

WOMAN'S SERVICE
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THE WOMAN'S LEADER

AND THE COMMON CAUSE

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NOTES AND NEWS.

Thomas Hardy.

We learned too late for comment in last week's issue of the death of Thomas Hardy in his eighty-eighth year. What form in a feminist paper should such comment take? Perhaps we may be excused for selecting from among all the riches of his contributions to national life and letters, one aspect of his work: The fact that he did much to inspire in others his own profound respect for the independent personalities of women. Women emerge from his pages with a dignity and an individuality which few contemporary writers have accorded to them. And this in spite of the fact that, unromantically, he subordinates human destiny at every turn to his conception of an implacable and unreasoning fate. There seems to exist, to-day, some intangible barrier which holds the creeping abomination of South Coast civilization at bay on the eastern edge of Wessex. To the east of Wareham and Poole Harbour petrol pumps and bungalows have subdued the land. To the west, Hardy's glorious women can still possess the hills, the heath, and the shallow green valleys where he has planted their lives. Even the War Office tank invasion of Egdon Heath has not yet achieved a spiritual victory. And long may the spirit of Wessex remain unsubdued. Few writers have so successfully eluded the dimension of Time as Thomas Hardy. Few are so firmly embedded in the dimension of Space.

Egdon Heath and Blackdown Hill,
Cranborne Chase and Portland Bill,
Here his spirit quickens still,
Hating, mating, longing, glowing
Warm with life of his bestowing,
Hardy's women haunt his going.
To the pattern of fate's madness
He has loomed their joy and sadness—
Warp of sorrow, weft of gladness.

Postponements.—The Reform of the Poor Law.

In an inspired article in our contemporary *The Times* it was stated recently that the Government did not intend to proceed with the Bill for the reform of the Poor Law this year. It appears as if the opposition of those concerned in the administration of the Poor Law in their localities has triumphed, and as if the present Boards of Guardians have shown themselves so well organized and so reluctant to end their duties, that at this late time in its life, Parliament does not intend to force the issue. We confess ourselves disappointed—not because the scheme put forward by the Government was above criticism—far from it—but because in certain vital respects, notably with regard to the

administration on institutions, it is generally admitted that there is a striking need for larger administrative areas such as counties.

The Factories Bill?

We await with interest the decision of the Government with regard to the Factories Bill. Should it not be introduced this year, as now appears likely, we feel that the Government will indeed have betrayed a pledge, and that the forces of reaction will rejoice. We are not ourselves in this connection concerned with the clauses which affect women only. These, if drafted as in last year's Bill, we should have done all in our power to have amended so as to include men. We feel, however, that the case was clear for the codification and extension of the present law in the interests of proper conditions of work. After all, the function of a Factories Bill such as this is to raise the level of the worst employers to that of the better; this is a process with which nothing should be allowed to interfere. We cannot help feeling that the groans of the less efficient and less humane among employers have triumphed, and that it is the interests of the workers which will suffer.

The Edinburgh Corporation Bill.

We print this week an article from the Hon. Secretary of the Edinburgh Society for Equal Citizenship on the attempt made by the Edinburgh Corporation to introduce compulsory treatment of venereal disease. The Bill has now been printed, but it will not be known until the end of this month whether it will be introduced into the House of Lords or the House of Commons. A strong committee is hard at work in Edinburgh, and a committee, representative of women's organizations, has been formed in London. Money is needed to meet expenses in opposing the measure in Parliament, and an appeal which will appear in this paper next week has been issued.

The Josephine Butler Centenary.

Evidence is forthcoming on all sides of the interest aroused in the celebrations. Press notices have appeared in over fifty papers, including *The Times*, the *Daily Telegraph*, the *Manchester Guardian*, the *Daily News*, the *Daily Express*, and long articles on Josephine Butler and her work are willingly published in the provincial papers in Great Britain; one is also to appear shortly in an important Canadian paper the organ of organized social welfare in that country, and others are in preparation for French and German papers. Application has already been received from the Photopress firm for pictures to meet the demand of the illustrated papers in April. Practically every large town in England has arranged a series of meetings. A speaker in Bristol has twenty-two fixtures in that city for the next three months! Very encouraging news comes from Manchester that the men medical students are taking up the syllabus which the Committee prepared for meetings of study circles. In Johannesburg a special centenary service will be held in the Cathedral on 15th April, at which the Dean will speak. In this connection we are glad to note the encouraging press which the little book on Josephine Butler by Dame Millicent and Miss E. M. Turner has already secured. The *Sunday Express* reviewed it under the heading "A book of the Week." A review by Dr. Jane Walker will shortly appear in these columns.

Indian Women.

We would like to call the attention of our readers to a letter which appears in our correspondence columns from Miss Dorothea Stephen, who speaks with the authority of long experience upon Indian affairs. Miss Stephen will open next July the St. Andrew's College in Madras, where European and Indian women students will live together and study the vernacular languages, history; religious and social activities of India. Its special insistence is

on the importance of securing co-operation and community of knowledge between the women of India and of Europe, and practical social work embodying the ideal Western training adapted to Eastern conditions and ideas will be within its range. It is undenominational, and, we believe, dependent for its success upon public subscription.

The Queen of Afghanistan.

Many vague reports precede the Westward journeying of the Amir of Afghanistan and his comprehensive suite. The most persistent of them is the assurance that King Amanullah is, in the fullest sense, a reforming monarch, that his travels are inspired by a desire to observe the best aspects of Western civilization with a view to their application or adaptation to his own rock-bound Asiatic kingdom, and that among these the comparative freedom and advancement of Western women make a strong appeal to him. The minds and motives of Oriental monarchs are notoriously elusive to the Occidental understanding, nevertheless, there is this much solid foundation for the acceptance of such reports. King Amanullah has himself taken steps to promote female education in his own country—and this under fire of Mohammedan criticism. And he brings with him on his travels his Queen, who appears unveiled and wears Western dress in defiance of Afghan custom. She, too, according to similar vague reports, shares his ambitions, and is anxious to study the activities and observe the ways of Western women. We hope that when she arrives in England next March it may be possible for representative women in this country to give her a special welcome, and to put before her thoroughly and informally any aspects of their work which may interest her.

Specialization for Boys and Girls.

We are glad to be able to report that the Association of Head Masters supports the proposal made by the Association of Head Mistresses to the Board of Education that the choice for the School Examination should be widened to include certain practical subjects, such as carpentry, which up till now have not been recognized as of the same standard as the usual academic subjects. How the possible change will influence boys' education is dealt with in an article on another page.

A School Girls' Visit to Canada.

Several parties of boys from English secondary and public schools to visit British Dominions have already been successfully organized and it seems right and fitting that schoolgirls should have the same opportunities. We learn in the *Manchester Guardian* that Miss Antony, head mistress of Liverpool College, Huyton, and Miss Sparks, Principal of Cheltenham College, are helping to organize a tour under the auspices of the Society for the Oversea Settlement of British Women which will enable twenty-five girls from secondary schools to visit Canada. The expenses will be kept as low as possible, and it is estimated that £100 for each girl will cover the cost. The fortunate girls whose parents can afford that amount in order to introduce their daughter to life overseas will be well looked after, and should certainly have a very interesting time. "School journeys"—though not yet overseas—form part of elementary education nowadays, and organized facilities for travel in our great dominions and in other lands may well be extended to all classes.

Women Mayors in Liverpool.

The Lord Mayor of Liverpool (Miss Margaret Beavan) has invited all the women Mayors in the country to Liverpool this week, and nine have accepted her invitation. She will entertain them to lunch in the Town Hall, and a tour of inspection which will include the Cathedral and the Gladstone Dock has been arranged. Who would have ventured to predict ten years ago that such an event would take place in the city of Liverpool in 1928? Surely we may expect that some of the Liverpool constituencies will put forward women candidates for the next general election. Having had a woman Lord Mayor, who is, we understand, winning universal respect, the next step must be a Liverpool Member of Parliament.

Parish Council Elections.

We desire to draw the attention of our readers to the fact that, in addition to the elections for Local Authorities given in last week's paper, the triennial elections or Parish Councils will also take place this spring. The annual parish meeting for the nomination and election of councillors will take place between 1st March and 1st April. Candidates for parish councils must be either local government electors or owners of property within the parish, or persons resident within the parish or within three

miles of the parish, on or before 25th March of the preceding year. Parish Councils are the parish Parliaments and their influence and usefulness largely depend—far more than is the case with other local bodies on the initiative and enthusiasm of the members elected.

Women in Big Business.

Miss Helen Fraser is one of the most recent recruits to the business world. She has recently become managing director of the British Booklet Match Factory in Upton Park, and is devoting a large part of her time to this rapidly expanding industry. Miss Fraser has not, however, abandoned her intention to stand again for Parliament, and is still a member of the Kensington Borough Council, and in this connection, it is interesting to learn that she is on its Finance Committee.

Cannon Fodder.

The Times of 28th December quotes passages from an inspired article in the *Popolo d'Italia* on the subject of Italy's declining birth-rate. It represents the voice of Fascism calling for more children and predicts fiscal measures against childlessness, and the encouragement of large families by premiums and tax relief. This may be a desirable national policy—or it may not. We do not know. What we should greatly like to know are the motives which inspire it. There appears to be no evidence that Italy is economically underpopulated. On the other hand, to judge from Signor Mussolini's recent utterances with regard to his military ambitions there is evidence for the suspicion that he desires an increase of Italy's fighting forces, and an expansion of her population into territories which are not yet shadowed by the Italian flag. Is it for this end that the women of Italy are being asked to breed more prolifically? It is as well that they should know.

Hospitals and Operations.

A woman doctor of reputation recently sent to a local hospital a patient of hers, a man, with a disease of the foot which prevented him from working. With him she sent a diagnosis of a somewhat unusual condition and a suggestion that a certain slight operation was necessary. The hospital performed a different operation, and the man was no better. She sent him to another hospital where the same thing happened, to a third, and to a fourth. Finally, after he had lost nine months work, the man begged her to operate herself, which she did, and he was cured. A few months later she sent to a large hospital a woman suffering from mastoid with a letter to say that the case was of the greatest urgency and called for immediate operation. The hospital took no notice of this letter, revised the case in pursuance of their customary routine, and the patient died. It is difficult to say whether the fact that the doctor was a woman had anything to do with this course of conduct, but if not, surely the procedure should be changed. It seems absurd, to put it no higher, that the hospital when it admits a fresh patient should deprive itself of the assistance which the patient's own doctor's knowledge of the case might have afforded. Surely the opinion of a qualified doctor that an immediate operation is necessary to save life should either be acted on, or a consultation should take place and the doctor be asked for the grounds of his belief. Hospitals are placed already at a sufficient disadvantage by being compelled to receive the sick at the last possible moment. It is both unscientific and inhumane to deny themselves access to available knowledge which might help them cope with the difficulty.

An American Pioneer.

We learn from an American Press cutting that the Society of American Bacteriologists has elected as its president Miss Alice Evans, Associate Bacteriologist of the U.S. Hygienic Laboratories in Washington. Miss Evans is acknowledged by her scientific colleagues as an important contributor to medical science, especially in connection with the study of Malta fever. She was, apparently, the first person to discover that Malta fever in human beings may be transmitted from cattle. Unfortunately she has paid a high price for her humane contributions to knowledge, being herself a victim to the fever whose causes and cure she has been attacking. She has been ill for a year, and it is uncertain when she will be able to resume her work.

POLICY.—The sole policy of THE WOMAN'S LEADER is to advocate a real equality of liberties, status and opportunities between men and women. So far as space permits, however, it will offer an impartial platform for topics not directly included in the objects of the woman's movement but of special interest to women. Articles on these subjects will always be signed, at least by initials or a pseudonym, and for the opinions expressed in them the Editor accepts no responsibility.

THE OUTLAWRY OF WAR.

The outlawry of war must mean one thing and one thing only—that no nation, for any reason or purpose whatever, is to make war. That should any nation do this it is to be regarded as having placed itself outside the pale of human society, and is to be treated by all other nations as they would treat a dangerous marauding beast. That is clear, and to that we must come sooner or later if civilization is to be maintained. But in the meantime, it is confusing to find the phrase used in connection with the revision of local and limited treaties of arbitration. The situation seems to be as follows: The various treaties of arbitration between the United States of America and other nations fall due to be renewed or revised this year. The first of these treaties to expire is that with France. Encouraged by the conversations held last summer between the French Cabinet and certain distinguished Americans, M. Briand, whose recent work for peace places his sincerity beyond all suspicion, proposed that the existing pact should be replaced by an agreement between the two states that neither should in any circumstances make war upon the other. America has not signed the Covenant of the League, so that it was possible for France to make this proposal without in any way repudiating her own obligations under the Covenant. But from the American point of view, in spite of what we believe would be an overwhelming public opinion in favour of the principle, the suggestion gave rise to difficulties. In the first place America is unwilling to do anything which might seem to shut the door on a future revision of the territorial clauses of the Treaty of Versailles. Secondly, the American Senate is known to view with disfavour any proposals for making it more difficult for it to satisfy its own mood of the moment at any future moment. Thirdly, the American presidential election will soon take place, and that is an event to which Americans are accustomed to subordinate all other issues, and

one which sets in motion complex, mysterious, and inaccessible trains of thought. Lastly, there is the Havana conference, about which a similar comment might almost be made. Mr. Kellogg, after delay, has therefore replied rejecting the French offer, but expressing his willingness to renew the present treaty with some modification, and to engage with France, at the same time as with all other nations, to condemn war and renounce it as an instrument of national policy, in favour of the pacific settlement of international disputes. On the other hand, America proposes to except from the automatic arbitration provided by the treaties three rather important categories: (1) Domestic questions; (2) the Monroe Doctrine; (3) questions involving third parties. This is an improvement on the present phrasing "points affecting national honour" and we may presume that when our own treaty comes up for revision we also may have the benefit of it. The general engagement, on the other hand, since it would include other nations, would affect the relations between France and her fellow members of the League. As a signatory of the Covenant, France may be called upon to come to the help of another member who has been unjustifiably attacked. She therefore can only accept this statement if it is limited to wars of aggression. The United States on the other hand is not likely to accept the ruling of the League, which binds France, as to whether a particular war is a war of aggression or not. In fact, there is plainly here material for patience and resolution, for fresh regret that America did not enter the League and sign the Covenant, and for rejoicing that public opinion is so unshakably in favour of finding some path to peace that governments feel impelled to place themselves in these dilemmas rather than disappoint their constituents. Hope will die in Europe not while proposals are being put forward and proving inadequate, but when from indifference, wickedness, or weariness they cease to be made.

A QUESTION OF SEX?

By R. F. CHOLMELEY.

The campaign initiated by the Head Mistresses' Association for the broadening of the First School Examination has achieved a measure of success which may be dangerous. The proposals upon which the battle is being fought are these:—

1. A pass in Group I together with a pass in two out of the three remaining Groups, II, III, IV, shall constitute a pass in the examination.

2. In all First School Examinations Group IV shall include music, art, needlework, cookery, carpentry, and metal work. It should be remembered that the First School Examination is conducted by eight University Examining Bodies, each with its own regulations and its own Certificate, which is endorsed by the Board of Education: and that the Board undertakes, through the Schools Examinations Council, to secure that these eight examinations shall be as nearly as possible of the same character and standard. The Board also ensures, partly by the payment of a limited contribution to the examination fee in each case, and partly by regulation, that every pupil entered for a First Examination, as one of a form so entered, in a grant-earning school, shall have that advantage free of charge. The status of the First Examination is affected by its relation to the Matriculation conditions of the several Universities and by the conditions under which the certificates awarded upon it are accepted by employers as a guarantee of a standard of general education and by professional bodies as justifying exemption from their own preliminary examinations. So much explanation is necessary if the importance attached to these certificates is to be understood: and it is to be observed that in 1927, 54,953 candidates entered for the examination of whom 35,707 obtained certificates.

It should not be forgotten that even as it stands the organization of this system of examinations—which is at least so far co-ordinated that it can be officially referred to as a single examination—is an enormous improvement upon the hopelessly casual state of things that demoralized secondary school teaching before the Board of Education took the business in hand in 1917, and established the Secondary Schools Examinations Council. An admirable summary of what the position was and of what has been done since 1917 will be found in the Board's Educational Pamphlet No. 50, written as part of the Board's Report for 1923-24 by Mr. W. C. Fletcher, then Chief Inspector of Secondary Schools, and published separately in April, 1927,

with the addition of more recent statistics. "Certain broad principles," says Mr. Fletcher, "were laid down as to the subjects of examination and the requisites for obtaining a pass or distinction. The subjects were divided into three groups: (I) English subjects, (II) languages other than English, (III) science and mathematics. In order to obtain success every candidate had to pass in each of these three groups, but at the same time a wide latitude was allowed as to the precise regulations within each group." Group IV was not in the picture at all; to deal adequately with its origin and history would require a detailed account of the developments adopted in successive years by each of the examining bodies: it is enough to say that every examining body recognizes in some way or other one or more of the subjects included in Group IV: one recognizes music only, one permits as many as ten options.

Now as to the attitude of the schools, expressed through the organized associations of teachers. It ought to be said that there is nobody who is not grateful for the change from a multitude of competing examinations, imposing curriculum and syllabus upon the schools, to a system based upon a recognized kind of curriculum and upon syllabuses submitted by the schools themselves, and controlled through a Council upon which representatives of the teachers and of the examining bodies sit together. The danger is that which lurks in every system—and the better the system the worse the danger—that it develops a sort of mental sclerosis which makes movement in any direction, however desirable, difficult and eventually, unless the disease is checked, impossible. The Head Mistresses' Association has for ten years advocated the movement indicated by the resolutions quoted at the beginning of this article: it has pressed for that movement with a volume of consent from its members which comes as near unanimity as could be expected from any body of reasonable persons: the Assistant Mistresses' Association agrees; the Assistant Masters are inclined to walk by themselves, with a formidable programme for revolutionizing the examinations system generally: the Head Masters appear to be sharply divided, and their division of opinion is of particular importance because it threatens to put new life into the old notion that girls ought to be treated differently from boys in this business. The Head Masters' Conference passed a resolution at its Christmas meeting on these lines; and it has been seriously asked whether the Head Mistresses

would be content with a separate kind of certificate for girls. At the meeting of the Conference the Rev. Cecil Grant, of Harpenden, the only member of the Conference who is directly responsible for the teaching of girls, said that in his school as many girls as boys qualified for the Certificate, but that the girls suffered more in the process. Translated into less emotional terms this last-clause would, I suggest, come out as two statements: first, that more girls than boys were obliged to take some subjects which did not suit them, and second, that more girls than boys were not ready for the examination at the age generally considered normal for taking it, and consequently had to work too hard for their success. The question whether girls as a rule can without over-pressure be got fit for that kind of examination at the same age as boys is an important question, and a good many people who ought to know think that they cannot: but it is not the question upon which the present controversy turns. In the matter of subjects there is, as the Consultative Committee had to find, no evidence that a general differentiation between boys and girls would be educationally sound; and in practice, a differentiation of certificates would be surely mischievous. Unless a girl were allowed to decide whether she would go for Certificate Alpha (Blue, Boys) or Certificate Beta (Green, Girls), she would at once find professional bodies and employers setting her down as inferior in qualifications to a boy, whatever educationists might say about it. A still stronger reason for objecting to such a differentiation is that it would, from the educational point of view, leave the boys in the lurch. The Head Mistresses have urged "that the claims of the Girls' Schools should no longer be ignored": those who support them do so not merely in sympathy with that position but from a conviction that it is no less important for boys that there should be an enlargement of the conception of the meaning of a liberal education: they do not believe, with a writer in the *Times Educational Supplement* for 7th January, that the secondary schools are trying to educate large numbers of children who are not fit to be in them: what they believe is that the secondary schools are trying—under the compulsion supplied by the examination system—to educate large numbers of children in the wrong way: and they hold that the prestige of the three-group plan has become an obstacle in the way of the fruitful development of education, for both sexes.

It was perhaps to be expected that the Head Masters' Conference would be disinclined to approve the invasion of Group IV into the good old fortifying curriculum—which some of its members indeed would hardly consider either old enough or good enough even as it stands to-day: the Head Masters' Association, though it includes most of the members of the Conference, covers a very much wider range of schools, and moreover, some 280 of its 800 members are heads of mixed schools; it is, therefore, interesting to observe that at the annual general meeting of the Association on 4th January, which was attended by about 200, an amendment to the resolution moved on this subject on behalf of the Council of the Association, was carried by a small majority, precisely in the terms of the first of the Head Mistresses' resolutions. A resolution passed at the annual general meeting does not bind the Council, which is responsible for policy to the whole body, most of its members being elected by the various territorial divisions in which the Association is organized: but it cannot be said that the vote has no significance, and the debate certainly showed that the importance of the question, for boys as well as girls, was thoroughly recognized. Whatever happens, it is to be hoped that no attempt to make a sex question of it will succeed: of all conceivable compromises that would be the worst.

R. F. CHOLMELEY.

MORE WOMEN HOUSE PROPERTY MANAGERS.

Since the Chesterfield Town Council appointed a woman manager for their municipal property, the question of women managers has been considered by various other authorities. Recently Miss Jean Thompson has been appointed manager of the Rotherham Municipal Housing Estates. Miss Thompson holds the degree of Bachelor of Commerce, and gained her practical experience in London and Plymouth. The Chester Council has appointed a deputation to inquire into the Octavia Hill system of property management, and the members have recently visited the Regent's Park Estate of the Commissioners of Crown Lands and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners' Estate in Walworth. Before giving a report the deputation have arranged to visit the Chesterfield Housing Estates in order to see how the system works under a local authority.

THE STREET OFFENCES COMMITTEE. BY A CORRESPONDENT.

Public sessions of this Committee were held on 20th and 21st December, 13th and 14th January. The witnesses on the first occasion were Sir William Horwood (Commissioner Metropolitan Police), Supt. Norton, of Vine Street and Great Marlborough Street Police Stations, and Chief Inspector Mears, of Bow Street Police Station. The last two witnesses were competent and well-trained officers. They did not admit that women are, in fact, arrested for mere solicitation—which nearly every other witness has admitted. The law says soliciting "to the annoyance of inhabitants or passengers," and their evidence kept to the proper words. These witnesses were equally word-perfect on the Police Regulations concerning the treatment of persons in custody and the procedure of taking a charge. Yet there was the case of Major Sheppard, D.S.O., in 1925, and the special tribunal appointed by the Home Secretary to inquire into his treatment at Hunter Street and Vine Street Police Stations, did report that he had been improperly treated at Vine Street, and the Regulations ignored. We suspect that possibly Police Regulations have a strong affinity with Railway Regulations, which are put on paper to satisfy the legal requirements and the public, but which, if fully carried out—as in a "work-to-rule" strike—would paralyse the whole system.

Sir William Horwood wants to keep the term "common prostitute" in the law. Pressed to explain what a "common prostitute" is, he said she was a woman who is known to solicit habitually and has been previously convicted. It was pointed out to him that a first conviction as a "common prostitute" cannot be obtained under this formula; he then admitted that the first conviction is as a person using insulting words or behaviour likely to cause a breach of the peace. Previous witnesses had agreed that no breach of the peace is likely to result from simple solicitation, and that this charge is largely an artificial one. The witness agreed that a breach of the peace was a very remote possibility. On the proof of "annoyance" the Commissioner was vague, but said solicitation in certain streets was "an annoyance to the inhabitants." He stated later that the need to prove annoyance should be abolished and that he would like powers to arrest prostitutes for saying "Good evening" to men. He wanted to drive them off the streets altogether. Asked where they would go, the reply was "Into their homes, I suppose." The Commissioner considered street order was good, but could be made better if he had these powers. He would much prefer to have these offences dealt with solely by men police, but would have uniformed women in Hyde Park.

It was unfortunate that no one pressed Sir William Horwood to state exactly what he meant by driving prostitutes into their homes. If it is made an offence for any prostitute to say "Good evening" to a man, and prostitution is not made an offence, that means she is to wait for men in her rooms. This implies that men will know where to find her. We suggest that this is a most dangerous proposition. It always leads to prostitutes being gradually forced to live in certain defined areas and it does, in fact, mean the tolerated vice area. We were interested to note that the *Saturday Review* also interpreted the Commissioner's evidence in a similar way. It stated in an editorial (24th December): "He is preparing the way for the tolerated brothel." That is the real danger of the attempt which is being made to suppress all street solicitation while the opinion is openly given by Mr. Mead, and is also held by a majority that "prostitution is necessary in a civilized community." If social reformers hold it is desirable at all costs to attempt to protect men from street solicitation, and to that end to have special legislation against "common prostitutes," their good intentions may lead to the establishment of the tolerated vice area in our midst. That is always the danger of acting on expediency in morals legislation instead of on principle.

On 13th January the public session followed a private hearing, and immediately the public were admitted a man made a protest against hearing evidence in private. The Chairman heard him patiently, and explained that some witnesses would not give evidence except in private. A report of the hearing of the Birmingham, Manchester, and Liverpool witnesses will appear next week.

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COMPULSORY TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASE.

By M. N. ROBERTSON.

Public attention has again been called to the question of compulsory versus voluntary treatment of venereal disease, by a Private Bill which the Corporation of Edinburgh is promoting in order to obtain compulsory powers for dealing with venereal disease. The powers were first sought in March of last year, by means of a Clause in a Provisional Order, but owing to the opposition of women's societies organized by the Edinburgh Society for Equal Citizenship, the chairman of the Private Bills Committee decided that so far-reaching a change of policy could only be made by means of a Private Bill. The Bill is to be introduced in Parliament early in February.

The women's organizations have continued their opposition during the whole year, carrying on active propaganda and educating public opinion as to the dangerous nature of the powers sought. An appeal letter and explanatory statement have just been sent out to secretaries of societies in the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, and others asking for their support.

Members of Women's organizations which have worked so long for an equal and a higher moral standard will see at once the very dangerous powers asked for in the section of the Bill which would give the Medical Officer of Health power compulsorily to examine and detain any person who he has reason to believe is suffering from venereal disease and liable to infect others, and who neglects or refuses to undergo treatment. The Medical Officer of Health can only get his information through the denunciation of one person by another, thus opening the door to intimidation and blackmail. These powers might be used mainly against women alleged to be prostitutes, in which case it would make it possible to re-introduce the injustice and coercion which lay at the root of the Contagious Diseases Acts.

This year, when the Centenary of Josephine Butler is being celebrated, women everywhere must surely feel that any legislation which would undo so much of the great work she accomplished must be strenuously opposed. Indeed, it is only by carrying on her work, and watching carefully, that the principles of justice and personal liberty for which she fought are maintained, that her name and memory can really be honoured. Anything else would seem to be a mockery.

The other sections of the Bill dealing with the parents of children, and those who do not continue treatment at the clinics until they are cured are not open to the same objection, but there is the injustice of discretionary notification running through them all, and the discrimination between rich and poor.

There is no proof that compulsory treatment in other countries has given better or as good results as the voluntary system, which was established in this country in 1916, on the recommendations of a Royal Commission which sat for three years (1913-1916). No change should therefore be made until another Royal Commission has carefully considered the results of the last ten years, or compared them with other countries. In Edinburgh where the public health reports show a steady diminution of the disease every year, such an experiment must not be permitted.

Much can still be done to improve and extend the present voluntary system. More "follow up" officers should be employed at the clinics, women police should be appointed in every city to patrol the streets and public parks for the protection of young persons of both sexes, and the age of consent should be raised to 18 years of age. Education and more facilities for recreation are all constructive methods of dealing with this grave social evil, and they are far more likely to eliminate disease than the reactionary legislation proposed by the Edinburgh Corporation.

(Continued from next column.)

certify that he is fit for factory employment. All this is chaotic, inefficient, absurd. The integration of the various local health services is needed even more urgently than the co-ordination of central health services was wanted prior to the establishment of the Ministry of Health, and there is no direction in which women in local affairs could use their intelligence and influence more creatively than in endeavouring to secure that object.

Finally, if women are wise, they will make the public Health their watchword and battle-cry in public life. Properly understood and intelligently interpreted, all the elements of a good social order can be invoked in the name of that conception, all the evil elements of our present order hurled to destruction. As a first step in the achievement of that end, the present effort of Miss Caton and Miss Berry is to be commended.

WILLIAM A. ROBSON.

A SIGNPOST TO CIVIC HEALTH AND WELFARE.¹

This interesting little book is the first of a "Signpost" series which is being published under the aegis of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, with the object of directing wayfarers in the realm of public affairs—and particularly women wayfarers—along the paths they want to go, or ought to want to go.

The subject-matter of the present volume is not so wide as its title would suggest. "Civic health and welfare" would in truth, include almost every conceivable form of collective effort in regard to social and economic affairs, but the authors have actually confined themselves to a discussion of certain well-defined aspects of local health administration, the provision of houses and recreative facilities by local authorities, and the place of women in municipal life. These matters have, however, been treated with quite exceptional competence, and the book contains not only a great deal of useful information, but also a considerable amount of helpful and acute criticism. Both the authors have had an unusually wide experience of local government in action (as distinct from local government in books), and in addition a special study was made by one of them of certain selected cities with the object of including in the survey an account of what has been done in such representative places as Birmingham, Manchester, Leeds, Bradford, Liverpool, Cardiff, and Shrewsbury.

It is clear that public health is one of the departments of social affairs in which women are obviously destined to play a great part. They have a peculiar interest in its results, they are predominantly affected by some of its most important manifestations, and they are in a unique position to make a constructive contribution towards some of its most pressing problems. May one therefore suggest certain considerations which would repay attention not only from the readers of this slender volume, but also from the authors of it?

The first is that the Public Health movement is beginning to change rapidly both in character and scope. During the nineteenth century and early twentieth century the movement was directed primarily towards the control of the environment. Sewers and drains, cesspools and polluted streams, insanitary dwellings and infectious nuisances, water supply and hospital services, open spaces and bad housing: these were objects on which effort and money were concentrated. We still have a very long way to go in connection with these matters, but I believe that the real centre of gravity in public health is beginning to swing from the corrective control of the environment towards the education of the individual in habits of personal hygiene. A vast field of new scientific knowledge has quite recently been opened up to us in regard to such matters as heating and ventilation, clothing and diet, exercise and fatigue. If one woman in every five could be persuaded to regard herself as a public health official in charge of the hygienic arrangements of a particular household, and then teach the members of that household what kind of food and drink they ought to consume, what sort of clothing they ought to wear, what type of holiday yields the best results, what methods of heating and ventilation are most hygienic, what the needs of the body are in regard to exercise and rest: if this were done, an almost unimaginable increase of health and happiness would result within the life-time of a single generation.

In the second place, there is a great need for co-ordination between the various health services which now exist. In a single working-class home health services may be provided by half a dozen unrelated agencies. If the father falls sick while he is employed, the panel doctor will attend him under the Health Insurance Scheme. If the father has an accident while at work or contracts an industrial disease under the Workmen's Compensation Acts, the certifying surgeon appointed by the Home Office will examine him. If he loses his work and becomes ill while unable to support himself, the Poor Law Medical Officer will handle the case. If his wife is confined, the District Nurse or the local Medical Officer (of the Urban District Council, for example) will attend her. If she develops puerperal fever or the infant has *ophthalmia neonorum*, the county Medical Officer of Health has to deal with the matter. When the child is at school he is inspected by the school medical officer under the L.E.A., when he leaves school and becomes a young person seeking work, the certifying surgeon is called in under the Factory Acts to

(Continued in previous column.)

¹ *Civic Health and Welfare* (Signpost Series), by Annie R. Caton and Marian Berry. Introduction by Eleanor F. Rathbone. (Published by P. S. King and Son, 138 pp. 2s. 6d.)

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

President: Miss ELEANOR RATHBONE, C.C., J.P. Hon. Treasurer: Miss MACADAM.
Parliamentary Secretary: Mrs. HORTON.
General Secretary: Miss HANCOCK.

Offices: 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.
Telephone: Victoria 6188.

BY-ELECTIONS.

The N.U.S.E.C. has sent the parliamentary questionnaire to the candidates in the *Faversham By-Election*, but so far replies have been received only from Major Leigh Aman (Labour), who has replied to all the questions in the affirmative. In the case of the question relating to protective legislation being based on the nature of the work, and not on the sex of the worker, he answered, "Yes, but I support protective legislation for women before and after childbirth on the lines of the Washington Maternity Convention, and I consider that where conditions in an industry are bad, and it is proposed by legislation to improve these conditions for women, that such proposals should be supported. At the same time I shall press on every possible occasion for the extension of such protective proposals to men as well."

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS.

In view of the pending elections for County Councils, Urban and District Councils, and Parish Councils, may we remind Societies that copies of our Local Government Questionnaire can be obtained, free of charge, on application to headquarters? These should prove useful by supplying suggestions for questions which need to be put to the candidates; and we would further suggest the addition of questions on Housing and Smoke Abatement to the suitable authorities. We also wish to draw attention to our advertisement in this issue for pamphlets and leaflets in connection with these elections.

URGENTLY WANTED—A "WHO'S WHO."

If any of our members or friends have a copy of the 1927 edition of *Who's Who*, which they can spare, we should be very grateful to have it at Headquarters. We are continually needing an up-to-date copy for reference, but hesitate to spend our precious funds in that way, if there is anyone who will give us one.

EQUAL FRANCHISE DEMONSTRATION, 8th March, 1928.

The scheme of decoration for the Hall for the great Demonstration in March is based on one drawn up by Miss Mary Lowndes—it entails a good deal of preparation and in order to facilitate arrangements, we shall be very grateful, if those Societies who have not already done so, will notify the organizer as to whether they (a) wish to have a "name-board"—if so please enclose 1s., stating the exact title of the society; (b) are prepared to send their banner—if so please give the approximate measurements. We again urge those Societies who have not already done so, to apply for tickets without further delay to ensure seats. It has been arranged to open at the beginning of February a room in this neighbourhood, where helpers will be welcome at any time to assist with the preliminary work for the decorations (full particulars as to place will be given next week). Will those who can spare some mornings, afternoons, or evenings between that date and 8th March, send their names at once to Miss Auld, N.U.S.E.C., 15 Dean's Yard, S.W. 1, who will forward all particulars. We feel sure that there are many who can help us in this way.

Mrs. Eeles, 43 Grosvenor Road, S.W. 1, has kindly promised to hold another singing practice at her house, on Monday, 30th January, at 7.45 p.m. We hope all men and women who can help with the singing will come.

BOOKS RECENTLY ADDED TO THE EDWARD WRIGHT AND CAVENDISH BENTINCK LIBRARY.

Mother India, by Katherine Mayo.
Father India, by C. S. Ranga Iyer.
Report of National Conference on Maternity and Infant Welfare, 1927.
Oil, by Sinclair Lewis.
The Health of the Nation, by F. E. Fremantle.
The Medical Aspects of Contraception. The Report of the Medical Committee of the National Council of Public Morals.
Liberal Points of View, edited by H. L. Nathan and H. Heathcote Williams.

The English Public House as it is, by Ernest Selley.
I Believe in God, by Maude Royden.
Pioneer Work in Adult Education.
Report of the World Economic Conference, May, 1927.
St. Leonard's School, 1877-1927, edited by J. M. Grant, K. H. McCutcheon, and E. F. Sanders.
Josephine Butler: Her Work and Principles, and their Meaning for the Twentieth Century, by Millicent Garrett Fawcett and E. M. Turner.
The Child as Reader, by L. Stanley Jast.
The Town Planning Handbook, 1926, by Richard Reiss.
Womanhood and Health, by Christine Murrell.
Constructive Citizenship, by L. P. Jacks.

OBITUARY: Mrs. SMITHSON.

A correspondent writes:—Mrs. Sarah Smithson, who passed away in her 85th year on 7th January, was one of the "old gang" of constitutional suffragists. She belonged to one of the earliest societies and took a most active part in the work of the movement, giving time, money, and energy in most unstinted measure. She was the heart and soul of the Hertfordshire Society and her beautiful home at Hitchin was for many years an open house to all the local workers. Mrs. Smithson was a woman of strong intellect and very marked character, her moral courage and strength of mind being unshakable. Besides being a good linguist and a keen and discriminating judge of literature in several languages, she was a real connoisseur in both music and painting. Beyond all else she was a supreme friend—faithful, generous, and devoted, and to the last so young in mind that to those of a younger generation she seemed utterly a contemporary.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WOMEN IN INDIA.

MADAM,—I was deeply interested in the account of a Conference held by the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship in Caxton Hall last November to discuss the situation revealed by Miss Mayo's book, *Mother India*.

The resolution passed by the Conference is a most welcome one. May I make a suggestion to those who wish "to assist by every means in their power those, whether Indians, British or of other races, who are working effectively for the social amelioration of India"?

Of the three classes named the most important is that of the Indians themselves, and what they most need is, as I believe the Conference realized, education. Helping people is always difficult and often dangerous, but the safest form of it consists in enabling people to help themselves. Very many Indians are exceedingly anxious to do so. Western natives have benefited enormously by old endowments, and those who want to help the ignorant masses through their own national leaders, cannot I think do so better than by helping one or other of the struggling institutions already at work to that end.

There are already centres for social training in Bombay, Poona and elsewhere. In Madras St. Andrew's Missionary Training College (of which I am Warden) is being opened in July.

The publication of Miss Mayo's book has generated much heat. And we look forward hopefully to seeing this transformed into new energy for the service of India, perhaps by means of these new and growing organizations.

D. J. STEPHEN.

3 Ritherdon Road,
Vepery, Madras, South India.

THE AGE OF MARRIAGE.

MADAM,—It has been my practice for a number of years never to reply to any attacks made upon either myself or my work in the Press, but for once I am breaking that rule, and ask your courtesy for a little space in which to comment upon the note which appeared in your issue of 13th January, dealing with an article of mine which had been in the *Daily Express*. That article had criticized the proposal to make the legal age for marriage higher.

Your leader states that I had ignored the whole reason why that reform was being asked for, namely that it is a desirable thing to raise the legal age for marriage in India and that this argument (linked as it was with the whole tangle of questions raised by Miss Mayo's book *Mother India*) was clearly stated by the deputation to the Home Secretary.

I perused with great care the account in *The Times* and the *Daily Telegraph* of the deputation and gleaned from these accounts that the deputation had indeed rested its case for the raising of the English marriage age upon the necessity for the parallel reform in India. But, so far from ignoring that, I had it very pressing in mind; and the reason given by the deputation and by the note constitutes to my mind a very serious objection, not a support. May I explain why?

Directly this deputation was proposed I anticipated the sort of result it would have in Nationalist Indian politics of the extremist and even moderate type. I foresaw that it would be used as an argument, not in the sense that India should reform something, but that English law was so depraved and degraded that Indians might plume themselves upon the logical inability of England to utter any rebukes upon such a point. A fair number of Indian Home Rule papers reach my house every week, and I watched for the point in the Indian Press.

Not at all to my pleasure, because I did not wish to be proved right, things turned out as I foresaw. There was, for instance, in the *Indian*

National Herald of Bombay a most vitriolic attack upon England and English social customs, based upon the news that this deputation had been received. Needless to say, all the statistics which the Home Secretary gave, showing how infinitely few these early marriages actually are in England, made no appearance whatever in this article. Now, the *Indian National Herald* has the largest circulation by far in Western India amongst the politically minded Indians, and the substance of its articles rapidly permeates to the non-English speaking classes. I do not suppose your readers have the faintest conception of the uproar which Miss Mayo's book has caused among these highly articulate Hindus and Mohammedans—I mean, of course, those of your readers who do not follow the Indian Press)—nor the way in which that work and the lady herself are being assailed. I am not in the least degree to be understood as committing myself to saying whether her book is accurate or not or whether her assailants are rightly making the following statements or not: I simply wish to be a mere transmitter of the fact that the Nationalist Indian Press is assailing most fervently that our own India Office is behind Miss Mayo's book upon India; that the India Office has financed the circulation of many thousand copies of her work; that it was deliberately produced by means of special governmentally granted facilities in order to put the whole world against India; and that this was deliberately done just before the time when the Statutory Commission should take under consideration the development or otherwise of constitutional liberty in India.

Personally, I regard it as a thousand misfortunes that the one event, the publication of Miss Mayo's book—whether false or true—should have preceded the second event, namely the appointment and functioning of the Statutory Commission. Surely if the war of 1914-18 ought to have taught us anything, it should have made it very clear how dangerous it is for any nation to whip itself up into a state of moral indignation against any other nation.

If we once begin considering the reformation of our own legal system as being a question which is entangled with the rights or wrongs of the social and religious customs of a nation thousands of miles away—and I am tempted to say thousands of years away—I cannot see where the confusion thus begun is ever going to end. If it be a right thing to raise the marriage age in England, it is right in relation to our own social habits and conception of law, but even then in such a question one does go down very deep to the root of human life itself, and seeing that Nature has made it possible for girls to become mothers just after puberty, I should have thought that the raising of the marriage age was thus clearly indicated to be a matter demanding much more scientific thought and care than the women's societies have so far had time to give to it. Simply because India is attacked upon sexual questions, before we have awaited even the proof of the truth of the assertions, is it wise to rush to the Home Secretary to have changes made in our own law, merely so that we shall not appear to be logically wrong in lending our influence towards Indian changes?

The whole of this was present in my mind when I wrote the article which *THE WOMAN'S LEADER* does not like. To judge by the enormous correspondence which reached me from all parts of the country, for the most part warmly approving of the article, I am entitled to say that it at any rate represents a point of view. It is never the way of *THE WOMAN'S LEADER*, so far as I have understood its very high plane of argument, to object to the statement of views which it does not itself hold; and I have on more than one occasion felt gratitude for its broad-mindedness in opening its columns to me, when I have wanted to dissent from its views. Hence this letter is not sent in any hostile spirit.

A sentence which I think might have been more fortunately worded in the criticism is your final one: "Miss Normanton's opportunities for using the telephone should have prevented her from making so ill-informed a criticism, even if by availing herself of them she would have lost a sprightly article." It may be that upon second thoughts those who guide *THE WOMAN'S LEADER* may be inclined to think that a difference of views is not necessarily a matter of less information, but may simply be—an honest difference of view based upon other information.

I should like to add that, although I am not a member of the N.U.S.E.C., I consider that all Englishwomen owe it a tremendous debt of gratitude, for it has a way of being right nine times out of ten, and, though there are friends who are anxious for it to be right ten times out of ten, that is merely their tribute of affection to it. I do hope that there will be further consideration upon this particular question of raising the age of marriage, because there are dangers as well as triumphs to be associated with it.

HELENA NORMANTON.

22 Mecklenburgh Square, W.C.

[Although we do not agree with Mrs. Normanton's views, we cannot in a note enter into a discussion with regard to *Mother India*. We are most interested in the points she has raised, and we appreciate the friendly spirit in which her letter is sent. We still feel, however, that it is impossible to ask for a higher marriage age in India until our own house is set in order. It was perhaps an over-statement to say that the whole reason of bringing the matter before the Home Secretary at this juncture was on account of Indian conditions. The deputation was asked for before *Mother India* was ever published. It arose out of the publication of the two League of Nations Reports, that of the Committee on Child Welfare on the Age of Marriage everywhere, and that of the Committee on Traffic in Women and Children, in which it became clear that this country lagged behind others in this respect. Moreover, a case was quoted in our own columns only a few weeks ago in which a man received a sentence of only 3 days imprisonment after having assaulted a child of 13 on the grounds that he intended to marry her.—Ed.]

STREET OFFENCES COMMITTEE.

MADAM,—I should like to see more women at the sittings of the above Committee, because I believe that to those who are there it is an eye-opener. The atmosphere is not suggestive of equality between the sexes but very much the reverse.

Women are said to have won many victories, but their achievement up to now is rather like a showy edifice built on sand in which cracks are always appearing. Measures for their repression keep cropping up, for interfering with their private affairs and handicapping them in all directions. It is because men consciously or subconsciously still believe

that woman is the inferior sex, and not even equal franchise will shake that belief.

I am sorry to see so few women there for two reasons. Because by being present they would get valuable information, and because their absence must make it appear that they take no interest in the matter whatsoever.

A. N. VATCHER.

21 St. Leonard's Road, Ealing.

"RETROSPECT."

MADAM,—In the leading article headed "Retrospect," which appears in your special New Year issue, the feminist choice which was presented to members of the N.U.S.E.C. at the Council Meeting last March is defined as having been "between the advocacy of industrial regulations for both sexes equally and of industrial regulations for neither sex." This amounts to a statement that those who, like ourselves, opposed any change in the N.U. policy with regard to restrictive legislation for wage-earning women were, and are, opposed to all industrial legislation *per se*. It further implies that the former policy of the N.U. was founded not on feminist egalitarian principles, but on an objection to all legislation regulating industry.

Both statement and implication are without a shadow of foundation. Those of us who were and are opposed to restrictive legislation for women are certainly not actuated by any motives of opposition to industrial regulations generally.

We realize how difficult it is in a necessarily compressed leading article reviewing a year's happenings to give an entirely balanced view of some of the more complicated events. The statement in connection with this division of opinion that "it is regrettable that its recognition and definition should have occurred during a critical phase of the equal franchise campaign" seems to overlook two important facts. The critical phase in the equal franchise campaign has existed for many months; and the onus of the regrettable occurrence rests on those who, in the words of the current N.U.S.E.C. Annual Report, made "a spirited attempt to change the Union's policy"—an attempt unsuccessful in 1926, but repeated, and successful by one vote in March, 1927.

FLORENCE M. BEAUMONT,
ELIZABETH ABBOTT.

17 Campden House Road, W. 8.

[Our correspondents have misread the passage to which they take exception. The point at issue was certainly a difference of opinion concerning the "considerations which should determine the feminist choice" between grading up and grading down—some holding that the only consideration should be expediency, others holding that the well-being of the community and the desires of the workers should influence the choice. If our correspondents take the trouble to read the sentence again carefully they will see that both their statement and their implication "are without a shadow of foundation." The last paragraph of their letter involves a matter of opinion rather than a matter of fact.—Ed.]

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS.

The following leaflets should prove of direct use during the campaign preceding the forthcoming elections:—

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COMING EVENTS.

C. B. C.

JAN. 20. 8 p.m. Town Hall, Bethnal Green. Dr. Marie Stopes, "The Ideals and Practice of Constructive Birth Control"; Discussion.

ELECTRICAL ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN.

JAN. 24. 2 p.m. Visit to the B.B.C. Studios, Savoy Hill, W.C. 2.

EQUAL POLITICAL RIGHTS CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE.

FEB. 5. 8 p.m. Caxton Hall. A "King's Speech" Meeting. Chair: Viscountess Rhonda. Speakers: Mrs. Abbott, Miss Froud, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss N. Stewart Parnell. Admission free.

GUILDHOUSE WOMEN CITIZENS' SOCIETY.

JAN. 23. 3 p.m. Lower Hall (entrance Berwick Street). Commandant Frances Brown, of the Salvation Army. "The Women's Social Work of the Salvation Army."

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

Glasgow S.E.C. W.C.A. JAN. 20. 7.45. Ca'ora Restaurant. Council Meeting of the Scottish Council of Women Citizens' Association. Reception to Delegates. JAN. 27. 172 Bath Street. Council Meeting. All members invited to Reception and Council Meeting.

Preston W.C.A. FEB. 2. 7.30. Reunion in St. John's Ambulance Hall.

Tunbridge Wells S.E.C. JAN. 27. 11 a.m. The Studio, Grosvenor Lodge. Preliminary Agenda for the Council Meeting. Chair: Lady Matthews.

TENTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS OF VOTES FOR SOME WOMEN.

FEB. 6. 8 p.m. Essex Hall, Strand. Public Meeting. Speakers: Suffragette Ex-Prisoners. Tickets from Mrs. Gye, Ardsett, Ridgeway, Mill Hill.

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LACE.—All kinds mended, cleaned and restored, embroidery undertaken; church work, monograms, initials.—Beatrice, Box 1,147, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

TENTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS, Votes for some Women.—PUBLIC MEETING on Equal Franchise. Speakers: Suffragette Ex-prisoners. Monday, 6th February, 8 p.m., Essex Hall. Admission free, reserved seats 1s. and 2s. 6d. SUFFRAGETTE DINNER, 5s., Craigs Court Restaurant, Saturday, 4th February, 7 p.m.—Tickets for both from Mrs. Elsa Gye, Adsett, Ridgeway, Mill Hill.

LONDON AND NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 35 Maisham Street, Westminster. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Information Bureau, Interviews, 10 to 1, except Saturdays. Members' Centre open daily. Restaurant open to 7.30. (Not Saturdays.)

EDUCATED HOME HELPS BUREAU, 190 Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W. 1 (new address), requires and supplies educated women for all domestic work. Registration: Employers, 2s. 6d.; workers, 1s. Suiting fee: Employers, 7s. 6d.; workers, 2s. (Victoria 5940.)

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 2nd January. 3.30, W. T. Layton, N.A., "Austria." 6.30, The Rev. Harold Anson.

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