

COMMISSION ON THE INTERPRETATION OF CHRIST TO YOUNG WOMEN TO-DAY. St. Wolfgang, Austria, June 22.



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

JVS SVFFRAGII.

THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWS



THE MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

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

.. . . CENTRE PAGES.

THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN.

THE PARIS CONFERENCE.

THE Second Conference of the International Federation of University Women, held in Paris in July, has been acclaimed by all the delegates who attended as a magnificent success, and now that it is over it is perhaps worth while to consider what its success implies. What did three hundred university women, representing eighteen or nineteen countries, succeed in achieving during four days in Paris?

In the first place they certainly arrived at a most cordial understanding between themselves, thereby playing their individual part in the promotion of the great aim of the Federation—"the development of friendship and sympathy between the university women of the nations of the world." That they had exceptional opportunities for mutual intercourse was due to the many delightful arrangements for their entertainment made by the French members of the Federation and to the hospitality of the American University Women's Club in the Rue de Chevreuse, which not only provided a hall for meetings and numerous rooms for committees and for secretarial work, but supplied all the delegates with meals and many of them with bedrooms. Mrs. Whitelaw Reid, the donor of this admirably adapted club-house, personally welcomed the members of the Federation, expressing a hope that the Conference of 1922 would only be the first of many international gatherings in the house, which will be the Continental headquarters of the Federation. Among the entertain-

ments provided by the French Committee were receptions at the Sorbonne, where the delegates were received by M. Appell, Rector of the University, and at the Cercle de la Renaissance, excursions to Provins, Beauvais, Rheims and other places of interest, and a special performance of Molière's "L'Avare," with M. Dullin in the chief rôle.

But beyond the personal friendliness which ensured the right atmosphere for the various discussions, the delegates may well be satisfied both with the progress and the outlook of the Federation as revealed at the Conference. The university women of America, Canada and Great Britain, who founded the Federation three years ago, have been joined by their colleagues in Australia, Austria, Belgium, Czecho-Slovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Holland, India, Italy, Japan, Norway, New Zealand, Spain and Sweden. In all these countries federations of university women are actively at work to promote the ideals of the Federation, to provide hospitality for travelling members, to raise funds for international scholarships, to assist the interchange of teachers. In addition each federation has its national work to perform in securing for women both the opportunity for higher education and the possibility of a fair chance of a successful career at the end of it. The reports of the delegates on the work of the federations were extremely varied and interesting. They were followed by some discussions on the present position of

women in different professional fields. Mlle. Julie Monod spoke of the social work performed by Frenchwomen, Mlle. Poupelet contributed a most interesting paper on the work of the women artists of France, Mrs. Alys Russell opened a discussion on the disabilities of married women.

The chief topic was, however, the programme of the Federation. The most important item in the programme, the Organization of Interchange, was the subject of a suggestive speech by Professor Winifred Cullis, who outlined a comprehensive scheme for the encouragement of exchange between teachers in universities and schools, which will be adopted by the Federation immediately. Proposals for increasing the number of international scholarships and travelling fellowships all involve an increase of funds, but it is hoped that various valuable suggestions for the raising of funds, put forward by President Thomas, of Bryn Mawr, President Pendleton, of Wellesley College, Dean Gildersleeve, of Barnard College, and Miss L. F. Nettlefold, Treasurer of the British Federation, will bear fruit and enable many more international scholarships to be established. Funds are also needed for the development of club-houses in the chief cities of the world, where travelling members may stay and where graduate students may live. The British Federation laid before the delegates from other countries a scheme for the purchase of the fine old historic building of Crosby Hall, which it is proposed to use as an international hall of residence for women graduates working in London. The American delegates spoke of plans for a club-house in Athens and others in Peking and Tokio.

Dr. Ramstedt brought forward a proposal from the Swedish Federation for the compilation of an international register of professional women, the need being particularly felt with regard to women in the professions most recently open, such as law. Her speech was followed by interesting discussions on methods of propaganda and organs of publication, offers of publicity from various influential women's journals being received gratefully.

The concluding hour of the Conference was devoted to a consideration of the methods of promoting peace most compatible with the direct work of the Federation. President Thomas opened the discussion with a spirited appeal to the members to lose no opportunity of educating both old and young in the ideals of international peace, and she was warmly followed by Mme. Puech, a prominent member of the French Union of the League of Nations. Mlle. Sance, directress of the Collège Sévigné, spoke of the great value of groups such as the national federations in founding a truly social international understanding. Mrs. McWilliams, President of the Canadian Federation, closed the meeting with an eloquent tribute to the work of the members of the Federation, not only in their associations, but in their daily lives by the exercise of the dispassionate, understanding mind, which was the special mark of a university training.

The delegates elected Professor Caroline Spurgeon, D.Litt., of the University of London, as President for the next term of two years, Mlle. Marguerite Mespoulet, Agrégée-es-Lettres, Vice-President, Mrs. Alice Lord Parsons, A.B., of New York, Treasurer, and Miss Theodora Bosanquet, B.Sc., Secretary. The Headquarters Office is at 92, Victoria Street, London, S.W. 1.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON MORAL EDUCATION.

On July 31, an International Congress on Moral Education was held in Geneva. Madame Girardet-Vielle attended on behalf of the I.W.S.A. Some 500 delegates from twenty-five countries were present, and a fine spirit of international goodwill was manifested. The Congress gave an important place in its discussions to the peoples of the Far East, and made proposals for an effective co-operation with the League of Nations and International Labour Office in the work of international social and moral education.

AUSTRALIA SENDS A WOMAN DELEGATE TO THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

MRS. G. E. DALE, of New South Wales, has been appointed by the Commonwealth Government of Australia to the Assembly of the League of Nations as a substitute delegate to deal with questions concerning women and children. Mrs. Dale is a member of the Alliance, and is well known in New South Wales as a keen supporter of the woman movement, having been especially prominent in the fight against the compulsory notification of venereal disease. Her nomination was supported by the progressive women's organizations of Australia.

SECOND ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL WOMEN.

THE Second Annual Convention of the International Association of Medical Women will be held in Geneva on September 4 to 8. Many questions of importance are to be discussed and a number of papers will be read which will be most interesting and valuable.

More and more are we coming to a realization that no people and no nation can stand alone. We cannot afford to occupy an isolated position, and in no field of endeavour is this so truly the case as in medicine and surgery. Representatives from all the European countries, as well as members from the Far East, have been invited, and it is hoped and expected that it will be a truly international meeting.

With national associations formed in the United States, as well as in some of the foreign countries, plans are already in operation to bring about eventually a great chain of associations of medical women throughout the world, the International Association being the link to bind all the countries together.

A most interesting and instructive programme has been promised, some of the subjects to be discussed being "Prevention of the White Slave Traffic, Drug Traffic and Venereal Diseases." Papers relating to women in pediatrics, sex hygiene problems, women in obstetrics and gynecology. A short paper from each country represented, covering the history of medical women in that country, will be presented.

Italy is represented by papers on obstetrics and gynecology and the venereal disease problem in Rome. One of the important papers to be discussed will be that of Dr. Clellia Lollini, of Rome, on "The Prevention of Prostitution." It will be noted that the topics for discussion at this convention relate to fundamental problems. These women are not coming from all quarters of the globe to discuss effects. They are coming to discuss with each other the causes that produce the effects in an honest effort to remove the cause.

Medical Woman's Journal.

THE POSITION OF WOMEN IN SIKKIM.

By Mrs. ALICE BULLOCK.

SIKKIM is a small, semi-independent native State, which lies north of Bengal, between great spurs of the Himalayas. It is a very primitive country, cultivated in the south by recent immigrants from Nepal, and inhabited to the north by herds-men, who migrate up and down the steep river valleys in search of pasturage for their herds of sheep and yaks.

The roads, which are kept in remarkably good condition considering the mountainous character of the country and the great landslips which occur

after the rains, are not passable by vehicles of any sort. Native travel is entirely on foot, though the occasional official or well-to-do landowner rides.

The population consists of Lepchas, a woodland race, who instinctively withdraw from centres of civilization; Nepalese, the industrious immigrants from Nepal who are agriculturists; Thibetans, who are herdsmen and traders; a few Hindus from the plains; and various mixtures of these.

The women are a hardy race, short, square, and sturdy. As coolies they are better carriers than the men, and their willingness and cheerfulness are delightful. Like ourselves, they are fully enfranchised to the cigarette. Towards sharing all labour they seem to have more than equal rights. In Darjeeling, where the coolies are to a large extent Lepcha or Nepali mixtures, one woman cheerfully carried my large American trunk uphill from the station to the hotel. To move the same box downhill, but a greater distance, three men were necessary. All through the tour in Sikkim, in the distribution of loads I noticed that the men always carried the rolls of bedding, which were comparatively light, and the women had the heavy baskets of tinned and other provisions.

My information about the lives and customs of the women of Sikkim has been gained largely through the workers in the Finnish Mission situated at Lachen. These ladies have been in intimate touch with the lives of the women for a great many years. They assure me that the education for girls and boys is different, and it is only during the past few years that the native has believed that a girl could be taught to read, and that the girls themselves, when questioned if they would like to learn to read, replied they were like cows and could not learn.

The girls are never veiled or secluded as they often are in the plains. They marry between 16 and 24, the early marriage of the Hindus not being practised. A native official in Jaipur, Rajputana, informed me that early marriage among the Hindus was not indigenous, but had been brought about, after the Mohammedan invasion, to protect the women; that a girl was then married before the age of puberty, so that, being married, she would no longer be desirable for a Mohammedan harem. Where the Hindu customs obtain in Sikkim it is through more or less recent immigration. As the typical Sikkimese is not a Hindu I shall confine the description of the women to the older races of the north, because the main points of interest of the women of Sikkim are their differences to the Hindus.

As in Thibet, each village in the north of Sikkim has its council and headman. A girl's marriage is not arranged by herself or by her father, but by her uncle on her mother's side or by the council, or by the two together. The price to be paid for the girl and the home to which she is to go having been settled in this manner, the girl becomes the wife of all of the sons of the family into which she marries. Cases of five brothers with one wife are known to a large extent because each young man is not able to afford a separate wife.

Fourteen or fifteen years ago the price of a wife varied from 10 to 50 rupees (12s. 6d. to 62s. 6d.). The missionaries have since then taught the girls sewing, mending, crocheting, and weaving, and step by step with the development of the weaving industry the marriage price has risen to from 50 to 200 rupees (£3. 2s. 6d. to £12. 10s. 0d.).

At present some of the women do not wish to marry. They earn enough to buy themselves a small home and field and a few cows. Recently, occasionally, a girl has refused to remain in the home assigned to her by her uncle and the village council, and leaving these husbands has chosen someone for herself. In such cases, all of the possessions of both the girl and the man have been seized as a fine.

In most cases the men treat the women kindly and the women are content with their position and try to conceal any sorrow or suffering that exists.

After marriage the woman is looked upon as the husband's property, but at the same time has a ruling power in the home. I do not know how the parenthood of the children is settled. It is understood that the girls belong to the mother and the boys to the father. In addition to attending to all home affairs, the wife works in connection with herds, crops, and weaving, and she looks upon this outside work as her especial honour.

Generally the women accompany the men when they move from place to place with the herds, though some women remain with the children. A village will frequently build huts at several points higher or lower in a valley, and will occupy the different settlements at different times of the year according to the pasturage.

It is understood that the wife has an equal ownership with the husband in the crops and herds, but upon the death of the husband the property passes to the control of the eldest son, who becomes the head of the home.

In some of the villages there are many illegitimate children. There is no strong feeling about illegitimacy, and neither the mother nor the child is in any way tabooed. The father is required to pay three rupees to the lama and the headman of the village and has no further responsibility towards the woman or the child, and the mother must care for the child.

In her old age the woman of the upper classes exerts a special authority, but among the lower classes she is looked down upon and altogether neglected.

There is something singularly attractive about these hill people, especially the women. Their faces are fresh and there is something very frank and kindly about their expression. Like children, they are easily amused and are quick to forget a sorrow, and their cheerfulness under physical strain and fatigue is remarkable.

WOMEN CIVIL SERVANTS.

WE publish below a short questionnaire on the subject of pay and conditions of Women Civil Servants, our object being to obtain sufficient information to give an international comparison of such conditions. We very much hope that every reader of our paper who has any special knowledge on this point will give us in reply the fullest possible information on the Civil Service of their own country. These particulars are required very urgently, and answers dispatched *at once* will therefore be doubly welcome, and should be addressed to the Editor, I.W.S. News, 11, Adam Street, Adelphi, London, W.C. 2.

1. Grades of men and women in the Civil Service, with rates of pay.
2. Methods of recruitment and age of entry.
3. Hours and annual leave.
4. Sick leave conditions.
5. Pension.

OBITUARY.

Frau Minna Cauer.

Geboren 1. November 1841, gestorben 3. August 1922.

MINNA CAUER, geb. Schelle, war die Tochter eines evangelischen Geistlichen. Die Kindheit verlebte sie in einem kleinen Landstädtchen, Freyenstein in der Mark.

Mit 21 Jahren in erster Ehe verheiratet mit einem Arzt. Bereits nach vier Jahren Witwe. Auch ihr erstes und einziges Kind, ein Söhnchen, starb nach kurzer Lebensdauer.

Als Witwe machte sie ihr Lehrerinnenexamen und ging als Erzieherin nach Paris. Sehr schwerer Pflichtenkreis, aber auch starke Anregung durch das grosse, strahlende Paris, das damals unter Napoleon und Eugenie auf der Höhe stand.

Infolge der sich zuspitzenden politischen Lage, Rückkehr nach Deutschland, wo sie eine Stelle als Lehrerin an einer Mädchenschule in Hamm in Westfalen annahm. Dort lernte sie den Direktor des dortigen Gymnasium, Eduard Cauer, kennen, bekannt als Geschichtsforscher und Verfasser der berühmten Geschichtstabellen, dessen zweite Gattin sie im Jahre 1869 wurde. Zwölf reiche Jahre einer durch geistige und seelische Übereinstimmung erklärten Ehe waren ihr vergönnt, zuerst in Danzig, dann in Berlin. In Berlin viel Beziehungen zu dem Kreise führender liberaler Politiker, die dem Hofe des damaligen Kronprinzen nahestanden.

Nach dem 1881 erfolgten Tode ihres Gatten, widmete sich Minna Cauer eifrig geschichtlichen Studien. Hauptächlich lockte es sie, der Geschichte der Frau zu folgen, soweit sich nur irgend Spuren davon in geschichtlichen Werken und Dokumenten fanden.

1888 wird sie — fast gegen ihren Willen — dazu gedrängt, den Vorsitz in einem neugegründeten Frauenverein, dem Verein Frauenwohl, zu übernehmen. Von hier aus beginnt ihr Wirken für die Idee der Frauenbewegung, die sie als einen Kampf ums Recht, als einen Kampf für die höchste sittlichen Ideale auffasst. In die damals etwas stagnierende Frauenbewegung älterer Richtung, ist durch die geniale und temperamentvolle Führung Minna Cauer's ein neuer Zug gekommen. Wertvollste Anregungen auf dem Gebiet der sozialen Arbeit. Nur einige Daten über den äusseren organisatorischen Rahmen dieser Arbeit seien hier gegeben:

1888 bis 1919 Vorsitzende des Vereins Frauenwohl, Berlin.

1889 Mitbegründerin der ersten Berufsorganisation von Frauen, des damaligen Hilfsvereins für Kaufmännische Angestellte, jetzt des grossen Kaufmännischen Verbandes Weiblicher Angestellter; fast 20 Jahre blieb sie im Vorstand dieser Organisation.

1890 erfolgte vom Verein Frauenwohl, Berlin, ausgehend, die Gründung des Verbandes Fortschrittlicher Frauenvereine, den sie bis 1907 als Vorsitzende leitete.

Von Anfang ihres Wirkens an hatte Minna Cauer den Nachdruck auf die politische Seite der Frauenbewegung gelegt, daher gehörte ein grosser Teil ihrer Lebensarbeit der Frauenstimmrechtsbewegung; von 1908 bis 1912 stand sie an der Spitze des Preussischen Landesvereins für Frauenstimmrecht. Sie trat stets für die demokratische Form des Wahlrechts ein. Diese Treue zur Idee der Demokratie hat ihr in hohem Masse das Vertrauen der Arbeiterschaft errungen.

Der wertvollste Teil ihrer Lebensarbeit liegt in der Zeitschrift *Die Frauenbewegung*, die sie von 1895 bis 1920 herausgegeben hat. Dies Blatt war ihr Sprachrohr. Hier nahm sie zu allen Vorgängen, nicht nur der Frauenbewegung, sondern des gesamten politischen, Lebens Stellung. Viele der dort von ihr erschienenen Aufsätze haben dauernden, kulturellen Wert. Stets sind sie von hoher Werte aus, mit starkem Idealismus, mit innerster Wärme der Überzeugung geschrieben.

Unter dem Kriege hat sie seelisch grenzenlos gelitten. Bei ihr verband sich eine glühende Vaterlandsliebe mit den höchsten Idealen der Völkerverständigung und Völkerversöhnung. So stand sie einsam, verkannt, teilweise stark beföhdet neben denen, die nur an das eigene Land

dachten und nur dort allein an das Recht glaubten. Sie stand aber auch ebenso einsam denjenigen Pazifisten gegenüber, die immer nur das eigene Land beschuldigen. Sie liebte ihr Volk und litt mit ihm in seiner Not. Ihr feines, starkes Ehrgefühl bäumte sich namentlich auf gegen die Schmach, die Deutschland mit der Schuldflüge angetan wird.

Seit 1919 hatte sich Minna Cauer von der aktiven Teilnahme am Vereinsleben zurückgezogen, aber innerlich nahm sie nach wie vor starken Anteil an allem Geschehenen, trat auch gelegentlich noch schriftstellerisch und rednerisch hervor. Unvergesslich sind allen Teilnehmern drei Vorträge, die sie im Winter 1920-21 im Hause einer Freundin hielt, in denen sie über ihre Lebenserinnerungen sprach.

Ihr ganzes Leben lang bis ins hohe Alter hinein verfolgte sie mit besonderer Anteilnahme alle Fragen, welche die Jugend berühren. So stand sie auch bis zuletzt als treue Beraterin dem Bund der entschiedenen Schulreformer zur Seite — hier schienen ihr Schritte gebahnt in das Land der Zukunft.

Ihr durch das Alter hervorgerufenes monatelanges Leiden trug sie mit unvergleichlicher Geduld, mit bewunderwürdiger geistiger Kraft und seelischer Grösse. Wer das Glück hatt, sie in diesen letzten Monaten in ihrem schönen harmonischen Heim aufsuchen zu dürfen, nahm von dieser seltenen Frau den Eindruck einer wunderbaren Verklärung des Geistes und der Seele mit heim.

(Signed) ELSIE LÜDERS, Berlin.

EQUAL MORAL STANDARD SECTION.

[We print below a reply from Dr. Jull concerning the compulsory notification of venereal disease in Western Australia, and an article on the administration of the Swedish Venereal Disease Law.]

Australia.

(1) Though the Legislative Assembly of Western Australia rejected the principle of "Notification without redress," an amendment was eventually accepted by the Legislative Council, which deprives any signed statement of its safeguard in case of redress being sought by a person wrongfully accused—so the position remains for all practical purposes as before. (Information received from Australia, August 22, 1922.)

(2) Dr. Jull asks, Why should any person suspected on reasonable grounds of having venereal disease not be compulsorily examined? and adds that no such compulsion has ever been exerted in Western Australia. We should like to have a definition of "reasonable grounds" as applied (a) to men, (b) to women. Under what conditions were the 40 women referred to examined? Six of them were free from any symptom of venereal disease. Eight were uncertain cases. Twenty-six were, presumably, affected. Was there any penalty for refusal to be examined? If so—and their assent given under anticipation of that penalty—the examination was compulsory.

Dr. Jull asserts that denunciation is not followed by arrest and compulsory examination. By what, then, is it followed? By what was it followed in these cases? What happened to the twenty-six presumably affected women? Were they warned that they must continue treatment till cured, or were they "detained" till cured? It seems singular that only men have been prosecuted for non-continuance of treatment. Is it that women are more faithful and exact in their clinic attendances, or is it that women, and particularly prostitutes, are "detained" when they are found to have venereal disease, and men permitted freedom to pursue their ordinary avocations, with clinic attendance at stipulated intervals? Unless these questions can be definitely and satisfactorily answered, we can have no assurance that there is any real equality of treatment under notification.

The men who frequent prostitutes indulge in "a certain mode of life" just as much as do the prostitutes themselves; they are indeed co-prostitutes—a fact that is very comfortably overlooked by the vast majority of people. Their number is far greater than that of the prostitutes and there is infinitely greater danger of their carrying infection to the absolutely innocent. Dr. Jull confesses that under this Act the minority—the prostitutes—will be open to easy denunciation, and that the majority—their male clients—will not be denounced. Has the Act, then, any fundamental and permanent hygienic value? The

official figures for the five years 1916-21 throw grave doubts upon that value (*Australian Medical Journal*, January 21, 1922). The total cases notified during that period is 5,713, out of a population of 330,000. If we assume that the venereal disease rate is as low as 3 per cent., this means that for every case notified eight cases are not notified. The Commissioner further acknowledges that there have been unhappy occurrences where the orders to continue treatment have been opened by a husband, wife, or parent, and complications have ensued. The fear of such an occurrence would, we believe, in many cases deter individuals from seeking treatment. The Western Australian results, on the Commissioner's own showing, are meagre in the extreme; and we are of the opinion that non-compulsory educational methods and the provision of free and secret treatment would certainly have been as effective.

Sweden.

Dr. Marcus reports, on the whole, favourably of the working of the compulsory notification of venereal disease in Sweden, and tables supplied by the Medical Board show a considerable decrease in the incidence of venereal disease. But that this decrease is due to compulsory notification is open to doubt. Dr. Alma Sundqvist (herself a supporter of the new law) writes: "The diseases have been decreasing, but as to the causes of this fact there are, of course, many circumstances to be considered. The economic, social and moral conditions of certain classes of our nation are very different now than those of the year of the crisis; and besides this, it is easier now to get prophylactics than it was during the war, when rubber articles were very scarce here.

"As to the working of the law for venereal disease, most experts think it rather satisfying. Especially the free treatment has proved to be of very great value, and is highly appreciated by both men and women. If a patient refuses to tell the physician by whom he or she has been infected, nothing is done to compel them, and the stipulations of the law must be carried out with a certain discernment. Some deplorable mistakes as to the notification of the contaminating party have been made; but, on the whole, physicians and public seem to be satisfied with the law."

The italics are editorial. These passages speak for themselves. Anyone who reads Dr. Marcus's article and Dr. Sundqvist's letter will have no difficulty in arriving at the conclusion that it is the widespread free treatment which has been the really beneficial thing in this law, and that its weak spot is the notification and denunciation. In 1919 45 per cent. of those denounced as having communicated venereal disease were free of any symptoms, and in 1920 49 per cent. of those thus notified were likewise free of any symptoms.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA HEALTH ACT.

To the Editor of the INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWS.

MADAM,—Will you be good enough to publish the following reply to the "Note" in the August number of *JUS* on my statement about the West Australian Health Act?

(1) I quoted Clause 256, Section T, as amended at the beginning of this year; therefore, any argument based upon it does not "fall to the ground."

(2) It is quite true that if any man or woman refuses to produce the required medical certificate when asked to do so by the Health Commissioner, they can be compulsorily examined. Why not, if the Commissioner has reasonable grounds to suspect they are suffering from disease and likely to infect other persons? So far, however, no occasion for such compulsion has arisen.

(3) My remark about it being "in the nature of the case" that women should be informed against and not men, simply means that a certain number of men who indulge in promiscuous intercourse are prepared to sign statements about the women with whom they consort, while the women who so indulge are not prepared to do so about the men. Further, wives, mothers and sisters are not prepared to make signed statements about husbands, sons and brothers, so it comes about that the Commissioner does not receive information about men.

If the women about whom information is received live in such a mode as gives the Commissioner reason to suspect the statement they are diseased is likely to be true, why should they not be examined? These forty women—and be it noted this represents only an average of eight women a year, the period under review was five years—were not asked to produce a medical certificate because of their mode of life, but because their mode of life was such as to

make the statement that they were diseased likely to be true; a very different thing.

(4) I thought I had made it clear men are not allowed to "let slip" under the Act, they have to be treated just as thoroughly as the women they consort with. The figures given in the Commissioner's last report (1920) show this. During the period of five years under review, 4,887 cases among men had been notified and treated, and only 826 among women, a proportion approximately of 6 to 1; this hardly bears out the suggestion of unfairness to women.

(5) As to immoral women not applying to "morals societies" for redress of wrongs received in the administration of the Act, my remarks really referred to the supposed danger to women of even good sexual morality being "denounced" and compulsorily examined (see *Jus March*, 1922). I wished to make it clear no injustice of that kind had occurred apparently in any of the cases quoted. The question of magistrates and police does not come in. This is a Health Act administered by the Commissioner, not by the police at all, as anyone may see who chooses to read the Act.

The women of Western Australia have had the vote for nearly twenty years and know their rights fairly well; any who are young and inexperienced have friends who are prepared to teach them; the likelihood of injustice is slight.

(6) If it is granted that notification of venereal diseases is not wrong in principle, the compulsory clauses complained of are, in my opinion, a necessary corollary. Laws are made to protect the community against those belonging to it who selfishly refuse to consider the rights of others and who must be compelled to do so. This Act has not so far worked against women. They have not been "detained" nor "punished." The only prosecutions up to the time I left Australia had been against men for non-continuance of treatment.

Yours truly,

ROBERTA H. M. JULL.

August 26, 1922.

THE THREE-YEAR-OLD VENEREAL DISEASE LAW IN SWEDEN.

By KARL MARCUS (Chief Physician).

SINCE the coming into force of the new Venereal Disease Law the incidence of the disease has fallen more than 60 per cent. in Stockholm and more than 40 per cent. in the whole country. These statistics, which will astonish many people, were given to the *Dagens Nyheter* by Dr. Karl Marcus, the chief physician at St. Görans, but he adds: The whole of this decrease certainly cannot be attributed to the Venereal Disease Law. The general depression which has prevailed since 1919, when the incidence of the disease stood at its highest, has decidedly contributed to the reduction of the numbers, since it has been observed for many hundred years that in times of economic prosperity the incidence of venereal diseases rises, while in times of depression it falls. At the same time during the corresponding period of three years in Copenhagen and Christiania the decrease has only been 10 per cent., therefore, we have a right to consider that the law against venereal disease passed by the Riksdag in 1918 is the chief cause of this welcome decline.

Meanwhile, very often during these three years statements have appeared in the Press which show that those who have expressed these opinions do not fully grasp the purport of the new law. It has been said that, from a social standpoint, the new law is inadequate for the suppression of prostitution. But the new law is not of a social nature. The social legislation in question is still being waited for, and, as is known, the Poor Law Committee is working on the difficult problem. The present law is purely medical. Its introduction implies the separation of the remedial side of the subject from the social. The main idea in this law is the free treatment of venereal diseases, and it is this which has proved of such great importance.

The law has been called "a crisis time's law," but no accusation can be more unjust if by this is meant that the law was compiled in a hurry. First a committee worked from the years 1903-10 and produced a weighty report. Later this report was discussed in the medical societies for a year, and afterwards, when one of the

medical committees drew up the rejected Bill, the Riksdag finally accepted the present law, 15 years after the work of preparation had begun.

The problem which has to be dealt with is, that in a society where one has to reckon with the frequent occurrence of sexual communication without marriage, the danger of infection is lessened. Where other infectious diseases, such as scarlet fever and diphtheria, are concerned, the simple method of isolation of the patient is resorted to. But when it is a question of an illness where the infectious symptoms may occur three years after infection has been received, naturally isolation cannot be carried out, but the source of infection must be rendered harmless by other methods. And this is done by special treatment of the disease, which, fortunately, in many cases has been successful.

The most important point in this new law, as has already been stated, is that all those who are suffering from the disease, or who are afraid that they are suffering, have the right to free medical treatment. Not only is medical attendance free, but also medicine, instruments, bandages, etc. No certificate proving incapacity to pay, domicile certificate or any papers whatsoever are needed in order to benefit by these advantages. Foreigners and travellers may receive treatment free. In towns with more than 20,000 inhabitants, separate dispensaries exist for the treatment—in Stockholm there are four such, open every day, morning and evening, alternately for men and women. In the rural districts the State doctors give their attendance free. On account of these conditions the interest of the Swedish doctors has been roused in the disease and its treatment. In Stockholm the influx of qualified medical men to the continuation course has been so great that the course has had to be duplicated. A proposal has also been made to set up a University clinic for venereal diseases, a clinic which hitherto we have been without, in order to further improve the training of doctors in this direction.

But if the Swedish State deals with the venereal diseases more adequately than is done in other countries, then in return it is requisite that the advice of the doctors be followed and that the patients look after themselves properly. Many patients do this. But those who do not are just the worst sources of infection. The first procedure on the part of the doctor in such cases—when the patient, without giving an explanation, absents himself from the prescribed treatment—is the sending of a letter which outwardly does not differ from an ordinary private letter. If this has no effect a notice follows to the sanitary inspector, whose summons has already been sent to the patient before his non-compliance, and the inspector is obliged to join with the police to force the refractory patient to submit to an examination and treatment or go to a hospital. But this is the only case in which there is a question of co-operation between medical and legal authority. And this compulsory treatment occurs perhaps 20 times a year in Stockholm.

As is known, the legal penalty directed by the law is a punishment of 50 kroners up to two years hard labour for those who pass on infectious venereal diseases. During the time the law has been in force there has been one such case in Malmö and two in Stockholm; at least, I do not know of any more. And in both of these cases the faults in question have, from a purely humane point of view, been deserving of the punishment meted out to them. And if it happens that the penalties of the criminal law are seldom required, still they have a very great deterring effect.

When the law was first introduced it was repeatedly said that the paragraph which gave the doctor the right to extract from his patient the name of the person by whom he had been infected would lead to spying and be painful to the patient. For my part, I have never found it act in this way, as under the circumstances it is done, not out of curiosity, but only because the law requires the question to be put.

When the law was first passed there was great distrust, chiefly among the Swedish doctors, and many sharp criticisms were uttered against the law. Now, on the

contrary, the doctors appear to be very satisfied, and this especially is seen in the case of the report of 1918, drawn up by the provincial doctors, which was sent in to the Medical Association, in which they express satisfaction at the results of the working of the law.

Finally, as touching prostitution, it is just this question which from the very beginning I have maintained is a social matter and not a problem for medical legislation to deal with. Here there remains much to be done, by means of instruction, setting up of rescue homes and especially guarding of those under age, etc. But that these things have not been done is not the fault of the new law.

Dagens Nyheter.

NOUVELLES FÉMINISTES.

Grande-Bretagne.—L'amendement à la loi criminelle vient enfin de passer comme loi. L'âge de consentement à l'acte criminel était de 13 ans, et dans la nouvelle loi l'âge est fixé à 16 ans. Les hommes ayant plus de 23 ans ne peuvent plus "plaider qu'ils avaient cause à croire que la jeune fille avait 16 ans. Les hommes ayant moins de 23 ans peuvent encore plaider cette cause en défense. Si le jury accepte leur défense, ils peuvent être acquittés.

La loi montre certainement un certain progrès, mais elle ne satisfait pas les féministes ni, en général, le public instruit.

Il paraît d'après les "on dit" que le premier ministre vient de nommer Madame Coombe Tennant comme membre secondaire de la délégation britannique à la prochaine Assemblée de la Ligue des Nations.

Hollande.—Le 5 juillet les femmes de la Hollande ont pour la première fois usé de leur vote pour la formation du nouveau Parlement. Parmi les membres nous voyons sept femmes élues.

Les Indes.—Les femmes des Indes continuent à s'agiter pour obtenir que l'éducation primaire soit la même pour les garçons et les filles. Le présent projet ne s'applique qu'aux garçons.

Un groupe de femmes au Salem, Indes du Sud, vient d'organiser un projet de Banque Coopérative. C'est la première entreprise de la sorte organisée par les femmes.

Japon.—Les femmes peuvent maintenant aller aux réunions politiques et même en organiser. Plusieurs "grands meetings" en ont résulté dans lesquels on a demandé des droits politiques et sociaux pour les femmes.

L'affranchissement de la femme est devenu une chose populaire et Mrs. Kubashira vient en Europe cette année pour y étudier les organisations féministes de l'Ouest.

Terre-Neuve.—Une députation du I.W.S.A. s'est, le 18 août, présentée à Londres chez Sir Richard Squire, premier du Gouvernement de Terre-Neuve. Les membres de la députation étaient Miss Chrystal Macmillan, Miss Helen Ward et Mrs. Kate E. Trounsen.

Sir Richard Squire se prononça en faveur du suffrage féminin et nous espérons que cette entrevue aidera les femmes de Terre-Neuve à faire introduire par le Gouvernement une loi pour le suffrage féministe.

Etats-Unis d'Amérique.—Les femmes américaines participèrent en grand nombre aux démonstrations "Plus de guerre," et une résolution à ce sujet fut envoyée au Président Harding. Elles travaillent aussi beaucoup à pousser la loi "Sterling-Sonner" pour améliorer et faciliter l'éducation. Madame Chapman Catt est devenue présidente d'une association du Sud de l'Amérique pour le progrès de la femme, et elle visite l'Amérique pour y faire des conférences et pour aider les différentes organisations.

Bulgarie.—La Bulgarie a nommé Mlle Nadyda Stancioff comme premier secrétaire de la légation bulgare à Washington (U.S.A.).

Allemagne.—Une loi admettant les femmes à toutes les professions légales vient d'être passée finalement par le Reichstag par une énorme majorité.

AUSTRALIA.

Women's Service Guilds of W.A. State Congress and Annual Report, May 23-24, 1922.

IN reviewing our year's work we may justly claim that our efforts have been well and truly directed towards the goal for which we are working, viz.: To help forge those organized links which shall connect us with the new social conscience of awakened womanhood slowly gaining expression throughout the world to-day. This movement is trying to show in ever more concrete form the real interdependence of the whole human family."

The annual report of the State Executive of the Women's Service Guilds concludes in these words, and was submitted to the first session of Congress. That headquarters are bristling with activity and interest in work is expanding was the keynote of the report. It stated *inter alia* that under the auspices of the State Executive "At Homes" had been arranged in different districts with the object of extending interest. Amongst important matters considered this year were: (1) Protest against Legalizing Lotteries Bill; (2) Enforcement of gambling laws; (3) Amendment to State Children's Act; (4) Licensing legislation; (5) Health Bill; (6) State censorship of picture films; (7) Child welfare; (8) Town planning.

Motherhood Endowment.

It was reported that the subject of motherhood endowment had been under consideration during the past year by a committee representative of all the Guilds, and the following points were stressed:—

(1) That motherhood and childhood must be raised to a securer position than it at present occupies, by some well-thought-out scheme that will stabilize the home.

(2) That the inherent force of motherhood is in every woman, and education should be directed towards developing a deeper appreciation of the true meaning of motherhood.

(3) That the scheme for "separation allowances" worked well during the war, and the stability of this scheme has much to recommend it.

Recommended: (a) That a further detailed examination of actual possibilities be made by Guilds; (b) that we keep in close touch with committee of experts appointed in England to make a special study of this question.

International and Inter-State Work.

It was reported that during the year the Australian Federation of Women's Societies had become an accomplished fact, and several women's organizations, including our Guilds, in the Commonwealth actively engaged in working for equal citizenship, are thereby linked up. Through this medium inter-State communication has become more definite. Application was made by this Australian body for affiliation with the International Women's Suffrage Alliance, which was duly accepted. In order to specialize on work in connection with various federations of Dominion societies within the Empire, this international alliance has formed a British Overseas Committee at their headquarters in London, and at their instigation Australian women took united action on the following matters:—

(1) To press that at least one of the three delegates from the Commonwealth to the League of Nations Assembly should be an Australian woman, and submitting the names of two nominees now resident for a time in London.

(2) In urging General Smuts to take steps to enfranchise the women of South Africa, thus bringing them into line with other parts of the Empire.

(3) In urging their respective State Governments, where necessary, to introduce legislation to improve the position of deserted wives within the Empire by providing for reciprocal enforcement of maintenance orders as between Great Britain and the Dominions.

The Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement) Act, 1920, of the Imperial Parliament is already meeting a great need in this way in those parts of the Empire already co-operating. Such legislation was passed in Western Australia last December. Certain inquiries made by the Hon. H. Gregory, M.H.R., from the Prime Minister's Department at our request revealed the fact that the Federal Government was preparing necessary ordinances whereby such reciprocal provision is being made in respect to all Federal territory.

Deputation to Prime Minister.

A joint deputation, representative of our Guilds and the Australian Federation, waited on the Prime Minister during his recent visit to urge that Australia's quota of delegates be sent forward to the next League of Nations Assembly, and that at least one of them be an Australian woman. Names of two suitable nominees were submitted.

Letters were forwarded to the Federal authorities against the proposed 70 days' military training camps. This proposal, which raised much public protest, was eventually dropped.

The Australian Federation is hoping to send a strong delegation to the International Woman Suffrage Congress, to be held in Rome next year (1923). Under the constitution twelve delegates may go forward.

Important Resolutions.

The following resolutions were among those adopted:—

Liquor Reform.— "1. (a) This Conference, recognizing the harmfulness of granting wine and gallon licences, would urge the Government to abolish these licences in the new Licensing Act; (b) and, further, to make statutory the trading hours of all liquor bars, including clubs, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m." "2. That this Conference demands that the Government provides legislation giving the people power by a local or State option poll to decide their own liquor requirements on a simple majority vote, without the restriction of the 30 per cent. minimum, such poll to cover all liquor licences."

Gambling.—"That this Conference notes with approval Cabinet's recent decision for the strict enforcement of the laws relating to gambling, and trusts that in the future any infringement of these laws will be severely dealt with, especially in the interests of the youth of the community."

Maternity Bonus.—"The suspension of Standing Orders was moved to deal with the question of "Maternity Bonus." Mrs. Clapham, in moving the motion, condemned the Federal Treasurer's "onslaught" on this bonus. It was indicated, she said, that Mr. Bruce intended to reduce the expenditure in that direction and to use it for "better purposes." Mr. Bruce had said, however, that pensions had become an accepted policy, and he did not know what political party would attempt to reduce them. She moved: "That Congress resents the complaint of the Federal Treasurer, regarding the maternity bonus, that the country is not receiving full value for the amount spent, and hereby registers its protest against the confiscation of this money for any other purpose whatever until women are in the position to administer."

The Social Evil.—"That in view of the fact that some of the medical associations in the Commonwealth are contemplating resolutions in favour of establishing self-disinfecting centres, we urge on Guilds to make themselves conversant with the moral and social significance of these proposed methods of dealing with the social evil."

State Institutions for Women.—"That this Conference is convinced that more up-to-date and adequate provisions should be made by the State for women in the following directions: (a) Inebriates' home; (b) aged and destitute women; (c) women's prison; (d) public hospitals' accommodation; (e) free clinics for women."

Election of Officers.

The following officers were elected: State president, Mrs. Rischbieth; vice-presidents, Miss Bromham,

Mrs. Macdonald, Mrs. Clapham; hon treasurer, Mrs. Daglish; trustees, Mesdames Flower, Rischbieth, and Macdonald; hon. auditors, Mrs. Macdonald and Miss Miller; delegates to W.A. Alliance, Mrs. R. Hill and Miss Dixon. All new representatives from branches to State Executive took their seats at Annual Congress for ensuing year.

The Dawn, June 12, 1922.

CANADA.

Quebec and Woman Suffrage.

THE fight for Provincial Suffrage for women in Quebec continues, and Mrs. Isabella Scott, one of the leaders of the woman's movement, contributes the following witty letter to the *Montreal Gazette* in answer to a reactionary:—

AN ECLIPSE OF THE SUN.

To the Editor of *The Gazette*:—

Sir,—In your issue of July 6 an extract from *Le Soleil* appears, under the caption, Women's Political Status, "Only Quebec Remains True." In this article the writer loudly condemns what is known as the feminist movement, particularly that phase of it called "woman suffrage," a name which he concludes with the following gem: "Only the old province of Quebec remains true, because here we understand women and know that they would be the first to reproach us for having allowed them to descend from their reigning pedestal only to be misled to the ballot box."

Assuming that *Le Soleil* is sincere in this remarkable statement, we should like to ask how it comes to pass that widows and spinsters have been allowed for many, many years "to descend from their reigning pedestal and be misled to the ballot box" in municipal and school elections—nay, more, in the ancient city of Quebec, even married women have been doing so since 1854. Has *Le Soleil* heard any reproaches from the women themselves? Of course, no woman is obliged to vote unless she wishes to do so, but from the reports at the Federal elections in December, 1921, we were informed that over ninety per cent. of the women of Quebec "descended from their reigning pedestal and were misled to the ballot box" on December 6 last. And a curious feature is that, so far as our information goes, neither *Le Soleil* nor any of the opponents of "votes for women" had a word to say against it then. There must have been a lot of "reigning pedestals" untenanted about that time; and yet *Le Soleil* and those of its kidney were silent as the grave. Did not every candidate beg and pray the women to come out and vote for him? Did not Sir Lomer Gouin state that he had always been a suffragist at heart, and did not the Hon. Walter Mitchell and he boast of having voted for the Bill to enable women to become lawyers? That would have been the psychological moment for *Le Soleil* to fulminate against women voting, and we shall await with interest its course of action at the next Federal election.

But may I call the attention of *Le Soleil* to the report of Miss Guerin, who has just returned from Rome, where she was a delegate to the recent International Congress of Catholic Women and where, be it observed, she was decorated by His Holiness the Pope with the cross "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" in gold, which is awarded for outstanding services.

"It was unanimously agreed," said Miss Guerin, "that suffrage for women was not against the principles of the Catholic faith, and the majority of the delegates expressed themselves as in favour of 'votes for women.' The civic education of women as a preparation for the responsibility of voting was strongly advised. Delegates also agreed to take steps to have Catholic women appointed on the boards of censors in their countries. It is perfectly evident," Miss Guerin said, "that the granting of the vote to women is going to be pretty general all over the world. There were four members of Parliament among the delegates of the thirty-two countries represented at the Congress."

And yet *Le Soleil* boasts that "Quebec alone remains true!" Keep it dark, *Le Soleil*, keep it dark!

ISABELLA SCOTT.

Montreal, July 10, 1922.

DENMARK.

Danish Rules of Inheritance.

THE rules relating to inheritance from relatives *ab intestato* are contained in a decree of 1845, according to which women did not enjoy the same rights as men. This distinction was, however, entirely abolished in 1857.

The existing rules are in the main as follows: On the death of any person the children of the deceased must first be taken into consideration and the estate divided equally between them. If one of the children is dead leaving issue the share of the deceased child accrues to such issue. If the deceased be a man only such children as were born in wedlock succeed to his estate: In the case of a woman all her children, regardless of whether they were born in or out of wedlock, divide the estate in equal shares. If the deceased dies without issue the estate falls to his or her parents in equal shares. If one or both of the parents be dead the estate falls to their descendants, i.e., in the first place to the brothers and sisters of the deceased. If the parents of the deceased and their descendants be dead, the estate falls to the grandparents of the deceased and their descendants. Failing grandparents, the estate falls to the great-grandparents and their descendants, and finally, failing these, the estate falls to the great-great-grandparents and their descendants. More distant relatives are not entitled to succeed to the estate, and if none of the foregoing relatives are in existence the estate falls to the Crown. If the deceased was married and the estate was the joint property of the parties, as is usual, only one half of the estate comes into consideration. A portion of the other half of the estate, together with a portion of such separate estate as the deceased may have owned, passes to the surviving party; this portion, if there be children of the marriage, is calculated in proportion to their number, but in such manner as not to exceed one-quarter of the second moiety. If there be no children of the marriage, the portion in question shall amount to one-third.

On the death of a married person it is the rule that the surviving party retains possession of the estate during his or her lifetime, and the distribution of the inheritance takes place only at the death of the surviving party. The practice obtains even if the children are of age. A husband is in all circumstances entitled to claim this arrangement; in the case of a woman it is necessary that she should have received the right to claim it under her husband's will, or she should be empowered to do so by the official authorities. A person leaving no heirs of the body (children or their issue) or unmarried may dispose freely of his or her property by will. Any person leaving issue can only dispose freely by will of one-third of his or her estate, and a testator cannot by will deprive the surviving party to his or her marriage of the right to the portion of the estate which he or she is entitled to in accordance with the foregoing.

[We are indebted for the above information to Monsieur C. E. Aagaard, Press Attaché to the Danish Legislation in London.]

August, 1922.

Dansk Kvindesamfund—Annual Meeting.

The annual meeting of delegates took place from July 1 to 3. Although the place of meeting was Maribo, a small town on one of our islands—Lolland—which is not easily reached from all points of our country, over 200 delegates had come as representatives from eighty-one branches of our Alliance to discuss the work of the past year and the plans of work for the year to come.

The beautiful little town, rich in historical memories, had done its best to make the meeting a success, and it may be noted that the first speaker was the Mayor of the town, Burgomaster Kolby, who delivered an address of welcome.

The President, Mrs. Gyrithe Lemche, gave a report of the work during the past year, work which had not been rich in victories, but which had, nevertheless,

(Continued on page 181.)

(Continued from page 180.)

been done faithfully, and which had had a glorious resting point at the 50 years' jubilee of the Association (of which a report was published in *JUS*, May, 1922).

The reports from the Standing Committees about the following questions, which have been mentioned before in *JUS*, would probably be of interest.

Marriage Laws.

In the May number a full report was given of the history of this question in Denmark during the last years up to that time. Since then the two Bills presented by the Minister of Justice, Rytter—regarding conclusion of marriage and divorce and regarding minority and guardianship—have been passed by Parliament.

Mrs. Julie Arenholt, as president of the Standing Committee on these questions, expressed to the meeting her disappointment with the result. The Minister had paid no heed to the petition from Dansk Kvindesamfund, asking him to bring in a Bill, regarding economic questions during marriage. Consequently, the married woman who has no trade is still absolutely economically dependent. The married woman may still see her home and furniture sold or pawned—the home for which she had worked and toiled. This home is not hers, she disposes of nothing.

The Minister has declared that perhaps years may pass before a Bill regarding these questions is presented.

The law which has been passed regarding minority and guardianship has allotted the right of parentage over legitimate children to the parents in common, but the recourse to a magistrate in case of serious dispute about the children, which had been proposed by the Scandinavian Committee and demanded for years by Dansk Kvindesamfund, has been left out. The majority in Parliament followed the Minister, and in case of dispute the mother will find that her right is only on paper.

However, it is pleasant to note that both men and women in Parliament were spokesmen for women's demands. In the Landsting Mrs. Hjelmer, and in the Folketing Mrs. Elna Munch (both of the Radical Party) appealed to the Minister that he should as soon as possible present the Bill giving husband and wife equal rights in marriage, and Mrs. Malling-Hauschultz, the speaker of the Conservative Party, asked the same on her own account.

The meeting of delegates unanimously passed the following:—

Resolution.

"During the Parliamentary Session 1920-21, D.K., seeing that a Bill containing all questions regarding marriage was not presented by the new Government, handed in a petition asking for the presentation of such a Bill as early as possible.

"The answer of the Government to this petition was the presentation of a Bill regarding conclusion of marriage and divorce, containing no substantial amelioration of the married woman's legal position, whilst the important section about the economic questions during marriage was postponed to some uncertain future.

"In a petition handed in in February, 1922, D.K. protested against this delay, which is, however, still maintained by the Government.

"On February 7, 1922, D.K. handed in a petition to the Committee appointed by the Landsting, regarding the Bill about conclusion of marriage and divorce, asking no amendment of para. 2 in the Bill to the effect that the child (of a man having promised marriage to the mother and having broken the engagement) should have the right of inheritance after the father and have the right to bear his name, whereby the responsibility of the father would be strengthened.

"This petition was ignored by the majority of the Committee.

"On February 7, 1922, D.K. handed in a petition to the Committee appointed by the Landsting, regarding the Bill about minority and guardianship, asking that the recourse to a magistrate in case of dispute between

the parents—claimed during many years by D.K.—should be inserted in the Bill and protesting against para. 6 in Section II. of the Bill, according to which the father is made guardian to his minor legitimate child.

"Also these demands were ignored by the majority of the Committee.

"The meeting expresses its deep disappointment as to the failing consideration and deference of the Government and the majority of the Committee in question to the demands which have, during so many years, been put forward by 'Dansk Kvindesamfund.'"

Criminal Assault on Children.

Mrs. Arenholt further expressed regret that the petition signed by 106,000 men and women, and handed in in October, 1921, to Government and Parliament, asking for more severe punishment of assaulters against children, and for isolation under medical supervision of abnormal recidivists, had hitherto had no effect. A resolution was passed, asking a revision of the parts in question of the Criminal Law, if the Sitting Committee for revision of the entire Criminal Law should not soon be at the end of its deliberations.

Finally, a resolution was passed expressing the earnest regret of the meeting because the Government had opposed D.K.'s demand about women's admission to clerical offices on the occasion of the recent passing of new Clerical Laws.

As will be seen from these resolutions, our President, Mrs. Lemche, was right in saying that the past year has not been rich in victories—on the contrary. On the other hand they prove that Dansk Kvindesamfund is still vigilant at the front, bringing willingly forward women's demands, and so we may hope for better results for next year.

LOUISE NEERGAARD,

Secretary of Dansk Kvindesamfund.

Copenhagen, August, 1922.

GERMANY.

I HAVE to report to-day on the death of two prominent leaders of the women's cause in Germany who, both of them being deeply interested in international co-operation, were well known also to our friends in other lands, all over our large international community.

MINNA CAUER.

One of the oldest, if not the oldest, living pioneer, but nevertheless the leading spirit of the youth "and the radicals" in our movement, passed away August 3, in Berlin, in her 81st year. With her death a whole period—I should say the *struggling* period of the movement—comes to a close. Her influence during this period, i.e., during nearly 30 years, was very strong, especially in Berlin, and though her ways were not always the ways of the more "moderate" leaders and co-workers, and her energetic opposition within the National Council of Women was rather uncomfortable sometimes, the German women of all parties, "moderates" as well as "radicals," owe heartfelt thanks and a grateful memory to the brave woman who, in the hard fight for women's rights, was always to be found in the front row.

Frau Cauer, formerly a teacher herself, and wife of a prominent school-councillor of Berlin, originally took the greatest interest in the questions of women's education and professions. So, accordingly, the society, "Frauenwohl," which she founded, together with other leading men and women, in 1888, in Berlin principally propagated reforms on these lines. But, from the occupation with these matters, she more and more became conscious of the great political importance of all modern woman questions, and more and more devoted her interests and her work to the problems of this kind. In our struggles against the new German civil code, 1895-96, against the antiquated law for political associations and meetings, against the regulation of vice, and last, but not least, in the suffrage movement, she took the initiative, or, at least, a prominent part in

the agitation. She had an admirable sense for the right moment when a thing had to be done and for the right people to do it. She was an excellent organizer, and has been most successful in establishing one of the first non-political woman trade-unions. In 1889 she gathered together the commercial clerks to a local union (Kaufmännischer Verein für weibliche Angestellte) which is representing at present a huge national organization with 400 local groups and over 100,000 members.

During 25 years Frau Cauer edited the paper *Die Frauenbewegung*, and during 31 years she was president of the "Verein Frauenwohl," besides other offices she was entrusted with in the course of time. She was no party-politician, but she had the real democratic spirit. Strongly believing in internationalism and pacifism, as the only ways to real civilization, she cruelly suffered from the cruel fact of the world-war. When it was over, and the German women had gained their political emancipation, she retired from her offices and work in the women's movement, concentrating her last interest on the efforts to promote a future better understanding and a true "league" of the nations.

KATHARINA SCHEVEN,

City Councillor in Dresden, died August 6, 61 years old, after a long illness. She was president of the German branch of the International Abolitionist Federation, belonging also to the International Board of Executive, and was an incomparable pioneer in the fight against State regulation of vice, and for an equal moral standard of men and women. Her great faculties and profound knowledge were equalled by the integrity of her character. Though in her years she had already reached the shady side of life, in her efforts she was so youthfully active and capable that many good results could still be expected from her work. So her death means an irreparable loss for the abolitionist cause—and the more so as the decision of the Reichstag on the Government Bill "to fight venereal disease" is in nearest view at last, and a hard struggle on the regulation question is to be expected. As I reported in the May issue of this paper, the Reichsvat has, in its preliminary deliberations, thought it necessary to take up again, in a somewhat altered form, the regulation which the Government's draft had abolished. It is, in view of this fact, a cruel fate that two most eminent experts on this field also passed away in the course of the last months—Professor Blaschko, president of the German association to fight venereal disease, and Dr. Marie Kaufmann, a prominent dermatologist at the Charité in Berlin, on whom we had set much hope for the future (she had not yet reached her 44th year). This was a last great sorrow for Frau Scheven; but she herself would have been the best help in the inevitable last struggle, and the final victory for which we are looking forward would have been a wonderful satisfaction and reward for her indefatigable zeal and devotion.

During the last two decades Frau Scheven has represented the German abolitionists on all the international congresses and conferences of the Federation, for which mission she was highly qualified not only by her intimate knowledge and as an eminent linguist, but also by her universal mental culture and refined womanhood. She has made many friends at these gatherings, who will, I am sure, mourn with her German comrades for her loss.

Dresden, August 15.

MARIE STRITT.

GREAT BRITAIN.

(National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship.)

A Review of the Parliamentary Session.

THE close of the Parliamentary Session is an appropriate time to sum up the position of the women's movement. On the whole the record of achievement is distinctly favourable. Viewed at a short distance,

disappointments loom large, but those who are capable of taking a wider view will recognize that progress has been made. Readers of these notes from month to month will remember that the Session began with high hopes when the Criminal Law Amendment Bill was included in the King's Speech, and good places were secured in the ballot for three private members' Bills dealing with reforms of special interest to women. The Session closed with the Criminal Law Amendment Act, certain clauses in the Law of Property Act, and the Infanticide Act as the total gains in actual legislation.

The passing into law of the Criminal Law Amendment Bill marks the end of a struggle extending over ten years. This measure met with organized opposition to the very end, and every woman in the country who had followed its stormy career must have breathed a sigh of relief and thankfulness when it emerged safely, though shorn of its full effectiveness by an amendment to the effect that young men under the age of 23 may continue to plead as a defence for criminal assault "reasonable cause to believe" that a girl is over the age of consent.

The Law of Property Act equalizes the law of inheritance between husband and wife, and the Infanticide (child murder) Act protects the desperate girl-mother, who, deserted by the father of the child, takes its life, when neither physically nor mentally responsible for her actions.

The fruits of the Session cannot, however, be judged solely by legislation. The change of opinion with regard to the removal of franchise disqualifications for women, displayed on the occasion of the division on the Enfranchisement Bill introduced by Lord Robert Cecil, the successful campaign for the retention of women police, the respectful attention given by the Joint Committee of Lords and Commons to the legal difficulties in the way of joint guardianship of children, the two Government Bills introduced to replace those dealing with illegitimate children and separation and maintenance orders are all gratifying and encouraging features of the work of the Session. On the other hand it is disappointing to be obliged to record the reversal of the decision of the Committee of Privileges with regard to women's eligibility to sit in the House of Lords.

Taken as a whole, the women's movement has gone a step forward both in Parliament and in the Constituencies, owing largely, we think, to the growing conviction, confirmed by public events outside the House, that legislation relating to the status of women is to-day a confused mixture of twentieth-century ideas and medievalism.

A British Woman for the League Assembly.

We are delighted to hear that Mrs. Combe Tennant, J.P., prospective Coalition Liberal candidate for the Forest of Dean, has been selected by the Government to attend in an advisory capacity the Assembly of the League of Nations which will meet in September in Geneva. Mrs. Combe Tennant is a former member of the Executive Committee of the N.U.S.E.C., and is well qualified by her fine record of public work to represent Great Britain on this occasion. This is decidedly a step in advance as this country has lagged behind other nations in the representation of women on the Councils of the League.

The Summer School in Parliament.

A question was asked in the House of Commons relating to the summer school organized by the N.U.S.E.C., which begins this week in Oxford. The Attorney-General was asked whether it had been brought to his notice that a summer school was to be held in Oxford for women magistrates, and whether he was aware of any similar effort for magistrates of the male sex.

An Equal Franchise Demonstration.

A great meeting organized by the N.U.S.E.C., which it is hoped will be worthy of the best traditions of the

past, is to be held at the Central Hall, Westminster, on Wednesday, November 8, at 8 p.m.

Miss Eleanor Rathbone, C.C., J.P., will preside and the speakers will include, among others, Miss Margaret Bondfield, Lady Bonham Carter, Miss Maude Royden, and Mrs. Wintringham, M.P. Women from other countries likely to be in London at the time of this meeting are asked to write to us for fuller information.

ELIZABETH MACADAM.

August 20, 1922.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.

A very enjoyable function took place at the International Women's Franchise Club on July 28, when the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society seized the occasion of the presence of a distinguished delegate to the International Peace Congress, Mgr. Canon Alexander Giesswein, D.D., to give a dinner in his honour, in recognition of his great help to the cause of woman suffrage in the days when "Votes for Women" was not a popular appeal. The Monsignor is a member of the Hungarian Parliament and chairman of the Hungarian Peace Society.

After the dinner a reception was held and several speeches were made.

In introducing Mgr. Giesswein, Miss Kathleen Fitzgerald paid a tribute to his work for woman suffrage and drew attention to the fact that Great Britain and Hungary were the only two countries which had not enfranchised their women on equal terms.

On rising to speak, Mgr. Giesswein, who was greeted with much enthusiasm, said:—

"It is a great pleasure to me to be present among the English suffragists, as it was the American and Anglo-Saxon suffragists who were the first champions of women's rights in the civilized world. As leaders in the women's movement they had much to contend with, and he must admit, in Catholic circles too, as though the women's movement was anti-Christian and anti-Catholic. In this respect, several years ago, I too had the same struggle to face. I must tell you that I become a suffragist because I was a pacifist, and I cannot separate the two things. The great problem of our time is the reconciliation between national and international interests. If there have been mistakes in European politics, I say it is because our politics were being conducted only by men, and I hope it will be better when our politics are conducted by women too.

"I agree with the Chairman when she said that woman suffrage must be granted on an equal basis. It is ridiculous that now in England as in Hungary women have the franchise only at the age of 30. On the contrary, it is my experience that the minds of women develop sooner than the minds of men, and though I ask no privileges I only wish for equality in this respect.

"Woman suffrage is opposed on the grounds that family ties will be loosened. Experience shows us that it is quite untrue. Then I have heard it said that politics are a bad thing for women. But I say that women shall also purify our politics.

"The political situation in Europe is a bad one. I myself am quite convinced that if we had had woman suffrage in Europe 20 years ago, this war would not have taken place. Yes, dear ladies, the mothers of Europe must put an end to such destruction; the maternal spirit is what we want in our political and social condition. May the spirit of Christ, with the spirit of the Christian family, bring this spirit of new brotherhood into political life."

Dr. Metzger, another friend of woman suffrage, and general secretary of the "Internacio katolika" (Ika), who was also a delegate at the International Peace Congress, then addressed the meeting in French. He said that in Austria, where he came from, women were now more free than they were in any other country in the world; they were on an equal footing with men. Although owing to the terrible conditions still prevalent in his country as a result of the war, they were not organized sufficiently. He associated himself wholeheartedly with all that Mgr. Giesswein had said as to

the need for men and women to work together politically in order to establish the future peace of the world.

Miss Chrystal Macmillan, on behalf of the International Women Suffrage Alliance, expressed her pleasure at meeting Mgr. Giesswein again. She well remembered the active part he took at the International Woman Suffrage Congress in Budapest in 1913.

After short speeches from Mr. Kennedy, chairman of the Club, Mr. Joseph Clayton, and Miss Mary Wall, at the close Mgr. Giesswein said he hoped to meet the members of the C.W.S.S. at the International Woman Suffrage Congress next year in Rome.

August 1, 1922.

ICELAND.

FIRST WOMAN M.P.

MME. INGEBJORG BJARNASON has been elected to the Upper House of the Icelandic Alting. Our congratulations to Iceland's first woman M.P.

August 25, 1922.

INDIA.

Indian Women Congratulate the Women of Burma.

A NOTEWORTHY departure from the Rules made for the Provinces of British India has been made in those now ratified for the Government of Burma under the Government of India Act. In the Indian Reform Act the granting of woman suffrage was left entirely to the wish of the Provincial Legislative Councils, and so far only Bombay and Madras Presidencies have enfranchised their women, but in the Burma ratified draft Rules the Government of India has directly removed the disqualification of sex as regards voting for their Legislative Council. This was the course we strove to get the Imperial Parliament to take with regard to woman franchise throughout all India. We believe that the change in the Government's attitude to this question in Burma has been largely brought about by the success women have had in their requests to obtain the vote from the Indian Reformed Councils. The grant of the franchise to every head of a household who pays land revenue, income-tax, capitation-tax, or *thathameda* made it possible at once to include women in the Burma Rules, as a very large number of the Northern Burma women pay the *thathameda* and are the heads of the households. We warmly congratulate our Burmese sisters and the many Indian women living in India on the rights that have been so freely granted to them.

Indian Councils must get the same Right.

A further advance over Indian conditions has been made in the Burmese Rules by the grant of power to the Legislative Council to adopt a resolution at any time they wish in favour of allowing women to become members of the Council, and there is no embargo placed on their nomination to the Council even before they are admitted to eligibility for election. In India the Councils have no power to remove the sex disqualification for Council membership for ten years. This power is retained in the hands of Westminster. With the Burma precedent before us we shall press for similar powers being given to our Indian Councils in this particular. The unnecessary tag provision was put to the power of the Burma Council that though it may vote to allow women to enter its precincts, still the consent of the Governor to the resolution will have to be obtained before the Government proceeds to give effect to the resolution. It seems inconceivable that any Governor would presume to set his single will against the body of the Burmese representatives regarding their wishes to honour their sisters, so we consider that it will be a very short time before we have a Burmese lady M.L.C.

An Indian Women's Strike.

The rise of the spirit of independence in Indian women and their determination to better their conditions

has been strikingly displayed in the case of women workers in Calcutta. About 300 women employees of the Wellington Jute Mill there struck work. They demanded an increase in their wages at the rate of two annas per rupee and the dismissal of an unpopular headman. The strike caused a great impression, as it was the first time that women workers had suspended work, and their proceedings were carried on without disturbance though with determination.

Message from our Taluk Board Lady Member.

Mrs. Sushilabai, of Bellary, has made a very practical beginning to her work on the Taluk Board. She writes:—

"I mean just to tackle the problem of water supply by recommending the Board to construct more wells in villages, as this is a waterless tract, and it is a sad sight to see streams of women carrying water from a distance. Also I am recommending the training of barber midwives so as to make them available in every village. The means of communication here are very bad, there are no proper roads and even motor cycles cannot go to the villages. We have to walk half a mile, a mile or sometimes more on stone-spread paths. Conveyances like bullock carts are too slow and out of the question for me, as I can't go 20 or 30 miles and return in a day. I am using a motor side-car, as I have to be back at home so that my children may not suffer through my absence." This is the kind of spirit we need more of in Local Government institutions.

A Woman's Party.

It is stimulating for us in India to read the data of the great Women's Party in America, which is incurring the displeasure of the men politicians there because it remains independent of the existing political parties. Its object is: "The removal of all forms of the subjection of women"; its membership is "open to all women who will work for this object without regard to the interests of any political party," and membership gives each: (1) A national headquarters through which she may work effectively for the advancement of women; (2) a beautiful club-house at the nation's capital where she may entertain and be entertained while in Washington (there are a hundred bedrooms); (3) advice and information about all forms of Government activities affecting women, about the campaign to end women's legal disabilities, about all phases of the woman movement; (4) contact with the women of their nation active in the campaign for woman's advancement, closer ties with the women of other nations, a partnership in the woman movement of the world.

This Women's Party headquarters stands at the very centre of Government, a visible symbol of the new relation of women to the problems of national life. The service such a headquarters can render to women, as a club-house, as an information centre, as the inspiration and focus of activities for the advancement of all women, as a meeting-place for women of varied minds and different nations, is enormous. Such a national centre had been the hope and dream of women for years. Now it is a reality for our American sisters and we in India may also look forward in faith to the day when a similar centre for Asian women may be established somewhere in Mother India. Meanwhile we hope it will not be long before some Indian women visit the Washington Women's headquarters to bring the greetings and congratulations of Eastern women to this triumph of self-reliant and self-sacrificing Western womanhood.

Compulsory Education for Girls.

The meeting of the Madras Corporation called to consider the scheme proposed for Compulsory Free Elementary Education for Madras City had to be postponed for want of a quorum. Several ladies attended to hear the proceedings and they received a hearty welcome. If the City Fathers are assured that the Madras women—voters in their own wards—

are opposed to the application of all the money to boys only, and if the women strongly call for the application of the scheme to girls also, it is almost certain that the present scheme will be remodelled on better principles. Wherever women have met to discuss this matter there has been unanimity in favour of the inclusion of girls.

A Women's Co-operative Banking Society.

It has fallen to the women of Salem, Madras Presidency, to be the pioneers of Women's Co-operative Banking in India. Two years ago eleven women clubbed together and started a co-operative bank of their own through the help of Mr. Vedachala Iyer, then registrar of co-operative societies, and Mr. Yagneswarayana Iyer, principal of Salem College. The present number of members is forty-one, with a total number of 110 shares and a share capital of Rs. 1,100, which may be increased up to Rs. 4,000. Amounts may be borrowed at 9 per cent. interest, the loan to be repayable in ten monthly instalments. The bank has not yet been able to make a profit as the municipality levies a tax of Rs. 30 per annum, which is too heavy for such infant and pioneer associations, but it is expected that this tax will be reduced by a movement of the Government, and then the Salem women will find the great advantage of retaining their money in a condition in which it can circulate easily for their mutual helping instead of having it tied up in jewellery, in chains of gold which bind them to their houses for fear of being attacked if they wear these temptations as they move about, or for fear of burglars and robbery if they leave them in their houses. These intelligent and far-seeing Salem women are giving a fine lead to their sisters in this matter.

Success of an Indian Woman.

Miss Mithan Tata, B.A., daughter of Mrs. Herabai Tata, of Bombay, has passed her first examination in the course leading to the Degree of Barrister. She and her mother take a prominent part in all activities in England connected with India.

July, 1922.

Sri-Dharma.

JAPAN.

The Woman's Movement Moves.

THE Geneva Congress of 1920 will always be remembered as the first at which the women of the Far East were directly represented. We know what immense advances India has latterly made in the enfranchisement of women; and the messages carried from the Congress to the women of Japan by their delegate, Mrs. C. T. Gauntlett, have also borne fruit; and an organized woman suffrage movement is growing up in spite of the many obstacles that hamper Japanese women in political work. Mrs. Kubushiso, one of the most advanced and far-seeing of Japanese women, is coming this year to Europe and America to study the organization of the suffrage movement, and we hope she will be present at the Rome Congress next spring.

Meantime Mrs. Gauntlett has been lecturing both in Northern and Southern Japan to large and attentive audiences of men and women on "What our Western Sisters have done and are doing in Suffrage Work."

Within the last two or three years there has been a wonderful change and awakening throughout the country on such questions as the political status of women, and intensive educational work in the enfranchisement of women is likely to meet with a ready response from the public.

Mass Meetings of Women.

The repeal, on May 10, of the law prohibiting women from taking part in political meetings has made the way of education easier, and already huge meetings of women have been organized; the following reports are taken from the July number of *Sri-Dharma*:—

The first women's political meeting in Japan was held

in Kobe on May 10, at the city Y.M.C.A. It became possible as the result of the recent passage of a measure granting women the right to engage in political discussions and meetings. The Kobe branch of the New Women's Association was in charge of all arrangements.

Miss Raicho Hiratsuka, a writer on social problems; Mrs. Toti Furuya, Principal of the Osaka Girls' English School; and Mrs. Tsune Watanabe, Principal of the Kobe Women's Association for Reform of Manners, gave the addresses.

Following the announcement that the law passed by the last session of the Imperial Diet gave Japanese women the privilege of attending political meetings, a law promulgated May 10, a thousand or more women attended and participated in the first public women's political meeting ever held in Tokyo at the Central Buddhist Hall, Kanda, on May 15, 1922. The meeting was held under the auspices of the New Women's Association of Tokyo.

About 3,000 women in Osaka, Kobe and Kyoto attended a women's mass meeting held under the auspices of the Osaka Women's League at the Osaka City Hall. The League is one of the largest women's organizations in Western Japan and its membership numbers approximately 50,000. Various women's problems and others pertaining to politics, economic and social affairs were discussed.

NETHERLANDS.

Women and the Dutch Parliamentary Elections.

[We publish this month some further interesting notes on the recent Dutch elections, and the part women played therein. The writer of this article is a well-known Dutch journalist, and wife of Colonel W. Mansfeldt, for many years the hon. secretary of the Men's International Alliance for Women's Suffrage. At the recent elections to the Second Chamber she stood as candidate for the Freemen's League.]

ON July 5, 1922, the women of the Netherlands were for the first time qualified to vote, and acquitted themselves of their duties as burgesses by proceeding in their thousands to the poll. On that day the 100 members of the Second Chamber were elected by all men and women according to the principle of proportionate representation. When in 1918 for the first time the votes were taken according to this system, only the men voted, and, owing to lack of training on the part of the electors and to various self-interests and ambitions, a number of smaller parties were formed. Seeing now the total failure of this proceeding, we might be held to think that the electors would have learned from experience, especially as a change has taken place in the Ballot Act requiring the successful candidate to have three-quarters of the electoral quotient (at present 28,000), while formerly one-half of this quotient was required—people fancied that would influence the elections; but the result turned out to be exactly the contrary of what was hoped and expected. Counting upon the inexperience and the gullibility of the women voters, a number of small parties sprang up like mushrooms all over the country, so that in this small country no fewer than 52 different lists were laid before the Electoral Board. On my summons to the poll there were fortunately only 32 lists of candidates printed, which, of course, are still too many. The large number of parties made the first march of the women to the poll so exceedingly difficult. It is true we have had already municipal elections in three cities, but these elections were only for a very limited number of women voters, a kind of election rehearsal.

Besides, the different lists on the ballot-papers were only numbered, not set down with the name of the party and this rendered the search for the candidate of one's choice the more difficult. At the different polling booths women as well as men officiated, those who were members of a town council even acted as chairwomen. A couple of the small parties mutually agreed to a

coalition. Two of them were successful in this way, and managed to gain a seat.

Shortly before the elections a number of existing parties combined and formed one large party under the name of the "League of Freemen." These held demonstrations and canvassed for votes with two negative rallying cries, viz., anti-clericalism and anti-socialism, and, as a positive watchword, retrenchment of expenses, but this catchword was not brought home very clearly to the minds of the electors.

As was to be expected, the success of this league at the poll was anything but brilliant, for the parties of which it is formed lost seats out of the 15 they had in the late Parliament. There have been 2,928,818 votes registered, from which it appears that between 200,000 and 300,000 voters did not take any part in the polling. We may take for granted that most women took part in the voting. Before the elections a request was sent in to the Government to have the women's polling papers of a different colour from those of the male voters, to facilitate the means of ascertaining in how far they performed their duties as citizens. Unfortunately this request was made too late.

Among the smaller parties there was a Women's Party, consisting of those confirmed agitators who would be more feminine than the feminists themselves. These also failed utterly. They were doubly handicapped, not being able to find any woman of light and leading to stand as candidate, and not having sufficient funds at their disposal. They were also crippled from want of good organization and efficient propagandists; for even with money—and the Freemen's League had it in abundance—it is not the easiest thing in the world to secure a band of soul-stirring propagandists to defend the principles of a party with conviction, which must come from the heart. All the parties had placed women on the lists of candidates, with the exception of the Anti-Revolutionists. As they have stated in their own organ, they have not yet found a "Deborah," but all the same the "sisters" were urged to further the electioneering and not to fail in registering their votes.

The Second Chamber of the States-General consists at present of:—

Right: 32 Roman Catholics, 16 Anti-Revolutionists, 11 Christian-Historical, 1 Political Reformed Party, (60).
Left: 10 Freemen's League, 5 Liberal-Progressive Democrats, 20 Social Democrats, 2 Communists, 2 Agrarian League, 1 Old Liberal Party, (40).

We may now ask, how it has come to pass that Holland has all at once come into the possession of such an overwhelming majority on the Right side of the House? Two facts explain this far-reaching event. In 1918 the Social-Democratic Labourers' Party threatened to have recourse to revolution—the menace fortunately led to nothing—but the threat has been exploited to eulogize the Parties of the Right side, standing for law and order. Then religion, as usual, played an important part, for it was not at all difficult to induce women to vote for the party which supports the Church.

Of the 100 members there are seven women.

The disappointing fact is to be noted that those women who have always been indifferent, or even hostile to the cause of women's rights, have now exerted themselves to the utmost to secure a large majority for the Parties on the Right.

The progressive-minded (Left) women had so long and so whole-heartedly laboured for such objects as the improvement of the Marriage Laws, the protection and care of motherhood, equal pay for equal work! Now, these much-needed reforms, we may be sure, will be either wholly ignored or only partially taken by the Right-side majority.

These, then are the results of the elections of 1922. Are we downhearted? Certainly not! The women on July 5 suffered themselves to be led like sheep, but little doubt they will gradually rouse themselves from this political stupor, and learn to understand their true interests. "Hope springs eternal in the human breast," and we feel assured that a better policy will be ours in the no-distant future.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

I.W.S.A. Interviews the Premier, Sir Richard Squires, who declares himself favourable to Woman Suffrage.

THE Prime Minister of Newfoundland, Sir Richard Squires, K.C.M.G., granted an interview at the Savoy Hotel to a deputation of women, representing the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, on Friday morning, August 18, when he, although much pressed for time, courteously gave over an hour to discussion.

Miss Chrystal Macmillan, as chairman of the Headquarters Committee, contrasted the position of the woman's movement before and after the Great War.

Miss Helen Ward, as representative of the British Auxiliaries, spoke of the enthusiasm and interest of the women of all classes, especially in regard to domestic policy.

Mrs. Kate E. Trounson, secretary of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, stressed the point of the need for the experience of both men and women being brought to bear upon matters, in order that the best legislation might be achieved in a country. The experience need not be in opposition, and the results obtained in this way would certainly be fairer and more complete.

Sir Richard Squires entirely agreed and showed that he and his Government were distinctly sympathetic.

Miss Macmillan pressed hard that the Prime Minister should consent to send a Government delegate to the next International Congress of the Alliance, which is to be held in Rome in 1923.

Sir Richard smiled, but made no promise.

The deputation then formally thanked the Prime Minister for his courtesy and retired.

London, August 20, 1922.

NEW ZEALAND.

Women Fight Proposals for Compulsory Notification of V.D.

WE are engaged in fighting proposals for compulsory notification and treatment of venereal diseases, which is to be embodied in a new Health Bill. The Government is sending round a woman lecturer who is raising quite a scare amongst women who do not understand the subject, and are ready to agree to any measures which propose to cure the disease. There is so much opposition that the Bill will not be brought down this Session, but a Commission is being set up to investigate the matter. You will realize how absurd it is when I tell you that the awful condition is that one-sixth per 1,000 have been registered in New Zealand as first cases. Well, they are not first or new cases at all, only it is the first time registered at a given hospital. Then in six months at the Wellington Hospital there has been one case of ophthalmia in infants caused by V.D. It is absolutely absurd, and if the Government would enlarge and properly equip the present clinics we should soon wipe the whole thing out. It is the old cry of the men, for clean women, though they dare not say so, have to pretend it is a menace to the race. Our infant mortality has gone down to two per cent. in first year of babies and 4.7 per cent. of infants under five years. That record alone proves that V.D. is not increasing, but decreasing. I do not think there is any possibility of compulsory examination of women, but we have to make women realize the danger.

We are having a debate between the Government lecturer (who knows nothing of the subject and quotes the N.C. for C.U.D.) and women who have studied the subject and can prove the futility of compulsion as applied to women. They can never get the men.

ANNA R. STOUT.

SUISSE.

La mort d'un chef féministe ouvrier.

NOUS apprenons en dernière heure le décès survenu à l'hôpital cantonal de Zurich, à la suite de l'opération du goître, de Rosa Bloch, le leader féministe-communiste bien connu. Pendant plus de dix ans, en effet, elle a été à la brèche, faisant des conférences, rédigeant le journal de son parti *Die Vorkämpferin*, collaborant à d'autres journaux d'extrême-gauche, comme la *Gleichheit* de Clara Zetkin, et ne perdant jamais une occasion de manifester énergiquement ses convictions. Ses idées politiques n'étaient certes pas les nôtres, pas plus que les méthodes d'action violente qu'elle préconisait et mettait en pratique volontiers. Mais ces différences fondamentales ne doivent pas nous empêcher de nous incliner devant la tombe de cette femme énergique et résolue, dont l'influence a été très grande dans son milieu.

Les femmes à la Nouvelle Société Helvétique.

Nous apprenons avec satisfaction que la Nouvelle Société Helvétique a décidé de mettre à l'ordre du jour de son Assemblée générale de la fin de septembre, à Schinznach, la question de la femme et de la vie publique. Nos lecteurs se souviennent certainement des grandes discussions qui s'engagèrent lors de la fondation de cette Société sur la possibilité pour les femmes d'y adhérer, et comment la bonne volonté de beaucoup de femmes fut refroidie par l'accueil que reçurent leurs demandes. Actuellement, croyons-nous, la décision quant à l'admission de membres féminins relève de chaque Section, mais nous ne savons pas si les femmes sont admises avec les mêmes droits que les hommes, ou sont simplement accueillies comme membres passifs sans droit de vote. Il est à souhaiter que l'Assemblée de Schinznach réalise un progrès dans ce sens.

L'infâme trafic.

Qui donc disait que les difficultés de frontière, et surtout le taux du change, avaient tellement ralenti les tentatives de traite des blanches en Suisse, les voyages, repas, cadeaux-appâts, etc., coûtant trop cher aux trafiquants de chair humaine étrangers, pour que nous ayons sérieusement à nous préoccuper de la question dans notre pays? Voici au contraire que les journaux saint-gallois relatent l'arrestation à Feldkirch d'une Autrichienne, au moment où elle se disposait à emmener une fillette de 15 ans, et qui était sur le point de livrer à sa clientèle de maisons mal famées en Suisse une vingtaine d'autres jeunes filles.

Et voici, d'autre part, l'histoire lamentable d'une jeune Lyonnaise de 15 ans, qui, mécontente de la place modeste qu'elle occupait, commit l'imprudence d'en accepter une, soi-disant plus brillante, à Barcelone, par l'entremise de deux personnages douteux. Or cette place était tout simplement une "Centrale de traite," où on vendit la malheureuse pour 1.600 pesetas à destination de l'Amérique. Par miracle elle put s'échapper, et la police procéda aux arrestations urgentes.

Le Mouvement Féministe, Juillet 1922.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

AMERICA'S ACTIVITIES.

National Educational Conference.

IN spite of the warm weather, many important conferences for the discussion of weighty subjects are usually held in America during the summer months, groups of people devoting their vacations to attendance at great gatherings where they gained inspiration for their work.

The first week in July was made memorable by the annual conference of the National Educational Association which was held in Boston, Massachusetts, which was attended by 10,000 men and women educators from all parts of the country and which discussed from many standpoints the education of 20,000,000 school children.

Feminists were interested in this gathering because of the fact that a Southern woman, Miss Charl Ormond

Williams, was the president and presided in a highly capable way over the proceedings. As the third woman president of the organization, Miss Williams was interesting, but she had the added distinction of having advanced from a comparatively low rank, that of the county superintendent, to the presidency, something no other person in the Association has been able to do; of being the choice of the teachers, who looked upon her as "a crusader for the recognition of teachers' rights," and of doing brilliant work for the organization during her term of office, among other things raising its membership from 18,000 to 100,000.

Miss Williams said, in part, in her opening speech: "We are entering on a new era in education. The world is recognizing more and more the primary importance of educational leadership and the fundamental necessity of intelligent citizenship. It is only a matter of time when education will have large national recognition and support in the United States, just as agriculture has grown in the support which it receives from the Federal Government. If the United States must have the kind of citizenship that its place in the family of nations demands, it must share with the States the great responsibility of public education."

The Convention endorsed the Towner-Sterling Educational Bill in a resolution which read: "We reaffirm our sincere, devoted and unqualified support of Federal aid and Federal recognition of public education without Federal interference in any way with State and local control, as they are embodied in the Towner-Sterling Bill now pending in the 67th Congress"; it went on record as believing "the State should assume a much larger responsibility for adequate financial support of the schools and that at least one-half of the school revenues should be derived from State income"; called upon the teachers of the nation "to teach respect for law and order and for constituted authority"; approved training in American citizenship and declared its unqualified approval of permanent tenure for teachers during efficiency and good behaviour, of increasing salaries for educators and of providing better and more adequate education for the children in rural areas. One fact is quite noticeable in the educational journals which reported this Convention, and that is the readiness on the part of men to praise the good work of women officers of the organization, of women speakers and of women educators. This seems to indicate that professional and sex jealousy are reduced to a minimum in this organization.

A Campaign in South America.

Interest in the women of South America and Central America has been revived through the announcement that Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt will serve for the first year as president of the Pan-American Council for the advancement of Women and that she will go to South America to lead in person the campaign for woman suffrage. A series of conferences throughout South America will be held, the first one being scheduled for the first week in September in Rio Janeiro. The first vice-president of the Council is Donna Bertha Lutz, of Rio Janeiro.

Our Woman Diplomat.

American women are looking forward with interest to the arrival in the United States in September of Nadejda Stancioff, daughter of the Bulgarian Minister in London, who has been appointed to the post of First Secretary of the Bulgarian Legation in Washington. She will receive a warm welcome from women who are interested in the general advancement of their sex to positions of trust and responsibility.

Working Women's Victory.

The working women of the United States have won a victory that may help them in their struggle to obtain industrial justice. The National Women's Trade Union League reports that four women chosen to represent 7,000 other women employed in the stores of the district of Columbia recently defeated the attempt of the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association to reduce the wages of women in the mercantile industry of the

district, the first instance before a public tribunal where the present tide of wage reductions has been checked. The Women's Trade Union League has recently established a compensation service bureau for working women in New York City. Here they may come, if injured at work, and get advice and assistance. The bureau aims to acquaint the women of the existence of the workmen's compensation law and its requirements. Many workers every year lose their compensation because they fail to notify their employers within thirty days of their accidents, many neglect to go to a doctor with a minor injury which often becomes serious, and many are discharged by the doctors of the insurance companies as cured when they are still sick and unable to work. A similar bureau for men has done good work and it is expected that working women will receive many benefits from the one established for them.

"No More War."

The National League of Women Voters joined forces with the National Council for the Reduction of Armaments, the National Women's Christian Temperance Union, the Parent Teacher Association, State federations of women clubs and State councils of Jewish women to make a "No War" demonstration on July 29-30. Telegrams and messages were sent to President Harding and to members of Congress urging the Administration to follow up the Washington Disarmament Conference with another definite step toward world peace; thousands of "No More War" posters were displayed throughout the country, meetings were held and parades took place, and all kinds of publicity was used to arouse public interest in the question of an active campaign for universal peace.

Women Candidates.

Women candidates for office continue to loom large before the public eye. Mrs. Belle Kearney, of Mississippi, Mrs. Anna Dickie Oleson, of Minnesota, and Mrs. Ben Hooper, of Wisconsin, who are running for the office of United States Senator on the Democratic ticket, are old-time suffrage workers and are at present members of the League of Women Voters, Mrs. Hooper being President of the Wisconsin State League. Many of the women candidates have given out their platforms, which are being discussed in the Press. Some have original features. As examples of these may be cited one plank in the platform of Mrs. Virginia Peters-Parkhurst, who seeks the Democratic nomination for Representative in the Fifth Maryland District. This plank advocates a Mothers' Allowance Law which will assure a woman compensation when she gives up employment and seeks seclusion to become a mother. Another unusual platform is that of Dr. Anna Hochfelder, a Democratic candidate for State Senator in New York City, who proclaims that she will work to have candidates for judicial, legislative and State offices undergo an examination as to fitness and character before a properly constituted commission, in the belief that this will eliminate mud-slinging campaigns, and who states that she intends to introduce a Bill providing that a man who contemplates marriage shall be required to establish his economic independence and mental capacity and that a bride shall be required to establish her ability to support her children in the event of the death of the husband and father, thus protecting the community from being obliged to keep the family as public charges. Dr. Hochfelder states that about 1,000,000 children in the United States are receiving custodial and orphanage care because their widowed mothers are not equal to their maintenance. While many of the women candidates stand small chance of election to the offices they seek, the fact that they dare to advocate reforms and to champion ideas outside the beaten track is encouraging to those who want women not to follow sheepishly in the footsteps of men and to support trite and time-worn measures, but to think for themselves and to contribute to the public thought of the world ideas that are permeated with the distinctive bias of the feminine sex.

OREOLA WILLIAMS HASKELL.

AN URGENT APPEAL ON BEHALF OF RUSSIAN MEN & WOMEN STUDENTS.

THE Universities Section of the Imperial War Relief Fund raises funds in Britain for the European Student Relief Work of the World's Student Christian Federation in Russia. European Student Relief workers are already giving 15,000 Russian students their one meal a day and distributing food packets to professors. Next winter they will be feeding more. This is good, but cold kills as surely as hunger; and unless warm clothing is sent at once, thousands of men and women will undoubtedly die of cold. The vast majority of students have one threadbare suit only; many of them have no overcoats and no underclothes; some women students are wearing a nightdress with a belt, and have no other clothing. In this garb they face a winter when the thermometer will go 30 to 40 degrees below zero.

PLEASE ACT QUICKLY.

(A) Every kind of warm clothing is needed, both for men and for women. Send any kind of good worn clothing, but not worn-out clothing.

(B) It should reach our London warehouse by September 20. Transport takes three to four months, and, after the rivers freeze, much longer.

(C) All clothing parcels must be sent to *The All-British Appeal*, 71, Southwark Bridge Road, London, S.E. 1.

(D) They must be clearly marked "For European Student Relief, Russia," or they will not reach the students.

You may be absolutely certain that your gifts will reach those for whom they were intended; our workers report that practically nothing goes astray.

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ELEANORA IREDALE, *Organizing Secretary Universities Section of the Imperial War Relief Fund.*

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A CAMP FOR GIRLS IN BULGARIA.

THE camping season is now drawing to a close. A month or so more and the long line of camps that link up the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of Canada will be marked by empty shacks and the dead ashes of camp fires; the sand dunes of Belgium will be left to the sea-gulls, whose name sun-burned girls will carry back to Brussels to be used at winter camp reunions; the pines of a certain Polish forest will drop their cones secure from wood-gatherers or young hostesses intent on decorations for a gala evening; adventurous bathers will no longer frighten the fish in a mountain stream

suitable monastery for permission to camp under its protection. Zemen is no longer used as a monastery, but as a village school, and the children have the privilege of learning their lessons right in the courtyard of a fourteenth-century church.

Once the site is found, the question of funds arises, for the fees paid by campers at a new camp cannot be expected to cover all the necessary equipment as well as the running expenses. The almost inevitable lottery was set aside, and a sale of work was held in the unusual surroundings of a furniture shop in one of the busiest streets of Sofia! The history of one of the articles sold has an interest all its own. One girl bought a length



Some of the first arrivals in the monastery courtyard.

of the home-spun cotton one can see, in every variety of plaid and check, lying in neat bundles in front of the peasant women on any market day. This she made into a summer dress and sold to a friend. It was re-sold, and the two amounts covered the salary of that important camp official—the cook.

On July 8 the pioneers went ahead to open camp, turning two downstairs classrooms into a living-room and a dormitory, and eight rooms upstairs into bedrooms. By July 15 a family of forty had come together, teachers, clerks, girls of leisure, war orphans, school-girls—every sort and size of girl and woman. Some came in groups, others alone, some had made friends on the train, some wondered whether they would ever feel

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anything but strange in this strange "summer colony" where housework figured as plainly on the programme as sing-songs, and all meals were laid under the trees of the monastery orchard.

But the first of the many visitors who came to see what sort of innovation this incomprehensibly cheap camp could be, found a very united party, singing down by the River Struma, picnicking up in the woods, playing the happy, noisy games that tell of good health and good spirits, or sitting in picturesque groups round the

signed or with any indication of their origin. The paper were then sorted and their contents tabulated and discussed. Not content with their work in its first form, the recommendations were polished and re-polished until an impressively simple and well-expressed statement was arrived at. Space does not permit giving it in full, but a few quotations will show how much thought representative club members had given to their leaders and how high a standard they expected from those who had assumed positions of authority.



A group of campers outside the door of the 14th-century church.

camp fire, the wavering lights and shadows now showing a group of girls such as could be found in any country, now emphasizing details that make it impossible for the camp to be anywhere but in Bulgaria. Best proof of all that the camp succeeded in arousing the camp spirit of friendship and friendly co-operation is the fact that not only are campers planning for next year, but in addition they are hoping for some kind of small foyer or club in Sofia this coming winter. This club will cater for body, mind and spirit, as the camp did, and by preserving the balance of life will strengthen the members to face with courage and hope the difficulties of life in Bulgaria to-day.

LEADERS THROUGH THE SPECTACLES OF CAMPERS.

IN one of the French-speaking parts of Europe there stands a seventeenth-century country house, surrounded by haunted woods. Great lime trees, noisy with bees, shade the carriage-way, and a clanging bell hangs outside an arched doorway to tell the cook when a cartful of bread has arrived, and campers when the tables in the crypt-like camp dining-room are spread. As is usual in camps, there are daily discussions on what is expected of an up-to-date camp or club, and of the camper or club member. But as is not the custom in most camps, this anonymous camp in July this year held formal sessions on what is expected from camp officers and club leaders. No leaders were present in the fern-carpeted hollow where these momentous discussions took place, but all were invited to a formal meeting when the recommendations were read and the methods used explained. Personalities were strictly ruled out, but each group (representing different clubs) gave the president of the session their suggestions in writing, all on the same kind of paper, and none of them

"Nous avons classé les qualités que nous demandons dans l'ordre d'importance que nous leur attribuons.

Qualités désirées.

1. Tact.
2. Egalité d'humeur.
3. Extériorisation — rayonnement.
4. Psychologie.
5. Organisation — initiative.
6. Entraîn.
7. Discrétion.
8. Bonté.
9. Modération religieuse.
10. Simplicité.
11. Impartialité.
12. Energie.
13. Esprit cultivé, connaissances approfondies.
14. Douceur — patience.
15. Prudence dans les jugements.
16. Eviter l'austérité dans la mise.
17. Commandement modéré — éviter ton doctoral.

....les qualités demandées sont nombreuses....malgré cela il y en a relativement peu que nous n'ayons pas trouvées en elles. Nous avons donc mieux compris la grande somme de travail qu'elles nous donnent et l'effort qu'elles sont obligées de soutenir pour arriver à un tel résultat. Nous en avons conclu que nous, les membres des foyers, avons un grand devoir vis-à-vis de nos secrétaires, devoir qui doit surtout consister à les aider aussi largement que possible dans l'accomplissement de leur tâche et à indiquer à nos camarades les voies par lesquelles nous pourrions atteindre ce but."

The document ends with a charming little tribute of affection and respect.

Not so very many years ago such a proceeding on the part of a group of girls, most of them wage-earners, might have had an unfavourable interpretation; but in our own day, when in many countries the hope of the future lies with the young, it is very encouraging to

note this realization of the qualities that go to make up responsible leadership. No shallow demagogue could survive such a test; no girl ambitious of power could easily sway her fellows when their ideal is pitched so high. Above all, it is plain that these girls have grasped the golden truth that co-operation is the law of true democracy. Leaders there must be, and they should be the best people available; but the success of a camp, a club, a society or a State depends on the intelligent co-operation with the leaders and with each other of the campers, members or citizens.

Were these exceptional girls? No. Just girls in their teens or early twenties, making the most of a brief holiday from shop, office and workroom, sliding on the slippery pine-needles like children, singing ridiculous topical songs as they walked the quiet country roads, turning the camp upside down in search of material for impromptu charades, and making as much noise over their meals as a flock of sparrows. But the majority of us are ordinary people, and the realization of our responsibilities and our possibilities should mark our normality, not our abnormality.

INDIAN GIRL GUIDES AGAIN.

JUBBULPORE, which found house-room for the short training course for Indian women workers in village Y.W.C.A.'s, has recently seen a Guiders' Training Week, with a programme in which theory and practice were neatly balanced one against the other. Guide programmes are very much the same all the world over, but could every Guiders' Training Week produce such a picture as this?—

"There at dusk in the centre was a blazing camp fire with its tripod and *tota*, and out of the gloaming, clad in graceful white *saris*, came eleven Indian Guides softly singing. The camper who tends the fire asks: 'Who are you that come out of the darkness bearing a shining light?' And the leader of the procession replies: 'We are the Guide law; we bring the spirit that dwells in the midst of the Guide camp, we bear the light that shines before every Guide to show her the way.' Then every law kneels to light her candle and holds it up, proclaiming: 'I am honour, and I shine that a Guide may be trusted in all things, both great and small.'

The Jubbulpore week was followed by another at Nasirabad, where two hundred Indian children and twenty teachers and students were waiting the coming of the Indian Y.W.C.A.'s Girl Guide secretary. This is the programme which was successfully carried out:—

THEORY.

- Day 1. The Guide Movement (its Aims and Methods).
- Day 2. Talk on Knot Tying. Talk on Flag. Talk on Tenderfoot. Talk on Tracking and Stalking.
- Day 3. Nature Study. How to Plan a Rally.
- Day 4. First Aid. Hygiene. Company Management. Country Dance.
- Day 5. How to Make Guiding a Vital Thing in Life of your Guides. How to Yarn.
- Day 6. Bluebirds.
- Day 7. The Patrol System.
- Day 8. The Psychology of Girls. Heights and Distances. Games.

PRACTICE.

- Day 2. Model Rally, including Patrol. Drill, Ambulance, Track, Acting Guide Laws, Knots, Whistle Signals, Compass Game.
- Day 3. Seven Knots. Bean Bags, Signalling. Physical Exercises.
- Day 4. Model Rally, including Drill, Stalking Games, Camp Fire Ceremony. Passing Tenderfoot, Making up. Guide Rally Programme, Colour Party.
- Day 5. Enrolment Ceremony.
- Day 6. A Bluebird Evening.
- Day 7. Model Court of Honour.
- Day 8. Physical Exercises. Signalling. Games.

Guides of other countries will need to look to their laurels when Indian Guides enter the field.



Meals in the monastery orchard.

A EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF TWENTY-FOUR.

THIS is the day of great conferences, preferably conferences drawing representatives from all parts of the world. They are held, if possible, in cities of

'I am loyalty, and I shine that a Guide may always be found faithful.' 'I am usefulness, and I shine that a Guide may learn the true joy of service,' and so forth. One doubts whether the five new Guiders who were admitted after this ceremony will ever forget the night of their enrolment.

historic interest, and are addressed in different languages by men and women of international fame. Whole hotels are chartered to put up the hundreds who attend, supplemented by private hospitality, and the labours of conferring (rendered additionally arduous by the numbers, the size of the hall, and the necessity for interpretation) are enlivened by excursions in droves to various places of interest. These great conferences are impressive things and have a definite place in the progress of causes and in promoting a sense of the vast possibilities of international action.

At the same time the impetus to action given by a great conference is not sufficient in itself, and it becomes clear that progress cannot depend on mass meetings alone. It is in this connection that the World's Y.W.C.A. Industrial Summer School held in London this summer, and ending this month, has a special interest. The School took as its motto, "To change thinking; to break down barriers; to widen the reach of our love." And the six weeks' course was planned not merely to give the students a broad outlook and a more sympathetic understanding of the relations between Christian ideals and social problems, but a wealth of detailed information on which to base future work and study.

The number of students was carefully limited, so that each one could have individual help and could have the opportunity of making the most of the experts who took

the young element being strongly represented by twelve who were under thirty years of age, and the women of experience by eight between thirty-one and forty. All, however, knew at least two languages, eight knew three and six four, and they were all very much alike in their eagerness to get below the surface and to find out on what foundations the social structure of our day rests, or should rest. They had no use for the superficial, the easy or the platitudinous. They were women with a definite purpose in life and a more than passing desire to be of real use to their generation.

The list of lectures might have daunted anyone less determined and enthusiastic. (It should be remembered that the School met in the holidays and that lectures, visits to factories, institutions, etc., were all conducted in English.) The Economics course began with the problems of agriculture and land tenures, and went on to such debatable subjects as the theories of currency and exchange, as well as dealing with general economic theory of the most modern variety. The study of the Christian standards for social and economic life were preliminary to a group of lectures and sympathetic discussions on the various social theories of Christian and non-Christian groups. (The other Bible work was grouped round the social teaching of the Prophets and the Gospel.) Then, lest theory should outbalance practice, there were not merely courses on the organi-



Group of students at the course.

the different courses. This limitation had the further result of making the discussions and seminars very lively affairs and occasions when each country represented could state its problems, openly and fully, and compare notes with those who were facing, or had found a way out of, difficulties. Among the twenty-four women there were no less than fifteen European nationalities, with one American to bring up the total to sixteen—Austrian, Belgian, Czecho-Slovakian, Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Italian, Polish, Roumanian, Spanish, Swedish, Swiss. Two members of the World's Y.W.C.A. staff lived at the School through the whole course, adding to its internationalism by reinforcing the American element (Miss Mary A. Dingman, World's Y.W.C.A. Industrial Secretary, head of the School) and introducing the Esthonian (Baroness Olga Meyendorff, one of the travelling secretaries).

The students were by no means all of one type or age. One-half only were definitely workers in Young Women's Christian Associations, the others were professionally engaged in social work, as missionaries, teachers, and so forth. While ten had had specialized training, eight had taken University courses and the remaining six had not gone to college. Their ages were equally varied,

zations and movements of the day (trade unions, co-operative societies, welfare work, social work, housing, health, industrial legislation, etc.), but visits to representative centres in London and the outskirts where illustrations of different theories put into practice could be found. Altogether the course was not merely rich, but exacting, and it speaks volumes for the School that the students are leaving it more determined than ever to do their share in the reconstruction of the world, even though they realize very clearly the cost of such a vocation. The link between the Young Women's Christian Association and social and industrial work was made in a series of classes on Association principles and methods.

No description of the School would be complete without some mention of the lecturers who came to it from Scotland, Wales and different parts of England; scholars, social workers, business men, Government officials, a group almost as varied as the students, but like them in being enthusiastic about the School and its object.

The great conference sends back groups to each country with new ideas and broadened minds. The School sends back units with their capabilities developed and trained for definite work. The one is extensive, the other is intensive—and both are needed.