

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

THE
WOMAN'S LEADER
 AND
THE COMMON CAUSE

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NOTES AND NEWS

The World Outside.

At the moment there appears to be a lull in the Franco-German crisis. On two points at least the French Government has refrained from pressing its points up to the hilt. Payments in kind from the Ruhr are to go into Reparations account, and not into the rapacious maw of Occupation costs. And for the moment, at least, there are to be no more military "sanctions." It is amusing to speculate that this spirit of accommodation may be dictated by consideration for Mr. Baldwin; by a desire, that is, not to play into the hands of his left-hand critics during a General Election. But is it possible to credit the French Government with such diplomatic subtlety in the conduct of its foreign affairs? Meanwhile, in Germany itself the political crisis shows no sign of abating. At the moment of writing, that country is still vainly seeking a Chancellor, and it looks as though Dr. Stresemann may have to carry on. That would not be regrettable, for he is the most commanding personality in German public life. But why in the name of democracy does he not dissolve his tired and unrepresentative Reichstag? Germany has much to learn from Great Britain regarding the conduct of a Parliamentary constitution.

Women and International Peace.

The International Council of Women, in co-operation with several other important international organizations, is arranging an international conference on the Prevention of the Causes of War, under the chairmanship of the Marchioness of Aberdeen and Temair. The conference will be attended by delegates from international organizations from all over the world and will be thoroughly representative. It is to be held in one of the lecture halls at the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley in the first week in May. The leading women's international organizations are taking advantage of the presence of these overseas delegates in London to organize three public meetings in the course of the same week, with the object of bringing home to the ordinary man and woman what they can do to promote peace among the nations and friendliness and concord among individuals from different parts of the world.

An International Conference.

The Women's International League is asking all candidates at the coming Election the following question:—"Will you press for the immediate summoning of an International Conference of the powers, including Germany, to deal with the whole question of Reparations?"

Suffering in Europe.

As we expected, our appeal for the underclad and ill-fed students of Germany and other Central European countries was not written altogether in vain, and within the next few weeks, as we approach Christmas, we mean to call the attention of our readers to various schemes to relieve misery which will hardly bear thinking of, not only in Central Europe and Poland, but among the refugees in the near East. Money is urgently wanted, and there is an unlimited demand for warm second-hand clothing, coats, skirts, shirts, stockings, underclothes, knitting wool, flannel, and blankets. We suggest that women's organizations, as many have already done, should appoint small sub-committees to investigate the claims of the various appeals and to discover to what extent efforts to help have been organized in their respective localities. Life service to the League of Nations is not enough. If we are in earnest about the need for International peace and goodwill we will find some method of ministering to the hungry, the foodless and fireless, and the homeless victims of circumstances over which they had no control as a practical testimony of our faith.¹

Women of Wales and War.

Six thousand women from South Carnarvonshire have signed the memorial from the Women of Wales to the Women of America in favour of world peace and the League of Nations.

¹ Parcels of clothing for refugees in Greece should be addressed: Nansen's Relief Appeal, c/o All British Appeal, New Hibernia Wharf, London Bridge, S.E. Gifts of money for Central Europe or Poland which may be earmarked for special purposes, may be sent to The Friends' Council for International Service, Devonshire House, 136 Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 2. Clothes should be sent to The Friends' Warehouse, McLean's Buildings, New Street Square, E.C. 4. Gifts for Universities' Relief Fund should be sent to Imperial War Relief Fund, General Buildings, Aldwych, London, W.C. 2.

Roedean and the Retirement of the Misses Lawrence.

The three Lawrence sisters who founded Roedean, and have been its Head jointly for 38 years, retire, as they began, together.

The ideals with which they started have spread so widely that it is hard for us to realize how original and daring they were when the school started in Brighton in 1885. Physical education and outdoor exercise were to have a place in the curriculum. Girls were to be trained to independence and self-reliance, and with that end in view were to be given as much liberty as could be safely granted; and each girl was to be given a sound and careful intellectual training. From the first the school was a success, and grew so rapidly that in 1898 it moved to its present site and ever-expanding group of buildings. In 1921 Roedean was reorganized from a private venture to a Public School, and we are glad that this enables the Misses Lawrence still to work for the school through its Council, and so it will in some measure benefit by the vision and energy and wide outlook and combined business and educational capacity that have made it what it is.

Women Explorers.

Miss Cheeseman will be accompanying, as entomologist, the expedition headed by Mr. L. Blair, F.R.S., in quest of information among the little known islands on the South Pacific, which will

be starting on 10th September. Other women will accompany the expedition as passengers.

The Hardwicke Society.

A barrister writes in the *Morning Post* :—

The Hardwicke Society, the forensic Club of the Bar, which in its ninety or so years of existence has counted among its members most of the great Advocates and Judges of the period, has elected its first woman member.

Ever since the Inns of Court in their wisdom opened the profession to women on equal terms with men (dining terms as well) the Hardwicke Society, which owes much of its prestige to its informality and privacy, has stood out against women being admitted to its deliberations. Succeeding Presidents held themselves bound by the rules to exclude the nomination of women; but a persistent little body of pro-feminists at the beginning of the session passed, by a majority of four, an alteration in the rules opening the doors to Women Bar Students and Barristers. The first woman member has been elected in the person of Miss Ida Duncan, a young barrister of the Oxford Circuit. The unprecedented occasion called forth, even from those who are opposed on principle to the admission of women, such testimonies to her qualifications for membership as to show that the Die-Hards' bark was worse than their bite!

MEDITATIONS OF AN ELECTOR.

To those of us who are preparing to go to the poll next Thursday it is clear that the dominant issue upon which we shall have to make up our minds is the issue of Free Trade *versus* Protection. It may not be the ultimate issue, or even the widest issue. The second largest party in the country tells us that Free Trade is a negative programme, that Protection is a poisonous remedy, and that neither under Protected Capitalism nor under Free Trading Capitalism can we cure social diseases which are inherent in capitalism itself. But at any rate it is the immediate issue, and the issue which has precipitated this present breathless conflict. And in casting our votes next Thursday we shall be answering "yes" or "no" to Mr. Baldwin's question: "May I go forward with the development of the protective policy, which in my opinion is the only cure for unemployment on its present scale and upon the practical details of which my committee of experts is already at work?"

When we come to look into the question, however, we see that it is not a very clear-cut alternative. The Free Trade which we are at present enjoying—or, if our readers prefer, under which we are at present languishing—is not the kind of Free Trade which Gladstone perfected in the eighteen-sixties. It is Free Trade tempered by the emergency tariffs of The Safeguarding of Industries Act, and crippled by the tangle of political prohibitions and controls which the war has bequeathed to us. Nor is the Protection which Mr. Baldwin offers us the Protection of Joe Chamberlain, with its agricultural background and its air of a self-sufficing, Free Trade Empire. That is why the existence of the Conservative Free Trader fighting under Mr. Baldwin's banner, though it may be something of an anomaly, is at least a political possibility. We are asked, in fact, to take an important step in the direction of Protection, by the substitution of a frank and permanent general tariff, for the somewhat hole and corner Protection of specially situated industries under emergency legislation. In addition we are asked to move a step nearer to the imperial economic ideal by the development of certain minor colonial preferential tariffs. And the reason why we are asked to take this step is an immediately practical one: because it is calculated to increase employment.

Now exactly whether the particular tariffs contemplated are going to lighten our present burden of unemployment is a highly technical problem. In the days of Gladstone's famous Free Trade budgets the matter was simpler. England was indisputably the "Workshop of the World," and the question of acute competition from foreign manufacturers in our home market did not arise. But since then, as Mr. Baldwin has repeatedly pointed out, the economic balance of power has shifted and the world has many workshops. Our manufacturers are no longer so sure of being able to hold their own even in their home markets. And the home market is a big thing—how big we are apt to forget, when we speak of this country's dependence on

overseas trade. Suppose, through the machinery of Protection, the shadow of cut-throat competition were removed from it, would the new stability of the protected industries compensate, or more than compensate, for the slight increase in commodity prices which that protection would entail? Would the expansion of those protected industries enable us to shoulder more easily the continuing burden of unemployment in the expert industries which no protection of the home market can touch? Would opening lines of trade with the Dominions, fostered by the ties of Imperial Preference, compensate or more than compensate for the dwindling exchange operations with our foreign creditors? These are crudely drafted questions, each one of which bristles with qualifications and subtleties. Yet they are the kind of questions which will emerge in the mind of the thoughtful elector as he or she examines the roughly drafted proposals of the Conservative Party, whose concrete forms are in process of being worked out by Mr. Baldwin's committee of "experts"? And we have little doubt that to the vast majority of electors they will appear as questions so highly technical as to tax the wit of any man or woman "in the street."

With the majority of us, however, the technical pros and cons of this or that particular form of Protection will not determine the issue. We shall vote in the direction of Protection or in the direction of Free Trade, with comparative simplicity of outlook. Some of us will feel now, as we have always felt, that a self-sufficient and economically independent Empire, with internal free trade, and no very intimate concern with the world outside, is a noble ideal; one conducive to the peace of the world, as well as to the prosperity of the British race. Others of us will feel now, as we have always felt, that the old Cobdenite view of a world united by common dependence on the interchange of material wealth is one which we would do well to preserve, in spite of recent lapses, since we have already built up what material prosperity we can boast upon its fundamental implications. And if it involves us in a continuous and nerve-racking political struggle for the pacification of indigent or crack-brained neighbours—should we not be morally bound to carry that on, anyhow? And that being so, is not the economic stimulus of our ever-increasing interdependence a desirable reminder of our moral duties?

But there—it is time we suspended such reflections for fear they might lead us to a party-political conclusion. That final step must be left to our readers, to each according to her taste. In conclusion, we would like to offer our heartfelt condolences to those of them who, being whole-heartedly Free Trade, may find themselves conscientiously compelled to vote against Lady Astor, as well as to those of them who, being whole-heartedly Protectionist, may feel conscientiously compelled to vote against Mrs. Wintringham. For our own part, nothing would induce us to do either the one or the other.

A SHORTER CATECHISM FOR CANDIDATES.

The following questions do not, of course, include all the reforms for which the WOMAN'S LEADER stands and in which we should like to see candidates educated, but they deal with some of those questions which are most likely to become "practical politics" in the near future.

1. EQUAL FRANCHISE.

Will you use your vote and influence to make the qualifications for a woman voter the same as that for a man?

NOTE.—The present qualification excludes the great majority of women wage-earners, some because they are under 30 and others because they live with their parents or employers or in furnished lodgings and do not rank as occupiers or owners.

2. WIDOWS' PENSIONS.

Will you urge your party to carry into immediate effect the principle to which it has pledged itself by the granting of pensions to civilian widows with dependent children?

NOTE.—The Conservative Party, at the recent meeting of the National Unionist Association at Plymouth, carried unanimously a resolution to this effect. As originally intended the resolution contained the words "as soon as the financial condition of the country permits." An amendment was proposed and carried defeating this qualifying clause. The Labour Party's Election manifesto expressly mentions this Reform. The Liberal Party's Election manifesto includes an affirmation of the same principle.

3. EQUAL GUARDIANSHIP.

Will you urge the Government to introduce immediate legislation giving equal rights of custody, guardianship, and maintenance to mothers with fathers over the children?

NOTE.—A Bill to this effect has been before the House for two sessions and when the dissolution took place a standing Joint Committee of both Houses was about to report. This long deferred reform has a place in the Election manifestos of the Liberal and Labour Parties.

4. WOMEN POLICE.

Will you urge the Government to appoint more Women Police for London and to introduce legislation making the appointment of an adequate number of trained and duly attested women compulsory on local authorities?

NOTE.—A Committee appointed by the Home Office recommended in 1920 that women "should form an integral part of the police force."

5. EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITIES IN INDUSTRY AND THE PROFESSIONS.

Will you take every opportunity of advocating the principle of equal opportunities for men and women in industry and the professions and equal pay for equal work?

NOTE.—The question of the pay for women in the Civil Service is bound to come forward in the coming session, as in August, 1921, it was decided that the question should be reconsidered in three years.

6. Will you support the provisions of an adequate scale of training and employment schemes for unemployed women as well as men; also a wide extension of occupation centres for juveniles?

NOTE.—Hitherto nothing has been done in this direction except through the provision of a few Home Crafts Centres for training for domestic service, and the numbers of occupation centres for juveniles is wholly inadequate. (See Report.)

7. Will you support and work for Permanent Peace through an all inclusive and active League of Nations, and further will you urge the Government to include women among the full voting delegates it appoints to the League or any bodies in connection with the League?

MANIFESTO TO WOMEN VOTERS.

The National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship has issued the following manifesto to women voters:—

The National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, which under its former title of National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies helped to win Votes for Women, asks you to remember that you owe a debt to the women who are suffering from injustice in the present laws, in whose names the vote was won. This election is an opportunity for paying that debt.

1. *The vote was won in the names of the women War Workers, "without whose assistance" (so the Government told us) "success was impossible; with whose assistance victory was assured."* We want votes for these women workers, only about one in fifteen of whom are enfranchised under the present qualification. *Ask your candidate* to press the Government for a Bill giving votes to women on the same terms as men.

2. *The vote was won in the names of Widows left with young children to support, who have no resource but to work in the labour market for insufficient pay or apply for Poor Relief.* We want pensions for these widows free from the stigma of pauperism. *Ask your candidate* to press for Widows' Pensions.

3. *The vote was won in the names of Married Mothers who are denied all legal rights over their own children.* We want a Bill giving Equal Rights of Custody, Guardianship, and Maintenance for mothers and fathers. *Ask your candidate* to support such a Bill.

4. *The vote was won in the names of sweated Women Workers, crowded together in unskilled occupations.* *Ask your candidate* to support Equal Opportunities and Equal Pay for men and women in industry and the professions, irrespective of sex or marriage; also adequate provision for Unemployment through training and relief schemes.

5. *The vote was won in the names of all those, especially the children, who are suffering from the cruelty of war.* *Ask your candidate* to support and work for Permanent Peace through an all inclusive democratic and active League of Nations.

Remember that your votes on 6th December will not merely help to decide the issue between Free Trade and Protection. They will elect a Parliament which may remain in power for five years. See to it that these vital issues are not neglected.

WHY I AM NOT A CANDIDATE.

I stood as a candidate at the last General Election for a hopeless seat, my opponent having a 4,000 majority and my Party no organization worth speaking of in the Division. I did not win the seat, and there is no reason to suppose a man candidate would have succeeded in winning it.

When the present Election came along I decided I would not fight any seat which had not a fair chance of being won because I felt that if women candidates in numbers accepted hopeless seats from their Parties it would tend to establish the legend that "Women never get in."

I have been offered six constituencies in which I could have been the official candidate of my Party, with the full backing of the Party machine and the Party war-chest. I have examined each proposition carefully, and I found that in each case the chances of a win were practically nil.

I should like to hear the views of women prominent in public work as to the advisability or otherwise of women candidates coming forward ready to fight hopeless seats, and as to how far this retards or accelerates the day when each Party will be represented by a proportion of women in the House of Commons. At the moment of writing nothing is known as to the fate of the women candidates now standing at this Election. I venture to predict that the majority of them will agree that they have been put up to fight seats in which the chances of victory are small. December 6th will tell its tale, but I am quite clear that this is a subject which those who desire to secure the election of women to the House of Commons will have to give very careful thought to, and I hope the WOMAN'S LEADER will secure and publish the views of representative women, whether they have been candidates at this Election or not.

X. Y. Z.

THE PROSPECT FOR WOMEN CANDIDATES.

When this paper is in the hands of the readers there will only be five days (including Sunday) to run in this snap election campaign. Every moment is therefore valuable if the women of the country are determined to secure the successful return of more women as well as the three who were members of the last Parliament. It will be no easy task, but women, who instinctively hate and detest war or physical strife, are good fighters for causes if they are convinced that a cause is worth fighting for. The facts are these:—

Last year thirty-three women stood for Parliament; this year there are thirty-four. Of these, seven are Unionists, twelve are Liberals, thirteen represent Labour, one stands as Independent, and one as a Co-Operative Candidate.

Geographically they are distributed as follows: Scotland three, Wales one, North of England five, Midlands ten, London and Home Counties nine, the South and West five, and the East one.

Our eyes naturally turn first to the position of the three former Members. Both Lady Astor and Mrs. Wintringham are in the midst of a stiff fight, and Mrs. Philipson's prospects, always beyond doubt, have, we think, been rendered still more certain by the appearance of a third candidate in the field—another woman, Mrs. Penny, standing in the Labour interest.

What are the chances of the rest? We think it will interest our readers to know what the women candidates are up against. Out of the total thirty-one, not a single one is standing for a seat previously held in the last Parliament by the Party she represents, as the following table will show. On the face of it, Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan, Miss Susan Lawrence, and the Duchess of Atholl appear to have the best chances, and local circumstances may help Miss Margaret Bondfield to turn the heavy majority against her into one in her favour. We are glad to know that all these candidates stand whole-heartedly for the reforms for which this paper stands, except the Duchess of Atholl, who, while sympathetic, wishes to have unfettered judgment if returned to Parliament. As we said last week, we wish Dame Helen was not standing against a good and tried friend of the Women's Movement. Of the remaining number, we recognize that figures are often fallacious, and that there are many elements at work which may spring some surprises when the results are made known.

Mrs. Oliver Strachey and Lady Terrington are doing women a good service in standing against two members of the House of Commons who persistently oppose legislation dealing with the reforms for which we stand—Colonel Grant Morden and Lieut.-Col. Du Pré. We greatly regret that a Labour member has at the last moment been put up against Mrs. Oliver Strachey, but we confidently hope that the fact that she is standing for the third time in Brentford and Chiswick and the record of the late Member will help to secure her safe return. Mrs. Strachey has unusual qualifications and experience for Parliament, and we sincerely trust that her courage and perseverance will be rewarded by success. Lady Terrington is standing for the second time, and we hope to see her in Parliament for her own sake as well as because we wish to see her opponent out. Her husband, Lord Terrington, who is helping her, has special claims to the gratitude of women voters, because of his championship of the Equal Guardianship on the Joint Committee. Mrs. Corbett Ashby, with her political experience and ability, after her former campaign deserves a better chance, but she is putting up a splendid fight. She, like Mrs. Strachey, has served an apprenticeship to politics and knows her job, and we hope she may achieve a triumph in Richmond. Space will not allow mention here of other candidates whom we would welcome in the House of Commons, but we reiterate our appeal to the readers of this paper to help one or other of the women who are standing, and ensure not only the safe return of new as well as old friends to the House, but sporting and creditable polls in the case of those who are unsuccessful.

See page 349 for list of woman candidates.

THE WOMAN'S LEADER
EVERY FRIDAY. ONE PENNY.
SPECIAL TERMS FOR SOCIETIES

Send 6/6 to the Office of the Paper, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.
1/8 for Three Months. SUBSCRIBE TO-DAY.

MR. BALDWIN AND WOMEN'S QUESTIONS.

In response to a request from the Parliamentary Secretary of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship to receive a deputation from that Organization, the Prime Minister has through his secretary, replied as follows:—

"The Prime Minister much regrets that the great pressure upon his time during the election campaign does not permit him to accede to the many requests for deputations which are now being addressed to him. In the circumstances he has no alternative but to state in writing the views which he holds on the points which you have raised.

"(1) Equal Franchise. On the subject of equal franchise for men and women the Government are in agreement with the view expressed by the late Prime Minister, that the discrimination in age between men and women contained in the Franchise Bill of 1918 cannot be permanent. In the Prime Minister's view, however, a Bill to alter the existing Franchise could only be introduced towards the close of the next Parliament, and the Government, if returned to power, will then be ready to consider with an open mind whether this question should not be reopened.

"(2) Equal guardianship rights for mothers and fathers. The Government propose to revive the Joint Committee of both Houses which has been investigating this subject with a view to an agreed measure being submitted to Parliament.

"(3) Pensions for widows with dependent children. The Government are in sympathy with this proposal, and they consider that it is one which should receive the most careful consideration when the state of the national finances is such as to warrant the heavy expenditure involved."

In addition, in answer to a very similar request from the Six Point Group, the Prime Minister, in refusing to receive a deputation, referred to the following points which had been raised by them:—

(1) *Amelioration of the Law in the matter of Child Assault.*—The Prime Minister would gladly consider a statement indicating more clearly in what direction modification of the law is desired. Any representations which you may have to make on this subject will be welcomed. In the meantime the Prime Minister would like to assure you that any measures for the better protection of the child will receive the most sympathetic consideration of the Government.

(2) *Adequate Legal and Financial Protection for the Children of Unmarried Parents.*—The Government will give sympathetic consideration to any proposals for improving the lot of the children in question or any representations which you may desire to put forward indicating more precisely the specific reforms which your Association has in mind.

(3) *Equal Pay for Men and Women Teachers.*—The Government are in general sympathy with the ideal expressed in the formula "equal pay for equal work," which, of course, is capable of very diverse interpretations. A claim that in all cases the pay of men and women teachers should be identical would, if realized in practice, not only have the deplorable result of throwing many women teachers out of employment, but would involve the overriding by the State of the views of Local Authorities in a matter (the appointment of teachers) which Parliament has entrusted to the Authorities. Moreover, in this matter regard must be had to the serious condition of the country's finances and to the heavy additional burden (estimated at about £7,000,000 per annum) which the adoption of the proposal would involve.

(4) *Equal Opportunities for Men and Women in the Civil Service.*—The Government have already accepted the principle that the fullest possible opportunity should be given to women in the Civil Service, and the Prime Minister endorses the resolutions on this subject, which were passed by the House of Commons on the 5th of August, 1921.

The answers with regard to Guardianship of Children and Pensions for Widows are the same as those made to the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship.

At the meeting held by the Women's Unionist Organization at Drury Lane on the 22nd November, Mr. Neville Chamberlain made the following somewhat vague remarks:—

If we are returned to power no doubt we shall have an opportunity of passing legislation analogous to that which we

WOMEN CANDIDATES.

- Unionist.*
- *VISCOUNTESS ASTOR (Plymouth, Sutton), CAPT. J. WOULFE-BRENAN (Lab.). (U. 3,093.)
DAME HELEN GWYNNE VAUGHAN (Camberwell, North), *C. G. AMMON (Lab.). (Lab. 254.)
MISS R. PARSONS (Lancaster, Ince), *S. WALSH (Lab.). (Lab. 9,075.)
*MRS. HILTON PHILIPSON (Northumberland, Berwick-on-Tweed), CAPT. H. ROBSON (L.), MRS. EDNA PENNY (Lab.). (U. 6,142.)
MISS E. PILKINGTON (St. Helens), *J. SEXTON (Lab.). (Lab. 6,144.)
MISS V. ROBERTSON (Glasgow, St. Rollox), *J. STEWART (Lab.). (Lab. 5,771.)
DUCHESS OF ATHOLL (Perth and Kinross, Kinross and Western), P. A. MOITENO (L.) (N.L. unop.)
- Liberals.*
- MRS. CORBETT ASHBY (Richmond, Surrey), *H. BECKER (U.). (Ind. U. 6,043.)
MRS. GEORGE CADBURY (Birmingham, King's Norton), *SIR HERBERT AUSTIN (U.), G. BENSON (Lab.), MRS. E. BARTON (Co-op.). (U. 1,853.)
MRS. R. CLARKSON (Birmingham, Moseley), *P. J. H. HANNON (U.). (U. unop.)
MRS. MARCUS DIMSDALE (Cambridge), CAPT. R. BRISCOE (U.), A. E. STUBBS (Lab.). (U. 679.)
MRS. H. HOLLAND (Glamorgan, Gower), *D. R. GRENFELL (Lab.). (Lab. 2,086.)
MISS HELEN FRASER (Lanark, Hamilton), *D. M. GRAHAM (Lab.). (Lab. 3,276.)
MRS. OGLIVIE GORDON (Hastings), *LORD EUSTACE PERCY (U.), R. DAVIES (Lab.). (U. 7,499.)
MISS MARY GRANT (Yorks, West Riding, Pontefract), *T. SMITH (Lab.), MAJOR A. N. BRAITHWAITE (U.). (Lab. 616.)
MRS. ADA MOODY (Stoke-on-Trent, Hanley), *H. PARKER (Lab.). (Lab. 4,430.)
LADY TERRINGTON (Bucks, Wycombe), *LT.-COL. W. B. DU PRÉ (U.), G. YOUNG (Lab.). (U. 4,473.)
MISS URSULA WILLIAMS (Durham, Consett), *REV. H. DUNNICO (Lab.). (Lab. 4,599.)
*MRS. WINTRINGHAM (Ind. L.) (Lindsey, Louth), G. PETO (U.). (L. 883.)
- Labour.*
- DR. ETHEL BENTHAM (Islington, East), *CAPT. A. U. M. HUDSON (U.), A. S. COMYNS-CARR (L.). (U. 3,847.)
MISS MARGARET BONDFIELD (Northampton), *C. A. MCCURDY (L.), J. B. COLLIER (U.). (N.L., 5,484.)
MRS. A. CORNER (Surrey, Farnham), *A. M. SAMUEL (U.), C. A. B. WILLIAMS (L.). (U. 9,245.)
MRS. M. A. HAMILTON (Rochester, Chatham), *LT.-COL. J. T. C. MOORE-BRABAZON (U.), SIR A. CALLAGHAN (L.). (U. 653.)
MISS DOROTHY JEWSON (Norwich 2), *G. H. ROBERTS (U.), *LT.-COM. E. HILTON YOUNG (L.), H. D. SWAN (U.), H. J. COPEMAN (L.), W. R. SMITH (Lab.). (N.L. 15,542.)
MISS SUSAN LAWRENCE (East Ham, North), *C. W. CROOKE (U.), E. E. EDWARDS (L.). (U. 468.)
MISS M. PALLISER (Bournemouth), *LT.-COL. H. PAGE CROFT (U.), C. B. DALLOW (L.). (U. 5,509.)
MRS. E. PALMER (Isle of Wight), CAPT. P. D. MACDONALD (U.), MAJ.-GEN. J. E. B. SEELEY (L.). (L. 1,582.)
MRS. EDNA PENNY (Northumberland, Berwick-on-Tweed), *MRS. HILTON PHILIPSON (U.), CAPT. H. ROBSON (L.). (U. 6,142.)
MRS. L. SIMPSON (Dorset, Western), *MAJOR W. P. COLFOX (U.). (U. 4,548.)
MISS JESSIE STEPHEN (Portsmouth, South), *MAJ. H. R. CAYZER (U.), REAR-ADMIRAL DRURY-LOWE (L.). (U. 2,121.)
COUNTESS OF WARWICK (Warwick and Leamington), CAPT. A. EDEN (U.), G. NICHOLLS (L.). (U. unop.)
MISS E. C. WILKINSON (Ashton-under-Lyne), *SIR W. DE FREECE (U.), H. T. GREENWOOD (L.). (U. 3,172.)
- Other Parties.*
- MRS. E. BARTON (Co-op.) (Birmingham, King's Norton), *SIR HERBERT AUSTIN (U.), MRS. G. CADBURY (L.), G. BENSON (Lab.). (U. 1,853.)
MRS. OLIVER STRACHEY (Ind.) (Brentford and Chiswick), *COL. W. GRANT MORDEN (U.), W. HAYWOOD (Lab.). (U. 2,346.)

CHILD ADOPTION.

By GERALD B. HURST, K.C.

The case for the legal recognition of adoption rests upon the experience, common to all races, that it helps childless people to greater happiness and homeless children to better surroundings, better homes and better lives. The practice has served as a comfort to countless households and as a way of escape to countless infants born to lives of penury and misfortune.

The Bill which was brought forward this year seeks to subject all proposed adoptions to the sanction of the Court; i.e. one of the Courts in the Chancery Division or a County Court. Such a course would have the advantages (a) of averting improper and ill-advised adoptions; (b) of standardizing the conditions and safeguards under which adoptions may take place; (c) of giving to adopters and adopted the great advantage, which is denied to them by the present law, of absolute security from claims on the part of the natural parents to reclaim a child in spite of years spent in his or her adopted home. It is to be hoped that next year the Bill will have a safe passage into law. This year it has been blocked by the Home Office's reluctance to accept any measure which will in any degree add to the volume of the work in Courts of Law. It seems a poor scruple when so much personal happiness and so much benefit to the State are at stake, for the

State has an interest, as well as the individual, in transferring a child from a miserable environment, from the stigma of illegitimacy, from institutions or workhouses, to a loving and enlightened family atmosphere.

The Bill is based upon the report of a departmental committee appointed by Mr. Shortt when he was Home Secretary, and presided over by Sir Alfred Hopkinson. It has the support of men and women of all political opinions, and ought not to excite much controversy. It has, however, a relatively limited appeal, and will not be accepted by any Government unless pressed by the force of public opinion behind it. The long waste of words which so often makes the House of Commons a scene of desolation, has restricted the time for Private Members' Bills to a narrow compass. The hopes of the supporters of what seems to be a real social reform must, therefore, rest on the ballot for Bills next February. Meanwhile, the various Societies who have for years past been doing invaluable work for the nation in arranging adoptions and in bringing "the homeless child to the childless home," are trying valiantly to awaken interest in this cause, and I imagine that to the readers of the WOMAN'S LEADER the appeal will not be made in vain.

NOTES FROM THE CONSTITUENCIES WHERE WOMEN ARE STANDING.

Sutton, Plymouth.—In Lady Astor's Election Address she appeals to men and women of all parties to support her. She says: "I am not ashamed to ask men and women of all parties—*Liberal, Labour, and Tory*—to back me. I offer myself as a Unionist. I believe Mr. Baldwin, the Prime Minister, to be one of the most honest of politicians. He said at Plymouth that I was no ordinary Member. I have always been independent—but I have never abused your trust or discredited my constituents." We are delighted to hear that the Plymouth Citizens' Association has issued a manifesto in which it, though a non-party body, supports Lady Astor on the ground of her work "of paramount importance" for women and children. The House of Commons without Lady Astor is unthinkable.

Louth.—Mrs. Wintringham has issued an admirable leaflet, which cannot fail to impress the voters in her constituency, giving an indication of her work in the last Parliament. It is a remarkable record for one woman; but, if anything, she understates her achievements. We hope the Louth voters fully realize the work of national importance Mrs. Wintringham is doing. Her defeat is unthinkable.

Perth and Kinross, Kinross and Western.—The Duchess of Atholl, who has not definitely stated her views on the reforms for which this paper stands, has agreed to receive a deputation from the Crief Citizens' Association, organized by the East Scottish Federation of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship.

Norwich.—We hear from a correspondent in Norwich that Miss Jewson's prospects are very good, in that the advent of two Liberal candidates may result in a Labour victory. Miss Jewson, who is a former Girton student, is popular locally, and though young has a fine record of work.

Richmond, Surrey.—Mrs. Corbett Ashby has sent a personal letter to every woman voter in the constituency. It continues: "A further special appeal to women to realize how much the issue must depend on them." We hope the women of Richmond will appreciate their woman candidate as much as the women of the forty countries represented in the International Woman Suffrage Alliance show their appreciation, by sending her to Westminster.

Wycombe.—Reports reach us of crowded meetings to hear Lady Terrington. In view of her opponent's record, we hope that her spirited contest for the second time will be rewarded with success.

St. Helens.—Here, again, we have a good woman opposing a good man on party grounds. Mrs. Evelyn Pilkington, J.P., has a splendid record of local public service as member of the Town Council and as a magistrate. Mr. Joseph Sexton, the late Labour Member, is a good friend to the reforms for which we stand.

Ince.—Miss Rachel Parsons, the Unionist Candidate, is the daughter of Sir Charles Parsons, once President of the British Association. She has expert knowledge of the marine engineering industry, and is an associate of the Society of Naval Architects.

Hamilton.—Miss Helen Fraser has, we are told, accomplished wonders in a very short time in her constituency, and there is said to be a good sporting chance of success.

Brentford and Chiswick.—In spite of the fact that a last-hour Labour Candidate has appeared on the scene, Mrs. Oliver Strachey's workers are very optimistic. She has created an admirable organization which would put most party organizations to shame. An unexpected feature of the constituency is the remains of a gipsy settlement of about 200 persons, which is going to vote for her solid.

Northampton.—We hear from workers returned from Northampton accounts of crowded meetings addressed by Margaret Bondfield.

THE OTHER FRANCE.

Marie Louise has always a hard time with her goats as she takes them down the riverside path for their evening meal. All through the earlier part of the day this path is abandoned to the birds, but as the sun dips a few cows and goats, accompanied by one or more of their human belongings, stroll down it to graze on the waterside pasture. The women sit and sew and talk, the children play those French games which seem so unamusing to English eyes. The black goat walks as Marie Louise bids him, but the white one hangs behind nibbling a bit from every bush before she reaches the appointed feeding-ground. They were safely there though yesterday, when I came round the corner of the spinney hoping for a fresh glimpse of its wood-wrens, and Marie Louise and her cousin, seated on the ground, were in full spate of talk. The busy babble of their tongues put birds out of the question, but my field-glasses served as a happy introduction. La Cousine wears a black bonnet instead of a white cap. She looks the older and cleverer of the two, she is taller, and has fewer teeth and even more wrinkles. Together they talk the patois of their "conterie"—it is more "familiar," but they were proud to show that with a foreigner they could speak "French" like any townsfolk.

It was La Cousine who first tried the field-glasses. With some difficulty the cow at the other side of the meadow was got into her field of vision, and she was so proud of the feat that she evidently thought Marie Louise incapable of repeating it. She seemed slightly pained when the fat little woman sighted the calf "with his muzzle on, as if you could touch him with your hand." Wonderful things, such glasses, they agreed—and, wistfully, it must be nice to travel and see so many sights.

The old ladies themselves had never travelled, never been in a train, never set foot in the rattling motor-bus which links their commune with the railway, come to that they had never had any shoes other than the heavy wooden "sabots" they had now shuffled off to ease their tired feet.

From sabots to clothes—and so to the absolutely inevitable question: "And is living as dear with you as here?" A question which needs for its answer more skill in economics than I possess. So I told them something of our English troubles, above all of the black shadow of unemployment. They expressed a polite interest, a rather prefatory sympathy; but England was too vague an idea to hold their attention long, and we were soon back discussing prices again. "Apron stuff, now," and each old lady fingered it fondly, before the war you got for four times twenty sous what now they charge you at 12 francs the metre. And the quality! "Now, there's a petticoat that's over 100 years old," said La Cousine, plucking out her underskirt of rough, hard-woven woollen, speckled like a guinea-hen. "It must be quite as old as that; I inherited it from my mother, and she told me she had it from hers. The only difference is my grandmother wore it to Mass, and I wear it every day. In those days there were hand weavers, I believe you; the things they made wore. Yes, the women span and men wove, up till the war. *It is the war that has lost us* (c'est la guerre qui nous a perdus)." And now they are calling up the classes and our boys are going into the Ruhr. What do you think of it all? they asked anxiously.

The indiscreet internationalist seems often to rouse more bitterness by speaking home truths than he can hope to allay by goodwill, so I went dead slow.

"Ah! Mesdames," I said, "that would be talking politics, and I might think one thing and you another." "But that's not politics," cries Marie Louise, "calling up the classes isn't politics, and what we fear is that it means war." "But peace and war depend on politicians," said I, sententiously, whilst La Cousine spoke reprovingly, "Yes, bien sûr, peace and war those are politics." But Marie Louise was not to be downed, the fear of war was heavy upon her. "But we want peace," she said. "We poor people are nothing of nothing, and the Government does what it will with us." The opening was too tempting. Very tentatively I suggested that with us there were some people who feared that the occupation of the Ruhr meant killing the hen (why does she change from a goose to a hen as one crosses the Channel) who might have laid golden eggs. (This is an argument which I find carries more weight in France than its ethical value quite warrants.) I will spare the reader the explanation of the "No more War" basis with which I followed it up; besides, my discourse was abruptly cut short by the persistent intrusion of the white goat.

She must be a police agent in disguise—that goat.

S. MARGERY FRY.

WHAT I REMEMBER.¹ XII.

By MILLICENT GARRETT FAWCETT, J.P., LL.D.

MY NEW HOMES IN LONDON, SALISBURY AND CAMBRIDGE 1867-1884 (continued).

But I must go back to the time immediately after my marriage. My political education was just beginning; naturally I had to read and write for my husband. I grappled with newspapers and blue books, and learned more or less to convey their import to him. He took care that I should hear important debates in the House of Commons, and the Speaker and Serjeant at Arms were very kind in frequently offering me a seat in that portion of the ladies' galleries which they controlled. Of course, the heavy brass trellis which then screened off these galleries, and their bad ventilation made them quite unnecessarily tiring and even exhausting; but the whole scene was new to me and very interesting. During the debates on the Reform Bill of 1867, I heard the famous speech of Disraeli when, replying to a vehement personal onslaught from Gladstone, he had said that he had congratulated himself that he had been protected from his adversary by the substantial piece of furniture which lay between them. These chaffing remarks used to throw Gladstone into a white fury of rage. "You call it amusing, I call it devilish," was, according to common talk, one of Gladstone's remarks on such an occasion.

I also heard Mill's speech when he moved the Women's Suffrage amendment to the 1867 Reform Bill, its terms were to omit the word "man" from the enfranchising clause and substitute the word "person." The speech was a masterpiece of close reasoning, tinged here and there by deep emotion. It thrilled me to hear my sister and her successful efforts to open the medical profession to women referred to. But perhaps what interested me most of all was the evidently powerful impression the speech made on the House. This was particularly shown in the case of Mr. John Bright. His brother Jacob, and all his sisters with whom I was acquainted, were Suffragists, but they had not succeeded in taking the most distinguished member of their family with them. As soon as Mill rose to speak John Bright entered the House and flung himself into the corner seat below the gangway on the left of the Chair, just below where Mill was speaking. Bright had a mocking smile on his face, which every one who remembers it will recall had a strong natural capacity in the curve of the mouth, even in repose, for expressing contempt. He crossed his legs and swung the one that was uppermost backwards and forwards. His whole figure suggested a strong mixture of dislike and contempt; but as Mill developed his arguments this gradually changed. The swinging leg became still, the mocking smile vanished, and when the division was taken Bright's name was actually among the 73 who voted for Mill's amendment. Bright, however, soon had a relapse; he was by nature an Anti-Suffragist, and this was the one and only time that he gave a vote in favour of extending representation institutions to women. Though the amendment had been defeated by more than two to one, we were elated by the success, much greater than we had expected, of Mill's speech, and were especially glad that the division had not been on party lines. Mr. Russell Gurney, Recorder of London, and a much respected Conservative, acted as teller with Mr. Mill for the Suffragists, and in the division list, if pairs and tellers were added, it was found that the total number of our friends had been 80, of whom about 10 were Conservatives. From that time until our final victory in 1918, we were successful in keeping the question of women's franchise on non-party lines. Of course, this had drawbacks, but these, such as they were, were greatly outweighed by advantages, especially in our chief work for many years of active Suffrage propaganda in the country; but the story of this must be left for a later chapter.

CAMBRIDGE IN THE 'SIXTIES AND 'SEVENTIES.

To enjoy a share in the social life of Cambridge was an even greater change for me than either London or Salisbury had afforded. My first glimpse of it was in 1867 at the summer meeting of the Fellows of Trinity Hall, my husband's college. It took me some time to apprehend the immense gulf which then separated the Heads of Colleges from persons of inferior University rank. This gulf flowed between the ladies as deep and strong as between members of the more exalted sex. The seats allotted to women in the University Church, Great St. Mary's,

were labelled "For the Ladies of Heads of Houses," "For the Ladies of Doctors of Divinity," "For the Ladies of Professors," and so forth; and socially the laws of precedence were most strictly observed and controlled with the utmost rigour the movements of the ladies leaving the table after a dinner party as on all other occasions. Thus as the ladies were leaving the dining room I have seen two approaching the door at the same moment, pause and look at each other, each hesitating, each dreading to take a false step, then A said to B: "Has your husband taken his Doctor's degree?" B replied: "No, it is to be to-morrow." This settled everything, and A said with decision: "Then I go first," and swept out with great dignity. The gulf between University and not University was even more profound. There was a charming old Admiral² who, after serving his country on all the oceans of the world, chose Cambridge as his residence when age compelled him to retire. He was entirely ignored in the University, but chancing to meet a Head of a College, in some favourite summer resort, the two became quite friendly, took walks and had talks together, and occasionally enjoyed a friendly rubber in the evening; but the Head explained before they parted that this pleasant intimacy could not be continued in Cambridge. This seems incredible, but it was an actual fact and a characteristic one. The Heads of Colleges considered themselves quite a race apart, and could not demean themselves by social intercourse with any one below the University rank of a Doctor of Divinity or a Professor. The wife of a Head of a College who was also a Canon of Ely and therefore in residence there for some months every year was asked on her return to Cambridge what sort of society she found in Ely. "Very, very, quiet," she replied, "Well, it is just what Cambridge would be without the Heads."

In Cambridge, to the rank and file of ordinary M.A.s, this reply caused great amusement, for the Heads of Houses were not ordinarily regarded as capable of adding materially to the gaiety of nations.

I have one more story on this point. Two ladies, each married to a member of the University, were walking together in Cambridge; they passed a terrace of attractive-looking houses, and one said to the other: "Those look nice houses; it is a pity no one lives in them." The other rather less than the first subdued to what she worked in, remarked: "They don't look empty"; and the first rejoined: "Oh, I mean no one belonging to the University!"

It is probable that these absurdities were on the wane when I first knew Cambridge in 1867; but it is rather interesting to have seen them in actual existence, a going concern, before they were overwhelmed by the democratic flood of later years. Notwithstanding these little oddities, I very soon came to love and value Cambridge with all my heart. We had most delightful friends there, and our four months every year, from October until opening of Parliament in February, became the happiest of my life.

Among our intimate friends, and the one who more than any one else with the exception of my husband introduced me to the Cambridge world, was the Rev. H. A. Morgan, Fellow and Tutor, and afterwards Master, of Jesus College. I first made his acquaintance during the summer meetings of the Fellows of Trinity Hall in 1867 just referred to. Mr. Morgan was in residence at this time, and we saw him almost daily. A majority of my husband's Cambridge friends were away, as it was the beginning of the Long Vacation; but Mr. Morgan introduced them all to me vicariously by his extraordinary gifts of mimicry. He could not only mimic voice and manner: he could also imagine with ludicrous probability what each one of them would say on any given occasion. It was thus I first made the acquaintance of Dr. Kennedy, Professor of Greek, and Canon of Ely, formerly Head Master of Shrewsbury, where Mr. Morgan had been one of his pupils. H. A. M., as he was often called, had endless stories, all affectionate and appreciative, but intensely amusing, of his old master; he could also cause to live before one the then Master of Jesus College, and Dr. Westmoreland, Dr. Campion, of Queen's College, the Rev. James Porter, of Peterhouse, Dr. Bateson, the Master of St. John's, and many others. All these, when I came to live in Cambridge in the following October, I felt I already knew, not only the sound of their voices, but their main characteristics.

¹ This article is the twelfth of a series which will extend over several months.

² This was Admiral Davies, the father of Augusta Webster, the poetess.

THE WOMAN'S YEAR BOOK.¹

The National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, Miss Gates, the editor, and her distinguished band of contributors, have produced a quite invaluable work of reference. For parents seeking information how best to educate their daughters, for the young girl desiring a career, for women generally wanting instruction as to their position and powers in the State, their legal rights and obligations as citizens, there is here provided a storehouse of facts and information set forth in succinct form and clear language. Nor is the book merely a work of reference. Many of its sections can be read with pleasure and interest for their own sake. Take for instance the opening pages, in which Mrs. Fawcett tells the story of the gradual awakening of women, the demand for better education, which came even as early as the 17th century, and the struggle for political emancipation, in which she herself played so distinguished a part. The long section on Education again contains much reading of quite fascinating interest. We learn of a school at Brighton in 1850, so fashionable that its fees amounted to £500 a year, its curriculum being devoted to accomplishments and modern languages, and its sole aim social display. The boarders (or victims) were kept at work all day, not allowed to speak English till after 6 p.m., and required to recite German or French verbs during their one hour's walk in the open air! One wishes Mrs. Ewing could have given us a picture of this amazing establishment. From it, to the lengthy list of colleges, high schools, and secondary schools whose activities are here described is so far a cry that it is difficult to realize that the development has taken place within the lifetime of many still among us. The Brighton school may help to reconcile those readers, if any, whose susceptibilities sustain perhaps a slight, a very slight shock, at the inclusion of a section on sports in a serious work like the present. Another section of extreme interest is that on Women in the Labour Market. It is difficult briefly to analyse social phenomena, and questions such as those here treated, and avoid results which are either so condensed as to be scarcely readable, or so sketchy as to be of little use. Here the contributors have managed to keep a golden mean with conspicuous success, and I should like to draw special attention to Professor Winifred Cullis's brief survey of Fatigue in Industry (a subject now recognized to have economic as well as physiological importance), and to Mrs. Blanco-White's History of the Trade Board Movement, especially in recent unsettled years, which is an excellent study of a complicated subject. By the way, something appears to have gone wrong with the last paragraph of p. 344; what is the word "population" doing just there? Does it stand for "application"? The print and general get-up of the Year Book, however, are extremely good. Perhaps, with the Editor's permission, we may return to the subject in a future issue.

B. L. HUTCHINS.

THE PUBLIC WELCOME.

The General Election notwithstanding, the Year Book has had a cordial welcome in the Press. U. S. J. writes in the *Yorkshire Post*:-

"At last we have the *Woman's Year Book* for 1923-4, and I recommend it as the best five-shillings worth of information that I can remember to have come across. It is edited by Miss Evelyn Gates, assisted by an advisory committee, is compiled by the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, and can be obtained from 'Women Publishers' at 170 Strand, London, W.C.2. The contributors, all of whom have given their services in order that the book may be published at a reasonable price, have been chosen from among women who are acknowledged authorities on their own subjects. Perhaps the best indication one can give of the width of their range is to take a heading or two at random from the table of contents. The book opens with an "Historical Survey" of woman's emancipation by Mrs. Fawcett, Miss Rathbone, and the distinguished lawyer, Miss Chrystal Macmillan, which is followed by a general survey of the Woman's Year—the past year in politics, the arts, the industrial year, the social year, fashions (yes, fashions!), etc. I am bound to say here that there seems to be something a little uneasy about the section devoted to dress. I seem to see these ladies, having got their remarkable book together, suddenly remembering that fashions

(Continued in next column.)

¹ *The Woman's Year Book, 1923-4.* Edited by G. Evelyn Gates, M.A. Women Publishers Co., Ltd., 5s. Compiled by National Union Societies for Equal Citizenship.

ELSIE MAUD INGLIS.

DIED 26th NOVEMBER, 1917.

It is six years to-day since Dr. Elsie Inglis "passed death by". Most of the facts of her life are known and need no repeating; her pioneer medical work for women, her suffragist ardour, her founding of the Scottish Women's Hospitals, and, lastly, that supreme triumph which places her to-day alongside the Unknown Warrior.

People will always be impressed by majorities and preponderances; and too often, when the warrior dead are remembered, the lion-hearted valour of those women, few in number, who laid down their lives also, is left unrecorded. To-day let us repair this dear omission. There will be many hearts in Serbia and Russia, as well as in Scotland and England and the far places of the world, who will remember gratefully to-day "the much-honoured Elsie Maud, the daughter of John," whose "tireless and wonderful work" still lives, and with her memory gather those of all others who gave their lives for our service.

Let us have a "great remembering."

In her lifetime many memorials were raised to Dr. Inglis's work; the Hospice in High Street, Edinburgh, the Fountain at Mladanovatz in Serbia, her Units themselves, and the beams of these lighthouses stretch far into the future; there is no likelihood that her work will easily be forgotten. But there is something even more important still. It is the inspiration of her life itself, a less tangible and more potent inheritance which to-day may help us to capture. To expect great things of people and to give them confidence in their own powers is to call out great things; this is ever the work of the true leaders of mankind. And as Dr. Inglis called confidently upon her fellow-workers for services which they had never contemplated, so we feel that she handed to those she left behind the same assured challenge, confident of the response.

Those who knew her and worked with her, those who loved her, and those whom she loved will not need words by which to remember her; but we who did not know her, we also remember and count it a signal honour that we, too, enter into the heritage of her memory.

And what better day could one have for remembering all those known and unknown women who laid down their lives during the war as heroically as any soldier? We have kept the Mass of the Unknown Warrior, let us to-day remember the Unknown Heroine. That ceremonies and tokens are absent matters not a whit: a silent tribute of spontaneity is especially fitting and very precious to a woman's heart.

Let us who are women especially remember with gratitude Elsie Inglis and all those who, like her, took on wounds and death doing work which was our work. And let us all carry the inspiration of their lives into the lean and vital days which confront us.

HILDA FINNEMORE.

DR. CLIFFORD.

Mrs. Fawcett writes:—In the death of Dr. Clifford the N.U.S.E.C. loses one of its most valued and most stalwart supporters. All through the time when our victory for Suffrage seemed very far off, he did not fail to give us every kind of help. The fact that nearly all the political leaders of the Party to which he belonged were in opposition to our demands did not cause him a moment's hesitation: he remained our strong and steadfast friend. He would lend his chapel, give us his good word and his powerful influence on every critical occasion. We have spoken above of our "loss". But the support of a man of his eminence and character is never lost. His influence remains, and is one of our most valued possessions. He lived in full vigour of mind far beyond the usual span of man's life, and of him the words may be fitly quoted: "Full of cares, full of years, of neither weary, but full of Hope and of Heaven."

(continued.)

had been altogether overlooked. 'Dress!' they would then exclaim in painful dismay, 'we must get dress in somehow!' and they would anxiously and hurriedly look about for some one to sugar the pill. Then back to business. National government, local government, women and the law, League of Nations, committee procedure, careers for women, vital statistics—and so on.

HOUSEHOLD ECONOMICS.

[This column is under the direction of Ann Pope, who will be pleased to receive contributions in the form of letters, not exceeding 300 words; or short articles, not exceeding 600 words.]

ALCOHOL AND COOKING.

Early in the year, soon after I began contributing this column to the *WOMAN'S LEADER*, I was particularly asked to give a cookery recipe each week. This was done until a different type of article was requested. As Christmas was approaching, with the wish to please all tastes, I copied out a recipe for Christmas cake, one for Christmas pudding, and one for mincemeat, but I must confess I did not select them for their ingredients, and I had never tried them myself. I selected them because they possessed an interesting history. They were taken from a collection of family recipes which had been made into a most excellent cookery book through the co-operation of a mistress and her maid.

All these recipes were worked out by the cook, written down by the mistress, and the good things enjoyed by the family and friends. The lady in question is "a person of importance," but, as the use of alcohol in cooking has been condemned in our correspondence columns, I am deleting the two remaining recipes together with the acknowledgment of appreciation, and the names of book, writer, and cook.

Skill in cooking and a knowledge of food values are great assets in Temperance work.

HOME PRODUCTION v. FACTORY.

III.

The following are essential safeguards in fruit and vegetable canning:—

(1) That all dirt should be thoroughly removed from any food to be preserved.

(2) That the use of fresh and sound raw products packed with the least delay is one of the greatest means of protection against botulism.

In a word every sanitary precaution must be taken before actual preservation is begun.

Next, there is the actual method of preservation to be considered. It is a question of importance and considerable difficulty to ascertain "when a mass of food material is subjected to, say, a temperature of boiling point, what the actual temperature is in different parts of the interior of the mass. It follows that while a certain process of cooking may be sufficient to kill organisms lying on the surface, those in the middle or in other parts of the interior may not be destroyed."

At the present time a series of studies is being carried out in America from which it is expected amongst other things that a formula can be devised from which it is possible to calculate accurately the time and temperature necessary in the process of preserving any particular food, in order to be assured that the spores of any organism whose resistance to heat is known may be destroyed.

HOME-PRODUCTION.

By which it will be seen that Home-Bottling or canning is not necessarily the simple thing we might in our ignorance believe, and, that we may be safer in the hands of a reliable firm, employing scientific experts, than in the hands of the modern domestic. It is quite a different matter if the mistress supervise the whole process herself and possesses the necessary knowledge, for in this case she will not dream of bottling fruit or vegetables without using a proper thermometer, and will subject her manufactures to the proper heat for the length of time required for different products. A very good little book written by Mr. and Mrs. Banks is published by the Horticultural Society, Vincent Square, Westminster, S.W. 1, giving the formulæ for temperature, time, etc., they have found successful in sterilizing different foods. This is the book I have always used, and in following the directions it contains I have, so far, never had a failure.

ANN POPE

[Member American Home Economics Association.]

ONE WAY OF HELPING.

You will see that there are several articles in this number of special value to willing voters. If you have not already done so, please write or wire **at once** for additional copies. The paper is as cheap as a single pamphlet and has a great deal more in it. Some societies have ordered large numbers of extra copies already. **Send a marked copy to each of your candidates.**

THE LAW AT WORK.¹

PRISONS IN SCOTLAND.

The Annual Report of Scotch Prisons is a very elaborate document; it contains numerous diagrams and tables, and it must be supposed that it is the cost of printing these that makes the price 13s. 6d. as compared with the modest 2s. which is charged for the Report of Prisons for England and Wales. The following facts taken from it will be of interest to women magistrates.

The decrease in commitments to prison during the last forty years has been enormous—from 48,000 in 1882 to 17,000 in 1922. In the last year the total number has gone down by 1,300. Especially marked has been the reduction in short terms of imprisonment; for example, the number of those sentenced to three days, which used to run annually into many thousands, has now been reduced to nil. This is due largely to the giving of time to pay fines: the Commissioners point out that this power might be used even more freely than it is at present, and it is obvious from the table of offences given in an Appendix that large numbers of prisoners have been sentenced for breaches of public order for which well-to-do people would pay a fine and go free. There is a gratifying decrease in all the more serious crimes, such as murder, assaults by husbands on wives, indecent assault, and crimes against property with violence. The crimes that show an increase are embezzlement, forgery, and fraud.

Regret is expressed that the use of probation has not increased, and that it is very little used in the case of adults. But in spite of this slow growth the Commissioners protest against the proposal to set up a Central Authority for Probation, and declare that they themselves are the best authority, on the grounds that if persons put upon probation were not so treated they would be sent to prison. It would seem to most people to be essential that the whole subject of probation should be as far as possible dealt with apart from that of punishment and prison. Figures are given which show that during last year 66 former inmates of Reformatories and 169 of Industrial Schools were admitted to prison under the age of 25.

There were admitted to the Borstal Institutions 264 boys and 31 girls. It is depressing to read that 27 found physically unfit and four mentally unfit for Borstal treatment were sent to prison instead. Out of the 560 boys discharged since 1913, 187 have been reconvicted or had their licences revoked. The corresponding figures for girls are much worse, the number of breakdowns being 49 out of 75. Perhaps this may be partly accounted for by the fact that two of the girls' Borsstals are simply part of an existing prison. The reports from the Governors of the Institutions show that much care and interest is expended on the young people committed to them. There was no case of corporal punishment during the year. Most of the punishments were denial of privileges, but in one boys' institution 184 punishments consisted of reduction in diet and 191 of sleeping on a wooden bed. In the Borstal section of Edinburgh Prison a great amount of unrest is remarked; the punishments show an increase during the year, and there were five escapes. A good deal of the work is house-building, which ought to provide an interesting outlet for the boys' energies, but in one institution we read that "Work during the year was rather scarce, but stone-breaking and basket-making afforded suitable and remunerative work for the majority." The girls do a good deal of knitting, and the fineness of their knitted jumpers is commented upon; some are trained for farm service, and the feeding and care of pigs and hens are taught in a practical manner.

At the end of the Report the histories are given in detail of 20 men and five women prisoners taken at random. What is remarkable in them is the large proportion who came from respectable parents and attended Church and Sunday School regularly in their youth; but as these records are taken from the prisoner's own statements, allowance must be made for the natural loyalty to parents which may have coloured their recollections. Drink is given as a large cause of their downfall by about eleven of the men and four of the women. Some of them are people of respectable lives who yielded to a sudden temptation, and ten were first offenders. It is impossible to believe that some of these could not preferably have been placed on probation, and thus saved from the first of what is too often a series of convictions. These in the case of one of the men amounted to 64 and one of the women to 66.

C. D. RACKHAM.

¹ Under the direction of Mrs. C. D. Rackham, J.P., Miss S. Margery Fry, J.P., with Mrs. Crofts, M.A., LL.B., as Hon. Solicitor.

COMING EVENTS.

GUILDHOUSE W.C.S.

DEC. 3. 3-4.30 p.m. The Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. "The Protection of Animals." Speaker: Captain F. MacCummi (Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals).

INTERNATIONAL FRANCHISE CLUB, 9 GRAFTON STREET, W.1.

DEC. 5. 8.15 p.m. "Medicine and Faith Healing." Speaker: Miss Letitia Fairfield, C.B.E., M.D., D.P.H. Chairman: The Rev. Francis A. P. Aveling, D.D., D.Sc.

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE CLUB, 55 GOWER STREET, W.C.1.

DEC. 6. No Meeting or Club Supper.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE.

DEC. 4. 4.30. Wellington House, Buckingham Gate. Christmas Sale. "The Problem of Choice of Vocation under Present Educational Conditions." Speaker: Mrs. Arnold Glover.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

DEC. 14. Church House, Dean's Yard, S.W. Sale of Work.

KENSINGTON S.E.C. DEC. 1. 8 p.m. Century Theatre, 21 Archer Street, W. 11. Meeting of women voters at which Candidates will speak. Chair: Dr. Janet Lane-Clayton, J.P.

LEEDS S.E.C. DEC. 3. 5.30 p.m. At 18 Park Row. "Industrial Welfare Work." Opener: Miss N. Sturgeon (Welfare Superintendent).

READING S.E.C. DEC. 3. 8 p.m. Public Meeting for Women at Large Town Hall. The three Parliamentary Candidates will attend during the evening and answer questions.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS S.E.C. DEC. 3. 3 p.m. Meeting at Town Hall. "The Questionnaire." Speakers: Mr. A. C. Crane (Liberal), Mr. J. T. Davis (Labour), Col. Spender Clay (Conservative).

HAMPSTEAD S.E.C. DEC. 13. 8 p.m. Subscription Library, Prince Arthur Road, Hampstead. "Women in the New States." Speaker: Mrs. Corbett Ashby, J.P. Chair: Miss Macadam.

EDINBURGH W.C.A. DEC. 12. 8 p.m. Royal Society of Arts Hall, 117 George Street. Conference on "Unemployment as it affects the City of Edinburgh, and the Measures taken for its Relief." Speakers: Mr. J. T. Edwards, Mr. R. C. Buchanan, Colonel Young, C.B.E., D.L., J.P., Miss Anne Ashley, M.A., and Mrs. H. S. Thomson, M.A.

ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE.

DEC. 4. 5.30 p.m. Public meeting at International Franchise Club, 9 Grafton Street, W. 1. "The Trade Boards Bill." Speaker: Mrs. Beer, M.A.

WOMEN'S LOCAL GOVERNMENT SOCIETY.

The Council of the Women's Local Government Society begs to announce that the Conference of Women Councillors, Guardians, and Magistrates, fixed for 5th and 6th December, in consequence of the General Election is postponed until 16th and 17th January. Tickets already issued will be available for the later date.

TYPEWRITING AND PRINTING, Etc.

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

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WHERE TO LIVE.

BIRMINGHAM.—Mayfield Residential Club, for Professional Women and Students (affiliated to National Council of Women), 60 Harborne Road, Edgbaston. Common and single rooms; convenient centre for holidays; vegetarians catered for.

ISIS CLUB, 79 Fitzjohn's Avenue; two minutes Hampstead Tube Station. Magnificent reception rooms, central heating, sunny bedrooms; sandy soil; lectures, dancing, listening-in; Christmas parties arranged visitors. Telephone: Hampstead 2866.

GUESTS. English or Foreign, received in Country House for Christmas. Lonely people. Moderate terms. Taylor-Smith, Marsh Court, Leominster.

TO LET.

LARGE UNFURNISHED BED-SITTING-ROOM and small Kitchen to let, top floor of private house, good part of Hampstead. Gas and electric light. Would suit professional woman. Rent £1 weekly. Extra room if required. Write, Miss O'Malley, 6 Steeles Road, N.W. 3.

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MAIDA VALE.—Accommodation in service flat for one or two ladies; constant hot water; restaurant.—Box 1,024, WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

PROFESSIONAL.

ELECTION! Miss Marion McCarthy's concentrated Course in Public Speaking will help you to make that forcible speech that carries conviction.—Write, 16 Hallam Street, W. 1.

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

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

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

FINE IRISH LINEN DAMASK SERVIETTES, superior quality, quite perfect, guaranteed all linen, in handsome floral designs; size 19 ins., 12s. 6d. per dozen. Parcels over 20s. postage free in the U.K. Write for Bargain List—TO-DAY.—HUTTON'S, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ireland.

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

DRESS.

MISS MALCOLM'S DRESS ASSOCIATION, 239 Fulham Road, London, S.W. 3. Bargain Gowns, Evening and Afternoon, at 21s.

"FROCKLETS." Mrs. Elborough, 9 Lower Regent Street, W. 1, 4th floor (Lift). Tel. Gerrard 908. Children's Dresses of original and practical design, Coats, Caps, etc., etc. Smocks a speciality. Fancy Dresses. Open daily (Saturdays excepted) 10 a.m.—4 p.m., or by appointment.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE.—Conferences every Tuesday, 4.30 to 7 p.m. Admission free; Tea 6d.—Wellington House, Buckingham Gate, Westminster.

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

THE FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Eccleston Guild House, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1: Sunday, 2nd December, 6.30, Miss Maude Royden: "Christ Triumphant.—VI. Why Christ must Triumph."

LONELY? Then send stamped addressed envelope to Secretary, U.C.C., 101, Cambridge Street, S.W. 1.

JOIN INTERNATIONAL HOUSE CLUB, 55 Gower Street, W.C.1. Subscription, 7s. 6d. per annum. Luncheons, and Teas in the Cafeteria and in the garden. Thursday Club Suppers and Discussion Meetings re-opened in September. 6th December, no Meeting or Club Supper.

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510 King's Road, Chelsea, S.W. 10.
Tel.: Kensington 5213.

On and after December 14th, 1923, the Employment Registers of the Centre will be closed and work will be concentrated on its second and third objects:

(2) To encourage training and interest in Domestic occupations.

(3) To do everything possible to raise the status of Domestic Service, as Florence Nightingale did that of Sick-Nursing.

As this will entail much outside work the office will only be open for interviews once a week—on Fridays from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m., except by special appointment.

ANN POPE, HON. SECRETARY.
(Member of the American Home Economics Association.)

THE WOMAN'S LEADER can be supplied direct from this Office for **1½d.** including postage. Send 6/6 to the Manager, WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1, and the paper will be sent to you at any address for a whole year. Persuade your friends to do the same.

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