

THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S NEWS

JUS SUFFRAGII

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STUDY CONFERENCE: STOCKHOLM.

OCTOBER 15-16, 1938.

TWO-DAY CONFERENCE ON SOME FACTORS IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF POLITICAL AND SOCIAL STABILITY AND WORLD PROSPERITY.

Draft Programme.

- I. How can respect for international law and order be assured?
- II. How can wider economic and social co-operation be achieved?
Individually, Nationally, Internationally.
- III. As the Moral Basis, How can citizens be brought to a fuller recognition of their responsibilities and of the rights of others?

Each speaker will be asked, in summarising, to point out some practical means whereby women's organisations might help towards the achievement of the proposed measures.

We indicated briefly in our April issue the decision taken at the small Executive meeting of Alliance Officers in Holland at the end of February, that the Alliance Peace Committee should organise a Study Conference on certain aspects of Peace in Stockholm in October, when there will also be a meeting of the Alliance Board. We are now able to give the Draft Programme and other practical information.

The two affiliated societies in Sweden, the Frederika Bremer Forbund and the Kvinnor Medborgarforbund, are utilising for organisation purposes the small joint Committee they have formed to deal together with all questions affecting their work for the Alliance. The members are: Mrs. Ebba Odhner, Vice-President, and Miss Thorstenson, Secretary, for the Frederika Bremer Forbund, and Mrs. Ellen Hagen, President, and Mrs. Ina Möller, Secretary, for the Medborgarforbund. Mrs. Möller has been asked to act as correspondent for matters concerned with the Study Conference, and we give her address in case any of our members may want to obtain information on matters affecting the Swedish organisation: Värtavägen 15, Stockholm.

It is probable that the Conference will take place at

the Grand Hotel, though definite arrangements have not been made, and there will be a big Public Meeting the evening before the Conference opens, October 14th, in the Concert House, in which it is hoped that many women's associations will co-operate. There will also be a special Youth Meeting.

We realise that for our societies and members in countries distant from Sweden, such a journey at that time might be difficult in view of the fact that we hope they are all planning to come to Copenhagen in May or June for our Thirteenth International Congress. But those living in the other Scandinavian or in the Baltic countries will find it well worth while to make an effort to attend. Stockholm is a lovely city and Swedish women have much to be proud of in their movement, both in positive achievement and in the very great measure of co-operation they have built up between different organisations. Please let Alliance Headquarters know that you are intending to come, so that all details may be communicated to you direct.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

We have already announced that the Jubilee Congress of the I.C.W. will open in Edinburgh on July 11th. This issue appears too near that date for most of our readers to start making plans to attend what promises to be a very special occasion indeed, but we desire in a few words to offer our great sister organisation our congratulations on its fifty years of invaluable work for women and our best wishes for the brilliant success of its Jubilee.

SWEDEN.

The Riksdag has accepted the Government Bill for new regulations in regard to pay in the Civil Service, to come into force on July 1st next year, under which women will in future be eligible to receive the same periodical increments as men for length of service. We believe that this will mean that the principle of equal pay in the Civil Service is an accomplished fact and we congratulate Swedish women on this victory.

Mrs. Ellen Hagen, President of one of our affiliated societies, the Medborgarforbund, has been elected Vice-President of the Popular Party and President of its Women's Federation.

IN MEMORIAM

Maria Vérone.



We deeply regret to announce the death of Maria Vérone on May 23rd. Born in Paris in 1874, she was first a teacher and then studied for the Bar, being admitted in 1907. She was not the first woman Barrister—that honour fell to Jeanne Chauvin, who was admitted in 1900, but she was the first whose work and talent silenced mockery and sarcasm. Some of the Press notices state that Mme Vérone pleaded chiefly in the Children's Courts, but Mme Suzanne Grinberg, from whose excellent and moving tribute in "La Française" we have taken much of our material for this article, says that this is untrue, as she pleaded in many courts and has left in the Palais de Justice the memory of a long career marked by a perfect dignity and sense of professional honour. Her connection with children is due to the fact that she was the first woman who interested herself in the cause of the little unfortunates and who did much to change the law and to help them to find conditions of life permitting them to grow up as decent citizens.

But it is as a feminist leader that Mme Vérone was perhaps best known. She was President of the Ligue Française pour le Droit des Femmes, Chairman of the French National Council of Women's Legal Section, as also of that of the International Council of Women. Her last work was to co-operate in the foundation of the Association of Women who have received the Légion d'Honneur. She was a "bonny fighter" in that great cause and it is sad to think that she has not lived to see her countrywomen obtain that right to vote which seems such an elementary thing in a democratic country. Mme Vérone was an active and loyal member of our own Alliance to which her League was affiliated and her presence will be greatly missed at our Congresses and other meetings. She had the courage and the clear mind and the undeviating perception of underlying principles which make a leader.

Mme Vérone was equally well known for her third activity, that of a journalist and writer. She was one of the contributors to the women's paper, "La Fronde," as well as to many others, and was a well-known lecturer and writer on historical subjects.

It was a very full, varied and valuable life, and it was also a happy life in the companionship and close-cooperation of her husband, M. Lhermitte, to whom, as to her children and grandchildren, we offer our deepest sympathy, as also to her fellow workers and colleagues in her many activities.

On June 20th there was a large and very representative gathering in the big hall of the Sociétés Savantes, in memory of Maria Vérone, with M. Louis Martin in the Chair. There were telegrams and letters from many countries, including Czechoslovakia, Holland, Jugoslavia, Roumania, which latter country was also represented by Mme Hélène Vacaresco, who made a very moving speech.

The catholicity of Mme Vérone's interests was shown by the enormous number of societies of all kinds represented. We can only name a few: The Alliance was represented by its President, Mrs. Corbett Ashby, who flew to Paris in order to be present and who made the closing speech, which greatly touched her hearers. The International Council of Women was represented by Mme Legrand Falco, and the National Council of

Women of France by its President, Mme Pichon Landry. The International Association of Women Lawyers was represented by a Spanish member.

The members of the Bar, men and women, were respectively represented by a very able man speaker, whose name has unfortunately been mislaid, and by Mme Suzanne Grinberg, who expressed the regret of women that Maria Vérone had never been made a Member of the Bar Council. The Union of Journalists, the Union of Lecturers, the Open Door were among the great number of French organisations whose representatives attended to pay this last tribute to a great woman. Mme Vérone's husband, M. Lhermitte, and her children and grandchildren were present, and we may hope that in their grief it was some consolation to know how widely and how deeply she is regretted.

DENMARK.

Mrs. Edel Saunte, President of Dansk Kvindesamfund, has been appointed a member of a Government Committee to deal with the question of the right of a divorced woman to a widow's pension, or part of such pension, on the death of her former husband. At present in Denmark only the last wife gets the pension, even if she has been married to the man for a few weeks and the former marriage had subsisted for many years.

Mrs. Saunte is very anxious to obtain information as to the position in other countries, where any system of widows' pensions exists, and we beg those of our readers who come from such countries to obtain information on this point and transmit it direct to:

Mrs. Edel Saunte,

14 Ved Stranden, Copenhagen K.

The type of information that would be useful would be the text of the law dealing with the conditions under which widows' pensions are given, or of departmental or other regulations affecting the matter, and also the reports of any special committee which may deal with this question.

As all our affiliated societies receive our paper, we hope that they will feel specially bound to help the President of a sister society, but we also appeal to individual readers who may have some knowledge of this question in their country.

DISTINGUISHED WOMEN OF MANY LANDS.

DENMARK.

Perhaps the Editor is somewhat optimistic in announcing that our paper will carry a series of articles telling its readers something about the women who, in their own country—and, of course, especially to their own national woman's movement—are best known at the present day. We begin the series in faith, however, with information supplied by Aagot Lading, Secretary of Dansk Kvindesamfund, and with the comfortable knowledge that the next article in the series is assured with various contributions most kindly supplied from many sources in France.

Miss Henny Forchhammer (born in 1863) is perhaps the Danish woman best known in other countries partly for her interest in the international woman's movement. She was one of the founders of the Danish National Council of Women in 1899 and was a member of the International Council of Women's Executive from 1914-1930. And partly because from 1920 to 1937 she has been a Danish Delegate to the League of Nations. She now considers herself too old for further official work, but characteristically she is taking up the work of teaching German refugees in Denmark the Danish language, going back to her former work as a teacher of languages. Miss Forchhammer is one of the best and kindest of women, utterly unassuming, whose only ambition is to do the right, just and kind thing. Nationality, race or creed make no difference to her: she would help equally every human being who appealed to her.



Estrid Hein

Dr. Estrid Hein (born in 1873) is perhaps the most outstanding Danish woman at the present time. She studied medicine at the University of Copenhagen at a time when women doctors were not welcomed, later specialising in ophthalmology. After studying abroad, she set up a private hospital for eye diseases—in 1906. She is the Danish representative on the League of Nations Committee on Social Questions, and is at the present time its Chairman. She herself says that this is because she comes from a small and disinterested nation, but I think we are justified in attributing the fact mainly to her eminent work in the Committee. She has been especially devoted to work for helping blind children. Dr. Hein is also interested in Inter-Scandinavia collaboration and is President of the Danish branch of a joint committee of the Scandinavian Women's Organisations. She is also a member of the Executives of the Danish National Council of Women and of Dansk Kvindesamfund.

Estrid Hein is in the real sense of the word a noble woman and a fine personality. She has a quiet and matter-of-fact way of speaking and doing things, and she inspires everyone with respect and absolute confidence. She is constantly working in her quiet way for social reforms, for peace and goodwill. A sense of humour and a feeling for nature and art add a charming touch to her straightforward character, her brilliant mind and her liberal outlook.



Ingeborg Hansen

Women in Parliament. In the Rigsdag there are 9 women at present. In the first chamber—the Folketinget—are: Miss Gerda Mundt (Conservative), interested in social and Christian work; Mrs. Helga Larsen (Social-Democrat), a Trades Union woman, formerly a worker in a brewery, who has done much to organise her fellow-workers; Miss Nina Anderson (Social-Democrat), a young and energetic Trade Union woman keenly interested in Local Government, being a member of the

Copenhagen Council; Mrs. Inge Gautier-Schmit (Left), interested in social work and Church politics.

In the second chamber—the Landstinget—are: Mrs. Gudrun Van Lauridsen (Left), specially interested in household matters affecting the countrywoman; Mrs. Lisbeth Hindsgaul (Conservative), active in organising the women of her Party; Mrs. Ingeborg Hansen (Social-Democrat), a well-known barrister and a member of the Alliance Board, who has specially interested herself in the question of married women's nationality; Miss Andrea Brochmann (Social-Democrat) a Trade Union woman originally a tailor; Mrs. Esther Malling Petersen (Left), the Editor of a Party paper.

Among other well-known women we must mention **Mrs. Julie Arenholt** (formerly a member of the Alliance Board), a Factory Inspector who has been active in opposing "protection" for the woman worker, both in Denmark and internationally as a delegate to the International Labour Conference. She is President of the Danish branch of the Open Door.

Miss Anna Westergaard, President of the Open Door International; **Miss Kirsten Gloerfelt-Tarp**, Factory Inspector and President of the Danish National Council of Women; **Mrs. Edel Saunte**, a young, energetic and successful lawyer and member of the Copenhagen City Council, President of Dansk Kvindesamfund.

[Editor's Note.—While we are most profoundly grateful for this interesting information, we think that there may be women in other spheres, such as literature or the arts, whose names might be included. If any correspondent feels a desire to supplement the above, we shall be delighted to give further names in a later article.]

WOMAN'S DAY IN THE ARGENTINE.

Senora Carmela Horne de Burmeister, President of our affiliated Society, the Argentine Woman Suffrage Association, has sent us full and very interesting accounts of the Status of Women Day, which we reported briefly in our last issue. We are struck by the evidently effective publicity the meeting obtained, and we are told that many people were present who had not before interested themselves in the woman's movement. With almost incredible opportuneness the telegram of greeting which the British Woman's Day had despatched from its meeting in London was delivered just as the President was about to deliver her opening address, thus emphasising the solidarity of the movement in a very striking way. An interesting point in the speech of Dr. Rilla on women's civil rights was that neither the Constitution of the Argentine nor the text of any law prevents women from being elected to Parliament. It would be interesting if a woman would put this to the test by standing as a candidate.

The Alliance feels very glad that the proposal made to its societies has been the means of promoting really successful and useful propaganda in the countries which adopted it. It is the function of an international organisation to endeavour to help its national societies by indicating such opportunities and by giving them the inspiration of feeling that each in their national sphere are co-operating with their fellow-workers in other countries.

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH LEAGUE CONFERENCE.

The Fourteenth Annual Conference took place in London on June 14th, 15th and 16th, under the general title of: "Women plan for Peace, Prosperity and Progress." As usual, there were many distinguished speakers and much interesting discussion and we regret that we have space to do little more than mention the main subjects into which the programme was divided, which we hope may induce our readers to determine to obtain a copy of the Conference Report from the League (17, Buckingham Street, London, W.C.2.).

Under "Peace" there were discussions on the British Commonwealth and British Mandates as factors for Peace; "Prosperity" included the questions of nutrition and food-growing areas, while under "Progress" there was a very long list of subjects: Status of Women, referring to the League of Nations Enquiry; Changing Conditions of Native Women, which is a very urgent question for the British Commonwealth at this moment; Women in Administration; Inequalities in Citizen Rights, in the Home, and in Industry, Business and the Professions. The question of inequalities in the home, viz. the status of married women, aroused great interest, as the women's movement in Great Britain and other British countries is beginning to give it the attention it certainly deserves.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE.

From "La Française" we take the list of women in the delegations to this year's Conference: *British Empire*: Miss Flora Hancock, Workers' Technical Adviser (Transport Union); *Denmark*: Mrs. Gloerfelt-Tarp, Government Technical Adviser (Factory Inspector); *France*: Mme Léonetti, Government Technical Adviser (Factory Inspector); *Mexico*: Mlle Palma Guillem, Substitute Delegate; *Netherlands*: Miss G. Stemberg, Government Technical Adviser (Ministry of Social Affairs); *Norway*: Miss J. Reutz, Workers' Technical Adviser (member of the Confederation of Trade Unions)—Miss S. Arctander, who had been appointed by the Government, was unable to attend; *Switzerland*: Mlle Dora Schmidt, Government Technical Adviser (Federal Office for Arts, Professions and Industry); *United States*: Miss Perkins, presumably as a Government Delegate (Minister of Labour), Miss Frida Miller, Government Delegate (Director of the Women's Labour Section of New York), Mrs. Clara Beyers, Government Technical Adviser; *Yugoslavia*: Mlle Milena Atanatskovitch, Government Technical Adviser (Counsellor in the Ministry for Social Policy and Public Health).

On this occasion the members of the Alliance Board who were in Geneva, Mlle Gourd, Mlle Ginsberg, Miss Manus and Mlle Atanatskovitch, gave a very successful party to the women in the delegations, of whom, as you have seen, Mlle Atanatskovitch was herself one.

THE ALLIANCE OF UKRAINIAN WOMEN.

We deeply regret to state that the news of the dissolution by the Polish Government of this organisation affiliated to our Alliance which we gave in our last issue, on the authority of "The Times," is only too true. This organisation had over 70 branches and affiliated societies in Galician towns and about 1,200 groups in villages, representing a total of over 60,000 organised women. Its Headquarters in Lvov and of each of its branches were visited by the Police and all documents, correspondence, archives and cash were carried away, with office furniture and typewriters. This took over 24 hours and the houses were then sealed. The private houses of the President, Mme Milena Rudnycka, and of other members of the Executive were also searched and correspondence, including private letters, was taken away.

We understand that the statement of charges included accusations that the organisations collaborated with others not exclusively feminist, such as the Union of Dairy Co-operatives, which has both women and men members, and the Agricultural Co-operative Society, which ran courses for peasant women. As the Alliance also worked much among peasant women, it was natural that it should collaborate with these organisations which play an important part in the Ukrainian villages of Galicia.

Another accusation was that the Alliance in 1924 brought up in an International Women's Congress the case of Olga Bassarab, who was flogged to death in

prison. While it does not deny the horror and indignation of its members, the Alliance states that it was, in fact, the Ukrainian National Council of Women which brought up this case at the Congress of the I.C.W. these fourteen years ago.

In the whole list of accusations, there is nothing which could be counted as a "crime," and the Sojuz Ukrainok was regarded as a valuable organisation by many Polish women, especially for its work of education among peasant women. The whole of the Ukrainian Press deplores its dissolution, which is a real disaster for these women, and naturally recalls the fact that Poland was entrusted with Galicia on the understanding that the Ukrainians would be granted some measure of autonomy.

I.P.C.—R.U.P.

On July 23rd and 24th, in Paris, the I.P.C. is holding a World Conference for Action on the Bombardment of Open Towns and the Restoration of Peace. Representatives will attend from trade unions, ex-service organisations, co-operative societies, League of Nations societies, peace organisations, etc. An International Committee is being set up for organisation.

In this same connection we have received the text of a Resolution adopted by the Peace and Disarmament Committee of Women's International Organisations, calling the attention of the member bodies to the horrors of the bombardment of civil populations, the dangers to civilisation itself which this ghastly policy carries, and urging them to rouse public opinion and demand action from the Governments through their national bodies.

REVIEWS.

"DIE KÖNIGLICHEN KINDER." By Dorothee von Velsen. Published by Hans Bött Verlag, Berlin-Tempelhof.

This historical novel deals with the marital happiness of the women who were pawns in the political game played by the Emperor Maximilian. It is divided into four parts: "The Grandfather"—Maximilian himself; "The Parents," dealing with Maximilian's son, Philip I of Spain, and his wife Juana; "The Children," concerned with the Emperor Charles V, and his brother, Ferdinand I, and their sisters; and finally an epilogue entitled "The Crowns."

The first chapter is a prologue serving to introduce the characters at Maximilian's court before he became Emperor, and discusses his short but happy marriage to Mary of Burgundy and his difficulties in the Netherlands. This chapter moves somewhat slowly as one feels that the author's interest in her characters does not become intense until we come to Juana. The personality of Juana, "Crazy Jane," seems to be that which most fascinated, and she was indeed an extraordinary woman, and the chapter on "The Parents" is perhaps the most interesting of all. First of all one sees Juana with her parents, hungry for her mother's love and being continually rebuffed; then with her husband Philip, whom she loved at first sight and loved passionately till his death, though she destroyed his happiness and subsequently went mad and had to be put in charge of keepers. One feels that if only Juana had been loved in the normal way by her parents and her husband, if her complex character had been properly understood, she might have been saved from her tragic fate.

The historical background is detailed and vivid, hence the characters are very much alive. "The Children" and "The Crowns" deal with the marriages arranged for Philip and Juana's children, most of them actually minors at the period of the book. These were married to anyone the Emperor thought politic so as to safeguard the empire which was being built up by

the Hapsburgs. But Frau von Velsen does not care for her men characters as much as for Juana and some of the children who are excellently drawn.

Indeed a most interesting book.

K.K.

LA CONDITION DE LA FEMME DANS LA SOCIÉTÉ CONTEMPORAINE. Issued by the Institut du Droit Comparé de l'Université de Paris, under the direction of M. Marc Ancel. Published by Librairie de Recueil Sirey, 22 rue Soufflot, Paris.

It is impossible to review this book in the ordinary way, as it is a compilation of the laws affecting women in 66 States, each country being dealt with separately under the following headings: Political Rights (franchise); Professional Activities (access and exercise of professions and regulation of women's work); Civil Rights (nationality, property, inheritance, civil capacity, etc.); Position of Women in the Family (marriage and divorce, marital authority, guardianship of children, illegitimacy, property rights in marriage, etc.); Penal Law (prostitution, special protection for women).

The articles vary in length and in detail, but the opportunity of thus comparing the legal position of women in so many countries is invaluable, and the list of contributors is a guarantee of the accuracy and authority of the work.

"A KEY TO THE HEART OF THE CHILDREN. Issued by the Institution of 'The Children's Friends,' Amsterdam.

This is a research into character and practical education in the United States of America and some other countries. The United States is the country dealt with in detail, shorter reports being included from England, France, Sweden, Austria, Canada, Australia, Natal (S. Africa), Mexico, China and South Africa. These reports give particulars as to the system of education and the general curriculum in different grades of educational establishments. There is also a section designed to discover how far the system of education employed helps children to think for themselves, to train them for practical life, to develop character and lastly to make them happy in the school days.

The detailed report from the U.S.A. includes an account of visits and interviews to many institutions and the whole publication would be of considerable interest to educationalists in any country.

NATIONAL CONTROL OF THE MANUFACTURE OF AND TRADE IN ARMS. Issued by the League of Nations. IX. Disarmament, 1938. IX. I.

This is the material collected by the League Secretariat in fulfilment of a resolution adopted by the Bureau of the Disarmament Conference and covers the legislation on this matter in 14 countries. It is obviously an indispensable publication for all those who consider that the limitation of private manufacture and trade in armaments is one of the vital necessities for avoiding war.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

We have been asked to call attention to other recent publications dealing with Intellectual Co-operation and the Teaching of the Principles and Facts of International Co-operation. Unfortunately our space is so limited that we cannot do more than indicate some of the titles and the price of subscription to some of the periodic publications.

The following are books about the general work of the League itself: "The Aims, Methods and Activity of the League of Nations," price 2/-. "Essential Facts about the League of Nations," price 1/-. "The League from Year to Year," price 1/-. "The League of Nations:

its Secretariat and Buildings," price 1/6. "The Covenant of the League," pamphlet, price 2d. There is a series of pamphlets published at 6d. on questions of the day, among the most recent being "Intellectual Co-operation," "New Technical Efforts towards a better Nutrition," "Traffic in Women in the East: Work of the Bandoeng Conference."

Subscriptions may be taken out for the following series: "The Teaching of the Principles and Facts of International Co-operation," 2/6 a year; and "The Monthly Summary of the League of Nations," at 8/- for the English or 5/- for the French, German, Italian and Spanish editions, single issues being respectively 1/- and 6d.

"A.B.C. OF THE PEACE MOVEMENT, DATES AND FACTS." By Anna T. Nilsson.

We have received, though we must admit we have not been able to read, the latest edition of this valuable pamphlet, in Arabic, which may be obtained from The Librarie Egyptienne, 39 and 42 rue de la Lyre, Algiers. This is the 12th language into which the original pamphlet has been translated since it first appeared in Swedish in 1924. It has been constantly brought up to date and enquiries as to previous issues can be made to Miss Anna T. Nilsson, Informationsbyran, Lilla Nygatan 4, Stockholm.

NORWAY.

The Bill to give women equal access with men to all Government functions, including entry into the State Church, was adopted by the Odelstinget by 60 votes to 48. It must now go before the other Chamber, the Lagtinget, and we gather that, should it fail of adoption there, it would then have to come before a joint session of the two bodies, which together form the Storting. Apparently women in large numbers were present at the debate, including many younger women. It was the entry of women into the Church which aroused the strongest opposition, but an amendment to instruct the Government to make no appointment of women pastors in Parishes which made objection, was lost.

We shall await with great interest the result of the further debate.

On May 31st Fru Frederikke Marie Qvam celebrated her 95th birthday. To all members of the Alliance she will be familiar as one of the pioneers of the Norwegian Suffrage Movement and President of the Suffrage Society which must be among the oldest of the affiliated societies. We repeat here the congratulations and good wishes which the Alliance has already personally transmitted to her by telegram.

Stop Press. We have just learnt that the Bill has become law, but with the amendment given above as rejected by the Odelsting, which was adopted in the Upper House.

NEW ZEALAND.

At long last the New Zealand Government has decided to appoint a number of women as part of the police system of the Dominion. No one can accuse it of being hasty in its decision nor can the appointment be considered in the light of an experiment in view of what other countries have done. For many years the appointment of women police has been steadily advocated by such organisations as the National Council of Women, the Women's Christian Temperance Union, the Women's Division of the Farmers' Union and other bodies.

The deputation of women to whom the announcement was made was told that if they were to succeed, women police must possess high qualities of tact, sympathy and helpfulness, coupled with a high standard of education, health and training. The average policeman in New Zealand, of course, epitomises these qualifications! The

duties of policewomen have not yet been fully defined, but at least the first step has been taken and the Minister in charge of the Police Department has stated that the appointments will be made as soon as possible.

Laura Bunting.

HUNGARY.

The Feministak Egyesulete gave a Reception to the Members of St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance who attended the Eucharistic Congress in Budapest last month, including Miss Barry and Miss Spender. The Hungarian National Council of Women, the Soroptimists, the University Women, the Women Writers' Circle and other organisations were represented by the Presidents or Chairmen, and some interesting notices appeared in the Press.

The Society called the attention of the Hungarian Delegation to the International Labour Conference to their equal rights principles and asked them to defend these principles in the Conference.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

France. There are now eleven women Councillors for Foreign Trade (Conseillères du Commerce Extérieur), all of them being the heads of large business houses or otherwise directly concerned in industrial administration. While we confess that we are not clear as to their functions, we are sure that it is a forward step.

The French Branch of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom is organising a Summer School in Paris at the Cercle des Nations, from July 12th-20th, on "The True Image of Contemporary France." Apply to Mme Jouve, 2, rue Gaston de St. Paul, Paris.

Great Britain. Unfortunately Mrs. Despard was not well enough to attend the Women's Freedom League Party to celebrate her 94th birthday, so her many friends had to pay their tribute to her in her absence. Dr. Edith Summerskill, the newest woman M.P., who succeeded in being allowed to sit under her own maiden name, spoke of her own satisfactory position as a woman who has a profession (she is a doctor), a political career and a family.

Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P., was cheered by all parties in the House of Commons when her Bill to remove some of the abuses of Hire Purchase was finally adopted.

South Africa. In the recent elections three women were elected: Mrs. Reitz (re-elected), Mrs. Bertha Solomon, an Advocate, and Mrs. Badenhorst. Mrs. Malherbe, who was the other woman member in the last Parliament, did not stand for re-election, but there is a possibility that she may eventually be nominated to the Senate.

This election did not affect the seat of Mrs. Ballinger, who, as reported in a recent issue, was elected by the Natives of Cape Province, who as some compensation for the loss of the ordinary franchise rights they formerly possessed, can send representatives (we believe three) to Parliament elected by themselves.

U.S.A. Women workers in Michigan have brought a case to recover back wages alleged to be due to them over a period of 6 years, because their employer failed to observe a State Law prohibiting discrimination against women in the payment of wages. The Michigan Department of Labour reports that it has never enforced, or attempted to enforce, this Statute, and that seems a sad admission even though one may realise that it is not easy to determine whether, in fact, women are doing the same work as men in any industry.

SECTION FRANÇAISE.

CONFERENCE D'ETUDE: STOCKHOLM.

15-16 OCTOBRE, 1938.

Cette conférence est projetée depuis le mois de février et se tiendra à Stockholm en même temps que la réunion du bureau de l'Alliance. Son programme comprendra l'étude des facteurs désirables à l'établissement d'une stabilité sociale et politique et de la prospérité dans le monde. Nos deux sociétés affiliées en Suède ont délégué leurs pouvoirs au comité joint qui les représente d'ordinaire pour les questions ayant rapport à l'Alliance et dont les membres sont: Mme Ebba Odhner, Melle Thorstenson, Mme Ellen Hagen, Mme Ina Möller. A cette dernière devront être adressées toutes demandes concernant la conférence d'étude: (Stockholm, Värtavägen 15).

Il est probable que les réunions auront lieu au Grand Hotel. Il y aura une grande réunion publique le 14 dans la Salle des Concerts et une autre, spéciale, pour la jeunesse.

Nous espérons que nos membres habitant les contrées scandinaves ou voisines viendront à cette conférence.

MARIA VERONE.

Une grande voix ardente s'est tue: celle de Maria Vérone dont le nom, dans l'histoire du féminisme, passera à la postérité.

Elle en est digne car, du point de vue féminin, il n'est pas une injustice contre laquelle elle n'ait protesté, pas un problème à la solution duquel elle ne se soit attachée, et cela avec une logique, un courage, une ardeur, un talent et une obstination qui firent d'elle, dès le début de sa vie, un chef.

Maria Vérone était présidente de la Ligue Française pour le Droit des Femmes depuis 1904, vice-présidente de l'Association d'Etudes Sexologiques, présidente de la section de législation du Conseil National des Femmes Françaises depuis 1920, présidente de la commission de législation du Conseil International depuis 1925, déléguée par le Conseil International des Femmes pour présenter les revendications féminines à la Conférence pour la Codification du Droit International (La Haye, 1930), présidente fondatrice de l'Union Internationale des Avocatesses.

Elle partagea son temps et ses forces intellectuelles entre trois activités où, dans chacune, elle acquit une indiscutable notoriété: le journalisme, le Palais, le féminisme.

Maria Vérone a été une grande féministe, c'est-à-dire une lutteuse entraînée, convaincue, et que rien ne désarma. Le droit de suffrage pour les femmes, en particulier, fut pour elle la raison des campagnes les plus ardentes. Les sénateurs la redoutaient pour son courage direct et ses revendications fermement exprimées. Hélas, quarante années d'efforts ne lui permirent pas, sur ce plan particulier, de connaître le succès de la cause à laquelle elle s'était attachée. Quelle tristesse et quelle leçon de persévérance et d'obstination nécessaire elle donne à celles qui la suivent!

—Extrait de "La Française."

FEMMES NOTABLES.

Notre section de langue britannique donne les détails de la carrière de ces femmes danoises notables qui sont Henny Forchammer (1863), Estrid Hein (1873), nombre de Parlementaires et féministes telles que Julie Arenholt, Anna Westergaard, etc.

CONGRES INTERNATIONAL POUR LA PAIX.

Pour les 23 et 24 juillet à Paris, le R.U.P. a organisé une Conférence Internationale de Protestation contre le Bombardement des villes ouvertes et la pour la Restauration de la Paix. Il y aura des délégués des Trade Unions, des organisations d'anciens combattants, des coopératives et des organisations pour la Paix, etc.

A ce propos nous avons reçu le texte d'une résolution adoptée par le comité des organisations internationales des femmes appelant l'attention de leurs sociétés respectives sur les méthodes de guerre modernes et demandant une action des Gouvernements.

CONFERENCE INTERNATIONALE DU TRAVAIL.

Voici la liste des femmes déléguées:

Empire Britannique: Miss Flora Hancock, conseillère technique pour les ouvriers (Syndicat du Transport); *Danemark:* Madame Gloerfelt-Tarp, conseillère technique du Gouvernement (Inspection du Travail); *Mexique:* Melle Palma Guillem, déléguée substitut; *Hollande:* Melle G. Stenberg, conseillère technique du Gouvernement (Ministère de l'Assistance Sociale); *Norvège:* Miss J. Reutz, conseillère technique pour les ouvriers (Membre de la Confédération des Syndicats); *Suisse:* Melle Dora Schmidt, conseillère technique du Gouvernement; *France:* Madame Léonetti, conseillère technique du Gouvernement; *Etats-Unis d'Amérique:* Miss Perkins, Ministre du Travail, Miss Frida Miller, Directeur de la Section du Travail des Femmes, New York, Mrs. Clara Beyers, conseillère technique; *Yougoslavie:* Melle Milena Atanatskovitch, conseillère technique (du Ministère de la Santé et des Affaires sociales).

A cette occasion les membres du Bureau de l'Alliance qui se trouvaient à Genève: Melle Gourd, Melle Ginsberg, Melle Manus et Melle Atanatskovitch offrirent une réception en l'honneur des femmes déléguées.

CONFERENCE DE LA LIGUE DU BRITISH COMMONWEALTH.

La quatorzième conférence annuelle s'est tenue à Londres les 14, 15 et 16 juin sous le titre général: Le plan des Femmes pour la Paix, la Prospérité, le Progrès. Comme à l'ordinaire des orateurs distingués initièrent des discussions intéressantes et nous espérons que nos lectrices voudront en connaître le contenu, résumé dans le Rapport que la Ligue publie à 17 Buckingham Street, London, W.C.2.

Sous la rubrique "Paix" il y eut des discussions sur le Commonwealth et les "Mandats" comme facteurs de Paix. "Prospérité" comprenait les questions de nutrition, d'agriculture, tandis que sous la rubrique "Progrès" on trouvait le Statut civil de la femme en général, et de la femme mariée en particulier; la position de la femme indigène — de la femme fonctionnaire, de la femme, dans les professions, les affaires et l'économie domestique.

NOUVELLES BREVES.

France. Il y a maintenant onze femmes conseillères du Commerce Extérieur, toutes plus ou moins chefs d'affaires commerciales ou industrielles. Bien que ce soit là un fait intéressant, nous sommes dans le vague quant aux fonctions de ces conseillères, mais c'est là évidemment un signe de progrès.

Grande Bretagne. La Women's Freedom League a célébré le 94ème anniversaire de Mrs. Despard, en l'absence de celle-ci, qui n'est pas assez forte pour voyager. Dr. Edith Summerskill, la nouvelle femme député parla de sa position comme docteur, mère de famille et membre du Parlement.

Elle a été autorisée à continuer à porter son nom de fille sous lequel elle est connue professionnellement.

Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P., a été acclamée par les membres de tous les Partis, à la Chambre des Communes quand son projet de loi sur "les achats à crédit" a été adopté en troisième lecture.

Union Sud-Africaine. Trois femmes ont été récemment élues au Parlement: Mrs. Reitz (réélue), Mrs. Bertha Solomon (avocate) et Mrs. Badenhorst.

Mrs. Malherbe ne s'est pas représentée mais elle sera probablement candidate pour le Sénat.

Cette élection n'affecte pas le siège de Mrs. Ballinger représentant les indigènes de la Province du Cap. Depuis que ceux-ci se sont vus retirer la franchise électorale, ils peuvent cependant envoyer trois membres au Parlement élus par eux.

Etats Unis d'Amérique. Des ouvrières de l'Etat de Michigan ont intenté un procès à une firme qui les employait et réclament un reliquat de salaire dû pendant une période de six ans, affirmant que les patrons ont contrevenu à une loi de l'Etat qui prohibe la discrimination à l'égard d'un sexe en matière de salaires. Le Département du Travail de Michigan déclare que la loi existe mais qu'on n'en a jamais forcé l'observation.

Suède. Le Riksdag a accepté le projet de loi gouvernemental sur la nouvelle échelle des salaires de fonctionnaires. A l'avenir les femmes auront droit aux mêmes augmentations périodiques que les hommes, ce qui admet le salaire égal, en principe.

Mme Ellen Hagen, Présidente d'une de nos sociétés affiliées, la Medborgarforbund, a été élue Vice-Présidente du Parti populaire et Présidente de sa Fédération féminine.

Nouvelle Zélande. Le Gouvernement vient de nommer un certain nombre de femmes dans la Police du Dominion, faisant enfin droit à la requête manifestée depuis de longues années par les sociétés féministes.

Hongrie. Notre auxiliaire hongroise a offert une réception aux membres de l'Alliance Ste Jeanne présents au Congrès Eucharistique de Budapest. Le Conseil National des Femmes Hongroises, les Soroptimistes, les Femmes Universitaires, le cercle des Femmes écrivains et autres organisations, étaient représentées par leurs Présidentes. La Société attire l'attention de la délégation hongroise sur la nécessité de défendre le principe des Droits Egaux à la Conférence Internationale du Travail.

L'Alliance des Femmes ukrainiennes. Nous regrettons profondément d'avoir à confirmer la nouvelle de la suppression totale, par le Gouvernement Polonais de notre Auxiliaire ukrainienne. Cette organisation avait plus de 70 sections et sociétés affiliées dans les villes de Galicie, environ 1200 groupes dans les villages, représentant un total de 60,000 femmes organisées. La Police fit une perquisition au Bureau Central de Lvov et dans toutes les sections, se saisit de tous les documents, machines à écrire et mobilier. Même les maisons particulières de la Présidente, Mme Milena Rudnycka, et des autres membres de l'Exécutif eurent leur visite domiciliaire, et jusqu'à leur correspondance personnelle, tous les documents possibles furent confisqués par la Police.

L'accusation porte sur le fait que l'activité de notre auxiliaire ukrainienne n'était pas uniquement féministe car elle a collaboré avec l'Union des Coopératives laitières qui comprenait des membres masculins et la Société Coopérative d'agriculture, qui avait organisé

des classes pour les paysannes — fait assez naturel étant donné l'activité bénéficiaire de la société dans les organisations rurales.

Une autre accusation porte sur le fait qu'à un Congrès International en 1924, l'Alliance avait dénoncé avec indignation le cas d'Olga Bassarab qui avait été fouettée à mort, en prison. L'Alliance ne veut pas atténuer l'indignation de ses membres mais l'organisation dont il s'agit n'est pas celui de l'Alliance mais le Conseil des femmes et d'il y a quatorze ans!

Norvège. Le Projet de loi qui donne aux femmes le droit d'accès à toutes les fonctions gouvernementales y compris celles de l'Eglise d'Etat a été adoptée par l'Odelstinget par 60 votes contre 48. Si l'autre Chambre, le Lagtinget en refuse l'adoption le projet devra venir devant une jointe assemblée des deux Chambres qui forment le Storting.

Le 31 mai Fru Frederikke Marie Qvam a célébré son 95ème anniversaire.

Danemark. Madame Edel Saunte, Présidente de notre auxiliaire danoise a été nommée

membre d'une Commission gouvernementale qui examine le droit d'une veuve divorcée à une pension. Actuellement au Danemark c'est seulement la dernière veuve qui obtient la pension même si son mariage n'a duré que quelques semaines. Madame Saunte, dont l'adresse est 14. Ved. Strandén, Copenhagen K., serait reconnaissante à toutes les associées qui voudraient bien lui envoyer un compte rendu des formes légales ayant trait aux pensions de veuves dans leurs pays respectifs.

Cours de Vacances International. La section française de la Ligue International des Femmes pour la Paix et la Liberté organise un cours avec le titre "Le vrai Visage de la France Contemporaine," du 12 à 20 Juillet au Cercle des Nations, Paris. Les séances auront lieu le matin, et pour l'après-midi on a organisé toute une série de visites-conférences aux musées et aux instituts, Oeuvres etc.

Adresser des demandes de renseignements à Mme Andrée Jouve, 2 rue Gaston St. Paul, Paris.

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