

put all its strength into creating public opinion that would result in legislation, and the desire to observe that legislation by producer and consumer alike. The Committee felt that to provide welfare workers and social work for industrial girls was no doubt desirable, but it would touch only the fringes of the problem. Naturally, Miss Harrison's expert knowledge would be at the disposal of anyone asking for information or suggestion, but otherwise she was asked to devote herself to close study of conditions and to propaganda work. Among those who will be helping Miss Harrison will be Miss Zung, the only Chinese woman at the International Congress of Working Women last year. To help to establish Christian standards in industry is one of the contributions which Christians in China hope to make to the building up of a Christian commonwealth.

COMMUNITY WORK IN GEELONG.

AN interesting report comes from the Geelong Association (Victoria, Australia) of an experiment in community work. The policy of such work is definitely to train people for leadership, and in this particular instance a most successful leaders' training course was held, emphasizing the different aspects of work with girls. The girls' work of the Australasian Y.W.C.A. goes by the name of the girl citizen Movement, and the various pledges which Girl Citizens make, the honours for which they work, the recreation in which they share, and the Bible study they undertake, all stress the privilege of Christians in sharing in the life of the community in which they live. Similarly, in industrial work the Australian Y.W.C.A. is stressing the idea of service. Writing of the factory girls in Geelong, the report says:—

"In seeking to promote friendliness and in realizing that one of the functions of industry is to promote the welfare of all people engaged in its conduct, and that knowledge, health, happiness and comfortable conditions are factors necessary for that welfare, we are seeking to carry out a policy among the girls employed in the industries of Geelong, by creating the desire in the girls to unite for their own welfare and that of the community generally. In order to do this we have established Welfare Committees among the girls themselves, the community worker simply acting as adviser without a vote. With that end in view, we interviewed the managers of these works, namely, four woollen mills and one rope works, gaining their ready permission to



Miss Mary Dingman, Industrial Secretary to the Executive Committee of the World's Y.W.C.A. Miss Dingman will be at the head of the International Summer School for Social and Industrial Study to be held in London this year. The photograph was taken in France where the Y.W.C.A. was able to open foyers for industrial women.

start any scheme which might be for the benefit of their employees. The girls themselves were then approached. It took more than two or three visits in some cases to create in them the desire to stand for each other's welfare. Then, at the general meeting of the girls in each place, a Welfare Committee was elected; in some cases the excitement ran high on election day.

"The next step was to approach the managers with a view to getting these committees officially recognized, and when this had been done, that recognition was granted most willingly.

"A constitution is being adopted by the committees, and the girls are setting to work to carry out their aim. Following on the official recognition in one mill, recommendations have already been sent to the management for lunch-room and dressing-room accommodation, and equipment and space for one tennis and two basketball courts, and in another for better ventilation.

"So far we have sought to help the girls carry out their objective by establishing Thrift Clubs and 'Popular Half-Hours.' Thrift has taken on wonderfully well, and the introduction of competition between the mills is stimulating enthusiasm.

"There have been several 'Popular Half-Hours,' the time being given to fun, singing and talk. The programme of these will be varied, taking the form of entertainments or educational talks, and in the winter time to basket-ball and other outdoor games, or physical culture classes will be held. The girls were very excited at the introduction of these 'Popular Half-Hours,' talking much among themselves. The words of one girl to a friend were: 'Already the friendliness between the girls is improving.'

"Next year the community work policy will be carried out in competitions between the centres in physical culture, singing, sewing, etc., basket-ball matches, sports days and outings.

"In order to bring about the things which have already been achieved, numerous committee meetings have been held in lunch-hours in the mills, and the girls are fast becoming adepts in the art of conducting business meetings.

"We feel glad that community work is now established in all industrial centres in Geelong.

"All the community work will be controlled under the Board of Directors by a Community Committee. The Community Committee will be made up of two representatives from each group. The policy of that Community Committee will be to receive reports from places where work is being done, by so doing establishing standards and arousing competition. It will also plan and will arrange for widening the field of activities, and will arrange and hold training courses and any other meetings that will be of help to the girl community generally. There will be more to report of this Committee in the near future."

CONDITIONS FOR WORKING WOMEN IN THE ARGENTINE.

ROUGHLY 10 years ago a girl student at the University of Buenos Aires undertook to prepare for her degree a thesis on Women in Industry in South America. Carolina Muzilli died soon after the completion of her report, a victim of tuberculosis contracted during the two years in which she herself worked in one industry after another to acquire first-hand knowledge. She found no accurate statistics and no authentic reports on which industrial legislation might be based. Her book, translated from the Spanish by Miss Cunradi, of the Foreign-Born Division of the American Y.W.C.A., is still the most comprehensive survey of a complicated and still-growing problem. Women's organizations have made various attempts to create public opinion which shall bring about protective legislation and put an end to some forms of "convent" work and to sweated home industries, but there is need for more effective propaganda based on fresh study. The problem has an international aspect when one realizes that in the lingerie and embroidery trades underpaid Argentine women undercut the women employed in those industries in other countries.

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

It was a happy thought of the League of Women Voters of U.S.A. to combine with their own Annual Convention a Pan-American Conference. This Conference will meet in Baltimore from April 20 to April 23. At both Convention and Conference will be discussed child welfare, efficiency in government, women in industry, social hygiene, civil and political states of women, food supply and demand, education and legislation. All the Central and South American States have been invited to send representatives. We hope to give special notice to the Pan-American Conference in the April number of JVS SVFFRAGII, and to publish photographs of some of the notable women who will attend it.

Mrs. Trounson, Headquarters Secretary of the Alliance, is going to Baltimore to attend the Conference. On her way out she will visit the Suffrage Associations in Newfoundland and Quebec—and flying as that visit must be, we know that it will prove a means of bringing the Alliance into closer and more helpful contact with our fellow-workers there.

The situation in Quebec is certainly not bright. M. Taschereau, the Premier, has bluntly refused to consider Woman Suffrage; and now we learn that

Archbishop Roy has made an official pronouncement against it. He says it would be "an attack on the fundamental traditions of our race and our faith," and describes woman suffrage as "a path strewn with snares, at the end of which are false charms and forbidden fruit."

We believe that Catholic women everywhere will prefer to trust the judgment of the Pope. It is well-known that the late Pope was in favour of woman suffrage; and we are delighted to know that the newly-elected Pope, Pius XI., has sent his blessing to the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society of Great Britain. The Founder of the faith of all Christians made no distinction between men and women: their equality is peculiarly emphasized in all His sayings in the Gospels.

INDIAN women have scored another victory. The Legislative Assembly of Delhi (the Central Government) has passed a resolution giving those women who are provincially enfranchised the right to vote in the Legislative Assembly elections.

The new Franchise Bill in Hungary would deprive many women of the vote. We hope it may be defeated.

THE NEW POPE BLESSES THE CATHOLIC WOMAN SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.

THE following telegram, dated Rome, Feb. 18, has been received by the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society from His Holiness Pope Pius XI, in answer to a telegram sent by them conveying their homage: "President, Catholic Women's Suffrage Society, London. Holy Father thanks homage; sends you His blessing.—Cardinal Gasparri."

AUSTRALIA.

Western Australia and Treatment of Venereal Disease:

The Bad Clause retained in the Health Act.

LAST month we gave the full details of the debate in the Legislative Assembly of Western Australia on the deletion of those clauses of the Health Act which empower the Commissioner of Public Health to take action against persons supposed to be suffering from venereal disease, on the strength of secret statements. The accused has no right of redress, even if the information laid proves to be false. We understand from a correspondent that the decision of the Legislative Assembly to delete the clause from the Health Bill has been reversed by the Upper House by a majority of two.

We regret profoundly this defeat. The practical effect of this clause is that men can denounce any woman as the source of infection—and these women can be arrested and subjected to compulsory medical examination. In short, it means the old C. D. acts in another form—and in a form much more difficult to fight. For such clauses in theory make no discrimination between the sexes. But in practice they are applied with far more stringency to women than to men—and in the case of Western Australia, we received last year the information that this clause had practically been applied to women only.

Our correspondent writes: "The whole thing is an abomination. We have left no stone unturned to defeat the measure since 1915. . . . The administration is all *in camera* and, I believe, will prove even more dangerous than 40 D.; because more difficult to follow." That, indeed, is the danger and difficulty of these new "social hygiene" measures everywhere. Health authorities know that public opinion will not tolerate anything that looks like an open return to the principles of Regulation or the Contagious Diseases Acts. Yet from compulsory notification to compulsory examination, and thereafter compulsory detention, is but a step. The old and poisonous principle is in them—the clothing only has been altered to suit the modern fashion, and to deceive the unwary. We congratulate the progressive women of Western Australia on their arduous fight against the forces of reaction. And while we sympathize with them in their defeat, we believe that defeat to be but temporary, and that the principle of voluntary treatment for venereal diseases—the only principle which is morally and hygienically sound—will yet triumph everywhere.

February 24, 1922.

[Information received through the courtesy of Miss Harriet Newcomb, B.W.D.C.U.]

STERILIZATION LAWS IN THE UNITED STATES.

WE are very glad to give prominence to a correction from Mrs. Chapman Catt, regarding the reported sterilization order of a Denver judge, which was printed in our January issue as a quotation from the *Daily Express* of November 28:—

To the INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWS.

I was quite shocked to read in the last issue of the INTERNATIONAL NEWS the sensational report that a Judge in Colorado had ordered an operation on an Italian woman to make further motherhood impossible. I think it must be well understood in all countries that no judge can impose conditions and penalties unless he is applying the law. When this report was sent out through the Associated Press the newspapers flocked to interview many of us about it. The opinions we expressed were unanimous, that no such order could possibly have been given, since nowhere is any such law in existence, and no judge is empowered to compose a law to enable him to apply it. Before our interviews were published the judge had issued a denial of the whole thing. There was not a word of truth in the report.

Whether other countries suffer from the same irresponsible circulation of news as does our own, I have no means of knowing, but let me say to all readers of the INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWS that nothing emanating from the American news bureaux is dependable unless it is well authenticated.

CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT.

January 30, 1922.

We regret that JUS should have been even the quotational medium of an erroneous report; but the error of the Associated Press has, we believe, brought a blessing in its train, since through the publicity of the interviews Mrs. Catt mentions the authorities will now know how repugnant any such legislation is to American womanhood.

We would certainly have been more carefully critical as to the possibility of the report's falsity were it not for the fact that fifteen of the States have, from 1907 to 1917, enacted various, and, in some cases very comprehensive, sterilization laws. Those States are: Indiana (1907); Washington (1909); California (1909, repealed; 1913, amended 1917); Sterilization Provision in Act establishing Pacific Colony, 1917); Connecticut (1909); Nevada (1911); Iowa (1911, repealed; 1913, repealed; 1915); New Jersey (1911); New York (1912); North Dakota (1913); Michigan (1913); Kansas (1913, repealed; 1917); Wisconsin (1913); Nebraska (1915); Oregon (1917); South Dakota (1917).

Up to October, 1920, in four States, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, and Michigan, these laws had been declared unconstitutional either by the State Supreme Court or the Federal District Court.*

In Washington a Decree of the State Supreme Court, September 3, 1912, held the law to be constitutional.

In nine States the laws have not been tested by the courts.

The persons subject to these laws vary from State to State, and cover a wide field, including: inmates of charitable and penal institutions, reformatories, State prisons, industrial homes, State school for girls, hospitals and homes for feeble-minded, lunatics, sexual perverts, criminals, persons twice convicted of felony, drunkards, drug fiends, epileptics, syphilitics, diseased and degenerate persons.

The type of operation also varies according to the State: "vasectomy, salpingectomy or oöphorectomy," "a surgical operation for sterilization."

The basis of selection also varies: "inadvisability of procreation; decision by board of examiners that procreation by such inmate would be harmful to society"; "character of subject and his previous unsocial acts."

The executive agents provided do not differ materially, being in most cases a board or committee of two or

*The *Social Hygiene Bulletin* of January, 1922, reports that the Oregon Sterilization Law has been held invalid by Judges Kelly and Bingham of the Third Judicial District.

three doctors or surgeons, the superintendent in an institutional case, with the Secretary of the State Board of Health—or alternatively the State Commission in Lunacy.

The defenders of these laws urge a still wider scope for them, and suggest that, in addition, they should be applied at discretion to the "socially inadequate" classes, and they include in these classes the tuberculous, the blind, the deaf, the deformed, the delinquent and wayward, and the dependent, including orphans, paupers, tramps, ne'er-do-wells, and homeless. In suggestions for a model Federal Law are also included "immigrants who are personally eligible to admission, but who, by the standards recommended in the model State Law are potential parents of socially inadequate offspring." (See H. H. Laughlin, *Social Hygiene*, October, 1920).

There has been so far, we believe, no very wide discussion of the policy of sterilization; but that it is a subject that demands very careful study and clear thinking is evident—and particularly on the part of women. That there might be a tendency to direct such legislation against certain classes of women would seem possible.

It is interesting to note that Dr. Santoliquido (official delegate from the League of Red Cross Societies to the Forty-first Conference of the International Abolitionist Federation, Rome, November, 1921), read a paper which dealt at great length with the question of the sterilization of criminals, defectives, diseased persons and others. Dr. Santoliquido argued very forcibly against this proposal in its compulsory aspect as an outrageous and unjustifiable assault on human personality, as a most dangerous precedent to give such power either to legal and medical or State officials, and one which, if once given, might conceivably be used against any particular group or classes of persons who were for the time being supposed to be dangerous to the State. It is also interesting to note that though no resolution could be submitted to the International Abolitionist Conference on this point, the sentiment of the Conference was undoubtedly hostile in the extreme to any such proposals.

February 26, 1922.

SOUTH AFRICA.

A Woman Suffrage Deputation.

AGAIN the Women's Enfranchisement Association has in vain requested the Government to take over the Women's Enfranchisement Bill; and again we must work to improve the doubtful chances of a private Bill, which it is hoped will be introduced early next session.

South African men—except for a few staunch supporters of our cause—are in no hurry to enfranchise their women, and woman suffrage is hard put to it to make its voice heard in the babel of other problems—industrial unrest, unemployment, the native question—even cattle diseases seem to many men far more important than the question of justice to women. Many of those who believe in woman suffrage as an abstract idea think that the general fairness of the treatment of women in this country takes away from the urgency of the need for this reform; or else they profess themselves quite overwhelmed by the difficulty of applying it in South Africa.

The Congress of the South African Party in Natal, which was held in Pietermaritzburg last month, discussed the question of woman suffrage, and Pietermaritzburg suffragists endeavoured to help it in its deliberations by sending a deputation to lay their case before it. The deputation consisted of Lady Steel (President of the W.E.A.U.), Mrs. Theodore Woods (South Africa's first woman town councillor), Mrs. Bell, Miss Parker and Miss Fleming.

Lady Steel said there was no reasonable argument against woman suffrage. Natal had led the way in regard to the municipal franchise for women, and she asked this Congress of Natal men to take another

*The *Shield*, December, 1921.

step forward by passing a resolution in favour of woman suffrage. We did not wish our country to be regarded as a benighted land.

Mrs. Woods touched on one or two of the difficulties in the way of enfranchising South African women, and showed that they were not as great as had been imagined.

Miss Fleming pointed out the good results of woman suffrage in other countries, and said that South Africa had need of the intelligence of the whole of its civilized population to solve its many problems.

The deputation was sympathetically received, and a resolution was afterwards passed to the effect that the sex disqualification for the franchise should be removed.

South African suffragists are succeeding in their endeavours to increase the number of women on municipal councils. There are now many women Councillors in South Africa, and it is universally acknowledged that they have done good work.

And at last we have a woman Mayor! Mrs. Wilson was recently elected Mayor of Germiston, in the Transvaal.

January, 1921. MARJORIE FLEMING, Acting Hon. Secretary, W.E.A.U.

CANADA.

Quebec.

Women Vote for the First Time in Quebec Municipal Elections.

WE learn from an article in the January *Bonne Parole* of Montreal that in December the women of Quebec used their municipal vote for the first time.

Accusations of the apathy of the woman voter were proved to be unfounded. Ninety per cent. of the women enregistered used their vote, while only 80 per cent. of the men voters went to the polls.

Women were also appointed as returning officers. Before the elections women attended political meetings in large numbers, and it is particularly interesting to note that special lectures were arranged by the Catholic Women's Federation, which were addressed by well-known priests.

"And now," asks the writer of the article, "now that our women understand that Suffrage is not a religious question, but is among those problems which are left to free discussion and opinion; now that they have realized that public work for the State is a duty which knows no sex distinction; now that they have realized the part they can play in the social task and to what extent their collective effort will aid in its accomplishment, will they remain indifferent to the gaining of the Provincial Suffrage?"

They Now Demand Provincial Suffrage.

No. The women of Quebec have not remained indifferent. We learn from the *Daily Telegraph* of February 11 that a deputation of 150 of the most representative women of the Province have seen the Premier, M. Taschereau, and other members of the Government, and have demanded the Provincial vote, reminding the Government that they already possess the franchise for the Dominion Parliament. They also pointed out that many European and other countries have granted the franchise to women on the same terms as men.

"Women are Intelligent Enough, but . . .!"

In reply, M. Taschereau said that he personally was opposed to Woman Suffrage; but he admitted that women were certainly intelligent enough to deal with political questions. His excuse was that "the Latin mentality, which prevailed among the vast majority of the population of Quebec Province, was against Woman Suffrage," and he pointed out that France, Spain, Italy and other Latin countries had so far refused to grant votes to women. Indeed, he made it plain that the Quebec Provincial Government and Legislature are opposed to Woman Suffrage.

It is quite true the Latin countries have not enfranchised their women. But women in every Latin

country are vigorously demanding the vote. There must be a Latin male mentality and a Latin female mentality, if M. Taschereau is right. Another complication of the anti-suffragists! Women Suffragists have quite another name for what M. Taschereau calls "Latin mentality." It is a quality not confined to Latin countries. And in spite of it the women will win.
February 24, 1922.

DENMARK.

Some Interesting Opinions on the Exclusion of Women as Jurors in Cases of Criminal Assault.

IN consequence of Barrister Henrik Sachs' article in *Kvinden og Samfundet* for December 30, 1921, we have put the following questions to certain esteemed lawyers:—

- (1) Do you agree with Barrister Sachs' interpretation of par. 859?
- (2) Do you consider that women are incompetent of judging in questions of outrage?

We have received the following answers:—

MRS. ASTRID HOLTEN BECHTOLSHEIM (Barrister of the High Court).

(1) Yes. I consider it the duty of the lawyer appointed to defend the case to use every means provided by the law to obtain the mildest punishment; therefore, also to exclude women from the jury in the kind of matters mentioned. Likewise on the other side it is the duty of the public prosecutor to use every means permitted by the law to make the punishment as severe as possible, and to use their right to exclude such jurors as might be supposed would consider the offence leniently.

(2) No! I cannot admit that "men generally are better qualified to judge rightly on this matter than women."

MATHILDE MALLING HAUSCHULTZ, M.P.

(1) If this question means do I agree that "it is the absolute duty of the lawyer for the defence, as far as possible, to prevent women standing on the jury in such questions where he considers that the case he is defending will be specially hardly judged by them" I answer decidedly, yes!

(2) No!

BARRISTER A. MUNCH PETERSEN.

(1) I fully agree with Barrister Sachs in his interpretation of par. 859. The lawyer for the defence has the right to reject four jurors "without reason being given."

(2) No; but I support the conviction that all defendants in an outrage case will be of the opinion that women beforehand will be more inclined to pronounce the man "guilty," and that women will be liable to be excluded as long as the law does not make a rule that there shall be an equal number of men and women jurors.

PROFESSOR H. MUNCH PETERSEN.

(1) There can certainly be no objection raised against Barrister Sachs' interpretation of par. 859.

(2) It is obvious that women must possess certain qualities which men lack for the judging of questions of outrage, just in the decision of the question whether the resistance has been serious, and I consider it therefore an unfortunate arrangement that women can be excluded from the jury in these matters. On the contrary, it should be determined by law that, for example, at least one-third of the jury should consist of women in the judging of these matters.

Women Teachers and Equal Pay.

NOT long ago Town Councillor Kaper, of Copenhagen, made a very strange speech in the Municipal Council. He said that as women teachers were indispensable in the work of the schools, they ought to have their salaries reduced.

In life it is the rule that goods which are much in demand enhance their market value.

In spite of Dr. Kaper's opinion that women teachers are rolling in money, there are very few openings for women teachers' positions. How will it be possible to obtain the indispensable womanly help if the salaries of the women teachers are reduced below that which is offered for men's work of a corresponding kind and demanding corresponding training?

How very differently the School Town Councillors of Copenhagen and Brüssel consider the question. At a meeting for the consideration of regulating the salaries at the last-mentioned town, the Town Councillor said: "As women teachers are indispensable, they ought to have the same salary as the men. It is true that they are physically weaker, but just for that reason they ought to have a salary to make it possible for them to arrange home affairs so that they are more fitted for work."

Such a point of view is clearly strange to Copenhagen's Town Councillor; far better does he understand what the School Commission in Limfjord wrote to a teacher who was to be dismissed: "The greater part of the time you have lived in this district you have been occupied with household duties, and it is the general opinion that it is impossible for you to be as fit for your work as you would otherwise be if you had not so much to do."

Until two years ago the salary of a woman teacher was based upon the idea that she should carry out the work both of a teacher and housekeeper. And as soon as she is placed in a position to enable her to have things a little more comfortable, the school authorities are down on her shillings.

The propensity of women teachers for luxuries has been spoken of. What luxuries have women teachers allowed themselves? The same which every man in an independent position allows himself: to provide himself with a home; a modest home such as a teacher's home always is, but a place where invaluable possessions await the happy occupant after the day's labour—food, rest, recreation.

The women teachers have obtained the means to get their own home and the much-needed house help. It is this they have striven for through all the years they have worked in the service of the schools, as they have felt that otherwise they could not continue working. This is the benefit, the luxury, of which men will deprive them if equal pay is abandoned.

Town Councillor Kaper has lately announced in the *National Tidende* that women teachers in Copenhagen cost the town yearly 300,000 Kr. more than men teachers. Fru. Baumgarten, President of the Communal Teachers' Association, has proved this to be quite untrue, and has shown that, on the contrary, the coming year will save the commune an expenditure of 198,331 Kr.

She also gives the interesting information that the difference in the percentage of sickness between men and women teachers has gone down considerably, as the statistics show that the women teachers had a sick leave of 6.5 days more than the men in this past year, while in 1915 they had 12.

Kvinden og Samfundet.

January 15, 1922.

GREAT BRITAIN.

National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship. Women and the Present Session.

IT was feared that women's questions would fare badly this session, and there was great rejoicing when it was found that the King's Speech included one reform for which we are working—the amendment of the Criminal Laws for the protection of young girls. Readers of this paper will remember the fate of the amending Bill at the close of last session, and the storm of indignation that it aroused. The Government has yielded to pressure, and has introduced a Bill, though at the time of writing it has not been printed, and there are some fears that it may not contain certain essential

elements—such as the clause which sweeps away the plea "reasonable cause to believe" a girl over the legal age for criminal assault.

It is open to doubt whether any time will be available in a session which promises to be a short one for private members' Bills, but two Bills promoted by the N.U.S.E.C. have been fortunate in securing places in the private members' ballot—the Guardianship, Maintenance, Custody and Marriage of Infants Bill, which so nearly achieved success last summer, and the Separation and Maintenance Orders Bill, which is the Summary Jurisdiction (Married Persons) Bill of last summer, under a more intelligible title.

In order to strengthen the chances of the Guardianship Bill, it is to be introduced into the House of Lords by Lord Askwith, and as in both Houses it has very strong and representative backing, there is some hope of success, unless, as seems not unlikely, the present Parliament come to an end in the near future, and a General Election be announced.

Equal Franchise.

Naturally, this question is in the forefront of our election programme. We cannot rest until the present disqualification of sex which exists in no other country except Hungary is removed. The postponement of the General Election is from this point of view decidedly an advantage, inasmuch as it gives the Government more time to fulfil this fundamental part of the pledge made at the 1918 election, to remove all existing inequalities in the law between men and women.

There can be no doubt that public opinion in this country is stiffening in favour of an equal franchise. At a recent by-election both candidates, one Conservative and the other Labour, gave this reform a place in their election addresses to their constituents without any suggestion on our part, and almost without exception, at all by-elections of the year, candidates have given favourable replies to questions relating to this. The N.U.S.E.C. has asked the Prime Minister to receive a deputation on this subject in order to present him with two memorials, one signed by a very large number of both men's and women's organizations, and the other by a large number of Members of Parliament, asking the Government to introduce a Bill to remove the inequalities in the franchise before the close of the session.

Unfortunately, in reply to a question in the House of Commons, asking if the Government was going to introduce legislation removing the present inequalities in Election Law between men and women, the Prime Minister replied, "No, sir, I do not think it would be wise to re-open again, after so short an interval, franchise questions which were settled by general agreement in the last Parliament."

We understand, however, that Lord Robert Cecil is going to bring in a Private Member's Bill on March 1, under the Ten Minutes' Rule.

The Annual Council Meeting.

The Annual Council Meeting of the N.U.S.E.C. will be held on March 7, 8 and 9. An interesting agenda has been issued and a good attendance is expected. The proposals with regard to the Election Policy of the National Union will be certain to excite a lively discussion, in view of the near approach of a General Election.

"The Economy Axe."

Readers in other countries may not, at first sight, understand the significance of this catchword which is on everyone's lips in Great Britain to-day. The outcry for greater economy in national expenditure has become so clamorous, both in the Press and in the constituencies, that it could no longer be ignored, and a special committee on national expenditure, composed of eminent business men, was appointed to make recommendations with regard to possible economies in the Public Services. This committee was presided over by Sir Eric Geddes, G.C.B., C.B.E., M.P., and its report, which has just appeared, is popularly called the "Geddes Report."

Some of the findings of this committee immediately suggest the fact that no woman found a place among its five members. Among these may be mentioned the proposed reductions in the national outlay on education. It is recommended that children be not admitted to schools until they reach the age of six; that classes become larger in order to employ fewer teachers; that teachers' salaries be reduced, and scholarships be cut down.

Another proposed economy which arouses indignation among women is the recommendation to do away with the Women Police recently appointed in London, on the grounds that "their utility is negligible." This is a matter on which women feel very strongly, and an important meeting of protest has been organized by the National Council of Women, on which the N.U.S.E.C. will be represented. In the meantime, the N.U.S.E.C. has circularized all the London Members of Parliament, begging them to oppose this recommendation. What, indeed, do the business men who composed this committee know about the needs of little children, or the preventive work carried out in the streets of our great cities by women police officers?

It is only fair, however, to allude to the redeeming feature of this report, from the woman's point of view, which deals with very considerable reductions in expenditure on our fighting services.

ELIZABETH MACADAM.

HUNGARY.

[Suffragists everywhere will be distressed to hear that determined efforts are being made by the Hungarian Government to limit still further the electoral rights of women. Already there is an inequality as between men and women, men being allowed to vote at the age of 21, and women only at the age of 24. We trust that the forces of progress will prevail, and that ere long both Hungary and Great Britain may be numbered among the countries which have enfranchised their women on the same terms as men.—EDITOR.]

A Bill to Limit the Voting Rights of Women.

SINCE our last report we have continued our quiet but persevering work, and may record a remarkable success.

The death of our old friend Dr. Alexander Petö, M.P., caused a vacancy in Parliament, and one of the candidates of the electing district was another old friend and staunch defender of our cause, Dr. John Benedek. We worked for his election with ambition and zeal, made speeches in our meetings, sent circulars to all our members asking them to work for Dr. Benedek, and appealed to our voting members of the district to be sure to vote and canvass for our candidate. The result was that Dr. Benedek was elected with a sweeping majority, and we had full cause to congratulate ourselves as well as Dr. Benedek at his election.

At present the political situation in Hungary is a very intricate one—also concerning the Suffrage Bill. Two years ago the present National Assembly was elected on the ground of a Ministerial order and was charged to lay down the foundations of a new Constitution. A Suffrage Law and the reform of the Upper House were also on the agenda. The validity of the mandates for the Assembly expires on February 16, and none of these very important tasks have been accomplished; the members have spent the time of the country in personal quarrelling, and even now the political parties blame each other for the situation. The Suffrage Bill was introduced to the National Assembly on January 27, and the obligatory primary discussion of it in the special committee of the National Assembly will probably last till February 16.

Nobody seems to know anything about what will happen in the case of Hungary remaining without a Legislative Corporation, and without a law to elect a new one; nobody knows whether the Cabinet will close this Bill by Ministerial order, or issue another for the elections, or else lengthen the term of the Assembly, each of these expedients being illegal.

The last Suffrage Law was discussed by our last regular Parliament before the Revolution, when Tisza's faithful guard mutilated the Bill so that its creator, the Minister of Justice, Mr. Vázsonyi, chose to retire. Woman Suffrage was also stamped out of the Bill.

Under Count Károlyi's regime, a Suffrage Bill passed in the Ministerial Council which gave the vote to all men who reached the age of 21 and to all women who were not illiterate and at least 24 years of age.

It was practically this Bill which was the sample for the Ministerial order according to which the last elections for this National Assembly were held.

This National Assembly elected on such a broad foundation of the right of Suffrage was presented with a Bill according to which the electors of the Assembly were to be deprived, by their own deputies, of their right to vote. No wonder the Opposition refuses to support this act of injustice and deception.

The Prime Minister is bargaining with the parties, and there are constant changes in the Bill. At first the vote has to be given to every man of at least 24 years of age who had been for at least 10 years a Hungarian citizen, and in residence for two years in one community, and who could prove he had passed four elementary classes; and to women over 30 years of age who were self-supporting, or who were the mothers of three legitimate children, or graduates, or wives of graduates, or wives of men in the civil service.

According to a speech of the Minister for the Interior, he has in the Suffrage Bill dropped all these conditions, and will accord the vote to women who have passed six elementary classes, or to those who have passed four classes and have at least three children born in wedlock who are or were living at the same time.

As we do not know what will come next, we must report to you further.

We published in the papers an open letter to the Prime Minister, protesting against these restrictions on women's rights; we are preparing for the 13th inst. a large protest meeting, with the Prelate, Dr. Giesswein, former Minister of Interior, Mr. Ugron, Dr. Charles Rassay, M.P., and Mrs. Irma Szirmai as orators, and Vilma Glücklich in the chair. Meanwhile we have also had many discussions with politicians of different parties and edited a Suffrage number of our paper.

MRS. EUGENIE MELLER-MISKOLEZY.

February 10, 1922.

We have now received the following report:—

On February 13 we had a splendid meeting to protest against the restriction of the Woman Suffrage Bill, discussed presently in the National Assembly.

Miss Glücklich, in the chair, emphasized the injustice of the intentions of a Parliament which was elected by universal suffrage of both sexes, and in spite of that wishes now to restrict the citizens' rights; the present leaders forget that to solve the difficult problems of the country's existence they cannot do without the co-operation of women. She pointed out that we do not speak only on behalf

of the Hungarian women, but in the name of the millions of women organized in the I.W.S.A.; the platform of the Alliance is to claim equal rights for men and women, and that being a principle of progress, implies opposition to any retrograde measure.

The next speaker was Father Giesswein, the well-known champion for woman suffrage and peace. He said that real peace would never be complete if a considerable part of the women of the world were to be shut out of political rights. He asked if the present M.P.'s were so dissatisfied with the women who elected them that they sentenced their own electors for exclusion?

Mr. Koloman Méhely, a scientific expert of social politics, newly elected to the Parliament, stated that he does not agree with the Suffrage Bill of the Government, because we must hold up an example of democracy not to loosen the bonds of sympathy with our former compatriots in our old territories. The country needs the help of women on the field of social politics in order to rebuild what the war has destroyed.

Mrs. Szirmai, on behalf of the women, showed how unjust and illogical the restrictions of the Suffrage Bill are. She presented the resolution, which runs as follows:—

"The men and women assembled at the Suffrage meeting of the Feminist Society of February 13, 1922, convinced that for the interest of Hungary's better future the co-operation of every citizen is indispensable to that end, that the destructive effect of the world-war and its fatal consequences may be repaired within reasonable time;

"Whereas the rebuilding work absolutely claims the equal right of every adult working citizen;

"Whereas considering that it would gravely harm the authority of Hungary in foreign affairs if it would give to the world the example of retrogression in respect of citizens' rights;

"They urgently claim from the Government, and from this National Assembly that was elected by the general secret vote of men and women, that the new suffrage law may not contain any restriction of rights, and treat equally men and women citizens."

This was the third women's protest meeting within a fortnight, and although public attitude in the last years has been very unfavourable to our line of activity, we had most dignified, most enthusiastic, and most crowded meetings, with a very intelligent public.

We rejoice also in the result of our propaganda work, continued incessantly for twenty years, which has educated even our most conservative women to protest against this proposed restriction, even those women who, not very long ago, protested against the granting of woman suffrage. We have also cause to rejoice in the activities of Margaret Schlachta, the one woman M.P. in our National Assembly. Her party, as well as the other parties of the Opposition, claim equality of the sexes concerning suffrage.

MELANIE VAMBERY.

Budapest, February 16, 1922.

MADAME CURIE ELECTED TO THE FRENCH ACADEMY OF MEDICINE.

MADAME CURIE has been elected to the French Academy of Medicine. She is the first woman for 150 years to be elected to any French Academy.

February, 1922.

INDIA.

The Legislative Assembly Passes a Suffrage Resolution.

THE *Times* of February 6 reports that on February 1 the Assembly in Session at Delhi "by a majority of more than two to one passed a resolution favouring the granting of the vote to women at the elections for the Assembly in those provinces which give the same right to women in the elections for the Provincial Council. The immediate effect would only apply to Madras and Bombay."

We congratulate Indian women on this signal success, which means that as each Province enfranchises its women they will become electors also of the Assembly.

Mr. Joshi, who moved the resolution, merits the gratitude of every suffragist. The Government, on this occasion, gave complete freedom to the official members of the Council, who voted according to their individual belief. We are sorry that the chief opponent was a British member—Sir Godfrey Fell.

February 22, 1922.

Mysore Representative Assembly and Woman Suffrage.

Our Mysore sisters have our sympathy in the reverse their cause has had at the hands of the members of the Mysore Representative Assembly. A resolution was brought forward in the Assembly for the removal of the sex disqualification, but the members rejected it by a majority of 19. There does not seem to have been an active discussion on the subject, and it is specially regrettable that the Dewan did not make a speech and give the members a lead in the right direction, as he is himself in favour of giving the women of Mysore their citizen rights. The question is coming up again in the Mysore Legislative Council, and we hope it will pass through it successfully. Steps are being taken to secure the support of each councillor, and as they are more in touch with general public opinion than the members of the Assembly, the wishes of the women are more likely to be acceded to. One wonders that Mysore should hesitate to give rights that have been so freely given to Travancore, Cochin and Madras women.

The Children's Bill in Calcutta: Rights for Girls.

A Children's Bill is being passed through the Bengal Legislative Council which is designed to confer various benefits upon destitute and helpless children. In the Madras Children's Bill the word "children" included girls. In the Bengal Bill girls are excluded, a matter that is deplorable to the last degree, and we heartily agree with the Bishop of Calcutta in calling for the amendment of the Bill. He writes:—

"There can be no question that girls stand even in greater need of protection than boys, and anyone at all acquainted with the squalid life of Calcutta knows the terrible moral conditions under which no small number of girls are being brought up and which deprive them of any reasonable prospect of growing up to be respectable citizens. I greatly hope that the Council will, before passing the Bill, amend the definition of a child and young person, so as to include girls within its scope."

An Equal Sex Standard.

It is most important that women should stand unitedly for the promotion of an equal standard of morality as regards men and women. In connection with changes that are being made in the Municipal Act in the United Provinces notice has been given that a resolution will be moved to exclude "undesirable women" from the municipal franchise. Why should these women be disfranchised and the men who make the demand for their deplorable kind of life be allowed all the rights of citizenship? If immorality is to be a disqualification for any kind of vote, then it must be a disqualification of men and women impartially. The Women's Indian Association wrote to the U. P. Press protesting against the proposed resolution in the interests of fair play and to prevent the setting up in public life of an unequal standard of morality.

Burmese Women and the Vote.

Burma is now to be considered an Indian Province and to be given a Provincial Legislative Council similar to those of the Indian Provinces. Just as the Southborough Committee investigated the conditions necessary to

formulate rules for regulating the qualifications for the Legislative Franchise, so the Whyte Committee is examining witnesses in Burma. All the Burmese newspapers are strongly advocating the inclusion of women as voters and as candidates for election. One or two Burmese ladies intend to offer evidence and to appear before the Committee for oral examination. Woman Suffrage was demanded by two Burmese Deputations which went to England, and as one paper says, "We all demand that the Burmese women should be placed on a footing of equality with men both in the qualifications of electors and in the qualifications of candidates."

There are very good prospects that women will not be debarred from the right of voting, as one of the property qualifications recommended applies almost entirely to women. No women in the East are more ready for political responsibility than the well-educated and capable Burmese women, and their demand for the vote has been upheld by all the political associations of their country.

STRI DHARMA.

January, 1922.

IRELAND.

Women's Societies Meet and Form Joint Board for Affiliation to I.W.S.A.

AS it has now become possible for women's societies in Ireland to seek affiliation with the I.W.S.A., on February 16 a meeting was held in Dublin, on the invitation of the Irish Women Citizens' and Local Government Association, for the formation of an Irish Board to take the necessary steps. Representatives of non-party women's organizations, Women Citizens and others from the more important centres in Ireland were invited. Some societies are at present in abeyance, but the following were represented: The Belfast Women's Advisory Council, the Irishwomen's Association of Citizenship, the Irish Women Citizens' and Local Government Association, and the Irish Women's Franchise League, Londonderry. The question of representation is under consideration by the Londonderry Women Citizens' Association, and Sligo was only provisionally represented, as it is hoped to reorganize the Sligo Society. It was unanimously decided to form an Irish Board, which should seek affiliation as a National Auxiliary. Professor Mary Hayden, M.A., was unanimously appointed Hon. Secretary, and Miss Dora Mellone Hon. Press Secretary.

DORA MELLONE.

February 18, 1922.

AN Irish correspondent sends us the following information:—

Mrs. Haslam: Pioneer Suffragist.

The veteran President of the Irish Women Citizens' and Local Government Association has resigned her office after a record of fifty-five years' work for the Woman's cause. Mrs. Haslam's life work will indeed be an inspiration for those who come after. Before she came forward as one of the Suffrage pioneers, she had worked with other helpers from the Society of Friends in the organization of soup kitchens during the famine years of 1846 and 1847, and had also taken part in the effort to secure ocean penny postage. She obtained signatures for the first Woman Suffrage petition of 1867, and in 1871 organized the first Irish Suffrage Society, now known as the Irish Women Citizens' and Local Government Association. In all this work Mr. Haslam shared, and husband and wife were the guiding and inspiring force in the society. Mrs. Haslam's last public appearance in London was at the public meeting held in 1919 on behalf of Equal Franchise. This was characteristic of a life of unceasing effort inspired by a courage and hope which never wavered.

Women of Ireland Demand Equal Franchise.

The society is carrying on its work in the spirit of its founder, for at the annual meeting on February 16 the effort to secure the recognition in the Constitution of the Irish Free State of Equal Franchise was placed first among the immediate objects of the Association. Mr. Collins, head of the Provisional Government, has

been communicated with on this subject. It appears that the coming elections in Ireland will be held on the present register. The body elected will have to draft the Constitution of the Free State. Once this is done, there will be another election to return the first Parliament of the Free State. The women's societies must secure the inclusion of an Equal Franchise clause in the Constitution, and also provision that it shall come into effect before the elections which will follow the final enactment of that measure.

An effort is being made to secure that the elections shall be taken on an Adult Suffrage basis, and on February 17 Mr. De Valera received a deputation from the Irish Women's Franchise League, the Women's International League, the Women Workers' Union, and the Workers' Labour Council. Mr. De Valera expressed himself sympathetically.

NOUVELLES FÉMINISTES.

Afrique du Sud.—Le Congrès du "Parti de l'Afrique du Sud" au Natal a passé une résolution en faveur du suffrage féminin. C'est sans doute grâce à l'influence de la Ligue de l'Affranchissement féminin, qui avait envoyé une députation au Congrès, que cette résolution a passé.

Danemark.—En réponse à un questionnaire, plusieurs notaires d'importance déclarent qu'un avocat a le droit d'employer tous les moyens en son pouvoir pour obtenir pour son client le minimum de la punition.

Ils sont unanimes à rejeter l'exposé de Monsieur Sachs, qui déclare la femme incapable d'être membre d'un jury quand le prisonnier est accusé de viol criminel, et ils considèrent au contraire que dans de pareils cas la femme doit faire partie du jury.

Finlande.—Il s'est tenu dernièrement en Finlande un "Meeting" pour discuter plusieurs questions.

Le résultat de ce Meeting fut que l'on décida de demander :

Que le Corps de police féminin soit augmenté . . .
Que certains changements soient faits dans l'éducation des communes rurales . . .

Que, quoique condamnant l'immoralité, le Code moral soit le même pour les femmes que pour les hommes . . .

Que le mariage ne soit pas permis pour les gens souffrant de maladies vénériennes . . .

Grande-Bretagne.—La réunion annuelle du "National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship" aura lieu au mois de mars.

Cette société se propose de rédiger plusieurs lois parlementaires, entre autres la loi concernant la tutelle de l'enfant à titre égal pour la mère et pour le père, et une loi donnant le même droit électoral aux femmes qu'aux hommes.

Le gouvernement a promis d'introduire un amendement à la loi criminelle, pour la protection des jeunes filles, dont nous ne connaissons pas encore le texte.

Hongrie.—Les suffragistes regretteront d'apprendre que le gouvernement hongrois fait des efforts pour limiter le droit électoral de la femme. Il y a déjà des différences. L'homme, par exemple, peut voter à l'âge de 21 ans, tandis que la femme ne peut voter qu'à l'âge de 24 ans.

La nouvelle mesure proposée par le gouvernement serait que seulement la femme possédant une certaine éducation ou la femme mère de trois enfants légitimes au moins pourrait voter.

Nous espérons que cette mesure par trop réactionnaire ne passera pas.

Les Indes.—L'Assemblée législative des Indes siégeant à Delhi a, par une majorité de 2 pour 1, passé une résolution qui a comme résultat de donner le vote aux femmes pour les élections de l'Assemblée, seulement dans les provinces qui déjà donnent le droit aux femmes de voter pour le Conseil Provincial. Le résultat immédiat de cette décision ne s'appliquerait pour le moment qu'à Madras et à Bombay.

L'Assemblée Représentative du Mysore a rejeté une résolution qui aurait donné le vote aux femmes.

Au Bengale, une loi qui doit bénéficier les enfants destitués propose d'inclure les filles. Les filles qui ont certainement besoin de plus de protection que les garçons! Bien des voix protestent contre cette déplorable décision.

Il y a tout lieu d'espérer que les femmes de la Birmanie auront bientôt le vote au même titre que les hommes.

Irlande.—Plusieurs des sociétés féministes de l'Irlande désirent s'affilier à la Société Internationale I.W.S.A.

Hollande.—Les suffragistes travaillent activement en vue des prochaines élections générales. Les candidats demandent aux femmes électeurs quelles sont les réformes qui, à leur point de vue, sont les plus importantes, et on conseille fort aux femmes de ne soutenir que les candidats qui promettent les réformes demandées par elles.

Norvège.—Les féministes norvégiennes demandent que les femmes soient, ainsi que les hommes, placées sur la commission qui doit s'occuper de réformer le code pénal.

Etats-Unis d'Amérique.—Nous demandons l'attention toute spéciale de nos lectrices sur le Congrès américain, "Pan American Congress," qui doit se tenir à Baltimore et auquel les sociétés féministes de toute l'Amérique du Nord et du Sud prendront part. Le Congrès s'ouvrira le 20 avril.

L'édition de JUS SUFFRAGII qui doit paraître au mois d'avril sera publiée avant la date habituelle et contiendra des portraits de quelques-unes des femmes distinguées qui feront partie du Congrès.

Il est à espérer que ce Congrès, auquel prendront part des femmes de toute l'Amérique, donnera un grand essor au mouvement suffragiste dans tout le continent américain.

Mrs. Trounson, secrétaire du bureau central du I.W.S.A., sera présente au Congrès et, en route pour Baltimore, elle fera visite aux Sociétés Suffragistes de Terre-Neuve, de Québec et de Brunswick.

Nous espérons que, par cette tournée, de nouveaux adhérents se joindront au I.W.S.A.

LETTRÉ D'ITALIE.

Un proverbe italien dit : "Pas de nouvelles, bonnes nouvelles." Malheureusement ce dicton ne peut pas s'appliquer au suffragisme italien et, si les lectrices de JUS SUFFRAGII n'ont plus trouvé de correspondance de l'Italie dans le journal c'est que justement votre correspondante n'avait rien de nouveau à dire.

Depuis les dernières élections politiques qui donnèrent la majorité dans la Chambre des Députés aux partis d'extrême-droite (populaires et fascisti) et d'extrême-gauche (socialistes) il paraît que le suffrage des femmes n'est plus à la mode dans les milieux politiques et dans la presse. La faute en est un peu à tout le monde, aux femmes aussi bien qu'aux hommes. Les femmes ont déployé une grande activité pendant les élections ; elles ont travaillé avec acharnement à la réussite des candidats des différentes listes (il y a la proportionnelle en Italie) sans se soucier le moins du monde de leurs intérêts ; elles n'ont rien demandé aux candidats en échange de leur propagande — pas même la promesse la plus platonique. Seul un petit nombre de suffragistes organisa des "meetings," fit des affiches, etc., qui avait assez de succès, mais qui ne peuvent pas ôter l'impression que les femmes, même n'ayant pas le vote, donnaient tout ce que l'on pouvait en attendre aux partis. Cette impression eut de fâcheuses conséquences ; les hommes se dirent que ce n'était pas la peine de donner le vote aux femmes puisqu'elles travaillent sans vote, et, tout en profitant du travail des femmes de son parti, chacun crut pouvoir juger et mesurer la force politique féminine des autres partis.

On fit des calculs, on supputa la valeur des organisations, le nombre des organisées dans les différents pays, etc., tout le monde eut peur des autres. Seul les très petits partis, qui n'ayant pas grande importance à la Chambre, sont tout à fait sûrs de ne pas pouvoir faire accepter un proposition de loi, osent encore dans leurs congrès parler du suffrage des femmes.

Il y a peu de jours le parti socialiste se réunit à Rome pour discuter le programme de la nouvelle année. Une femme parla de l'organisation des femmes, et sa relation, publiée dans le journal du parti (*L'Avanti*) est très intéressante. Madame Viola dit que la difficulté que l'on a maintenant pour conserver les femmes dans le parti c'est qu'elles ne savent pas qu'y faire, lorsqu'elles ont passé la période préliminaire de l'éducation. Elles ne sont pas électrices et tout le travail (hormi celui de propagande) est monopolisé par les électeurs ; puisque les femmes ont un esprit pratique, elles vont quitter le parti s'il n'y aura pas un but pratique à leur activité. "Je crois," dit Madame Viola, "que le suffrage des femmes serait aujourd'hui un désastre," et qu'il faut essayer quelque autre chose pour préparer la voie au suffrage. Une lutte de classe pour la recherche de la paternité, voilà ce qu'il faut pour les femmes socialistes italiennes ! Et Madame Viola propose que le parti socialiste, tout en continuant l'organisation des femmes et l'éducation des organisées, veuille accepter son idée de donner comme but immédiat des femmes socialistes, non pas le suffrage, mais la recherche de la paternité !

Il n'est pas sûr que la direction du parti acceptera le point de vue de Madame Viola, mais il est évident que la peur des votes des femmes catholiques et bourgeoises a beaucoup d'influence sur l'enthousiasme des socialistes pour les droits des femmes, et cette peur a été augmentée par le zèle des femmes pendant les élections.

Si notre situation au point de vue suffragiste n'est pas bonne, nous avons moins de soucis au point de vue féministe. La loi de 1919 (sur la situation civile et juridique des femmes) commence à donner quelques résultats ; nous avons les premières femmes avocats et avoués ; les premières femmes ingénieurs. Les magistrats ont eu plusieurs fois l'occasion d'apprendre aux femmes mariées qu'elles n'ont plus besoin de l'autorisation du mari pour disposer de leurs biens, etc.

Pour la première fois, le Ministre de l'Instruction Publique a admis les femmes aux concours pour chaires de professeurs dans les lycées de garçons. Les résultats de ces concours seront très intéressants.

Nous avons eu quelques congrès féminins ; les femmes médecins se sont réunies dans la célèbre ville d'eaux de Salsomaggiore, sous la présidence de Madame Carcopino. Parmi les questions professionnelles qui ont été discutées dans ce petit congrès, il y a la question des maladies diffusibles, qui a été l'objet principal des discussions du Congrès Abolitioniste de Rome.

Beaucoup de femmes ont participé au Congrès de la Mutualité, à Trieste ; à celui de la coopération, à Milan ; et à celui pour la réforme des lois sur les mineurs délinquants (delinquenza minorile). Le Congrès a donné à un sénateur, M. Lusignoli, préfet de Milan, l'idée d'une nouvelle forme d'électorat pour donner aux femmes la surveillance sur les mineurs délinquants. Je vous en parlerai dans ma prochaine correspondance.

M. ANCONA.

Milan, le 27 janvier 1922.

SUISSE.

Une loi réactionnaire.

Un suffragiste bâlois nous disait l'autre jour que, certainement, lorsqu'on écrirait l'histoire de la Suisse au XX^e siècle, la période où nous nous trouvons actuellement serait caractérisée comme l'une des plus réactionnaires, et qu'un exemple de cette réaction serait la loi bâloise du 12 janvier 1922 imposant le célibat aux maîtresses d'école ! Elle n'avait pas tort.

Bien que j'aie déjà eu à plusieurs reprises l'occasion de traiter ce sujet dans les colonnes de JUS SUFFRAGII,

il faut que j'y revienne encore aujourd'hui, vu son actualité et l'émotion qu'il a soulevée dans nos milieux féministes suisses.

Le Grand Conseil (Parlement) du canton de Bâle vient en effet de voter, sur la proposition du Conseil d'État (gouvernement), une loi interdisant à une maîtresse d'école mariée de garder son poste. Sont seules exceptées, et sous réserve d'examen particulier pour chaque cas, a) les veuves et les divorcées, b) celles dont les services sont particulièrement précieux au corps enseignant. Mais les veuves et les divorcées ne pourront toucher qu'un traitement réduit. Enfin, la loi a un effet rétroactif, en ce sens que l'on n'arrête pas seulement au seuil de la carrière d'institutrice les femmes mariées et les jeunes filles fiancées, mais que celles qui sont entrées dans l'enseignement sous l'ancien régime, qui se sont préparées par des études souvent assez longues à cette profession, qui la pratiquent depuis bien des années parfois, devront l'abandonner dans le délai d'une année si elles ont contracté mariage.

Les motifs invoqués sont frappants ; ce sont : 1) "l'impossibilité (à ce qu'assurent ces messieurs!) d'unir les devoirs de mère et d'épouse à ceux qu'exigent la profession de maîtresse d'école" ; 2) le nombre grandissant de jeunes filles qui attendent qu'un départ leur ouvre un poste, la carrière étant très encombrée. Mais à côté de ces motifs avoués, il en est d'autres dont on ne parle pas si haut, et dont le principal est la jalousie économique de ceux qui trouvent qu'un ménage où le mari et la femme gagnent chacun de leur côté est par trop privilégié en comparaison d'autres ! On comprend que l'on n'ose pas porter en débat public pareil argument.

Mes lecteurs auront déjà relevé, sans qu'il soit besoin de longs commentaires, toute l'injustice de cette loi. Injuste par ses dispositions de détails, injuste par son principe, injuste surtout parce qu'elle constitue une mesure d'exception dirigée contre des femmes—des femmes qui n'ont aucun moyen légal de se défendre et de protester. La présidente sortant de charge de notre Société bâloise, Mlle Gerhard, relevait très justement à ce propos que c'était là un stimulant puissant donné à l'activité suffragiste : car c'est une centaine d'hommes, que les femmes n'ont pas choisis pour les représenter, à l'élection desquels elles n'ont pu prendre aucune part, qui viennent trancher et décider de ce qui convient ou ne convient pas aux femmes, de la façon dont elles doivent remplir leurs devoirs et de la contrainte qu'on leur impose pour qu'elles remplissent ce devoir au gré des hommes—sans que la voix des femmes ait été jamais entendue ! Et c'est ce qui est effectivement révoltant dans cette loi. On peut admettre qu'il soit difficile à une femme mariée d'accomplir en même temps ses devoirs familiaux et ses devoirs professionnels, on peut admettre que, soit pour le bien de la famille, soit pour le bien de l'école, il est préférable qu'il n'y ait pas partage, quoique tout ceci, à mon avis, soit question purement individuelle, et que certaines femmes, suivant leurs capacités, leur santé, leur don d'organisation arrivent à accomplir beaucoup mieux leur double tâche, qu'une femme célibataire, mais de forces moindres et de travail moins méthodique, à exercer sa seule carrière. Mais on n'a pas le droit d'en faire une règle, dont l'application peut immédiatement prouver l'illogisme (je pense, en écrivant ceci, au cas d'une maîtresse d'école non mariée, mais qui élève, comme cela se présente souvent, une nièce ou un neveu, quelquefois tous les deux, et que la loi autorisera à garder sa place, alors qu'une collègue mariée, mais à un mari constamment absent de par sa profession, et sans enfants, devra quitter l'enseignement ! ; on n'a pas le droit de fermer, sous un prétexte économique, une carrière à des femmes (pourquoi ne pas interdire alors à toutes les femmes de ménage, à toutes les blanchisseuses, à toutes les ouvrières de continuer leur travail si elles sont mariées ? et aussi pourquoi également ne pas interdire de continuer sa profession à tout homme épousant une femme riche, alors que tant d'autres moins fortunés voudraient obtenir son poste de fonctionnaire, ou recueillir sa clientèle de médecin ou d'avocat ? ; et on n'a pas le

droit enfin de le faire sans consulter les intéressées au premier chef à ces mesures.

Que celles qui ne sont pas suffragistes y réfléchissent ! Quant à la disposition qui admet la réintégration des femmes veuves et divorcées, mais avec un traitement moindre, elle est si extraordinaire que nous nous demandons de quelle conception étrange de la valeur du mariage elle a bien pu sortir ?

Et maintenant, qu'allez-vous faire ? nous a-t-on demandé de plusieurs côtés.

L'affaire étant purement cantonale, c'est aux Associations bâloises seules qu'il appartient d'agir, notre effort à nous devant se borner à signaler et à prévenir toute tentative d'ordre analogue dans d'autres cantons. Et les Associations bâloises ne peuvent faire grand chose. Le seul moyen de faire casser la loi serait de la porter devant les électeurs ; mais le remède ne risquerait-il pas d'être pire que le mal ? et une foule d'hommes qui craignent la concurrence féminine dans d'autres professions ne se hâteraient-ils pas, "au nom de l'intérêt de la famille et du foyer," de soutenir de leur vote la décision du Grand Conseil ? Celui-ci ayant, il est vrai, commis une petite irrégularité en votant cette loi néfaste en un seul débat contrairement au règlement, l'Association des Institutrices bâloises a adressé une demande pour que la question fût reprise en second débat, ce qui donnerait alors une chance pour de nouvelles interventions. Mais il faudrait pour cela que le Grand Conseil reconnût qu'il n'a pas agi très correctement, et c'est ce que personne — ni homme ni femme — n'aime beaucoup à faire !

Notre Cours de Vacances suffragiste de 1922.

Pour la quatrième fois depuis 1910, une Commission de notre Association est à l'œuvre pour organiser un de ces Cours de vacances, qui remportent toujours un si plein succès. Celui de 1922 aura lieu dans une des régions les plus agréables et les plus verdoyantes de la Suisse, dans le canton d'Appenzell dont les frais pâturages dominent les rives paisibles du lac de Constance. La date sera probablement la dernière semaine de juillet, et les cours et les conférences en français et en allemand porteront sur des questions d'actualité féministe et suffragiste. Toutes celles parmi les suffragistes d'autres pays que ce Cours pourrait tenter, ou à qui un voyage en Suisse à ce moment permettrait de combiner une halte au milieu de nous dans ce pittoresque pays d'Appenzell seront les très bienvenues. On peut demander tous les renseignements à Mlle L. Dutoit, présidente de la Commission, Tourelles-Mousquines, Lausanne (Suisse).

EMILIE GOULD,

Présidente de l'Association suisse pour le Suffrage féminin.

ITALY.

"NO news, good news," Dr. Ancona tells us in her immensely interesting article, is not true of Woman Suffrage in Italy. Since the last elections, when the extreme Right (the Popular Party and the Fascisti), and the extreme Left (Socialists) gained the majority in the Italian Chamber, there has been an all-round "slump" in Woman Suffrage. Women themselves are not entirely blameless for that unhappy state of affairs. During the elections they worked vehemently for the candidates of the various parties—without asking anything in return for their services, without extracting one single pledge. The natural result is that the men—being but human, and politicians—say: "But why give women the vote when we can get all we want out of them without giving it?"

The same thing has happened—and happens still—in practically every country, and will continue to happen until women, voteless or enfranchised, demand explicit pledges from Parliamentary candidates, and are prepared to oppose candidates of their own party who will not pledge themselves to Suffrage or equality reforms.

However grey the outlook for Suffrage is in Italy, Dr. Ancona tells us that there are spots of rose here and there, notably in the increasing good effects of the

Law of 1910, which removed the civil and legal disabilities of Italian women. The first women lawyers and barristers are now practising. There are now women engineers. Magistrates on several occasions had to inform married women that they are no longer in need of their husband's permission to dispose of their property as they think fit, etc., etc. For the first time the Minister of Education has admitted women as applicants for the posts of teachers and professors in boys' schools.

Meantime the Suffrage Societies have kept up their work—and even during the difficult time of the elections held meetings and did general propaganda work. There have also been held several conferences of women, notably that of women doctors, which discussed the treatment of venereal disease. Many women also attended a conference on the reform of laws dealing with the juvenile delinquent. As a result of this conference, a Senator, M. Lusigavli, Prefect of Milan, has suggested a project of some kind of electoral rights for women in connection with their surveillance of juvenile delinquents. The scheme is vague and unformulated, but Dr. Ancona promises further news of it in a future letter.

February 22, 1922.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

Courageous Work for Suffrage against Heavy Odds. Newfoundland League Wishes to Affiliate with I.W.S.A.

OUR Suffrage Movement came into being about two years ago. It began with perhaps less than half a dozen enthusiasts, who immediately began to canvass the town for signatures to a petition for the same political rights for our women as those enjoyed by our men. There is no doubt whatever that at least one reason for this movement on the part of our women was the political depravity in all our public affairs—a condition which seems desperately hopeless.

We feel quite certain, however, if only our women had the franchise and were properly organized to work for definite aims, that it would not be long before a change for the better would come about.

As to our methods of propaganda: We contributed articles to our daily papers; we had slides put on the movie-picture screens; we talked to each and sundry; we distributed leaflets (kindly donated by the American Headquarters of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance) all over the Island.

Of course, this, after all, only touched the few, but we gained ground; women, and even men, began to be interested. To touch the outlying districts of the Island we had no means other than through the leaflets and petitions to be signed, as we had no funds.

To remedy this state of things, we organized a League (of about 100 women), and the small sum obtained in this way helped to pay postage and advertisement expenses. As there is great financial distress, labour unrest, etc., we are unable to do much towards raising a fund. It will tax all the energies of our people to cope with the distress existing here this winter, and to attempt to look for money for any other cause than that of charity would at once make our movement unpopular. We are merely marking time. Inspiration seems crushed. Sheer determination and a high hope carried us on until now.

What form our future work in connection with the struggle for the franchise will take we do not know. Our Bill (which was referred to Select Committee when the House adjourned last year) we are convinced will not be brought forward again.

We hope to have Miss Christitch come to us in March on her return from New York to Europe, which it is hoped will give us fresh impetus. In order to pay expenses we shall organize a few small social functions, and have one or two paid lectures. Some of our most esteemed men are in sympathy with our cause, and two or three of our clergymen have advocated it from their pulpits.

SWEDEN.

An Important Appointment for Mrs. Wicksell.

WE are not a little proud of the appointment of Anna Bugge-Wicksell as expert in the preparatory inquiry being made by the Department of Justice for the changing of our laws, which has become necessary with respect to the covenant of the League of Nations. Readers will remember that Mrs. Wicksell was one of Sweden's official representatives at the meeting of the League of Nations at Geneva.

February 1, 1922.

SWITZERLAND.

Married Women Teachers Must Go, say Basle Council.

AT the beginning of 1922 Swiss women have, alas, to announce a partial set-back. Basle Grand Council has decided that married women teachers must be dismissed. The only exceptions are widows or wives living apart from their husbands, or any specially valuable teachers. This means that all the married women teachers in Basle Canton will be thrown out of work at the end of the school year. The principal reason given for this iniquitous decision was "the impossibility of uniting the duties of a wife and mother with complete devotion to the teaching profession."

How really nauseating are the reasons men give for being unjust to women. It would be infinitely preferable if they would frankly state that they dislike and fear us as rivals—that they are, as Miss Gourd says in her article, jealous of the improved economic position of those households where the wife as well as the husband happens to be a wage-earner. One can respect an honest enemy—but not a hypocrite.

INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements for the Six Months ended December 31, 1921.

RECEIPTS.		DISBURSEMENTS.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Transfer from General Fund per contra	245 0 6	Printing	283 11 5
Subscriptions	126 11 1	Salaries	123 0 0
Y.W.C.A. Supplement	98 0 0	Rent	12 10 0
Cash Sales	2 8 0	Miscellaneous Expenses	52 18 2
Total	471 19 7	Total	471 19 7

RECEIPTS.		DISBURSEMENTS.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Balance—January 1, 1921:		Transfer to "Jus" per contra	245 0 6
Barclay's Bank, Limited		Salaries	390 6 8
Deposit Account	£200 0 0	Extra Office Help	47 11 2
Current Account	113 14 3	Light, Heat and Cleaning	15 15 11
Cash in hand	2 11 8	Rent	25 0 0
	316 5 11	Printing and Stationery	35 9 4½
General Donations	429 11 5	Office Equipment	3 19 9
Special Appeal Donations	9 19 6	Telephone, Telegraph and Messengers	20 13 0½
Members' Fees	£234 8 3	Postages	25 17 6
Less transferred to "Jus"		Repairs	0 12 0
Subscriptions and Report Receipts	82 18 4	Insurance	1 18 11
	151 9 11	Miscellaneous	26 13 2½
Report Receipts	21 16 0	British Geneva Board Expenses	17 10 6
Affiliation Fees	3 0 0	Balance—December 31, 1921:	
Literature Receipts	1 1 6	Barclay's Bank, Limited, Current Account	£82 4 6
Miscellaneous Receipts	8 12 0	Cash in hand	6 1 8½
Interest on Deposit Account	2 18 6		88 6 2½
Total	£944 14 9	Total	£944 14 9

CERTIFICATE.
We have audited the Cash Receipts and Disbursements of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance for the Six Months ended December 31, 1921, and hereby certify that the above is a correct statement thereof.
HASKINS & SELLS,
LONDON, January 10, 1922. Certified Public Accountants.

Swiss Summer School.

The Swiss Woman Suffrage Association is organizing a summer school in the Canton of Appenzel. It will probably be held in the last week of July. Conferences on suffrage and feminist questions will be in French and German. Suffragists from other countries will be warmly welcomed, and all enquiries will be answered by Miss Dutoit, Tourelle-Mousquines, Lausanne, Switzerland.
February 22, 1922.

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.
A Bank Run by Women.**

OHIO has opened its first women's bank, intended specially for women, and manned—as it were—by women. It is the Women's Savings Bank and Loan Company, its capital is a million, and its home is Cleveland. Mrs. Flora Haroff Andrews is the president, and Miss Lillian Westropp, its legal adviser, is the originator of the idea.

An Important Appointment.

MISS NELLIE J. ROCHE is the new Comptroller of Nashville, Tennessee—the first woman in the city's history to hold this important fiscal position. Formerly a teacher, Miss Roche has for some time been successfully engaged in the insurance business. She was an active Suffragist, working with the League of Women Voters Ratification Committee, and is at present an official of the Tennessee League.
Woman Citizen.
January 28, 1922.

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

President: CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT, 404, Riverside Drive, New York, U.S.A.
1st Vice-President: MARGUERITE DE WITT SCHLUMBERGER, 14, Rue Pierre 1st de Serbie, Paris, France.
2nd Vice-President: CHRYSAL MACMILLAN, 17, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, Scotland.
3rd Vice-President: ANNA LINDEMANN, Degerloch, Stuttgart, Germany.
4th Vice-President: ANNA WICKSELL, Stocksund, Sweden.
Rec. Secretary: MARGERY CORBETT ASHBY, 33, Upper Richmond Road, London, S.W. 15, England.
AFFILIATED COUNTRIES:—Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, and British Dominions Overseas—viz., Australia, Canada, South Africa.—Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, Russia, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United States of America, Uruguay.

PROVISIONAL AFFILIATIONS: India, Palestine.

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

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

Headquarters and EDITORIAL OFFICES of the I.W.S. News: 11, ADAM STREET, ADELPHI, LONDON, W.C.
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LECTURES.

Wed., Mar. 8th, Subject announced later. Captain ERNEST EVANS, M.P.
8.15 p.m. Chairman: Miss VERA S. LAUGHTON, M.B.E.
Wed., Mar. 15th, "On Growing Up." Mr. R. F. CHOLMELEY. Chairman:
8.15 p.m. Miss MARGARET A. TUKE, M.A.
Wed., Mar. 22nd, "The Basis of Sex-Equality" (Co-Education). Mr. EDWARD
8.15 p.m. CECHIL. Chairman: Mrs. T. DEXTER.
Wed., Mar. 29th, Subject announced later. Mrs. WINTRINGHAM, M.P.
8.15 p.m. Chairman:
Wed., April 5th, "Is England on the Decline?" Mr. JOHN MURRAY, M.P.
8.15 p.m. Chairman: Mr. NORMAN MORRISON.

LUNCHEONS, TEAS, AND DINNERS.
For full particulars and Syllabus of further Lectures apply Secretary.

THE CATHOLIC CITIZEN

(Organ of the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society).
PUBLISHED ON THE 15th OF EACH MONTH.
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**A FURTHER LIST OF FEMINIST
PAPERS.**

BELGIUM.—"Le Féminisme Chrétien de Belgique," 57, Avenue Jean Linden, Brussels. "La Femme Belge," 75, Boulevard Clovis, Brussels.
GERMANY.—"Die Christliche Frau," Bolfortstrasse 20, Freiburg i. Br.
ITALY.—"Bolletino d'Organizzazione dell'Unione Femile Catholica Italiana," Via della Scrofa 70, Rome.
JUGO-SLAVIA.—"Zeuske Misao," Kapitol St. 27, Zagreb, Croatia.
LUXEMBOURG.—"Luxemburger Fran," 6 Avenue Peseator, Luxembourg.
PORTUGAL.—"Alma Feminina," Praca dos Restauradores 13-20, Lisbon.
SPAIN.—"Boletín Mensual Acción Católica de la Mujer," Plaza del Conde De Barajas, Madrid. "La Mujer Católica," Calatrava 2 pral., Valencia.
SWITZERLAND.—"Le Travail Féminin," 18, Pélisserie, Geneva.

[We have received information to the effect that the following papers have ceased publication: "La Suffragiste," "Frauenbestrebungen," "Pax et Libertas."]

MRS. TROUNSONS' MOVEMENTS.

Mrs. TROUNSON leaves England on March 3. Her address up to and including March 12 is General Post Office, St. John, New Brunswick, Canada.

Up to and including April 7, care of Messrs. Thomas Cook & Sons, 526, St. Catherine Street, West Montreal, Canada. Thereafter, care of I.W.S.A., 171, Madison Avenue, New York.

She returns to England on May 1.

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

Published by the World's Young Women's Christian Association
34, Baker Street, London, W. 1.

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**YOUNGER GIRLS IN THE
AMERICAN Y.W.C.A.**

AS early as 1881, the Young Women's Christian Association in the United States was beginning definite work with younger girls. "Little Girls' Christian Association" was the comprehensive title which a company of children in Oakland, California, were pleased to take over 40 years ago. Their desire to become an auxiliary of the Oakland Young Women's Christian Association was granted, and though their Saturday morning's meetings did not continue for any length of time, nor their charitable exertions in collecting clothes and distributing them to the poor families persist until all the deserving and undeserving of the town had been freshly clad, yet the children were happy, did much good and were overjoyed at the thought of being lawfully connected with an international movement.

A "Girls' Branch" of the Poughkeepsie, New York, Association was formed March 30, 1886, of girls from 10 to 16 years of age, and within a year counted 110 members and a secretary of their own. They had raised money toward furnishing a reading-room and a game-room. They had also a spacious hall for entertainments and calisthenics, but were not content with this, and found time during the three afternoons of each week for cooking and music classes. They chose their own members as leaders of their Monday half-hour devotional meetings.

Within a few years young girls were in evidence in most of the city Associations, sometimes welcome as the "women of to-morrow," sometimes unwelcome, and in the 90's, therefore, the Association found it necessary to assemble all the junior activities in some form of branch organization on the segregation principle.

As the self-governing clubs made their way, young girls kept proving their capacity for self-control and co-operation. The secretaries themselves then began to see that they needed to know more about girls, and took the topic of "The Adolescent Girl" for their Minneapolis conference in 1909. By the time the fourth biennial convention of the National Young Women's Christian Associations was held in 1913, work for younger girls had grown to such an extent that it came up for consideration as one of the most important matters before the convention. The following excerpt from the business of the convention states the matter clearly:—

"Realizing that in proportion as the problems of the adolescent girl are solved, problems of later life are diminished, and acknowledging that the Association is answerable for the debt it owes to the adolescent girl, it is recommended:—

"(a) That the name 'Junior Department' be changed to 'Girls' Department.'

"(b) That the aim of this Department shall be to promote activities of all kinds among girls of all classes between 10 and 16 years of age, inclusive.

"(c) That the Girls' Department shall receive the same emphasis accorded to the work for young women in point of trained secretaries, suitable equipment, efficient committee and the co-operation of all departments in the Association."

Between the time of the fourth convention and the fifth, in 1915, the number of girls' work secretaries increased from 14 to 54, and the number of Associations doing girls' work from 145 to 190. In many new places special equipment was provided, and older places were remodelled to furnish adequate facilities. The age limit, previously from 10 to 16 years, was changed to avoid an artificial cleavage during the school period, and girls from 12 to 18 years were included in the ranks of the girls' department. This extension of the age limit naturally led to an increased demand for extension of work among high-school girls. Plans were worked out for the joint responsibility of the city and student



Room inspection at a Y.W.C.A. Conference for High-School girls. These camps practise as well as preach self-government.

committees in regard to this. Councils and week-end conferences for high-school girls had been developed during the two years, 1914-1915, just mentioned.

During the years 1908-1914 the National Board had made an intensive study of private secondary schools

and public high schools. The result of this was a plan known as the Standard Student Club plan, which provided a programme sufficiently mature for the upper-class girls, and, through its plan of organization, was found to be successful in many high schools where there was no Young Women's Christian Association in the community.

Between the years 1914-1918 there was slow but sure growth in local girls' work all over the country. Various club plans were used, among which were such national movements as Camp Fire Girls, Girl Scouts, Girl Pioneers, and Hearth Fire Girls. Many others were planned which originated among local secretaries. Chief among these were Girl Aides, Silver Link and the Rainbow Club. This great variety of club plans had its disadvantages and its advantages. The obvious disadvantages were lack of unity and lack of standardization. The great advantage was the opportunity to learn through experimentation and research that the principles which the Association has always stood for—i.e., Health, Knowledge, Service, Spirit—were fundamental to girls' work, and that power would result from a unified programme.

In 1918 the much-desired unity resulted from the devising and the promotion of a new plan for younger girls, called the Girl Reserves. The purpose of this movement is to unify all work for younger girls within the Young Women's Christian Association. The Girl Reserves are a cross-section of the whole fellowship, a



The hostess at a Girl Reserve party—not the grown-up Adviser, but one of the members. The guest wears the Girl Reserve badge, a "G.R." inside the blue triangle.

movement within the movement of the whole. All the resources of the organization, general and specialized, lie back of the Girl Reserves and are available for their development. It is in no sense a community movement, to be developed by individual groups in any community, as are the Girl Scouts, Camp Fire Girls or Woodcraft League, nor does it preclude the use of other plans for girls. "The object of the Girl Reserve movement, in direct accordance with the purpose of the Association, is to provide or supplement those ideals and convictions which help a girl to live as a Christian of her age should, and to aid her to put into practice in her community her standards of Christian living."



Coloured Girl Reserves arriving at a Y.W.C.A. building.

There are five programmes designed to reach groups of adolescent girls, grade school, junior high school, high school, business college, and younger girls in business and industry. Each of these programmes is to be adapted to local conditions. The unit of organization in work with grade-school girls is a corps made up of ten or twenty girls under the direction of a competent leader. Two or more corps make up a company. In high-school work the group is generally larger, and is called a club. In work with younger girls in either business or industry, the unit of organization may be the corps, the company or the club.

All the corps, companies and clubs in the community make up a division. Thus in a given community there might be four companies of grade-school girls, two of high-school girls, and two of younger girls in business and industry. The Girl Reserve division would be made up of all of these. In this way all the work for younger girls in an Association is linked together, and the girl, passing from grade school to high school or to work, is still part of the same movement.

The Girl Reserve plan may be used in any district, county, town or city where there is an organized Young Women's Christian Association, or where work is being carried on under the direction of a field or headquarters secretary, who supervises the work done by a group of volunteers. In a local centre each club or corps is led by a volunteer worker called an Adviser. The group of advisers forms the local girls' work committee, and the work as a whole makes up the girls' work department under a girls' work secretary. This committee reports to the board of directors through its chairman, who is usually a member of the board. Any community or organization adopting the Girl Reserve plan must recognize it as a distinctively Young Women's Christian Association plan.

THE BRITISH Y.W.C.A. AND TRADE UNIONISM.

THE Industrial Law Bureau of the British Y.W.C.A. has organized an interesting conference for the week-end, March 31-April 3, at the Y.W.C.A. Conference estate in Surrey. The subject is "The Ideals of Christianity and Trade Unionism," and the speakers and chairmen include such well-known women as Miss Tuckwell, J.P., Miss Constance Smith (H.M. Deputy Chief Inspector of Factories), Miss Madeleine Symons (National Union of General Workers), Miss Edith Howse (National Union of Post-Office Workers), Miss Street (Principal of the Working Women's College), Miss Dingman (Industrial Secretary of the World's Y.W.C.A.). In calling this conference the Industrial Law Bureau is carrying out one of the Champerty recommendations; and in placing the fee for the whole conference at 2s. 6d. it is making attendance possible to a wide constituency.

MIGRATION WORK IN CONSTANTINOPLE.

CONSTANTINOPLE has always been a gateway between the East and the West, and during the last few years a steady stream of Greeks, Armenians and Russians has reached Constantinople in the hope of migrating to the United States, Mexico or South America, where they may find freedom from the oppression under which they suffered in their native land. In the past, by far the greatest number of migrants chose the United States as their "Land of Opportunity," and the reputation of the "open door" is so widespread that the Y.W.C.A. Migration Secretary in Constantinople has the greatest difficulty in explaining the Three per Cent. Restriction Law of the United States to would-be emigrants. The medley of nationalities that makes up the population of the Near East, and the recent shifting of the political boundaries, have increased the difficulty of complying with the quota regulations, for Greeks, Armenians and Syrians born in the territory that is now recognized by the United States as Turkey are considered Turkish by birth, and must be included in the 653 Turks who are allowed to enter the United States during the year. When you add to these difficulties the extreme anxiety of the emigrants to sail, and the encouragement to take the risk that they receive from the steamship companies, it is not surprising that many reach the United States in excess of the quota, and it is reported that the "Gul Djemal" carried back 200 Armenians on one voyage.

Deportation is always a hardship, but to the Armenians whose homes have frequently been wrecked, and whose relatives and friends have been massacred, it is a tragedy. Unfortunately, the Migration Secretary finds it very difficult to get into touch with the deportees when they arrive back in Constantinople. The steamers rarely come into the dock, and the travellers arrive in small boats in groups of two or three, and once they are lost in the mysterious city there is little hope of tracing them again. Such lists of deportees as can be obtained from the steamship companies are incomplete and give no addresses.

But although migration to the United States is suspended for the time being, twenty-two steamship lines are still carrying passengers in and out of Constantinople. As migration is to many an absolute necessity, they will for the present look to South America or Mexico for shelter. In the opinion of one of the residents, the importance of Constantinople as a port for migrants will be considerably increased during the course of the next few years. Travelling overland has become so difficult that the steamship lines will probably establish agencies at many of the Black Sea ports, and there collect large groups of migrants from Roumania and elsewhere, sending them by means of small boats to Constantinople, where they will be transferred to transatlantic lines carrying passengers to America.

In the meantime the slight lull in emigration caused by the filling of the Armenian and Turkish quotas has given the new Migration Secretary time to make a slow and thorough study of this complex city—a city where Consulates, passport offices and steamship offices are manned and managed by Turks, Greeks, Armenians, British, French, Italians, Americans and Jews, each with his own method and conscious of special problems; a city where there is little attempt at civic reform and few agencies for the protection of women and girls; where fraud and false information are prevalent at every turn, and where conditions change so quickly that what is true to-day may be false to-morrow. Above all, the study must be made with a "strictly neutral point of view and the neutral policy that excludes interest in any one nationality or race, no matter how predominant, how aggressive, how appealing in the political plight they find themselves, for without a vision that rides clear above and beyond national and racial jealousy and suspicion, and condemns dishonest practices or inhuman methods alike with all

who resort to them, stressing never strongly enough the international spirit, we cannot hope to bring about the welfare of migrants in this part of the world."

Meeting a Boat in Constantinople.

"A cold, wet, raw day finds the Secretary and her assistant pacing the muddy edge of the quay, in the company of a collection of freshly landed steers and sheep that barely leave space for the crowd of boatmen and passengers.

"Meeting a boat begins with telephone calls asking for definite hour of arrival. These calls have been going on periodically for three days or more, as the advertised arrival rarely bears any relation to the actual arrival. Finally you are assured that the boat is due at 9 a.m. A search for information is begun as to the exact spot on the quay one may hope to see the arriving passengers landed. Information differs. Of the several trips from Custom-house to steamship office, from office to a nondescript iron gate, through which sheep and men alike are emitted, we take a choice at random of the locations—each of which is supposed to be the only right one—and wait. Boatmen become friendly, always too anxious to secure your patronage by answer to a single question. One learns to confine conversation to one boatman, to avoid friction when a selection is made for a trip to the incoming ship, almost invariably unable to dock alongside the quay. Being friendly or accepting interesting information from many means always a 'show-down' as to who has a claim on your 'honourable selves.' These native, picturesque beings have an uncanny intuition about the illusive incoming steamers that are held up without exception at a point called 'control.' There the original inspection by Government authorities is made before the passengers may be allowed to disembark. Midst the confusion of masts and funnels, and, as if informed by wireless, can the friendly boatman turn and tell you the moment the steamer has started her course towards the quay. The eyes of the ordinary layman cannot detect it, but on this point you are never misinformed, but the information never is forthcoming under an hour's waiting on the water's edge. With the report of her coming through 'control,' he quite as miraculously gives the authentic word as to whether she will dock at the quay, or dump her passengers and their luggage into the small boats that are ever ready to go out to meet her. Puzzled as to whether you will meet your travellers by waiting on the quay or in a mad race to be first on the ship after the ladder is lowered, you finally choose the latter course and drop three feet below into a boat. While you pull your cape more closely about you, the stalwart oarsman pulls straight for the ship steaming towards you. They seem to divine the exact spot anchor will be dropped, and you find yourself in a nest of small boats with shouting, gesticulating boatmen, each crowding and shifting for the best place alongside the ship. Some of the men leap from one to another (under wildly shouted abuse), and by pulley or rope climb monkey-fashion to the deck. Another long wait while the weary-looking migrants, surrounded with household goods often baled up in Oriental rugs, hang over the railing of the lower decks. Many of them improve the moments and quicken the long-drawn-out process of disembarking, by bargaining with the boatmen alongside, and then household goods and personal baggage, of most startling shape and size, comes swinging out over the rail, and is let down by a rope into the craft whose oarsman has made the best bargain. The permit is finally brought by launch from the authorities, sitting, no doubt, leisurely in offices ashore, and the ship's ladder is lowered. You scramble aboard quickly if your boatman has been sufficiently aggressive. An officer helps you to find a Y.W.C.A. girl he knows is aboard. She is found and led out of the hold, piled thick with sick-looking baggage and sicker-looking passengers, who have travelled for eight or nine winter days with no accommodation other than the deck or that unventilated, stinking hole. Most of them are not only emigrants, but refugees,

each woman with children. Every young girl is hunted up and asked if she is being met by family or relatives. The address of the Bureau is given, service rendered in whatever way necessary, and then you return to your little boat and row back to find a fresh deposit of cattle at the point which you left. You started at 9 a.m., and you are back at 12.30. One morning gone and the time of two people, to meet, it may be, but one traveller."

(Compiled from reports of the Migration Secretary at Constantinople.)

IL Y A UN PAYS AU MONDE QUI S'APPELLE LA BULGARIE.

L'UNION des diverses classes de la société est la plus possible en Bulgarie, le pays démocratique par excellence. Je ne sais s'il y a au monde un pays où la jeunesse travaille aussi sérieusement qu'en Bulgarie. L'université est pleine de jeunes filles et de jeunes gens tous avides de savoir. Il n'y a pas un ouvrage littéraire qui parait au monde sans être immédiatement traduit en bulgare. Les traductions paraissent dans des éditions très simples pour que chacun le puisse acheter. Dans plusieurs pays, et entre autres l'Italie, j'ai cherché, en vain, ce que j'avais lu en Bulgarie.

"Vous n'avez pas assez de vos œuvres, c'est pour cela que vous lisez les littératures étrangères," me dit-on souvent. "On a peut-être raison, mais cela n'enlève guère le mérite aux Bulgares de chercher et de savoir choisir."

Le Bulgare est intelligent, posé, sérieux, laborieux, patient, énergique, raisonnable, mais aussi un grand idéaliste; différent du Russe pourtant. Je n'ai jamais entendu, en Bulgarie, une conversation entre jeunes gens, qui n'eut un sujet sérieux, littéraire, scientifique ou politique. S'il y a une marque distinctive de la jeunesse de ce pays, ce n'est sûrement pas la coquetterie, mais une simplicité jusqu'à la nonchalance. Ils sont élèves de Tolstoï, de Gorki, de Schopenhauer, de Nitche, de Pschibichevsky, etc....

Jeunes encore et déjà hommes dans leur raisonnement, austères, traitant de tout en mirant toujours l'idéal. Ils ne sont pas encore gâtés, ils sont sains. Les Bulgares sont de vrais Slaves. Là, la femme est à la hauteur de l'homme, elle est traitée en vraie camarade. Les femmes en Bulgarie sont très au courant de la politique, elles en causent même avec beaucoup de compétence.

Dix années de guerres consécutives ont bien éprouvé le pays: les enfants y sont devenus des vieillards. Aujourd'hui, le peuple est plus uni que jamais. Pour sortir de la situation impossible qu'a créé le traité de la paix, le gouvernement ultradémocratique, formé uniquement des agriculteurs, a proposé une loi étrange, mais nécessaire, intitulée: "Loi sur l'obligation du travail." La Bulgarie après ces guerres était bien ravagée. Il fallait absolument la restaurer. Le gouvernement manquait de finances; comment faire? Il fit appel à ses fils: que chacun donne un peu de ses forces, ce qu'il peut; et la loi naquit. Tous les citoyens bulgares, les hommes à partir de 20 ans, les femmes de 18 ans, sont soumis à la loi du travail, c'est-à-dire au travail social obligatoire. Cette loi a pour but:

- 1) d'utiliser et organiser en faveur de la société la force laboratrice du pays;
- 2) de développer dans les citoyens, indépendamment de leur condition sociale, l'amour pour le travail dans l'intérêt de la société (l'amour pour le travail physique);
- 3) de soulever la condition morale et économique du peuple, cultivant en chaque citoyen la conscience du devoir envers lui-même et envers la société, l'adaptant au travail de toute espèce de productions nationales.

Construire des chaussées, des chemins de fer, des canaux, des aqueducs, des maisons, mettre sous plans des villages, des campagnes, des villes, améliorer des cours d'eau, corriger des lits de fleuves, assainir des paludes, installer des lignes télégraphiques, téléphoniques, préparer des matériaux pour construction, exploiter des forêts, traiter et améliorer des biens de

l'État, des provinces et des communes, etc.... cultiver des jardins, des vergers, des potagers, élever des vers à soie, des abeilles et tous genres d'animaux, utiliser la pêche, exploiter les mines, les fabriques, préparer des conserves, des produits alimentaires, fabriquer des étoffes et confectionner. Tous ces travaux seront exécutés sous le contrôle des ministères respectifs, compétents, sous leurs égide et responsabilité.

C'est obligatoire pour chacun; on n'admet aucune substitution, sous peine de punition grave. Ce travail dure 16 mois pour les hommes et 8 mois pour les femmes. C'est grâce à cette loi, enfin, que la Bulgarie, l'année passée, a fait une économie de 380,000,000 de leva. Pour que cette obligation devienne une habitude, déjà dans les écoles les enfants commencent à donner quelques heures pour la société. Huit jours avant le commencement des classes, les enfants travaillent dans la cour, dans le jardin de l'école, déracinant les mauvaises herbes, plantant, arrosant... on forme les chemins, les sentiers, on arrange la clôture; les plus grands s'occupent même à ajuster certains dégâts dans les locaux de l'école. Ce sont des cris, des rires; il y a un grand entrain, toutes ces petites âmes s'efforcent à faire chacune ce qu'elle peut; elles font tout heureuses leur devoir.

Je suis convaincue que la guerre a spécialement facilité l'union, la fusion entre les intellectuels et les simples, c'est-à-dire qu'aujourd'hui cette union est plus réalisable. Dans les tranchées, sur le champ de bataille, le riche était à côté du pauvre, l'intellectuel à côté du rustre, égaux sous l'uniforme du soldat ils se sont vraiment senti frères; mais à présent il reste à abolir à jamais les tranchées et les frontières et alors, tous ces hommes, séparés par des chiffons de couleurs, se mêleront pour s'entraider et non plus pour s'exterminer.

MENA NICOLOVA UNTERBERG.

Miss REYNOLDS, FIRST GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE WORLD'S Y.W.C.A.

MISS ANNIE REYNOLDS was born in Chatauqua County, New York, and was educated at Wellesley College and in Europe, where she perfected her knowledge of French, German and Italian. Her knowledge of the Y.W.C.A. was gained in two very different parts of the United States—in New York City and in Iowa,—but her fine personality found its fullest scope when she was called to London to become the first General Secretary of the newly formed World's Y.W.C.A. In 1892 the first informal conference was held of representatives from eight countries in which Associations had grown up, and in 1894 the first Executive Committee meeting of the World's Y.W.C.A. was held. In the intervening two years a small committee had been at work drawing up a constitution which guaranteed national autonomy while linking up established organizations in such a way that they could work jointly, through their Executive Committee, to strengthen scattered Associations and to develop work in countries where there seemed a need for it.

When Miss Reynolds returned to her home in the United States in 1904, the little room of the first few months had expanded into an office, her successor was supported by a corresponding secretary, and the membership had so increased that two formal World's Y.W.C.A. conferences had been necessary. In these days of internationalism as a matter of course, the vision and the courage that made this embryo women's league of nations possible is not as outstanding as in the days when Miss Reynolds wrote in one of her reports: "We have come to speak glibly of sanctified common sense, but a sanctified broad-minded recognition of different points of view is equally desirable." Miss Reynolds was fortunate in her Committee, but its members and the Associations in every country were equally fortunate to have a pioneer worker of such high spirit, unquenched charity and selfless devotion. The news of her death in February last has revealed the fact that her spirit lives yet in the work that owes her so great a debt.

JVS SVFFRAGII.



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TO THE WOMEN OF THE AMERICAS.

"I have called a New World into being to redress the balance of the Old."—CANNING.

IN this number we convey on behalf of the women of the Old World a fervent greeting to the women of the New, gathered together in conference at Baltimore.

We print below many messages showing the hope and faith that the women of Europe feel in the North American vanguard and in the yet untried energy of the women of Latin-America, who are so eagerly pressing forward to take their place among the freed women of the world. May the Congress give them vital help in their march to Victory!

To those who have partly won their battle, as to those who are still in the thick of the fight, we know that the knowledge of conditions elsewhere, the vision of what the woman's movement stands for far and wide, and the joyous realization of a common goal must needs be an inspiration. We therefore confidently appeal to each delegate and to each visitor to the Congress to become a member of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance and a subscriber to the INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWS.

We feel sure that it needs no appeal from us to secure whole-hearted support from all thinking women for the great object of the Alliance: to abolish for ever all artificial distinctions between the sexes—that disturbance

of the social life of mankind that has from the dawn of history been productive of so much useless waste of life, so much misery, so much degradation.

Let me quote to you from the resolutions passed at the last Congress of the Alliance held in Geneva in 1920:

Political Rights.

"That the suffrage be granted to women, and their equal status with men upon legislative and administrative bodies, both national and international, be recognized."

Personal Rights.

"That women, equally with men, should have the protection of the law against slavery such as still exists in some parts of Eastern Europe, Asia, and Africa."

"That a married woman should have the same right to retain or change her nationality as a man."

"That the married mother should have the same rights over her children as the father."

Educational and Economic Rights.

"That all opportunities of education, general, professional, and technical, should be open to both sexes."

"That women should have the same opportunity as men for training and for entering industries, professions, civil service, and all administrative and judicial functions."