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NOTES AND NEWS

"No More War."

The special subject of the "No More War" demonstration held on Saturday last was the demand for disarmament. The resolution, which sent fraternal greetings to the similar gatherings being held throughout the world to express abhorrence of war and militarism, declared that the time had come for the peoples to insist upon universal disarmament and called upon our own Government to take the initiative in making a definite proposal for immediate disarmament by land, sea, and air. A further resolution supported the League of Nations. More than 200 demonstrations were held throughout Great Britain. The rain stopped just before the Hyde Park meeting began, but the unsettled weather prevented a large attendance. As the vans from which the speeches were delivered were very close together, the effect was rather confused, but the demonstration was unmistakably effective. The marks of friendship shown between the French and German women speakers were hailed with joy by the audience. The young speakers on the platform of the Guild of Citizens of To-morrow also attracted much attention. As always, Mrs. Despard, Miss Maude Royden, and Mr. Studdert Kennedy had a large following.

Lords versus Commons.

A curious situation has arisen during the week in connection with the Joint Committee of both Houses on the Nationality of Married Women. On the presentation of Sir John Butcher's draft report recommending that a British woman marrying an alien should have the option of retaining her nationality, the five members of the House of Commons voted for the report, the five members of the House of Lords against it. The Chairman, Lord Chelmsford, thereupon presented another draft report recommending that there should be no material change in the existing law. This time the five Peers voted for the report, the five Commoners against it. As a result of the deadlock, it was decided to publish both reports side by side as a White Paper, to be laid on the table of the House. This Bill, which has been promoted by the National Council of Women, cannot therefore be proceeded with this Session. This is particularly unfortunate in view of the forthcoming Imperial Conference.

Summary Jurisdiction (Separation and Maintenance) Bill.

This Bill passed through its Committee stage on Thursday, 26th July, with only one amendment, and through its Report Stage and Third Reading on Monday, July 30th. The coast is clear, therefore, for its progress through the House of Lords, where Lord Astor has undertaken to take charge of it. Our readers will remember that this useful little Bill, promoted by the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, based on their wider Bill of last Session, and which the Magistrates who gave evidence before the joint Select Committee on the Guardianship of Infants Bill, were united in praising, seeks to amend the law dealing with the Separation and Maintenance Orders in Police Courts. It provides among other reforms.

Divorce Reports and the Press.

The Report of the Select Committee on Sir Evelyn Cecil's Judicial Proceedings (Regulation of Reports) Bill, was issued on Monday as a Parliamentary Paper (price 3d). The Committee reports in favour of legislation on the broad lines proposed, in order to "curtail the unscrupulous publication of indecent matter for purposes of gain." They propose, however, that a somewhat wider definition shall be given to the type of case to which such legislation refers. The report lays strong emphasis on the necessity for preserving the freedom of the Press; but justifies such interference as is recommended with the argument that: "Just as the freedom of the citizen is not wrongfully encroached upon by requiring the compulsory removal of a sanitary nuisance or by restricting the sale of a poison, so the freedom of the Press is not unjustly infringed by compulsory suppression of polluting details elaborated for purposes of profit."

Lady Macbeth and Coercion.

Clause 24 of the Criminal Justice Bill came before the House of Commons for its Second Reading on 30th July. It deals with the presumption of coercion when certain crimes are committed by a wife in the presence of her husband. Our readers will remember that a Committee of the House of Lords was appointed in 1922 to consider the whole question. This Committee recommended the complete abolition of "the doctrine

of coercion, and the leaving of a wife in precisely the same position as any other person would be in the eyes of the law, unless she could prove that by actual physical force she was compelled to commit the act." The Bill does not adopt this recommendation, but proposes to adopt an alternative which was turned down by the Committee, viz. to abolish the presumption of coercion "but to leave a wife free to prove to the satisfaction of the Jury, if she can, that she was coerced not merely by physical compulsion or bodily fear, but by that power which the husband, when all is said and done, has over a woman." The Solicitor-General, supporting this point of view, added: "when all is said and done . . . a wife is not yet, nor probably ever will be, built in such a way as to be able to hold her own against the domination of a powerful personality who also happens to be her husband, and we think that justice will be maintained if we allow a woman placed in such circumstances as those to show that, though she is not compelled by bodily fear or physical compulsion, she was in fact dominated by her husband, and in those circumstances the Jury may acquit her." We think that our readers will agree that this tenderness on the part of the Solicitor-General is not necessary, and we would like to recall to his mind precedents such as that of Lady Macbeth to show that domination other than physical can equally be exercised by a wife over a husband. Perhaps it is this precedent which accounts for the fact that in Scotland this doctrine of presumption of coercion is unknown.

Retirement of Chief Government Whip.

We congratulate Lieut.-Col. L. Wilson on his appointment as Governor of Bombay. Colonel Wilson has always been a very warm friend of the Woman's movement, and has done much to help as regards giving time for Bills of special interest to women and in other ways. He will be greatly missed. Commander Eyres-Monsell has in the past been an anti-suffragist, but appears to have taken no part in legislation specially affecting women since he voted in favour of shelving the Sex Disqualification Removal Bill. There has, therefore, been time for a change in his attitude.

Women Voters.

We feel a certain amount of diffidence in reminding readers of the WOMAN'S LEADER of the following dates concerning

THE CASE FOR THE PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL.

It would be an interesting political exercise to undertake some research into the records of Private Members' Bills, say for the last twenty-five years, in order to discover to what extent, though unsuccessful in becoming law, they have broken the ground for coming reforms. We venture to hazard a guess that in a very considerable number of instances they have done so, especially where they were concerned with social welfare. But whether this be so or not, it does not affect our opinion on the place of the Private Member's Bill, looked at from the angle of the reformer or citizen rather than that of the politician. We have always held that when the majority of adult women in this country became enfranchised it was their obvious duty to complete their work for the franchise by work for a true equality of liberties, status, and opportunities between men and women, and that the most rapid means of securing this was through legislation. But we differ from those who scorn Private Members' Bills as a means to this end. Of course we should aim at a Government Bill, but short of this the possibilities of a Bill introduced by a Private Member cannot be ignored. The Private Member's Bill offers an excellent jumping-off ground for a campaign to secure a Government measure: it is something definite to work for; it means business; it gives corporate form to opinions; it faces practical difficulties of administration; it can be criticized and attacked or praised and befriended in a way that is impossible with vague principles of reform that have not been enunciated in the clear-cut and precise terms of a well-drafted Bill.

Of course, many Bills introduced by Private Members are doomed to obscurity, but a Bill which deals with some specific evil or abuse, and which by reason of its subject strikes the popular imagination, gives that opportunity of educative work both inside and outside the House of Commons, which sooner or later will bear good fruit in some shape or form. To begin with, it attracts attention; it secures publicity on the platform and in the Press, and though this publicity waxes and wanes with the adventures of bills which may extend over many

registration. It seems unlikely that any one of them will have failed to make a note of such landmarks in a "citizen's" year!

	England and Wales.	Scotland.
Autumn Register.		
Last day of notice of objection	Aug. 4.	Aug. 15.
Last day for claims	Aug. 10.	Aug. 15.
Last day for claims as absent voter	Aug. 24.	Aug. 25.

The Home Secretary and Sex Disabilities.

A useful deputation was organized last week by the Six Point Group on the subject of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act. Representatives of the principal organizations of women throughout the country were present, including Mrs. Wintringham, M.P., Miss Nina Boucicault, Lady Barrett, Viscountess Rhondda, Miss Ada Moore, and Miss Gray. Lady Astor introduced the deputation. Miss Gray put the case for equal opportunities in University education; Mrs. Wintringham pleaded for equal pay and opportunities for Civil Servants; Lady Barrett referred to the short-sightedness of the dismissal of married professional women. Lady Rhondda pointed out that the words of the Act, "a person shall not be disqualified by sex or marriage from the exercise of any public function," did not mean in practice what they appeared to mean. The Home Secretary promised to pass on what had been said to the Prime Minister, and dealt in a non-committal manner with some of the points raised.

A New Profession for Women.

We congratulate Miss Joan Procter on her appointment as Curator of Reptiles at the Zoo. Miss Procter was educated at St. Paul's School for Girls, and has worked in the Reptile Department as assistant of Mr. Boulenger, who now becomes Curator of the New Aquarium. In next week's issue we will publish an article by Miss Chrystabel Procter entitled "A Woman Herpetologist", giving an interesting account of her sister's work.

Better Late than Never.

We are informed that the Joint Select Committee of both Houses of Parliament, which is considering the Guardianship of Infants Bill, has adjourned its sittings until the Autumn for the consideration of its Report. This will probably mean that whatever may be the Report of the Committee it will be too late to deal with legislation on this subject this Session.

Parliamentary sessions, and ultimately bear no resemblance to the original measure, it is slowly but surely creating public opinion.

But even visible success is not unattainable; much, of course, depends on the character of the Bill itself. A measure which stands for some reform, which enlists the strong and determined support of a large section of the community, which has stiffened in the face of opposition and hope deferred, may be rewarded in the end by Government assistance or even by metamorphosis into a Government measure. An example of this was to be found in the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1922, which after a prolonged and tempestuous career in both Houses was included in the King's Speech, taken over by the Government, and became law. We find another example of much more rapid success in "Lady Astor's Bill" for the protection of young persons on licensed premises, which was accorded special facilities by the Government that greatly strengthened its chances. Lastly, we have the type of Bill which stands or falls on its own merits without help from the Government. The most striking illustration of this is the astonishing success of the Matrimonial Causes Bill of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, which has just become law. This Bill found its salvation in the fact that it was restricted to the one clause dealing with equality between the sexes in grounds for divorce, in the tremendous unanimity of opinion behind it in the country and in its appearance at just the right psychological moment.

In the past the Private Member's Bill has more often than not expressed the desires of a limited group of persons, or perhaps been merely the buzzing of a bee in the bonnet of the Private Member himself. But since the advent of women into politics there are certain specific reforms which can command such a strong backing that they can be assured of considerable support from all sections of the House, although they have not yet attained to definite recognition by the Government. For the introduction of such reforms the Private Member's Bill is an indispensable vehicle which women's organizations which mean business cannot afford to despise.

NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER.

By OUR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT.

Once more—after a long spell of precarious delay—Allied negotiations have leapt into activity. Yesterday afternoon the French and Belgian replies to Mr. Baldwin's draft note were handed in at the Foreign Office. So far, nothing definite is known about their contents. Indeed, it seems probable that the Cabinet meeting which is taking place at this moment (Tuesday morning) will be too busily occupied with the question of Air Force administration to deal immediately with this latest development of the Reparations tangle. It is a regrettable fact that our Executive should find it necessary to postpone difficulties outstanding from the last war, while precedence is given to preparations for the next; but, no doubt, there is a certain logic in the situation. Meanwhile, as a result of rumours generated both in London and Paris regarding the contents of the French and Belgian communications, an atmosphere of the most profound pessimism prevails. Our Allies, it is understood, have elected to continue the Ruhr policy at all costs—while further negotiations are continued. Clearly, as far as our own Government is concerned, the time for such further negotiations is past. Law and security, all the material and moral conditions of an ordered life, are crumbling to ruin throughout the length and breadth of Germany. We must act alone—and yet all the time we know that we cannot act alone; for without the goodwill and co-operation of our Allies, no action that we can take will be effective.

As regards our preparations for the next war, a less complete degree of harmony prevails within our own ranks; and throughout the week two departments of Government have been at one another's throats over the matter of air-force administration. In sober truth, the Admiralty is an irrepressible department—an *enfant terrible* among departments. And its action in fighting its own case in the Press at the end of last week, will recall to the public mind the equally prompt, vigorous, and independent steps which it took to vindicate its financial needs on the occasion of the publication of the Geddes Report. The strange thing is that on this occasion no responsible person appears to know exactly by what channel the official statement of the Admiralty's case, which appeared in certain sections of the Press on Saturday morning, reached its destination. Nevertheless, in spite of,

or perhaps because of, the violent campaign which has been waged on its behalf, there is a growing impression abroad that the Admiralty will after all be allowed to control its own "air arm." More especially as it is felt, and with some truth, that the sub-committee of the Committee for Imperial Defence to which the question was referred was, owing to Lord Balfour's protracted absence, somewhat pro-Air Ministry in its composition. But no superficial reader, following the fury of the controversy during the past week, would have supposed that the point at issue involved the destinies of less than five per cent. of our total effective air force. Still less would he have supposed that as yet the Cabinet has given no formal indication of its views on the subject! However, by the time these notes are in the hands of their readers, its views will presumably be known.

For the rest, the Session creeps towards its close. On Monday night the Rent Restriction Bill, garnished with certain amendments, returned from the House of Lords. In effect, and taken collectively, they represent a slight stiffening of conditions for the tenant. Mr. Neville Chamberlain "took them lying down," and the Bill will come into force at midnight to-day.

The affair of the four suspended Glasgow Labour Members is also well on its way to settlement as a result of protracted negotiations between the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition. There will be no apology, and this afternoon Mr. Baldwin himself will move that their suspension "do terminate this day." On Monday three of the gentlemen in question presented themselves outside the House of Commons by way of demonstration and protest; but withdrew after a short and formal altercation with Chief Inspector Martin. In the course of it, Mr. Maxton made the astonishing statement that he and his colleagues had been excluded from the House for a month "because they were Scotsmen." Well—the matter is not worth arguing!

[The views expressed in this column are those of our Parliamentary correspondent, and are not our editorial opinion. Like so many other things in this paper they are expressly controversial, and comment upon them will be welcomed.—Ed.]

SEVENTH ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LEAGUE OF NATIONS SOCIETIES.

Held at Vienna, 24th—27th June, 1923.

By Captain A. E. W. THOMAS, D.S.O., M.C., B.A., LL.B.

There are in some forty different countries League of Nations Societies working, as the League of Nations Union is in England, to organize and educate public opinion so as to get it solidly behind the League of Nations. These Societies are bound together in a Federation called "The International Federation of League of Nations Societies." Representatives of these Societies meet once a year to discuss their work, to compare notes, and to formulate a common policy on matters of international importance. On previous occasions the Conference has been held at Paris, London, Brussels, Milan, Geneva, and Prague. This year the venue was at Vienna. In all twenty-five national societies or federations were represented, and for the first time since 1919 delegates from the United States of America and from Canada took part in the Conference.

The machinery of the Federation consists of the Assembly—a large body which meets every year; the Council—a smaller body which meets more frequently; the Bureau—a sort of Executive Committee of the Council; and a diminutive Secretariat, which has its headquarters at Brussels. The work of the Annual Conference is conducted much in the same way as in the League Assembly which is at Geneva, by means of Commissions. This year there were seven Commissions, dealing respectively with Education and Propaganda, Minorities, Juridical Questions, Disarmament, Economic Questions, Intellectual Co-operation, Political Questions. The most important and far-reaching work done this year was undoubtedly

that of the Education and Propaganda Commission. Dr. Maxwell Garnett, General Secretary of the English League of Nations Union (which, by the way, is the largest, richest, and most powerful member of the Federation) created a profound impression on some of the other Societies by the account which he gave of the Union's work and its members, its branches, and its educational work in the schools and colleges, and resolutions were unanimously passed to the effect that Societies throughout the world "should go and do likewise." Although, of course, resolutions do not invariably result in actions, it is true to say that the representatives attending that Conference *did* carry away with them a very vivid picture of what was being done in England, that they *were* impressed—in a way perhaps in which they had never been before—with the importance of their task, and that they *will* on returning to their countries make a very real effort to strengthen their Societies and to see that in so far as lies in their power their wishes with regard to the League of Nations are embodied in the policy of their respective Governments. The work of the Propaganda and Education Commission alone would have justified holding the Conference.

Next in importance—though perhaps first in interest—was the work of the Political Commission. The Chairman of this Commission was that veteran protagonist of the League, M. Bovet, of Switzerland, and the chief British representatives on it were Mr. David Davies and Lady Gladstone. France was represented by M. Jean Hennessy, Belgium by M. Rolin,

and Germany by Count Bernstorff. Although the representatives were staunch pro-Leaguers, and would undoubtedly, if they had been speaking for themselves alone, have had no difficulty in formulating a common policy, they had naturally enough to consider the question from their respective national points of view and to take the public opinion of their own countries into consideration; and in the circumstances, as may be well imagined, it was no easy matter to include all points of view within the compass of one formula. It, therefore, speaks very highly for the conciliatory atmosphere which surrounded the deliberations of this Commission—one might almost call it a League atmosphere—that an *unanimous* agreement was reached. Without giving the full texts of the resolutions passed (these may be had on application to the General Secretary, League of Nations Union, 15 Grosvenor Crescent, S.W. 1), it is enough to say that with regard to the present position between France and Germany three points were embodied in the agreement:—

1. That the League should be used to secure, with the assistance of Germany, and, if possible, of the United States of America, a general

THE PROBLEM OF POPULATION.¹

I. THE OPTIMUM.

Few problems raise more prickly discussion and more excited feeling than the problem of population. Few problems have suffered more vague and inadequate discussion. Few problems stimulate more important considerations regarding the survival and well-being of civilized mankind. Few problems bear more intimately upon the practical implications of feminism.

It is not difficult to account for the mishandling which this unfortunate subject has received at the hands of successive generations of speakers and writers. In the first place, it is apt to involve incursions into matters which we are accustomed to regard as unfit for public and open discussion. Harriet Martineau, whom we remember to-day as an incomparable teller of children's stories, but who was better known to her generation as a peculiarly serious-minded exponent of classical political economy, incurred considerable social persecution for daring to tackle the problem at all. In her autobiography, she paints a vivid picture of contemporary public opinion on the matter. "A lady, calling on a friend of mine," she laments, "wondered at seeing books of mine on the table, within the children's reach; they being 'improper' books she had been told. . . ." Public opinion has, no doubt, broadened out in this respect since the early nineteenth century, as Lord Justice Scrutton pointed out in the course of his judgment on the recent *Stopes Appeal*, nevertheless it still remains a somewhat thorny topic, and one which requires peculiarly delicate treatment. In the second place, it is a problem which raises at least three independent sets of considerations: racial and military, economic, moral and religious. It is not uncommon to hear two people arguing over the desirability of an increase of population, one of whom considers such an increase desirable from a military point of view, the other of whom considers it undesirable from an economic point of view; neither seeing the real point at issue between them: whether in the interests of military safety or racial supremacy, it may be desirable to face an increase of population which will probably make economic conditions slightly less favourable for the individual. And failure to give due weight to these independent and perhaps conflicting sets of considerations may result in such lapses of comprehension as was displayed by Professor Wadia in his recent book, *The Ethics of Feminism*, where for social and moral reasons he urges the desirability of keeping all women continuously and exclusively at work on the business of reproduction, without ever stopping to consider what effect such an output of population might have on the economic life of the nation or of the world.

To begin with, however, the best way of approaching the problem is to sort out and examine the economic aspect—not because it is the most important, but because it is the most complicated, obscure, and therefore the most frequently neglected aspect. The question which we have to ask ourselves at the outset is: given a particular territory and a particular level of technical knowledge and industrial organization, what population is likely to secure for individuals the maximum standard of life?; or in other words, what proportion between population and natural resources is likely to result in the unit of human labour being most productive? The problem of population

settlement of the connected question of reparations, inter-allied debts, and security of frontiers.

2. That the League, with its high international authority, can examine these problems with more impartiality, with greater care, than the separate Governments can do.

3. That the Constituent Societies of the Federation should bring all possible pressure to bear on national and international opinion with a view to giving the fullest publicity and the utmost practical effect to the policy contained in these resolutions.

The findings of the other Commissions and the ultimate decisions of the Assembly thereon, dealing as they did with subjects of a very varied character, are too long to be given in a short general article such as this, but it is generally agreed among all the delegates who attended the Conference that the League of Nations movement, young as it is, carries a tremendous responsibility with it. On its success throughout the world depends the success of the League itself, and as it is undoubtedly true that the English Union plays a very important, if not the most important, part in the Federation, so does it behoove those of us in England who would wish to see a world peace established on a solid foundation to do all in our power to support the Union.

thus falls into its place as part of the problem of production; as one aspect of the wider question: what are the general conditions affecting the productivity of human labour? The problem is perhaps easier to visualize when we diminish its scale. When we consider not a country, but a self-supporting peasant estate, it becomes obvious that the estate and its resources may be under-cultivated or over-cultivated. Up to a certain point, an increase in the number of able-bodied inhabitants will give a progressively larger return per head and a progressively higher standard of subsistence all round. Beyond this point, an increase will give a progressively smaller return per head and a progressively lower standard per subsistence all round. Economic writers have adopted a convenient and recognized phraseology in this connection, and have chosen to describe the inhabitants of the under-cultivated estate as working under conditions of "increasing returns," of the over-cultivated estate as working under conditions of "decreasing" or "diminishing returns," while the estate on which the proportion between workers and natural resources is just about right, is said to be worked at "maximum returns." A new word has, however, recently crept into the phraseology of economic writers—the word *optimum population*. It refers to that population which is likely to secure that work on a given territory shall be carried on at maximum returns.

Now, it may be easy enough, at any rate for an experienced farmer, to determine fairly accurately what number of people can be supported at the highest possible standard of life on a given estate. It is not so easy, however, to determine with any degree of accuracy what is the *optimum population* for a large national territory in which groups of people are producing for exchange with one another or with the outside world. We may say with some certainty that certain countries, such as China, where large sections of the population are painfully engaged in cultivating rather inaccessible terraced hills, is over-populated. We may say that certain parts of the British self-governing dominions, where presumably a larger population well equipped with capital would give a higher general level of prosperity, are under-populated. But whether the inhabitants of the United Kingdom would be better off per head if there were two or three million more of them or two or three million less, is not so easy to determine. The only thing which is certain beyond controversy is that for this country as for every other country, and for the world at large, there is an *optimum population*. And it is the business of economists to seek for the signs by which we may recognize it. M. D. STOCKS.

(To be continued.)

NOTE.—This aspect of the question may be studied in any elementary economic textbook, under the heading "Law of Diminishing Returns." One of the clearest and most unified treatments of it is to be found in the fourth chapter of Professor Cannan's book *Wealth*, P. S. King & Son, price 6s.

¹ The subject will be treated in a series of four articles: 1. The Optimum. 2. The International Complication. 3. Malthusianism. 4. The Rate of Increase. Suggestions will be made as to books, and questions or personal correspondence addressed to the WOMAN'S LEADER Office will be welcomed by the writer.

SOME VICTORIAN WOMEN.¹

Readers of this paper will turn instinctively to the chapter on Women Workers in Mr. Harry Furniss's amusing book about women, and the first "Victorian Woman" we meet there is our own Mrs. Fawcett. It may be correct to call Mrs. Fawcett a Victorian, but we cannot refrain from thinking that she is very Georgian as well. She is not, it is true, in Parliament, as Mr. Furniss reproachfully reminds us, but she is the next best thing and, as a prominent Metropolitan magistrate, exercises functions unheard of for a woman in the Victorian era. It requires no effort of imagination on our part to think of Mrs. Fawcett as "a fresh and picturesque figure in green silk and amber beads," giving a course of lectures to women at Oxford in the mid-seventies. Mr. Furniss reproduces a picture from *Punch* of an early suffrage meeting in St. James' Hall, and gives in full a very characteristic letter from Mrs. Fawcett, written in 1889, remonstrating with him for a cartoon defending the employment of children in theatres, which contained a life-like portrait of herself. She begs him to consider the other side of the question, and asks why theatres should be treated differently to other regular industries in the country.

Another "Victorian" who is still happily prominently before the public is to be found in the chapter dealing with "Some Hostesses," Lady Aberdeen, who is described as one of the most delightful of hostesses. Mr. Furniss claims that he presented J. M. Barrie with the idea which germinated in the play "The Admirable Crichton," by his description of Lord and Lady Aberdeen's democratic methods with their domestic staff. By a curious coincidence, Lady Aberdeen in the current number of the *Nineteenth Century* refers to the crop of sensational exaggerations of their unconventional habits current at that time. A story which shock Canada from east to west stated that while dining with a merchant prince, when Lord Aberdeen was Governor-General, Lady Aberdeen turned to a maidservant and ordered her to "remove that cap, that badge of servitude." Things came to such a pass that Queen Victoria was obliged to ask Lord Rosebery, then Prime Minister, to ascertain it if were true that while occupying the position of Governor-General Lord Aberdeen dined in the servants' hall once a week. Needless to say, Her Majesty was completely reassured.

Some Victorian Women has all the elements desirable in ideal light holiday reading. It is full of good stories and innocent gossip, and illustrated by reproductions of drawings from *Punch*, with here and there observations which will provoke just that mild type of discussion appropriate for hot August evenings. For instance, Mr. Furniss tells us that women have an intense dislike to caricature, and that they regard the caricaturist as a man with a contorted mind. Certainly his anecdote about Miss Beale of Cheltenham appears to bear this out. Mr. Furniss had been lecturing to the Boys' School on "Humours of Parliament," and his manager offered Miss Beale a lecture for her girls. She is said to have refused indignantly—"the idea of a caricaturist addressing her girls was monstrous."

Another theory propounded by Mr. Furniss refers to either sex, and might yield some diverting holiday debates. It is to the effect that those who are successful in imaginative work for children become, with rare exceptions, not only children but "spoiled children" themselves. Hans Anderson, who is said to have cried at table if he was not helped first or given more jam than anyone else, and Lewis Carroll are quoted as examples of this. Lewis Carroll, according to Mr. Furniss, delighted in presenting copies of *Alice* to children on the seashore at Eastbourne, and calling afterwards in order to introduce himself to their proud and much impressed parents. On one occasion, however, he was received by a dignified and indignant mother who informed him that she had thrown the book away, and that she could not dream of allowing her child to poison her mind with such stuff.

We like Mr. Furniss best when he is describing women who have done things. He takes their work seriously, and we can imagine him writing exactly the same kind of book about Victorians of the other sex. He only very occasionally relapses into the sort of nonsense that so many masculine writers and speakers seem to find impossible to avoid when dealing with women, and we suspect him of pulling his reader's leg when he says that now that women can vote themselves into positions of authority from detectives to magistrates, statistics will, of course, show a larger proportion of criminals in petticoats.

¹ *Some Victorian Women*. Harry Furniss. The Bodley Head, Ltd., 12s. 6d. net.

We frankly confess we like this kind of book, in spite of the criticism of highbrows. It is easy to read and it makes the people it describes live in our imagination. We want another and a better one as soon as possible, written by an author whose name we will not mention, which will give us personal reminiscences of the leaders of the women's movement. The younger generation, to whom the reforms for which they fought come as a matter of course, is in danger of forgetting their names and the story of their struggles. They will not take the trouble to wade through biographies, but they would read with interest and profit personal recollections of their lives and efforts. E. M.

HOLIDAY READING.

SOME OUT-OF-THE-WAY BOOKS FOR HOLIDAY READING.¹

We have asked some of our correspondents to give us lists of books, preferably out-of-the-way books, for holiday reading, for publication during August, and we give below the first list we have received:—

TOM CRINGLE'S LOG.

Thrilling adventures. A certain judge, said by someone to have been the ablest jurist of his day, told me he read this book through every year.

THE SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE.

A SEMI-ATTACHED COUPLE. Hon. Emily Eden.

Nineteenth century domestic pictures.

THE RAMBLING RECTOR. Miss Alexander.

An Irish novel.

RECOLLECTIONS OF BYRON, SHELLEY, AND TRELAWNEY. Trelawney.

RECOLLECTIONS OF A SICK-ROOM. Harriet Martineau.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN HUME AND ROUSSEAU. Hume's Collected Works.

The story of a one-sided quarrel, illustrating certain national characteristics.

SIRUS. Bishop Berkeley.

A treatise on the medicinal qualities of tar water and incidentally on the nature of the Universe.

EDWARD DENISON'S LETTERS.

A most suggestive book for social workers.

MATERNITY.

A collection of letters by members of the Women's Co-operative Guild.

ROUND ABOUT A POUND A WEEK. Mrs. Pember Reeves.

These two books contain the real heart of the case for family endowment.

SERIOUS CALL TO A DEVOUT LIFE. Iancelot Law.

E. F. R.

¹ Some of these books are not "out of the way," except in the sense that they are not so universally read as they ought to be, and some are so out-of-the-way that they are, I fear, out of print. I am writing in the country away from books, and have not got all the authors and titles quite correctly, but think these will serve for identification.—E. F. R.

THE COMMON CAUSE PUBLISHING CO., Ltd.

The fourteenth Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of the Common Cause Publishing Company, Limited, was held at 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, on Wednesday, 25th July, at 4 p.m., with Mrs. Henry Fawcett, J.P., LL.D., Chairman of the Board of Directors, in the chair. After hearing a full statement of the financial position of the paper, and of the response, amounting up to date to £539, to the appeal made by Mrs. Fawcett for a guarantee fund of £850 per annum, the following resolution was moved by Miss Eleanor Rathbone, J.P., seconded by Miss K. D. Courtney, and carried unanimously:—

"That in view of the hopeful response to the appeal for a guarantee fund for three years, the shareholders make every effort to complete the necessary sum, and authorize the directors to continue publication meanwhile."

Mrs. Fawcett moved a resolution of thanks to Mrs. Elborough, who has resigned after many years of devoted work on behalf of the paper. Mrs. Elborough's strenuous work and courage has been of great assistance to the paper in difficult periods in its history. A resolution of thanks to Mrs. Oliver Strachey, who was elected a Director of the Company, for her generous services as Editor, was passed unanimously, and thanks were also expressed to contributors to the columns of the paper, especially to Mrs. Rackham, J.P., Miss Margery Fry, J.P., and Mrs. Crofts, M.A., LL.B., who have supplied the section entitled "The Law at Work."

COMING EVENTS.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION.

AUG. 3-10. Geneva, Summer School.

AUG. 8. Bingley and West Hampstead.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

AUG. Poděbrady, Czecho-Slovakia, Summer School. Subject: "Social Peace."

N.U.S.E.C.

SEPT. 21-28. Pottinscale, near Keswick, Summer School.

TYPEWRITING AND PRINTING, Etc.

M. McLACHLAN and N. WHITWHAM—TYPISTS.—
4 Chapel Walks, Manchester. Tel.: 3402 City.

EXPERT TYPEWRITING and Visiting Secretarial Work; meetings reported verbatim; Stencilling, etc.; Ladies trained as Private Secretaries, Journalists, and Short Story Writers.—The Misses Neal & Tucker, 52 Bedford St., Strand, W.C. 2.

TEMPLAR PRINTING WORKS, BIRMINGHAM.

SPECIALISTS IN WORK FOR NATIONAL SOCIETIES.

ENQUIRIES SOLICITED.

WHERE TO LIVE.

THE GREEN CROSS CLUB FOR BUSINESS GIRLS, 68 and 69 Guildford Street, Russell Square, W.C. 1.—Spacious accommodation for resident and non-resident members; large dining, common, library, and smoking-rooms; excellent meals at moderate prices; hockey, gymnastic classes, dancing, tennis, etc.; annual subscription £1.

HOSTEL FOR VISITORS AND WORKERS; terms from 4s. 6d. per night, or from 18s. 6d. per week, room and breakfast.—Mrs. K. Wilkinson, 59 Albany Street, Regent's Park, N.W. 1.

LADIES' RESIDENTIAL CLUB offers single bedrooms to residents between the ages of 18 and 40. Frequent vacancies for visitors also. Excellent catering, unlimited hot water. Airy sitting-room. Only 2 min. from Tube and Underground. Rooms with partial board, 33s. to 38s. weekly.—Apply, 15 Trebovir Road, Earls Court.

COMFORTABLE BOARD RESIDENCE (gas-fires, phone, etc.). Single or double rooms at moderate terms; convenient for all parts.—19 Endsleigh Street, W.C. 1.

BIRMINGHAM.—MAYFIELD RESIDENTIAL CLUB, for Professional Women and Students (affiliated to National Council of Women), 60 Harborne Road, Edgbaston. Common and silence rooms; open-air shelter; music; tennis clubs; convenient centre for meetings and holidays. Terms: permanent residents from 38s. (partial board). Vegetarians catered for.

FOR REST AND HOLIDAYS.

LOW GREEN HOUSE, Thorally, Aysgarth, Yorks.—Paying guests received; good centre for walks, charabanc to Hawes.—Particulars from Miss Smith.

PETIT MONT, BEX, SWITZERLAND.—Miss Buckingham and Miss Hogan receive paying guests all the year round. Ideal for those who require rest in a dry, sunny climate in winter, and at all times.—For particulars, write in first instance to Dr. Edith Neild, Tunbridge Wells.

LOVELY HEREFORDSHIRE.—Guests received in Country House; tennis and garage.—Terms, Marsh Court, Leominster.

HASLEMERE NURSING HOME for temporary and permanent patients; stands in 3½ acres charming grounds; fully trained staff, including masseuse; from 4 gns. weekly.—Matron, Courtsfold, Haslemere.

TO LET AND WANTED.

HARLEY STREET (adjoining).—ROOM, breakfast or part board. Quiet private house. Also one (small) unfurnished. Permanent tenants preferred.—Box 13007, WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

LADY would like to hear of another who might share good house in Bloomsbury; one very good, one small room, unfurnished; share offices.—Miss Levett, St. Hilda's Hall, Oxford.

PROFESSIONAL.

"MORE MONEY TO SPEND" (Income Tax Recovery and Adjustment).—Send postcard for particulars and scale of charges to the Women Taxpayers' Agency, Hampden House, 84 Kingsway, W.C. 2. Phone, Central 6049. Estab'd 1908.

LEARN TO KEEP ACCOUNTS.—There are especially good lessons in book-keeping at Miss Blakeney's School of Typewriting and Shorthand, Wentworth House, Mauresa Road, Chelsea, S.W. 3. "I learnt more there in a week," says an old pupil, "than I learnt elsewhere in a month." Pupils prepared for every kind of secretarial post.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

WANTED.—Secondhand copy of "Impressions that Remained," by Dr. Ethel Smyth, also of Marie Bashkirtseff's Journal (English or French), in good condition; price moderate.—Box 1,006, WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

PURE LINEN AFTERNOON TEA-CLOTH, hem-stitched, 37 in. square, handsomely trimmed knitted lace 4in. wide; 2 guineas. Long linen Centre-cloth, 52 x 10 in., trimmed fine crochet 2½ in.; 25s.—Miss Clarke, Holcombe, near Bath.

HOME-MADE CHOCOLATES AND SWETS; Tea-rooms, bazaars, etc., supplied at wholesale prices; lessons given; price list sent on application.—Write Miss Martin, 93 Chelsea Gardens, S.W. 1.

PURE HOME-MADE JAM AND BOTTLED FRUIT.—Orders taken at the House Assistants' Centre for 1 lb., 2 lb., 3 lb. or 7 lb. jars. Single small jars can be bought at the Centre. Write and enclose stamped addressed envelope for price list.

COLOURED ART LINEN.—Remnant bundles of coloured art linen for cushion covers and fancy needlework. 8s. 6d. per bundle, postage 6d. Write for Bargain List—TO-DAY.—HUTTON'S, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ireland.

UNCRUSHABLE DRESS LINEN for Summer wear, all pure linen, dyed perfectly fast colours in Sky, Azuline, Sapphire, Butcher, Marine, Navy, Shell Pink, Rose Pink, Coral, Old Rose, Tangerine, White, Ivory, Cream, Lemon, Gold, Orange, Flame, Biscuit, Beige, Rust, Brick, Cerise, Cherry, Tabac, Tan, Nut Brown, Coffee, Nigger, Jade, Emerald, Reseda, Myrtle, Grey, Mole, Helio, Lavender, Fuchsia, Pansy, and Black. 36 inches wide, 3s. 6d. per yard. To-day's value, 5s. 6d. per yard. These lovely dress linens will be very largely worn this year. Patterns Free. For all orders under 20s. add 6d. for postage.—Hutton's, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ireland.

SECOND-HAND CLOTHING wanted to buy for cash; costumes, skirts, boots, underclothes, curtains, lounge suits, trousers, and children's clothing of every description; parcels sent will be valued and cash sent by return.—Mrs. Russell, 100 Raby Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

COOKING.

MISTRESSES can have their SERVANTS INSTRUCTED in any branch of cooking or household work at the Chelsea Polytechnic, Mauresa Road, S.W. 3.

FINISHING lessons in HIGH-CLASS COOKERY can be had at Marshall's School of Cookery, 32 Mortimer Street, W. 1.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE.—Secretary, Miss Philippa Strachey. Change of Address: After 21st June, address Wellington House, Buckingham Gate, Enquiries: Room 6, 3rd floor.

THE PIONEER CLUB has reopened at 12 Cavendish Place. Town Members £5 5s.; Country and Professional Members £4 4s. Entrance fee in abeyance (pro. tem.).

THE FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Eccleston Guild House, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1: Sunday, 5th August, 7.0, Maude Royden: Four Great Novels. I.—"Tale of Two Cities."

ALLEVIATE LONELINESS by forming Congenial Friendships, home or abroad.—For particulars write, Secretary, U.C.C., 16 L, Cambridge Street, S.W. 1.

JOIN INTERNATIONAL HOUSE CLUB, 55 Gower Street, W.C. 1. Subscription, 7s. 6d. per annum. Dainty Luncheons and Teas in the Cafeteria and in the garden. Thursday discussions re-open on 13th September. Club closes 11th August until 3rd September. Opening Social, Wednesday, 5th September.

"SOME FALLACIES OF ARTIFICIAL BIRTH CONTROL." Price 1s., postage 1d. Presents the fallacies convincingly and without bitterness.—S. Carlyle Potter, Bookseller, Marchwood, Southampton.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB, LTD., 9 Grafton Street, Piccadilly, W. 1.—Subscription: London Members, £3 3s.; Country Members, £1 5s. (Irish, Scottish, and Foreign Members, 10s. 6d.). No Entrance Fee till January, 1924. Excellent catering; Luncheons and Dinners à la Carte. All particulars, Secretary. Tel.: Mayfair 3932.

THE HOUSE ASSISTANTS' CENTRE,

(Licensed annually by the L.C.C.)

510 King's Road, Chelsea, S.W. 10.

(Near Edith Grove.)

The Office will be closed on Saturday, 4th August, and on Bank Holiday, 6th August.

During August Ann Pope will only be at the office by appointment, but her secretary will be there daily from 10.30 to 1.0 p.m., and every afternoon from 2.30 to 5.30 p.m. except Thursday afternoons.

Letters will receive prompt attention, and employers and workers can be suited either personally or by letter.

Please send THE WOMAN'S LEADER to me for twelve months. I enclose 6/6.

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