

"(3) Inspection of immigrants in their home countries by means of immigration inspectors attached to U.S. Consulates?"

"(4) Seeking the co-operation of foreign Governments in preventing the emigration of ineligible aliens?"

Among those who took an active part were: Miss Mary Hurlbutt, Director of the Immigration Service Bureau of the Y.W.C.A., who made a study last year for the World's Y.W.C.A. on the Welfare of Migrants in Europe; Miss Razasky, representing the American Council of Jewish Women; Mr. John L. Bernstein, President of the Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society; Professor Elsworth Huntington, of Yale University, who said that the problem could not be solved by casual restriction but by intensive individual selection; Professor Isaac Hourwich; Professor Drachler; Mr. Sidney Gulick, for the National Committee for Constructive Immigration Legislation; Mr. Ernest Greenwood, American Correspondent of the International Labour Office at Washington; Dr. Adolphus Vinci, of the Italian Embassy; Mr. W. W. Peters, of the Department of Labour; Miss Frances Kellor, Mrs. Edith Terry Bremer, Mr. Bruno Laskar and others.

The problem was discussed from the point of view of Social Welfare, Biology, Economics, Labour and Government, with addresses by experts and thorough discussion afterward.

There was so much enthusiasm and interest in the Conference that a resolution was unanimously adopted providing that the Conference be made permanent, and a committee of eight was appointed to make plans for an active future.

THE Y.W.C.A. AND THE GIRL GUIDE ASSOCIATION.

THE leaders in girl's work of the Y.W.C.A. have always been much interested in the Girl Guide movement, and have even, as in India, been its pioneers. The World's Y.W.C.A. is represented on the International Girl Guide Council and in several countries Guiding is one of the forms of girls' work used by the Y.W.C.A. For example, in Denmark, side by side with the "Blue" Girl Guides are the Y.W.C.A. "Green"



Y.W.C.A. Girl Guide Leaders from Norway Great Britain, Denmark and Sweden at a review of Danish Girl Guides in front of the University, Copenhagen.

Girl Guides. In France, girls who will eventually be members of the Union Chrétienne de Jeunes Filles are "Eclairées Unionistes." In Norway the Guide movement is practically a Y.W.C.A. movement. In Italy and in Great Britain the Y.W.C.A. is reckoned an "affiliated society" by the Girl Guide Association, and the Y.W.C.A. companies have very successful "camps" and good company work. In India the Y.W.C.A. has both Indian and European companies, and works in such close co-operation with the Guide organization that a few years ago it was possible to arrange a similar scheme of work for Indian Guides and

for Indian Girl Messengers (an organization preferred in some mission schools), so that any group desiring to pass from the Girl Messengers into the bigger organization of Girl Guides could do so with very little difficulty. Flexibility is a cardinal virtue in girls' work, and it is very encouraging to note that while people are coming more and more to realize that there are certain characteristics common to girlhood, no matter what the nationality, there is also a recognition of the fact that circumstances alter cases, and that the use made of those characteristics may vary as much as the cultivation of the oak and the banana.

JAPANESE Y.W.C.A. AND THE PEACE EXPOSITION.

THE big Peace Exposition organized by the Japanese Government will, among other buildings, include one which will witness to the conviction of Japanese Christian women that peace must come, no matter what sacrifice is involved. The Japanese Y.W.C.A. National Committee has undertaken the responsibility of a house for women and children in the grounds of the Exposition, in a central position, near the Social Welfare building. This house was opened last month with the Exposition, and will remain open, at the service of any who care to use it until the Exposition closes in July. The National Committee raised a special fund to make possible this piece of service, which puts in as public and concrete a form a possible the attitude they take on the peace question.

HELPING NATIONAL PRODUCTION PLUS A VACATION.

ON a peninsula jutting out into Lake Michigan there are thousands and thousands of cherry trees. These ripen at about the same time and it is quite impossible for the few inhabitants of the peninsula to harvest the crop. This means getting in outside labour, not always an easy thing, and it is difficult to tell in advance what the standard of such labour will be. This is one reason why the Y.W.C.A. opened a camp for one hundred girls there. The crop was saved for national consumption, the girls had an open-air holiday at no cost to themselves and with the joy of a little money to take home, and the owners of the cherry trees secured a group of pickers who were not merely reliable and hard-working but keen to pick as quickly and thoroughly as possible. They even had a "cherry banner" awarded each night to the group (they worked and played in groups of ten) who had made the record in quarts during the day.

A HOLIDAY WITH A PURPOSE IN INDIA.

THE National Y.W.C.A. Training School, which is held in Calcutta in the cold weather, migrates to Southern India when the thermometer goes up, and in Ootacamund not merely continues its own work, but opens courses to girls there on holiday. Thus a girl living in some small station in the plains can spend part of her day in the school of Physical Education, making herself a new woman and taking back games galore to her friends and neighbours. Or members of Association branches, eager to extend the work, can take regular classes on the aims, history and methods of the Association. A Bible School will be held for the many people who wish to keep in touch with all that scholarship is doing in deepening our knowledge and appreciation of the Bible; and in addition to the regular courses there are lectures, demonstrations and meetings on the many subjects of interest to modern women. The experiment was tried on a smaller scale last hot weather, with a success which promises well for the bigger plan made for this summer. Only those who know what life is like in India can realize what such opportunities mean to girls of all races there.

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THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWS

THE MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.



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World's Y.W.C.A. Supplement CENTRE PAGES	

MRS. TROUNSON'S tour in Canada and Newfoundland has met with wonderful success. In spite of the swiftness of her passage from place to place, many meetings have been held, new members have been gained for the Alliance, and some of these we look forward to welcoming at the Congress in Rome in the spring of next year.

ONCE more a Woman Suffrage Bill has been defeated in the South African Parliament, but by a very narrow majority of four votes.

A BILL has been introduced in the Argentine Legislature to abolish the regulation of prostitution.

By an overwhelming majority the German Reichstag, on April 6, passed a Bill conferring jury service on women on practically the same conditions as men; nurses and midwives may claim exemption. This is a notable victory for the women's organizations and the women members of Parliament, who, irrespective of party, united in working for the Bill.

In Danzig the Diet has passed, by 58 votes to 27, a Bill making women eligible as judges on the same terms as men.

In the final draft of the German Venereal Diseases Bill, presented to the Reichstag by the Reichsrat, the regulation of prostitution has been re-introduced. Women M.P.'s and women organizations will unite in fighting this ruinous clause.

THE right of peeresses in their own right to sit in the British House of Lords is not yet settled. The Lord Chancellor moved that the Report of the Committee for Privileges, which conceded the claim, should be referred back for reconsideration, and this amendment was agreed to. We trust the Committee will stand fast by their first decision.

THE Karachi (India) Municipality has passed, with only one dissentient, a resolution admitting women as councillors on the same terms as men.

FIFTY-NINE women's organizations throughout the British Empire are supporting the Bill, recently introduced in the House of Commons, which allows a woman to retain her British nationality on marriage with an alien. A Bill similar in scope is now before the U.S.A. Congress.

FROM May 14 to May 20 the Executive and Standing Committees of the International Council of Women will meet at The Hague. Three very interesting public meetings will also be held, the subjects being: "Women's Part in the Campaign Against Venereal Disease," "The Most Effective Use of the Women's Vote," and "Recent Problems in Connection with Peace Propaganda."

AFTER 18 months' agitation child slavery in Hong-Kong is to be abolished. It ought to have taken less than 18 minutes. Now we hear of a case in Kenya Colony where women had a monetary value set on them. Do we realize sufficiently that the slavery of women, direct and indirect, still exists?

MRS. TROUNSON'S TOUR.**Crowded Suffrage Meeting in St. John's, Newfoundland.**

[We publish below reports of Mrs. Trounson's visits to St. John's, Newfoundland, and Halifax. The hope of the Alliance that her visits would mean a real advance to the cause of Woman Suffrage was well founded. Would that we were able to send such pilgrims all over the world to preach Suffrage and Equality. At St. John, New Brunswick, Mrs. Trounson was welcomed by the President of the local Council of Women and the Y.W.C.A., and in addition to her big meeting she spoke to the Executive Committee of the N.C.W., the Immigration Committee, the Catholic Women's Circle, the Y.W.C.A., and at a big British factory.

On Thursday, March 16, amid snow and ice, Mrs. Trounson arrived in Halifax, and on the 18th started for St. John's, Newfoundland, where, after a terribly rough journey by sleigh, train and steamer, she arrived on March 21. Here, in addition to the big public meeting, she addressed five other meetings before leaving for Montreal on March 26, arriving there on April 2. In Montreal, Mrs. Trounson spoke at the annual luncheon of the Montreal Women's Club to an audience of 700 women, at the Women's Reform Club, the Catholic Women's League, and the Women's University Club. Everywhere immense interest has been shown in Mrs. Trounson's visits, and everywhere she has been warmly welcomed. Space and time forbid a longer account in this month's issue, but later on we hope to publish an article from Mrs. Trounson on her tour.—Ed.]

THE *Daily News* of St. John's, March 24, writes:—"If the largest hall in the city, crowded beyond seating capacity, unflagging interest and frequent applause, betoken sympathy, the women of the city, who have raised the flag of equal rights, have cause to rejoice and be glad. After last night's experience it will be futile for the most rabid opponents of Woman Suffrage to question the reality of the sentiment, or defend failure to approve on the grounds of public apathy. Mrs. Trounson's reminder that opposition was ever more helpful than apathy was timely, but neither were in evidence last night in the College Hall. The warmth of the greeting accorded the visiting delegate and Secretary of the International Woman's Suffrage Alliance was unmistakable.

"On the platform were several ladies prominent in Suffrage work. Mrs. Gosling presided. She is an excellent speaker and a clear thinker. Mrs. Trounson may address many presiding officers in the course of her travels, but none better equipped for the office than the President of the Newfoundland Branch.

"Mrs. Trounson is a pleasing speaker. Her voice is well modulated, and her enunciation distinct. There was an entire absence of the extreme. She told what other lands had done, and the story was well worth the telling. Rapidly she reviewed conditions in the five Continents, in the old lands and the new, giving illustrations of accomplishments where the right to vote had been won and used for varying periods. Her address was replete with information, invaluable to her co-workers, and valuable to all. The ring of sincerity was unmistakable. That she would prove a doughty warrior if the enemy were at hand there can be no question, but, happily, though there may be much indifference locally, there has been no overt hostility. The public is thinking, and such a meeting as last night's will undoubtedly have exerted a favourable impression on the thinkers. Mrs. Trounson's influence will not cease with her visit, nor will her interest. Women of the world are acting in unison, and the women of Newfoundland will not long be content to remain in the rear. Their enfranchisement must come sooner or later, perhaps sooner than the most sanguine are expecting."

Halifax.

DEAR JOURNAL,

Thinking you would be interested in a letter from a far-away subscriber to your paper, I write to tell you of a meeting held in Halifax recently. It was the regular monthly meeting of the Halifax and Dartmouth Woman's Council, and was held at the Council House. The principal feature of the meeting was to hear a distinguished visitor—Mrs. Trounson—who is general secretary of the I.W.S.A. and is on her way to attend the Pan-American Conference of Women to be held in Baltimore in April.

After a few preliminary business matters were disposed

of Mrs. Trounson was called upon. She first brought greetings from the Catholic Woman's Suffrage Society, which she had last attended in England, and also expressed the good wishes from the new Pope to the sister societies of that name here.

Then followed her report of the work accomplished by the I.W.S.A. throughout the world in aiding women of the various countries to obtain the franchise. She was generous in her opinion of Canada's women—saying what an inspiration it had been to come in contact with those who seemed so much freer in their opinions, and who had such a breezy freshness of ideas that they contrasted favourably with the women of Great Britain, who, because of their time-worn traditions and long-established customs, had found it hard to break away from them. She paid a compliment to Lady Astor in this regard, who had done so much in Parliament because of her American heritage of free speech and freedom from conventionality, and we were able to return the compliment by reminding Mrs. Trounson that British women had been to us a source of encouragement because of their powers of endurance, their courage and bravery. We felt that they had sown the seed of which we in Canada were reaping the harvest and her further appeal was that we come over and visit them as often as possible and give them the inspiration and cheer that proceeds from our fresher ideas and opinions.

A full day on Friday, with luncheon at Government House with our genial and hospitable Lieutenant-Governor and his wife, and afternoon tea with Mrs. Wm. Dennis, Hon. President of the Woman's Council. At both places Mrs. Trounson gave addresses, and then, at 8 p.m., two or three of us were able to see Mrs. Trounson off by the Sydney Express on her way to Newfoundland. She spoke again of the pleasure of seeing Halifax, because there seemed to be space enough here to give one room to breathe, and expressing the hope that she might be able to see the city dressed in its robe of summer green. Echoing the wish to the full and wishing her God-speed and success on the larger undertakings to which her journey is devoted, we said farewell.

A SUBSCRIBER.

COMPULSORY EXAMINATION IN UGANDA.

THE International Woman Suffrage Alliance, in consequence of the information they received on the practice of compulsory examination for venereal disease in Uganda, has addressed a letter to the Colonial Secretary asking the following questions:—

"1. Has any medical woman in the service of the Government of Uganda been dismissed for refusing to—

"(a) Certify prostitutes;

"(b) Undertake the compulsory examination of women suspected to be suffering from venereal disease?"

"2. Is such compulsory examination in fact in force in Uganda?"

The following reply has been received:—

"COLONIAL OFFICE,

"DOWNING STREET,

"March 7, 1922.

"MADAM,

"In reply to your letter of the February 16, inquiring as to the treatment of venereal disease in Uganda, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Churchill to inform you as follows:—

"It was found necessary to terminate the services of a medical woman who applied for and was appointed to the post of medical officer in Uganda for special work in connection with venereal disease amongst women.

"The answer to the inquiry in paragraph 1 (a) of your letter is in the negative.

"With regard to paragraph 1 (b) of your letter, a part of the duties of the medical officer referred to above consisted in the examination of women sent up by the Native chiefs for examination, and her objection to the performance of this work was one of the reasons for the termination of her appointment.

"As regards paragraph 2 of your letter, compulsory examination of persons reasonably suspected of being

infected with venereal disease is provided for under Section III of the Uganda Venereal Disease Rules, 1913.

"I am to enclose copies of the Native Law for Preventing Venereal Diseases, 1913, and also of the Venereal Disease Rules, 1913, and the Townships (Venereal Diseases) Rules, 1913. I am to request that these copies may be returned to this Department after perusal.

"I am, Madam,

"Your obedient Servant,

"H. J. READ."

The matter was also raised in the House of Commons when Mr. Hailwood asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies if his attention had been drawn to the Contagious Diseases Acts now operating in Uganda, which compelled chiefs, none of whom had had a medical examination, to report to the authorities anyone of whom they had reasonable suspicion that he or she had venereal disease; was he aware that numbers of men and women were obliged by British Government officials, and Native chiefs acting under their orders, to come up at intervals for a particular form of medical inspection, and that the Colonial Office induced white women, both doctors and nurses, to leave England, where Contagious Diseases Acts were not law, to carry out measures of a similar nature in a British Protectorate, and this without pointing out to them the element of compulsion in the work they were expected to do; and would he take steps to put an end to these objectionable practices?

Mr. Churchill replied that there was no analogy between the Contagious Diseases Acts formerly in force in this country, which were directed to the compulsory examination of prostitutes, and the measures which had been in force in Uganda since 1913 for preserving a population ravaged by venereal disease. The questions whether the procedure in Uganda could be improved in detail, and whether special references to prostitutes could be deleted from the legislation without relieving that class from the liability to examination which was considered essential in the general population, would be referred to the Governor. But he was satisfied, as was Lord Harcourt in 1913, of the necessity of drastic action in dealing with the matter. The main legislation on the subject was a Native law of the Kingdom of Buganda, passed by and at the instance of Native Government, and the administration of the law was a matter for the Native chiefs and not for British officials, though the Government medical officers gave their services in examining the suspected cases sent them by the chiefs. Corresponding legislation existed to cover the case of those not subject to the Native law. There had been no complaint from the medical staff as to the execution of those measures, except from a woman doctor who had been selected for employment in Uganda because of special knowledge of venereal diseases. Her protest appeared to be attributable in part to her conclusion, as a result of her five months' experience, that not more than 5 per cent. of the persons she examined were infected—a view which was not shared by medical men, official and missionary, of many years' standing. It was a fact that her attention had not been drawn, before her selection, to the special measures regarding venereal disease. They were communicated to her very shortly after her arrival, and it appeared that she took part in many examinations before making any complaint. Care was now taken to bring those measures to the notice of any persons engaged permanently for the duty of carrying them into effect.

Mr. Churchill's answer is profoundly unsatisfactory. The facts reported in our last issue are a scandalous blot on British Colonial administration. *The Vote* of March 31 makes the following comment on the situation—comment with which every man and woman who cares for a high and equal moral standard and who has any knowledge of the scientific uselessness of compulsory examination will agree:—

"The women of this country forced the Colonial Office to recognize that public opinion would not tolerate a system of child slavery under the British flag. Women have now to convince the Colonial Office that

public opinion in Great Britain is entirely hostile to the compulsory medical examination of women as a means of combating venereal disease in any British Protectorate. British women fought strenuously against this worst feature of the Contagious Diseases Acts in regard to prostitutes in this country, and secured the repeal of those Acts. They fought just as strenuously against the disgraceful 40D Regulation during the recent war, and with similar success. In spite of Mr. Churchill's statement last week, that this compulsory medical examination is considered essential in Uganda, reliable medical opinion throughout the civilized world is, that such examinations are altogether useless in preventing the spread of venereal disease. Women's organizations are unanimous in agreeing that such compulsory examinations are not only useless, but degrading, and entirely against the interests of morality, whether these examinations are carried out only in the case of prostitutes or, as in Uganda, on the general population. In regard to the system of child slavery prevailing in Hong Kong, the Colonial Office, on more than one occasion, pleaded that the system was a Chinese system, and in the best interests of the Chinese population of that Colony. But people in England knew that it was entirely against the traditions of this country to bolster up child slavery anywhere on British soil, because under no conditions could we tolerate child slavery in Great Britain itself. So in regard to the compulsory medical examination of women in Uganda. The Colonial Office may plead that it is based on Native law, but, whatever its basis, British women, who are voters and therefore responsible for the conditions of women in every part of the Empire, will work against the carrying out of such a law by every means in their power. We strongly resent the fact that any medical officers, men or women, under our Government should be expected to work under these conditions. What the Colonial Office will have to realize is that British women who, under no circumstances would tolerate the compulsory medical examination of women for venereal disease in this country, will just as vigorously protest against this degrading treatment being meted out to Native women in a British Protectorate. British women will acquiesce neither in child slavery nor in the degradation of any woman, whatever her colour or creed, in any country which is under the protection of British rule."

CHILD SLAVERY IN HONG-KONG TO BE ABOLISHED.

THE following is the text of Mr. Churchill's reply, on March 21, to questions asked by Mr. T. Griffiths and Mr. Charles Edwards in regard to the *mui tsai* system:—"I have received a telegram from the Governor of Hong-Kong stating that his Government, in consultation with the Societies for the protection and for the abolition of *mui tsai*, will draw up a scheme for the abolition of the system as soon as possible. Both the Government and the Societies point out that this process must take some little time. I have directed the issue without delay of a proclamation making it clear to employers and employed that the status of *mui tsai*, as understood in China, will not in future be recognized in Hong-Kong, and, in particular, that no compulsion of any kind to prevent girls over the age of 12 leaving their adopted parents at any time will be allowed. It has been pointed out to me by the Government and the Societies that the issue of this proclamation will involve some risk of exposing a number of girls to the wiles of unscrupulous persons, and that before the girls are encouraged to leave their employers, it would be very desirable to have some scheme to provide for their future. It is indeed obvious, in view of the numbers involved, that it will be beyond

the power, either of charitable institutions or of the Government, to deal adequately with the situation should any large proportion desire to leave their present homes immediately. I have therefore instructed the Governor that *mui tsai* should be warned in the proclamation that until accommodation can be provided for them elsewhere they should not leave the shelter of their present homes, except in case of ill-treatment and after reference to the Chinese Secretariat; and I have also said that they should be specially warned against the other danger referred to by the Governor. Although it is obvious that an old-established custom cannot be altered at a moment's notice, I desire to make it clear that both the Governor and I are determined to effect the abolition of the system at the earliest practicable date, and I have indicated to the Governor that I expect the change to be carried out within the year."

The Vote, Friday, March 31.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Woman Suffrage Bill Again Defeated.

ON March 23 the Union House of Assembly once more rejected a Women's Enfranchisement Bill on its second reading. The voting was very close: 51 votes for the Bill, 55 against.

In February the *Cape Times* reported:—"The Prime Minister received a deputation representing the Combined Women's Suffrage Societies of the Union. The deputation asked him to introduce legislation this session 'to enfranchise the women of South Africa.' This General Smuts refused to do. He declared himself a convert to the cause of woman's suffrage. He said that the right of women to vote was 'one of the great effects of the changes they had passed through.' He declared his conviction that the enfranchisement of women must come to pass in this country. But he would not undertake to put a Women's Enfranchisement Bill upon the Government's programme for the session. Instead, he urged its private member sponsors to be more zealous in bringing it before the House; said that it would have better prospects as a private than as a Government measure; and even rebuked its champions in the House for having wasted valuable time by having failed to give notice of it, and for having allowed Dr. Malan to steal a march on them with his Local Option Bill."

Well—the Bill has been introduced—and the result is the result that will always meet a private member's Bill—defeat. General Smuts *must* by this time be well aware of that fact. His "conversion" to Woman's Suffrage leaves us, as it has apparently left him, cold.

Women and the Legal Profession.

A Bill to enable women to be admitted as legal practitioners in any province of the Union was introduced in the House of Assembly, on March 14, by Brigadier-General Byron, read a first time, and set down for second reading stage on March 23.

April, 1922.

ARGENTINE.

Against the Regulation of Prostitution.

SEÑOR FERNANDO TAUREL, a member of the Legislature of Buenos Ayres, has just introduced for the consideration of that body a strong project for the abolition of the regulation of prostitution in that province.

On account of the highly ethical issues involved, we believe it of importance to publish the entire text of the Bill, as well as his interesting reasons which reveal in its author a high reformist spirit—such as was displayed with such triumph in Buenos Ayres when the project of Dr. Angel Junenez was advanced and approved in the Deliberation Council not long since.

We congratulate Señor Taurel for his commendable work and for his well-managed campaign in favour of woman.

THE SENATE AND CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES, ETC.

Art. 1.—The licensing of houses called "of tolerance or prostitution" is prohibited in all the territory of the Province.

Art. 2.—The houses of prostitution which are in existence in the province must be closed six months after the promulgation of the present law.

Art. 3.—The Municipalities must not keep registers of prostitutes nor establish any classification whatever with respect to the persons who practise prostitution.

If not proceeding illegally against the moral and conventional customs the so-called "clandestinism" (action in privacy) should neither be prosecuted or punished, excepting always any attempt by "procurers": woman shall be free to act as she chooses.

Art. 4.—The Municipalities must not impose taxes, licence or fees on any pretext or title in the matter of prostitution.

Art. 5.—The Executive Power shall take the necessary measures, for the six months after the promulgation of the present law, that there shall be established in every hospital of the Province a gratuitous consultation department for venereal syphilitic diseases, and by the intermediary of the Directors of Hygiene shall make public the precautionary rules for the prevention of these diseases.

Art. 6.—All venereal syphilitic diseases should be notified by medical practitioners.

Art. 7.—All decrees and ordinances which are opposed to the present law are hereby repealed.

Nuestra Causa, January, 1922.

AUSTRALIA.

The West Australian Health Act.

The Amending Bill. Equal Moral Standards.

EARLY in January a lively discussion again centred around the Health Act Amendment Bill in the Legislative Assembly in so far as the one clause was concerned relating to venereal disease.

The measure was received back from the Legislative Council with an amendment moved in by Dr. Saw, which, in the opinion of those both in Parliament and outside who have worked to insert an *adequate* safeguard for women and girls, has deprived the "signed statement" of its safeguard in case of redress being sought by a person wrongfully accused.

In other words, under this amendment it will make it ever so much more difficult for the person who is wrongfully subjected to an examination to prosecute the informant.

There is one infallible principle by which a legislative project must be measured as it affects women, viz., does it operate equally as between the sexes?

It has already been admitted by the minister responsible that the powers contained in Clause 41 (242J), which gave the C.P.H. power to take action on "secret statements" made to him regarding persons supposed to be suffering from venereal disease, had been used in forty cases, and that those cases were all women.

We therefore can only look upon this clause of the Health Act with the gravest mistrust, and feel

deeply disappointed that three honourable members—Messrs. Carter, Latham and Sampson—who supported the demand for *adequate* redress when the Bill was before the Assembly previously, in the last analysis voted for an inadequate safeguard.

This is all the more disappointing because, had there been one more vote against, the Speaker would have been called upon to give a casting vote. The arguments placed before the Legislative Council by Dr. Saw, in support of his amendment, are the same old arguments that have perpetuated a double moral standard from time immemorial.

TASMANIA.

Women Candidates. Tasmanian Movement.

The State Parliament having recently passed a Bill giving women the right to sit in Parliament, two candidates, one Labour (the wife of the leader of the Labour Party) and one independent have already announced themselves for the general elections. At a recent meeting of women held in Hobart there was formed the Tasmanian Women's Non-Party Political League, with the following object: "To put forward woman candidates to obtain full civil rights for women, to improve the conditions of education and public health, and to obtain a firmer consideration of social questions, and the immediate bringing into force of the Mental Deficiency Act."

The Dawn, February 13, 1922.

CANADA.

Women and the Vote in Quebec.

[We have now received a fuller report of the deputation to the Prime Minister of the Quebec Government, and also the good news that a Woman Suffrage Bill is to be introduced. Even if unsuccessful the introduction of such a Bill marks a big advance.—ED.]

OVER 200 women from all parts of the Province of Quebec waited on Premier Taschereau and members of his Cabinet at Quebec the other day to urge the granting of the provincial suffrage to women. Mme. Gerin Lajoie, who was called upon to present the request of the women, said that there was no intention to destroy the home through the extension of the vote, but, though taking their share in the administration, they would still remain good wives and good mothers. She claimed that public life had been organized with the view of improving private life. "We hope you will soon give us the opportunity to take a full share. We believe that we will be better mothers of men when we will have received our full rights of citizenship," she concluded.

Lady Drummond said that if the Legislature granted the vote that the women of the Province would be as good mothers, daughters and sisters as now, "and," she added, "always until the end of time the greatest pride of woman will be to be mothers of men, and we believe that we shall be better mothers of men, and our sons better citizens, when you men have made our citizenship a reality."

Mrs. Casgrain wondered whether objection to women voting was because they were ignorant. She had been in politics since early youth, and had noted that women were better educated than men. This was because boys were taken away from school at an earlier age than girls. It was said that women did not possess that particular genius which distinguished men. Well, thought Mrs. Casgrain, judging by some of the men elected, there were a lot of men who did not possess that political genius. Then it was said that if women voted, the home would not be kept properly, that dinner would be late, that families would be less numerous. "Mr. Prime Minister," said Mrs. Casgrain, "we promise if we get the vote that the homes will be looked after, that dinner will not be late, that families, if not greater, will at least be as numerous as before."

The Hon. L. A. Taschereau, while warmly welcoming the delegation, frankly avowed his opposition to the extension of the franchise to the women. He said: "Imbued with the Latin spirit, which is in the majority in this Province, I question if women are wise to seek the political franchise. You may ask me my reasons. They are best given by Mme. Gerin Lajoie, who has told of the charity and beauty in the hearts of women. Men have not these qualities, nor can we follow women in the mission outlined for them so well." The Premier, however, told the delegates that the Government would not, as a body, oppose the proposal, but would leave the legislators free to express their views individually when the subject came up in the Legislature.

The Hon. Jacob Nicol, who concluded the Government reply, came out strongly in favour of votes for women.

Canadian Gazette.

London, March 2, 1922.

A Bill for Votes for Women Introduced and Buried.

On March 8 a Woman Suffrage Bill was introduced by Mr. Henry Miles in the Quebec Parliament. On its second reading, on March 10, another member moved the adjournment of the debate—which was carried; and the Bill lies dead and buried.

April, 1922.

No Women Senators.

Case of Lady Rhondda Raised in Canada.

The Canadian Department of Justice has ruled that no women senators can be created without an amendment to the British North America Act (says Reuter from Montreal). The ruling was made in response to a request from the Franchise Committee of the Montreal Women's Club, asking whether, in view of Lady Rhondda's claim to a seat in the House of Lords, Canadians might not be admitted as members of the Senate.

The Star, March 25, 1922.

DENMARK.

Marriage Laws.

THE question of amendments in the Danish Laws regarding marriage and rights of parentage is rather an old one, and Dansk Kvindesamfund has for a number of years worked to obtain a result satisfactory to women. Already, in 1908, two new legal rules regarding the rights of parentage and the question of property rights of husband and wife were submitted to the Government.

In 1912 a Royal Commission of jurists was appointed to prepare, in co-operation with similar commissions in Sweden and Norway, revised laws regarding marriage, rights of parentage, etc. Later on a woman from each country was appointed member of these commissions. Dr. Estrid Hein, an active worker for the women's cause, president of the Copenhagen branch of Dansk Kvindesamfund, sat in the Danish Commission for several years. The result of the work of the commission was a draft Bill, dated August 31, 1918.

This draft contained numerous ameliorations of the legal status of the wife and married mother, ameliorations which corresponded to the modern conception of man and woman as having equal rights in family life.

Amongst the proposed ameliorations *re* conditions for consummation of marriage, I may mention that precautions were taken against the contracting of marriage by persons suffering from venereal diseases at a contagious stage, without the other party being fully aware of the danger. In case of fraud on this point the deceived wife or husband should have the right to obtain divorce.

The commission proposed that the right of parentage over the children should be exercised in common by husband and wife, instead of the father having practically the complete control of the children. In case of serious disagreement of the parents in questions of vital interest to the children, recourse to the magistrate was prescribed with the object either of solving the dispute or, on demand of one of the parents, of having the right of guardianship transferred to the parent deemed by the magistrate best qualified to look after the interests of the children.

Regarding maintenance of the family the commission proposed that husband and wife should each contribute according to their means, the domestic work of the wife being recognized as an adequate contribution on her part, and that they should be bound to give each other details about their respective economic status. Neither husband nor wife should be able to sell or pawn furniture or tools of work without the consent of the other party, unless it were the exclusive property of the person desiring to sell it. The property of each party at the moment of contracting marriage, as well as what may be later acquired through work, inheritance or gift, should during marriage continue to be under his or her control without special marriage contract. In short, the commission had worked out a detailed codification tending to give husband and wife equal rights in the numerous economic questions which may arise in marriage.

The Minister of Justice, Zahle, of the Radical Ministry then in power, accepted the principles set forth by the commission, and in 1919 he presented to Parliament a Bill based upon the draft of the commission. This Bill was passed by the Folketing in 1920, and read in the Landsting in the same year, without any serious opposition being raised in Parliament against the main principles of equality between husband and wife. However, the Bill was not carried in the Landsting before the fall of the Zahle Ministry, and in the meantime an opposition was worked up outside Parliament, particularly against depriving the father of the decisive authority over the children, against recourse to magistrate in case of serious dispute about the children, as well as against certain points regarding the economic status of the married woman.

The new Minister of Justice, Rytter, of the Moderate Party, who had a free hand in the question of presenting the Bill again, preferred to take his time. Dansk Kvindesamfund, anxious not to lose what had seemed nearly gained, tried to take him to task in an audience obtained in October, 1920, and reminded him of the fact that a corresponding Bill had now been carried by a great majority in both chambers of Parliament in Sweden. However, Minister Rytter still lingered, and when he finally took up the question in Parliament in November, 1921, he followed a different course from his predecessor, in so far as he split up the Bill.

The question of the rights of parentage was put in a Bill regarding minority and guardianship. In this Bill the right of parentage over legitimate children is allotted to the parents in common, but recourse to magistrate in case of serious dispute is left out, thus depriving the woman—generally the weaker partner—of the means to enforce her opinion and of—what is perhaps more—the moral support that the possibility of appeal affords.

Provisions regarding conclusion of marriage and divorce have been laid down in another Bill, following

in all main points the draft of the commission, but everything regarding the economic questions during marriage has been left out. The Minister is of the opinion that this question is not yet mature for decision; he promises to present a Bill on these questions later on, when he has ended his deliberations, but he is evidently not willing to follow the commission as regards equality between husband and wife.

Dansk Kvindesamfund has now handed in a petition to Government expressing the disappointment of Danish women as to the line followed by the Minister of Justice, and pressing him to accelerate the bringing in of the remaining Bill. The petition sums up the opinion of Dansk Kvindesamfund in the following final words of the petition:—

"It will be discreditable to the prestige and importance of marriage if it be still surrounded by legal rules rooted in superannuated apprehensions of the woman as an unfree and dependent individual. It must be felt as a humiliation for women that hesitation still prevails in giving them the legal equality in marriage which their valuable work as wives and mothers gives them right to claim."

Equal Moral Standard for Men and Women.

In accordance with the resolution passed at the Annual Meeting of Delegates of Dansk Kvindesamfund—about which I reported in the September number of *Jus*—Dansk Kvindesamfund has presented a petition to Government asking for an abolition of the double moral standard in the so-called "October Law of 1906" at the coming revision of this law.

The law as it now stands prescribes control of all patients suffering with venereal diseases, and it inflicts punishment upon women who, without any sufficient legal livelihood, live on selling their bodies or who give public offence in offering themselves by word or by parading in the street.

Dansk Kvindesamfund now asks that punishment be not only prescribed for the woman receiving payment for fornication, but also for the man who pays, and who, through paying, upholds the trade.

Further, Dansk Kvindesamfund asks that punishment be not only inflicted upon the woman offering herself in the street, etc., but also upon the man who addresses himself to unknown women in the streets, in public houses or on staircases, in words or action which may be interpreted as intending sexual advances. Higher punishment is also asked for every form of "white slave traffic."

Finally the petition asks for women police constables for patrol service in the streets at night, with right to take into custody, and for a woman police inspector to take care of all the affairs relating to the above-mentioned law, which brings so many young women in conflict with the police.

LOUISE NEERGAARD,

Secretary of Dansk Kvindesamfund.

Copenhagen, April 6, 1922.

Dansk Kvindesamfund's 50 Years' Jubilee.

This was celebrated in Copenhagen on February 24. What was commenced 50 years ago by four modest women with the object, expressed in the first by-laws, "to raise woman's intellectual, moral and economic standard in order to make her a more independent and active member of the family and State and particularly to open up facilities to make her self-supporting through her own work," and which for many years often met with ridicule, as well as with active and passive resistance, has now gained success to an extent, which is best proved by the support which was given to Mrs. Mathilde

Bajer, the sole survivor of the founders, in the crowded festival hall. Here were the present Prime Minister, Mr. Niels Neergaard, two former Prime Ministers, together with women members of Parliament and of Municipal Councils, women doctors and lawyers, thus illustrating in the best possible way, not only that the work of the Dansk Kvindesamfund has won the recognition of the highest authorities in the land, but also what women have gained during the past fifty years, and to a great extent through the work of the Dansk Kvindesamfund.

However, as was mentioned in the beautiful cantata by Gyrithe Lemache, many dear names were left behind, inscribed on the memorial stones on the way, and among them quite recently that of Mr. Frederik Bajer, the noble husband of Mrs. Mathilde Bajer, who from the first day had helped her in every way with her work for the Association, and who, in Parliament, was one of the best champions of the woman's cause. It was Frederik Bajer who succeeded in carrying through as a Private Member's Bill (afterwards known as "Bajer's Bill") the important laws of May 7, 1880, securing to married women the right to dispose of money earned through their own work. Abroad, Mr. Bajer was best known through his work for peace, which was rewarded with the Nobel prize.

Fortunately we had the pleasure of seeing amongst us, besides Mrs. Bajer, several veterans of our work, namely, our 85 years' old honorary president, Mrs. Jutta Bojsen-Møller, as well as Mrs. Stampe-Fedderson and others. The delegates sent by the Scandinavian Women's Associations for Women's Enfranchisement, as well as delegates from different Danish Women's Organizations, brought warm greetings and good wishes.

It would, of course, be trespassing on the hospitality of *Jus* to give a detailed report of the speeches, nevertheless Mrs. Gyrithe Lemache's presidential address, which was delivered with great oratorical force, ought to be mentioned. Mrs. Lemache stated that the starting point of the Dansk Kvindesamfund had been the family, and that the lines of its work meet again in the family. Therefore the work had been done for the mothers as well as for the daughters, for the wives as well as for the unmarried, self-supporting women. No women's association in the world is better rooted in its country's soil than the Dansk Kvindesamfund: if this tree were to be uprooted Danish society would crack deeply and incurably, but the cracks would be felt most deeply in our families.

Mrs. Julie Arenholt, speaking to the guests, said that she was well aware of the fact that the Dansk Kvindesamfund had sometimes been a nuisance in the eyes of the Cabinet Ministers and Members of Parliament with its numerous petitions and claims on behalf of women; however, she could not promise any improvement in this respect!

The Prime Minister, Mr. Neergaard, in expressing his good wishes for our organization, encouraged the Dansk Kvindesamfund to persevere in the same way, and at the same time he complimented the leaders because they had been opportunists who had not asked everything at once, but had taken progress step by step when the time was mature for it.

As the Dansk Kvindesamfund has always wanted to co-operate, as far as possible, with the women of the working class, it was with great pleasure that we saw Mrs. Nina Bang, M.A., M.P., of the Social Democratic Party, rise to speak on behalf of the women M.P.'s. In thanking the Dansk Kvindesamfund, Mrs. Bang also mentioned that she was personally indebted to the Dansk Kvindesamfund, because it had opened the doors of the University to women, so that she herself had been able to follow the studies she loved.

As a lasting memory of the jubilee the Dansk Kvindesamfund received a donation of 15,000 Danish crowns, given by members all over the country to a "Jubilee Fund" for the furtherance of the work.

Finally it may be mentioned that the whole daily press of all political parties published articles on the

occasion of the jubilee, recognizing the importance of the work done during the fifty years for the enfranchisement of women.

The leaders, who bear the heat of the day, may thus have received encouragement to continue their work for the benefit of Danish women.

LOUISE NEERGAARD.

Copenhagen, March, 1922.

FINLAND.

ON February 10 the Joint Association for Women's Enfranchisement celebrated its thirtieth birthday. In the beginning the Association's main work was to clear up misapprehensions, for there were many people, educationists among them, who had not the least idea what the object of the Association was. It had to be made clear that work for the good of women was the same as working for the good of the whole community, and that, so far from being destructive, it was unifying and constructive.

The first paragraph of the Rules says that the object of the Association is, by the co-operation of men and women, to improve the education of women, increase their professional opportunities, to raise their position in home and social life and watch over the healthy development of the community. Consequently, the programme was very wide and really included all questions of human interests. It has endeavoured to change all the laws which hindered the entrance of women to any profession, and it has tried to widen her ideas and deepen her interests. All questions of pressing interest have been discussed—new methods of education, morality, temperance, the protection of animals, world peace, etc., as well as all the professions open to women.

In times of stress the Association has been even more than usually active, as, for instance, during the days of the Russian occupation and the great strike of 1905. Then the Association exhorted all feminine organizations to send representatives to the capital, where they had a great meeting for universal suffrage, sending a deputation to Leo Mechelin, then head of the Government.

When our country has experienced a failure of crops and consequent distress the Association has collected money and clothing and food, and sent people to the north to distribute them and establish work depots and children's homes. And recently it has been helping those, especially children and old people, whose bread-winners have lost their lives during the Red Revolution.

The meetings have been open to everyone, not only their own members but also anyone interested, Finns or foreigners. It has sent many lecturers into the country and invited foreign speakers to visit Finland. The Association has been represented in nearly all International and Northern Congresses for Women's Enfranchisement in the Old and New Worlds, and thus has had an opportunity to make our own distant country a little known in those circles to which the best from every nationality belong.

The confidence felt in the Association is proved by the fact that it has always been able to obtain funds for the realization of its enterprises from the public, besides personal donations and legacies.

As the man of thirty is at his best, and thinking little of the past, is ever planning new tasks, so the Association has every reason to do the same. It has opened many a door, removed many a prejudice, but compared with the work still unperformed, it is only a tiny fraction. A great part of the women form still an inert mass, ignorant of its new rights and duties. There is still in existence a powerful body of opinion that would prefer to deprive women of the little they have gained, through many years of effort, than allow them anything further.

NAISTEN AANI.

February 11, 1922.

NOUVELLES FÉMINISTES.

France.— On nous fixe à nouveau une date pour la discussion au Sénat de la loi sur le suffrage pour les femmes.

Cette fois tout le monde semble d'accord, pour ne pas reculer davantage: M. Bourgeois, président du Sénat, M. Régismanset, président de la Commission, M. Alexandre Bérard, rapporteur, entre autres. Le Sénat rentrera des vacances de Pâques le 23 mai et c'est le 30 mai que s'ouvrira le débat entre suffragistes et antisuffragistes. Il reste donc aux féministes de bonnes semaines pour continuer à gagner des adeptes au vote des femmes.

La Française, 8 avril 1922.

Grande-Bretagne.—LES PAIRESSES A LA CHAMBRE DES LORDS.—La demande faite par la vicomtesse Rhondda de siéger à la Chambre des Lords, comme pairresse, en son droit personnel, n'a pas encore été définitivement accordée.

Il paraît que plusieurs clauses dans la loi empêcheraient les femmes d'être membres de la Chambre des Lords. Il a donc été décidé que la question serait de nouveau posée au comité des privilèges pour être considérée au point de vue légal.

Nous n'en félicitons pas moins Lady Rhondda et nous espérons la voir réussir, car la présence des femmes est urgente dans la Chambre des Lords.

Mrs. Trounson en Terre-Neuve et en Amérique.— Mrs. Trounson, secrétaire général du bureau central de l'Alliance Internationale du Suffrage féminin (I.W.S.A.) semble être reçue partout avec enthousiasme. Elle a visité, en route pour le "Pan Meeting" qui doit avoir lieu à Baltimore, la Terre-Neuve, St. John et Halifax, et partout elle a trouvé des salles combles et des enthousiastes.

Dans les lettres et les articles dans les journaux reçus jusqu'à présent, l'opinion générale est que la visite de Mrs. Trounson et les comptes rendus donnés par elle du travail déjà accompli par les féministes dans différents pays auront un effet très salutaire pour l'avancement des droits féministes dans les pays visités par elle.

Uganda.—La société de I.W.S.A. ayant reçu de l'Uganda (protectorat britannique) certaines informations concernant l'examen obligatoire des prostituées et autres pour les maladies vénériennes, adressa certaines questions au bureau du Secrétaire des Colonies qui répondit qu'en effet cette loi existait dans l'Uganda depuis l'année 1913.

Cette même question fut posée à la Chambre des Représentants par un des membres, Monsieur Hailwood, qui questionna à ce sujet le Secrétaire des Colonies et qui demanda l'abolition de cette loi. Les femmes se joindront à lui et réuniront leurs efforts pour obtenir que toutes les colonies et les pays sous le protectorat britannique jouissent des mêmes lois pour l'hygiène que l'Angleterre.

Etats-Unis d'Amérique.—LES FEMMES CATHOLIQUES DE L'AMÉRIQUE DEVIENNENT SUFFRAGISTES.— Miss McPitre, énergique travailleuse suffragiste, a organisé en Amérique une société féministe catholique sous le nom de "St. Catherine's Welfare Association." Cette société travaillera dorénavant en Amérique avec les autres sociétés féministes.

Afrique du Sud.— DÉFAITE DE LA LOI EN FAVEUR DU SUFFRAGE FÉMININ.— La loi proposée en faveur du suffrage féminin fut défaite par une petite majorité: 55 voix contre 51 voix.

Une loi qui permettrait aux femmes d'être reçues dans les professions légales de l'Afrique du Sud a été proposée par le Brigadier Général Byron. Elle a été lue pour la première fois le 14 mars et sera lue pour la seconde fois le 23 mars.

Argentine.— Le Señor Fernando Taurel, un membre de la législature de Buenos-Ayres, vient de présenter

un projet de loi qui abolirait les régulations concernant la prostitution dans cette province.

Australie.— L'ACTE SANITAIRE DE L'Australie DE L'OUEST.— L'amendement à la loi sanitaire concernant tout spécialement les maladies vénériennes causa de vives discussions à l'assemblée législative.

L'amendement proposé par le Dr. Saw rend beaucoup plus difficile pour la personne qui serait injustement examinée de procéder contre l'infecteur. Il est prouvé que quarante cas ont été examinés après des informations sous le sceau du secret, et que tous ces quarante cas étaient des femmes.

Tasmanie.— Une loi vient de passer en Tasmanie admettant les femmes comme membres du Parlement.

Canada.— LES FEMMES ET LE VOTE A QUÉBEC.— Nous avons reçu un rapport complet de la députation féministe qui se présenta devant le Ministre du Gouvernement de Québec.

Nous apprenons aussi avec joie qu'une loi sera présentée à la Chambre pour le suffrage féminin. Même si elle n'est pas votée, l'introduction d'une telle loi marque un mouvement en avant pour le suffrage féminin.

Londres, le 2 mars 1922.

Le 8 mars une loi en faveur du suffrage féminin fut présentée par Mr. Henry Miles au Parlement de Québec. A la seconde lecture de cette loi, le 10 mars, un autre membre proposa l'ajournement du débat. Ceci fut voté. Voilà donc la loi ensevelie pour le moment.

Les Indes.— LES FEMMES COMME CONSEILLERS MUNICIPAUX.— Nos félicitations à Karachi qui a voté, à une réunion générale du conseil municipal, que les femmes seraient dorénavant éligibles.

A Bombay aussi nos félicitations à un amendement à la loi municipale qui qualifierait les femmes pour le conseil.

Lord Lytton, le nouveau Gouverneur du Bengale, étant lui-même très féministe, aidera certainement les femmes du Bengale à obtenir le vote.

Jersey.— L'assemblée législative de Jersey rejeta, le 6 mars, une loi qui devait donner aux femmes le droit de voter.

Suède.— Un nouveau journal féministe vient de paraître, dont le titre est *Kvinnornas Tidning* (le journal de la femme).

Le journal aidera beaucoup la femme à s'intéresser à bien des questions et à prendre sa véritable position de citoyenne dans son pays.

Finlande.— Le 10 février, l'Association des femmes féministes célébra son trentième anniversaire. Cette association s'est occupée au début à instruire le public en démontrant le but de l'association, qui était surtout d'instruire la femme, de lui donner place dans le monde professionnel, une meilleure position dans la famille et dans le monde social, et en général de développer tout ce qui est sain pour la communauté.

L'association fut très active pendant l'occupation russe et la grande grève de 1905, et parvint, en cas de besoin, pendant les revers par lesquels a passé la Finlande, à aider le pauvre en collectant de l'argent, de la nourriture et des vêtements.

L'association a été représentée à presque tous les congrès internationaux.

Chine.— Le Gouverneur de Hong-Kong se propose d'abolir le plus tôt possible l'esclavage de l'enfant, connu sous le nom de "mui tsai."

GERMANY.

The Final Victory for Women Jurors!

THE 6th of April was a woman's day of first order in the German Reichstag. Two most important woman's questions were dealt with, of which the first, the often mentioned question of women jurors and magistrates, was definitely decided upon. After the

report of the committee on laws which was given by the leading spirit in this whole matter, Dr. Elisabeth Lüders, M.P., a very interesting and lively discussion took place in which members of all parties, most of them men, joined and, with one exception, strongly spoke in favour of the Bill. Amongst others the Minister of Justice, Professor Radbruch, pointed out that it was brought in to improve jurisdiction, because "it would replace the old men's law by a new human law." The Government's Bill originally had included a right of exemption for all women; by the Committee this right was confined to mothers of little children, and the Reichstag went still further by conceding a special women's right of exemption only for nurses and midwives. So in its last form the Bill provides for exactly the same conditions for men and women jurors. With one slight restriction, moved by the Conservative and Liberal parties, and carried against the votes of the Socialists—that one of the two magistrates shall always be a man—the Bill then was carried in the second and third reading by an overwhelming majority.

It was, after all, a wonderful success, and was hailed as such by the women of all parties in the House and on the galleries, who afterwards congratulated each other, and thanked Dr. Lüders and the other members. My Berlin friends told me they had wanted all the old suffrage pioneers to be present at this general enthusiasm. The final victory is, of course, one also to the untiring, impressive propaganda of the women's organizations outside, but our women Parliamentarians had to fight for it in the first ranks.

As a characteristic feature in the whole matter, it may be mentioned that, from the beginning to the end, it was not looked upon and treated as a question of party politics, but—at least with the Liberals and Conservatives—as one of personal conviction and principle, the opinions being quite contrary in one and the same party. We consider this a valuable ethical progress. A more valuable practical result is the fact that, after the surprising victory in the Reichstag, the Reichsrat (the representatives of the Governments) who first had rejected the Women Jurors Bill (as reported in the September issue) not only has withdrawn its veto, but also, some days later, carried with a considerable majority another Bill granting the women admission to the law profession, and the right to become judges.

The latter question has come to a final decision lately in the Diet of Danzig, when, after a hard fight, a Bill was carried with 58 against 27 votes: That "judges shall be elected in accordance with the constitution. Women are also eligible." It seems rather strange that one of the ten women members in the Diet voted against the Bill, while one of her men colleagues supported it with the impressive remark: "If women were able to make the laws they also must be able to apply them."

Unmarried Mothers in Public Service.

The other important women's question which raised a long and rather stormy debate in the Reichstag on April 6, when the discussion on the budget of the Home Minister took place, referred to the unmarried motherhood of women in public service. (See also November issue.) Though women members of all parties—and women only—spoke on the matter, it was not treated from woman's, but purely party-political standpoints, in accordance with the respective parties' world views. While the Conservative and Catholic women were afraid that illegal motherhood of women in public service would further free love and lead to the destruction of the family, and therefore claimed disciplinary measures for such mothers, the Socialist speakers protested against this opinion and against the double moral standard for man and woman functionaries. A motion of the Democratic Party, referred to by Dr. Gertrud Bäumer, was handed over to the Law Committee: That the matter shall not be regulated generally, but that the individual instances of illegal motherhood and fatherhood shall be examined, and eventually may give reason for disciplinary measures.

The Bill to Fight Venereal Disease.

which was in the hands of the Reichsrat since two years, has been brought before the Reichstag at last. It has not been altered in many points; but the one alteration the Reichsrat has thought necessary proves to be so fatal that it would make up for all the improvements. The regulation of vice which the draft had abolished, as our readers will remember, has been taken up again, in another wording but in the same spirit as hitherto. The Reichstag has without a discussion handed over the Bill direct to the Committee on Population Politics. We hope that the Committee, as well as the Reichstag, in its final decision, will reject the alteration, and reconstitute the original text of the Government's Bill. The women in the Parliament and outside will, of course, do their utmost for this purpose. I hope to be able to report on a good result in my next letter.

MARIE STRITT.

Dresden, April 18.

GREAT BRITAIN.

National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship.
The Status of the Married Woman.

PUBLIC opinion has been focussed on the position of the married woman in the eyes of the law in quite an unexpected way by a widely discussed case which passed through the Courts recently. A man, Peel by name, well known in sporting circles, committed a betting fraud to which his wife was supposed, rightly or wrongly, to be a party. Peel and his wife were brought to trial, but the case against Mrs. Peel collapsed at the outset on the ground that, as her supposed crime was committed in the presence of her husband, she was the victim of coercion. She was, therefore, deprived of the opportunity of attempting to prove her innocence. Great indignation has been aroused by this relic of legislation, dating back to Saxon times, which presumes the wife in certain cases to have no responsibility for her own actions, and a certain section of the Press has not been slow to suggest that if married women suffer from certain minor disabilities, they are willing to enjoy special privileges when placed at a disadvantage.

In reply to a question in the House of Lords, the Lord Chancellor announced that he had set up a highly expert committee to report on this subject. In the House of Commons, Viscountess Astor has already presented a Bill to amend the law. The N.U.S.E.C. had already in preparation a Bill which would deal not only with coercion, but with the whole status of the married woman under what is called the Law of Coverture. The Lord Chancellor was approached with the request that the terms of reference of the Committee should be similarly widened and that its members should include one woman, the name of Miss Chrystal Macmillan having been put forward. In reply the National Union was informed that the Committee was to be confined to legal experts, but that evidence from the N.U.S.E.C. could be given.

Credit and the Married Woman.

Close on the above case followed two others which aroused some panic in the region of milliners and dress-makers. Both of these dealt with heavy debts for clothes incurred by married women. Here, again, it is evident that English law is hopelessly out of date and in many respects behind that of other countries with respect to the economic position of the married woman. The law dealing with the authority of the wife to "contract for goods or service necessary according to the conditions in which she lives" is unsatisfactory from the point of view of the husband with an extravagant wife, the wife with a niggardly husband, and not least from the point of view of the unfortunate tradesman. Though in the marriage service the husband endows his wife with all his worldly goods, in actual life—unless she has private means—she is a mere dependent on his bounty. Under English law, her husband is not even

bound to leave her any proportion of his income after death.

The N.U.S.E.C. ten years ago appointed a special sub-committee to consider the question of the position of the married woman in law. The Separation and Maintenance Orders Bill, the Guardianship, Maintenance, Custody and Marriage of Infants Bill, drafted and promoted by this committee, are steps in the right direction; but there can be no doubt that some measure which allows a wife the right to a certain share of the family income is a long-overdue reform.

The N.U.S.E.C. stands for the removal of unfair privileges equally with unfair disabilities. It asks for equality of liberties, status and opportunities. It will not fail to take advantage of the interest that has been aroused by these cases, and will press, in season and out of season, for the amendment of legislation dealing with all aspects of the status of the married as well as the unmarried woman.

The Nationality of the Married Woman.

Though nothing definite seems to result from it, there can be no doubt that attention is being directed from many different angles to the status of the married woman, and amending legislation dealing with every aspect of the subject cannot be long delayed. A Bill with which the N.U.S.E.C. is in the heartiest sympathy, promoted by the National Council of Women, has recently been introduced into the House of Commons. This Bill will restore to married women their lost right to retain their British nationality on marriage with an alien. This reform is supported by fifty-nine women's organizations throughout the British Empire. In a happier future, when the world is a League of Nations, many women will no doubt prefer to adopt their husband's nationality and become duly enfranchised citizens of the land of their adoption, but this does not alter the principle which is part of the equality programme for which we stand, that a woman, whether married or unmarried, has an equal right with a man to decide whether or not she wishes to change her nationality.

Women in the British Houses of Parliament.

The number of women candidates for Parliament is slowly growing; at the present time there are twenty-four attached to definite constituencies. The present distribution, according to political parties, gives some concern to an all-party organization like the N.U.S.E.C., anxious to distribute its favours equally: Two Coalition Unionists, four Coalition Liberals, nine Independent Liberals, seven Labour, two Independent, or, in other words, six pro Government, as against eighteen Opposition candidates.

The N.U.S.E.C. Summer School.

Our friends in other parts of the world are very warmly invited to attend the Summer School, organized by the National Union, to be held at St. Hilda's College, Oxford, from Saturday, August 19, to Saturday, September 2. The subjects dealt with fall into the following six groups, and in addition to lecturers a tutor will be appointed to help students in connection with each group: (1) Programme of the N.U.S.E.C.; (2) Administration of justice (specially intended for women magistrates); (3) The League of Nations and International problems; (4) Local Government; (5) Parliamentary and election work; (6) Family endowment. There will also be classes in public speaking, committee work, organization of meetings, etc.

Special arrangements will be made for students from other countries in order that their time may be spent as profitably and enjoyably as possible. There will be opportunities for seeing Oxford and the surrounding country, boating on the river, expeditions and games. A preliminary syllabus may be had from the N.U. Headquarters, Evelyn House, 62, Oxford Street, London, W. Much of the interest of the School 10 years ago was due to the presence of visitors from other countries, and we hope this year to have even a larger number.

ELIZABETH MACADAM.

INDIA.

Women Municipal Councillors.

KARACHI is to be congratulated on its just and progressive spirit in having removed the disqualification of sex which prevented women from entering their Corporation. At a special general meeting of the Karachi Municipality, the following resolution was proposed by Mr. Jamshed N. R. Mehta: "That in the management and conduct and business of the Municipality, the Corporation is of opinion that both sexes shall have equal status, rights, and privileges." The resolution was carried with only one dissentient. We hope some Karachi lady will stand as a candidate in the next election. We notice that in a new Bill to amend the Bombay Municipal Act, regulations are included to remove the disqualification of women from becoming Councillors. Step by step, women in India are having opportunities for public service opened to them.

The Calcutta Municipal Act.

How long is Calcutta going to do injustice to its women rate and tax-payers? And how long are the Calcutta women weakly and dumbly going to acquiesce in their deprivation of Municipal representation? The new Municipal Act for Calcutta is now being debated in the Legislative Council and it is an imperative necessity that its franchise be extended to women. The disqualification of sex was not removed in the proposed draft of the amended Act, but it can still be deleted by the proposal of an amendment to that effect by a member of the Council. We call on the Councillors to pass this over-due piece of legislation and not allow the qualified Calcutta women to be accounted less capable citizens than the women of Bombay, Madras, Benares, Allahabad and numbers of smaller cities. The Bengal Legislative Council has passed a Children's Bill. Let it now grant women their just meed of civic recognition and responsibility.

The National Liberal Conference and Woman Suffrage.

A resolution was moved by Mr. Govindaraghava Iyer from the chair and passed by the National Liberal Conference held at Allahabad congratulating the Madras and Bombay Presidencies on having granted woman suffrage to their qualified women, and calling on the other Provinces to follow their good example. It is to be hoped that the United Provinces particularly will immediately respond to this call. The women there have had the Municipal vote since the Municipal Acts were applied to India. It was taken for granted that there should be no disqualification of sex, and though the U.P. Municipal Act is framed in terms of "he" and "his," the word "person" also covered women and women's names have continuously been on the register and some women vote at each Municipal election.

Dr. Gour's Civil Marriage Bill.

By the very narrow majority of two votes only, Dr. Gour's Marriage Bill was defeated in the Legislative Assembly after a lengthy and spirited debate. The Bill was permissive only in character, not compulsory, and would have granted a higher and more just status to any men or women who desired to make use of it. It is most regrettable that a dog-in-the-manger spirit prevails in so many of our legislators. Though free themselves to have nothing to do with disliked changes, they still stand in the way of allowing others to avail themselves of them. Dr. Gour and his supporters worked hard to carry through this reform in the Civil Marriage laws. They have the gratitude of progressive men and women who encourage them to "try, try, try again."

Stri Dhama, February-March, 1922.

LORD LYTTON WILL HELP THE WOMEN OF BENGAL IN THEIR STRUGGLE FOR THE FRANCHISE.

ON February 22, 1922, Mrs. Fawcett represented the I.W.S.A. on a deputation of distinguished women who

waited upon Lord Lytton at the India Office on the occasion of his appointment as Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, in order to ask his support for women suffrage in Bengal. Lord Lytton, while pointing out that the matter did not rest in his hands, promised to give such support as was possible.

Lord Lytton said, in reply to the deputation:—

"I cannot tell you how pleased and touched I feel at receiving this deputation. It is a very nice and unique experience for a Minister to receive a deputation on business which is all pleasant, and has not come to ask for something which there would be little probability of granting. It has caused me no anxiety; I have not had to search through files or ask my staff for data on which to build my defence. As I said, it is an exceptional and a delightful experience.

"It has also greatly pleased me that you should have wished to come here and bring back the remembrance of the days when we worked together in those difficult times.

"I am glad that you feel that I helped in that great movement which had so triumphant and satisfactory a conclusion. I want to tell you something which may be new to some of you: I always felt that I gained more by my association with you in the Woman's Movement than I gave to it. I expect this is true of anything in life for which one works wholeheartedly—one gains more than one gives. I should like you to know that, not actually a rebel myself, the fact of being a relation of a rebel against the Government has made it much easier for me to understand the meaning and sincerity of those who are outspoken critics of Government. It has given me an added capacity to understand and sympathize with the ideals of others. This is a great asset and I feel I owe it to the women of this country who taught me to acquire it.

"It has helped me, I think, to understand how the standard of development in civilization which a nation reaches is measured by the education and capacity of its women. Therefore you will see that you will not have to ask me to be sympathetic in the matter of political representation and education of women. This lesson I have already learnt in this country. I have no fear of going to India and finding myself head of a Government in a country the women of which are just at the beginning of their struggle for freedom. I approach that difficulty with no anxiety.

"You know that the matter does not rest in my hands, but you may be assured that I will do what I can to help in the struggle for better education and freedom.

"I have somewhat mixed feelings with regard to my appointment to the Province of Bengal. I cannot, I am sorry to say, claim that my Province was the pioneer in this work, but I hope very much to have some share in bringing it about and helping those who are working for it—at any rate—with argument.

"One of the strongest arguments used at the time when we were trying to get the franchise for the women of this country was that if it were granted it would have a disastrous effect on India. This is an argument which cannot be brought in this case. I confidently expect that during my stay in Bengal a great advance will take place in the education of women and in the realization of their political aspirations.

"I feel deeply gratified by the expressions of sympathy and goodwill from the ladies of the country to which I am going. I deeply appreciate the all-too-flattering things you have said about me, and I am glad to be able to feel, in the difficult task which lies ahead of me, that I have your sympathy, and that whether you agree or disagree with the policy that I may be mainly responsible for, you can understand and sympathize with the spirit in which I approach the task.

"In many ways we have discovered that we are at one in our ideals. I shall hear in India of all the questions in which the women of my Province are interested, but if any of you are interested in any movement in any part of India and will kindly bring it to my notice, it will enable me to help more than I could otherwise do."

ITALY.

Suffragist Interviews Senator Lusignoli.

I WAS rather anxious to speak with Senator Lusignoli about his plan for giving to Italian women some electoral rights, in connection with the surveillance of

juvenile delinquents. Senator Lusignoli, whose illness prevented him from coming back to Milan for nearly a month, received me very kindly, but he could not tell me much more than I had read in the Press. His ideas about the proposed reform are somewhat vague. He did not think of juvenile delinquents solely, but would have the whole of charity administration reformed.

Now in Italy public assistance is managed by private bodies and by semi-official ones (the so-called *opere pie*): The former are managed by committees elected by the charity associations and the Government has nothing to do with them, provided that their balances are in order. The semi-official ones (such as hospitals, etc.) have each private endowments and are managed each by a special board selected by the municipality of the town or village and by the County Council. Women are eligible to such boards.

Senator Lusignoli thinks that a new electoral body formed both by men and women should vote for the creation of a Charity Council and that all the charity should be in the hands of this Council. He was rather astonished when I told him that many suffragists were not satisfied with this plan, not from the charity point of view, but from the suffragist standpoint. As the administration of the Charity is at present one of the powers (by delegation) of the municipalities, the new electoral body would have only one of the actual powers of the municipal voters.

As women are already eligible for the boards of the so-called *opere pie*, the consequences of Senator Lusignoli's reform would be to divide the municipal vote into two kinds of elections for men and to grant to the women only one of the different powers which are conferred on men municipal voters, which seems a very little step to the promised franchise, especially as we consider that there are many other things (public hygiene; children's education, etc.) which are of no less importance for women than the choice, by the way of elections, of a Charity Council.

Senator Lusignoli did not agree with me, but he could not answer any of my requests (whether his reform included the creation of tribunals for juvenile offenders, whether the new electoral right should be given to men and women under the same qualifications, etc.). As he is very busy as Prefect of Milan he thinks that he will word his plan better when free from his duties, which I, as well as the majority of my fellow-townsmen, hope may be as late as possible; but if nothing comes of his plan, I think that it is a good sign whenever women collaboration in an electoral form is wanted.

M. ANCONA.

Milan, March 14, 1922.

OESTERREICH.

Leise Hoffnungen.

SEIT einigen Wochen beginnen Hoffnungsstrahlen das düstere Gewölk zu erhellen, das sich in den letzten Jahren so unheilvoll über dem neuen Österreich zusammengeballt hat. Mit dem Einlangen der ersten Vorschüsse auf die so lang erwarteten Kredite, hat sich auch die Zuversicht des verzweifelten österreichischen Volkes auf eine bessere Zukunft, auf ein Gesundwerden unserer so arg verwüsteten Staatswirtschaft ein klein wenig gehoben. Noch sind wir weit davon entfernt zu glauben, dass uns in absehbarer Zeit ein freudvolleres Dasein beschieden sein wird. Wir wissen, dass wir noch viele Entbehrungen und Opfer zu tragen haben werden, bis die Morgenröte einer Zeit uns grüssen kann, die uns nach langen bitteren Leiden Genesung bringen wird: Wiederherstellung der Ordnung in Staatshaushalte, Wiederaufblühen unseres volkswirtschaftlichen und kulturellen Lebens, und damit Wiedererwachen- und Erstarben des Gefühls, dass Österreichs Sein Sinn und Zweck hat. Als die neuen Weltbilder die besiegten Völker zur Unterfertigung der Friedensverträge zwangen, wähten sie in stande zu sein, schon durch die Existenz der papierenen Dokumente den umgeformten, missge-

bildeten, entkräfteten Staaten neues Leben einzuhauchen. Was dann kam, bewies, dass nicht der Despotismus von Gewalthabern, sondern nur der machtvolle Wille eines solidarisch fühlenden, von der Notwendigkeit seiner Existenz überzeugten Volkes eine Staatenbildung durchführen kann. Von fremder Hilfe gestärkt, muss das österreichische Volk den Staat, dem es zugehört, die lebensweckenden und gestaltenden Kräfte erst zuführen. Und dann erst wird es sich erweisen, ob Österreich lebensfähig ist oder ob es nur als Teil eines anderen Staates seine Mission im Weltgetriebe erfüllen kann.

Energischerer Kampf gegen den Alkohol.

Selbst in Zeiten bedrängendster wirtschaftlicher Ohnmacht, beweist das schwergeprüfte Land, dass es an der Überlieferung kulturellen Fortschritts festhält. Einige wichtige Kulturfragen sind aufgerollt worden, um auf gesetzgeberischem und verwaltungspolitischem Wege einer gedeihlichen Entwicklung und Lösung zugeführt zu werden. Vor allem ist es die Alkoholfrage, die die Verantwortlichen im Staate und mit ihnen einen weiten Kreis von Förderern des Volkswohls beschäftigt. Der Krieg hat, wie allüberall, einen erhöhten Alkoholgenuss verursacht. Die Unsicherheit und Verworrenheit der noch schlimmeren Nachkriegszeit schwemmte in einer breiten Volksschicht noch die letzten Gewohnheitsreste einer bedachtsamen, vorausblickenden Lebensführung hinweg. Man sagte sich: Wissen wir denn, was morgen sein wird? Ist es nicht besser, das Leben zu genießen und das Geld, dessen Wert von Tag zu Tag sich vermindert, für Freuden des Augenblicks auszugeben? Mit der Vergnügungsgier stieg auch der Alkoholgenuss. Schon seit Jahren werfen verschiedene Konflikte mit der Polizei und viele Gerichtsverhandlungen Streiflichter auf die Tatsache, dass der Alkohol eine unheimlich wachsende Macht über weite Volkskreise gewinnt. Der grossen Gefahr des Volksverderbens sah man aber erst ernsthaft ins Auge, als kürzlich eine Statistik unserer Handelsbilanz die erschreckende Ziffer nannte, die für Alkohol ins Ausland wanderte. Nun erst erkennt man, dass der Alkohol nicht nur indirekt — auf dem Wege der Gesundheitsschädigung und Leistungsunfähigkeit des Volkes — die Volkswirtschaft benachteiligt, sondern, dass er sie auch direkt in verhängnisvollster Weise berührt, weil es Unsummen verschlingt, die in keinem Verhältnis zu Ausgabefähigkeit des so arm gewordenen Landes stehen.

Diese Erkenntnis führt zu einer Regierungsinitiative. Die Nationalversammlung hat kürzlich auf Antrag des Ministeriums für soziale Verwaltung einen Kredit von 50 Millionen zur Bekämpfung des Alkohols bewilligt. Diesem Ministerium wird ein eigener Bundesfachbeirat angegliedert werden, der aus Vertretern der Regierung, der Länder und der Antialkoholorganisationen bestehen wird. Der Bundesfachbeirat wird Vorschläge zur Verwendung des Kredits und zu gesetzgeberischen Massnahmen für den Kampf gegen den Alkohol ausarbeiten. Es ist zunächst ein Alkoholverbot für Jugendliche zu erwarten, auch spricht man von Einschränkungen im Ausschank, von erhöhten Alkoholsteuern und einem verschärften Trunkenheitsgesetz. Selbstverständlich rüsten sich die Alkoholinteressenten auch ihrerseits für diesen Feldzug.

Wie sehr die fortschrittlichen Frauen Österreichs seit ihrer Organisation den Kampf gegen den Alkohol unterstützen, geht daraus hervor, dass der Bund österreichischer Frauenvereine eine eigene Antialkoholkommission besitzt, die schon wiederholt Vorschläge, besonders für erzieherische Massnahmen, ausgearbeitet hat, die vom Bunde der Regierung erstattet wurden. In der letzten Zeit hatte der Bund die Freude seinen Vorschlag auf Einführung eines Antialkoholunterrichtes an den Schulen angenommen zu sehen. Der Verein abstinenter Frauen, der dem Bunde angehört, hat seinerzeit die erste alkoholfreie Gastwirtschaft in Österreich errichtet. Auf Anregung des Bundes wird demnächst in Wien eine grosse Frauenversammlung stattfinden, an dem Frauen aller Parteirichtungen zum Kampf gegen den Alkohol auffordern werden.

Errichtung einer städtischen Eheberatungsstelle in Wien.

Eine andere brennende Kulturfrage, die Bekämpfung der Geschlechtskrankheiten, beschäftigt die massgebenden Kreise gleichfalls in intensiver Weise. Die Österreichische Gesellschaft zur Bekämpfung der Geschlechtskrankheiten arbeitet gemeinsam mit anderen Autoritäten einen Gesetzentwurf aus, der der Nationalversammlung bald zugehen wird. Der Bund österreichischer Frauenvereine bemüht sich um die Errichtung eines Ambulatoriums für geschlechtskranke Frauen und Kinder. Die Stadt Wien, die ihre Abteilung „Gesundheitswesen“ dem bekannten Professor und Soziologen Dr. Julius Tandler übertragen hat, ist gleichfalls bestrebt auf Betreiben dieses sozial unermüdlichen Arbeiters, regeren Anteil am Kampfe gegen die Geschlechtskrankheiten zu nehmen. Sie errichtete schon eine fakultative Eheberatungsstelle, die in den nächsten Wochen mit ihrer Wirksamkeit beginnen wird. Diese Stelle will vor allem das Verantwortlichkeitsgefühl der Ehemänner gegen einander und gegen die kommende Generation wecken. Sie will eine Schule sein, die die Verantwortung lehrt, sowohl nach der gesundheitlichen, als auch nach der sozialen, wirtschaftlichen und sittlichen Richtung. Ein sozial empfindender Arzt wird die Ehemänner gesundheitlich unentgeltlich untersuchen. Wird er gesundheitliche Defekte finden, dann wird er sie zu einem Spezialisten schicken oder, wenn es sich um Unbemittelte handelt, in ein Spital oder Ambulatorium. Der behandelnde Arzt wird dem Eheberatungsarzt sein Gutachten zusenden, worauf dieser dem Ehemänner, je nach der Sachlage, raten wird die Eheschliessung zu verschieben, bis eine wirksame Behandlung durchgeführt ist, oder von der Ehe ganz Abstand zu nehmen, wenn keine Aussicht auf vollständige Gesundung besteht. Dieser ganze Vorgang soll nicht die Formen einer Verurteilung, sondern einer Beratung und Aufklärung annehmen. In einem Vortrage, den Professor Dr. Tandler kürzlich im Neuen Frauenklub hielt, führte der Initiator der Eheberatungsstelle aus, dass er sehr wohl wisse, dass diese Stelle anfangs nur sporadisch in Anspruch genommen werden dürfte, dass es ihr nicht möglich sein werde, gleich positive Arbeit zu leisten. Aber Dr. Tandler hofft, dass schon das Vorhandensein dieser Stelle die jungen Menschen dazu führen wird sie zu benützen, und dass das Beispiel der Ratsuchenden ansteckend wirken dürfte. Selbstverständlich werden die interessierten Faktoren bemüht sein die Öffentlichkeit und besonders die Jugend auf die Wirksamkeit der Eheberatungsstelle immer wieder aufmerksam zu machen. Dr. Tandler sprach sich aus den sattsam bekannten Gründen der Einschränkung der persönlichen Freiheit, der Neigung des Volkes zum Übertreten unwillkommener Gesetze u.s.w. gegen das obligatorische Ehezeugnis aus, er hofft aber, dass es bald Mode sein wird die Eheberatungsstelle vor Schliessung einer Ehe aufzusuchen. Und er hofft insbesondere, dass die Frauen für eine befriedigende Inanspruchnahme dieser Institution sorgen werden, indem sie von den jungen Mädchen fordern werden diese Stelle zu beachten und den zu erwähnenden Lebensgefährten zu veranlassen, dass er die Stelle aufsuche. In der Folge soll eine Ärztin für weibliche Ehemänner angestellt werden. Bei befriedigender Wirksamkeit der Eheberatungsstelle sollen solche Stellen in allen Stadtteilen errichtet werden.

Wien, 17 März, 1922.

GISELA URBAN.

DIEN in meinem letzten Berichte angekündigte Versammlung hat unter dem Titel „Die Stellung der Frauen im Kampfe gegen den Alkohol“ am 1. April stattgefunden. Den Vorsitz führte die Ehrenvorsitzende des Bundes österreichischer Frauenvereine Frau Marianne Hainisch, von der die Initiative zu dem geeinten Vorgehen der Frauen im Kampfe gegen den Alkohol ausgegangen ist. Nach einem einleitenden Referat des Professors Hans Horst-Meyer, eines bewährten

Kämpfers gegen das Volksverderben, präsidierten die Vertreterinnen der verschiedenen Frauenorganisationen die Forderungen, die von den Frauen zunächst aufgestellt werden. Diese Forderungen sind: 1. Einführung des Gemeindebestimmungsrechtes (Referentin Frau Ernestine Fürth, als Vertreterin des Vereins für politische Fraueninteressen); 2. Einschränkung der Alkoholausschankkonzessionen und Begünstigung der Errichtung von Gemeinschaftsküchen und alkoholfreien Gaststätten (Referentin Frau Gemeinderat Josefine Kurzbauer, als Vertreterin der christlich-sozialen Frauenorganisation); 3. Verbot des Ausschanks von Alkohol in den Stehweinhallen und Branntweinläden in der Zeit von Samstag mittag bis Montag früh (Referentin Frau Fanni Freund-Markus (Vertreterin der Reichsorganisation der Hausfrauen)); 4. Alkoholverbot für Jugendliche (Referentin Frau Nationalrat Olga Rudel-Zeynek, als Vertreterin der katholischen Frauenorganisation); 5. Obligatorischer Alkoholunterricht in den Schulen (Referentin Frau Nationalrat Emmy Stradal, als Vertreterin der grossdeutschen Frauenorganisation). Zum Schlusse sprach Frau Nationalrat Gabriele Proft, als Vertreterin der sozialdemokratischen Frauen, die Notwendigkeit eines solidarischen Vorgehens der weiblichen Parlamentsmitglieder aller Parteien, um diesen ersten Frauenforderungen zur Erfüllung zu verhelfen. Sie erörterte die Zusammenhänge zwischen Alkohol und Volksgesundheit und wies darauf hin, dass die Frauen aus taktischen Gründen zunächst nur bescheidene Forderungen aufstellen, von denen angenommen werden kann, dass sie rasch durchdringen. Der Kampf der Frauen gegen den Alkohol erfordert jedoch noch ganz andere Massnahmen, damit das Ziel, ein Alkoholverbot und freiwillige Abstinenz, erreicht werden kann. Die Frauen werden ihre Forderungen selbstverständlich den massgebenden Stellen mit Nachdruck unterbreiten und es ist zu erwarten, dass die im Parlament sitzenden Frauen über alle Unterschiede ihrer Parteischauungen hinweg energisch für diese Forderungen eintreten werden.

GISELA URBAN.

Wien, 4. April 1922.

PALESTINE.

Votes for Palestine Women?

A CONFERENCE has been held recently between the Orthodox Jews and the Zionists in Jerusalem, when the question of votes for women was discussed. The Zionists contended that women should have the vote, but should not be eligible as representatives; but the Orthodox Jews protested against the introduction of women in any form, as striking at the fundamental basis of the Jewish religion!

The Vote, March 31, 1922.

SPAIN.

Annual Meeting of "Juventud Feminista" (the Juvenile Feminist Association).

THE Valencian Association of this name, at its General Assembly held this month, January, 1922, re-elected its Governing Council. Amongst the ladies who form the new Council we note:—

- Mrs. Josefa Fabra, *President*;
- Miss Angeles Soriano, *Vice-President*;
- „ Vicenta Hernandez Cortes, *Secretary*;
- „ Rosa Giner Martinez, *Vice-Secretary*;
- „ Consuelo Soriano Cardi, *Treasurer*;
- „ Vicenta Mas Miralles, *Vice Treasurer*; and
- „ Amparo Estruch, *Member of Council*.

Among the works which this Association has carried out during the first year of its existence, these deserve to be mentioned: The entertainment which it held in the Scientific Athenæum for its introduction to the public; the organization of a conference under the direction of the sub-director of the Valencian Scouts, which did important propaganda; and, lastly, the lecture given by Don Elias Izquierdo, enthusiastic co-founder of "Juventud Feminista" (Juvenile Feminist Association). The lecturer expounded his subject, "Explanatory Notes on Feminism," with real effect, because of the diversity and interest of his remarks.

The "Juventud Feminista" Association has recently started a class for adults for general culture.

It gives us great satisfaction to see the enthusiasm with which the young people who form this Society are working.

Redencion.

January, 1922.

SWEDEN.

New Swedish Women's Paper.

THE Swedish women have started a new paper for their cause, called "The Women's Paper" (*Kvinnornes Tidning*). It will supply a great need, for since *Rösträtt för Kvinnor* (Votes for Women) ceased to exist when they eventually got the vote, the women of Sweden have felt that their needs have not been adequately represented.

Now the women of Gottenburg have supplied the need, it is to be hoped that the paper will be able to wake the women's interest in the many questions on work which is now expected of them as citizens of their land.

URUGUAY.

A Letter from Miss Mary Sheepshanks.

WOMEN have a good position in Uruguay in many respects. The population is small, the Government enlightened and progressive. In education women enjoy the same advantages as men (and more than in England). All education is free, primary, secondary and University, so there is no class or money bar to boys and girls of all classes entering professional careers. Women practice as doctors, as lawyers, as engineers; there are women factory inspectors, women school inspectors, and, of course, women teachers and professors. Divorce laws give women not only equality but in one respect favour the woman—divorce may be granted to a woman solely on her demand.

The present President is a keen Suffragist, and has proposed a Bill for Woman Suffrage. The Woman Suffrage Society has collected many signatures in support of this Bill, but for the moment it is postponed.

The chief grievance against which women have to fight in this country is the official regulation of prostitution. The champion in this matter, as in the whole women's movement, is the brilliant and energetic leader, Dr. Paulina Luisi, a woman whose gifts would distinguish her in any country, and whose inspiration spreads far beyond the frontiers of her own land. Her efforts on behalf of an enlightened sex education should be very helpful to the women of all countries who have to face the problems of sex relations that have become so acute since the war.

Others are working in a quiet way to win public opinion to the side of Woman Suffrage. The great obstacle is apathy. The majority of women are indifferent, the well-to-do are apt to be idle and luxurious and have not the tradition of public work and public service; home and society satisfy them; they are not conscious of grievances, and are afraid of unpopularity with men.

To a foreign visitor much in the social condition of the country seems to cry aloud for women's intervention.

Uruguay is a fine country and a new country, and its people are a fine people. They may be trusted to face and tackle these problems.

MARY SHEEPSHANKS.

Carmelo, March 4, 1922.

AMERICA'S CATHOLIC WOMEN SUFFRAGISTS.

By ANNIE CHRISTITCH, B.A.

PROMINENT among the Catholic women of this country who have achieved great results for their own community and for humanity at large is Miss Sara McPike, President and Foundress of St. Catherine's Welfare Association of America. As an active member of the American Woman Suffrage Society, Miss McPike realized when the struggle was at its height that the time was opportune for Catholic women to organize themselves into a body and, as such, take their place beside the various other societies demanding political rights for women. With the approval and encouragement of a few ecclesiastics and several prominent Catholic laymen and laywomen of New York, Miss McPike summoned her first Catholic suffrage meeting. It was not a large assembly but it was an assembly of enthusiasts willing to make great sacrifices for a cause which they believed would serve the interests of the Church as of all humanity, and to the glory of the Catholic Woman Suffrage Movement throughout the world let it be recorded that this assembly was held within the precincts of a convent. The Superior of the Religious of Jesus and Mary in New York had long been in sympathy with the suffrage movement and it was whole-heartedly that she granted Miss McPike's request for the privilege of holding a meeting in one of the large reception rooms. Thus was inaugurated St. Catherine's Welfare Association, whose work and aims correspond closely to those of the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society of England and whose past history of misunderstanding and opposition also bears a resemblance to that of the sister organization in England. Like the latter, St. Catherine's Welfare Association has emerged triumphant after years of toil, and has become such an indispensable factor in the educational and social activities of the country that there can be no question of disbanding.

The enfranchisement of women has given rise to new tasks and problems which an organization of this kind alone can undertake. Less fortunate than the C.W.S.S. in that it possesses no official organ, St. Catherine's Welfare Association is nevertheless in the position of being able to distribute thousands of pieces of literature through its local branches, and also of frequently securing space for special articles as well as editorial support in the Catholic periodicals and newspapers which are so numerous and of such a high order in this country. Nor is there any difficulty in obtaining halls for public meetings and the services of first-class speakers, both Catholic and non-Catholic. These are only too glad to address so well-organized a body of women anxious to acquaint themselves with all present-day social problems. The Association has a definite legislative programme which is advocating, among other reforms: equal pay for equal work; an eight-hour day for all working women; a living wage for women; and the strict enforcement of the child labour laws. Miss McPike, who is herself a professional woman holding an important position

in the business world, has made a close study of industrial conditions in the United States, and it was her knowledge, based on personal investigation, which largely assisted her in securing recruits to the Catholic Suffrage Movement in the dark days of opposition. In 1917, when the late and much-beloved Cardinal Gibbons sought to discourage Catholic women from agitating for the vote, this valiant woman took her courage in both hands and headed a deputation which would lay before America's greatest Church dignitary the objects for which St. Catherine's Welfare Association had been founded.

With that courtesy and infinite sympathy which made Cardinal Gibbons one of the most popular men throughout the length and breadth of the United States, the aged prelate had notified his willingness to receive the suffragist group and give them a hearing.

His Eminence confessed his astonishment when he beheld the calm, dignified women who had come to seek his blessing and plead their cause before him. Their devotion to the Church left no room for doubt, and it was then that he delivered himself of this generous sentence: "It is hard for one who has held these views for fifty years to change them. I recognize the fact that women have advanced in the race. My mind is open to conviction and I will give the subject careful consideration." Although Cardinal Gibbons never became convinced of the claims of the suffragists, from that date he no longer actively opposed the movement and this in itself was a great gain to the work of the Association.

Miss McPike has worked in close co-operation with Mrs. Chapman Catt, who, as President of the National Woman Suffrage Association (as well as of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance), has followed the career of St. Catherine's Welfare Association with the keenest interest and is full of praise and admiration for this devoted band of Catholic women.

The Association is affiliated to the National Council of Catholic Women which has just been established in the United States and which held its first convention a few weeks ago. Whereas other Catholic women's organizations throughout the country will now have to take up the study of citizenship and civic duties in order to carry out effectively the programme of the National Council, St. Catherine's Welfare Association presents machinery equipped and ready to act on the advice of the National Catholic Welfare Council, which co-ordinates all Catholic activity, both ecclesiastical and lay, for the common weal of the Church and of the people of America.

The Catholic Citizen.

New York, December, 1921.

An Appeal to our Subscribers.

MAY we ask our members and subscribers to note that many subscriptions are long over due? Will those who have not yet paid kindly forward the amounts due as soon as possible, as delay involves a considerable amount of extra work and expense in the constant sending of reminder notices.

MAY we also appeal for your assistance in obtaining new supporters for the Alliance between now and the next Congress in 1923?

PROGRAMME OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN MEETINGS AT THE HAGUE.

May 14-20, 1922.

SUNDAY, MAY 14—

Public Meeting of Welcome (arranged by the National Council of Women of the Netherlands), at the hotel "De Twee Steden."

MONDAY, MAY 15—

Standing Committees: Peace, Laws, Press.

TUESDAY, MAY 16—

Standing Committees: Suffrage, Public Health, Education.

Public Meeting: "Women's Part in the Campaign Against Venereal Disease."

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17—

Standing Committees: Moral, Finance, Emigration and Immigration, Trades.

THURSDAY, MAY 18—

Executive.

Public Meeting: "The Most Effective Use of Woman's Vote."

FRIDAY, MAY 19—

Executive.

Public Meeting: "Recent Problems in Connection with Peace Propaganda."

SATURDAY, MAY 20—

Executive.

Next month we look forward to publishing an article on the work of the International Council of Women at their Hague meetings, and also the photographs of some of the international officers.

THE MASTER-JOY.

WE shall not travel by the road we make;
Ere day by day the sound of many feet
Is heard upon the stones that now we break
We shall be come to where the cross-roads meet.

For them the shade of trees that now we plant,
The safe, smooth journey and the final goal,
Yea, birthright in the land of covenant—
For us day labour, travail of the soul.

And yet—the road is ours as never theirs!

Is not one joy on us alone bestowed?

For us the Master-Joy, O Pioneers—

We shall not travel, but we make the Road.

—FRIEDLANDER, in the *Inlander*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWS.
SIR (or MADAM),

With reference to your article in *JUS SUFFRAGII* of March on inspection for venereal diseases, in which you point out that a law enforcing medical examination in both sexes acts in practice in a one-sided manner, viz., against the women, may I make a suggestion for a way of combating the disease which could not be open to that objection.

When we had hydrophobia in this country, before the war, we muzzled all dogs, not only those which were suspected of disease.

Public opinion is not yet ripe for compulsory examination of all people, but I think a beginning might be made from the men's side by forming a voluntary association for periodical examination.

But this would need to be very influentially supported in order to prevent it from being laughed out of court. If some of the highest in the land—those who may be looked upon as altogether above suspicion—say the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, or some of the dukes, or even of the princes of the blood, were to head such a society, submitting themselves to examination and obtaining a certificate of health, their example would probably be followed by all who dared to follow it, for women would soon come to demand a clean bill of health from their menfolk, and a man who could not show a certificate would be suspected of being unable to obtain one, and no woman would let him approach her.

The examination of women is another matter. Any proposal for it should come, I think, from the women's side, so I will not enter upon it.

Yours, etc.,

H. W. H. HELBY, CAPTAIN, R.N.

To the Editor of the INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWS.
DEAR MADAM,

I am writing to correct a misstatement which has appeared in the INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWS of December, 1921 (page 36).

The note sent by me is headed "New South Wales Abolishes Compulsory Notification." You will notice that it is put "Mr. McGirr intended to abolish." Mr. McGirr took no further action beyond that outburst in words and the Act remains as it was. Much of the administration of the Act is carried out in secret. It has been in working over a year now, and we hope to be able to get some report this year.

The Labour Government has been defeated, and the State (New South Wales) is on the eve of an election.

The Motherhood Endowment Bill failed to pass through all its stages. The Labour Party is making it a plank in their electioneering platform. The principle of Motherhood Endowment is strongly supported by Dr. Arthur, who is a Nationalist, so that it is not a purely party measure. The Nationalists adopted the principle under the form of Child Subsidy. We are hoping a few women candidates will stand for Parliament, but no names are definitely announced.

Please make the correction about Compulsory Notification in the NEWS.

Wishing you every success in the cause of women.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) M. JAMIESON WILLIAMS.

FRANCE.

AFTER many changes and delays May 30 has been fixed for the opening of the Suffrage debate in the French Senate. The Senate has delayed and postponed and burked this discussion so often that we hope it will now make up its mind to what after all is inevitable and pass a Woman Suffrage Bill without any more shilly-shallying.

April 8, 1922.

Channel Islands.

THE Jersey Legislative Assembly, on March 6, rejected a Bill to allow women to practise as barristers or solicitors.

PEERESSES AND THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

Report of Committee of Privileges Referred Back.

VISCOUNTESS RHONDDA'S claim to a seat in the House of Lords, by virtue of being a Peeress in her own right, still remains unsettled. Last week the Earl of Donoughmore, Chairman of the Committee of Privileges, which conceded that claim, moved that its report be agreed to. The Lord Chancellor moved as an amendment that the report be referred back to the Committee of Privileges for reconsideration, and this amendment was agreed to without a division. He said that there were, in his view, very serious legal points which had not been adequately considered; and the decision of the Committee reversed the practice of centuries and reversed the conception of the existing law. The Lord Chancellor recapitulated the progress of the Sex Disqualification Bill, Clause 2 of which was in the following terms: "His Majesty may include in the letters patent for the creation of a Peer of the United Kingdom a provision to the effect that, where the holder of the peerage is a woman, she shall, if otherwise qualified, be entitled to receive a writ of summons to the House of Lords." An

amendment to delete that clause, moved by Lord Finlay, was carried, and Lord Birkenhead argued that it was the obvious intention of both Houses of Parliament to exclude Peeresses, and, in particular, Peeresses claiming under a patent. Another point was that Lord Hewart, who conducted the case for the Crown when he was Attorney-General, advanced no argument against the claim. The Lord Chancellor contended that there was a very formidable case to be argued, and he urged Lord Donoughmore, if the matter were re-heard, to ensure that as many legal colleagues as possible should attend, and as many lay Members of the House as he should think proper to invite, so that all arguments might be considered. Lady Rhondda's claim, therefore, is at present in abeyance. We shall look forward with interest to a further report from the Committee of Privileges. In the meantime we can only congratulate Lady Rhondda on the effort she has made to establish the right of a Peeress in her own right to a vote and a seat in the Upper House, and most heartily wish these efforts a speedy success. We repeat that the reform most urgently needed in the House of Lords is the establishment of women's right to take part in its deliberations.

The Vote, April 7.

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

President: CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT, 404, Riverside Drive, New York, U.S.A.
1st Vice-President: MARGUERITE DE WITT SCHLUMBERGER, 14, Rue Pierre 1st de Serbie, Paris, France.
2nd Vice-President: CHRYSAL MACMILLAN, 17, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, Scotland.
3rd Vice-President: ANNA LINDEMANN, Degerloch, Stuttgart, Germany.
4th Vice-President: ANNA WICKSELL, Stocksund, Sweden.
Rec. Secretary: MARGERY CORBETT ASHBY, 33, Upper Richmond Road, London, S.W. 15, England.

AFFILIATED COUNTRIES:—Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, and British Dominions Overseas—viz., Australia, Canada, South Africa, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, Russia, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United States of America, Uruguay.

PROVISIONAL AFFILIATIONS: India, Palestine.

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

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

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LECTURES.

Wed., May 3rd, 8.15 p.m. "Have Animals Rights?" The Rev. B. G. BOURCHIER, M.A.
 Chairman: HER GRACE THE DUCHESS OF HAMILTON.
 Wed., May 10th, 8.15 p.m. "The Work of the Women's Guild of Empire." Miss BARBARA WYLIE.
 Wed., May 17th, 8.15 p.m. **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.**
 Wed., May 24th, 8.15 p.m. "Municipal Work for Women." Mrs. MUSTARD.
 Chairman: Councillor Mrs. CRAWFORD. Miss REBECCA WEST.
 Wed., May 31st, 8.15 p.m. Chairman: Mr. ST. JOHN LUCAS.
 Wed., June 7th, 8.15 p.m. "Women and Religion." The Rev. Canon E. W. BARNES.
 Chairman: Dr. LETITIA FAIRFIELD.

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

THE CATHOLIC CITIZEN

(Organ of the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society).
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THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

MEETINGS HELD IN THE MINERVA CAFÉ,
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MONDAY EVENINGS, at 6.30 p.m.

May 1st. "The National Importance of Women's Work on the Land." Dr. LILIAS HAMILTON (of Studley College).
 May 8th. "The Dalton Scheme of Education: Which aims at Developing Children as Individuals." Miss BELLE RENNIE.
 May 15th. "Women in Industry." Dr. MARION PHILLIPS (Chief Woman Officer of the Labour Party).

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THE VOTE

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE PAPER.
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NEWS OF THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

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

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THE WAGE-EARNING WOMAN AND HER MIDDAY MEAL.

AN interesting exception to the economic rule that supply follows demand is the provision made for the midday meal of the majority of wage-earning women. Many of them leave home so early that their breakfast is more of a name than a reality; and home responsibilities, the limitations of lodging-houses, and other factors, have a reducing effect on the quantity, the quality and the time necessary for an adequate supper. Dinner, therefore, is a highly important meal if their health is to stand the strain of daily work and enable them to take any pleasure in that work and to do well in it. Yet in how many towns are there good facilities for a cheap, appetizing and nourishing midday meal? In how many places is the working woman driven to take her food with her to her place of work and to eat it in fine weather in the street or some open spot, and in bad weather in the workroom or warehouse itself? Many factories and big shops provide dining-rooms, but these are still in the minority. Certain societies have also realized the need and have opened rooms where food can be eaten or bought, but the centres they offer are few compared to the need. Catering firms, also, have spread a network of comparatively cheap restaurants, but, good as these are, they are not within the reach of everyone, and have a tendency to send out food from one great kitchen, which loses part of its value in the re-heating necessary when it reaches the local depots. There remain co-operative clubs, dining-rooms run by individual owners, street vendors of fruit, etc., and the itinerating coffee-stall. The inadequacy of the supply in proportion to the demand is partly shown by the number of cases of anæmia and digestive troubles, or illnesses arising from digestive troubles treated at hospitals and dispensaries. It is plain that there is room for improvement and room for experiment.

Such experiments are being tried by the Young Women's Christian Association in various countries. The Association feels that there are other elements in the problem beside that of merely feeding the working women. In the first place, such catering should be educational and have scientific standards of diet behind it. Girls who frequent Y.W.C.A. cafeterias (self-help restaurants) or dining-rooms should gradually acquire ideas of good cooking, pleasant surroundings, good combinations of food, and so forth, that they can carry into their own homes when they have them. Every detail should make an unconscious contribution to the self-respect of the diner, from the manners of the servers to the daintiness of the china, the freshness of the flowers and the announcements on the walls. The menu should

be planned to satisfy the special needs of people needing health-building food that is varied and attractive. Secondly, such enterprises should be self-supporting, without any element of patronage or subsidy. They should be highly efficient in every respect, applying the Christian standard of personal conduct to business conduct. Subsidized catering may be necessary in rare and temporary cases, but as a general rule it lowers both self-respect and wages. Thirdly, any cafeteria or restaurant should be absolutely sound from the point of view of social standards. The arrangement of work and hours, the conditions in kitchens, office and store-room, and the scale of pay should be not merely beyond criticism but should give every worker a chance to throw herself wholeheartedly into the enterprise. Human energy should be used as discriminatingly as any other form of wealth. For example, why tire out girls with hours of tray-carrying when the cafeteria system can be employed? When an experimental cafeteria was opened in Buenos Aires, people said that no one would use it, for girls would prefer to sit at a table and wait for a menu and a waitress rather than walk in a line past counters of visible food, placing



The counter at 9, Rue Daunou, Paris, past which 800-1,000 customers file daily, choosing the actual food they will eat. Coupons are taken at the desk at the end, and handed to the cashier on leaving.

what they wanted on their own tray. But the event proved the prophets wrong, for the cafeteria is almost embarrassingly popular.

Pioneer work along these lines was done by the American Y.W.C.A., which has published invaluable pamphlets summing up the fruits of various experiments, and in the last few years the experiment has spread to other countries. For example, a cafeteria, serving an average of 800 girls every noon, has been opened in Paris. The following is taken from an account by a visitor:—

"It is not so very long ago that the long hours of a

working girl's day in Paris were overshadowed by the daily struggle for a reasonable meal in her luncheon time. On a fine day, especially in summer, it was not so bad, because there were the Tuilleries gardens close by, and it was nice to sit out in the sunshine and picnic; but in winter, with drenching rains and cold winds, one must struggle to find a place in one of the small, overcrowded restaurants, or else just stay in the workroom—in either case not a very comfortable prospect. Happily, now there are alternatives to which hundreds of girls flock daily. Close to the Rue de la Paix, at 9, Rue Daunou, a splendid cafeteria has been installed at Notre Foyer, the headquarters of the Union Chrétienne de Jeunes Filles (Y.W.C.A.) in Paris. Here, in two hours, about 800 girls are served with an appetizing meal at a low price. It is a marvel of organization. One becomes one of a long queue of waiting girls moving slowly but surely up to the long service-counter of the room. Once there, equipped with a tray and knife, fork and spoon, there is the fascinating occupation of choosing one's own lunch as it lies displayed on the counter or keeps hot on the steam table. Hors d'œuvres, soup, meat, vegetables, cheese, dessert and coffee, all pass you as you slide your tray along the counter, and are given whatever you ask for by a white-capped, blue-overalled server smiling opposite you. Then comes a moment's pause at a little table where sits a lady whose capacity for mental arithmetic is awe-inspiring—a glance at your tray, and she is punching a hole in your lunch ticket, giving you a paper napkin, and then you pass on to one of the little tables just taking four people. There is no sense of hurry, no feeling of pressure; one can eat at leisure, yet all the time there is a steady movement in the room. Quiet-footed maids are clearing empty trays, newcomers are finding seats, satisfied customers are paying their bills at the pay desk, until, by 2 p.m., 800 girls have passed through the cafeteria and have gone back to their workrooms ready for the afternoon's work.

"It is a great accomplishment which a combination of French and American brains has brought up to a very high standard. Cafeterias have come to stay in Paris, and new ones are being opened by people who have watched the experiment in the Rue Daunou and who are determined that girl-workers in other parts of the city shall have a like benefit."

A similar cafeteria, organized for the Student Movement by the Y.W.C.A., may be seen in Prague; others in Brussels and Antwerp and other great cities. All these, including the more conservative restaurants in Copenhagen, Cape Town, etc., may still be accounted experiments, but they are experiments in a very large field, where principles are yet to be established. The health of wage-earning women is a national as well as an individual asset, and food is an important item in it. The programme of the World's Y.W.C.A. Commission at St. Wolfgang next month is a heavy one, but diet, health, work and character are so inextricably involved that this question of the food of the wage-earning women is one of the questions that will come up for discussion.

(Continued from column 2, page iv.)

group of younger girls—an opportunity to give their very best. So many of the younger women have not found in the Church a place where they could work; the girl who was athletic, the girl who was literary could not find a ready place to use her gifts. But here in this work with younger girls, the more all-round a person is, and the more gifts she has, the more she has to share with these younger girls. We have found the last few years that this is making a tremendous appeal to younger university women.

Every country must face the challenge of its girlhood and boyhood, for that is obviously the time when habits and ideals are formed which make or mar their future life. A movement for girls and boys is a great thing because it helps them to feel a part of something bigger than themselves, and in a very real sense they can feel linked up with other movements throughout the world.

OLIVE I. ZIEGLER.

THE CHINESE CHURCH AND THE NEW INDUSTRIAL SYSTEM.*

OWING to the peculiar situation in China, such as history and tradition, social conditions, time-honoured customs and religious ideas of the people, the Christian Church was given in her pioneer days the opportunity to lay the foundation stones of some of the most valuable pieces of work. Particular mention may be made of modern medical treatment, education of women and girls, and the translation of scientific books. Those agencies that are carrying on various kinds of work in more efficient form at present may forget that they were originated in the Christian Church, but the far-sightedness of the early Church leaders cannot be very well ignored. The situation that was true in those early days is still true to-day. The Church faces new situations every day which need her sympathy, guidance, co-operation and leadership. A new challenge has come to the Church to-day.

The Church has for her object the establishment of the Kingdom of God on this earth, so she directs her activities toward the uplift of humanity. Here comes the new industrial system, which involves legions of evils. Under this system human lives are of less value than soulless machinery. Because of the evils of this system we see social injustice spreading more and more every day. Is the Church concerned with this social injustice? Will the Church make attempts to help solve the problems resulting from the evils of the industrial system?

The so-called "industrial revolution" was late in coming to China. Even during the short period in which it has been here we see many evils. Thus it is certain that the system must have done yet greater mischief in Western countries. The industrial problem has become to-day an international problem. Since it is recognized as such, a labour organization was formed under the League of Nations, whose duty is to gather the wisdom and judgment of the world to solve this problem. In order to perform the duty wisely and efficiently certain standards have been set by the representatives of about fifty countries. This relieves any one country of finding a wise way of settling the questions connected with labour. This fact also lightens any one organization or institution of the burden of trying to set up standards of work. The Chinese Church as an institution therefore has only to be ready to stand for those reasonable standards set by the Labour Conference of the League of Nations.

What are those standards? Stated briefly, they are: (1) an eight-hour day and a forty-eight hour week; (2) one day's rest in seven; (3) no night-work; (4) minimum age of fourteen; (5) maternity benefit; (6) insurance against sickness, old age, injury and invalidity; and (7) prevention of and provision for unemployment.

The working women of the world believe that it is their immediate duty to push the question of adopting humane conditions of labour in all the countries. In that sense they do not stand only for the cause of women but for all workers of the world. To make their belief and noble stand articulate an International Federation of Working Women was organized, which works closely with the International Labour Conference of the League of Nations. These women also believe that in order to make the establishment of universal peace possible it is necessary to remove the social injustice which is so prevalent in the present age. Because of this belief, they work with such energy and zeal that in the future their points of view will be undoubtedly taken as the guiding principles in bettering conditions of labour. In fact, their views have already been taken into account by the Labour Conference in drafting conventions and drawing up recommendations.

During the last conference of the International Federation of Working Women, which was held in

* By the courtesy of the Chinese Recorder, Miss Zung was the only Chinese woman at the International Working Women's Congress last year. She is a journalist attached to the staff of one of the biggest Chinese dailies, and at present is touring in China for the Chinese Y.W.C.A. to speak on industrial questions.

Geneva, Switzerland, October 17-25, 1921, a delegate was sent from the Young Women's Christian Associations in China. The working women of the West deeply appreciated this effort and showed so much sympathy with their Chinese sisters who had to work under unfavourable conditions that they sent a letter to the working women of China. The said letter is as follows:—

"GREETING: "It has been for us so great a pleasure and an honour to have the working-women of China represented informally by Miss W. T. Zung, that we cannot let her go back to China without sending a message which shall in some measure convey to the working women of China our great desire to have them with us in this great international organization, which has as its purpose the improvement of the working conditions and of the standard of living of the workers throughout the world.

"We realize that the industrial development in China has been somewhat different from that in the Western countries, and that for that reason many of the resolutions which we have adopted at this Congress might seem to be poorly adapted to Chinese conditions. Nevertheless, there are some matters of really great importance, upon which we can no doubt agree at once, and it is in regard to these that we are now writing.

"At our first Congress in 1919 we adopted a resolution in favour of an eight-hour day and a forty-four hour week. If you could make this resolution known to the women in the Chinese factories, it would be a step toward the securing of a shorter working day.

"At our first Congress we also took action upon the question of night-work for women and children. Our resolutions protested against night-work in any but essential and continuous industries, and was in that sense a protest against night-work for men as well as women. I am enclosing a copy of the Washington resolutions.

"At this Geneva meeting, which has just concluded its sessions, our Congress went on record for one day's rest in seven. It is our hope that the women of China will do their utmost to bring about the universal weekly rest period, for we feel that an improvement in industrial conditions must affect Chinese women as well as Western women, if it is to be of any permanent value.

"To sum up, therefore, we want to urge the women of China to help us in the movement for shorter hours, for the prohibition of night-work, and for the weekly rest. These are fundamental, and they need the support of the women workers in every country.

"The Second International Congress of Working Women, in greeting the Chinese women, urges their support for these important measures, and earnestly hopes that the Chinese women will find a way to be represented in our permanent organization. Its address in future will be: 33, Eccleston Square, London, under the direction of Dr. Marion Phillips, our newly-elected secretary.

"(Signed)
"For the International Congress of Working Women,

"MIRIAM G. SHEPHERD,
"Secretary to the Executive Committee."

How natural and convincing the above letter sounds, but how far from the existing conditions in China? The haunting picture of the wretched labour conditions in the West of a century ago are repeated here with might and main. Children of very tender age—say five, six or seven—are working side by side with adults under very bad conditions in both day and night shifts for at least twelve hours. Wages are insufficient for even necessities of life, not to say recreation, education and saving, which people need so much. They are always exposed to the danger of being caught by the unfenced machinery. Accidents occur at very frequent intervals. Because of the disorganized state of labour on one hand and the lack of legislation on the other, the workers die and get buried without being noticed by the public. Labour can be reinforced at any time, so why fuss over those unfortunate dead?

Without paying the least regard to the factory laws in their own countries, many of the foreign employers come out here and do what they please. Undoubtedly they find this country an actual "land of the free." They rule over thousands of wretched "hands"—just like ancient despots—with the sole purpose of making money. On the other hand, the Chinese employers, adopting everything that is materialistic from the West, exploit their own fellow-citizens with no sense of shame. Judging from the above, it is evident that minimum regulations relating to factory labour must be made in order to alleviate the pains of the exploited.

To-day we hear of strikes here and there, in foreign countries as well as in China. This social unrest means that thousands of human beings, men and women of flesh and blood, are longing and yearning for something better—a new order of life. Someone has well said, "Industry exists for man, not man for industry."

If we wish to see the establishment of the Kingdom of God on earth, China included, we cannot allow the continuance of the miserable state of labour. It is true that the Church is ever ready to do any kind of charitable work, but the cry of these exploited poor is, "We want no charity—we want justice." History shows that every worthy movement requires thinking and sympathy from the public before it can be a success. So in this movement; a movement for improving working conditions in this country needs the support and co-operation of every thinking man and woman before it can be a reality. The Church is the place from where the public opinion may emanate. Will the Chinese Church again lay the foundation stone of standing for social justice and humanity as she did nobly for other causes in her earlier days?

ZUNG WEI TSUNG.

COSMOPOLITAN CAIRO.

THE last report from Connaught House, the fine building owned by the Y.W.C.A. in Cairo, speaks of girls of seventeen nationalities either living there or using the clubs, classes or employment bureau, including among their number thirty-three professions. These figures typify the woman's problem in many of the great cities of the world. We are growing increasingly cosmopolitan, and up to the present there have been few efforts to make that cosmopolitanism a means of bringing about international understanding. Thus, one finds wholly foreign quarters in which will be found



One corner of the airy dining-room at Connaught House. Outside members come here for meals in addition to the residents.

people who speak only a few words of the language of the country, people who know nothing of the laws, the hospitals, and the educational system of the town, people who have never visited one of its picture galleries, museums or concert halls, and who do not even know the address of a library. These guests of a country have much to give and much to learn, and it is pitiful that this friendly exchange so often does not take place. It is good to note in this Egyptian report that one of the fundamental principles of the Y.W.C.A. has been observed, and that girls of different nationalities are receiving friendly help in their own languages, that they are meeting each other both for education and recreation, and that every effort is being made to put those foreign to Egypt in touch with Egyptian institutions.

Human touches, such as accounts of picnics in sailing craft by moonlight on the Nile, of a bathing cabin at Stanley Bay, or the first public fountain in Egypt at Alexandria, the experiment with a flat for theatre artistes in Cairo and so forth, give a picturesqueness to reports from Egypt that sometimes obscures the real problems there. But to the discerning eye Connaught



The Courtyard of Connaught House, Cairo, where eighty residents are accommodated, an employment registry carried on, classes held in various subjects, both in French and English, and many social gatherings and expeditions arranged.

House in Cairo, the Pioneer Club in Alexandria, and the happy family in Port Said, with its tradition of untiring hospitality, stand for more than a philanthropic effort for the comfort or safety of girls. They are expressions of the Christian principle of the value of individual human personality, and of that law of international interdependence and mutual help which the breakdown of economic relations is helping us to realize.

CANADIAN GIRLS IN TRAINING.

THESE are days when girls are coming into their own. The Student Movement has done great things for students, and now, in nearly every country, we find developing a movement, and sometimes several, for girls, something into which girls can throw themselves with their ideals and their enthusiasms; something in which they may find their own sphere of self-expression and receive a training which will fill out what is being given them by the homes and schools.

In Canada a movement has developed called "Canadian Girls in Training" which is unique in that the plan was worked out by the Y.W.C.A. and the Sunday School Boards of the Anglican, Baptist, Methodist and Presby-

terian Churches together, so that it represents the best thought of the Christian forces in the community regarding the religious education of girls, and has its life in the Christian Church.

The Committee (formed in 1914) confined its attention definitely to girls from 12 to 17 years of age. It is a fact that in Canada the majority of girls up to 15 years of age are in Sunday School classes for one hour on Sunday afternoons—the Sunday School class then seemed to be the logical group with which to begin. The Sunday School hour is primarily for the teaching of the spiritual truths of the Christian religion, and this is the heart of the C.G.I.T. programme; but it was felt that much of this teaching loses its value because the girls do not put what they have learned into action. This was one of many reasons why the class should meet again during the week. Another reason was that girls have physical, intellectual and social needs which often are not being met and the mid-week session gives an opportunity for this—games, debates, out-door excursions, talks and discussions on various themes of interest to girls. To make these needs clear they were summed up under the headings, physical, intellectual, spiritual and social, and for this reason Canadian Girls in Training is often called a fourfold programme. As a group of comrades, working, studying, and playing together, and as individuals, the girls can learn what it means to be followers of Jesus Christ and to express His spirit in every phase of their lives.

So much for the ideal! The machinery for carrying it out is as simple as possible. There is a National Girls' Work Board (responsible for the publication of all C.G.I.T. literature), each province has a board, and many cities and towns have local boards, each made up of official representatives of the four denominations, and any others desiring to co-operate, and the Y.W.C.A. Where there is a local Y.W.C.A. the Girls' Work secretary is usually secretary of the board. These boards are responsible for any joint work done in C.G.I.T., such as rallies of the girls, week-end conferences and camps; but, obviously, in any local church, that church alone is responsible for the work of its own group.

Much more could be said about the organization, but that is the purely mechanical side, so let us return to the inner life of the movement. Perhaps this is seen most clearly in the Summer Camps—the very word "Camp" brings up memories of ten glorious days spent with a group of girls and leaders by lake or river. Picture sixty keen-eyed girls, bubbling over with life and enthusiasm, and ten leaders arriving at camps. Those who have been at camps before rush off to find their old tent or their favourite corner for watching the sunset or having their Bible study. From that moment till the happy days come to an end the girls spend their days in a round of worth-while interests. It depends, of course, largely on the devotion and spiritual quality of the leaders how true the spirit of the camp is, how deep it will penetrate, and how far they will be able to interpret to the girls and live out with them the spirit of Jesus Christ.

We are working so that every province shall have its own training camp for girls from 18 to 24 years of age who desire training in C.G.I.T. work, and as many camps as possible for girls from 12 to 17 years of age, but the number depends upon the ability of the local board to have a camp properly staffed and equipped. Last summer, 1921, forty-four such camps were held across Canada with an average attendance of at least sixty girls. The girls come from their Sunday School classes and learn new ideas which they can carry out in their C.G.I.T. work, but the great aim is to have every girl return with a more definite idea of what it means to be a Christian girl, and having made friendships with the girls in her own and in other Sunday School classes which will give her a wholesome Christian comradeship, obviously one of the best ways of helping her.

Another aspect is that many of the younger women in the Church are finding in C.G.I.T. work—in leading a

(Continued on page ii, column 1.)

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Photo by [Bassano].
THE MARCHIONESS OF ABERDEEN AND TEMAIR,
President, International Council of Women.



FRAU ANNA BACKER,
General Secretary, I.C.W.



MME. CHAPONNIÈRE CHAIX,
Retiring President, I.C.W.



MME. AVRIL DE STE. CROIX,
President, Equal Moral Standard
Committee, I.C.W.

was intended to make clear that the propaganda to be undertaken was to be confined to urging National respect for governments and their respective policies, and that such propaganda should be deemed necessary.

JVS SVFFRAGII.

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INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

By THE MARCHIONESS OF ABERDEEN AND TEMAIR.

THE biennial meeting of the Executive Committee of the International Council of Women and of its ten Standing Committees was held at The Hague from May 14-22 under the happiest auspices. Perfect weather, perfect hostesses who cared for their guests' comfort with a thoughtfulness which sent them to their work each day in a most happy and grateful frame of mind, and a most convenient place of meeting at the newly-formed Women's Club, to which a good hall is attached and plenty of committee rooms.

The Standing Committees' work largely consisted of reports of the progress of the work undertaken at Christiania two years ago, and the resolutions passed are for the most part the record of the opinion arrived at by those present at the Committee, and must not be taken as the accepted opinion of the Executive unless in the case of such resolutions as had been placed on any of the Committees' agenda beforehand and then specifically submitted to the Executive. For instance, the resolution of the Suffrage and Equal Citizenship Committee, that women ought to work inside the political parties of their countries and to form within those parties groups of women to press their special interests, cannot be quoted as the decision of the Executive, as it was not discussed by that body but merely received as part of the report of the interesting discussion which had taken place. On the other hand, a resolution sent in by the Italian National Council to the Public Health Committee, and of which notice had been given on the agenda, asking the International Council to initiate a propaganda with regard to cancer, was adopted by the Executive with a modification which was intended to make clear that the propaganda to be undertaken was to be confined to urging National

Councils and their Public Health Sections to devise schemes through which the general public could be made to realize that the great chance for permanent cure lies in early diagnosis and treatment. The high rate of mortality from cancer and its prevalence amongst women renders any action which can be taken to persuade persons having the slightest suspicion that something may be wrong to consult a doctor, urgently advisable.

The Public Health Committee continues to keep in close touch with the great international health movements working under the League of Nations and the League of Red Cross Societies, through which it has been able to secure valuable and instructive literature for use by the various Public Health Committees of the different National Councils, and it is now distributing such literature regarding the development of the Junior Red Cross, which has been taken up with great enthusiasm by the children in various countries largely in response to efforts made by the American Junior Red Cross, and which promises to promote habits of good health and prevention of disease in the best possible way.

The Special Child Welfare Committee, entrusted by the International Council at Christiania with the task of drawing up a Children's Charter which would indicate the minimum rights which the I.C.W. can claim for the children of all nations if they are to have the opportunity of developing into happy, healthy, useful citizens, reported its work completed. Copies of the Charter will be issued in the three official languages to all National Councils, to be by them pressed on their respective Governments with such adaptations as they deem necessary.