

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

AND THE COMMON CAUSE

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NOTES AND NEWS.

The General Election.

So it has come!—the late Government and the opposition are each of them trying to put the blame on one another for this unwanted Election. The issue, it is now clear, is not the Campbell Case, not even the Russian Treaty—the ostensible causes for the Dissolution—but the far wider question of Socialism *versus* Individualism. No single question, such as the Free Trade problem of last year, is before the electorate, but the fights are being waged on the party programmes taken as a whole. The new alignment appears inevitably to involve a rapprochement, at any rate for the purpose of the Election, between the Liberal and Unionist parties in some of the constituencies, which may lead to big developments later on. The Labour Party, therefore, is making a bid for "Power," and not only for "Office," in order to try to carry out the principles of Socialism and the other reforms for which it stands. The results are impossible to predict. We remember the big change of seats which resulted last year from the turnover of under a quarter of a million votes. Many victories were won by the minutest of majorities, and equally sensational changes may easily occur again. The Labour appeal will gain many converts in some districts, but so will the anti-socialist cry in others, while the absence of three-cornered fights in some of the constituencies in which they occurred last year is bound to tell against Labour.

Women Candidates.

We print below the complete list of Women Candidates adopted up to the time of going to press. The total number of 39 is 5 more than last year, and doubtless several others will come forward by nomination day. Twenty-six of the candidates have stood before, either in 1922 or 1923, and 13 are new. In view of the large majorities of some of the sitting members and the small majorities against some of the candidates, it is clear that there is an excellent chance of our finding a larger number of women in the next Parliament than in the last. Further particulars with regard both to the candidates and to their chances will be given in our next week's issue.

List of Women Candidates.

UNIONIST.	
The Viscountess Astor	‡2,676 Sutton (Plymouth).
The Duchess of Atholl	‡150 Kinross and West
The Hon. Mrs. Brodrick	‡6,978 (L.) Denbigh. [Perth.
Mrs. D. C. Edmunds	Unopposed (La.) Ogmore (Glamorgan)
*Mrs. E. J. Hulse	‡4,817 (La.) Derby.
*Miss M. L. K. Jones	‡5,407 (La.) Ardwick (Manchester)
*Mrs. Middleton	‡4,452 (La.) Wansbeck.
Mrs. Hilton Phillipson	‡1,869 Berwick.

Miss E. Pilkington	‡3,979 (La.) St. Helens.
Dame Helen Gwynne Vaughan	‡4,686 (La.) North Camberwell.
*Miss Irene Ward	‡7,491 (La.) Morpeth.

LIBERAL.

Mrs. Corbett Ashby	‡3,001 (U.) Watford
Mrs. Randolph Clarkson	‡11,724 (U.) Moseley (Birmingham)
*Mrs. Elias	‡1,490 (La.) S.E. (Southwark).
*Miss E. B. Mitchell	‡230 (La.) Lanark.
Lady Terrington	‡1,682 High Wycombe.
Mrs. Wintringham	‡1,101 Louth.

LABOUR.

Dr. Ethel Bentham	‡1,632 (L.) East Islington.
Miss Margaret Bondfield	‡4,036 Northampton.
*Dr. S. Churchill	‡1,654 (L.) North Hackney.
*Mrs. A. Corner	‡7,555 (U.) Farnham.
*Mrs. A. Dollan	‡1,727 (L.) Dumfries.
Mrs. Ayrton Gould	‡2,070 (U.) Northwich, Cheshire.
Mrs. Hamilton	Blackburn.
Miss Dorothy Jewson	‡3,082 Norwich.
Miss Susan Lawrence	‡416 East Ham, North.
*Mrs. Mercer	Unopposed Fairfield (Liverpool).
Miss Minnie Pallister	‡6,250 (U.) Bournemouth
Mrs. Penny	‡4,193 (U.) North East Leeds
Miss Edith Picton-Turbervill	‡1,824 (L.) Stroud.
*Mrs. Porter	‡6,038 (U.) Hastings.
*The Hon. Mrs. Bertrand Russell	‡5,414 (U.) Chelsea.
*Miss Sayle	‡17 (L.) Hemel Hempstead.
*Mrs. L. Simpson	‡3,013 (U.) West Dorset.
*Miss K. Spurrell	‡502 (L.) Totnes
Councillor Jessie Stephen	‡9,237 (U.) Portsmouth, South.
Miss E. Wilkinson	‡1,529 (L.) Middlesbrough, East.

INDEPENDENT LABOUR.

Miss Mary Richardson	*2,874 (U.) Acton (Middlesex).
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* New candidates. † Majority against. ‡ Majority at last election.

"The Questionnaire Plague."

Once more, on the eve of another General Election, protests have been raised against the attempts of organized electors to exact definite pledges from candidates for Parliament. A nameless correspondent in *The Times* of last week, himself a prospective candidate, murmurs bitterly against the "Questionnaire Plague," and urges all other persons similarly placed to combine with him in a kind of "candidates' trade union" for the purpose of presenting a united front to electors of all parties in concerted refusal to give any definite pledges regarding future action. Such pledges he describes as "rash vows, given in the heat of the moment . . . without due reflection" which "afford an opportunity for an unscrupulous candidate to promise all things, thus giving him an unfair advantage over a more conscientious rival." Quite so, these pledges are a source of temptation. But the writer forgets that the preservation of such pledges in writing by the organizations concerned act as a very real check to unscrupulousness and hot-headed rash vows. Meanwhile, if candidates can play at combination and trustification, so, too, can electors. Why should we not combine, irrespective of party, in the demand for candidates who can keep their heads at election time sufficiently to give intelligent and considered answers to definite questions. Indeed, in a sense that is precisely what women are doing—through the machinery of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship. We confess that we have no sympathy with this demand on the part of Parliamentary candidates for protection against their own weaker natures.

An Opponent for Grant Morden.

We are delighted to hear that in spite of Mrs. Oliver Strachey's decision not to contest the Brentford and Chiswick Division of Middlesex, the causes for which we stand will have a sound champion in Mr. J. C. Squire, the editor of the *London Mercury*. Few men reflect in their persons and policies a more consistent and fundamental negation of all the causes in which we are interested. We wish Mr. Squire the best of success in his venture, and we are confident that in so doing we express the views of many women members of Col. Grant Morden's own party.

Mrs. Wintringham and the Agricultural Wages Board.

We are glad to learn that Mrs. Wintringham is one of the appointed members on the new Agricultural Wages Board for England and Wales, which is being set up under the provisions of the Agricultural Wages Act. We are so accustomed to regard Mrs. Wintringham as a representative of the women's interest that we are apt not to lay sufficient stress on the extent which she represents also the agricultural interests. She represented, and we trust will represent again, one of the largest agricultural constituencies in the country, and has always made it her business to understand the views both of the farmer and the agricultural labourer. We notice that she is the only one of the members who was a Member of Parliament; it says much for her lack of political prejudice that this is so. Both from the point of view of her knowledge and of her fairness of outlook we can think of no one more qualified for this position.

Communists in the Wilderness.

We cannot refrain from applauding the general decision of the Labour Party to exclude members of the Communist Party from active participation in its political life—though regarding the practical forms of that decision we are not in a position to offer criticism. Clearly the Labour Party Conference has bequeathed a difficult interpretative task to its Executive Committee. On paper, and in theory, the Communist attitude to women embodies a frank acknowledgment of political and economic equality. The thesis of the Third International (made memorable in this country by official prescription) embody as generous a feminist programme as we have seen in any party manifesto. It is the Communist method rather than the Communist programme which is repugnant to our feminist susceptibilities. For the Communist method is the method of force and the negation of representative government. In so far as it allows its devotees to tolerate or use the forms of representative democracy, it avowedly allows them to do so for the object of permeation and eventual destruction. The Communist has no theoretical horror of physical violence, no theoretical objection to government by a coercive minority, no theoretical respect for the freedom of the Press. We say "theoretical" because in this country so strong are the traditions of representative democracy, and so instinctive is the repugnance to physical cruelty among our people, that many Communists conform in their immediate personal outlook to the political and social standards of the other three parties. That does not, however, render them desirable fellow workers in the political field. Their method is not our method; we dislike government by physical coercion whether we meet it in Rome or Moscow; and we know that under a régime of force women must inevitably go to the wall. Once more, we applaud the decision of the Labour Party.

Waitresses' Wages.

The Ministry of Labour appears to be moving in the much discussed matter of wages in the catering trades. We understand that official inquiries have been set on foot with a view to determining whether or no there is a case for the application of the Trade Boards Act to this class of labour. There is no doubt that the conscience of the public has been pricked with regard to the conditions of work and pay existing among the waitresses with whom it comes in daily personal contact, as well as those who pursue their equally arduous offices behind scenes. It would be a relief to know that their conditions had been in some degree standardized at a reasonable minimum level, and we believe that the better class of employers would welcome such a development as much as the general public would welcome it.

Shop Girls and Unemployment Benefit.

The Shop Assistants Union has protested against the fact that unemployment benefit has been disallowed to out-of-work shop assistants because they refused to accept work as domestic servants. The Union pointed out that for women who had qualified as saleswomen or clerks to be sent to domestic service

would make it practically impossible for them to get back to the occupation for which they had qualified and were best suited. The Ministry of Labour replied in very general terms that though applicants for benefit are in general required to show that they are not restricting their efforts to find work to their usual occupation when they are suitable for work in other occupations, local committees have been advised that they should not refuse benefit if the alternative occupation proposed is likely to prejudice the applicant's skill and prospect of resuming employment in her ordinary occupation. This is so general that it really gives little lead to the local committees and leaves the question to their judgment. There has unquestionably been a great deal of foolish talk about women "on the dole" who have refused work in domestic service, but in this case it looks as if the critics of the dole had some ground for their complaints. It is difficult to see why working as a domestic servant should make it difficult for a shop assistant to go back to her own job. Is it that her hands would be too roughened for counter work, or that domestic service would carry with it a social slur? Neither argument seems convincing. We cannot believe that a girl would be refused work because she had preferred service to idleness plus unemployment pay. What the Shop Assistants Union seems to forget is that domestic service is less likely to make a girl unsuited for her old job than a long period of unemployment, with its loosening of the habit of work.

International Congresses on the Moral Questions.

We have received an interesting account of the International Congress on the Traffic in Women and Children, and of the Congress of the International Abolitionist Federation, held at Graz last month. The traffic in women and children has mercifully not been resumed on any considerable scale since it was interrupted by the war, and the League of Nations has a vigorous committee to enforce the Conventions made in 1902 and 1911; nevertheless, constant watchfulness is necessary. There was an interesting debate on the proposal to prohibit the employment of foreign women in the maisons tolérées, a proposal which was rejected. Much was said of the value of women police in connection with the suppression of the white slave traffic. The debates of the International Abolitionist Federation dealt on the whole with more controversial subjects, though there was remarkable unanimity in recognizing that in the combat against venereal disease there must be no distinction of sex, and that the real remedy consists in education and social improvement. There was a sharp difference of opinion with regard to voluntary versus compulsory methods. Though many countries are providing free and voluntary systems of treatment, few seem ready to rely wholly on these methods. Great Britain, Holland, and Russia are the only countries that have adopted a completely voluntary system. In Germany a Parliamentary Committee has recently drawn up a Bill to introduce a compulsory system, but with great care to make it equal as between men and women. The other burning question was the treatment of street prostitutes. Belgium has a proposal under consideration by which a woman convicted of indecency or aggressive solicitation could be sent to a labour colony for a period of from two to seven years, and the Scandinavian countries already have similar laws. On the other hand, some of the delegates urged that punishment is useless; they looked to re-education and prevention through a sound moral education, and the proper care of neglected and feeble-minded children, as the only solution.

The Divorce Lists.

The *Daily Telegraph* recently had an interesting article on the divorce lists. The number of cases of divorce in the lists for this year is 918 (the very small number of probate cases included in this figure have not been deducted). This, though rather more than the number of cases in the two preceding years, is considerably less than in the years immediately following the war; in 1919 and 1920 there were over 2,000 cases. The feature in this year's lists which is of greatest interest is that for the first time the wives' petitions outnumber those of the husbands. This is obviously the result of the Matrimonial Causes' Act making the grounds of divorce equal between men and women. The number of undefended suits, too, is far greater in the case of actions brought by the wives; 468 cases brought by wives are undefended, but only 217 actions brought by husbands. One is left wondering in how many of these 468 cases where the husband admit his guilt would the wife have been able to obtain a divorce if it had not been for the Matrimonial Causes' Act.

THE MANIFESTOS.

On Sunday last the distracted and disgruntled electors of this country were presented by the three parties who are at the moment engaged in triangular competition for their votes, with three election manifestos. All are more or less of the same length, drafted pretty much in the same form, under headings which make comparison fairly easy. Fortunately, it is not our business to carry out such comparison over the wide field of national policy here presented to us. We are concerned with one aspect of the matter: the prospects which these documents open out in connexion with the particular feminist reforms which we have at heart. It is not to be supposed—indeed we do not for a moment suppose—that there exists among our readers or elsewhere, any considerable body of abstract feminists who will examine these three manifestos from this one aspect, with a view to voting in accordance with their judgment of it. And we ourselves adopt the rôle of abstract feminist, mainly in order that the composite feminists who read our abstract judgments may be stimulated during the present period of political malleability to lash up their respective parties to an increased competition in feminist pledges.

On paper, the Liberal Party is left sadly behind. Of the definite reforms for which we have been pressing during the past Session, only Widows' Pensions finds a place in their programme, and then only as part and parcel of an "all-in" insurance scheme on the lines, presumably, of that recently expounded by Sir William Beveridge. Nor do the Conservatives offer us any greater concession in the matter of Widows' Pensions. They too definitely indicate a contributory scheme as their aim, though they combine the suggestion with a distinctly pleasing, not to say, ingenious, reference to the economic independence of the pensioned widow. The Government's promise to widows is in one respect more definite, in another respect, less definite. It is more definite in that the Government is in a position to state that a scheme for Widows' Pensions has "reached an advanced stage" and was to have been laid before Parliament during the coming Session. But as to whether or no the proposed measure is (a) contributory, (b) part of a wider scheme, nothing is said. In view of the fact that an influential section of the Labour Party is in favour of a non-contributory scheme, we think that on the whole widows with dependent children have more to gain by a return to power of the present Government than by the accession to power of either of the other parties. The same can, we believe, be said regarding the prospects of Equal Franchise—a reform which is mentioned only in the Government's manifesto. We are tempted to add, however, that the existence of a Government Equal Franchise Bill in its present unhappy state of suspension,

THE RUSSIAN TREATY.

Though the dissolution of Parliament was the result of a vote on a matter of domestic politics, it is quite clear that the Election will be fought largely on the question of the Russian Treaty. A brief survey of the pros and cons may therefore be helpful.

There are many different points of view among the opponents of the Treaty. There are some people who regard any attempt to start normal relations with Russia as *ipso facto* an evil thing. But more and more the country is coming to realize that the internal politics of Russia are for the Russians themselves to settle, but that if we wish for increased security for the peace of Europe and increasing international trade it is essential that Russia should again be recognized in the comity of nations. It is only on the basis of this assumption that the present Treaty can be criticized in detail; from any other point of view one treaty is as undesirable as another.

The Treaty is divided into two parts, a Treaty of Commerce and Navigation and a General Treaty. The great merit of the Commerce and Navigation Treaty is that it seeks to foster trade between the two countries and to bring it within the normal sphere of international law. But, unfortunately, in many respects the negotiators gave back to the Soviet Government with the one hand, the privileges they had just received in the other. Thus, Article 1 is a most favoured-nation clause, but it is modified by a paragraph enabling Russia to give special and more favourable terms to any countries which formed part of the Old Empire, to border States or to States which may be admitted to a Customs Union. That is to say, Great Britain might find Poland or the Baltic States, including Finland, or China given more favourable trade terms than herself. Can

is the fortune rather than the fault of those who now claim credit for its existence. The painful and protracted early stages by which that ill-fated measure reached its present position reflect greater credit upon an active group of devoted private members (drawn from the Labour and Liberal parties) than upon the Government which, in spite of repeated pledges, allowed them to take a precarious initiative in the matter.

In the matter of Equal Guardianship, Legitimacy, Maintenance, and Women Police, the laurels are with the Conservative manifesto; for all these reforms are specifically mentioned. Here, in the event of the Conservatives achieving office, is a valuable series of pledges. Whether their conception of equal guardianship, if embodied in a Government measure, would show any appreciable advance on the conception embodied in the present Government's Bill, we are inclined to doubt, since Home Secretaries come, and Home Secretaries go, but departmental officials go on for ever. Nevertheless, where there is partial change, there is partial hope!

There is one other matter in which we (the pronoun carries all the editorial weight at our disposal) are supremely interested: the strengthening and development of the League of Nations. This aim is specifically mentioned in the Conservative manifesto. It is indicated by implication in the opening paragraph of the Labour manifesto. It finds no place in the Liberal manifesto. Our readers will agree that something more than paper lip service must determine our hopes concerning the relative claims of the three parties to serve the ideal embodied in the League. And clearly it is impossible for us to analyse such claims without sailing dangerously near the tempestuous wind of party feeling. But let us venture to say this much: in the surprisingly cutting attack which the *New Statesman* launched last week against the Prime Minister, a nameless leader-writer remarks that "as Foreign Secretary he has been an immense success; as Prime Minister he has been an utter failure." Concerning the latter statement the opinions of our readers will vary widely. Concerning the former there will be at least this much agreement:—By reason of his own ability and good faith, combined with the heritage of the Dawes Report and the contemporary accession to power of a wise and pacific French colleague, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's reign at the Foreign Office has been accompanied by a marked advance in the direction of European peace. Never before has a League Assembly focused such high hopes or recorded such definite progress as the Assembly which has just closed. We hope that whatever Government may emerge from the present turmoil, such good hope and sound progress may suffer no reaction.

This possibly be considered a satisfactory form of a most favoured nation clause? The question of China would become of particular importance if the Treaty were extended to India, as is allowed for in one of its clauses, since China is one of India's most important competitors. Analogous modifications which injure the whole purport of the clause are found in other sections of the Treaty. "Goods are to be free of transit dues (Article 3), but only by routes open to transit under the general legislation of the country." This makes it possible for either country to close a route by law at any moment. The subjects of the one contracting party admitted into the territory of the other are not to pay higher taxes than the citizens of the latter country, "with the exception of special cases provided for by the laws in regard to all foreigners" (Article 10). In other words, in spite of the Treaty, foreign trading concerns in Russia, including the British firms, may have to pay higher taxes than their Russian competitors. Foreign vessels are to be treated no less favourably than national vessels; "this provision shall not, however, be regarded as preventing either of the contracting parties from entering into contracts with any persons or companies for the purpose of establishing through rates." This means the Soviet railways may give special through rates for goods going on particular lines, placing these lines at an advantage as against their competitors.

The most important part of the general Treaty is Chapter III, dealing with the loan and the settlement of the Russian debt. As everyone now knows, the British Government undertakes to recommend Parliament to guarantee the interest and sinking fund of a loan to the Soviet Government. Firstly, another

Treaty has been agreed. This second Treaty is to determine the methods of repaying the holders of Russian bonds, provided the terms have been agreed to by the holders of at least half the British holding, and it is further to determine the amount and method of compensation paid for loss due to events which have taken place since 1st August, 1914. Both the opponents and the supporters of the Treaty stress the fact of these interesting stages. The Government's supporters point out that the loan can only be granted if Russia fulfils her obligations. The opponents of the Treaty, on the other hand, maintain that with so many difficult intervening steps this conditional promise of a guaranteed loan means nothing. All that is said is "we will try to come to an agreement about British claims." This is a praiseworthy wish, but it is not a Treaty. Nevertheless, the Russian public could easily be deluded into thinking the loan is already promised; then if the scheme falls through, if we are forced to refuse impossible terms for the settlement of the past debts, it will doubtless be a case of "perfidie Albion" once again. In addition to this, there is the all-important point that the interest of the sinking fund of the loan is to be guaranteed by the British Government. This is a complete innovation. The Austrian loan is not guaranteed, nor is the German loan, as proposed in the Dawes Report. But there can be no security that this loan will not be repudiated as the old debt was. Considering the sums which are likely to be involved it seems incredible that any Government should dare to accept the risk of Russian repudiation on behalf of the community. One hears many people say that the loan will starve British industry, but in fact the immediate result of the loan will be to stimulate trade far more than the investment of that sum of capital in our depressed markets could possibly do, since the Russians will need machinery, railway stock, and similar things which we will provide. But if the money is lost through Russian repudiation and the British taxpayers have to make it good, that certainly would injure trade. It would mean, in effect, an addition to our National Debt. The Labour Party holds that it is necessary to introduce a Capital Levy to prevent industry being strangled by our National Debt; yet they are prepared to face the very real risk of an unspecified, but presumably large, addition to our present debt for the sake of guaranteeing a loan to a nation which is quite likely to repudiate it.

TWO SPRING VISITS TO PALESTINE, 1921, 1922.¹

By MILLICENT GARRETT FAWCETT, J.P., LL.D.
CHAPTER III.—SOME OF THE DIFFICULTIES OF GOVERNING PALESTINE.

The white-peaked head-dress of the women of Bethlehem leads me to some reflections on the extraordinary difficulties which are inherent in the Government of Palestine. It is a small country of about the size of Wales. The total population is some 750,000, of whom about 76,000 are Jews and 77,000 Christians. The native Syrian or Arab Moslem population therefore outnumber Christian and Jewish combined by something like three and a half to one; but there is no one race which constitutes the Palestinian people. The inhabitants of Palestine are an extraordinary mix-up of races. In one small district, between Haifa and Casarea, there are no fewer than six races. In the British High School for Girls, in Jerusalem (a first-rate school on modern lines, of which I shall have more to say presently), there are no fewer than eleven different races represented among its 200 pupils. These races have different ideals, different standards, different outlooks on life: these differences will probably in time be lessened as education in common spreads. But this belongs to the future, and hardly diminishes the difficulties of the present, because not only does Palestine contain this extraordinarily mixed population as regards race, but also extraordinary differences in the standard of civilization within each race. The Jews and native Moslem Syrians, for example, have within them groups of individuals who can truthfully boast that they have changed nothing since the days of Abraham or Moses, or Mahomet; while, on the other hand, they have other groups whose educational and general social and industrial development puts them on a level with advanced European countries. There is the agriculturalist who is farming on modern scientific lines, and the agriculturalist who is using no implement of a later date than the little wooden plough of 3,000 years ago which he carries

¹ This is the third of a series of weekly articles which will extend over a period of about six months.

home on his shoulder when his day's work is done. There are groups of Moslems who still carry on the blood feud from generation to generation, and believe that retaliatory murder for the death of a relative in the distant past is not only excusable but a positive duty imposed by filial piety.¹ There are masses of people who "ward off the evil eye" by wearing blue beads, and also decorate their horses and camels with necklaces of the same. The sale of girl-children in marriage is sanctioned by the social customs of some of the Moslem races, while there are others which have more or less adopted European standards in this matter. I came across and spent more than a week in the same house with one poor little girl-wife of 16 years old who had already had four dead children. It does not require a great effort of imagination to picture to one's self the legislative difficulties arising from these conditions; what suits one section of the people is totally unsuited to another.

Again, this small country, and this is its great glory, has originated three of the great world-religions. It therefore contains the Holy Places of these three religions: Judaism, Christianity, and Mohammedanism. These religions have great central institutions in Jerusalem, and money pours into them from their pious adherents from all parts of the world. I was told by an official in the Treasury of the present Government of Palestine that the sums thus sent annually into Jerusalem for religious propaganda and the maintenance of institutions connected with religious work greatly exceed the whole revenue of the State.

I have just pointed out that the Protestants have no portions assigned to them in the division of the area of the ancient Christian churches in Palestine. But these Protestants, whether British, American, or German, have been very active in educational and religious propaganda. Scottish missions, financed by the Presbyterian Churches of Scotland are found in Nazareth, Tiberias, Jaffa, and elsewhere. The Church Missionary Society has spread a network of schools over the country and Beirut may almost be regarded as a university town, so great and so active are its schools and colleges, mainly Protestant, although the Roman Catholics are by no means unrepresented. I did not see Beirut myself on my first visit, so I could only judge of its educational institutions by their products—the men and women they have trained—and these impressed me most favourably. It appeared to me that the rest of the world owed the mission schools and colleges a very great debt of gratitude for what they have done in putting modern education within the reach of the young men and women of Palestine. On almost the last evening of my stay in Jerusalem in 1921 the Beirut American College (formerly the Syrian Protestant College) was holding a meeting in our hotel of the members of the College resident in Jerusalem. We were invited to attend and did so with much pleasure. The speaking was excellent and full of real educational enthusiasm. This College had lately opened all its classes and other educational advantages to women. The leaven of education is working and has already produced many notable changes.

CAN YOU JUDGE BABIES?

The National Baby Week Council discovered recently, in its Empire-wide search, 18 of the Empire's bonniest babies. So great was the interest in this search and in what constitutes a thoroughly healthy baby, that the Council gathered that the public would like to test its skill in judging babies. It has therefore published the photographs of the 18 prize-winning babies in book form, and gives, in addition to the photographs, some details regarding the physical condition of each of the prize-winners. The first prize-winner in each class is indicated. Intending competitors are asked to place the remaining five in each class in what they consider to be the right order of merit. Prizes (£50, £25, £10, and ten prizes of £1 each) are offered by the National Baby Week Council to those competitors whose arrangement most closely approximates the decision of the Judging Committee of the Council. Single copies of the "Baby Judging" book may be obtained upon application to the National Baby Week Council, 117 Piccadilly, London, W. 1, on payment of 3d. to cover postage, etc. Copies in bulk will be supplied to Infant Welfare Centres and similar organizations on payment of carriage and packing.

¹ During my visit in March, 1921, I was told of work being done by the Government to extinguish these blood feuds; and in the Interim Report of the Civil Administration of Palestine, published in August, 1921, p. 4, I read the following: "A great number of blood feuds among the Bedouins of Palestine have been settled by the intervention of the District Officials. In the Beersheba district alone 134 have been dealt with."

A CHOICE OF BOOKS.

MEDIEVAL PEOPLE. By EILEEN POWER. (Methuen, 6s.)

Miss Power introduces us to a large number of individuals of widely different nationalities, occupations, and stations in life, and lets them tell their stories in their own words. Most of them are quite unknown to fame, though Marco Polo plays his usual romantic part. We have met him before, and are more interested in the peasant Bodo and his family, whose record is taken from the ninth century estate book of the Abbey of St. Germain des Prés, and of whom we hear how he saw the elephant given to Charlemagne by the Caliph in 801, in the Parisian housewife of the fourteenth century, and in Thomas Paycocke of Coggeshall, to say nothing of the too-little-known Cely letters. Reading is made easy by modern spelling, and Miss Power has concentrated her learning in the thirty pages of notes which close this interesting book.

WHERE THE BRIGHT WATERS MEET. By HARRY PLUNKET GREENE. (Philip Allan, 12s. 6d.)

There is much beside trout-fishing in this delightful book, much of the love of quiet places and country things—birds, beasts, music, and the knowledge of human beings—which is the fruit of wise travel and a friendly feeling for one's fellows. The ardent fisherman will find entertainment, and those who crowd to hear Mr. Greene sing will know what to expect, and will be amply rewarded.

THE HOME OF AN EASTERN CLAN: A STUDY OF THE PALAUNGS OF THE SHAN STATES. By Mrs. LESLIE MILNE. (Milford, 16s.)

Mrs. Milne has followed up her valuable book on the Shans of Burma by a similar study of the Palaungs, their neighbours. She has lived among these peaceable, agricultural folk, and studied their language and her account of their customs is derived from themselves. Spirit worship is a highly organized business with them, and exists in peaceful proximity to the Buddhist hierarchy. Some of their magic is gruesome, and there are many ghosts, the most feared being the spirits of women who die in childbirth. The spells and ceremonies connected with plants and trees are especially interesting, and ethnologists will be grateful to Mrs. Milne for her excellent work.

THE LITTLE FRENCH GIRL. By ANNE DOUGLAS SEDGWICK. (Constable, 7s. 6d.)

Mrs. de Selincourt has used her knowledge of French mentality with great effect in this interesting book, and she balances Alix and her wayward mother with equally true and careful portraits from this side of the Channel. The man through whose eyes we see Alix and her surroundings is drawn with fine observation. He is not a picturesque hero, but a real and attractive individual, justly and humourously portrayed. It is in his mind, and in that of the little French girl Alix, that the fundamental differences between English and French social custom and point of view are discussed and judged, and in this process the author strikes us as being very fair. On each side there is something shocking to the mind of the other, but she herself does not weight the scales. She contents herself with setting the problems forth with great knowledge and impartiality. If one could quarrel with anything in so finished a piece of work, it would be that the very complete make-up of an austere young lady who plays a considerable part in the story is somewhat set awry by a childishly unfitting nickname. That this should jar on one is in itself a tribute to the fine handling of a closely woven and admirably written book.

STELLA BENSON.

The publication of a new novel by Stella Benson is a regrettably rare occurrence, and we joyously welcome the appearance this month of *Pipers and a Dancer*,¹ just two years after the publication of her last, *The Poor Man*. The book is a small one; it feels light in the hand, and, at first blush, light in the head. It has, like all her work, a peculiar airiness, and the technical perfection of a finely wrought jewel. And like all her work it is wholly different from anything that has ever been written by anyone. Briefly, it is a study in personal instability: the instability of a girl across whose personality changing moods and poses play in quick response to the judgments and assumptions of her daily companions. Inevitably, or almost but not quite inevitably, she dances to their piping; and the book leaves her dancing. The outer framework of her recorded dances is a simple one. We meet her first, en route

¹ *Pipers and a Dancer*, by Stella Benson. (Macmillan, 6s.)

for China, with an impossible and wholly absurd young man, to whom she is engaged, awaiting her at the end of her journey. For a while she lingers, dancing in Hong-Kong. Her stiffening resolve not to marry the young man after all coincides with his capture by brigands and his subsequent death. So much for the story. And writing herself from the remote heart of China, Miss Benson uses her unique mastery of language and imagery to clothe her heroine's environment in the strange atmosphere of that Celestial Empire. In her hands, China comes physically and spiritually to life.

The reviewer who takes it upon himself to handle the word "genius" incurs a heavy responsibility. But in dealing with the work of Stella Benson it is a word not easily avoidable. Hers is not a solid and unquestioned genius of a type that will raise her to companionship with the immortals of literature. Perhaps the word after which we are feeling is not "genius" at all, but "magic." But—"magic" or "genius"—there it is. Sometimes her swift flashes of description and her impish twists of fancy are merely extraordinarily clever; occasionally, irritatingly clever. But there are moments (rarer, alas, in her later books than in her early masterpiece, *This is the End*, or in her poetry) when these same flashes and twists are more than clever. At such moments, perhaps in an ecstasy of musical words, she leaps right out of the proportioned world of material values into a "secret world," an immortal world of unponderable fairy relationships between persons and, not less, between things.

"And you shall seek me till you reach
The tangled tide advancing,
And you shall find upon the beach
The footprints of my dancing,
And in the air the happy speech
Of secret friends romancing."

Follow her, if you can, oh reader, into this undimensional world of her own deep and delicate fancy—and take the risk of returning a little "moonstruck" to your day's business. On second thoughts we are inclined to think that "magic" is after all the right word; indeed, the only word. But Heaven knows what it means!

M. D. S.

"THE HOMEMAKER."

In Miss Canfield's book *The Homemaker*¹ we enter the atmosphere of a small American town, in whose simple and homely environment the author develops her story of a man and woman who found their respective vocations. It is a story which we were impelled to absorb at a sitting from start to finish—because, forsooth, it is so exceedingly well told. This being so, the intending reader need cherish no sense of repulsion when we reveal the fact that *The Homemaker* is something more than an interesting story; it is an effective and sharply pointed sermon which might well have as text the New Testament parable of the buried talents. It is a challenge to the obstinate social and domestic assumption that every individual woman is a born home-maker, every individual man a born wage-earner. With forcible and skilful hands Miss Canfield describes the unhappiness and wastage involved by the attempt to force a peculiarly constituted couple into this crude and clumsy social mould, the series of events which enable them to escape from its cramping-irons, and the obstacles which an unsympathetic and conventional public opinion must inevitably oppose to their deliverance. Miss Canfield's latest novel is the appropriate reply to Mr. Hutchinson's recent book *This Freedom*. She must forgive us for mentioning her vigorous and convincing story in the same breath with such nauseating and illiterate slush.

M. D. S.

NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE.

Our next week's issue will be a General Election number, in which we shall give special reports of the prospects of Women Candidates, etc. A report of the Conference of the National Council of Women at Brighton last week has had to be held over, but will be published next week.

A WOMAN SURVEYOR.

Surveying is a new profession for women. We learn that the first woman to pass the final examination of the Surveyors' Institute, Miss Irene Martin, has set up in her profession on her own and has opened her own office.

¹ *The Homemaker*, by Dorothy Canfield. (Jonathan Cape, 7s. 6d.)

REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR MORAL AND SOCIAL HYGIENE.

We would recommend to the attention of all our readers the newly issued Annual Report of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene. It is a record of splendid work done both at home and abroad for the attainment of the ideal set forth in the "Objects" of the Association, namely:—". . . to secure the recognition of an equal standard of morality for men and women, and to eradicate prostitution and kindred evils . . . to study and promote such legislative, administrative, social, educational, and hygienic reforms as will tend to encourage the highest public and private morality." Friends of Internationalism should read the résumé of international work against regulation carried on during the last 14 years in many parts of the world—in European countries, in Australia, S. Africa, India, Burma, the Straits Settlements, and Japan. At the moment, Hong Kong and Singapore are presenting special problems which we hope will be solved on abolitionist lines. Work at home has been no less active. The campaign is being carried on in favour of a "New Moral Appeal" based on the bed-rock principle of the Association—"Liberty with Responsibility," and addressed to young people both through their reason and their highest moral aspirations. A reasoned opposition has been constantly exerted against the introduction of compulsory methods in dealing with Venereal Diseases. Special work has been continued for the successful promotion of a "Bill to repeal certain laws relating to prostitutes, and to amend the law relating to order in streets and public places." Important meetings have been held in connexion with this question. Let us remind Societies of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship that at the Council Meeting last March, resolutions were passed calling for the repeal of present laws, and recommending special efforts towards the education of public opinion to demand their repeal. The Association, through its Secretary, Miss Neilans, made a direct and important contribution to the section dealing with Regulation and Prostitution at the great conference, held at Birmingham last April, known as C.O.P.E.C. The conference adopted whole-heartedly not only abolitionist principles, but also the implications of the Equal Moral Standard for men and women. It is impossible, in a paragraph, to indicate half the interests of this Report. It remains the triumph of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene to have won the confidence and support of all who are working for a single high moral standard to be secured by methods of justice, liberty, and responsibility.

PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS WOMEN'S HOSPITAL LEAGUE.

We have just received the annual report of the exceedingly useful organization which provides for the professional woman a middle way between the swollen expense of home nursing or nursing home, and the charitable general ward of a voluntary hospital. Two changes in administration are recorded. A new rate of subscription has come into operation:—8s. for the first year, followed by an annual payment of 7s. 6d., and Miss Mildred Ransom (well known to Suffragists as an active organizer of *Common Cause* sales in pre-war days) hands over the secretaryship to Miss Philippa Strachey. The office of the League will therefore in future be Miss Strachey's office, 35 Marsham Street, Westminster.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

(British Section: 55 Gower Street, W.C.1.)

The fifth assembly of the League of Nations was a notable gathering for the W.I.L. Not only was the first President of the British Section, Mrs. Swanwick, one of the delegates of the British Government, but a very important step towards the realization of our aims was taken by the Assembly. In the manifesto issued by the W.I.L. nine years ago, one of the objects of the League was stated to be "the reference of international differences to arbitration or conciliation," and to this the representatives of 48 nations have now pledged themselves, through the machinery of the League of Nations. Even what are called domestic questions can be brought before the Council if legislation which one nation considers "domestic" affects another nation. If this agreement had been in force in 1899 the rights of Britons in the Transvaal, a domestic question to the Boers but affecting us, could have been brought before the League, and a long and disastrous war might have been prevented. The full text of the protocol agreed to at Geneva can now be obtained, but like most legal documents does not make easy reading for a lay person. At the Essex Hall on Friday, 17th October, at 8 p.m., Mrs. Swanwick will give "Impressions of the Fifth Assembly," and all are invited to hear an account of these important decisions, in plain English.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

President: Miss ELLEANOR RAITHBONE, C.C., J.P. Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. SODDY. Parliamentary Secretary: Mrs. HUBBARD. Offices: 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1. Telephone: Victoria 6188.

GENERAL ELECTION.

Election Work.—We appeal confidently to our Societies to help in this Election, so unwelcome to all of us. Only by the return of a House of Commons pledged to our reforms and greatly strengthened in the number of its women members can we hope to achieve that success which has once more been denied to us. Only through work in the constituencies can the answers of Candidates be obtained, and effective help to Women Candidates given. We beg our Societies, therefore, not only to work in their own constituencies, but to get into touch with women who will undertake the task of putting the Questionnaire, etc., to the Candidates in the neighbouring constituencies.

Records of Members of Parliament.—We keep at Headquarters a record of the votes of Members of Parliament on the points on our programme, dating back for nearly 20 years. We shall be pleased to answer any questions on their records, or on answers given by the Candidates in former Elections.

Women Candidates.—Two of our Vice-Presidents, Lady Astor (U., Sutton, Plymouth) and Miss Susan Lawrence (Lab., East Ham North), and four of the members of our Executive Committee, Mrs. Corbett Ashby (Lib., Watford), Mrs. Ayrton Gould (Lab., Northwich), Miss Picton-Turbervill (Lab., Stroud), Mrs. Wintringham (Lib., Louth) are standing, and are anxious to use our help. It is for our Members to see that we give them all the support they need.

Appeal for Voluntary Workers in Women Candidates' Constituencies.—We beg all those who can give any time to Election work, and who are not yet pledged, to communicate immediately with Headquarters, in order that we may draft them to the Women for whom they are most ready to work. Speakers, canvassers, clerical workers, and car drivers are all required.

Appeal for Funds.—We appeal to our friends for contributions to a *Special Election Fund* for the support of women candidates and to meet the additional expenses incurred at Headquarters. These expenses were not budgeted for in our Guarantee Fund, which forces us once again to ask for help now. Our friends have never failed us in the past, and we may trust them to respond once more. Already several have sent contributions. We print their names below, and hope to add to the list each week. Contributions can be earmarked for the support of any particular Woman Candidate.

RESPONSE TO THE ELECTION FUND.

Lady Beilby	£25 0 0
Mrs. Bruce Richmond	5 0 0
Mrs. Fyffe	3 0 0
Mrs. Heitland	2 2 0
Mrs. A. G. Pollock	2 2 0
Miss Beath	1 1 0
Miss A. Hicks	1 1 0
Mr. Theodore Dodd	1 0 0
Mrs. E. L. Walter Dunbar	10 6
Miss Adams	9 8
	<hr/>
	£41 6 2

Mrs. Fawcett has promised a subscription.

POSTPONEMENT OF NORMAL ACTIVITIES.

We make a special request to Secretaries of Societies to throw all their energies into the immediate work of the General Election. Of necessity this *must* happen at Headquarters, and we shall therefore be most grateful to Secretaries and members who will postpone until November, in so far as it is possible, any correspondence unconnected with election work.

POSTPONEMENT OF RECEPTION TO MRS. SWANWICK TO WEDNESDAY, 12th NOVEMBER, 3.45 p.m.

Owing to the General Election it has unfortunately been found impossible to hold the Reception which had been arranged to take place at the Caxton Hall on 24th October, to meet Mrs. Swanwick, and other women who took part in the Fifth Assembly of the League of Nations; but the occasion has been postponed to 12th November.

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR MUNICIPAL CANDIDATES.

We print below the newly revised questionnaire to be put to candidates at Municipal Elections. Although the General Election will absorb much of the energy which was to have been expended on the Municipal Elections, we trust that suitable women candidates at the latter will have the support of Societies or individual members, and that all candidates will be questioned on the points on our programme:—

1. Will you support the application of the principle of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, 1919, so that a woman shall not be disqualified on account of her sex from any post or office under the Council?
2. Will you oppose the compulsory retirement on marriage of women employees of the Council?
3. Will you support equal pay for equal work and equal opportunities of training, entry and promotion for all men and women employed by the Council? (Equal Pay for Equal Work means that men and women should be paid at the same rate whether this is to be computed by time or by piece in the same occupation or grade.)
4. Will you in any scheme for the training or relief of the unemployed include provision for women as well as for men, and will you pay special regard to the claims of those, whether men or women, who have dependents?
5. Will you urge your Watch Committee, or your Standing Joint Committee for County Police, to carry out the recommendations of the Report of the Departmental Committee on the Employment of Women Police, 1924, and appoint Women Police in your area?
6. Are you in favour of providing equal facilities for girls and boys in education, including technical and industrial education?
7. Will you endeavour to secure the appointment of an adequate representation of women on all Committees and Sub-Committees of your Council, either as elected or as co-opted members?

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONNAIRE OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

- *1.—*Equal Franchise.*—If elected, will you urge the Government to introduce, adopt, and carry legislation to extend the Parliamentary Franchise to women on the same residential qualifications and from the same age as to men? Will you make a statement to this effect in your Election Address and in your speeches?
- *2.—*Equal Guardianship of Children.*—If elected, will you do all in your power to urge the Government to introduce and to carry legislation giving mothers equal rights and responsibilities with fathers as regards their children?
- *3.—*Widows' Pensions.*—If elected, will you urge the Government to introduce and to carry legislation to give pensions to civilian widows with dependent children?
- *4.—*Equal Pay and Opportunities.*—If elected, will you support legislative and administrative measures to secure in the Civil Service, under Local Authorities and elsewhere: (1) Full professional and industrial freedom and opportunities for women; (2) Equal Pay for Equal Work?
- *5.—*Employment of Married Women.*—If elected, will you support legislation to make illegal the compulsory retirement on marriage of women employed by the State or by Local Authorities?
- *6.—*Unemployment.*—If elected, will you urge the Government to make provision for women as well as for men in any scheme for the training or relief of the unemployed, in proportion to their numbers, and will you pay special regard to those, whether men or women, who have dependents?
- *7.—*Equal Moral Standard.*—If elected, will you: (a) Support legislation to abolish the present Solicitation Laws, so that the laws for maintenance of order in the streets may be the same for men and women? (b) Further, will you urge the abolition of the licensing of prostitutes and the State Regulation of vice in the Crown Colonies, which was abolished in this country in 1886?
- *8.—*Children of Unmarried Parents.*—If elected, will you support legislation which will: (a) Place on the father of an illegitimate child equal responsibilities with the mother? (b) Strengthen the machinery with regard to the payment of affiliation orders? (c) Provide for the legitimation of a child on the subsequent marriage of its parents?
- *9.—*Separation and Maintenance Orders.*—If elected, will you urge the Government to introduce legislation to make the grounds for separation orders the same for men as for women and to strengthen the machinery enabling a wife and her children to obtain maintenance from a neglectful husband and father?
- *10.—*Women Police.*—If elected, will you support legislation to make compulsory on Local Authorities the appointment in all police areas of an adequate number of women police with powers and status equal to those of men police?
- *11.—*Nationality of Married Women.*—If elected, will you support legislation to ensure that: (a) A British woman shall not lose her nationality by marriage with an alien? (b) An alien woman shall not acquire British nationality by marriage with a British subject?
- *12.—*Taxation of the Incomes of Married Persons.*—If elected, will you support the inclusion in the next Finance Bill of provision for the separate taxation of the incomes of married persons?
- *13.—*League of Nations.*—If elected, will you do all in your power to urge the Government to strengthen and develop the existing League, and to ensure the carrying into effect of the principle laid down in the Covenant that all positions in connexion with the League shall be open equally to men and women?

* Indicates most important questions.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CO-EDUCATION OF MEDICAL STUDENTS.

MADAM.—The Medical Women's Federation, while not desiring to take part in the public controversy which is going on with regard to the question of co-education of medical students at St. Mary's Hospital, London, wishes it to be known that the Federation is naturally against the exclusion of women from the medical school, as it desires all possible opportunities of experience for women in the profession. On 30th April, of this year, the following letter, signed by the President on behalf of the Council of the Federation, was sent to each member of the Hospital Board of Management of St. Mary's Hospital:—

"We understand that at the meeting of your Board of Management to-morrow, the question of the future admission of woman students to St. Mary's Hospital is to come up for discussion.

Speaking on behalf of the whole of the Medical Women's Federation—a federation of twelve Associations in England, Scotland, and Wales, with a membership of nearly 900—we would submit to you that a reversal of the policy of co-education adopted by you in 1919, and emphasized by you in the public Press in 1919 and 1920, and in your public appeal in 1920, would seriously damage the reputation of the past and present women students of St. Mary's Hospital, as well as reflect on the honour of an authority which has used its adoption of the policy of co-education as one reason for support in its appeal for public funds. We trust that these considerations may influence your decision, and that you may see no reason to change the fair policy adopted by you during the last eight years."

FRANCES IVENS,

President, the Medical Women's Federation.

MISS PICTON-TURBERVILL'S CANDIDATURE.

MADAM.—May I through your columns make a plea for motor cars for polling day in the Mid-Gloucester Division. The constituency is 24 miles by 15; as far as I know only one of my supporters possesses a motor-car. As he is a baker, I am not hopeful even about this; for I fear people will be inconsiderate enough to want their usual bread on Wednesday 29th October!

The Cotswold country is glorious, just now in the very height of beauty. I need help in motors, not only on polling day, but right away now. Please no one offer without providing driver. On 29th October many to vote will have to walk three miles after a hard day's work; and if we have no cars the disadvantage is great.

EDITH PICTON-TURBERVILL,
Kendrick Chambers, Stroud.

SANCTIONS AND THE CHILD.

MADAM.—By the interpolation of an extra pair of quotation marks by the printer into Mr. Macdonell's reference to my speech in the Assembly, my own words of conclusion are attributed to the babe Astyanax. I was thinking of the women of Central Europe and Russia and the Near East, whose cry for their maimed and starved and slaughtered children has gone up to heaven. Not only all wars, but all Sanctions strike the child.
H. M. SWANWICK.

TO ALL ELECTION WORKERS

Many Women do not go to Public Meetings!
Many Women will not listen to Canvassing!

THEY WILL READ A SIMPLE LEAFLET

The following leaflets for broadcasting may be obtained from the Secretary, N.U.S.E.C., 15 Dean's Yard, S.W. 1.

FOR WOMEN CANDIDATES.

Vote for the Women this Time . . . 100 free, 9s. per 1,000
Women in Parliament—Why? . . . 100 ,, 9s. ,,

GENERAL.—WOMEN'S PROGRAMME.

What Women Want. (Back: Have I a Parliamentary Vote?) . . . 100 free, 9s. per 1,000
Why? (Back: Have I a Parliamentary Vote?) . . . 100 ,, 9s. ,,

FOR THE USE OF ELECTION WORKERS.

Notes on Election Work . . . 6d. each, or 5s. 6d. doz.
A Vindication of Canvassing . . . 1d. ,, 11d. ,,
How to Conduct a Non-Party Election Campaign . . . 1d. ,, 11d. ,,

The Questionnaire of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, with a Key to all Questions, will be supplied free, or at 9s. per 1,000.

COMING EVENTS.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE.

OCT. 21. 3 p.m. 35 Marsham Street, S.W. Miss Helen Ward on "Armchair Feminism and the International Labour Office."

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

SCOTTISH COUNCIL OF WOMEN CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS. OCT. 18. Fourth Annual Conference in Temperance Cafe, Falkirk. Subjects: "The Permanent Care of the Feeble-minded," "Widows' Pensions," "Some Aspects of Public Health." Speakers: Lady Leslie Mackenzie, Sir Leslie Mackenzie, M.D., LL.D., Dr. Clarkson, Dr. Robertson, and others.

BARNSELY S.E.C. OCT. 22. 6 p.m. St. Mary's Parish Room. "Feminism in Shakespeare." Speaker: Evan Davies, Esq., B.A. Chair to be taken at 5.30 by Mrs. Willis.

READING SOCIETY E.C. OCT. 23. 8 p.m. The Large Town Hall, Reading. Election Campaign. Public Meeting to meet the Parliamentary Candidates.

SOCIETY FOR CONSTRUCTIVE BIRTH CONTROL AND RACIAL PROGRESS.

OCT. 23. 8 p.m. Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand. General Meeting. Presidential Address by Dr. Marie Stopes, entitled "The Present Position of the Birth Control Movement," preceded by the Annual Business Meeting.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

OCT. 17. 8 p.m. Meeting at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. Speaker: Mrs. H. M. Swanwick. Subject: "Impressions of the Fifth Assembly."

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WESTMINSTER.—Small COTTAGE to let, furnished, for winter; telephone; suit two ladies; £14 a month; references required.—Write appointment, Mrs. Gray, 21 Gayfere Street, Smith Square, Westminster.

THE ISIS CLUB.—Visitors and Permanent Residents. Sandy soil. Central heating; sunny rooms; excellent cuisine. Tennis, dancing, wireless.—79 Fitzjohn's Avenue (15 minutes Oxford Street). Telephone, Hampstead 2869.

PROFESSIONAL.

PUBLIC SPEAKING.—Miss Geraldine Cooke, 2 George Street, Portman Square, W. 1, is free to address meetings on Citizenship and kindred subjects. Terms on application.

INCOME TAX RECOVERED AND ADJUSTED. Consult Miss H. M. Baker, 275 High Holborn, W.C. 1. Income Tax Returns, Super Tax Returns, Repayment Claims of all descriptions. Telephone: Holborn 377.

POST VACANT.

COULD any gentlewoman recommend USEFUL MAID, also GENERAL SERVANT; both wanted about three months; maisonette, London. Also superior USEFUL MAID, for West Indies.—Box 1,098, WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

THE TAYLOR HOME SET OF THERMOMETERS, including book of tested recipes and instructions for their use. (The sugar-boiling and frying thermometers are in silver-plated copper cases.) Price 28s.—Write, Box 1,089, WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

IRISH LINEN ROLLER TOWELLING.—Remnant Bundles of extra strong durable Linen Roller Towelling, sufficient to make four towels, 2½ yards long, 11s. per bundle. Write for Bargain List—TO-DAY.—HUTTON'S, 47, Main Street, Lame, Northern Ireland.

THE "OLIO" RECIPE BOOK cannot be beaten for Reliability, Cheapness, Goodness. Edition XIV enlarged to 1,776 Recipes and Hints. Paper 2s. 6d., cloth 4s. All Booksellers.

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. (Stamped addressed envelope for reply.)

ARTIFICIAL TEETH (Old), 2s. a tooth on vulcanite, 4s. on silver, 6s. on gold. Cash by return.—Gray's Dental Works, Cromwell Street, Nottingham.

DRESS.

THE HAT DOCTOR, removed to 52 James Street, Oxford Street, W. 1, cleans, reblocks and copies hats at lowest possible price. Renovates furs. Covers satin or canvas shoes or thin kid with brocade or velvet. Materials and post, 13s. 6d.; toe-caps, 8s. 6d.; your own materials, work and post, 8s. 6d., in three days.

"FROCKLETS." Mrs. Elborough, c/o Madame Sara, 163 Ebury Street (5 min. Victoria Station). Tel., Ken. 3947. Children's Dresses of original and practical design, Coats, Caps, etc., etc. Snocks a speciality. Fancy Dresses. Open daily (Saturdays excepted) 10 a.m.—4 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 35 Marsham Street, Westminster. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Weekly "At Homes," Tuesdays in October at 3 p.m. 21st October: Miss Helen Ward on "Armchair Feminism and the International Labour Office."

TO USERS OF THE "OLIO" COOKERY BOOK. 700 Recipes and Hints added to Editions XIII and XIV. Obtainable for 1s. 6d.—"Olio," 57 West Cliffe, Preston, Lancs.

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 19th October. 3.30. Music. Address by the Latvian Minister. 6.30. Maude Royden: "What is Jesus Christ to us?"

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

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Edward Wright & Cavendish Bentinck Lending Libraries.

These two libraries contain some three thousand volumes, including sections on current political, economic and social matters of special interest to women as citizens, as well as a historical section of the Women's Movement, which dates back to the 15th Century. Boxes containing approximately 20 books are available for Societies, Study Circles, etc.

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