

INDIAN LEADERSHIP FOR INDIAN WOMEN.

MOST travellers in India have passed through Jubbulpore and have noticed from the windows of the railway carriage the great clumps of bamboo which are one of its glories. In the famine time of 1919 the bamboos flowered for the first time in many years, and the women went out with baskets to gather up the rice-like seed, saying, "Now will the bamboos die, and there will be famine in the land." Subsequently they did, and the same drying wind that rustled through the yellowing fronds lifted type-written notices in the busy Government offices offering such and such clumps for sale. For in India, as elsewhere, there is a juxtaposition of ancient ways and modern learning, of custom and change. The Indian ladies' club is a purdah club, yet not far away the Y.W.C.A. has been holding a Hindi Summer School for Indian women leaders from towns and villages.

Twenty-three students attended the school, coming from Ajmer, Jaipur, Nasirabad and Bharatpur in Rajputana; from Ujjain in Central India; and from Chhindwara and Jubbulpore in the Central Provinces. Jubbulpore members were allowed to share in the lectures, bringing up the number at some of the classes to forty. The course was a very simple and practical one, including Indian sewing and dressmaking, Indian Girl Guiding, Indian nature study and Sunday School work, the organization of village co-operative and credit societies, child welfare work, the prevention of tuberculosis, and so forth. There were, of course, various demonstrations of such things as organized games, methods of conducting meetings, etc., and visits to local factories. Altogether, the school was designed to meet the practical difficulties this group of leaders were already facing, and to help them to get ready for the expanding work of the future.



A Y.W.C.A. Institute building in the Central Provinces, India.

For one of India's biggest problems lies in her villages and in the women of those villages. In many of them the line between subsistence and destitution is very easily crossed, and there is, in addition, the needless suffering and stagnation that accompany ignorance and a limited horizon in any part of the world. The model village, with its progressive methods of farming, its decent sanitation, its handicrafts and community life, its school with a curriculum based on village needs and village possibilities, is not merely a reformer's dream, but an attainable ideal—given a good deal of hard work and undaunted enthusiasm. The introduction of Burbank's spineless cactus here might save the milch herd in bad seasons; the introduction of a subsidiary handicraft there might bring prosperity to a whole debt-ridden district; the teaching of different methods of sewing elsewhere might raise the self-respect of a down-trodden group; the opening up of co-operative credit banks everywhere might revolutionize rural life. But there are different methods of introduction in reform as in social life, and for one

gracious one there are three antagonizing or ineffective methods. Moreover, where you have an ancient civilization on which to build, the task of adaptation without disintegration is both slow and delicate.

Only too often reformers have found that years of demonstration of, for example, the use of alfalfa or the value of inoculations have had no result whatever. Even where the men of the community have grown used to an idea, the women have held tenaciously to the customs which have been handed down from time immemorial. These they know to have been tested throughout generations and to have religious sanctions, why leave them for rash experiments which are probably foreign in origin? It is precisely this situation that the Y.W.C.A. training courses for Indian women leaders are intended to meet. If a foreigner, or even a fellow-countrywoman from far away, or of a different class from yourself, suggests that you would like to do this, that, or the other thing, you naturally decline—politely, of course, but firmly. But if a neighbour comes back and says that it is really very simple and she herself finds that it pays better, then maybe you think that some day you will give it a trial; and the seed once sown sprouts, and the soil takes it as a matter of course. "Revolution through Evolution" might almost be the slogan of these patriotic Christian women, who want their country to have the best of everything, but who want change, where change is necessary, to come as a natural development, always in harmony with the spirit of the country.

A WEEK OF WORLD FRIENDSHIP AND PRAYER.

THE week of international friendship and prayer kept every year by Y.W.C.A. members throughout the world begins this year on Sunday, November 13. On Sunday the special subject for the day will be the work of the World's Y.W.C.A. and the World's Y.M.C.A. On Monday the work throughout the African continent and in Palestine will be the topic; on Tuesday, the Americas and the West Indies; on Wednesday, the Orient; on Thursday, Australasia; on Friday, Central and Eastern Europe; on Saturday, Western and Southern Europe. Throughout the week the meditations for each day will centre about some aspect of the Personality of Christ, so that the understanding between nation and nation which results from this week will be built, not on the achievements of the Association, but on an ever-increasing knowledge of and loyalty to the common Lord and Master in Whose Name the varied work of the Association is done.

IN RUSSIA.



A Village Hospital under the Red Cross.

MISS MARCIA DUNHAM, secretary for Y.W.C.A. work in the Baltic States, and formerly in charge of the American Y.W.C.A. unit in Russia, has been given permission to join Colonel Haskell's party (A.R.A.). Miss Dunham will be in Russia early in November. Before the revolution there were branches of the Y.W.C.A. in different centres, but for several years communications with them have been practically cut off.

With Supplement from the World's Young Women's Christian Association.

JVS SVFFRAGII.

THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SVFFRAGE NEWS



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WORLD'S Y.W.C.A. SUPPLEMENT . . . CENTRE PAGES

NORWAY NEXT.

FIRST WOMAN M.P. ELECTED.

AT last! We very nearly closed the last month's editorial comment on the Swedish victory with the words "Norway next, please!" But instead of registering a pious wish, we are able this month to record an accomplished fact!

One of the first countries to enfranchise its women, Norway is one of the last to return a woman to Parliament. But the good deed is done—and though but one candidate only out of fifty-four has been elected, we are not dismayed. Women M.P.'s are very "catching"—and once started they cannot be stopped.

The first Norwegian Woman M.P. is Miss Karen Platou—and she stood as fifth representative

of the Right and Independent Left Party in Christiania.

Miss Platou is well known in Christiania as an active worker in social and political movements, and is secretary of the Northern Housewives Association. She is no stranger to the Storting, as she has already acted there as an Alternate, and did splendid work during the past session. But an Alternate and a fully-elected M.P. are two different things.

We congratulate Norway on its coming into line with the many other countries which have women in their Parliaments—and we congratulate Pioneer Karen Platou on her fine success.

"BIOLOGICAL FAILURES."

By FRANCIS L. GARSIDE.

[We publish with delight this article from *The Medical Woman's Journal*, U.S.A., and our appreciation reaches its zenith when we read the words of the "snappy spinster." In some countries the property and the person of married women are still in the tutelage of their husbands—and if he allows them to work he also may allow himself the privilege of taking their earnings. In other countries married women may work, but they are liable to lose that work if the powers that be consider it unsuitable for a married woman to occupy certain positions; the British Civil Service is a good example of this. And now a New York judge tells us that the unmarried woman worker is a "biological failure," and should not be permitted to have a home. How very confusing and amusing all these mixed male views are. We wish men could manage to be less involved, less mysterious. Meanwhile we congratulate the Beekman Hill Association on its victory, and thank the New York judge for a fresh incitement to equality work.—Ed.]

IN the opinion of a New York judge, women who are forced to seek employment, never marry, and finally, for the sake of convenience, comfort and economy, leave boarding-houses and hotels and move into little homes of their own, are "biological failures."

He made the charge in a case brought by a number of young women incorporated under the name of the Beekman Hill Association. They had purchased the property consisting of four dwelling-houses with the intention of remodelling them into small apartments, suitable for one occupant or two, every tenant to become a shareholder in the property. It took some time to get all the former tenants out, and the matter was taken to court. The women won, after several months, and the judge added that he was sorry they had won.

"He told us plenty of things about ourselves," said one of the young women, "but the best he told us was that, as biological failures, we should not be permitted to have homes of our own. He said that we were away at work all day, and he wasn't sure but at night, too, and he didn't see why we were entitled to a home."

The women (for this must be their story, since it is the story of all women forced to earn a living) have been self-supporting since they left school, and in addition to caring for themselves are assisting in the care of some relative, and doing it without complaint.

"Yes," asserted a snappy spinster, "we are; I know dozens of 'biological failures' who are sending money to their sisters who are married; I can name a number who are sending nephews and nieces through college. If some in the family had not been 'biological failures' the married sisters and their children would have known hardship and want."

Owned co-operatively by forty women, this new home promises to be an achievement in comfort, economy and independence. A single investment of \$2,000 apiece, or \$1,000 apiece if the apartment is shared by two home-seekers, entitles the owner to an all-light, breezy three-room apartment of large studio, bedroom, bath and kitchen with all modern conveniences. From \$50 to \$57.50 monthly is to be paid by tenants to meet repair and upkeep expenses and to make payment on mortgages for a term of years. After that all the bare yearly upkeep of the property will come out of the pockets of the owners.

There is a large garden in the rear with rustic seats; there are individual store-rooms and lockers. The exterior has been attractively refaced in stucco with green shutters, with American basement entrances.

This housing project is an experiment initiated by the National Board of the Young Women's Christian Association, and has been carried forward under the advisory direction of the Association which began over a year ago the investigation necessary to its organization. Now that owners have been secured, the Association retires from active participation. Retiring from this particular project means, without doubt, greater time for launching a similar one in some other city where housing conditions make a home out of the question for "biological failures."

That there is more chance the women wage-earner

will keep in better health when living in a home of her own is beyond question. Ill-health arising from the frying-pan in a restaurant is the final fate of those who eat restaurant meals all their lives. A woman in her own little home may have her fresh fruit, her coffee with real cream, and a fresh roll and sweet butter in her own home at one-third the cost of fruit not so fresh, poor coffee and a roll served with poor butter in all the noise and clatter of a noisy restaurant.

Even biological failures must keep well. They have business responsibilities to meet; they have family cares which they inherit because of the misfortune or inability of some man; they are not care-free; they cannot drop out of the ranks without spelling disaster to some who are dependent on them. These are reasons for the sake of the world why they should own their own homes and enjoy the right to keep well.

"For the sake of the world" is apt. Selfishness is not often characteristic of the unmarried woman who is pulling down a good salary, if you look close and investigate where her hard-earned money goes.

By courtesy of "The Medical Woman's Journal."

SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF WORKING WOMEN, October 17 to 25.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS.

THE International Congress of Working Women, which held sessions in Geneva, Switzerland, from October 17 to 25, closed its proceedings after the adoption of a broad programme dealing with social and economic crises before the world to-day. Delegates were present from Belgium, Cuba, Czecho-Slovakia, France, Great Britain, Italy, Norway, Poland, South Africa, Switzerland, and the United States, and from China came Miss W. T. Zung, as a visitor to the Congress. There were many visitors and guests from various countries.

This was the second meeting of the International Congress of Working Women, which first met in Washington, D.C., U.S.A., in October, 1919, but during the intervening two years the delegates became so convinced of the need for some such organization that a permanent constitution was adopted on October 22.

The objects of the International Federation of Working Women (new name adopted) are threefold: (1) To promote trade union organization among women; (2) to develop an international policy giving special consideration to the needs of women and children, and to examine all projects for legislation proposed by the International Labour Conference of the League of Nations; and (3) to promote the appointment of working women on organizations affecting the welfare of the workers.

Only national trade union organizations who are either affiliated with the International Federation of Trade Unions (Amsterdam) or whose aims agree in the spirit to follow "Amsterdam" will be admitted, so that the underlying principle of the new organization is in sympathy with what is known as the middle ground of the great trade union movement of the world. This rule would make it impossible to admit all trade unions organized on a religious basis, as well as organizations which have become affiliated with the International of Moscow.

In order to bring about closer co-operation between the working women of Europe the Secretariat will be located in London, England, for the next two years. The new Executive Board is as follows:—

MRS. RAYMOND ROBINS, United States, *President*.
MISS BURNIAUX, Belgium, *Vice-President*.
MRS. LAURA DE ZAYAS BAZAN, Cuba, *Vice-President*.
MRS. BOZENA KUBICKOVA, Czecho-Slovakia, *Vice-President*.
MISS JEANNE BOUVIER, France, *Vice-President*.

MISS MARGARET BONDFIELD, Great Britain, *Vice-President*.

SIGNORA CABRINI CASARTELLI, Italy, *Vice-President*.

MRS. BETZY KJELSBERG, Norway, *Vice-President*.

MISS SOPHIE DOBRZANSKA, Poland, *Vice-President*.

MISS FITZGERALD, South Africa, *Vice-President*.

MISS MONNIER, Switzerland, *Vice-President*.

MRS. MAUD SWARTZ, United States, *Vice-President*.

DR. MARION PHILLIPS, Great Britain, *Secretary*.

MRS. HARRISON BELL, Great Britain, *Treasurer*.

It shall be the duty of the Vice-Presidents to act as representatives of the Federation, and to maintain communication between the organizations in their own countries and the officers of the Federation.

The delegates gave the resolutions on disarmament and unemployment careful consideration, for these two questions are in their minds closely connected, since one of the chief causes of unemployment is the disruption of industry following a great war. Working women do not need to be convinced of the useless waste involved in competitive armaments, but the delegates desired to find an effective way in which to press their points of view upon those chosen to govern them.

The disarmament resolution of the Congress was a pronouncement in favour of a policy of total disarmament, and the Congress urged the powers convening at Washington, on November 11, to hold their deliberations in open session, and to take steps to bring about total disarmament. In order to give added force to this decision the Congress voted to send a representative to Washington, and Miss Kate Manicom, of the Workers' Union of Great Britain, was chosen to carry to Washington and to President Harding a message from the working women of the world. Miss Manicom had made a courageous speech during the discussion on disarmament, in the name of the young women of England, in which she said: "In France lie to-day the potential fathers of our children. Many of us may never have children of our own, but this has not embittered us. Instead, we shall try to become mothers of the world, in order to see that never again shall women be so cruelly denied the possibilities of marriage and motherhood." Miss Baer, fraternal delegate from the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, told of the reduction of the army in Germany to 100,000, for defence only. A reduction on the same proportion to population in other countries would result in an army of 68,000 in France, 74,000 in England, 59,000 in Italy, and 193,000 in the United States.

The Congress expressed its conviction that the present unemployment crisis is mainly due to international causes, and that the problem can only be solved by the re-establishment of world trade, and it calls upon all the countries to take concerted action for the stabilization of the exchanges and the extension of credits. It pointed out that reductions in wages have only aggravated the difficulties by decreasing the purchasing power of the workers in the various countries.

Miss Margaret Bondfield, of Great Britain, pointed out that, while there is the largest gold reserve in America, yet at the same time America has the largest percentage of unemployed. Meanwhile, in the so-called conquered countries, there is little unemployment, but at what a price! They are dragging down the standards of living of the conquering countries. She said Great Britain was absolutely unprepared to meet the present situation, but is being forced to recognize that the old capitalistic attitude of self-interest is driving the world to destruction, and that nothing can save the world but the motto of international co-operation and goodwill.

The Congress took issue with the Governments of France and Switzerland, which have decided that workers in agriculture do not come under the competence of the International Labour Organization of the League of Nations, but voted that all workers in offices, factories, shops and agriculture should benefit from all social laws without distinction as to colour, race, religion or sex.

The Congress further stated its belief that it is possible to regulate the working day in agriculture to eight hours, to cause unemployment to disappear through land improvement, afforestation, etc., and to protect women and children under the application of the Washington Convention.

Madame Casartelli (Italy) presented the following additional recommendations for the Committee on living conditions, which were adopted: (1) That agricultural workers must not sleep in the stables; (2) each worker should have one bed; (3) this must be properly aired and, where necessary, the room must be properly heated; (4) separate accommodation must be provided for both sexes under sanitary conditions. The Congress was shocked at the conditions described by Madame Casartelli, under which men and women work in agriculture in Italy.

Since substitutes for white lead in industry and painting are now available, the Congress demanded the immediate prohibition of the use of white lead in industry, and pending the accomplishment of this end, the Congress recommended the use of well-known preventive devices by which workers can be protected from lead poisoning.

The Congress recommended that in order to prevent the spread of anthrax among textile workers, Governments should require the proper disinfection of all wool at the ports of embarkation, and that scientific methods for dealing with the animals themselves should be discovered.

Reports on the adoption of the Washington Conventions by the Governments were presented by delegates. These were later summarized by Mr. Albert Thomas, Director of the International Labour Office, who said that during the 18 months since their adoption 27 ratifications had come in. This may seem slow, but when you considered that it had taken 15 years to secure nine and eleven ratifications of two conventions which had been voted in 1906, it could be seen that progress is being made.

As important, however, as the formal discussions and resolutions was the feeling of respect and friendship which developed, and this in spite of the frightful barrier of the different languages. The French delegates, who were particularly insistent upon understanding every word that was said, were also the most insistent that all delegates to a future Congress must be able to speak Esperanto. That great advocate of real internationalism, Mme. Chevenard, never lost an opportunity to show her support for any measures which she felt would help to bring about a better understanding between the nations of the world, and she showed by her generous co-operation that she could carry out in the spirit as well as the letter those ideals of comradeship which are considered by all so necessary to-day.

Altogether, the Congress was a great success. In addition to the concrete results obtained, it gave new courage to those who were feeling oppressed with the trials of the world to-day, and the delegates went home with new faith in the new world that is to come.

JESSIE HAVER BUTLER.

October 26, 1921.

An International Club in London.

THE opening of International House, 55, Gower Street, London, W.C. 1, by the Executive Committee of the International League of Peace and Freedom, took place on Tuesday afternoon, November 15, at 4.30 p.m.

The committee hope by establishing a club of this kind an opportunity will be afforded for the many students of other lands to meet those of Great Britain, and ties of friendship formed that will tend towards a fuller and stronger international understanding generally.

The club at present is only partially equipped, but the committee hope very shortly to open a restaurant, run on lines similar to an American cafeteria. There is a large ground-floor room suitable for dancing, and a reading-room upstairs, and very soon it is anticipated residential quarters will be ready for occupation.

November 23, 1921.

EQUAL MORAL STANDARD SECTION.

NEW SOUTH WALES ABOLISHES
COMPULSORY NOTIFICATION.

NEW SOUTH WALES was given a Health Act on the lines of the various Acts which were passed in the other States of the Commonwealth, which were passed on compulsory notification. This Act was passed in 1918, but was not enforced until December, 1920.

On September 14, 1921, Mr. McGirr made an announcement that he intended to abolish the provisions of the Venereal Diseases Act relating to notification. Experience, he said, had shown that they were useless. Doctors—in his judgment, rightly—refused to divulge information concerning their patients. Mr. McGirr was led to this decision by a letter which appeared in the *Medical Journal of Australia*, in which a writer stated that, despite the apparent belief of the Minister of Health regarding the treatment of venereal diseases having been taken out of unqualified hands, "there is more unqualified practice in venereal disease work in Sydney to-day than before." The letter further stated that nearly every chemist treated these cases, often with lamentable results. In view of the trouble medical men were put to over the V.D. Act, the writer expressed the view that the Government should see that its provisions were carried out. Mr. McGirr said that, as the Government had appointed a Commissioner for V.D.—Dr. Paton, who for over 30 years was head of the Health Department—and had given him full statutory powers, the proper course for a medical man who knew of any breach of the Act would be to place the facts before the Commissioner.

I may also say, added Mr. McGirr, "that facts have been brought under my notice showing that many poor men cannot get treatment from doctors. Some have found it impossible to get treatment at all. Obviously these men cannot be allowed to go from bad to worse, and in such cases, if a qualified chemist who has been through the University course sells a proprietary mixture to cure them, I can have no objection."

Nov. 14, 1921. M. JAMIESON WILLIAMS.

NATIONAL COUNCIL (SOUTH AFRICA)
FOR COMBATING VENEREAL DISEASES.Chief Health Officer Opposed to Early
Preventive Treatment.

THE Secretary for Public Health and Chief Health Officer for the Union, Dr. J. A. Mitchell, in commenting upon the Public Health Act, said that the chapter dealing with venereal diseases had had two classes among its critics, those who thought it contained too much State interference and compulsion, and those who thought it contained too little. He said the provisions regarding this disease were applied in precisely the same way as those relating to other infectious and communicable diseases without regard to race or sex. Dr. Mitchell seems to have little faith in "early preventive treatment," and says it tends to undermine morality by giving a feeling of security which proves mistaken. He urges education in medical facts; dissipating the old pernicious ideas about what constitutes true manhood; and the teaching of principles of morality and cleanliness of mind and body. "This," he says, "is the true and ultimate prevention, the real prophylaxis. It is a work in which the medical profession, the teaching profession, the churches and religious bodies, and all social workers, both men and women, can join hands and cordially co-operate." He regrets that the medical and clerical professions, allied in ancient Hebrew times, in early Christian times, and in the Middle Ages, should have drifted apart. The medical profession has become too materialistic, the clerical profession has lost touch with the practical to a large extent, but he looks "for a new and fruitful partnership between the two professions to promote the welfare of mankind." And concludes with the words: "It would be something to be proud of if in such a movement South Africa led the way."—*Women's Outlook*, Oct. 1921.

PUTTING DOWN BROTHELS.

Burma Suppression of Brothels Act, 1921.

THE following is a summary of an Act that has recently been passed in Burma "to make better provision for the suppression of brothels, of the traffic in women, and of the practice of solicitation and of other practices of a like nature." It abolishes the "segregated area" in Rangoon and other places in Burma. It strengthens the law against solicitation, but in so doing adopts the reform long advocated by the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene by abolishing the word "prostitute" and substituting "person." Clause 4 (Sec. 1) begins: "Any person who in any street . . ." etc., instead of "Any prostitute . . ." This is a step in the right direction, for it brings the prostitute under the common law instead of legislating for her as a class apart. It punishes by fine or imprisonment or whipping, or any two of these punishments, any male person who lives on the earnings of prostitutes or "is proved to have exercised control, direction or influence over the movements of a prostitute in such a manner as to show that he is aiding, abetting or compelling her prostitution with any other person or generally. . . ." (It is to be noted that this is much more thorough than the English law dealing with the same matter.) It punishes with fine, imprisonment or whipping, or any two of these punishments, anyone who attempts to procure or import women or girls for the purpose of prostitution. It punishes with fine, imprisonment or whipping anyone who detains a woman or girl against her will for the purposes of prostitution, or withholds from her any property, jewellery or wearing apparel belonging to her, or threatens her with legal proceedings if she takes away with her any jewellery or wearing apparel lent or supplied to her by or by the direction of such person. No proceedings will be taken, either civil or criminal, against any woman or girl found in possession of jewellery, wearing apparel, money or other property lent or supplied to her by the person by whom she has been detained. (This is a very important provision of the new Act, as it was often impossible for girls to leave brothels where they were detained owing to the fact that their clothes, etc., were the property of the owner, or were claimed as such.) It punishes severely anyone keeping a brothel, or any tenant, lessee, occupier, or person in charge who allows premises or parts of premises to be used as a brothel; or any landlord or agent of a landlord who lets any premises with the knowledge that such premises or a part thereof will be used as a brothel.—*Woman's Leader*, October 14.

Cairo Brothels put out of bounds.

THE Association for Moral and Social Hygiene sends us the following information received from a correspondent in Egypt:—

For three years and a-half I have been agitating and trying to get all brothels out of bounds to British soldiers. Two years ago we succeeded in getting the dirtier and more native lanes put out of bounds (about twenty of them), but some of these were small and there was nothing like the traffic there that there was in the Ezbekia district of Cairo. These five or six streets contained a number of European women but also an overwhelming majority of native ones. In October, 1920, a new missionary, just out from Oxford University, undertook the secretaryship of the Alliance of Honour. At the back of us and as our chief source of inspiration has been Bishop Gwynne, and this happy association dates from the first day of his entering his new diocese of "Egypt and Sudan," i.e., October, 1920. We worked through the winter and then tried to get the Chaplain-General to hold meetings here; this he did in the first days of April this year.

We formed a small sub-committee to wait upon the high authorities. Prolonged negotiations followed, but during July the high authorities decided:—

- (1) That all brothels be put out of bounds on August 1.

- (2) That all secret places unregistered, and so forth, to be similarly treated.
- (3) That the taking of venereal disease should be a military offence, rendering the victim liable to be court-martialled.

RECENT HEALTH LAWS AND PROPOSALS.

A LAW recently enacted in Norway requires all persons desiring to marry to procure a physician's certificate showing physical fitness.

The German Superior Council of Hygiene recently recommended that all persons intending to marry secure physicians' certificates, to be obtained only from certain authorized physicians called "marriage advisers." A Bill has been introduced in the National Assembly advising physical examinations before marriage.

The Vienna Board of Health has appointed three committees of qualified scientists to draw up definite suggestions as to the issue of health certificates to all persons intending to marry.

Medical Women's Journal, September, 1921.

OREGON.

Extends Eugenic Law to Women.

The State Legislature, February 19, passed a Bill requiring that women as well as men seeking marriage licences shall be examined as to their mental and physical fitness.

MICHIGAN.

Marriage Law Proposed.

A Bill has been introduced in the State Legislature requiring all persons applying for marriage licences to present a licensed physician's detailed report of the physical condition of each applicant. All persons afflicted with venereal diseases, epilepsy or "open" tuberculosis are barred by the proposed Bill from contracting marriage. No licence may be issued until ten days after application has been made.

Legislative Counsellor, September, 1921.

THE UNEQUAL MORAL STANDARD IN
SOUTH AFRICA.

One Law for Women and another for Men.

IT is high time that the Morality Law be altered to apply equally to men and women. A resolution to that effect was passed at the recent W.E.A.U. Conference. The following letter was, in the first case, sent to *The Friend*, Bloemfontein:—

SIR,—In to-day's issue of *The Friend* there is a report of a sad case, tried at the Criminal Sessions, Pretoria, and headed "A Moral Offence: Married White Woman's Sad Fall." In sentencing the woman to nine months' hard labour in prison, the judge referred to her crime as "an unspeakable moral offence."

May I ask, Sir, why men are not arraigned before a Criminal Court when they are known to be guilty of similar conduct? Is it just to condemn the woman and let the man go scot-free for the same crime?

Some time ago the local branch of the W.C.T.U. organized a campaign to enlighten native women about the horrors of venereal disease, and to induce them to take means to prevent and to cure it. At a crowded meeting of women, held in the location and lasting several hours, women rose, one after another, from the native minister's wife onward, and asked us: "Why are there white babies in the location, and no black babies in the town?"

We were ashamed to acknowledge the inequality of justice to men and to women—the result of man-made laws. We could only appeal to the women to teach their daughters self-respect, and to assure them that if they did so there would be no white babies in the location.

By all means punish such delinquents, but let the male transgressor receive equal punishment as is meted out to the women.—I am, etc.,

"A MEMBER OF THE W.C.T.U."
Woman's Outlook, September, 1921.

OKLAHOMA (U.S.A.) UPHOLDS RIGHTS OF
QUARANTINE FOR V.D.

THE Criminal Court of Appeals of Oklahoma has recently handed down two decisions sustaining the right of quarantine created under the new Venereal Disease Control Law. The case of *ex parte Rothrock*, 199 Pac. 581 (Okla. C.C.A.) permits quarantine in the State industrial school of a juvenile girl "afflicted with a contagious venereal disease."

The case of *ex parte Roman* decided by the same Court, 199 Pac. 580 contains the following language:—

"The power of the Legislature to prevent the introduction and spread of infectious and contagious diseases cannot be questioned, and the power to make quarantine regulations is one of the most important conferred upon the health authorities, and such regulations constitute a proper exercise of police power. 12 R. C. L. 1,285, 1,290. However, if after such arrest or detention such person challenges the right of the authorities to continue the detention, the fundamental law affords such person the right to have the legality of his or her detention inquired into by a court of competent jurisdiction in a *habeas corpus* proceeding. The law denies to no one restrained of his liberty without a hearing the right to prove in some tribunal that the facts justifying his restraint do not exist. 6 R. C. L. p. 435."

JAPAN TO INTRODUCE VENEREAL
DISEASE BILL.

A BILL for measures to lessen venereal diseases will be introduced in the Japanese Diet during the next session. This is evidence that the famous Japanese system of licensed prostitution has proved a failure as a preventive of these diseases and that the Japanese authorities have been alarmed at their prevalence as shown by the medical reports of the last military conscription. Ever since the fight against prostitution as a factor in venereal diseases began, more or less informed persons have been pointing to Japan as a country where prostitution was legalized and venereal diseases of rare occurrence. All the stock arguments in favour of the red-light district were used, and visiting writers surrounded the prostitute with a romance never granted her in any other country. She was sometimes, they said, a young woman of good family who sold herself to send a brother to college or to keep a father from bankruptcy. Teaching in artistic and domestic branches was given her and once or twice a year the guild of keepers gave her a theatre party or a banquet. The district she lived in was strictly limited and licensed. The law provided that if a house of prostitution was burned down it could not be rebuilt on the same spot. New quarters, preferably in the suburbs, were to be secured, though property owners always objected to the opening of a new district. Medical inspection once a week was spoken of as a sure barrier against infection. As an additional safeguard, the system of requiring all patrons to register made it possible for school teachers to warn pupils whose names appeared in the patron lists. Prostitution in Japan was surrounded by all the time-honoured safeguards, but in spite of them has proved unsafe. Two years ago, Professor Kawamura, of the Imperial University at Kyoto, announced his conviction that "the whole system works for the propagation of venereal diseases and the corruption of the young." One by one he took up all the familiar arguments for licensed vice and disposed of them as American social hygienists have done, leaving prostitution in Japan exactly what it is everywhere else—a hideous danger to this generation and the next, with no valid reason for its existence. The newest step in the Japanese social-hygiene campaign is the proposed law for control of venereal diseases, and information as to its provisions is awaited with great interest.

Social Hygiene Bulletin, U.S.A., Nov. 1921.

38 AUSTRALIA. AMOHA.IHO
NEW SOUTH WALES.

Motherhood Endowment Bill.

A BILL which introduces the principle of motherhood endowment, or child subsidy, was placed before the House of Assembly of New South Wales on September 29. The Bill provides for payments to be made to mothers and other persons in certain cases for the maintenance of children.

The necessity for this Bill has arisen from the basic wage, for the State, having been fixed on a standard which includes a man, his wife, and two children. The basic wage varies according to the cost of living estimated by the Board of Trade. At present the minimum wage for a male is £4. 5s., for a female £2. 3s. 3d. All males over 21 receive the basic wage whether married or single, whether possessing children or not. The effect is that the employer is obliged to pay a wage to single, unmarried men which covers the maintenance of a wife and two children. In cases where the family exceeds two children no extra provision exists. Thus a position has arisen where unmarried men and childless married men are receiving an income above the minimum, while the married man with more than two children receives less. Fictitious children are provided for, and the real ones are left with insufficient provision.

The Motherhood Endowment Bill is intended to make provision for the children of a family over the basic two. Under the terms of the Act the sum of 6s. per week will be paid for the third and any succeeding child or children. No payment shall be made where the combined income of mother and husband equals more or less than the living wage. Where a mother does not provide for her children the Minister may direct that the sum provided be paid to another person and in certain cases the sum may be raised to 10s.

A widow shall receive the sum of 6s. for each child, and also an additional sum of 10s. for her own use, provided that she has not a personal income. The word "widow" is stretched to include a mother whose husband is supporting her, or is incapacitated. Orphanages and charitable institutions supporting children shall be entitled to 6s. per week per child. Illegitimate children otherwise unprovided for come under the scope of the Act. The mother or some other person shall receive a sum of 10s. per week.

The Bill is passing through a storm of criticism, which will probably increase as it proceeds through Parliament. The financing of the measure is one of the difficulties threatening its success. At first it was the intention to introduce a State lottery to provide the funds, but that scheme has been disconnected from the Bill.

The Women's Societies which have considered the scheme are about equally divided on the question.

It is estimated that the cost will be about £3,000,000, of which about £500,000 will be saved from expenditure on other Government relief schemes. Dr. Arthur, M.L.A., who has advocated the principle of motherhood endowment for years, estimates that under the present system the community is paying for 200,000 imaginary children, while 200,000 flesh-and-blood children are not getting proper nourishment.

An investigation covering representative districts shows that the average family in the State is less than two. The country is slightly higher than the city.

M. JAMESON WILLIAMS.

Manly, N.S.W., November 14, 1921.

The Results of Woman Suffrage in South Australia.

IT is impossible to divide the work of men and women. Some men, not many, were eager to grant a limited suffrage to women even before they agitated for the vote; and before there was any organized Suffrage Society petitions were circulated.

The Women's Suffrage League was formed as the result of a meeting held in Victoria Hall, July 20, 1888.

While it was encouraging to have the help of many of the best men who recognized the value of women's work and their co-operation in gaining moral reforms, only those women who faced the opposition of friends and foes can understand how unpopular the cause of Woman's Suffrage was in the earlier days of the agitation, and how much easier it would have been to leave politics alone; however, the strenuous and unpleasant work made the suffrage all the more worth while when it was granted. Other women's societies gave hearty co-operation, and women prepared the way by attending to electoral rolls and securing promises from members of Parliament. All honour to the men who voted for the Bill, and especially to those who advocated the justice of granting the vote to women. The Suffrage Bill was carried on December 18, 1894, and in 1896 women voted.

Perhaps the most important work has been the creating of an atmosphere favourable to women's work and their recognition as citizens. While many things have been accomplished, and while some may feel there might have been greater gains, this is certain, the outlook for the future is full of hope.

From the beginning use has been made of petitions, deputations, letters, telegrams, meetings, resolutions, questions to candidates, circulation of literature, etc.—all educational and bringing good results, although entailing hard work on the part of an army of women.

The following list of gains is not complete, but it proves that women have taken a share in the affairs of the country.

Women's Appointments:—

Members of Public School Committees, State Children's Council, Adelaide Hospital Board, The Children's Court, Mental Hospital Board, Destitute Board, Committee to Censor Picture Shows and Advertisements; a Woman Inspector of Schools, a medical Inspector of Schools, Women Justices, Women Police, a Woman Councillor; the right of women to practise at the Bar.

The Schools for Mothers have been publicly recognized and helped.

Improved regulations for women prisoners.

Amendments to Children's Protection Act—age of consent raised.

Heavier penalties for sexual assaults with possibility of examination and indeterminate sentence.

The law forbids supply of tobacco to children under 16 years of age.

Drink not to be supplied to persons under 21 years of age.

A penalty for sending young persons under 16 years of age for liquor, and a penalty for allowing them to be on licensed premises.

The liquor canteen removed from soldiers' camps and from transports.

Scientific Temperance Teaching in Public Schools.

The liquor evil checked and in many cases prevented through Local Option Polls, taken in some cases to prevent new licences, and in others to reduce the number.

The Permit System, so much abused, which allowed liquor to be sold through the night and morning hours, has long been abolished; also the employment of barmaids, with the exception of the few survivors who are registered.

Licensed liquor bars closed on Sundays; all day, Good Friday; part of Christmas Day; at 6 o'clock other days; on special occasions under War Precautions Act.

White slave traffic prevented from gaining hold.

Brothels made illegal.

Anti-Gambling Legislation.

The Matrimonial Causes Act, making the cause for divorce the same for women as for men.

The Testator's Family Maintenance Act, which gives power to judges to award some provision to deserving wives and dependent children, when husbands and

fathers have willed all their property away from them.

Very much has been done in localities to improve the conditions.

Doubtless women will face the duty of taking their places in Parliament and secure greater gains.

Women voting to-day do not realize the opposition faced by the pioneers in suffrage reform; neither do they realize the strenuous work accomplished in order to secure all that has been gained.

The Dawn.

AUSTRIA.

The Austrian Divorce Law.

By A. S. LEVETUS.

THE Austrian law distinguishes between "Scheidung" (judicial separation) and "Trennung" (divorce). For Catholics there can only be judicial separation. Judicial separation may be granted for desertion, disorderly living, ill-treatment, incurable insanity, wilful extravagance, if either partner suffers from venereal disease, or if one or other is imprisoned for some criminal offence, regardless of the length of the sentence. The laws are the same for men and women. For Catholics a marriage may be declared null and void if the man is impotent, and if he was aware of it before entering into the married state; but not if he only becomes aware of this disability when the marriage is on the point of consummation. An unconsummated marriage then comes under the heading of judicial separation. In cases of adultery only a separation can be obtained; if the man is the guilty party he must pay alimony as far as his means allow; if the woman is the guilty party she loses all rights to any marriage settlement her husband may have made, or inheritance from him.

Since Austria became a Republic, the Chief of the District of Vienna (Bezirkshauptmann) may grant a dispensation which enables legally separated persons of the Catholic faith to re-marry. At present this only holds good for Vienna, but the right of dispensation is to be introduced shortly into the Province of Carinthia. Formerly the difficulty was got over by the parties going to reside in Hungary for a time and thereby becoming Hungarian citizens. But such marriages were not recognized in Austria.

All those professing a Christian faith, other than Roman Catholics, may obtain divorce for the following causes: Adultery, any crime punished by a term of imprisonment of five years and over, wilful desertion, repeated ill-treatment, and incompatibility of temperament. In all such cases both husband and wife must consent to the dissolution of the marriage. Marriages may be declared null and void for the following reasons: Incurable insanity; continuous impotence of the husband if known before the marriage, or if it only occurs after the marriage; bigamous marriage; if persons marry who have been known to have committed adultery with one another previous to marriage, though there is difficulty here in proving the case; forced marriage or marriage brought about by fear; if a man seduces a girl by force or if he carries her off; if the husband after marriage finds his wife bearing a child of which he is not the father and she has hidden her condition from him.

Jews can only be divorced by mutual consent, or the husband gives the wife what is known as "Get," which can only be done in cases when he can prove adultery on her part. The law is different for the woman whose husband has committed adultery, for she can only get a judicial separation.

The procedure in the case of judicial separation is very simple for all religions. The judge decides if there is sufficient reason for a public trial, or whether he himself can grant the separation. He first tries to persuade the pair to make it up, and, failing this, the separation is granted without further ado.

In the case of divorce, where the parties profess a Christian faith, the court appoints a lawyer for the defence, besides the lawyer chosen on either side by the divorcing parties. This means that there are always two against one, even in cases of incompatibility of temperament. If the divorce is granted the "Ehebandsverteidiger" (King's Proctor) can step in. Even in cases where there is a public trial, nobody except those personally interested attends it. It is only in the very rarest cases that the proceedings are published in the newspapers, and even then there is no publicity given to details. Besides the church marriages there are civil marriages; but these can only take place between people not professing a religion, or if a priest refuses to perform the ceremony for some reason not legally valid, as, for instance, refusing to marry a Catholic to a Protestant.

In all cases of separation or divorce it is the judge who decides which party is better able to take charge of the children, the fact of a parent having committed adultery being no valid reason why a mother should not be able to bring up her own children, boys and girls. This is the same for all religions.

One of the first things the Republic proposed was a reform of the marriage laws, but they were foiled in this by a majority of the German Nationalists and Christian Socialists.

(By courtesy of "The Woman's Leader.")

September, 1921.

A CANADIAN WOMAN M.P.

Mrs. Nellie McClung, M.L.A., Alberta, Canada.

MRS. NELLIE MCCLUNG, who represents the city of Edmonton in the Legislature of Alberta, and who was the only Canadian woman delegate at the recent Methodist Ecumenical Conference in London, is probably one of the best-known women in the Dominion.

She first became a public figure in Winnipeg a decade or more ago as an advocate of Prohibition and Women's Suffrage, and during the years which preceded the political emancipation of Canadian women she toured Canada and the United States, addressing large audiences in her own country and in twenty-eight States of the American Union.

In 1914 she played a prominent part in the famous Mock Parliament of Women, held in the Manitoba Capitol and afterwards in the towns of that Province, and which did more than anything else to break down the prejudice which had so long surrounded women as possible voters. In 1915, at the head of a large deputation of men and women, she made a famous "Come across" speech, which was chiefly responsible for the introduction of a Bill, brought forward by the Premier of Alberta, placing men and women on an absolute political equality.

During the war period Mrs. McClung was one of the first women called to Ottawa to take part in the famous War Conference of 1918. This Conference to formulate plans in the crisis of the nation arose out of an appeal addressed by Mrs. McClung and an Edmonton friend to Sir Robert Borden, urging the registration of women for national service and conservation of food.

Since they obtained the franchise in 1918 Canadian women have not been slow to avail themselves to the

(Continued on page 42.)

NOUVELLES FÉMINISTES.

Norvège.— Mademoiselle Karen Platou vient d'être élue membre du parlement en Norvège. Elle est la première femme représentant, déjà bien connue par ses travaux politiques. Elle a été membre alternatif du Storting.

Australie.— LA NOUVELLE-GALLES.— La déclaration obligatoire, par le médecin, des maladies vénériennes a été abolie dans la Nouvelle-Galles. Le Ministre de l'Hygiène publique a déclaré que l'expérience avait démontré l'inutilité de cette mesure.

Canada.—Madame Rose Henderson a été nommée par le parti ouvrier (labour party) pour le Parlement Fédéral du Canada.

Danemark.— Les femmes employées à l'arsenal maritime royal ont les mêmes droits que les hommes, et les mêmes chances d'avancement.

Chine.—Nous recevons de Mademoiselle Lee Lien, de Canton, des détails intéressants sur la position de la femme en Chine. Elle nous dit que :

1° Il n'y a aucun code pour le mariage, mais l'ancienne tradition du mariage arrangé par les parents n'existe plus.

2° Il n'y a aucune loi qui empêche la femme d'hériter ou d'avoir de la propriété. Mais il est coutume que la veuve sans enfants ne garde pas la propriété. Une fille hérite d'une partie de la fortune de son père.

3° La femme n'est pas la tutrice légale de son enfant.

4° La femme a le droit de garder ce qu'elle gagne elle-même.

5° Les lois de divorce sont les mêmes pour les deux sexes.

6° La prostitution est acceptée et sous règlement, mais il y a en progrès un grand mouvement contre la prostitution.

Fiji.— Une pharmacie pour les femmes indiennes et pour les enfants a été ouverte à Suva, sous la direction du docteur Mildred Staley.

France.— Mademoiselle Adrienne Bolland est partie pour Buenos-Ayres, autorisée par le Gouvernement français de représenter la France dans tout ce qui concerne l'aviation.

Allemagne.— Une loi organisant les heures de travail des domestiques est devant le Reichstag. Les domestiques seront dorénavant appelés aides ou auxiliaires.

La loi demande, au bescin, 13 heures de travail, dont deux heures pour les adultes et trois heures pour les mineurs doivent être consacrées aux repas.

La loi donne aussi une après-midi de liberté par semaine, ainsi que deux après-midi de dimanche par mois et une vacance officielle d'une semaine après neuf mois de travail dans le même ménage. Dans certains cas spéciaux, ces règles peuvent être changées.

Les Indes.— La campagne organisée dans la province du Behar, en faveur du suffrage, marche bien. La résolution sera placée devant le Conseil pendant la session suivante. Les femmes indiennes, même les femmes Purdah, vont en grand nombre aux meetings. Madame Sarojini Naidu, qui parla au congrès de Genève l'année dernière, a reçu un doctorat honoraire de l'Université de Calcutta.

Nouvelle-Zélande.— Une loi pour l'hygiène publique, qui doit être présentée l'année prochaine, contient certaines clauses qui obligeraient la déclaration des maladies vénériennes. Les femmes de toutes les sociétés féministes combatteront ces clauses.

Etats-Unis d'Amérique.— Quatre femmes ont été nommées par le président Harding pour le comité

consultatif de la Conférence de Washington.

Une conférence féministe de toute l'Amérique, Nord et Sud, aura lieu en avril à Baltimore (Maryland).

Trente-quatre des États de l'Amérique ont reconnu les droits égaux du père et de la mère dans la tutelle des enfants.

SUISSE.

Campagne et défaite suffragiste à Genève.

Ce n'est que par un télégramme que j'ai pu jusqu'à présent annoncer à JUS SUFFRAGII que nous venions de subir une défaite suffragiste dans le canton de Genève. Aussi, je me sens doublement redevable à notre excellent organe international de nouvelles un peu plus détaillées sur notre campagne et sur ses résultats.

Comme le savent nos amies suffragistes, notre situation a une double analogie avec celle des femmes qui ont combattu aux États-Unis pour leur émancipation politique : l'obligation, d'une part, de soumettre toute modification à la Constitution, comme celle qui introduit le vote des femmes, à la votation populaire des électeurs...masculins ; et, d'autre part, la nécessité pour débiter de mener campagne sur le terrain cantonal seulement, en attendant de pouvoir nous attaquer au domaine fédéral. La votation qui a eu lieu les 15 et 16 octobre dernier ne concerne donc uniquement que le canton de Genève, et nullement, comme on l'a cru parfois à l'étranger, la Suisse tout entière.

C'est en janvier 1920 que notre Association avait décidé de lancer une initiative populaire en faveur du vote des femmes, c'est-à-dire d'obtenir les signatures de 2.500 électeurs de notre canton demandant que cette question, déjà souvent discutée dans notre Grand Conseil (Parlement), fût portée devant les électeurs, et non pas enterrée par le bon plaisir de quelques députés. En dix mois environ, nous recueillîmes un chiffre de signatures supérieur à celui qu'exigeait la loi, mais il fallut attendre encore presque une année la votation. Nous ne nous plaignons pas de ce délai d'ailleurs, qui nous a permis de fourbir nos armes, de recueillir des fonds pour notre campagne et de travailler à rendre notre cause populaire dans l'opinion publique. D'ailleurs, la loi sur l'initiative fixant les délais dans lesquels doit être discutée toute question qui fait l'objet d'une initiative, nous savions que nos adversaires étaient obligés, qu'ils le veuillent ou non, de s'en occuper avant la fin de l'année 1921—ce qui ne serait certainement pas arrivé s'il s'était agi simplement d'une proposition faite seulement par un député !

Notre Grand Conseil discuta pour la première fois notre initiative en février 1921, nomma une Commission pour l'étudier, qui lui présenta, le 14 septembre dernier, deux rapports, l'un favorable, l'autre défavorable au suffrage des femmes, et finalement nos députés se déclarèrent, le 21 septembre, à une voix de majorité, en faveur de l'initiative. Comme je l'ai déjà écrit ailleurs, il n'y eut rien de bien nouveau à relever dans ces débats, l'opinion de chacun étant faite, s'étant déjà exprimée auparavant, si bien que nous savions à peu près d'avance sur qui nous pouvions compter ou non. Et cette minuscule majorité d'une voix nous permit de nous rendre compte que la bataille allait être chaude !

Elle s'engagea immédiatement au lendemain de la votation. Le Conseil d'Etat (gouvernement) complètement antisuffragiste, à une seule exception près, marqua tout de suite son intention d'étrangler notre campagne, en ne nous laissant que trois semaines exactement pour la mener. Or, trois semaines c'était peu, terriblement peu : toutes celles de mes lectrices qui ont accompli pareil travail le savent d'expérience. Mais peut-être aussi ce délai si court galvanisa-t-il nos partisans, et notre campagne a certainement gagné en intensité ce qu'elle a perdu en durée.

Et je puis dire que nous avons accompli un beau travail. Rien n'a été négligé par nous pour attirer et intéresser l'opinion des électeurs. Par la parole, par la plume, par la presse, par l'image, nous avons énergiquement, mais aussi loyalement, combattu. Car c'est pour nous une grande satisfaction de pouvoir nous dire que nous avons toujours agi à front découvert, que nous avons courageusement pris la responsabilité de tous nos actes, que nous n'avons jamais cité un fait, articulé un chiffre dont nous ne fussions absolument sûrs, jamais transgressé un règlement de police ou une disposition de la loi électorale, fût-ce à notre désavantage. Et il serait difficile à nos adversaires d'en dire autant.

Ceux-ci sont d'abord restés anonymes et inconnus pendant de longues semaines. Nous avons appris peu de temps avant

(La suite à la page 41.)

la votation qu'une pétition antisuffragiste circulait, pour laquelle on obtenait, des femmes, leur signature, souvent en les prenant par surprise et sans leur laisser le temps de réfléchir, souvent aussi sur la foi d'affirmations parfaitement inexacts sur ce que représenterait pour elles l'exercice du droit de vote. Mais, malgré tout, cette pétition ne réussit qu'à réunir 3.500 signatures, alors que celle que nous avons faite quatre ans auparavant en avait groupé près de 6.000. Cela n'empêcha pas les initiatrices de cette pétition d'affirmer par une affiche que "les femmes de Genève" ne désiraient pas le droit de vote, justifiant cette attitude par des motifs de fausse sentimentalité. D'ailleurs, nous savons fort bien que ces initiatrices n'étaient elles-mêmes que les porte-paroles d'un groupe d'hommes politiques qui avaient extrêmement peur du suffrage féminin, pour plusieurs raisons significatives ! Et c'est ce qui nous a attristées de voir des femmes se laisser ainsi dresser contre d'autres femmes, et faire, sans souci de solidarité entre femmes, le jeu de quelques politiciens.

Les derniers jours avant la votation, enfin, ces messieurs sont à leur tout entrés en lice, mais les meneurs sont restés cachés. Et les arguments contre nous furent piètres. La dislocation de la famille, la pétition des femmes antisuffragistes, et surtout, oh ! surtout, la terreur du bolchévisme, furent les principaux arguments avancés par eux. Et ils ne craignirent pas, pour soutenir leur mauvaise cause, de donner de fréquentes entorses à la vérité. Les suffragistes suédoises seront sans doute bien étonnées d'apprendre que leurs élections du 25 septembre dernier ont été racontées au public genevois comme une victoire écrasante du communisme, du fait que les femmes votaient pour la première fois ce jour-là ! De même les Néo-Zélandaises de savoir que l'on distribuait une petite feuille affirmant que le droit de vote leur a fait abandonner tous leurs devoirs de famille ; et, plus encore, les Allemandes de découvrir que le fondateur du féminisme en Europe a été... l'ex-empereur Guillaume !

Je ne sais pas cependant si ces arguments de mauvaise foi, si ces mensonges, pour les appeler par leur nom, nous ont fait beaucoup de mal. Je crois que, même sans cette campagne contre nous, nous aurions été battues. Car il y a encore tant de préjugés, tant d'inertie, tant d'indifférence, tant d'égoïsme aussi chez tant d'hommes ! Beaucoup ont voté "non" parce qu'ils avaient horriblement peur que les femmes ne fassent fermer les auberges et les cabarets. Et beaucoup aussi parce qu'ils ne voulaient pas être gouvernés par des femmes ! Et c'est ainsi qu'à nos 6.634 partisans sont venus s'opposer 14.169 adversaires. Le scrutin a été d'ailleurs très spécialement fréquenté : 21.080 électeurs sur 38.437. Cela prouve qu'aussi bien que nos amis, nos ennemis se sont dérangés pour aller voter parce qu'ils étaient très inquiets que nous n'ayons la victoire !

Nous savions, nous, parfaitement bien que nous ne pouvions pas l'avoir du premier coup. La défaite ne nous a donc nullement abattues — tout au contraire, car nous avons pu faire des constatations réjouissantes. D'abord, tandis que 3.300 électeurs seulement avaient signé notre initiative l'an dernier, 6.600, donc le double, ont voté pour nous cette année. Ensuite, cette votation a fait davantage en trois semaines pour l'avancement de nos idées que trois années de tranquille propagande. Tout le monde parlait du suffrage, en discutait, les journaux en étaient remplis, même les revues comiques, et les réclames s'en inspiraient ! Et enfin, et surtout, notre campagne a réveillé l'indifférence et réchauffé la tiédeur de beaucoup de femmes. Beaucoup d'entre elles ont ressenti plus vivement même que nous, les militantes, qui y sommes habituées, l'humiliation que leur infligeaient les hommes en ne les déclarant pas capables de voter, et les adhésions très nombreuses que reçoit depuis un mois notre Association en constituent la preuve. Ce n'est certes pas à cela que s'attendaient nos adversaires ! Notre intention est d'ailleurs de porter maintenant tout notre effort de propagande parmi les femmes, de les intéresser à notre travail, de les grouper, de les préparer à leur tâche de citoyennes, si bien que lorsque la question se posera à nouveau elle soit soutenue par un imposant chiffre de femmes. Mais pour cela, cette votation était nécessaire en faisant de l'idée du suffrage féminin non pas une vague théorie mais une réalité vivante et actuelle. Et c'est pour cela que nous estimons avoir fait, malgré notre échec, un grand pas en avant.

Une rectification.

Je voudrais profiter de l'occasion qui m'est offerte ici pour rectifier les paroles que m'a prêtées, dans une interview avec une correspondante de *The Vote*, un article reproduit

par JUS SUFFRAGII. On m'a fait dire, en effet, que je n'estimais pas le suffrage aussi nécessaire aux femmes suisses qu'à celles d'autres pays parce que notre Code civil contenait d'excellentes dispositions en faveur de l'égalité des sexes. Or, rien n'est plus loin de ma pensée. S'il est certain que notre législation civile suisse est en avance sur celles d'autres pays, si en matière d'éducation les femmes ont peut-être moins de réclamations à faire valoir chez nous qu'ailleurs, en matière morale, sociale, économique, etc., une foule d'inégalités subsistent, pour lutter contre lesquelles notre bulletin de vote est indispensable. D'autant plus indispensable, dirai-je, que, en Suisse, les hommes sont appelés à se prononcer sur toutes les questions touchant à la vie du pays, et non pas seulement comme presque partout ailleurs sur l'élection tous les trois ou quatre ans des membres du Parlement, et que, par conséquent, l'injustice à notre égard est encore plus flagrante.

II^e Congrès national suisse pour les Intérêts féminins.

Cette nécessité du suffrage pour nous, femmes suisses, est d'ailleurs ressortie clairement du Congrès qui a eu lieu à Berne au commencement d'octobre, et qui a remporté un immense succès. Il y avait 25 ans en effet que les femmes suisses ne s'étaient pas réunies entre elles sur le terrain national pour discuter en commun les questions les intéressantes, et si ce premier Congrès, tenu à Genève en 1896, avait marqué en quelque sorte les débuts de notre féminisme organisé, celui de 1921 a permis d'en constater le réjouissant développement. Dans les cinq sections (la femme et l'économie domestique, la femme et les professions, la femme et l'éducation, la femme et le travail social, la femme et la vie publique) on a pu se rendre compte des progrès réalisés et des réformes obtenues en un quart de siècle, et combien ce qui semblait alors lointain et chimérique est maintenant du domaine de l'actualité pratique. L'affluence au Congrès a été à peu près le triple de ce que l'on prévoyait, et les salles de l'Université de Berne ont été constamment trop petites, si bien que nombre de rapports ont dû être répétés deux et trois fois pour satisfaire toutes les auditrices. Le Congrès a débuté par la prédication d'une femme, Mlle Pfister, de Zurich, dans la cathédrale de Berne, et les autorités cantonales et fédérales étaient représentées à la séance officielle d'ouverture. Ces messieurs ont été si favorablement impressionnés par ce qu'ils ont entendu, que le Conseil Fédéral s'est décidé à procéder à la nomination que notre Association lui demandait depuis longtemps, avec d'autres Sociétés féminines suisses : celle d'une femme comme conseillère technique adjointe à la délégation suisse à la III^e Conférence internationale du Travail. C'est un succès féministe que nous avons été heureuses d'enregistrer.

EMILIE GOURD,
Présidente de l'Association suisse,
pour le Suffrage féminin.

P.S. — Je signale aux lectrices de JUS SUFFRAGII, que notre Congrès suisse pourrait intéresser, la publication prochaine des *Actes du Congrès* en un volume qui constituera une précieuse documentation sur l'état de la question féministe en Suisse. Prix : 6 f. 80 suisses, port en plus. S'adresser au Secrétariat du Congrès, Falkenweg 9, Berne (Suisse).

Women in the Mining Industry in the Philippines.

MORE women than men are engaged in the mining industry in the Philippines, according to figures recently compiled by Dr. Warren D. Smith, head of the division of mines of the Philippine Bureau of Science.

Among women capitalists who own mine properties is Mrs. Maria Fernandez, who owns an iron mine in Pulacan province, north of Manila, and devotes her whole time to mining and the manufacture of agricultural implements. Another has a controlling interest in a colliery in Albay province in Southern Luzon.

One of the largest contractors in Manila is a woman who is proprietor of a large number of sand and gravel pits, and who is said to have realized large profits in recent years on Government and city contracts.

Dr. Smith mentions several other cases of mining ventures carried on by women in the Visayan group and islands to the south.

Japan Advertiser, July 20, 1921.

(Continued from page 39.)

utmost of their newly acquired political freedom. Indeed, they have forged ahead with such rapidity that Canada, to-day, is the only portion of the British Empire which can boast of women Cabinet Ministers. These are Mrs. Ralph Smith, M.P., of Vancouver, British Columbia, who recently refused the Speakership of the House, but whose position as President of the Council of British Columbia carries with it Cabinet rank (Mrs. Smith has already had three sessions in Parliament, and was returned by an overwhelming majority), and Mrs. Walter Parby, Minister without Portfolio in the Legislature of Alberta. Last July Mrs. McClung was herself elected by the city of Edmonton, where she lives, to be their representative in the Legislature of Alberta.

"I have not taken my seat yet," Mrs. McClung told a representative of *The Vote*, "but I intend to concentrate chiefly on the interests of women and children. I also mean to push the subject of Old Age Pensions, which have not yet become established in Canada. I am an ardent Prohibitionist, and I refused to budge an inch from that standpoint in my electoral campaign. I told the electors frankly that if any of them wanted a relaxation of the liquor laws it was no good voting for me, for I would never modify my antagonism to the use of alcohol. I am also anxious to formulate a new immigration policy that will bring us the right people and set them in the right place. I think much might be done in this way by means of the Women's Institutes. These, as you know, originated in Canada, and to-day possess a membership of 300,000. In co-operation with the Women's Institutes in this country, which, I believe, number some 2,000, a constant interchange of information and interests could be kept up.

"The Canadian Women's Institutes increased enormously in importance after women obtained the vote, and to-day they are doing a great work in stimulating and brightening life in isolated districts. I am myself President of the Edmonton Women's Institute, and last winter we made ourselves responsible for the entertainment of the soldiers' wives from the country, who came to Edmonton to attend the sessions arranged by the Soldier Settlement Board. During the eight days of the Conference 300 women and over 100 children were cared for and entertained. Other towns, encouraged by the results in Edmonton, have also undertaken to minister to the wives of the soldier settlers in like manner, and give them a real Canadian welcome.

"As regards the interest shown in politics by Canadian women to-day," continued Mrs. McClung, "in recent elections women have voted in as large a proportion as men, and they have taken a prominent part in the electioneering, both as speakers and organizers, and as scrutineers and deputy returning officers in the polling stations. No sex discrimination lingers anywhere in Canada, except in the Province of Quebec, where women do not even enjoy the Provincial Parliamentary franchise.

Women in the Senate.

"There is one place, however, where women have not yet penetrated. There is no woman member of the Senate, or Red Chamber, as it is called, because of its scarlet upholstery. Almost my last act before leaving the Dominion was to wait on our Premier, Mr. Meighen, with Madame Marchand, the President of the Federation of French-Canadian Women, to induce him to nominate Judge Emily Murphy to a vacant seat in the Senate. Judge Emily Murphy, you probably know, is Edmonton's woman Judge, the well-known author of 'Janey Canuck,' who is loved and respected by all classes of the community. She is absolutely supreme in her special jurisdiction—the Woman's Court at Edmonton, where children's cases are also tried. She has authority in all cases to clear the Court at will. She has proved herself not merely the Judge, but also the true friend of the women and girls who come before her. The walls of the little backroom behind Judge Murphy's seat of office have witnessed many a kindly talk, and subsequent piecing together of broken lives.

"The way our Woman's Court came into existence may interest you. Canadian women were becoming restive at the way in which women charged with offences against the law were surrounded with male officialdom from first to last. Men arrested them and gave them in charge, men watched their cells in confinement, men brought them before other men in authority, and the final sentence was pronounced by men. No member of their sex was allowed access during the entire proceedings. So, in Edmonton, a few of us formed ourselves into a little band and demanded entrance into the courts when women prisoners were tried. The doors were persistently closed upon us, but we persevered, though under the utmost opprobrium. Epithets were hurled at us of which 'no lady' was the mildest! But eventually we triumphed, and a Special Court was reserved for women and children quite apart from men. Judge Murphy has done such magnificent work in Edmonton that we feel we could have no better candidate to put the women's point of view in the Senate, hitherto an exclusively masculine preserve, the members of which enjoy a life tenancy."

Women in the Church.

Now that her countrywomen have won their political freedom, Mrs. McClung's activities are becoming more and more concentrated on the present ambiguous position of women in the church. She pointed out these ambiguities, with no uncertain utterance, in a paper entitled "The Awakening of Women," which she read before the recent Ecumenical Conference in London, and a portion of which was reprinted in last week's *The Vote*. Herself a loyal and active church worker, leader of a Women's Bible Class at Edmonton, and Honorary President of the Women's Missionary Society of Alberta, she is none the less in complete sympathy with the increasing demand for spiritual equality of women with men in the churches. Indeed, an amusing little story has been going the round in Edmonton, that Mrs. McClung promoted a drawing-room meeting with the object of sending women preachers into the remoter districts of Alberta, and how all went well until one of the women in the group remarked that "of course, no woman could ever expect to administer the Sacrament." Mrs. McClung paused, and said, in quiet but ominous tones, "How many of the other ladies present are of this opinion?" Half a-dozen hands went up. "Then the meeting is over," Mrs. McClung calmly announced.

"There are two types of women in the church to-day," said Mrs. McClung. "There is the docile woman who remains an active church worker, but with her soul on fire at the injustice and prejudice which prevents her offering a fuller service, and there is her militant sister, no less spiritual than the first, who kicks over the traces, and will have none of an organization which decrees that spiritual truths can only be interpreted by the male half of the human race."

Already, however, Mrs. McClung foresees that the barriers of religious prejudice are weakening, and that before long the Church will throw open its highest positions to women as well as men.

(By courtesy of "The Vote.")

WOMAN NOMINATED FOR DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

Mrs. Rose Henderson, who has been working for years in the Juvenile Courts, and who has given fifteen years of her life to fighting for better conditions for the workers in Canada, is now nominated by the Labour Party for the Dominion Parliament. She has been conducting a very successful campaign for that party from Cape Breton to Prince Rupert Island (B.C.), and secured the return of Labour men in every Legislature in the Dominion. Six Acts of social legislation are due to her efforts—among these are Juvenile Courts and Mothers' Pensions.

CHINA.

An interesting Letter from Miss Lee Lien, China, to be represented at the next I.W.S. Congress.

MY DEAR MRS. ABBOTT,

It is very glad, indeed, for us to hear from you. We also regretted that we have not been represented in the Geneva Congress, and sincerely hope that we will be in the coming Congress.

The women suffrage movement in China has been satisfactory, although not yet successful. The movement began at Canton in February this year, and commanded the support of a majority of the women in Kwangtung. The support of the broad-minded men, who believe all people are born equal, was not entirely lacking. Several appeals were made to the Governor of Kwangtung; a Bill was forced into the State Congress, but most unfortunately it was not passed. Everything which is worth fighting for takes time to win! The leaders and all the supporters of the movement are by no means discouraged by such a check. We are working harder even, and winning the additional support of a good many more people. We trust victory will be ours soon.

As a Chinese woman, I believe I am in a position to inform our sisters in the other countries. The Chinese women have enjoyed much freedom even before, as well as now. And they will enjoy the same in the future. Normally, no Chinese woman has ever been the slave of man as has been thought by a good many people abroad. Truly speaking, the conception and the custom toward a woman's position are both changing; that is, the new order is coming to take the place of the old one. The difference between the new and the old is the kind of freedom that she shall enjoy. It is absolutely not the question of freedom or no freedom. Perhaps I shall be able to make my meaning clear to you by answering the five questions you stated.

(1) *The Marriage Law*.—There has not been any written law governing marriage excepting what the tradition and custom have handed down. The old parental-arranged marriage has been broken down, and becomes void almost everywhere, except in some of the backward villages. Engagements are initiated by the young people concerned, but they must gain the consent of their parents in order to make the union acceptable to society.

(2) *Property*.—There is no law to assure nor to declare against a woman holding or inheriting property. But it has been customary that a widow who has no children holds no property, and a girl inherits a part of her father's property.

(3) *Guardianship of Children*.—No woman has ever been legally guardian of her children. But by virtue of her position traditionally, she is.

(4) *The right to her own earnings*.—Until very recently no woman, unless under exceptional conditions and necessity, has ever played the roll of earning. But whatever she earns always goes to her.

(5) *Divorce Law*.—The divorce law was introduced and made formal recently. It is equal between both sexes.

The anti-prostitution movement just began a few months ago. And the wave of such a movement is growing stronger day by day. It is hardly possible to tell what will be the true state of moral legislation when my letter reaches your desk. Perhaps it will be quite a different thing a few days from now. At the present licensed prostitutes exist, and they are examined compulsorily. All houses of prostitution must be in a place approved by the city government, and, besides this much, the State has not gone any further by way of regulation.

Hoping this letter will meet what you want to know, and we are always glad to furnish any information that we can give, and are able to co-operate with the Alliance. With greetings and regards,

LEE LIEN.

Women's Physical Training Institute,
Canton, China, August 15, 1921.

DENMARK.

Women in the Royal Dockyard.

IN 1917 the *Dansk Kvindesamfund* supported the women private assistants in their demand to be advanced equally with the men assistants of the office personnel. The *Dansk Kvindesamfund* sent in a petition to the Ministry of War to attain the claims put forward, and received the answer that the settlement of the question would be delayed until a general revision of the present orders had taken place.

In 1912 the women office personnel obtained admission to the assistant class.

At last has come the complete victory. The following news has been received:—

February 21, 1900 (1920 or 1921?).—The first woman was installed as book-keeper at a salary of 30 kr. per month.

November 1, 1921.—The first woman assistant, Miss Anna Weimann, was named.

June 11, 1920.—The petition of 1917 was renewed, and in spite of no change having been made in the Military Law since the earlier petition in writing of October 4 the previous year, an explanation was received from the Naval Minister "that, after the matter has been re-considered, there is nothing against the admission of women office personnel for promotion to the assistant class."

Now, on November 1, 1921, Miss Anna Weimann has been appointed to the position of first assistant.

Congratulations to "Dansk Kvindesamfund."

The oldest and strongest Women's Association in Denmark the *Dansk Kvindesamfund*, has attained its 50 years' jubilee.

Really the festival should be held on December 15, but as on the occasion of the Association's 40 years' jubilee it was held on February 24, 1912, on account of the impossibility of getting members from the country so near Christmas, it will be just as convenient to celebrate the 50 years' jubilee on the same date.

Kvinden og Samfundet, November 15.



Miss NELLY THURING, M.P.

WE publish above a photograph of Miss Nelly Thuring, one of the five Swedish women M.P.s. Miss Thuring belongs to the Social Democratic Party. She tells us that a lot of hard work was done during the past year in stirring the women of Sweden to take an active part in the elections, and she herself delivered 218 lectures on political subjects.

GERMANY.

The "Domestic Assistants" Bill.

IN November, 1918, more than fifty different State, provincial and local regulations, for domestic servants (*Gesindeordnungen*), being up to that time in force in Germany, were abolished by the Revolution. Since then the respective paragraphs of our *Civil Code* have given the only, and, as many "Hausfrauen" experts believe, a quite sufficient basis for all relations in connection with domestic service, dealing with the conception of household work, restrictions in behalf of children and minors, cases of illness, compensation for damage, mutual notice, certificate, etc. From other sides the necessity of a special, unified national law on this matter was emphasized, and, according to a motion of the Socialist Party, the Government has prepared a *Domestic Assistants' Bill*, which is now before the Reichstag.

So far as the above-mentioned questions are concerned, the Bill is rather in accordance with the *Civil Code*; but it opens new ways on the line of special labour legislation for domestic workers, who significantly—and rightly—shall not be called "servants" but "assistants" in future. It is obvious that the eight-hours day cannot be made obligatory for household work, which is individually so very different in every family. So the Bill provides for a *thirteen-hours "readiness for work,"* under the supposition that these hours may be fixed by the central boards of the States, and that two (with minors three) hours of the thirteen shall be given for meals and rest. The Bill further provides for one free afternoon weekly, two free Sunday afternoons monthly, a free afternoon on every official holiday, and the right of a full week's holiday after nine months' service in the same household, under supposition of full wage in money and food.

Everybody will agree that, in a democratic State, all these and other conditions are very moderate, and, from the standpoints of both parties—employer as well as employee—only just; and the more so as the Bill leaves nearly every paragraph open to other regulation, by mutual consent, if the special wants of the household—little children, illness, late meals, etc.—make it necessary. But just these possibilities and facilities indicate the weak point of the whole law, and the question arises, whether it is altogether possible to regulate exactly, by law, relations which, by their very nature, exclude every official inspection and control, and are entirely based on personal trust and mutual understanding.

The new Bill touches a very prominent "Woman's Question," which is at present also—in Germany as everywhere—a most burning question. But we do not share the hope of the legislators that these regulations will help to solve it by "creating a stronger impulse to take up the profession of domestic assistant." Nevertheless, one may look forward with much interest for the treatment of the Bill and the final decision in the Reichstag.

Emigration of Women.

Another acute question, that of emigration and immigration, has called for the serious attention of the German women lately. It is obvious that emigration in a foreign, unknown country involves still more difficulties and dangers for single, and especially for young women (see, for instance, the snares of the international traffic in women!) than it does for men or families. So it was to be welcomed as a great advantage, that the Central Board for Emigra-

tion in Berlin (*Reichswanderungsamt*) not only takes special care for emigrating and immigrating women, but has asked the large national women's organizations for co-operation, which, of course, they were glad to accept, some of them having already worked on the same lines, as, for instance, the Women's Association for the Colonies, the Railway-Station Mission, the German branches of the "Amies des jeunes filles" and World's Young Women's Christian Association, and others. Advisory boards for emigrating women are established by the central board in many large cities or important places for emigrating. They are conducted by women experts who will give all necessary information on the voyage, and on the conditions, labour opportunities and chances of the respective countries, on legitimation papers, expenses, etc. This is, of course—may it be ever so well carried out—only the one-half of the difficult task. International co-operation is necessary to protect and take care effectively of the emigrating women in the country of their destination. A beginning has already been made by international organizations, but much more must be done in view of the burning needs.

MARIE STRITT.

Dresden, November 17, 1921.

GREAT BRITAIN.

National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship.
Women and Municipal Work.

THE Municipal Elections on November 1 resulted in the successful return of nearly 50 women to Town Councils in England and Wales, and about 17 women in Scotland. Of these a fair proportion of women have been elected for the first time. Many of the affiliated Societies of the N.U.S.E.C. have been actively engaged in working for candidates and one or two brilliant successes have been reported. As a rule our Societies, as non-party organizations, work for women standing for Independent party, though our Liverpool Society demonstrated its strictly non-party or rather all-party attitude by giving active support to three party candidates, Conservative, Liberal, and Labour.

In Bolton, an important town in Lancashire, the women gained a remarkable victory. Though there was no woman on the Town Council, the Liberals and Conservatives formed a coalition to oppose Mrs. Agnew, the women's candidate, and it was commonly supposed that she had no chance whatever. She was successfully returned, however, with a majority of 183.

Southport, Cheltenham, Worthing and Honiton have the distinction of having elected four women mayors.

The position of women on local authorities in this country is still far from satisfactory. There are still many places without a single woman representative. Yet there were those who thought, when a certain proportion of women were granted the vote in 1918, that complete political equality had been attained and that our work was done!

Women and the Bar.

All readers of this paper in different parts of the world will learn with interest that Miss Chrystal Macmillan, so well known as second Vice-President of the I.W.S.A., and for many years a valued member of the Executive Committee of the N.U.W.S.S., now N.U.S.E.C., has successfully passed two of the first Bar Examinations.

Preparations for the Next General Election.

The N.U.S.E.C. is making active preparation for the General Election, which may come at any time, though it is improbable that it will take place in the immediate future. Active work has already been undertaken on the reforms on our programme at no fewer than eleven by-elections, and Societies are making arrangements to cover all the Parliamentary constituencies of Great Britain in such a way that in every division educational work will be carried on both among prospective candidates and the electorate before and during the election campaign.

NEW ZEALAND.

An influential deputation, organized by the N.U.S.E.C., introduced by Miss Macmillan, recently waited on the Chief Coalition Whips to press for a Government Bill next session dealing with Guardianship, Maintenance and Custody of Infants Bill. No fewer than thirty women's organizations took part in this deputation, which was very sympathetically received, though no definite promise was secured.

The N.U.S.E.C. is also pressing for a Government measure dealing with the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, which, it will be remembered, was defeated last session at the last moment by the disgraceful tactics narrated at the time in this column; and last, but certainly not least, it is asking for a Government Bill to amend the Representation of the People Act in such a way as to give women the franchise on exactly the same terms as men. For a long time the women of Great Britain were singularly apathetic about the grave inequalities of the present franchise. There are signs, however, that they are beginning to be roused on the subject, and that there will be remarkable unanimity among all sections of women in the demand for an equal franchise.

ELIZABETH MACADAM,
Hon. Secretary.

November 28, 1921.

INDIA

The Behar Campaign.

THE work is going on well here. A Resolution for Woman Suffrage is to be brought up in Behar next session. The Women's Indian Association has sent up Mrs. Cousins to organize the campaign. It is absolutely pioneer work up there, as the purdah system exists there, even for Hindu women, and education is very insufficient and neglected for girls; but she is finding the work most encouraging, the women are taking a great interest, and attending the meetings in large numbers; particularly noteworthy is a very fine meeting for purdah women, when over one hundred purdah ladies were present, and it was considered a most remarkable thing by the men of Gaya, where was held the meeting. This may not seem a very great thing from the English point of view, but it really marks an epoch in a purdah district. We hope to work up Bengal again a little later on. The Women Suffrage Society in Calcutta has affiliated with the Women's Indian Association and is doing good work. I shall be in Calcutta for a few days the beginning of next year, and shall try to be there for the new Resolution. I forgot to say that a good branch of the W.I.A. has been started in Patna, so the good work Mrs. Cousins is beginning will go on.

DOROTHY JINARAJADASA.

November 2, 1921.

Suffrage Prospects in Mysore.

A fortnight ago, at the annual session of the Representative Assembly of the Native State of Mysore, the subject of franchise was moved, but the sense of the Assembly was taken to be opposed to it. The Chief Minister, at any rate, has promised to bring the question before the Legislature.

Honours for Sarojini Naidu and
Cornelia Sorabji.

Two successes, however, I am glad to communicate: Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, the poetess and political worker, who attended the last session of the International Congress, is to be awarded an Honorary Doctorship by the University of Calcutta, along with the Prince of Wales and other scholars and public men. And Miss Cornelia Sorabji, the first Indian Lady Graduate in Law, who was attached to the Court of Wards of Bengal, is now admitted to the Bar of the Allahabad High Court, and is the first Indian lady to practise Law.

G. R. JOSYER, M.A., F.R.E.S.

November 2, 1921.

AS the year draws to a close there are increasing signs that the moral lethargy after the war is giving way at last to nobler influences. This awakening may be partly due to hard times. The high war prices for produce, notably the British prices for our wool-clip, have fallen; the farmers are troubled; unemployment is acute; the housing problem is aggravated by the necessity for national economy; the railways, affected by the coal prices consequent on constant friction between miners and mineowners, have just suffered substantial reductions in service, and in parts of the country a spring drought has foreshadowed a poor harvest. Though no such cleft between Capital and Labour exists here compared with that in older countries, Labour, at least officially, refuses to recognize that maximum wages cannot be paid in industries run at a loss. Against all this, the busy season is coming on; cost of living is certainly decreasing in some directions, more effective co-operation in relief work between Government and the municipalities is foreshadowed, and altogether it is generally recognized that the buoyancy and resources of the country will bring New Zealand sooner through the ordeal than most other nations will emerge.

Our just-opened session will be short, but the women and other forces of betterment are confidently pressing reforms on the Government, which itself has led off with a very promising Bill, the Facilities for Enforcement of Maintenance Orders, to meet the application of the Imperial Bill of the same name (1920) to New Zealand. The Bill facilitates enforcement of orders for maintenance taken out at Home or in other parts of the Empire against persons in New Zealand, and provides for similar orders being taken out here against defaulters in other parts of the Empire. There will be full investigation of the case here, so that injustice may be guarded against in the absence of the defendants. We trust that this major Bill will carry the minor safeguard, long asked for by women here, of a Special Officer to collect Maintenance Dues.

This winter and spring has seen great interest promoted in amendment of the Criminal Code, and the general support accorded by the public to the petitions now before Parliament promise a better fate than the disgraceful fiasco just chronicled from Britain. The petitions, as well as dealing with the need for women jurors, women J.P.'s and women police, prayed that the age of consent be raised from 16 to 18, that the time of laying information in the case of criminal assault be raised from six months to twelve, and that the plea of "reasonable cause to believe a girl over 16" be abolished.

Great interest is also aroused in face of a Public Health Bill promised next year, in which certain compulsory notification clauses *re* venereal disease have been inserted. These clauses will be fought by the women's societies, very particularly the W.C.I.U. and the Social Hygiene Society, which will tolerate no compulsion save in the case of persons wilfully declining to continue treatment where disease has been proved. A stiff fight ahead.

Prohibition will again be offered at the polls next year and a campaign is being launched in its favour. Many public men are hopeful of the result; our drink bill was never larger, nor the list of drink tragedies longer than now.

We trust to see some women returned to Parliament in 1922, but so far there seems no rush of candidates in view.

Among the resolutions passed at the recent Conference of the National Council of Women were the following:—

"That the Council, while recognizing the many excellent prison reforms already obtained, is of opinion some training home or institution, rather than a gaol, be established for young female offenders."

"That the Council urge upon the Ministers of Justice the need for an Institution intermediate

between a Mental Hospital and a Prison for Delinquents, male or female, of abnormal tendencies."

"That the Council urges there should be no postponement of the proposed extension of the educational system, and that the Amending Act, raising the school age to 15, be put in force next year, and further extension to 16 and 18 be made as soon as possible."

October 15, 1921.

JESSIE MACKAY.

NORWAY.

Women of Drammen Protest against light sentences for Criminal Assault on Children.

A MEETING of the mothers belonging to Drammen's Women's Association on November 9, under the leadership of Mrs. Anna Solberg, Kobbervik, discussed the question of the handling of morals by District Judges in connection with the indignation lately roused by the releasing of certain accused persons.

Mrs. Hanna Isaachsen gave a thoughtful address. She said that the future was in the hands of the women through their work with and responsibility for the family, and that as women have now the same right as men of voting for those who administer justice, it is also their absolute duty to accept equal responsibility.

Lately women have been indignant at the evidence that violence against women and children has been punished so mildly, or as in the last case when a man was let go because he was drunk.

Miscarriage of justice had made people distrust the law.

Men did not seem to understand the meaning of morality.

She quoted as example a man who, suspected of venereal disease, and admitted to a hospital, committed an outrage on a feeble-minded girl in the place; he was allowed to go "because he did not know the girl was feeble-minded"; and a man who had committed violence against a child and was given the same punishment as a man who had stolen a pair of skis.

Morality, said Mrs. Isaachsen, seemed to be treated more lightly than other matters. The light punishment given for offences of violence exercised a very damaging influence on the sense of justice. The same standard of purity should be demanded from men as from women.

In respect to sexual questions women's minority ends at the age of 16 years; but a man is let off if he thinks that the girl was over 16. In a case where a man is let off but the girl is sent to a "Protection Home," the girl and her family are punished.

A woman under 21 years of age has no rights over her property, but she must take full responsibility in respect to morals from the age of 16 years.

Instruction should be given in sexual matters by reliable persons and the instruction to women by women instructors. Morals are not a private matter but a social question, and a moral ideal should be set up.

The following resolution was passed:—

"In respect to the sentence of 'not guilty' passed in the local court on October 8 on a moral question respecting violence committed against a child of 8 years, the mothers of Drammen assembled at a meeting held on November 9, 1921, beg that the decisions of the law be revised as soon as possible, so that in the future they can be secure against the perpetrators of such offences going free, to the danger of our children. We trust there will be women members in the contemplated punitive law commission. In connection with this we would especially point out the misfortune that the jury nearly always consists of men. We suggest that the present jury law be altered so that it shall consist of an equal number of women and men."

Norges Kvindes.

November 12, 1921.

Woman Bank Director Black-balled by Timid Men.

A woman was chosen and installed as director of the "Underordnede Handelsstands Sparebank," in Christiania, but was "black-balled" (asked to resign) after a lively protest from the treasurer of the bank, Mr. Trygve Jacobsen.

Mr. Jacobsen supported his protest by the statement that in the event of a woman being chosen as director, the above-named bank would be the first in the civilized world to have a woman director, and that he would not take the responsibility.

(We believe that in America there is one, if not many, women bank directors.)

Mr. Jacobsen further remarked that he had no reasons for doubting the qualifications of the lady appointed, but that he was of the opinion that a lady director would frighten the investors (savers).

Kvinden og Samfundet.

November 15.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Women on the American Advisory Committee to the Washington Conference.

PRESIDENT HARDING has appointed four women to serve on the Advisory Committee to the American Delegation attending the Washington Conference on the Limitation of Armament. They are:—

Eleanor Franklin Egan (Mrs. Martin Egan), traveller and author, an authority on the Philippines.

Mrs. Thomas G. Winter, President of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, the largest organization of women in the United States.

Mrs. Katherine Phillips Edson, of California, is a member of the State Industrial Welfare Commission, and noted for her success in arbitrating all sorts of labour problems. She was an active worker for woman suffrage in California.

Mrs. Charles Sumner Bird has all her life been active in woman suffrage, club and philanthropic work in Massachusetts, and served as State Chairman of the Republican Women's Committee during the last Presidential campaign. She is one of the members of the committee on reduction of armaments, created at the last annual convention of the National League of Women Voters.

The Pan-American Conference.

A Pan-American conference of women will be held in connection with the third annual convention of the National League of Women Voters, which is to be in Baltimore, Maryland, April 20 to 29 next. This is the first Pan-American conference of women ever called, and its purpose is to bring the women of the United States into friendly relations with the women of South America, Central America, Mexico and Canada.

The invitations to the Governments of South and Central American countries to send delegates to the Pan-American Conference have been forwarded by the State Department through its diplomatic representatives in the republics of Latin-America. While not an official invitation from the United States Government, the plan has received the approval of administration officials, who view with favour conferences that will promote understanding between the citizens of the republics of this continent.

The suggestion was made by the Maryland League of Women Voters that a Pan-American conference of women would fittingly carry on and develop the goodwill which it is expected the Limitation of Armament Conference will create. It was endorsed by Secretaries Hughes and Hoover, and by Dr. L. S. Rowe, Director-General of the Pan-American Union. The plans were first presented to Mr. Hughes and Mr. Hoover by a delegation consisting of Mrs. Maud Wood Park, president of the National League; Mrs. Charles E. Ellicott, Mrs. William M. Maloy and Miss Lavinia Engle, representing the Maryland League of Women Voters; Governor Ritchie of Maryland, and Mr. Perring and

Mr. Brittain, representing Baltimore. Upon its approval by the Cabinet officers the plan was laid before the Baltimore Board of Trade by the League and received hearty endorsement.

"We have had a number of conventions of the men of the Pan-American States," said Mrs. Park, in speaking of the coming convention, "but none in which women have been delegates. In my opinion this Pan-American conference of women will do more to cement good fellowship and create a genuine feeling of confidence in diplomatic and international relations than any other single act could do."

Some Anomalies.

The Massachusetts League of Women Voters is appealing to the Legislature to allow women to register to vote from the place where they really live. At present a married woman's only legal residence is that of her husband. In Boston a number of prominent men have established their legal residence at the Union League Club, which does not admit women; hence their wives are disfranchised. A good many other men, for reasons of business or convenience, have their legal residence in one place and their wife and family in another, though they are on good terms. Then there are the women who are legally separated from their husbands, and the deserted wives whose husbands have left for parts unknown.

The League is also asking that if the husband is a registered voter, this shall be accepted as prima-facie evidence that his wife is a citizen. At present, in order to register to vote, the wife of a naturalized citizen is required to show her husband's naturalization papers. There are a number of foreign-born citizens who do not want their wives to vote, and who refuse to let them have the naturalization papers to show. No man of foreign birth can get his name on the register of voters without first proving himself to be a citizen. As the law now stands, his naturalization carries with it that of his wife, but in these cases she is refused the benefit of it.

These and many other anomalies will be swept away when a married woman's nationality is no longer dependent upon her husband's.

A. S. B.

Woman Citizen, October 22.

Recognizing Two Parents.

By an almost unanimous vote, the Conference of Uniform Laws Commissions of the United States, at its annual meeting in Cleveland, August 24 to 29, voted to appoint a committee to co-operate with the National League of Women Voters Committee on Uniform Laws Concerning Women, in securing a uniform Joint Guardianship Law. Mrs. Catherine Waugh McCulloch, chairman of the League Committee, presented the argument to the Committee on Scope and Programme. This committee favoured deferring the matter for another year, and it was only after the subject had been brought before the entire conference by the Executive Committee that favourable action was taken.

Mrs. McCulloch is a lawyer, mother of four children, Master in Chancery of the Superior Court of Illinois, and legal adviser to some of the largest organizations of women in the country. Her argument was clear, logical, able and scholarly. But it was more: It was the appeal of a mother and a woman for justice. And she won.

Thirty-four States, according to Mrs. McCulloch, have recognized father and mother as equal guardians; eleven States give sole guardianship to the father during his lifetime. Only after his death does the mother have authority over her child. And three States—Delaware, Georgia and Maryland—not only give the father sole right over the child during his lifetime, but permit him, "by deed or will," to name the child's guardian when he dies.

It is to prevent such monstrous injustice as this that Mrs. McCulloch made her plea, backed by a score of representatives of organizations which are behind the movement.

Woman Citizen.

A Dispensary for Indian Women and Children in Fiji.

ON July 24, in Suva, a dispensary for Indian women and children was opened by Mrs. McOwen, wife of the Acting Colonial Secretary, in the presence of Mr. McOwen, Dr. and Mrs. Hunt, Dr. and Mrs. Strathairn, Dr. Mildred Staley, members of the hospital staff, and a large gathering of Indians. The well-known Indian storekeeper, Deoki, placed a building at the disposal of the Government, who have leased it from Deoki for a season. The building has been equipped and fitted out suitably, and contains a roomy waiting-room, operating-room and dispensary.

The dispensary will be in charge of Dr. Mildred Staley, who will visit it on certain days, having associated with her there a certificated Indian nurse, Mrs. I. Perashad, wife of an Indian missionary, who is a fully-trained dispenser, nurse, anaesthetist and midwife.

This first purely Indian dispensary for women and children will prove of great value to the Indian community in Suva.

Dr. Mildred Staley adds that since the opening of the dispensary it has been well patronized by the Indians, and that she and Mrs. Perashad were kept very busy. For this dispensary the Government accepted Dr. Staley's ideas and estimate for the choice, adaptation and furnishing of the building. The leading Indians (150) of the community were invited to the opening ceremony.

H. F. BENNETT,

Hon. Secretary,

Australian Committee for Moral and Social Conditions of Indian Women in Fiji.

(Contributed by Miss Harriet Newcomb.)

PERU.

Reforms of the Peruvian Common Code. Thesis of Woman Doctor of Jurisprudence.

THIS thesis was submitted to the principal University of "San Carlos" by Miguelina Acosta Cardenas to obtain the degree of Doctor in Jurisprudence.

In this thesis Miss Acosta analyses and formulates with clearness and courage the reforms of the Code article by article, establishing just conclusions, amongst which we mention the following:—

"The necessity of replacing the words, man, and, woman, by the word, person, which includes in its meaning both the sexes, since, according to the definition given in Roman Law (Derecho Romano), a person is anyone subject to rights and obligations.

"Substitution of the marital authority for the government of the home by husband and wife conjointly.

"Substitution of the definition of marriage (matrimony) (Art. 152) by that of:—

"The legal marriage is the legitimate union of man and woman, who of their own free will unite their activities to make common life, seeking a guarantee for the economic relations between themselves, and between the married couple and their descendants and ancestors.

"Participation of the women in the administration of the estate belonging to the conjugal partnership.

"Suppression of the dot (marriage portion) as a legal institution because of the uselessness and inefficiency of such institution, and as it is contrary to the principle now accepted that the woman represents a valuable economic force in the formation of the home.

"Autonomy of the woman in the administration of her own property, for it has been proved that the responsibility which is gained by the exercise of this right helps greatly the development of her personality without destroying the harmony of the home.

"Responsibility of the married woman for the obligations which she undertakes, whether it be in respect of her own private property or of those of the conjugal partnership.

"Dissolution of the marriage tie (divorce) because legal marriage is to be considered as a contract.

"Guardianship of the children to be conceded as the right of the woman.

"Introduction of reserved rights in the conjoint partnership when the woman has no property of her own."

We congratulate Miss Acosta Cardenas on her fine work, and trust that the misfortune of the failure of her sight has passed away and that she may be able to continue active work for the ideal of woman's emancipation.

Redencion, July, 1921.

FRANCE.

"Ambassador of the Air."

M^LLE. ADRIENNE BOLLAND, who, as recorded in the *Citizen* some months ago, was the first woman to fly over the Andes Mountains, has been appointed to a new diplomatic post. She is to be "Ambassador of the Air" for France, and has gone to Buenos Aires fully credited by the French Government to represent France in all matters relating to aviation.

Woman Citizen, November 5.

Women Barristers in Ireland.

TWO women were called to the Irish Bar by Lord Chief Justice Molony in Dublin last week. They were Miss F. C. Kyle, of Belfast, and Miss A. K. Deverell, of Greystones. Miss Kyle was congratulated by the Lord Chief Justice on being the first lady barrister. We join our voices to his.

Woman's Leader, November 11.

M^ADAM KAJOKO YAJIMA, President of the Japanese Women's Betterment Association, although 89 years of age, has gone to America to carry the following message from the leading Japanese women to their Western sisters:—

"The Japanese women pray for the success of the Washington Conference, and that it will open a new era with a higher and better understanding between nations."

Officers of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, elected at the Eighth Congress, Geneva, June 6-12, 1920.

President: CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT, 404, Riverside Drive, New York, U.S.A.

1st Vice-President: MARGUERITE DE WITT SCHLUMBERGER, 14, Rue Pierre 1st de Serbie, Paris, France.

2nd Vice-President: CHRYSAL MACMILLAN, 17, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, Scotland.

3rd Vice-President: ANNA LINDEMANN, Degerloch, Stuttgart, Germany.

4th Vice-President: ANNA WICKSELL, Stocksund, Sweden.

Rec. Secretary: MARGERY CORBETT ASHEY, 33, Upper Richmond Road, London, S.W. 15, England.

AFFILIATED COUNTRIES:—Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czecho-Slovakia, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Poland, and British Dominions Overseas—viz., Australia, Canada, South Africa, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Britain, Portugal, Roumania, Russia, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United States of America, Uruguay.

PROVISIONAL AFFILIATIONS: India, Palestine.

By-law of the I.W.S.A. Constitution.

"The International Woman Suffrage Alliance, by mutual consent of its auxiliaries, stands pledged to preserve absolute neutrality on all questions that are strictly national."

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LECTURES:

Wed., 7th Dec., "Nationalism" ... Captain COLIN COOTE,
8.15 p.m. *Chairman:* Mrs. JERVIS. D.S.O., M.P.
Wed., 14th Dec., "The Mandate for Palestine"
5.15 p.m. *Miss FRANCES E. NEWTON, F.R.G.S.,*
Chairman: Mrs. FAWCETT, LL.D. [A.R.C.I.]

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THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

MEETINGS HELD IN THE MINERVA CAFÉ,
144, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C. 1.

MONDAY EVENINGS, at 7 p.m.

Dec. 5th. *Speaker:* Miss LINDA-F-HAGEBY.
Subject: "The Principle and Practice of Dismissing Married Women."
Chair: Mrs. MUSTARD.

Dec. 12th. *Speaker:* Mr. W. L. GEORGE.
Subject: "Anatole France."
Chair: Mrs. McMICHAEL.

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THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE PAPER.

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

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President: THE HON. MRS. WALDEGRAVE. *General Secretary:* MISS CHARLOTTE T. NIVEN.

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CREATIVE THOUGHT IN INDUSTRY.

THE Second International Congress of Working Women has resulted in the creation of the International Federation of Working Women, with, as its object, the uniting of "organized women in order that they may resolve upon the means by which the standard of the life of working women throughout the world may be raised." The sentence, so fraught with meaning, for all its brevity, hardly needs comment, but each group of words is well worth meditating upon. "Organized women": we of the Y.W.C.A. know the implications of that significant definition, for, following that fine affirmation "that the world social order can only be made Christian through individuals whose life is devoted to the single purpose of doing God's will, who constantly renew that purpose in His Presence, and who, at all costs, strive to carry their allegiance to Christ into every part of life," we have the recommendation (4 of the Champéry Findings): "Whereas in the present imperfect social order it is necessary in the interests of justice that groups of industrial workers should have the opportunity of combining to improve their status and voice their needs, we recommend that the Y.W.C.A. encourage organization among women workers and give opportunity to its members, through lectures, discussion circles and other methods, to become acquainted with the principles underlying such organization." The verb that follows is suggestive—"resolve." One does not "resolve" unless one has both the vision and the consciousness of those inner forces that make for irresistible action. "Throughout the world": how often we hear that phrase nowadays, for, fight as we may for the right to be selfish, the only permanent policy is that which loves its neighbour as itself. Members of our Association openly took their stand for such a form of internationalism when they stated at Champéry that: "Whereas we are persuaded that it is possible to change the present system, and to introduce into national and international life the Christian principles of love and co-operation, and that to deny this possibility is to deny some of the most important teachings of Christ, we recommend that the Y.W.C.A., as a body of Christian women exercising an ever-widening influence in many lands, recognize their share of responsibility for the maladjustments in the social order of to-day, and make it their concern to inform themselves fully as to existing social conditions, and to apply the principles of justice, mercy and equal value of every human life to national and international, as well as to personal relations." It is the active concern of every Christian woman that every other woman, no matter her race or standing,

shall have the opportunity for that abundant life which our Lord Himself said that He came to give. The externals of standards may differ from place to place, and it is right that they should differ, proving the life that is in them, but without stereotyping "the standard of the life of working women throughout the world," it is possible to raise it to one plane, and it is with this high resolve that the Federation has been formed.

Possibly the resolve may seem ridiculously high to the onlooker, for after all it is only the minority of women workers who are organized, and of those, certain groups are excluded under the constitution. But if the onlooker thinks only of power in terms of number, it is easy to overlook certain very significant factors. This Congress had not merely different nationalities but different races represented, Oriental as well as Occidental. It drew together not merely the manual woman worker of the industrial world, but the woman on the land and the woman who lives by the work of her brains. And as fraternal delegates it drew in other international women's societies, such as the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, and the World's Y.W.C.A. This means that in every country of the world there are women who are not merely sympathetic or interested, but who are vitally concerned that the social order shall be transformed by a new spirit. One of the visitors at the conference wrote of the high standard maintained throughout the conference: "A keen desire for international solidarity as opposed to narrow nationalism; generosity as opposed to greed; helpfulness as opposed to hostility; all together seeking the highest ideals, working for the greatest good."

Again, perhaps, the onlooker may feel that this is idealism divorced from practicality. But even the most cursory study of the proceedings of the Congress brings to light the fact that the outstanding work of the Congress was to provide for the permanency and effective administration of the Federation. An office is to be set up in London which will link up the organizations making up the Federation during the two years before the next meeting. Working women have now an international headquarters through which they can speak, with no uncertain voice.

The recommendations of the Congress show how soundly practical is the mind of women workers. Thus, for example, in the agricultural section emphasis is laid on the need for widespread technical instruction, beginning in the elementary schools in the country. Proper housing for agricultural workers is pressed for not merely from the point of view of women, much of whose health and energy is wasted under present conditions, but also from the point of view of maintaining a maximum of population on the land and of safeguarding the future of the

race. In dealing with the spread of international goodwill and comradeship the Congress struck straight at the root of the matter, the language difficulty, which leaves the interpretation of one nation to another in the hands of a limited number of people. The resolutions on lead poisoning, the employment of children on ships, those on the adoption of the Washington Convention, etc., all show the same practical provisions for the attainment of an ideal. The combination is remarkable and promises well for the contribution women workers have to make both to the forward labour movement itself and to that regeneration of society which is the hope of the world-wide labour movement as a whole. One last instance may be given of this practical spirit in avowed idealists, and that is the fact that women have decided, for the present at any rate, to organize themselves apart from the men's societies. They have special problems in which to inform themselves, those which concern the life, of the family, of women and children, and lost as organized women would be in the great men's movements, they could not get together, or draw in other women without a special grouping, temporary as such a separate grouping will probably prove to be. The women have been supported in this by leaders in the Labour world, and it is interesting to note among the speakers at the Congress, M. Albert Thomas, of the International Labour Bureau, M. Jouhaux of France, MM. Oudergeest and Fimmen of the International Federation of Trades Unions, and M. Mertens of Belgium.

Members of the Y.W.C.A. who have been following with keen interest the growth of this international organization of women will be glad to know that fellow-members of theirs had the privilege of being present at the Congress, and that the delegates from several countries were in touch with the Y.W.C.A. of their home lands. Miss Mary Dingman, the Industrial Secretary to the World's Committee, was in Geneva as a fraternal delegate, and Miss Zung, of the Chinese National Y.W.C.A. staff, attended as a visitor, sent specially by the Chinese Y.W.C.A. for that purpose. Baroness Olga Meyendorff, one of the World's Y.W.C.A. travelling secretaries, was also invited, and there were Association secretaries from the United States, Poland, etc. The Geneva Association provided hospitality for several delegates, and had the pleasure of meeting many others at a reception given in their honour.

It will be interesting to follow the after-results of the Congress, both the special work of the new Federation and what it will do in co-operation with other women's groups. For it is inconceivable that the Federation will not attract to it the other societies which, whatever their differences, are entirely in sympathy with its objective. The inaugural speech of the President might have been addressed to women's societies in general, so accurately does it reflect the spirit of constructive hope that animates them. "We are meeting," she said, "at a time when we are facing the end of a civilization. We are at the birth of a new era, and whether that new social order is going to be better or worse than the old order will depend very largely upon the vision, the spirit, the valour and wisdom of the women of the world. . . . It can be done! It can be done! The power of a great faith can recreate the mind and will of the peoples of the earth, paralysed by the aftermath of the war, with its misery and disillusion, and set free the spirit of mankind. A great faith held fast by a handful of poor folks, carpenters and fishermen, net-menders and working women, two thousand years ago changed the face of the earth in spite of Empires and Caesars. A great faith held fast to-day by the working women of all nations can redeem the world. It is the hour of decision. We are called to answer in the power of the Spirit. We hear the cry, 'Working women of the world, what of the night, what of the night?' And we make answer: 'Till the morning cometh we will hold high the flaming torch of our faith, and through the power of the Spirit will give bread to the hungry, undo the heavy burdens, loosen the bands of wickedness, proclaim liberty to the captives, the opening of prison doors to them

that are bound, and bring reconciliation to the peoples of the earth. It can be done!"

THE COLOURED MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE Young Women's Christian Association has always taken account in its thinking of all girls and young women, irrespective of race, creed or colour. Perhaps it is wrong to use the word "irrespective," since the Association has made it a cardinal principle to regard the girl as an individual and not *en masse*, and to discover and respect her individuality, adapting its methods of approach and work to her varying needs and backgrounds. The war funds made it possible to enlarge many phases of Association service which had before been carried on in limited ways because of lack of money or for which the country as a whole had not been ready. One of these was the work among coloured girls and young women. Coloured and white women were equally called upon for war service and needed equally the help of the Young Women's Christian Association. In the impetus that comes with a common patriotic purpose, racial differences lost their emphasis and encouraging progress in understanding and appreciating each other was made by both groups of women.

Before the year of 1917 there were thirteen centres of work for coloured girls in the United States. By September, 1921, there were sixty-two, which have already developed or are rapidly developing into regular branch Associations. There are twelve workers on the national staff and 120 on local staffs. Activities in the coloured centres include all those which white girls enjoy—educational classes, cooking, dress-making, health and hygiene, club work, rooms registry and employment bureaux. Over 6,000 coloured girls are enrolled in the Girl Reserves alone, and many thousands more are reached by the Association in other forms of its activities.

The work of the Young Women's Christian Association is especially adapted to coloured girls and women for three reasons—its religious basis, its application of recreation to daily life, and its provision for self leadership. In the first place, coloured people are fundamentally religious. Secondly, they instinctively appreciate the place of play and amusement in everyday life, and respond eagerly to the right kind. Finally, no race more fully recognizes the need for developing its own leadership, nor places more emphasis upon it than does the Negro. Coloured leadership for the Association, both employed and volunteer, is being recruited from the best colleges and universities in the country, where many young coloured women are taking high honours. Seventy-three women have been enrolled in Association training courses and thirty-two in the summer sessions of the National Training School. This year, 1921-1922, a coloured girl will enter the National Training School for the regular year's course.

One of the great opportunities before the Young Women's Christian Association in the United States is that of helping to bring about a constantly increasing inter-racial understanding between the women leaders of the white and the coloured races, particularly within the Association, since it is upon such understanding that the safety of its coloured work is based.

GRACE COPPOCK, 1882-1921.

IN 1906 a young American college woman went to China. In 1913 she was appointed National General Secretary for China's Y.W.C.A. with a dozen helpers for the whole country. At that time one-sixth of the staff were Chinese women. Now more than one-third are, for there are eighty-four women from the United States, Canada, Australia, Great Britain and Sweden, and forty-eight fully-trained Chinese workers. The Committees are made up of Chinese women, responsibility in each centre is devolving on Chinese women, and Grace Coppock's successor will be Chinese. For Grace Coppock is dead, leaving behind her the undying memorial of a Chinese Christian women's movement.

THE AMATEUR EXHIBIT.

IS there any value in the amateur exhibit? There are obvious dangers attached to it, for an exhibition of any kind attacks the human being at his most vulnerable and least easily protected point—the eye; and suppose the diagrams and objects used are inaccurate or incomplete, the spectator goes away with that partial or biased knowledge which is so insecure a foundation for opinion or action.

On the other hand, the amateur exhibition has a special place in the education of the community, for, firstly, it reaches people who would never go to a museum or public exhibition, and secondly, it drives the makers of the exhibits into a certain amount of study and investigation. For example, the baby shows organized by the Chinese Y.W.C.A. cannot compete in size or in detail with the perfectly organized demonstrations of the American Red Cross in France; but they open the eyes and stimulate the pride of mothers who are untouched by medical research, and bring to their notice experiments in food, clothing and hygiene that fit into Chinese surroundings. Again, a loan exhibition of postage stamps is of great interest to the expert and to the would-be expert, but an equally useful purpose is served by the very incomplete collection which a club makes during the World's Y.W.C.A. Week of Friendship and Prayer to illustrate the diversity and the unity of the nations of the world. The sheer manual and mental labour which in an amateur exhibition falls on the exhibitors gives them a lively realization of the purpose and value of their work, and this living interest is passed on to those to whom they explain the exhibits.

Our lives are so full and so limited that things not seen or experienced are apt to be abstractions so far as actual action is concerned, and we evade our joint responsibilities with the ease of long-established habit. Yet facts are often very easily within our reach, if we know where and how to put out our hands to grasp them, and the amateur exhibition—with all its faults and failings—at least assembles facts and gives some kind of interpretation of them. Do you believe in the



A Y.W.C.A. exhibit of women's work in different countries: education, evangelization, health, housing, migration, industrial, etc. Note the clever economy of space, allowing visitors to move about easily.

interdependence of countries? You are obliged to when the local Girl Guide Company inveigles you to a camouflaged schoolroom where commonplace articles of daily use, labelled with their country of origin, bring home to you the startling fact that people of a dozen different nationalities and many trades make your daily life possible. Are you alarmed by the influx of "foreigners" in your district and convinced that they bring no good things with them? Once you have attended the little exhibition of embroideries, laces, leather and woodwork made by these same foreigners, to say nothing of appetizing national dishes, you realize that if they need your methods of housework, you certainly would be richer for the knowledge of their housewifery and their arts, and an exchange of recipes ends in an exchange of friendship.

The small specialized exhibition seems likely to be a feature of many kinds of work this winter, and it is

interesting to see in letters and reports how large and fine a net is spread for contributors. For example, the Tokyo City Social Bureau is planning a Social Service Activities Exhibition for the spring, specializing in industrial welfare experiments and schemes. The Social and Legislation Department of the British Y.W.C.A. has already proved the use of living exhibits in the form of tableaux demonstrating the possibility of changing bad into good working conditions. Miss Dingman, Industrial Secretary to the World's Y.W.C.A. Executive Committee, will be using this winter in Europe a set of maps showing the progress in the different countries of the Washington Conventions. The tale of amateur exhibits could be taken round the world, and from every country would come the same acknowledgment of inadequacy and the same realization of results achieved out of all proportion to the intrinsic value of the exhibit.

The National General Secretaries of the Y.W.C.A. in Finland and Scandinavia.



Miss Loimaranta (Finland), Miss Mellin (Sweden), Miss Raeder (Denmark), and Miss Parm (Norway), caught together at the Scandinavian Conference at Nyborgstrand, this autumn. Finland has just celebrated its 25th Anniversary. One of the outstanding features of the Celebrations was the "Kantat vid K.F.U.K:s i Finland 25-ars Fest," specially composed for the occasion by Mikael Nyberg.

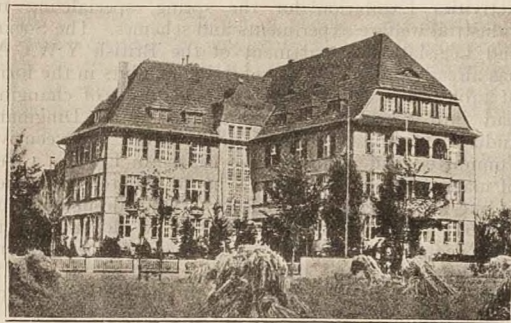
VON DEM ARBEITSFELDE DES "Y.W.C.A." IN FINNLAND.

"YWCA" in Finnland hat seine Aufmerksamkeit besonders auf die jüngste Jugend gelenkt — sowohl im Kreise der Vereinigungen selbst als ausserhalb derselben. Vermittels unserer Sommerversammlungen für Schülerinnen und Landmädchen kommen wir alljährlich mit Hunderten von jungen Mädchen in Berührung. In unseren "Jugendbünden" finden diese dann später gute Gelegenheit an Bibelstudiumzirkel, Gesangchöre, Nähkränzchen u.s.w. teilzunehmen, wodurch sie dem Reiche Gottes näher gezogen werden. Manche von ihnen haben sich der Gottesreichsarbeit gewidmet — als Diakonissen und Missionäre — die meisten doch ganz anspruchlos nur als "Tanten" in den Mädchenabteilungen. Diese letzteren versammeln 3-15-jährige Kinder zu Nähkränzchen, wo die Kleinen oft mit ihrer Arbeit einige Kinderchen unserer Kinderheime bekosten. Ungefähr die Hälfte der Vereinigungen hat schon "Jugendbünde," ein Drittel Mädchenabteilungen. Da jetzt eine besondere Reisesekretärin — Fräulein Aina Länkela — angestellt worden ist, hoffen wir, dass dieser Zweig unserer Arbeit sich rasch entwickeln wird.

Zweitens hat unsere Vereinigung Fabrikmädchen unter ihre Fürsorge genommen. Zwei junge Damen haben in ihrer Mitte gearbeitet. Diese haben Andachtsstunden, Diskussions- und Gesangsabende, Nähkränzchen u.s.w. organisiert, und dazu z.B. einen Turnverein gebildet und einen Kochkurs gegeben. Auch besuchen diese unsere Arbeiterinnen die Mädchen in ihren Wohnungen, pflegen Kranke und versuchen überhaupt ihnen in allen Fällen ihre Hilfe und Stütze darzubieten.

SIRI LOIMARANTA.

PICTURES OF THE WORK OF THE GERMAN Y.W.C.A.



The Burckhardthaus, the fine headquarters building of the Y.W.C.A. in Germany. It stands in the suburb of Berlin, Berlin-Dahlem, and houses not only the many secretarial offices of the work, but also the personnel as well.



One corner of the Burckhardthaus book-room, from which seven periodicals are sent out. The most popular, a weekly, has a circulation of 150,000. Books of every kind can be bought here, and it is also the centre of a system of loan libraries.



One of the holiday homes owned by the German Y.W.C.A. Here girls of all ages in need of country air after an illness, or of a restful holiday, are welcomed.



A typical scene at a station. The central figure is the General Secretary of the Deutsche Bahnhofsmission, which carries on excellent travellers' aid work for women throughout the country.



A group of younger members at a Girls' Camp. The different forms of girls' work and their possibilities will be one of the chief topics of discussion at the Biennial Meeting of the World's Y.W.C.A. in 1922.



Folk-dancing in the open. The German Y.W.C.A. maintains a high standard in its recreational work, and the fine folk-singing and dancing was one of the features of the play-hours of the National Conference at Marburg this year. Three thousand girls were present at this Conference on "Young People's Sunday."

With Supplement from the World's Young Women's Christian Association.

JVS SVFFRAGII.

THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SVFFRAGE NEWS



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WORLD'S Y.W.C.A. SUPPLEMENT CENTRE PAGES

THE YEAR'S RECORD.

THE enfranchisement of Indian women in Madras, Bombay, Travancore, Jahalwar, Cochin; the communal vote in Roumania; the election of five women M.P.'s in Sweden; the first woman M.P. in Australia; and again the first woman M.P. in Norway; women Cabinet Ministers and the first Dominion woman M.P. in Canada; a woman Senator in Belgium; a woman on the Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of Nations; these are some of the signal successes of the year that is gone; and, on the whole, it is an excellent record. And though the women of France, Bulgaria, Belgium, Greece, China, Italy, Japan, Newfoundland, Quebec, Roumania, Serbia, Spain, South Africa, Switzerland, and all Latin America are still struggling for enfranchisement, the suffrage tide in every one of these countries or states is rising steadily—and Mrs. Partington cannot sweep it back. But when every country is fully enfranchised the battle will not be won. Full well do the already enfranchised countries realize that. The equality that is written into a Parliamentary Bill, or a revision of the constitution is too often only a paper equality—a pretty phrase that does not in the least tally with the ugly facts. Equal

opportunity, equal pay, an equal moral standard, where are they? And where, without them, are women? Nowhere—and that in spite of a million million votes. But the vote is the key, and the international feminist movement the handle to these closed doors. There are plenty of other closed doors that we want to see opened—and open doors that we want to see shut; but it is my belief that the feminist, and particularly the enfranchised feminist, who goes meddling with those other doors before women have crossed the threshold and are standing firmly in the room of full equality is making a miscalculation. The securing of full equality may seem a long and dreary business, for it means not merely the changing of laws, but the changing of common thought about women from the time they are baby girls to the time they are ready for their graves. But nothing less than that evolution of law and custom and thought will bring the real victory of the woman's movement. That full equality is the aim of the International Woman's Suffrage Alliance, and your Editor sends world-wide the wish that by our united work we may bring it nearer—be it only by a millimetre—in 1922.

E. A.