

JVS SVFFRAGII.

# THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SVFFRAGE NEWS



THE MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SVFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

Volume 23. No. 4.

PRICE 6d.

JANUARY, 1929.

Annual Subscription, 6/-

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## CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT.

On January 9th Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt celebrates her seventieth birthday. The Patriarch's age! And if none of her friends envisage Mrs. Catt in the full tide of her activity as Patriarchal from one point of view, in another sense she is, being the Head of a Great Family, the millions of suffragists all over the world who for many a long year have known her as their leader. Each in her own country acknowledges debts in plenty to other pioneers, but in the international field there is no divided allegiance: it is the name of Carrie Chapman Catt which will always be associated with the bringing together of the infinitely diverse and yet so



closely linked ranks of suffrage workers. And we make no mistake; we know that a life given to this cause is a life given to one of the greatest movements that history will ever tell of. We give honour where honour is abundantly due in paying our homage to Mrs. Catt. In the name of the Alliance, the symbol of what she accomplished, in the name of its forty-three associated countries and in the name of every individual member we wish her Many Happy Returns of the Day, and health, happiness and success in the great work she is now doing for Peace and International Understanding.



### MRS. CATT'S SEVENTIETH BIRTHDAY.

It is particularly fitting that Mrs. Raymond Brown of New York City should tell us about Mrs. Catt's birthday. Mrs. Brown was a vice-president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association for a number of years. She has been associated with Mrs. Catt through many a suffrage campaign and is now one of her loyal band of peace workers.

Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, whose seventieth birthday is being celebrated this month, is known the world over as the leading stateswoman and feminist of her time, and is deeply beloved by all who have had the good fortune to work with her.

Mrs. Catt, while president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, called the first international woman suffrage convention, in 1902. She resigned her American office to become the president of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance on its formation—an office she held for twenty years. When the International Suffrage Alliance was organized, there were five nations with suffrage societies. When she retired, thirty-two countries had organizations and twenty-eight countries had enfranchised women. In the course of her international work, Mrs. Catt has spoken in all the continents except Australia and in more than twenty countries.

The complete enfranchisement of women in the United States is largely due to Mrs. Catt's efforts, and to her far-sighted planning. She began her active suffrage work with Susan B. Anthony, who chose her as her successor. She originated the idea of the woman suffrage party organization which followed the lines of the political parties and which led to victory for women suffrage in New York State in 1917. After this victory, it was her plan of work and wise leadership which caused the federal suffrage amendment to be passed by Congress and ratified by the states in 1920, at the close of a campaign of forty years.

Since the enfranchisement of the women of the United States Mrs. Catt has devoted herself to the abolition of war and to the establishment of permanent peace. She organized the Cause and Cure of War Conferences which have met yearly in Washington, D.C., in which nine national organizations of women have participated. She has spoken repeatedly for international co-operation in many of the states and it is her deepest desire to see the women of the world effectively united to insure world peace. Women everywhere will unite in gratitude to one of the greatest women of our time and in heartfelt wishes that she may have many more years of service for the advancement of womankind.

GERTRUDE RAYMOND BROWN.

### PRESIDENT'S NEW YEAR MESSAGE.

My best wishes for 1929 go out to all our band of loyal fellow workers. In this great year of our Jubilee we shall realise very clearly woman's contribution to the spiritual wealth of the world.

As we read of the women of old, we see some commanding figure stand out as queen and leader, but always as a leader of men. If there were a solidarity among women, it was as against man the all-powerful.

Then came the great women who made their appeal to women and down to to-day we have seen the loyalty of women to women grow, grow in spite of ridicule and persecution, and still stand firm in victory, victory partial maybe, but still victory.

The year 1929 demands much of us: in the first place we must work for the Berlin Congress, that each country may send its finest women to bring the tale of toil and its reward, with pride in achievements won and with humil-

ity for all that is left undone. To those of us who remember 1904 in Berlin, the tale will seem almost incredible. But we live in the future, not in the past, and our younger women take all that we feel wonderful for granted, and seek new worlds to conquer. It will be fitting that the Jubilee Meeting, while honouring the old, should welcome the young. The Queen is dead, long live the Queen. The Call to Youth at Berlin will inspire our successors.

The year 1928 goes out heavy with the loss of our dear friends: Mrs. Wicksell, Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Mary Garrett Hay and Frau Stritt.

East and West, the one dramatic event of the year was the appointment by the Pan-American Conference of an Inter-American Committee of Women to study the legal and civil equality of women in order to present a report to the next Conference. Elsewhere we note steady progress, as for instance in the number of women attending the Assembly of the League of Nations, and the number of women in the Parliaments of the world. In the East, comes the splendid result of women's work to raise the marriage age, the first essential for health, education and freedom.

My warmest good wishes for health, happiness and success go to all our readers of "Jus Suffragii." Many I know personally since my visits have enabled me to meet them in many lands; to the others, far-off, as in South America and Japan, I send special greetings in the hope one day of seeing them face to face.

And above all I send New Year and Birthday greetings to our beloved founder, Mrs. Chapman Catt, who on January 9th reaches her seventieth birthday. May it be a truly happy day, bringing to her the love and gratitude of countless women all over the world; may she look back with pride and thankfulness on the great work she has so wonderfully brought to an almost un-hoped for measure of victory, and forward to the equally—I will not say more—vital work she is now doing to help women to make effective their Will to Peace.

MARGERY I. CORBETT ASHBY.

### A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

from

MISS RUTH MORGAN, Chairman, Peace Committee.

Nearly two thousand years ago the shepherds of Judea reported a Christmas message from Heaven to earth. Heaven had declared to them by the voice of singing angels that the divine purpose was Peace on Earth, Good-will to Men. A good intention must be a positive thing or it is nothing. Therefore, when the nations of the earth propose a solemn agreement, the Multilateral Treaty, which renounces war, they have engaged much more than their feelings. They have promised to place behind it an active support.

Without this will we shall never have peace on earth. Peace must be something more than that absence of war which occurs at intervals between wars. We must not spend this interval rebuilding war machinery, but in creating peace machinery.

Do we realize that the unanswered message of the Christmas angels is having its great answer from the long-silent earth this Christmas? Our song is that war is forever renounced between the nations.

Have we the great will to do it?

Will we, from hundreds of millions of throats, send back our answer, "On Earth Be Peace, Arbitration, and Not War"?

Will we assert our will to deny a specific war in face of a specific grievance? Have we the purpose to build a great peace machine?

Good-will is will and can be nothing less.

This is a great peace Christmas. Human voices are singing back to the angels that the heavenly and earthly purposes at least are one. The children of earth have declared for peace.

### STREET OFFENCES REPORT.

The Report of the Street Offences Committee has attracted a great deal of attention and criticism both in the popular press and in the organs of various women's associations during the past month. We publish below the considered opinion of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, with which we think most of our readers who have interested themselves in this subject, now become, by reason of recent causes célèbres, a burning question, will be in general agreement.

A.M.R.

A full meeting of the Executive Committee of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene (the Association responsible for the Public Places Order Bill) to-day considered the Report of the Street Offences Committee and issues the following statement.

The Report is a curious mixture of progressive and retrograde recommendations. We welcome the proposed abolition of the special laws against "common prostitutes" and the substitution of an equal law. We also welcome the proposal that the evidence of the person or persons aggrieved should be necessary before it can be proved that a street has been frequented, for purposes of solicitation, in such a way as to constitute a nuisance. But we regret that the Committee has thought it desirable and necessary to recommend specific legislation against the purpose of an act rather than against the act itself. If people are molested in the streets by importuning, or a nuisance is created by the presence of persons loitering in the streets, the object of the importuning or loitering is immaterial, and we think that the law should deal only with the actual molestation or nuisance, and not be concerned with the purpose of it.

The proposal to repeal existing general and local legislation relating to solicitation is definitely in the right direction. It clears the ground by getting rid of the absurd variations and anomalies in the existing laws in Scotland, the Metropolis, and the Provinces. But we cannot approve the proposed new law which is to take the place of the old. It is the most questionable proposal in the report. It creates a new offence in England and Wales, namely, importuning for an immoral purpose, and it is intended that any man or woman may be convicted of this charge without requiring the evidence of the person alleged to have been importuned or pestered.

This is a very serious change in the law. It will either be a dead letter, or will be applied by the police in a discretionary manner to a few known women, or it will be a public danger with possibilities of great injustice to innocent persons.

If it is applied in a discretionary and partial manner it will mean that things will be exactly as they are now; i.e., repeated arrest of a few unfortunate women and danger to all persons of being charged with an offence, which it is almost impossible to rebut.

Most of the memoranda added to the Report are most useful and valuable additions, and we particularly associate ourselves with that urging repeal of the Vagrancy Act section dealing with "Common prostitutes" behaving riotously or indecently, so as to enable the Courts to deal with all persons on an equal footing, irrespective of whether they are "prostitutes" or not. We also are glad to see the memorandum urging that men charged with solicitation of males should have the right to be heard before a jury.

We appreciate the intention and spirit of much of the Report but we hope that certain of the points we have mentioned will receive the serious and most critical consideration of Parliament and the public.

Yours faithfully,  
HELEN WILSON, M.D., President.  
W. C. ROBERTS, Chairman.  
ALISON NEILANS, Secretary.

11th December, 1928.

### BERLIN CONGRESS.

#### DRAFT PROGRAMME.

#### Wednesday, June 12.

2—5 Board Meeting.  
Evening Reception to Press.

#### Thursday, June 13.

10— Board Meeting.  
2.30—6 Meeting of International Committee (Board and Presidents).  
7.0 Mrs. Ashby's dinner to Board and Presidents.  
8.30 Continuation of Board Meeting if necessary.

#### Friday, June 14.

Morning Simultaneous meetings of three international Committees (Committee members only).  
Afternoon Simultaneous meetings of three international Committees (Committee members only).  
Evening President and Board's dinner to prominent personalities.

#### Saturday, June 15.

Morning Simultaneous meetings of three international Committees (Committee members only).  
Afternoon Leaders of delegations to summon delegation meetings.  
5—10 Frau Schreiber's reception to Board and Presidents.  
Other receptions, etc., to delegates.

#### Sunday, June 16.

Morning Meeting of Finance Committee.  
Afternoon President and Board at home to delegates.  
Evening Excursions in and around Berlin. Official Reception, or Board's reception to delegates.

#### Monday, June 17.

Morning OPENING OF CONGRESS.  
President's Speech.  
Official speeches of welcome.  
Report of Admissions Committee.  
Roll-Call with procession.

#### Anniversary Session.

"The Twenty-five Years' Triumph of Woman Suffrage."  
MRS. CHAPMAN CATT.  
Afternoon "Twenty-five Years of Work and Progress towards Legal, Economic and Moral Equality."  
Evening Official Reception

#### Tuesday, June 18.

Morning Report on Rules of Order.  
Report of Board.  
Report of "Jus Suffragii."  
Report on League of Nations and International Labour Office.  
Amendments to Constitution.  
Afternoon Report and Resolutions of Committee for the Nationality of Married Women.  
Report and Resolutions of Committee for Equality under the Law.  
Evening Public Meeting: "Women Leaders: their work in Parliament and Local Government." Chairman: Senator PLAMINKOVA.

#### Wednesday, June 19.

Morning Report and Resolutions of Committee on Family Allowances.  
Report and Resolutions of Committee on the Unmarried Mother and her Child.



Afternoon Report and Resolutions of Committee on Like Conditions of Work for Men and Women.  
Evening Theatre.

**Thursday, June 20.**

Morning Nomination of Candidates for new Board Finance.  
Future Work of the Alliance for Suffrage and equality.  
Afternoon Report and Resolutions of Committee for Women Police.  
Evening Public Meeting on Women Police.  
Chairman: Miss ROSA MANUS.

**Friday, June 21.**

Morning Report and Resolutions of Committee for an Equal Moral Standard and against Traffic in Women.  
Report on Bibliographical Bureau.  
Voting during stated hours.  
Afternoon Report and Resolutions of Committee for Peace and the League of Nations.  
Evening Public Meeting for Peace.  
Chairman: Miss RUTH MORGAN.

**Saturday, June 22.**

Morning Result of Elections.  
Unfinished business.  
Afternoon Enfranchised Women's Session.  
Evening Youth Meeting.  
Chairman: Mlle. ATANATSKOVITCH.

**Sunday, June 23.**

12 noon Peace Demonstration.

**Monday, June 24.** Final Board Meetings.**GERMAN ORGANISATION COMMITTEE.**

For the Congress of the International Women Suffrage Alliance in Berlin June 17-23, 1929, extensive preparations are being made in Berlin. We hope for a great influx of Delegates and visitors. For their accommodation a special committee is taking the necessary steps: besides hotels and boarding-houses it will provide a good supply of guest-rooms in families. A satisfactory beginning in this direction has been made. Berlin families have offered hospitality to women of all nationalities.

A large and representative committee is looking after the preliminaries. Happily, we have succeeded in securing women of the most varied professions and social strata for this task, as well as of the various political parties. Honorary president of all the preparations for the Congress is the wife of the Chancellor. Amongst the prominent women of this committee the ones best known in their country are: Frau Dr. Gertrud Bäumer, M.P., Frau Anna Böss, (wife of the Lord Mayor of Berlin), Frau Louise Ebert, (widow of the first president of the German Republic), Frau Dr. h.c. Hedwig Heyl, Frau Katharina v. Kardorff, Frau Dr. h.c. Lange, Frau Loebe (wife of the 'Speaker' of the German Reichstag), Frau Dr. Matz, M.P., Frau Dr. Alice Salomon, Frau v. Schubert, Frau Stresemann, Frau Dr. h. c. Marianne Weber, Frau v. Zahn-Harnack. It consists further of the wives of the Cabinet Ministers and of leading men in industry and finance; further, of women parliamentarians of the various parties and of the leaders of the great women's organisations. The basis for the Congress will thus be a very broad one, and far beyond the confines of Berlin, women of the whole Reich will help to create the right spiritual atmosphere for it. This is already becoming evident in the form of considerable donations which have been put at the disposal of the committee and will enable it to provide a fit and proper setting for the Congress.

Besides the Committees which have a more representative character, working committees have been

formed which will look after the social and cultural side of things as well as the organisation of conducted parties through various public welfare institutions. We hope that a number of visitors will be able to arrive in Berlin a few days before the Congress, in order to take part in visits to art centres, training centres, social institutions, etc., for which the Congress itself would leave but little time. We have already been promised a performance at the State Opera House. Moreover the Berlin Season will be rich in performances (Opera, theatres, concerts) particularly during the week before the Congress.

Connection with the Press has been established by a special Press Committee to which belong women representatives of all the leading newspapers and periodicals of all shades of opinion.

Professional women amongst the visitors to the Congress will have an opportunity of meeting women of their own professions. At the same time, they will have every facility for seeing the women of Germany and their families and their ways of life and work. Numerous At Homes which have already been booked will facilitate personal intercourse.

As a speciality of the preparations, we may mention that a special Youth Committee has been formed, with the object of sending invitations to the Youth of other nations to visit the Congress. This Committee will see to it that our youthful visitors will be met on arrival by a group of young people, who will look after their comfort in every way and have in readiness a special programme for their entertainment.

**YOUTH MANIFESTO.**

To our friends amongst the Youth of other Nations.

We young people of Germany invite you cordially to come to Berlin from the 17th to 22nd June of next year to take part in the Great World Women Congress which takes place during that time.

We believe that it is the duty of young womanhood to-day to acquaint itself with the aims of the Woman's Movement.

We believe that a great many young people are anxious to meet the leading women of all the world.

We believe, moreover, that it is the wish of many Youth Groups as well as of many individual young people of all lands to hear about each other, to exchange ideas and to enter into personal contact with each other.

We believe that participation in this Congress will not only in itself make a great and lasting impression, but will offer also welcome opportunities of visiting a country but little known abroad, of seeing Germany's capital, and of acquiring personal knowledge of German thought and German feeling.

A special Youth Committee will see that our visitors will soon feel at home amongst us.

A number of Young People's Entertainments have been planned besides the Congress:

Walking Tours will demonstrate the beautiful surroundings of Berlin and show the spirit of our German "Wandern."

Conducted Parties will give an impression of the cultural, social and economic life of Berlin.

Social Gatherings of Berlin Youth Groups will offer opportunities for young people to talk together.

At Homes in Berlin houses will enable our visitors to meet the leading women assembled for the Congress.

A Midsummernight's Fire will unite all the visitors to the Congress and be the occasion for a special Youth gathering at which young people's aims and hopes will be voiced.

To the friendly youth of all nations we call: Come to the Congress and help to win a closer contact for good will and co-operation amongst those who are of the same mind.

All communications should be sent to the Jugendausschuss, Frauenweltkongress, Ansbacherstrasse 4., Berlin, W.50.

For the Jugendausschuss: Annemarie Wulff,

**LIST OF HOTELS.**

The following list of Hotels and Pensions has been prepared for the use of members who will attend the Congress. As a great influx of tourists is expected to Berlin in May and June, accommodation should be reserved in good time, in all cases by the end of May and preferably earlier.

Hotels, etc.	No. rooms available.	Price Room 1 bed	Price Room 1 bed and bath	Price Room 2 beds	Price Room 2 beds and bath	Breakfast.	Notes.
Kaiserhof Wilh. Pl.	bis 100 Zimmer	10-15 M.	17-25 M.	20-30 M.	32-40 M.	M 2.50	+1
Esplanade Bellevuestr.	Je 15.	15-20 M.	bis 30 M.	30-35 M.	bis 45 M.	M 2.75	
Adlon Unt.d. Linden	10	12-16 M.	22-32 M.		36-50 M.	M 2.50	
Bristol Unt.d. Linden	30-50	11-17 M.	17-25 M.	17-28 M.	28-32 M.	M 2.75	
Hotel am Knie, Ecke Bism. Str.	20-30	6.50-10	M 13-15	12-20 M.	22-26 M.	M 2.—	
Fürstenhof	20-30	ca 12 M.	ca 20 M.	20-26 M.	30-36 M.	M 2.20	
Continental Bhf. Friedrichstr.	50-60	v. M 9.	an v. 18 M. an	18 M. an	20-40 M.	M 2.75.	
Hospiz Albrechtstr. 8	ca 20	ab 4 M.	ab 11 M.	8 M.	ab 16 M.	M 1.50	
Hospiz Mittelstr. 5-6.	15-20	v. 4.50 an	12 M.	9-18 M.	v. 18 M. an	M 1.75	
Hospiz Marburgerstr. 4.	10-15	3.75-7 M.	Bad einzeln M 1.65	7.50-12		M 1.40	+2
Habsb. Hof Anh. Bhf.	40-50	9-12 M.	14-20 M.	19-24 M.	25-34 M.	M 2.—	
Fremdenh. FRITZ, Unt. d. Lind. 62	ca 5-8			9-14 M			+3
Fremdenh. LINDEMANN Beethov. Str. (Kroll)	b. 15. P.	v. 4 M.	Bad einzeln ca		M. 1.50	M 1.25	×) 4
Fremdenh. TROSS, i. d. Zelten nahe b. Kroll	18 ca 3 Z.	v. 5. M. an.	Bad einzeln.	M. 1.25.		M. 1.—	×) 4
Kürfersteneheim, fürstenst. gegenüb. Zoo	unbestimmt	v. 5.50 an	Bad einzeln	M. 1.50		M 1.50	×) 4
Hotel Pension Astoria Hardenbergstr. 15	ca 15	6 M.		12-16 M.	16 M.	M. 1.50	×) 4
Pension am Knie, Hardenbergstr. 4-5	3-4 Z.	6.50 M. m. Frühstück	Vollpension		M. 10, Bad	extra M. 1.50	×) 5
Pens. Bauer Kanstr. 18 (Stadtbahn)	ca 8. Betten	a 3.90	6 M.		Bad extra 1.50	M 1.25	
Pens. Köstermann, Savignypl. 5.	6-8	Zimmer pro Person m. Frühstück	M. 6.—				×) 6
Hotel LINDENECK, Unt. d. Lind. u. Friedrichstr.	8-10	5-7	Bad einzeln M. 2.—	v. 10 M. an		M 1.25	×) 7
Dt. Lyceum-Club Lutzowpl. 8.	8-10	Zimmer pro Person m. Frühstück	von M. 9.— an.				

(1) These prices only apply to about 20 rooms, others are about 15% dearer.

(2) This is rather an old-fashioned house, with only one bath on each floor.

(3) Recommended by the Women's Press Tour. Direct omnibus connection.

(4) For these small hostels, it is necessary to make reservations by the beginning of May.

(5) A large American clientèle. Convenient for getting to the Kroll Hall.

(6) Reservations to be made by the beginning of May.

(7) Convenient for the Kroll Hall.



### THE AMSTERDAM SHOPPING WEEK.

In the August-September issue we published a letter from the organisers of the "Shopping Week" in Amsterdam. This was a brilliant notion for a money-raising campaign in the form of a week during which all the co-operating shops were to give a certain percentage of their takings to the Alliance Funds, in return for an intensive publicity campaign carried on by the Dutch Auxiliary through all their members, women's societies, etc. The money thus raised was to go to the funds of the Alliance, less a small percentage to be allocated to the funds of the National Auxiliary. The results have been more than satisfactory, and we publish below the letter announcing them, which our Treasurer has received from the Secretary of the Dutch International Finance Committee.

We realise that not all societies can undertake such a piece of organisation, and not all towns are equally suitable for the experiment. But we do most heartily commend the idea to all our Auxiliaries, and we hope that they will take advantage of the kind offer of advice which is made in the letter published below.

#### INTERNATIONAL FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE

#### INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE OF WOMEN FOR SUFFRAGE AND EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

Amsterdam, December 1, 1928.

Dear Miss Sterling,

The shopping week is now over, and after fulfilling our obligation to the "National Committee for International Interests" who for their help and co-operation received 5% of our nett results, it is our great pleasure to offer to the International Finance Committee of the Alliance the fruits of our labour, namely £125.

We frankly admit that our task was not an easy one. We had to overcome opposition not only in the ranks of the shopkeepers, but also, and to an even greater extent, in the ranks of our members. They could not at first reconcile themselves to what was a novelty for Holland! Gradually we won them over, but too late to make the shopping week a national one; we therefore confined ourselves to Amsterdam alone.

Now, we and they are convinced that the plan has shown itself beneficial both to the shopkeepers and to the work of the Alliance. Our direct contribution is not so great as we had wished it to be, nor as great as it could have been had we had the immediate co-operation of our members throughout the country; but we are of good cheer and are already planning a similar campaign for next year, which we are confident will bring us larger returns now that the foundation for the work has been laid.

One feature which we had not fully realised till our preparations were well under way was the great propaganda value of our work. We are certain that thousands who never heard either of the Alliance or of National Societies now at least know of their existence, and some of their aims. It was amusing to hear how the shopkeepers, themselves but half informed, attempted to answer the questions asked by their customers: they were often in a quandary! To our minds the financial benefit is more than equalled by the publicity value.

If you so desire, we would be pleased to have you pass on the good word to all the Auxiliaries in the hope that they too will be stimulated to organise a similar shopping week next November. We are at all times ready to answer any questions in the light of this year's experience.

With warmest greetings,  
Very cordially yours,

F. T. HARTOG-PLAUT, Secretary,

A. P. J. DEN TEX DIKKERS, Treasurer

Note.—The Chairman of the Committee is Miss Rosa

Manus, who was one of the prime movers in the scheme. Only her absence in the United States prevented her from being one of the signatories to the letter, telling of a success with which she had much to do.

### REVIEWS.

#### The Woman Worker and Restrictive Legislation.

By G. Blainey. Prepared for the London and National Society for Women's Service. Price, 1s.

This is an excellent little book. The various restrictions which impede women in industry and confine them to the less skilled and less well-paid branches of employment are divided into three main classes. (a) Legal, (b) Customary, and (c) Trade Union Agreements.

With regard to the first class, the writer says: "It seems probable that in the first place certain legal restrictions were necessary in the face of the undoubted exploitation of the helplessness and lack of organisation of the female worker. At the same time it is doubtful whether it has not tended in recent years to keep back the status of the adult woman and to handicap her in the competition for work. There is also no doubt that much of the legislation excluding women from "dangerous" trades has been, and still is, based on utterly unscientific evidence as to the harmfulness of the work concerned, and has moreover had the very great additional disadvantage of keeping back serious attempts to make the industry healthy for all workers." This seems to go to the heart of the matter. After dealing in some detail with the existing laws in respect of night-work for women, and giving a short explanation of the working of the two-shift system, the writer proceeds to a discussion of the prohibitions at present in force concerning the employment of women in "dangerous" trades. The question of the proclivity of women to lead poisoning is dealt with at some length, and evidence collected during the war when the employment of women in lead-processes was permitted temporarily, seems to show that women, when working in conformity with modern precautionary measures, are not more susceptible to lead-poisoning than men. "Another theory often advanced is that while lead-poisoning may not be more harmful to the race than lead-poisoning in men, . . . a lead-poisoned woman cannot bear healthy children. There appears to be a considerable amount of evidence that women with lead-poisoning cannot bear healthy children. . . . but the same is true of the industrial women in many classes of industry, as also, unfortunately, of the woman at home, and the evidence of lead-poisoned women rests on very dubious figures. A further cause that has never been investigated in this country is the influence of lead-poisoning in the father of the unborn child. From investigations made in America and on the Continent, this appears to be a very serious factor. . . ."

The second class, the Customary restrictions, are defined as: demarcation of processes, training, the attitude of the worker to her work, and restriction on married women's work. With regard to the first of these: "The demarcation of processes as regards light and heavy work also broke down to a great extent during the war, when women . . . were employed on very heavy and arduous processes with no ill-effects, and the average unprejudiced observer is inclined to be sceptical of the theory of women's physical incapacity when realising the heavy household tasks performed by the working mother and to agree with Dr. Adamson that 'there is no job so heavy as charing.'" The question of training is, of course, closely connected with the attitude of the worker to her work. "The industrial girl . . . does not mind very much what work she takes up or how far it offers prospects of permanent employment. To her it is a job, something that she will leave sooner or later for marriage," and this again links up with the custom that "women shall retire

upon marriage," and are, indeed forced to retire from many employments. These "customary" restrictions, which seem so powerful to those unfriendly to the idea of women in industry, are of course no more inviolable than all the other "customary restrictions" which the organised revolt of some women has succeeded in doing away with for all women.

With the last class, the Trade Unions, we come to the attempt to restrict women's work for economic reasons. ". . . again and again there is evidence of attempts on the part of the Unions to keep women out of certain trades and processes, not so much because they were women, but because they were competitors at lower rates of pay. . . . This fear, while less openly expressed, still exists to-day. . . . There is no doubt also that the improved political position of women has helped their position in the industrial world, and the selection of Miss Margaret Bondfield as President of the Trade Union Congress was from this aspect of special interest."

Details of Rates of Wages, Census Reports, relevant paragraphs from the Factory Acts 1907-1916 are given as appendices.

**Mutter und Kind, 1929:** Tagebuch der Mutter, by Adele Schreiber. Hippokrater-Verlag, Holzgartenstrasse 7, Stuttgart. Price 3 Marks.

Although it appears that this is the second year's publication of the "Mother's Calendar," we were not so fortunate as to see last year's issue, and this delightful Calendar comes to us with the force of a charming novelty. It has been compiled by Adele Schreiber, the First Vice-President of the Alliance, but even without such a passport to the favour of all our readers, its own merits would surely charm everybody. It is in the form of a "tear-off," each sheet covering several days, from one to six, with beautifully reproduced pictures, appropriate quotations and a little space for notes. On the back of each sheet is a piece of sage, practical advice on the care of the child, the duties and rights of motherhood, etc., taken from a very wide range of books by experts. The variety of both the illustrations and the subject matter is remarkable: there are reproductions of old masters, of modern paintings, photographs of children in every sort of dress and undress (the latter perhaps the most charming of all), fairy pictures—everything. At the end is an index of authors and subject-matter, so that even when the year is over, the sheets may continue to serve as a reference book. Of course the letter-press is in German, but for those who understand even a little of that language, this would make an excellent New Year's gift.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### THE OPIUM QUESTION.

THE EDITOR,  
Dear Madam,

In your issue of November 1928 you published an interesting letter by Dame Katherine Furze on the opium question, in which she suggests that it would be a good thing if one of the women's organisations could take up this matter and go into it thoroughly. I therefore beg to inform you and her that the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom has taken up the opium question. Although it may seem slightly outside our province, we have been led to interest ourselves very keenly in the question owing to the report of the two delegates whom we sent to China last winter.

Madame Camille Drevet and Miss Edith Pye spent three months in China, and got into close touch with a large number of women's organisations, and also with general Chinese organisations. They were strongly urged by all parties to take up the opium question in Europe, and to get action taken in harmony with the desires of the Chinese for the suppression not only of opium, but more especially of the manufactured narcotic drugs with which the East is flooded by European manufacturers and traders. These alkaloids are

considered by the Chinese to be infinitely more harmful than the smoking of opium, and it was because they were not included in the inquiry into opium smoking in the Far East, for which the British Government pressed at the recent Assembly of the League of Nations, that this inquiry was not supported by China, and that there were seventeen abstentions in the League Committee.

The whole question is a very intricate one, and the W.I.L.P.F. has recommended it for study to all its National Conventions—the Hague Convention and the Geneva Convention, and all the discussion that has gone on round these two Conventions.

It is premature to recommend as yet any solution, but that which at present finds the greatest favour among those opposed to the traffic in narcotic drugs is, that the amount of such drugs necessary for medical and scientific purposes should be ascertained, and the production limited to these requirements.

The Committee of the German Reichstag for Penal Reform has recently passed the following resolution by a large majority:—

"That the Government of the Reich is requested to 'take the necessary steps to limit the production of 'narcotics in Germany to the amount needed for the 'medical treatment of the sick in Germany.'"

In conclusion, may I add that in view of the urgency and world-wide nature of the narcotic drug danger and the special appeal that such a problem makes to women, why should not *all* the women's organisations, and not only one, investigate the matter?

Yours faithfully,

MARY SHEEPSHANKS,

International Secretary, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

#### EQUAL POLITICAL RIGHTS CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE.

The Editor,

Dear Sir,

#### Women and the House of Lords.

We should be grateful for any publicity you may give to the following:

At a meeting of the Equal Political Rights Campaign Committee held on December 11th, Lady Rhondda being in the Chair, the following resolution was passed unanimously:

"That this Committee, representing twenty-two Women's Organisations, welcomes the fact that Lord Clarendon, in his proposals for the Reform of the House of Lords, recognises that Peersesses in their own right should be eligible for membership of the Upper House."

I am,

Yours faithfully,

E. KNIGHT, Chairman,  
Press Committee.

### NEWS IN BRIEF.

#### Woman's Suffrage in South Africa.

General Smuts, in an announcement which he made to-day, states that he favours the making of votes for women one of the principal planks of the South African party's platform at the next election. He thus goes one better than the Ministry.

The Nationalist opposition to female suffrage has been weakening for some time past, the latest convert being the Minister of Finance, Mr. Havenga. But there are still influential members of the party who greatly dislike the idea.

#### French Women's Success.

Mlle. Béquillon, a young Frenchwoman, has achieved the distinction of being the first woman to occupy a Chair of Law in a French University, having been appointed Professor of Law at the University of Rennes.



## REPORTS FROM AUXILIARIES.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

## THE NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

## The King.

In common with all members of the community we share the grave anxiety caused by the serious illness of His Majesty. We hope that it may not be long before this anxiety is removed by the return of his usual good health.

## Local Government.

Most of the Parliamentary time is being given to the consideration of the Government's Local Government Bill, which proposes to introduce many fundamental alterations in the existing system. Women's organisations are particularly concerned by the proposals affecting the health services, especially those for maternity and child welfare. It is feared that under the new scheme a stimulus will be removed from local authorities and that the young and growing services, which we believe to be of such fundamental value to the health of the nation, will in consequence suffer. By the abolition of the boards of guardians, which up till now have administered the poor relief, the services of a large number of women who have devoted much time and energy to this public work will be lost. There is also grave fear that the authorities, to whom this work will now be given, being already overburdened, may be unable to carry it out as effectively as has been done up till now. The National Union, therefore, is pressing for support to be given to amendments to the Bill to remove from it the maternity and child welfare services, and also to make compulsory what is, according to the Bill, at present only optional, the co-option of experienced poor law guardians, including women, to those committees and sub-committees to which this work will in future be delegated.

## The Distressed Areas.

All over the country there is deep concern at the unfortunate plight of the large number of miners and their families for whom there is no prospect of again obtaining work in their former employment. We are glad that at last the various schemes for relief are to be co-ordinated on a national scale and we hope that the undeserved sufferings of these unemployed may soon be ameliorated.

## Presentation to Dame Millicent Fawcett.

As announced in these columns last month the National Union, in co-operation with the London and National Society for Women's Service, presented to Dame Millicent Fawcett her portrait, painted by Mr. Lionel Ellis. The presentation took place on Wednesday, 12th December, at Lady Astor's house, and a very large number of old friends and supporters of Dame Millicent attended to pay tribute to their leader in the suffrage fight. Apart from the fact that Lady Astor is a charming hostess, it was particularly appropriate that the ceremony should have been held at her home for, as our readers will remember, she was the first woman to be elected a Member of our Parliament. Dame Millicent re-assured us that she looked back on her work with great joy and that the fight all along had afforded her a very happy time. The portrait has been painted by Mr. Lionel Ellis, a young artist whose work has already aroused the keen admiration of the critics, and he has been recognised by Sir Joseph Duveen as one who has a very promising future before him.

## Women in 1928.

A review of women's work and their achievements in various spheres in Great Britain and in international affairs during 1928 will be given in the New Year number of the "Woman's Leader." To all those who are interested in the advancement of the woman's move-

ment this should prove particularly interesting reading. Copies, price 2d. each (or at reduced rates for quantities) may be obtained from the Manager, "The Woman's Leader," 4, Tufton Street, London, S.W.1.

G. HORTON.

## HOLLAND.

A Bill has passed the Second Chamber which lays down that the actual domicile of a married woman shall be accounted her official domicile for purposes of the exercise of active and passive franchise. This is the first step towards breaking down the law which rules that a married woman has no domicile other than that of her husband. It is now possible, therefore, for the married Dutch woman who lives in Holland with her children while her husband works in the Indies, a common case, to exercise her full political rights.

## HUNGARY.

## Lectures.

We send a hearty greeting to all colleagues working on the International Board and at Headquarters, as well as to those who all over the world are busy for our common cause, wishing them a restful Christmas so as to enable them to begin their work again with renewed energy. May the next year be the most successful in our movement. The jubilee of our Alliance is already attracting great attention in our Press; there has been a long article and an interview taken in our headquarters in the "Pesti Napló" and the "Az Ujság" fills the columns of its Christmas Supplement with articles about leading women in public life and especially of those who are struggling for the equal rights of women.

This season we arranged lectures and teas at which our members reported on the different congresses they attended abroad last Summer.

Miss Vilma Hoffmann gave a remarkable and very interesting account of the War Resister's International Congress in Sonntagsberg. She succeeded in reproducing the atmosphere of loving fellowship which reigned in this assembly and made us realise what lofty ideas and brave resolutions were brought forward there. She also reported the very encouraging features of the Brussels Labour Congress which concerned women and peace. The audience was very appreciative of this able lecture.

Miss Magda Lovas at another lecture gave us a report of the first Congress of the World Youth Movement and gave us a vivid picture of the interesting life, hot discussions and eagerness of the young participants at this gathering. The resolutions which she made known to us were certainly a good result of this Congress.

Miss Renée Hirn obliged us with the interesting report on the Boeke Conference. She made us understand how much there is yet to be done to bring our labour-conditions up to the level of present day requirements.

The seventieth birthday of Selma Lagerlöf was duly celebrated in our headquarters. In a lecture of great literary interest Mrs. Sefia Bochniczky, the writer, paid a due tribute to the noble life and work of Selma Lagerlöf pointing specially to the educational value of her books.

## Meeting of eleven organisations.

A very interesting event took place in our headquarters on the 22nd of November. In response to the appeals for international co-operation, we attempted to organise a joint demonstration of different corporations on behalf of complete disarmament and issued invitations for a conference.

The response of the societies was surprisingly satisfactory, as ten organisations, i.e., the Peace Society, the L.N.U., the Social Democratic Women, the Democratic Women and other equally important and popular societies sent delegates.

They all admitted the point of view of our Society, that, although Hungary is compulsorily disarmed, a demonstration of a number of its inhabitants, expressing the wish that this enforced state should become voluntary and permanent would serve the cause of disarmament as much as any other demonstration coming from a Great Power State.

The resolution we prepared was passed unanimously, and the delegates assured us that their organisations would certainly be willing to collect signatures for the proposed petitions, and expressed their wish to arrange a huge mass-meeting for general disarmament.

Nevertheless, the attitude of the represented organisations proved to be less resolute than we had hoped, and many excused themselves, stating that their constitution prevented them from taking part in a political demonstration. We consider, however, that this meeting of representatives was very important, and will not cease to work in this direction.

The last lecture of this year will be given by Mrs. Otto Demény on: "How to foster happy people."

Mrs. Demény wishes to appeal especially to the mothers in our Society and is endeavouring to create a special committee to further the realisation of her design.

We shall report on this lecture and its result next time.

## The Vilma Glücklich album.

This album in memory of our lamented President to which we call the attention of our colleagues who knew, loved and valued her, will be published next month. We beg all those who are interested to apply for it at our Headquarters.

EUGENIE MISEOLCZY MELLER.

## NOTES FROM IRELAND.

## Elections and Electors.

If a General Election be of any service in arousing the civic sense and in stimulating political thought, then indeed Ireland ought to be a bright and shining example of both these qualities. For some years the Irish Free State ran an annual election of one kind or another. Now it is Northern Ireland which is blessed with the prospect of two elections, one for its quota of members in the Imperial Parliament and the second for the Northern Parliament itself. The number in the first case is no more than thirteen. Apart from any superstitious fear of that number, it might be thought too insignificant for the attention of any British party. This, however, is far from the case. The Liberal party is making considerable efforts to reform the old organisation which in far-off pre-war days had real weight in Ulster. A successful meeting in the largest public hall available has been held. Apparently women are not yet of sufficient importance to be considered, in spite of the accession of new voters. No woman was on the platform at the recent public meeting. The official programme has not yet appeared. It will be interesting to see if any women's questions are included.

Meanwhile the usual symptoms of election fever are developing. The party in power assures all and sundry that things are really going well and that increasing prosperity is to be looked for in the near future, if only voters remain steady to their old allegiance. This assurance requires a certain amount of that faith which rests on things not seen, for unemployment in the linen trade is steadily increasing, as one mill after another closes down. The parties in opposition follow traditional paths with equal fidelity and assure the electors that the grave problems pressing on all sides will gradually melt away if they are returned to power.

## The Old Old Story.

Meanwhile, organised women, as represented by the Belfast Women's Advisory Council, go on pressing their Equality programme with what it is to be feared many politicians find annoying persistence. The Council may find some gleam of encouragement in noting that certain points in the 1923 programme may be written off. The Legitimation Bill has been carried. School Medical Service is now really getting under way, though for the most part women medical officers are given subordinate posts. Bills providing for Child Adoption, and Inspection and Registration of Maternity Homes have been promised. The Equal Guardianship and reforms in the Separation and Maintenance Laws are still refused, without reason given, by a Ministry which knows what women need better than do the women themselves. The Council therefore is pressing the Equality points as first in the programme, and asking for definite pledges on these measures.

Equal Moral standard and the other familiar matters follow. It is too soon to speak of the reception these old friends will meet with from the parties and the candidates.

## Hens and chickens.

The new Irish Free State coinage is out, and very interesting the eight new coins prove to be, with their picturesque designs chosen to represent the agricultural interests of the country, a horse, a bull, and, on the penny, a hen and chickens, chosen, so the Committee explains, to give pleasure to the women and children, who chiefly use this coin. Not for feminine use clearly is the lordly half-crown, with its presentment of the Irish hunter, nor the useful two shilling piece with its beautiful design of the "salmon of wisdom," with a spray of hazel, this typifying Knowledge. No, women's interests are neither in the paddock nor on the river, but in the humble poultry run, where hard work can slowly pile up a quite considerable sum. Poultry exports from Ireland are rapidly increasing, so perhaps the choice is really a compliment and assuredly nothing else was intended.

## Health conditions in Ireland.

The Irish Free State is gradually organising the Health services on the basis of provision for preventive work. In Cork, a survey of the children of school age brought to light the familiar conditions, defective teeth, myopia, etc. It is curious to note how little these conditions vary, whether in an industrial centre in Northern Ireland, such as Londonderry, or in a rural area such as County Cork. Full time Medical Officers have been appointed in eight counties in the Free State, and an effort is being made to cope with the appalling lack of water supply and deficient sanitation which accounts for the high mortality figures in some rural areas which ought to be the most healthy. It is so difficult to arouse the average peasant proprietor to a realisation of the vital importance of these matters. "Sure, it done well enough for me father, and me mother reared ten childer in the place," and what can be said in reply? To help to meet this last problem, the Irish Women Citizens' Association and the National Council of Women were so fortunate as to persuade Dr. Fairfield, of the London County Council, to come over and speak on Health questions to Dublin audiences. Slowly the Health figures are improving and such addresses as were given by Dr. Fairfield to varying audiences, to the Dublin Rotary Club one day, and to a number of women, mostly mothers, on another, will greatly aid.

Women's organisations in Ireland are most grateful to such speakers as Dr. Fairfield, who spare time from their overcrowded days to give help in a country where conditions until recently have not favoured constructive work in Health reform.

DORA MELLONE.



## UNITED STATES.

## An Industrial Survey.

The problems of the industrial worker, whether they be unemployment, hours and conditions of work, or wages, have for many years been a subject of special concern to Miss Amy G. Maher, of Toledo, Ohio, a former chairman of the women-in-industry committee of the National League of Women Voters.

Miss Maher is well known in the United States for her work on behalf of men and women in industry, and in the International Alliance as the United States member of the Committee on Family Allowances and Endowment. It will be recalled that Miss Maher was a member of the United States' delegation to the Paris Congress of the Alliance in 1926, and probably will go to the Berlin Congress next June.

Her most recent contribution to the industrial field is in the form of a survey of wage rates, earnings and fluctuations of employment in Ohio during 1924-1925. It is being well received, as is evidenced by an article by Paul H. Douglas in the November 15 issue of "Survey." Mr. Douglas, who is professor of industrial relations at the University of Chicago, wrote as follows:

"Amy Maher has for some years been one of the most useful citizens of Ohio. Not only has she been a powerful force for legislation and for the employment of other methods which would protect women and children, but she has also, through the Information Bureau of Women's Work, published from time to time industrial studies which have been models of scientific objectivity. The combination of reformer and scientist is all too rare, but Miss Maher has realized that true reform can only be based on facts and has not spared herself in accumulating accurate data to point the way to future policy.

"This most recent publication of her bureau is an especially valuable achievement.\* The Ohio Division of Labor Statistics has collected since 1914 very inclusive data from all establishments employing over five persons, on the wage-rates, annual earnings, and fluctuations of employment for both the men and women who are employed as wage-earners, clerks, or salespeople. The scope of this material is indicated by the fact that the number of employes thus included in 1926 was no less than 1,410,000. Unfortunately, however, this material, save for the years 1914, 1915, and 1923, has not previously been published and has instead been locked up in the state files. Miss Maher secured the co-operation of the Division of Labor Statistics in having the wage-sheets copied off and has prepared this admirable study for the period as a whole. The monograph is so full of meat that it cannot adequately be summarized in short compass, but it may be worth while to note a few of the most striking developments. The proportion which women form of the total number of clerks has increased most rapidly during the thirteen years, rising from 39 per cent. in 1914 to 50 per cent. in 1926. The increase among the wage-earners was much less, namely from 14.1 to 15.5 per cent., while there was actually a relative decrease in the proportion of the salespeople who were women. The median weekly wage-rates of men from 1914 to 1926 in all three of these lines of work when taken as a whole were 115 per cent. or an increase of 26 per cent. in real wages, using the Bureau of Labor Statistics index as a measure of relative living costs. The combined increase for women is shown to have been 121 per cent., or a real increase of 30 per cent.

"The average annual earnings of men and women combined are shown to have increased from 1915 to 1926 by 118 per cent. for wage-earners, 98 per cent. for clerical workers, and 110 per cent. for salespeople, or a combined average of 117 per cent. These were gains in real earnings of 31, 19 and 26 per cent. and of 30 per cent. for the entire group.

\*Wage Rates, Earnings and Fluctuation of Employment, Ohio, 1914-26, by the Information Bureau of Women's Work, Toledo, Ohio, 1928.

"A comparison of women's wage-rates with those of men indicates that the median of the former is approximately 56 per cent. that of the latter. Women's wages during the War, however, rose somewhat more than those of men. During the depression of 1920-21, more men were laid off relative to their number than was the case with women. The monthly statistics of employment are indeed a most valuable addition to the general indices which have hitherto been computed.

"There are many other features of this monograph which mark it off as a study of real merit but these may suffice to indicate some of the main conclusions. The study is, however, one which every student, teacher, and social worker who has need of employment and wage data will wish to study in detail."

## A CHRISTMAS NIGHTMARE.

The Press Secretary settled comfortably to sleep on Christmas night. "What an excellent pudding that was," she thought, "I would like to know what recipe was used. What fun it would be to draft a questionnaire on Christmas puddings. Let me see, how would it go?" and she began to consider possible queries. In the middle sleep came.

It must have been some hours later when she woke with a feeling of discomfort. "Surely it can't be the pudding," she thought, half awake, and trying to sit up. Rousing herself, she discovered that about a ream of typewriting paper was lying on her chest, and the most extraordinary figure she had ever seen was standing at the foot of the bed. It had a round head, with an opening instead of a mouth, and the body seemed to grow out of the head. It began to speak.

"I am sent by the Executive Committee of the Trade Union of Presiding Spirits to inform you that your case has been considered by the Committee and a decision has been reached. . . ." "What case? What have I done?" "Done, why, you have broken the rules regarding overtime. You called one of us up this very night from his holiday to preside over drafting another questionnaire." The secretary groaned. "I never meant," she began feebly. "This is your sentence, 'the figure said severely. 'You must draft a questionnaire on broadcasting, with seven questions, and obtain complete replies, before you will be allowed to go to sleep again.' 'I know nothing about broadcasting.' 'Do you think people draft questionnaires because they know about the things? If they did, why should they do it at all?' The secretary thought hard. "I can only make one question." "Suppose, I began with: 'Do you consider the word broadcasting originated from the messages having been fished up from the Norfolk Broads?' But then nobody will know the answer." "That does not matter" said the figure relentlessly, "You must send the whole questionnaire to seven people who may know. If they don't, then you must send it to seven more who may tell you of seven others who know. Then you must send it to them." "That makes twenty-one-letters," gasped the offender. "And most of the people live a threepenny postage away. And my Council has only sevenpence halfpenny in the Bank. Our Treasurer told me that last week."

"Then you just send to seven more people asking them either to send a donation, or to tell you of some one else who may do so." "That will be fourteen more," said the secretary, "if only I could think of some questions though." "I have it!" she cried "The first question is on the Norfolk Broads, as I said. The second must be 'Has the Ministry of Transport in your country arranged for the conveyance of Pullman cars by wireless?' Then, 'If this is the case, can you give the principal reasons why this course has been adopted?' Fourth, 'If this is not the case, can you mention the principal objections which accounted for the absence of such arrangements?'"

"I can do the last three to-morrow," she said, just as sleep overcame her.

DORA MELLONE.

## SECTION FRANCAISE.

## CONGRES DE BERLIN.

## PROGRAMME.

- Mercredi, 12 Juin.**  
2-5 h. Séance du Comité Exécutif.  
Soir Réception de la Presse.
- Jeudi, 13 juin.**  
10-1 h. Séance du Comité Exécutif.  
2 h. 30-6 h. Séance du Comité International (Comité Exécutif et Présidentes siégeant en commun.  
7 h. Dîner offert par Mrs. Ashby au Comité Exécutif et aux Présidentes.  
8 h. 30. Séance éventuelle du Comité Exécutif.
- Vendredi, 15 juin.**  
Matin Réunion simultanée de trois Commissions Internationales (réunions réservées aux membres des Commissions seulement).  
Après-midi Réunion simultanée de trois Commissions Internationales (réunions réservées aux membres des Commissions seulement).  
Soir Dîner de la Présidente et du Comité en l'honneur de personnalités marquantes.
- Lamedi, 15 juin.**  
Matin Réunion simultanée de trois Commissions Internationales (réunions réservées aux membres des Commissions seulement).  
Après-midi Réunion des délégations sur convocation de leur présidente.  
5 à 10 h. Réception offerte par Mme. Schreiber au Comité et aux Présidentes. Invitations particulières, etc. pour les déléguées.
- Dimanche, 16 juin.**  
Matin Réunion de la Commission des Finances.  
Après-midi La Présidente et les membres du Comité reçoivent les déléguées. Visites de Berlin et excursions dans les environs.  
Soir Réception officielle, ou Réception offerte par le Comité aux déléguées.
- Lundi, 17 juin.**  
Matin. Overture du Congrès:  
Discours de la Présidente  
Discours officiels de bienvenue  
Rapport de la Commission des Admissions  
Appel des déléguées et défilé des délégations.  
Seance d'Anniversaire.  
"Vingt-cinq ans de triomphe du Suffrage féminin."  
Oratrice: MRS. CHAPMAN CATT.  
Après-midi "Vingt-cinq ans de travail et de progrès vers l'Egalité légale, morale et économique."  
Soir Réception officielle
- Mardi, 18 juin.**  
Matin Séance administrative, du Congrès:  
Adoption par le Congrès de son règlement.  
Rapport sur "Jus Suffragii."  
Rapport du Comité Exécutif.  
Rapport sur les relations de l'Alliance avec la S.d.N. et le B.I.T.  
Modifications aux statuts.  
Après-midi Rapport et Résolutions de la Commission de la nationalité de la femme mariée. Rapport et Résolutions de la

Soir

Commission de l'égalité légale de la femme.  
Meeting public: "L'activité des femmes parlementaires et membres de Conseils municipaux," sous la présidence de Mme. PLAMINKOVA, sénateur.

**Mercredi, 19 juin.**

Matin

Rapport et Résolutions de la Commission des Allocations familiales.  
Rapport et Résolutions de la Commission de la situation de la mère non mariée et de son enfant.

Après-midi

Rapport et Résolutions de la Commission pour l'égalité des conditions de travail entre hommes et femmes.  
Opéra.

Soir

**Jeudi, 20 juin.**

Matin

Annnonce des candidatures reçues pour l'élection du Comité.  
Finances.  
L'avenir de l'Alliance. Son programme de travail pour le suffrage féminin et l'égalité des droits de la femme.

Après-midi

Rapport et Résolutions de la Commission de la Police féminine.  
Meeting public: "La Police féminine." Présidente: Mlle. ROSA MANUS.

Soir

**Vendredi, 21 juin.**

Matin

Rapport et Résolutions de la Commission pour l'égalité de la morale et contre la traite des femmes.  
Rapport du Bureau bibliographique. (Les élections du Comité auront lieu ce jour-la; l'heure en sera indiquée plus tard.)

Après-midi

Rapport et Résolutions de la Commission pour la Paix et la Société des Nations.

Soir

Meeting public: "La Paix."  
Présidente: Miss RUTH MORGAN.

**Samedi, 22 juin.**

Matin

Résultat des Elections.  
Affaires imprévues.

Après-midi

Session des femmes électrices.

Soir

Meeting de jeunesse.  
Présidente: Mlle. ATANATSKOVITCH

**Dimanche 23 juin.**

Midi

Démonstration en faveur de la Paix. (Théâtre populaire).

**Lundi, 24 juin.**

Matin et

après-midi Dernière séance du Comité.

## A LA JEUNESSE AMIE DE L'ETRANGER.

La jeunesse allemande, à laquelle nous appartenons, vous invite cordialement à venir à Berlin du 17 au 22 juin 1929. Venez participer au grand congrès international féministe qui aura lieu à cette date!

Nous croyons certainement que la jeune génération féminine a le devoir de s'instruire bien sérieusement au sujet du féminisme.

Nous croyons que le plus grand désir de presque toute la jeunesse est de faire connaissance avec les femmes qui sont en tête du mouvement dans toutes les nations.

Nous croyons aussi que c'est le désir ardent de beaucoup de groupes de la jeunesse et de beaucoup de jeunes filles individuelles de tous les pays du monde, d'apprendre quelque chose l'une de l'autre, d'entrer en échange d'idées les unes avec les autres, et de se mettre en contact personnel



Nous croyons que la participation au congrès offre déjà, non seulement par elle-même une impression durable et imposante, mais qu'elle procurera en même temps une occasion favorable de faire la connaissance de la capitale de l'Allemagne, de pouvoir observer soi-même le raisonnement et le caractère allemands.

Un comité de jeunesse spécial fera tout ce qui sera en son pouvoir pour que la jeunesse étrangère se sente vite acclimatée entre ses camarades allemandes.

Indépendamment de la participation au congrès, nous avons arrangé une série de divertissements pour la jeunesse :

Excursions! Nous voulons montrer aux étrangères les superbes environs de Berlin, et nous les invitons à assister à notre "wandern."

Des promenades avec guides donneront un aperçu de la vie de culture, et de la vie sociale et économique de Berlin.

Des soirées sans contrainte, arrangées par le groupe de la jeunesse berlinoise, faciliteront l'échange des idées de la jeunesse entre elle.

Des thés ayant lieu dans des maisons de Berlin réuniront la jeunesse avec les femmes prominentes du monde entier.

Une soirée spéciale exposera aux participants du congrès général le vouloir et les aspirations de la jeunesse. Cette soirée réunira toute la jeunesse en une fête de la Saint Jean.

C'est à la jeunesse amie de l'étranger que va notre appel: Participez au congrès, et de cette façon vous aiderez à mettre en contact la jeunesse de tous les pays ayant les mêmes aspirations!

Prière de s'inscrire au Comité de la jeunesse pour la préparation du Congrès international des femmes à Berlin.

Pour le Comité de la Jeunesse,

ANNEMARIE WULF.

Adr. Deutscher Staatsbürgerinnen-Verband

Ingendausschuss f. d. Weltbundkongress

Berlin W50, Ansbacherstr. 411.

## FRANCE.

Les féministes françaises peuvent marquer ce mois de décembre d'une pierre blanche. Quatre succès, d'ordre différent, et d'importance inégale, mais tous quatre de conséquence viennent d'être obtenus. Quatre succès accueillis silencieusement à l'intérieur, et que, sans doute, sans l'I.W.S.N. l'étranger ignorerait, mais qui n'en sont pas moins des succès de bon aloi et qui comptent.

M. Georges Barillet, député de la Seine, a rapporté favorablement une proposition de loi tendant à rendre les femmes commerçantes éligibles aux Tribunaux de Commerce. Cette proposition a été adoptée par la commission du Commerce et de l'Industrie.

La question depuis plus de trent ans était à l'étude.

En 1914, notre infatigable et généreux ami, M. Louis Martin, sénateur, déposait une proposition de loi tendant à accorder aux femmes commerçantes l'éligibilité aux Chambres et aux Tribunaux de Commerce. En 1914, la guerre survint mille soucis plus pressants. En 1922, M. le sénateur Roustan déposa un excellent rapport. Les Chambres de Commerce consultées proposèrent une mesure transactionnelle: l'éligibilité, mesure qui fut adoptée par le Sénat le 23 novembre 1922, et par la Chambre en 1924.

Pourquoi, demandait alors la Chambre de Commerce de Marseille, les femmes seraient-elles inéligibles aux Tribunaux de Commerce, quand elles sont éligibles à d'autres organismes importants: Conseils départementaux d'enseignement, Conseil supérieur de l'Instruction publique, du Travail, des Prudhommes, Chambres d'agriculture?

Pourquoi, ajouterons-nous, les femmes commerçantes qui enrichissent magnifiquement le pays—l'industrie de la robe pour ne citer qu'un exemple, n'a-t-elle pas fait entrer en France, l'an dernier, deux milliards et

demi d'argent étranger?—qui apportent au monde des affaires par leur travail, leur maîtrise un appoint dont l'importance ne saurait sans ingratitude ou injustice être méconnu, ne jouiraient-elles pas de toutes les prérogatives attachées à leur métier puisqu'elles en subissent toutes les charges?

Une très jeune fille, Mlle. Béquillon, vingt-cinq ans à peine a été chargée de cours à la Faculté de droit de Rennes. La voici donc, dans cette ville si fort attachée aux traditions, enseignant à des jeunes hommes, de quelques années à peine ses cadets.

Et le fait de voir ce jeune professeur en chair n'a pas causé scandale, n'a pas entraîné de protestations de la part des familles, motivé de chahut chez les étudiants. Voilà qui est merveilleux.

Mlle. Marguerite Dauban est-elle ou n'est-elle pas féministe? Grave question!

Mlle. Dauban est cette jeune fille qui, sur mille candidats, vient d'être reçue première au concours de l'externat des hôpitaux.

Quelques uns de nos confrères sont allés voir la jeune lauréate, la féliciter, l'interroger.

Vingt ans, pleine de vie, Mlle. Dauban aime non seulement les études, mais le sport, tennis, natation, escrime. Et mène tout de front, allègrement, à la française.

Dites bien, confie-t-elle à un rédacteur, dites bien surtout que je suis féministe, encore féministe, toujours féministe. La femme est l'égale de l'homme. Elle lui est même parfois supérieure.

Ah, non! déclare Mlle. Dauban à un autre journaliste. Je ne suis pas féministe. Non! Non! Le rôle de la femme est au foyer. Tout ce que je demande pour la femme, c'est non pas des moyens de rivaliser, mais l'égalité totale dans la concurrence."

L'égalité totale dans la concurrence?

Mais ce programme contient toutes les revendications des femmes. Mlle. Dauban est donc bien féministe. Peut-être ne s'en rend-elle pas compte ou n'est-elle pas toujours en humeur de le reconnaître. De 1,000 candidats, une jeune fille vient en tête, quatre se classent dans les dix premiers. C'est un plaisant résultat, fort encourageant.

M. Ernest Lafont, député, rapporteur du budget des Postes, Télégraphes et Téléphones, vient de faire accepter par la Commission des Finances et voter par la Chambre des propositions qui présentent un intérêt fondamental et qui déclancheront les réclamations dans tout le personnel féminin des administrations publiques.

Dans les bureaux de poste, le travail est fait indistinctement par des hommes ou par des femmes. Seulement l'homme est un "commis," la femme, une "dame employée." Celle-ci touche 14,000 fcs. par an, celle-là, 16,000.

Soutenu par l'appui des syndicats unitaires et confédérés, par la Commission des finances et par la Chambre, M. Lafont a voulu mettre fin à une situation matérielle choquante de gens qui, sous les yeux du public, font exactement le même travail, sans jouir des mêmes avantages.

L'occasion était belle de faire droit à la revendication déjà ancienne des travailleuses: à travail égal, salaire égal. Mais le gain n'est pas seulement matériel. La base étant unifiée et le commis étant à la base du recrutement supérieur, tous les postes d'avancement seront désormais ouverts aux femmes.

Et quand aucune barrière artificielle n'entravera plus leurs possibilités, on verra, ici, comme ailleurs, ce qu'elles sont capables de faire.

Les "commis" l'ont si bien compris que, redoutant la concurrence,—ils ne sont pas très surs, avec un concours commun, que les femmes ne leur seront pas égales ou même supérieures,—ils ont constitué une association, multiplié les démarches auprès des membres de la commission qu'ils savaient hostiles au projet.

L'offensive, bien menée, échoua pourtant. Il y a là un aveu d'impuissance qu'il est amusant de retenir.

ALICE LA MAZIERE.

## SUISSE.

### Le pastorat féminin à Genève.

Nous sommes très heureuses de pouvoir signaler aux lectrices de JUS un progrès féministe accompli—une fois n'est pas coutume!—dans notre pays. En effet, le 2 décembre dernier, le pastorat féminin auxiliaire a été accepté par les électeurs et électrices de l'Eglise nationale protestante de Genève à une majorité d'un millier de voix environ, ce qui est bien significatif d'un mouvement d'opinion assez marqué.

Il est assez curieux cependant que ce progrès soit réalisé chez nous, qui sommes si en retard au point de vue des droits politiques de la femme, alors que dans d'autres pays, où la femme est politiquement l'égale de l'homme, on discute encore le principe même du pastorat féminin. Il est vrai que ce n'est pas le pastorat féminin intégral qui a été ouvert aux femmes graduées en théologie, mais le pastorat *auxiliaire*. La différence ne réside pas dans les fonctions, car les pasteurs auxiliaires, hommes et femmes, peuvent exercer le ministère exactement comme des pasteurs en office, c'est-à-dire qu'ils peuvent prêcher, baptiser, marier, faire des services funèbres, donner l'enseignement religieux et même la Cène. La seule différence, c'est qu'ils sont *nommés* à ces fonctions par le Consistoire (corps directeur de l'Eglise nationale protestante de Genève), et non pas *élus* par les électeurs et électrices de leur paroisse, et de ce fait, ils ne peuvent pas être à la tête d'une paroisse, mais seulement seconder le pasteur en office, ou même le remplacer en cas de maladie ou d'absence.

Nous regrettons évidemment beaucoup cette restriction que nous aurions bien préférée que l'on n'inscrivit pas sans la Constitution de l'Eglise. Mais nous nous sommes rendu compte qu'il fallait l'accepter, si nous voulions rallier les suffrages. L'opposition, chose curieuse, ne se manifestait pas, en effet, contre l'exercice du ministère par des femmes—ce que l'on peut comprendre chez des âmes timorées, tourmentées de scrupules religieux, et suivant la lettre de l'Evangile plus que son esprit—mais contre l'idée qu'une femme pourrait être à la tête d'une paroisse. Nous sommes d'ailleurs bien certaines que ce n'est là qu'une mesure transitoire, et que lorsque les femmes pasteurs auxiliaires auront prouvé tout ce dont elles sont capables, il sera facile d'abroger cette disposition et d'ouvrir tout grand aux femmes le pastorat intégral.

Le texte de la Constitution de l'Eglise qui crée le pastorat féminin est muet sur une question brûlante, que l'on a beaucoup discutée, mais que les auteurs de la proposition se sont sagement refusés à préciser: le célibat de la femme pasteur. Beaucoup de gens, en effet, sont persuadés qu'il est impossible à une femme mariée, mère de famille, d'exercer le ministère pastoral, et que, soit sa famille, soit son ministère, souffriront de cette double vocation. A cela on a répondu en défendant le droit individuel de chaque être humain, et en faisant confiance au sentiment de conscience et de responsabilité des femmes pasteurs pour savoir choisir entre deux devoirs si elles craignent qu'ils ne soient incompatibles. Lors de la discussion à ce sujet au Consistoire—qui a introduit lui-même l'idée du pastorat féminin, que nos Associations féministes n'auraient pas demandé, craignant que l'idée fût trop neuve encore pour aboutir—nous avons été très intéressées par les paroles d'un juriste, professeur à l'Université, décédé peu après d'ailleurs. N'étant pas féministe, il ignorait complètement les luttes que nous avons à soutenir dans nombre de pays et en Suisse, pour maintenir le droit au travail de la femme mariée, et cette ignorance donnait d'autant plus de poids à son argumentation purement juridique, qu'il est contraire aux principes du droit de limiter le champ de travail d'un individu en raison de son état civil.

Comme dans notre pays démocratique, tout se passe par votation populaire, c'est une votation populaire aussi qui a dû décider en dernier ressort de l'introduction

du pastorat féminin dans l'Eglise nationale protestante de Genève. Et cela a été tout spécialement intéressant parce que les femmes ont dans cette Eglise depuis 18 ans le même droit de vote que les hommes. Il faut avouer que nous étions un peu inquiètes, car beaucoup de femmes étaient opposées au pastorat féminin, surtout pour des motifs traditionnalistes et sentimentaux, et cela aurait pu être très grave comme conséquence pour notre mouvement féministe si une réforme de progrès avait été refusée, non pas par des hommes, seuls, mais aussi par des femmes! Heureusement qu'il n'en a rien été. Les femmes ont voté nombreuses, plus nombreuses que les hommes, mais pas assez cependant pour que l'on puisse prétendre que leur envahissement détache et désintéresse les hommes du scrutin, et si nous ne savons naturellement pas, le vote étant secret, combien de femmes ont voté pour le pastorat féminin, nous croyons cependant que leur participation a été utile à la réalisation de cette réforme. Ajoutons que l'Eglise de Genève, bien que séparée de l'Etat depuis quelques années, a conservé la même organisation dans le système et l'ordonnance de ses votations que s'il s'agissait d'une votation politique, et que cela donne du poids à cette décision, unique à travers le monde, croyons-nous, qui a décidé par une votation populaire de l'accès des femmes à une vocation de haute spiritualité morale et religieuse.

E. GD.

## CHRONIQUE DE LA SOCIÉTÉ DES NATIONS.

Il est vraiment difficile ce mois-ci d'entretenir les lectrices de JUS de l'activité de la Société des Nations, car les Commissions qui ont siégé ces dernières semaines à Genève, comme, par exemple, la Conférence internationale sur les statistiques économiques, sont des Commissions au programme si spécialisé que ce ne sont guère que des experts et des techniciens qui peuvent suivre leurs travaux. Et d'autre part, le Conseil ayant décidé de tenir à Lugano sa session de décembre, où il n'a guère trouvé, par parenthèse, un ciel plus clément qu'à Genève—et celle-ci venant seulement de commencer au moment où nous écrivons ces lignes, nous ne pouvons pas non plus en rendre compte aujourd'hui.

Le seul fait cependant qu'il soit intéressant de signaler à des féministes est la démarche faite par l'Alliance auprès du Conseil de la Société des Nations, au sujet de la représentation à titre consultatif à la prochaine Conférence de Codification de Droit International, des organisations féminines qui se sont spécialement occupées de la nationalité de la femme mariée. On n'a pas publié que, à plusieurs de nos Congrès, l'idée avait été émise de demander à la S.d.N. de convoquer une Conférence spéciale sur ce sujet. La Conférence prévue ne s'occupera pas uniquement de la nationalité de la femme mariée, mais de trois questions: celle de la nationalité en général (qui comprend naturellement la nationalité de la femme mariée), celle du régime des eaux territoriales, et celle de la responsabilité civile des Etats pour les délits commis par des étrangers sur leur territoire. Ce fait complique notre situation, car il est évident qu'il est impossible de trouver des femmes au courant de ces trois questions! Mais nous pensons qu'il sera impossible de trouver aussi des hommes spécialistes de toutes les trois, et que c'est sur la nomination de femmes expertes sur ce sujet spécial de la nationalité de la femme mariée que doit se concentrer notre effort.

Au mois de septembre déjà, une délégation de l'Alliance et du Conseil International des Femmes avait fait une démarche auprès de la Société des Nations. Maintenant, une lettre vient d'être adressée au Secrétaire général lui demandant de faire figurer cette demande sur la liste des propositions émanant d'Asso-



ciations internationales communiquées aux membres du Conseil, et une lettre particulière a été adressée à chacun des membres du Conseil à Lugano, dont voici le texte:

Genève, le 6 décembre 1928.

Monsieur le Ministre,

J'ai l'honneur de vous informer que c'est avec le plus vif intérêt que le Comité Exécutif de l'Alliance Internationale pour le Suffrage et l'Action civique et politique des Femmes a pris connaissance, lors de sa réunion d'automne à Berlin, au mois d'octobre dernier, du texte de la Résolution adoptée par la IXe Assemblée de la Société des Nations, sur la proposition de la Première Commission, et concernant la représentation féminine à la Conférence de Codification de Droit International.

"L'Assemblée, considérant que la question de la nationalité inscrite à l'ordre du jour de la Conférence de Codification présente pour les femmes un intérêt particulier, et que déjà l'art. 7 du Pacte a consacré l'égalité d'accès des femmes et des hommes aux fonctions de la Société et aux services qui s'y rattachent, émet le vœu que les Membres de la Société des Nations convoqués à sa future Conférence examinent l'opportunité de tenir compte de ces considérations dans la composition de leurs délégations."

Nous pensons donc pouvoir espérer qu'à la suite de cette Résolution les Gouvernements Membres de la Société des Nations désigneront des femmes pour faire partie de leur délégation nationale à cette Conférence. Mais ce sur quoi nous désirons surtout attirer l'attention de la Société des Nations est sur le fait que l'Alliance Internationale pour le Suffrage et l'Action civique et politique des Femmes a procédé à une étude spéciale, et cela depuis bien des années, de la question de la nationalité de la femme mariée, et a même établi sur ce sujet, avec le concours de femmes juristes, un projet de Convention internationale, qui a été adopté par ses Congrès. Aussi prenons-nous la liberté de demander très instamment au Conseil de bien vouloir envisager de son côté la question de la représentation à la Conférence des organisations féminines internationales spécialement intéressées dans la question, en invitant notamment, l'Alliance Internationale pour le Suffrage et l'Action civique et politique des Femmes à envoyer à titre consultatif à la Première Conférence de Codification de Droit International une ou plusieurs déléguées.

Nous nous permettons de citer ici comme un précédent à cette demande le fait que, lors de la Convocation de la Conférence Economique Internationale de 1927, le Conseil de la Société des Nations décida d'inviter les organisations féminines internationales à s'y faire représenter, et que trois femmes désignées par le Président de la Conférence d'accord avec ces organisations siégèrent parmi les délégués. Or, et bien que les questions économiques soient d'un intérêt direct pour les femmes, il nous paraît que la nationalité de la femme mariée, qui atteint tant de femmes dans leur situation civile, et qui figure depuis si longtemps à notre programme comme l'un de ses points principaux, constitue un élément plus important encore pour assurer la représentation à titre consultatif de notre organisation.

C'est donc en espérant que notre demande sera examinée avec bienveillance, et prise sérieusement en considération, et en vous remerciant d'avance de ce que vous voudrez bien faire dans le sens que nous désirons, que nous vous prions d'agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de notre très-haute considération.

Pour l'Alliance Internationale pour le Suffrage et l'Action civique et politique des Femmes:

La Secrétaire chargée des relations avec la Société des Nations:

EMILIE GOURD.

Nous ne manquerons pas de tenir nos lectrices au courant des résultats de cette démarche.

E. GD.

## ROUMANIE.

### L'Inauguration de la Maison de la Femme à Bucarest.

Le 2 Décembre a eu lieu à Bucarest un événement qui marquera une date dans l'histoire de l'activité de la femme roumaine. Cette Maison de la Femme, "Casa Femeii," vers laquelle tendaient depuis si longtemps nos rêves, est devenue une réalité, grâce à l'incomparable énergie de la Princesse Cantacuzène, notre présidente, et cela plus vite que la plus audacieuse d'entre nous n'aurait osé l'espérer. Dix-huit mois en effet, après que Sa Majesté la Reine Marie eut posé de ses propres mains la pierre fondamentale, nous pouvions inaugurer cette "Maison de la Femme," qui est pour nous le symbole de cette union que la femme roumaine a pour mission de poursuivre de toutes les forces de son âme: union entre les classes sociales, union entre les nationalités diverses destinées à vivre aujourd'hui à l'ombre du drapeau de la Grande Roumanie. Aussi, parmi le faste qui se déroula à l'inauguration, cérémonie honorée par la présence de Sa Majesté la Reine Marie, de Son Altesse Royale la Princesse-Mère Hélène de Roumanie et des membres du Gouvernement, fûmes-nous particulièrement heureuses de saluer les déléguées des minorités féminines de la Bucovine, de la Bessarabie et de la Transylvanie, tandis que nos amies lointaines participèrent elles aussi, à cette fête émouvante de la grande famille roumaine, en la présence de Mme. Pichon Landry, représentant le Conseil International des Femmes et le Conseil National Français, Dame Rachel Crowdy, représentant la Société des Nations, Mme. Karbanova, représentant la Petite Entente des Femmes et le Conseil National de Tchécoslovaquie. Le Conseil National des Femmes de la Grande Bretagne de son côté nous envoya à cette occasion Mme. Floria Mocatta, qui vient de tenir à Bucarest une série de conférences fort appréciées sur la paix et le désarmement.

Ainsi, dès le premier jour, la "Maison de la Femme," fidèle à sa destinée, ouvrait grandes ses portes à toutes nos sœurs et leur disait: "Venez, sœurs roumaines de la Grande Roumanie, sœurs saxonnes, de Bucovines et de Transylvanie, sœurs ukrainiennes de Bessarabie, sœurs hongroises de L'Ardéal, venez, vous êtes ici chez vous, c'est la Maison où pourrons nous rencontrer, nous connaître, donc nous aimer."

La Maison de la Femme s'est efforcée de répondre à tous les besoins: salle de consultations juridiques, salle de consultations médicales, bibliothèques, restaurant, tea-room, home, salle de conférences et de concerts, bureau d'information permanent pour tout ce qui concerne le travail de la femme, rien a été omis pour que chacune y trouve tout ce qui peut répondre à ses besoins. Mais ce que nous voulons surtout y répandre à profusion, c'est la chaleur de nos coeurs ouverts à tous et à toutes, nous voulons que ce soit là véritablement le foyer accueillant de la paix, de la concorde et de la charité.

CATHERINE CERKEZ,

Secrétaire Générale du Conseil National des Femmes Roumaines.

## NOUVELLES INTERNATIONALES.

### Grand Bretagne.

*Union nationale des sociétés pour l'égalité civique.*—Le Roi—L'union Nationale partage l'anxiété générale au sujet de la grave maladie de Sa Majesté, et fait des vœux ardents pour son rétablissement.

*Gouvernement local.*—Le projet de loi en discussion a pour objet d'amener un changement fondamental dans le système actuel. Les Sociétés féministes sont spécialement préoccupées des propositions affectant les services d'hygiène, de maternité et d'enfance. Par l'abolition des bureaux de bienfaisance, les services d'un grand nombre de femmes qui ont consacré beaucoup de temps et d'énergie à cette oeuvre sociale, seront rendus inutiles. On craint aussi que les autorités, qui n'auront pas assez de temps à donner à ces services, ne les négligent. L'union Nationale travaille, en conséquence, à faire excepter du projet de loi les oeuvres de Maternité et d'Enfance et aussi, à rendre obligatoire ce qui n'est que facultatif: la coopération d'inspecteurs expérimentés, comprenant des femmes, aux comités et sous-comités qui dirigeront ces oeuvres.

*Les régions dans la détresse.*—Tout le pays est attristé par la condition lamentable d'un grand nombre de mineurs pour qui la région n'a plus de travail. Les secours viennent d'être heureusement organisés sur une base officielle et on espère que leur sort sera bientôt amélioré. Des personnes intelligentes avaient parlé de les employer au creusement du Tunnel sous la Manche, mais le gouvernement paraît faire la sourde oreille.

*Le portrait de Dame M. Fawcett.*—L'union nationale en coopération avec la Société pour le service des femmes, a présenté à Dame M. Fawcett son portrait peint par Mr. Lionel Ellis. La cérémonie a eu lieu le 12 Décembre chez Lady Astor. Sa maison était des mieux choisies, car Lady Astor a été la première femme élue au Parlement.

*Egalité des droits politiques.*—A une réunion du Comité pour l'égalité des Droits politiques, le 11 Dec. on a félicité Lord Clarendon qui a proposé que dans sa réforme, la Chambre des Lords donne le droit de sieger aux paires par droit de naissance.

### Irlande.

*Elections.*—L'Irlande du Nord se prépare à faire deux élections, l'une pour 13 membres du Parlement impérial de Grande Bretagne, l'autre pour le Parlement irlandais. Le parti libéral fait des efforts considérables pour réformer la vieille organisation. Un immense meeting a eu lieu dans la plus grande salle de la ville, mais aucune femme n'était sur la plateforme. On se demande si les questions féminines feront partie du programme électoral.

*La vieille histoire.*—Pendant ce temps, les sociétés féministes, représentées par le Comité consultatif des femmes de Belfast, continuent leurs efforts pour obtenir l'égalité. Quelques parties du programme de 1923 ont été déjà réalisées: La loi sur la légitimation a été votée; le service médical scolaire est en voie de réalisation, mais les femmes n'y ont que des postes inférieurs; des projets de lois sur l'adoption des enfants, sur l'inspection et l'enregistrement des Maternités ont été promis. L'égalité de tutelle et les réformes sur la Séparation et la Pension alimentaire ont été refusées. Le comité a mis en premier sur son programme l'Egalité et réclame des engagements définitifs.

*La nouvelle monnaie.*—La nouvelle monnaie de l'Etat libre d'Irlande est sortie. Les effigies sont empruntées à l'agriculture: un cheval, un taureau et, sur le penny, une poule et ses poussins. La demi-couronne porte un chasseur et les deux shillings une branche de noisetier, emblème de science. La poule et les poussins sont un emblème véritable, car l'exportation des poulets et des oeufs a pris un développement considérable.

*Conditions d'hygiène.*—L'Irlande indépendante du Sud est en train de réorganiser son service d'hygiène préventive. A Cork, un rapport sur les enfants d'âge scolaire a fait découvrir un atavisme déplorable: mauvaise dentition, myopie, etc. Ces conditions sont les mêmes, qu'il s'agisse de régions industrielles dans l'Irlande du nord ou de régions agricoles comme le Comté de Cork. Des officiers médicaux ont été nommés dans 8 comtés de l'Etat libre et des efforts sont faits pour lutter contre la pénurie d'eau et l'état

défectueux de certaines régions où la mortalité est très élevée.

(d'après DORA MELLONE).

### Hollande.

Les Sociétés suffragistes ont organisé une "Shopping week," semaine pendant laquelle les commerçants ont remis aux Sociétés 5% de leurs bénéfices, en échange d'une réclame intensive faite par ces Sociétés. L'Union suffragiste hollandaise a pu ainsi remettre à l'Alliance internationale, après avoir gardé pour elle-même un pourcentage, 125 Liv. St. Si d'autres auxiliaires veulent suivre cet exemple, la Secrétaire et la Trésorière de l'Union hollandaise leur donneront tous les renseignements.

Un projet de loi a passé à la seconde chambre donnant pour domicile légal aux femmes mariées la maison qu'elles habitent et non la maison qu'habite leur mari si le mari est obligé de résider ailleurs. Elles pourront ainsi exercer leurs droits politiques, même si le mari est occupé aux colonies ou à l'Etranger.

### Etats-Unis.

*Le 70ième anniversaire de Mrs. Chapman Catt.*—Il sera célébré ce mois-ci. Mrs. Catt, tandis qu'elle était présidente de l'Association nationale américaine pour le suffrage des femmes, réunit la première Convention internationale en 1902. Elle démissionna de son office américain pour devenir Présidente de l'Alliance internationale pour le Suffrage des femmes. Au moment où l'Alliance fut fondée, il y avait 5 pays affiliés. Quand elle se retira il y avait 32 pays affiliés et 28 pays où les femmes avaient obtenu le Suffrage. Au cours de son apostolat suffragiste, elle avait parlé sur tous les continents, excepté l'Océanie. L'affranchissement complet des femmes aux Etats-Unis lui est largement dû. C'est avec Susan B. Anthony qu'elle avait débuté. Elle inaugura la création d'un parti suffragiste organisé comme les autres partis politiques et qui amena la victoire des femmes dans l'Etat de New-York en 1917. Ensuite c'est sa méthode qui amena l'autre victoire: l'amendement fédéral sur le suffrage, passé par le Congrès et ratifié par les Etats en 1920, après une campagne de 40 ans.

Depuis l'affranchissement des femmes, Mrs. Catt se dévoue à la cause de la Paix. Elle a organisé les Conférences annuelles de Washington sur les causes et l'abolition des guerres. Son rêve est de voir les femmes du monde entier unies dans la campagne pour la paix permanente.

(d'après Mrs. Raymond Brown).

### Rapport sur l'Industrie.

Le problème de l'ouvrier dans l'industrie, qu'il s'agisse du chômage, des heures et des conditions de travail ou du salaire a été l'objet d'une étude spéciale de Miss A. G. Maher de Toledo, Ohio, ancienne présidente du Comité des "Femmes dans l'industrie," de la Ligue nationale des Electriciens.

Son dernier rapport rend compte des taux de salaires, et des fluctuations du travail en Ohio en 1924—1926. La division de l'Ohio des statistiques du Travail a réuni depuis 1914 des documents sur tous les établissements employant plus de 5 personnes. Le nombre des ouvriers compris dans cette statistique était en 1926, de 1410000. La proportion des femmes employées dans les bureaux s'est accrue depuis les 13 dernières années, de 39% en 1914 à 50% en 1926. Celle des ouvrières, de 14.1 à 15.5%. Celle des commerçantes a diminué. Les salaires des hommes ont augmenté de 26%, ceux des femmes, de 30%. Les salaires annuels des hommes et des femmes indistinctement se sont élevés de 31% pour les ouvriers, de 19% pour les employés et de 26% pour les commerçantes. Pendant la guerre, les salaires des femmes ont plus augmenté que ceux des hommes et pendant la dépression de 1920—1921, une plus grande proportion d'hommes ont été congédiés.

MADELEINE RUDLER,



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