war, in canteens and in hospitals, and many departments in which women entered for the first time, often in the teeth of bitter opposition, only to rise above all obstacles, and to show the world what a capacity for skilled work and devotion to duty was theirs.

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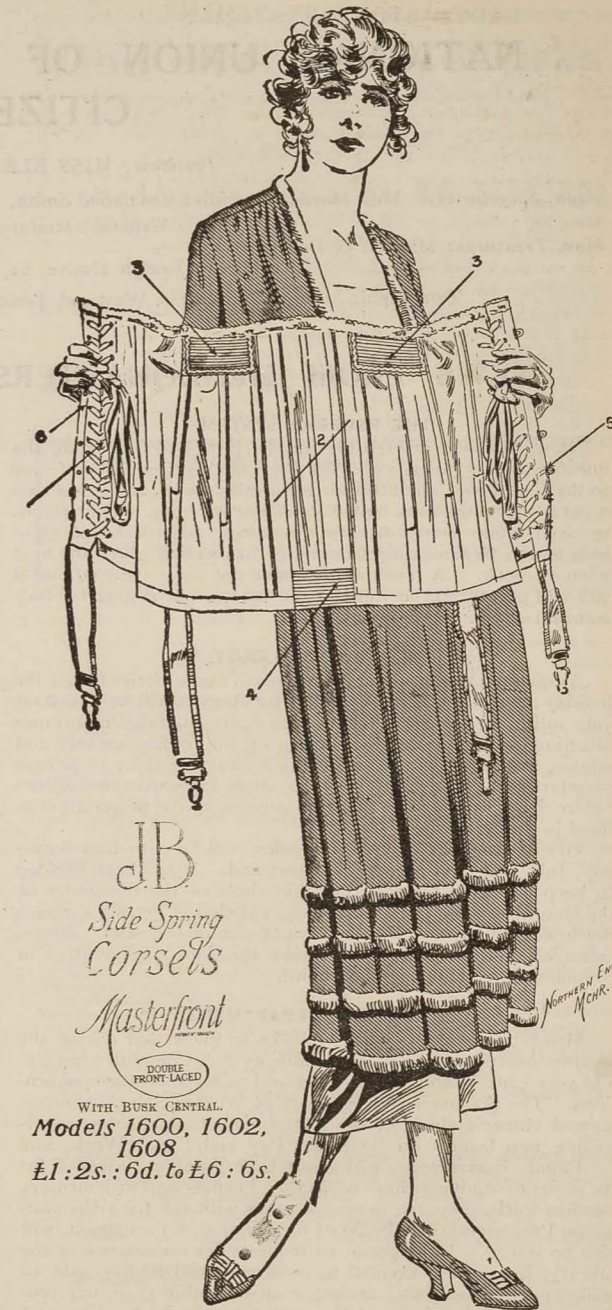
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NEWS FROM HEADQUARTERS AND FROM OUR SOCIETIES.

THE FEDERAL SYSTEM.

It will be remembered that at the last council meeting the question of reorganisation of the Federation system was referred to the Executive Committee for reconsideration.

PLANS FOR AUGUST.

MONTHLY LETTER.—In order to reach our societies before the holiday month, the Monthly Letter for August will be issued on July 19th.

OFFICE ARRANGEMENTS.—The office will be closed on Saturday, July 31st, and Monday, August 2nd.

LITERATURE DEPARTMENT.

Members of our societies will like to know that during the summer months, the Press and Publicity Sub-Committee hope to add very considerably to our stock of leaflets and other publications.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR MEETINGS.

Secretaries of societies are urged to send in to THE WOMAN'S LEADER, notices of forthcoming meetings as well as reports of meetings which have been held.

GENEVA CONFERENCE.

We have been asked to state that some copies of the double number of Jus Suffragii, with special articles and photographs of the delegates to the Congress are still available, price 1s., and also that in a few days the new issue will be ready (price 6d.), giving a full list of delegates, reports of the Congress meetings, and interesting and useful reports from the many different countries represented at the Congress.

ceedings with the idea of awakening wider interest in the woman's movement in other lands, and for this purpose the above special numbers will be invaluable.

NEWS FROM SOCIETIES.

YORKSHIRE COUNCIL OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

REMOVALS TO OR IN YORKSHIRE.

Members and former members of Women's Suffrage or Equal Citizenship Societies who have removed to or in Yorkshire, also any who are wishful to become members of Equal Citizenship Societies, are invited to send their names to Lady Lawson-Tancred, Hon. Secretary for the Yorkshire Council for Equal Citizenship, 18, Park Row, Leeds, so that they can be put in touch with the Hon. Secretary of the local Society in the town where they reside.

"THE WOMAN'S LEADER" IN YORKSHIRE.

The paper that stands for great principles should have an increased circulation in Yorkshire. Will members who do not subscribe do so. In case of difficulty in obtaining copies write to Miss Hartop, 18, Park Row, Leeds.

BRISTOL S.E.C.

A joint meeting of the Bristol Society of the N.U.S.E.C. and the National Union of Women Teachers was held in the Chemical Lecture Theatre of the University on June 25th.

CHESTER W.C.A.

(Affiliated to N.U.S.E.C.)

A second meeting under the auspices of this Association was held on Friday evening, July 9th, at the Queen's School, to discuss the Chester Draft Scheme under the 1918 Education Act.

FOR REST AND HOLIDAYS.

DEAN FOREST, Severn-Wye Valleys. A Beautiful Holiday Home (600 ft. up) Fifty Rooms. Five acres, pretty grounds. Tennis, Croquet, Bowls, Billiards, Motor excursions. Garage. Golf within 2 miles. Board residence, 46s. to 60s.

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WEEK IN OXFORD AND BUCKS.—Lovely scenery; full hospitality; 5 motor trips, including day in Oxford, 7s guineas; vacancy July 10th and onwards; also paying guests, 3s guineas inclusive, for whom motor rides could be arranged.—Winckley, Brill, Bucks.

LOWESTOFT, "Dagmar." Minute Sea. Excellent Cuisine. Vacancies Now and from August 14th.—Mrs. Fairchild.

TOLLET.—September or longer; beautiful old house; country town, near sea. 3 sitting, 6 bed, 2 attic, 2 bathrooms; garden, fruit, garage; two maids staying.—Mrs. J. Suttill, 24, West-street, Bordport.

LOW GREEN HOUSE, THORALBY, AYSGARTH, S. O. YORKS. Paying guests received. Inquiries, enclosing stamped envelope, from Miss Smith.

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TOLLET.—Furnished flat; 6 to 9 months. Six rooms, bathroom. Three guineas weekly.—Westropp, 11, Albert-mansions, Crouch End.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS.

KENSINGTON TOWN HALL. Fellowship Services. Every Sunday, 3.15, Dr. Percy Dearmer, "What is Humanity?" 6.30, Miss Maude Boyden, "England and our late enemies—why do we do?" Music: Martin Shaw.

GARDEN FETE AND FESTIVAL OF THE PILGRIM MOTHERS at The Hill, Hampstead (by kind permission of Lord Leverhulme), Thursday, July 22nd, 3 to 7 p.m. Commemorative Speeches of the Pilgrims, Model Parliamentary Election, Music, Recitation, Dancing, Competitions, Refreshments. Tickets, 2s. 4d. before 5 p.m., 1s. 3d. after, including Tax, from Women's Freedom League, 14, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

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VACANCY IN OCTOBER for experienced Liberal Woman Organiser throughout country. Apply W.N.L.F., 122, Victoria-street, London S.W. 1.

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COMING EVENTS.

YORKSHIRE COUNCIL FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

JULY 16. In the Town Hall, Leeds. Mass Meeting. Subject: "Women in Parliament." Speakers: Viscountess Astor, M.P., Major Hills, M.P., Mrs. Oliver Strachey, Lady Lawson-Tancred, Alderman Ben Turner, J.P. Chair: Mrs. H. A. L. Fisher. 7.30 p.m.

NATIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

JULY 19. Speaker: Miss Florence (Secretary, Women Clerks and Secretaries' Friendly Society). Subject: "Unemployment Insurance." 7 p.m.

JULY 22. (Three Hundredth Anniversary of the Sailing of "The Mayflower"). 3 to 7 p.m. Garden Fete and Festival of the Pilgrim Mothers at "The Hill," Hampstead, entrance by Garden Gate in North End Road (by kind permission of Lord Leverhulme).

Commemorative Speeches by Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Strickland, Mrs. Wheatley, and Principal Lynn Harold Hough (of the North-Western University, Chicago). Model Parliamentary Election.—Candidates: The Hon. Mrs. William Cecil, Miss Agnes Dawson, Miss Dorothy Evans, Mrs. How Martyn, Mrs. Montefiore, Chairman: Mrs. Keovil Rickford. Count by Proportional Representation. Other Attractions.—Musical and Dramatic Entertainments, Competitions, Old Lady of the 100 Pockets, "Mayflower" Bran Pie, Stalls. Lord Leverhulme has also kindly consented let us see his fine Arts collection.

Refreshments from 4 p.m. onwards. Tickets, from Women's Freedom League Office, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1. 2s. 4d.; after 5 p.m., 1s. 3d. (including tax).

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE.

JULY 24. A Swimming Carnival, in aid of the Funds of the above Society, will be held in the Basin of the Royal Automobile Club, Pall Mall, W. 1. Competitions, Races, and Swimming and Diving Exhibitions by Professionals and Distinguished Amateurs. Tickets: Competitors (ladies or gentlemen) 7s. 6d. each. Spectators, 12s. 6d. each, or 21s. to admit two. Valuable Prizes. Tickets and all information to be obtained from the Swimming Carnival Secretary, Women's Service, 58, Victoria Street, S.W. 1.

CIVIC EDUCATION LEAGUE.

JULY 31 to AUGUST 14. The Summer School of Civics will be held at High Wycombe. The programme of courses and lectures is a full and interesting one, and is designed to give the students of the school an all-round knowledge of social life, present-day social problems, and the solutions of these. Particular attention is given to the needs of teachers of Civics, and of social workers in Health and Education Movements. Lecturers will include: Dr. Eric Pritchard, Miss Margaret Macmillan, Mr. Wilfred Buckley, Miss Norah March, Dr. F. H. Haywood, &c. Further particulars can be had from the Secretary, Summer School of Civics, Ladbroke House, 65, Belgrave Road, S.W. 1.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION.

JULY 17. At The Croft, Horsham. Speaker: H. G. Chancellor, Esq. 3.30 p.m. At Carfax, Horsham. Speaker: F. Maddison, Esq. 7 p.m.

JULY 18. At Rectory Road Brotherhood, Stoke Newington. Speaker: Canon Bickersteth Otley. 3 p.m.

JULY 19. At Howard Hall, Letchworth. Two Meetings. Speaker: Frederick Whelen, Esq. 6 and 8 p.m.

JULY 20. At Munster Mission Hall, Cassidy Road, Fulham. Speaker: Miss Helen Ward. At Belgrave Women's Adult School, Leicester. Speaker: Miss Yates. 7.45 p.m.

JULY 21. At Summer Garden Party, Hastings. Speaker: Canon Bickersteth Otley. At Hull. Speakers: Rt. Hon. G. W. Barnes, M.P., Rt. Hon. Sir Walter Runciman.

JULY 22. At St. Anne's Cottage, Thorpe Road, Staines. Speaker: Frederick Whelen, Esq. 3.30 p.m.

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