

DOMESTIC SERVICE—THE ONLY OUTLET!

THE
WOMAN'S LEADER

AND
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NOTES AND NEWS

Notes of the Week.

The past week has been rich in international events of first-rate importance. Lord Curzon and Signor Mussolini have both addressed notes on behalf of their respective Governments to Herr Cuno in response to his offer to the Allied Powers. Were such a belief within the bounds of possibility, we should be tempted to suggest that the authors of these documents have not accurately read the terms of the offer with which they are dealing, for both appear to ignore the fact that the actual figure offered by Germany is accompanied by an unqualified undertaking to pay in excess of this, any sum which a duly qualified international authority shall consider her capable of paying. It is satisfactory, however, that both notes foreshadow the possibility of further discussion. The citizen of Europe has come to expect so little consideration from fate that he is thankful when a note turns out not to be an ultimatum. The note which has been despatched from this country to the Russian Government, however, bears more strongly the character of an ultimatum; and it is doubtful which of the two Governments will eventually excel in diplomatic incivility. Since we are not formally at peace with the Soviet Government it is unlikely that a breakdown of negotiations will result in our being formally at war; nevertheless, post-War European diplomacy has devised perfected informal methods of warfare whose application in this case we should regret. However, last Wednesday's debate in the House of Commons made clear that here too the way lies open to further negotiation; and we can only hope that when Lord Curzon meets M. Krassin a pacific spirit will prevail between them.

The Return of Lord Robert Cecil.

The return of Lord Robert Cecil to this country, after his historic tour in the U.S.A., gives us some sense of security. Once more the best friend of the League of Nations is back in his place in the House of Commons. On May 10th he intervened in the debate on the Foreign Office note to urge that the time was ripe for submission of the Reparations deadlock as well as the Saar controversy to the League of Nations. It is possible that a solution of both problems may eventually be reached by the old method of diplomatic wrangling and by the precarious balancing of opposing forces. But no solution can, in our opinion, give such promise of future stability as a solution along the lines suggested by Lord Robert Cecil.

The Women's International.

On Saturday, 12th May, the Nineteenth Congress of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance opened its deliberations under the presidency of Mrs. Chapman Catt. Signor Mussolini, in an opening speech of remarkable interest, accorded to it the official benediction of the Italian Government—and something more than a benediction. He declared himself as authorized to pledge the Fascist Government to the granting of the vote to women, beginning with the administration of local government. He added that his Government had already shown its interest in the well-being of women by approving the Washington Convention relating to the protection of their labour. The Congress has had a splendid send off. It meets under splendid chairmanship in a splendid city, and its delegates have demonstrated most splendidly by their presence in that city that neither the shadow of war clouds nor the criminal lunacy of European diplomatists can break or shake the Women's International.

Two Private Members' Bills.

Two interesting Bills dealing with the care of children have been introduced into the House of Commons and are awaiting their second reading. The Summary Jurisdiction (Separation and Maintenance Orders) Bill, which has been promoted by the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, makes it possible for a woman to obtain a Separation Order on the grounds of cruelty or failure to maintain her and her children without leaving her husband first. In the event of her maintenance order being forfeited on the ground of her adultery, it provides that those for the children, if they remain in her custody, may be retained. Further, it provides facilities for the enforcement of the payment of maintenance orders, and states that imprisonment for the non-compliance with such an order need not entirely wipe out the debt. The Adoption of Children Bill is very similar to that introduced last Session. It provides that parents or guardians of any child under the age of ten years may transfer their rights and duties with respect to the child. These Bills are both somewhat inadequate, in that the subjects with which they deal are both in urgent need of further reforms. The first, however, represents all that the Government is willing to accept, and the second will no doubt be extended at least to raise the very low age-limit.

Trade Boards.

The Government have introduced a Bill "to Amend and Consolidate the Law relating to Trade Boards." While we are obliged to withhold detailed comments on the Bill until next week, it is clear that its main purpose is to amend rather than to consolidate, and many of these amendments will be viewed with grave apprehension. At the very outset the official memorandum published with the Bill suggests a limitation of the trades to which the machinery should in future be applied and a reversion to the policy of the 1909 Act. It goes on to propose a limitation in the full powers of a Trade Board to fix rates which are enforceable by criminal proceedings in accordance with the provisions of the Cave Report. Apart from the fact that a member of the Cave Committee, Mr. Alfred Lyttleton, has expressed his view that in one important respect the Bill goes further than was intended by the Committee, recent development in Agriculture make us doubt the wisdom of weakening the sanction behind any Trade Board rate in unorganized and poorly organized industries. We trust that the House of Commons, accepting full responsibility in this matter, will insist upon the most cogent reasons before withdrawing from the 3,000,000 workers affected any protection afforded to them under the 1918 Trades Boards Act.

More Light on Domestic Employment.

It might be said that everything had been said that could be said on the subject of domestic employment. Words—especially heated words—have not been lacking. But words conveying accurate information upon a subject so vast and varied are still urgently needed. Such scientific knowledge the public may hope to receive from the Committee of women appointed by the Minister of Labour, which is now in session. The prime requisite in a committee of this kind is the judicial temperament and experience in conducting economic and industrial inquiries. It matters far less whether the committee are in certain proportions employers or employed, married or single. Information from different points of view can always be supplied by the witnesses. Under the chairmanship of Mrs. E. M. Wood,

UNEMPLOYED WOMEN.

The general attitude of indifference towards the problems of the woman worker in industry to-day is in striking contrast to the popular interest aroused by women's work during the war. Even during the height of that interest, however, too many of the enthusiasts who showered applause on the woman munition worker, the bus conductress, and the Government clerk, appeared to consider the question of their proper remuneration as a matter of minor importance, and this attitude of mind persists in the comfortable illusion that all unemployed women who cannot return to their proper sphere in the home can at least find suitable employment in domestic service.

In these circumstances, the general Council of the Trades Union Congress have done well to call attention to the position of unemployed women in a special memorandum. According to the official figures for February, 1923, there are over 240,000 unemployed women and girls registered at the Employment Exchanges, and this figure leaves out of account the unemployed in uninsured trades such as domestic service in all its branches and outwork, and the number who have ceased to register because they have been refused benefit. There has been a marked difference in the administration of the Unemployment Insurance Acts as they affect men and women, owing to the fact that while it is an accepted principle that men have usually a particular trade and cannot be expected to take up work for which they have had no training there is a general assumption that all women, because they are women, are eligible for domestic service. This assumption is largely responsible for the callous way in which the Government has been allowed to neglect the women who are struggling to exist on 12s. a week when they receive unemployment benefit, or in other cases on the pittance they are able to obtain from their particular Board of Guardians.

The recent deputations to the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Lady Mayoress of Manchester, and the evidence of Mr. Phillips at the first meeting of the Committee on Domestic Service, should do much to shed light on the problem. Domestic service is outside the scope of the Unemployment Insurance Acts, and the popular cartoonist who depicts these servants living the life of modern Lotos Eaters (presumably on 12s. a week) while good

Secretary of the London War Pensions Committee, the committee has made a good start, for the Chairman knows how to put purposeful questions. A public voraciously clamouring for more service from a single-handed treasure (or, more correctly, from a pair-handed single treasure) will await the committee's report impatiently. It will be extremely annoyed if the committee cannot devise a plan for transforming rough factory girls into clever cooks by simply withdrawing the "dole." For our own part we feel sure that whether the committee realizes or disappoints some hopes, exhausts the gigantic theme or is exhausted by it, we shall still gain from its labours a store of relevant facts.

Woman's Year Book.

Many of our readers will have regretted the loss of that useful book of reference, *The Englishwoman Year Book*, and may no doubt find themselves consulting its pages, although it is seven years since the last edition appeared. The *Woman's Year Book*, compiled by the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship and published by the Economic Press, should more than fill the gap. This book will cover nearly every aspect of public and social work of interest to women, and will, in addition, contain much useful information on the law as it directly affects the status of women as employers, workers, wives, mothers, housekeepers, and on subjects such as Parliamentary and Committee procedure. It was originally intended to include other countries, but except for a general survey of the international position of women, it was felt that the publication of an American handbook entitled *The Woman of 1923* made this less necessary, and that space could be more usefully employed. Each subject will be preceded by a short article by an authority. Among the contributors are the following: Lady Baden Powell, Miss Lilian Barker, Miss Margaret Bondfield, Mrs. Crofts, Professor Winifred Cullis, Lady Denman, Mrs. Fawcett, Miss Margery Fry, Miss Grier, Miss Susan Lawrence, Miss MacMillan, Mr. Albert Mansbridge, Miss Bertha Mason, Miss Rathbone, Captain Reiss, Lady Rhondda, Dame Meriel Talbot, Miss Mona Wilson.

jobs sail by, is entirely beside the mark. As regards the average factory worker who may be willing to enter domestic service, there is ample evidence that she needs preliminary training if she is to obtain satisfactory employment under good conditions, and the Home Craft Schemes of the Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment, which have already trained 12,000 women for domestic service "with eminent success", according to Sir Montagu Barlow, are continuing with this work in so far as their very limited Government grant permits.

When all this has been said, it remains true that for the vast majority of unemployed women, domestic service provides no solution. The hundred unemployed women who waited upon the Archbishop of Canterbury represented many thousands of young women who have spent several years acquiring skill in their particular trades, such as millinery, book-keeping, textiles, dressmaking, leatherwork, etc., and who hope to be re-absorbed when industry revives. In addition, a very large percentage had home responsibilities—a blind father, an invalid mother, or young brothers and sisters depending on their care night and morning. These women cannot hope to benefit from road-making or similar constructional relief schemes started by local authorities, and after months of worry and under-nourishment there is evidence to show that they often lose their capacity to keep a job when one becomes available.

The Home-makers schemes of the Central Committee, which are threatened with extinction owing to lack of funds, can serve the double purpose of training these women to discharge their home duties more efficiently and helping to maintain them in health and spirits until their own trade can re-absorb them. The N.U.S.E.C. and other women's organizations are supporting the demand of the Trade Unions for a wide extension of these schemes, and their action received the unanimous endorsement of the Labour Women's Conference Meeting in York last week. A substantial Government grant towards these schemes is long overdue; it would be an act of statesmanship and true economy, since the country cannot afford to let thousands of its most promising women citizens deteriorate in a state of semi-starvation and despair.

NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER.

By OUR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT.

The Government is likely to spend its Whitsuntide recess in feverish preparation for the resumption of the fray on 28th May. The last week has been charged with political electricity; and it has to be seen whether the lightning conductors which have been hastily erected will be equal to their task or whether the storm will prove too violent. It was prophesied in these columns some weeks ago that the real danger to the life of the Government lay in external affairs, for the reason that upon questions of foreign politics and kindred subjects many of their own supporters are uneasy and sometimes even hostile. In the division on the Saar Valley question there were abstentions on the Government side of the House, and but for the fact that the Treasury spokesmen succeeded to a certain extent in throwing the odium upon the League of Nations and diverting the attention of the House from the fact that want of preparation on the part of the Foreign Office for the work of the Council of the League was to a large extent responsible for the lack of decision at Genoa, the figures would have been much closer.

In regard to Russia the Government have been on firmer ground. Their note has produced the required effect, namely the release of the trawlers. It is unlikely that a majority of the House would resist the breaking off of trade relations, but it is equally unlikely that the Government will make any such proposal; whilst as for war, that, as Mr. McNeill said on Thursday, "they would contemplate with horror." As far, however, as Germany is concerned, they evidently feel the necessity of proceeding with extreme circumspection. The reply to the German note, though in itself it lacked in the important particular of adhering to the proposal for an international commission, has been so well received in France that the Government need have no immediate anxiety as to adverse criticism in the Commons. But it is essential that the situation should be followed up and exploited, and the House will certainly expect to hear of favourable developments

when it reassembles in ten days. On all sides there is a growing conviction that Great Britain must resume her proper place in the Councils of Europe.

Perhaps the most difficult of the problems immediately confronting the Cabinet, however, is that created by the decisions in the case of Art O'Brien. An Act of Indemnity is necessary if the Home Secretary, and perhaps the Attorney-General as well, are not to be liable not merely to action for damages, but for criminal prosecution. The Bill of Indemnity is likely to be most bitterly fought not in the least on account of any personal antagonism for Mr. Bridgeman, who is deservedly respected and popular, but because, despite appeals and warnings from all quarters of the House, the Government endorsed the policy of *lettre de cachet*—which exactly parallels the proceedings in these deportation cases—and refused to proceed, as they perfectly well might have proceeded, under the machinery of the Fugitive Offenders Acts. The issue is that, faced with the possibility of achieving substantially the same results by proceeding either in a manner undoubtedly constitutional or else in a manner of disputed legality and undoubtedly unconstitutional, the Government deliberately chose the latter course. The ordinary citizen of this country has been taught that if he breaks the law in ignorance of the law, or because he is wrongly advised as to the state of the law, he must pay the penalty of the law. There is no Act of Indemnity for him. And the House of Commons will have to consider this, and many other fundamental principles of our polity, when it comes to decide whether it will indemnify the Government for the wrongful acts by its Members.

[The views expressed in this column are those of our Parliamentary correspondent, and are not our editorial opinion. Like so many other things in this paper they are expressly controversial, and comment upon them will be welcomed.—E.D.]

ILLUMINATION AND RIGHT JUDGMENT.**WHITSUNTIDE 1923.**

The Christian Church has for the most part set aside special seasons in the year when men are called upon to concentrate thought and prayer on special aspects of the spiritual life. There are those who consider this to be not only unnecessary but limiting. What does it profit a man to examine his aims in life, motives, and shortcomings specially during the forty days before the Easter festival? Is it not better to continually examine the inner life in order that we may discover whether the springs of thought and action do not, in spite of high aspirations, find their source in the desire for self-interest and material gain? The danger, however, to those who say that special seasons are unnecessary is that while meaning frequently to concentrate thought and desire on the great truths of the Christian life, in point of fact they very often slip into the habit of seldom, or indeed never, doing so at all with real intention. This is a real danger. The world is such, the nature of mankind is such, that frequent reminders of the reality of spiritual things is necessary. Psychologically, the Church does well to appoint certain seasons, though it may be true that great spirits here and there are able to dispense with them.

The Whitsuntide petition for "a right judgment in all things" is an all-embracing prayer, it is indeed an audacious one, yet it is—and this is the glory of the Whitsuntide message—in complete harmony with the truth brought home to the Christian Church at this season. The truth that the Eternal Spirit of God around us and within is a real presence ever ready to guide those who, realizing the presence, open heart and mind to its influence and power. Whitsunday commemorates the birthday of the Christian Church. What actually happened on the day is not easy to say, for those in a state of high exaltation can seldom express themselves coherently. The actual phenomenon that occurred to the visible eye is perhaps not important, but what it really meant brought hope and light to a world slowly struggling from the slough of conceit and materialistic thought. Hunger for Divine guidance, though at times it is stifled, is implanted in the human breast. Man in the early stages of spiritual development had received a promise that in the hour of

need he should hear an actual voice behind him, saying: "This is the way, walk ye in it," and the heart of man is such that often to-day he longs for an outward and visible sign of Divine guidance so that the right judgments in all things may be certain and sure. And yet it is just when man grows in spiritual development that he is thrown upon a guidance which, not being heard to the outward ear and being invisible, is all the more real. The first Whitsunday was a day of supreme illumination. The light which dwells in every human soul, united with the eternal spirit of God, men and women of flesh and blood touched Eternity, and through the realization of the spirit's power a new existence, a new life, became possible to mankind. It was a supreme illumination given to a small company of men and women at a point in the history of mankind, yet an illumination which has been repeated in human experience down the ages. In the hearts of men and women it is being repeated to-day. Can mankind by any other means expect to attain to a "right judgment in all things?"

People speak of the supernatural, but it is clear to the present writer that the message Christ came to bring into the world will not be understood until the conception of the supernatural passes away. Even the great illumination on which the thought of the Christian Church dwells at this season is surely not supernatural. What more natural than that a Father who loves should guide his children aright?

It would be idle—nay, more than idle, blasphemous—to utter the prayer for a "right judgment in all things" unless there were a belief in the possibility of its fulfilment. The claim is a great one. Yet Christ came to bring great things into the world. It was His Spirit that illumined the hearts of very ordinary people on that first birthday of the Church. And though through the power of His Spirit man can and should claim, by unity with the Spirit, to have a right judgment in all things, there can be no room for that least forgivable of sins, spiritual pride, for it is incompatible with the spirit of "wisdom and understanding... of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord."

E. P. T.

BURNING QUESTIONS.

FOR PROHIBITION OF EMPLOYMENT OF FOREIGN WOMEN IN LICENSED HOUSES.

By ANNIE BAKER (Secretary and Director of the International Bureau for Suppression of Traffic in Women and Children).

The International Bureau for the Suppression of Traffic in Women and Children strongly supported the Resolution above referred to, which was moved in September, 1922, at the Assembly of the League of Nations by M. Sokal, the Government Representative for Poland. The reasons for their support were that its primary object was to combat the traffic in women and girls by striking a very heavy blow at the traffickers. It is a well-known fact that the houses of ill-fame, whether licensed, authorized, or tolerated, are kept supplied with girls of different nationalities, and are therefore the objective of those men and women who obtain girls in one country and take them to another for the purpose of selling them at lucrative prices to the keepers of those houses.

Consequently, we agreed with M. Sokal that could it be made illegal for women of foreign nationality to be employed in any capacity in those houses, with severe penalties for the keepers should they be so found, the market of the traffickers would be destroyed.

The secondary object of the Resolution was to bring home to those countries which still believed in the system of State Regulation of Vice that the continuance of that system must be at the cost of degradation to the womanhood of their own nation. A position which, more forcibly than any other, would cause them to view the matter from the right perspective, and would inevitably bring much nearer the goal towards which we all have been striving for so many years, namely entire abolition; hence the inclusion in the Resolution of the all-important words "pending entire abolition". The system of State Regulation has been abolished in Poland under the new régime, and such a Resolution could fittingly be presented by their Delegate.

Notwithstanding the crying evils which undoubtedly still exist, it must be admitted that the standard of public opinion all over the world has insensibly been raised—and that this is very largely due to the part now taken by women in public affairs—thus justifying the predictions of the pioneers of moral and social reform. This being so, we have no fear but that, should legislation of the kind indicated in the Resolution be enacted, the women of every country would assist the established organizations, whose business it would be to see that its provisions should include the protection and assistance of the unhappy women concerned; and that the penalties of infringement should fall upon the Traffickers and the Keepers of the houses, and further that its administration should be properly and efficiently carried out.

In order to arrive at a just conclusion as to the merits of the Resolution it is imperative to bear in mind that its object is the suppression of international commercialized traffic, and that the direct points at issue are not abolition or prostitution, though this appears to have been lost sight of by the majority of the opponents. These latter questions are wholly national and domestic, and therefore not within the province of the League of Nations to deal with.

Another and very cogent reason for supporting the Resolution was that its usefulness as an international educative factor was clearly foreseen by workers with practical experience. This is evidenced by the following Resolution passed by the Council of the League, which arose out of the consideration of the first, and which will inevitably cause nations and individuals seriously to consider these grave evils. The following Resolution is of the greater importance because it has reference to a cause, while the Sokal Resolution is concerned with an effect.

"The Council, recognizing the connection which may exist between a system of licensed houses and traffic in women and children, decides that the States Members of the League, which have recently abandoned a system of State Licensed Houses, shall be asked the reasons that led them to such decisions in so far as these reasons concern the traffic in women and children; and that the States in which a system of State Licensed Houses still obtains shall be asked to inform the Council, in the light of their experience and in as great detail as possible, whether such system in its practical operation appears to facilitate or hinder the traffic in women and children."

The long and practical experience of the International Bureau enabled them to envisage the value and utility of the Sokal Resolution in all its bearings.

AGAINST PROHIBITION OF FOREIGN WOMEN IN TOLERATED HOUSES.

(Contributed by the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene.)

The attitude of the A.M. & S.H. on these matters is necessarily defined by the principles of the International Abolitionist Federation. We are out for the total abolition of licensed houses, and we cannot take any steps to improve a system or an institution which we declare to be abominable, nor can we agree to a proposal which implicitly recognizes the brothel slavery of any woman, foreign or otherwise. We will here deal, briefly, with some points raised by those who differ from us.

1. *Foreign Women.*—It is undoubtedly true that "there are a large number of foreign women in licensed houses", especially in South America, but it is noteworthy that the foreign leaders of the National Council of Women, who live in Regulationist countries, are opposing the proposal.

The international work against the Traffic originated in the Abolitionist movement, and Abolitionists are practically solid in opposing the proposal.

2. *Will it Help Women?*—Regulations laid down for the carrying on of licensed houses are practically useless as a means of helping the women in them. The morals police have absolute discretion. In Holland regulations were made that no girl under 23 could be in a licensed house. Abolitionists found that in eighteen months the police had passed 77 girls of 17 and 18 into one licensed house. Holland found it hopeless to regulate the houses and proceeded to abolish them, thus destroying the traffickers' market.

3. *Repatriation of Foreign Women.*—A strong plea is made that if this proposal to forbid the presence of foreign women in licensed houses is accepted, and if it is put into force by Regulationist Governments, it will be possible under the 1904 Convention to repatriate such women and girls as might be expelled from licensed houses. This argument, unfortunately, overlooks the facts. It assumes that the Convention of 1904 is effectively carried out by the Governments of Regulationist countries. It ignores the very stringent limitation of the 1904 Convention, under which the Governments only agreed to repatriate women under certain specified circumstances "within legal limits and as far as possible". The "legal limits" depend very largely on whether the country is Regulationist or not. France, for example, refuses to expel women for prostitution. Again, the matter rests chiefly with the morals police, and these facts make the repatriation agreement of little practical value so far as women in Regulationist countries are concerned.

4. *The Question of Legal Sanction.*—It is regrettable that it should be frequently taken for granted that licensed houses are "practically legalized". Flexner has pointed out most emphatically that the whole police regulation system is illegal and unconstitutional, and that the morals police are "themselves so conscious of the uncertain footing on which their system rests that they have again and again sought its validation through express legislation". Hitherto they have failed to obtain legal sanction. It would be most unfortunate if British women's organizations helped them to get it.

5. *Proposal concerns Traffic not Regulation?*—The League of Nations can and does rightly concern itself with the Traffic in Women. But when in order to "close the market for traffickers" it makes regulations for the licensed house it is dealing directly with Regulation, and the only possible attitude for British women on this subject is one of uncompromising opposition to Regulation in all its forms.

6. *Effects of the Proposal.*—Unless the Regulationist Governments accept and enforce the prohibition of foreign women the proposal will obviously have no good effect whatever. Even if they accept it, can they rely on the morals police to apply it? A Regulationist Government might as well prohibit the houses as prohibit the employment of foreign women. We have quite as much chance of getting the one as the other. Why not then go directly for what we all want, and all believe to be right, namely, the abolition of the licensed houses and the whole Regulation system?

The A.M. & S.H. earnestly hopes that the Societies of British women will agree to pass a resolution against Regulation and the Licensed Houses without giving any support to the suggested prohibition of foreign women employed in the houses. We believe such support, far from helping to check the traffic in women, would be the "thin end of the wedge" opening the way for the legalization of Regulation.

ALISON NEILANS.

THE LAW AT WORK.

PRICE v. RHONDDA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

By MAUD I. CROFTS, Solicitor.

The above action was recently brought by the plaintiff, Mrs. Price, a married woman teacher, against the defendant Urban District Council for a declaration that a notice she received in July, 1922, purporting to terminate her engagement as a teacher was not binding on her and was invalid. It was in the nature of a test case, as 57 other married women teachers in the district were similarly concerned.

The facts shortly were as follows:—The Education Act of 1902 made the defendant Council the educational authority for the district, and by Sec. 35 of the Education Act of 1870 such an education authority received a statutory power to engage and dismiss teachers at pleasure; and it was the custom to terminate the engagement of teachers by a three months' notice in the case of head teachers and a one month's notice in the case of assistant teachers.

In September, 1920, Mr. Berry, the Director of Education to the defendant Council, wrote to the plaintiff and stated that such married women teachers as had not completed the minimum time necessary for qualifying for superannuation would be allowed to continue in the Council's employment until they had completed the full period for that purpose. Mrs. Price, who had been an assistant teacher since 1897, would have been entitled to a pension in 1924. In July, 1922, another notice was issued to the plaintiff, as a result of a resolution passed by the defendant Council, giving her a month's notice to terminate her engagement.

Mr. Gover, K.C., Counsel for plaintiff, contended that the document of September, 1920, constituted an offer to the plaintiff to modify the terms of her original agreement of service, and that on its receipt she, as a married woman teacher, by continuing in the service of the defendant Council accepted the offer of a new contract different from that previously existing; that is to say that a new engagement, continuing down to the date of her qualifying for superannuation, took the place of her previous engagement, which had been terminable at the pleasure of the Council; and that, in consequence, the notice given to her in the document of July, 1922, terminating her engagement on a month's notice was not binding on her and was invalid. Counsel also submitted that the notice of July, 1922, was contrary to public policy as being in restraint of marriage and was in breach of the letter and spirit of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, 1919.

The Judge (Mr. Justice Eve), in giving judgment, held that the notice to the plaintiff in the letter of September, 1920, could not be construed as creating a new contract, as Counsel for the plaintiff had contended, and, even assuming he (the Judge) was wrong, it did not result in an enforceable contract, both because there was no consideration and also because there was evidence that Mr. Berry, though purporting to act as the Council's authorized agent, was in fact not so authorized. So far as was disclosed in the minutes, the Council only authorized Mr. Berry to communicate with these married women, and there was no record of anything in the minutes to justify the issue of the circular. He (the Judge) was satisfied that even if there were an offer which might result in a contract it was one into which Mr. Berry had no authority to enter on behalf of the Council, and contracts purporting to be entered into by an agent were liable to be defeated if the Principal had in fact given no authority for that purpose. There was no substance, therefore, in the plaintiff's contention that her engagement had been varied in September, 1920, and he must treat her as being in the same position as she was before that date.

In his view, because the Council were a statutory body entrusted with statutory powers and duties, one must assume that in so exercising their powers they did so in good faith with a view to the further discharge of the duties imposed on them. The Plaintiff had attacked the bona fides of the resolution which the Council passed authorizing the termination of her engagement by the notice given her in July, 1922, because she alleged it was obviously based on the widespread unemployment prevailing among the numerous young teachers who had recently passed through the training colleges, but the defendant Council had proved to the Court, however inadequately expressed were the motives and intentions and the grounds on which they were founded, that their real reason was the desire to promote efficiency in the educational district over which they had jurisdiction. He had only to decide between two contending parties whether the authority had acted honestly

in the exercise of their powers in passing the resolution, and the result was that he could not hold it to be otherwise than within the statutory power of that body, and that in consequence the defendant Council was justified in giving the plaintiff in July, 1922, one month's notice to terminate her engagement. With regard to the contention that the action of the authority was in breach of the letter and spirit of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, 1919, the Judge's ruling was "he could not hold that an authority would be committing a breach of that Act merely because, for certain appointments, it preferred applicants of one sex". It seems clear that, because the Act lays down that women shall "not be disqualified by sex or marriage" from carrying on any vocation, an employer is not therefore bound to employ them in any vocation for which he regards them as unsuitable.

[Note.—Our views with regard to the dismissal of their married women teachers by the Rhondda U.D.C. were given last week. The moral to be drawn from this able report of the case is surely that it is imperative that new legislation should be passed to safeguard the interests of married women public employees. The Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act has been shown to be a hollow sham in this respect.]

REVIEWS.

The Dominant Sex. By Mathilde and Mathias Vaerting. Translated by Eden and Cedar Paul. Allen & Unwin, Ltd., 10s. 6d.

There is no doubt whatever that *The Dominant Sex* is a refreshing and challenging contribution to the literature of anthropological sociology. Too long have students of anthropology been allowed to quote the repulsive domestic and social habits of primitive races in support of arguments to prove that women must not, or cannot, do... whatever at the moment they may be wanting to do. In the pages under review, however, the anthropological appeal is used in precisely the opposite direction. Apparently, in Ancient Egypt, in Phœnicia, in Libya, in South Australia, among the Battas, the Balondas, the Andombis, the Wateitas, and in other quarters of the globe the names of whose inhabitants will be equally familiar to our readers, women have had *qua* women a remarkably good time. We need no longer be afraid of any deductions that our legislators may draw from the time-honoured traditions of the Ojibwas, the Tlingits, the Winnebagos, the Kamchadales, or the Mingrelians.

The thesis which our authors set out to prove, which they support by reference to researches covering the whole earth's surface and all recorded time, is briefly this: The social and domestic subjection of women to which we are accustomed is as much a cause as a result of those differences which we are accustomed to regard as fundamental sex characteristics. That is to say, the womanly woman is not so much a product of nature or of divine intention as of social environment. When we turn to those states of society in which women are the dominant sex it is the men who are womanly and the women who are manly. But, of course, under such conditions the manly woman would be regarded as truly womanly, and the womanly man as truly manly. It is only when we contemplate them with the prevailing mentality of the "Man's State" that the manly woman or the womanly man appear in any degree unnatural or repellant. In support of this thesis the authors introduce us to the workings of numerous social systems in which the male actually has been in a position of subjection, and in which, as a consequence, he has developed such traditionally womanly characteristics as modesty, chastity, and even parental responsibility.

As regards the future, the authors give us very great ground for hope. History, they believe, has shown large pendulum-like swings from extreme to extreme as between male dominance and female dominance; and we are now on the swing from the former to the latter. We are, in fact, steadily approaching the ideal point of equilibrium at which neither sex will dominate the other. We agree with the authors in regarding this point as ideal. The domination of either sex is clearly bad for both. However, if that ideal is beyond human endeavour, we hope at any rate that the pendulum will swing quickly to the opposite extreme and give us the few centuries of domination which we have so richly earned by our long period of waiting.

But, alas! we who read of these great changes of history are slaves of time and space; and the swing of the pendulum seems

to us a slow business. It is well that we should be comforted from time to time by a perusal of such long views as the Vaertings open up, but such comfort is apt to be as remote as that which we derive on a cold day from the thought that the world's climate is slowly recoiling from the conditions of the third glacial age.

M. D. STOCKS.

LABOUR-SAVING COOKING.

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If skill be the first requisite, equipment and method are equally important. It is, of course, very clever to be able to make do with substitutes, such as a bottle instead of a rolling-pin for rolling out pastry, a roughly made service table instead of a properly constructed wagon, but it is certainly not labour-saving.

Intensive Preparation.

Mrs. Conrad says she never goes into the kitchen before 11 o'clock, and this may certainly be possible if she depends on the help of a servant to prepare vegetables, get the oven ready, wash up utensils, etc.

With regard to soup-making, if no vegetables be put in the stockpot the stock will keep good all the week, even in summer time, if it be strained and boiled up every day; in winter it is not necessary to do this so often, and as a rule there is not sufficient stock at any time to last for more than two or three days when it is used, as it should be, for gravies and sauces as well as soups.

Some Easily Prepared Dishes.

A simple, quickly made sweet consists of Scotch pancakes with a little grated pineapple, and a few fresh strawberries or raspberries piled in the middle of each, and a little fruit-syrup poured gently over the fruit, which is then covered with Devonshire cream and sent to table served in a pretty shallow glass dish or separate plates.

Tomatoes à la Gennaro.

The labour-saving cook must certainly learn to make mayonnaise sauce from Miss Mallock. In winter Cook's Farm Eggs can be used; they make excellent mayonnaise, which is the "clou" of the following recipe:- Take firm, good-sized, tomatoes, cut them in halves transversely, scoop out enough pulp to leave space for holding a hard-boiled egg.

flat side downwards on each tomato; finish in the same way. These may again be varied by taking the yolk out of the eggs, mixing with butter, anchovy, and paprika or cayenne, replacing it in the halves of white and finishing as before.

If you are trying the first plan scoop out enough tomatoes for breakfast next morning; make a sauce with what you remove, stuff the tomato-cups with flaked dried haddock (left from the morning's breakfast) mixed with a little sauce and nicely seasoned; cover with fine bread-crumbs, and dabs of butter. Put into a pretty French earthenware dish ready to pop in the oven for twenty minutes the next morning for breakfast; the remainder of the tomato sauce can be put in a stone jam jar, covered over, and put in the oven at the same time to make hot.

MARY EVELYN.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

Offices: Evelyn House, 62 Oxford Street, London, W. 1. Telephone: Museum 6910.

PARLIAMENTARY: WHITSUNTIDE RECESS.

Although there is not very much definite progress to report since Easter, nevertheless, it is satisfactory that most of the Bills in which we are directly interested have advanced several stages. The Summary Jurisdiction (Separation and Maintenance Orders) Bill has been introduced and should by the time this is in the hands of our readers have passed its second reading.

The Universities of Oxford and Cambridge Bill has been introduced into the House of Commons, and the struggle to have inserted an amendment to provide for the admission of women to membership of Cambridge University will take place on the occasion of its second reading and its Committee stage after the Recess.

The Joint Select Committee on the Guardianship of Infants Bill has been agreed to and only awaits the nomination of the Members appointed by the House of Commons, and even this may have been decided before the House rises.

The Equal Franchise Memorial asking for immediate legislation on this matter has already been signed by 210 Members of Parliament and fresh signatures are coming in daily. Last session only 220 signatures were obtained altogether. After the holiday is over there will be plenty of work for our Societies in many subjects for which the support of the Members of Parliament will be asked.

Copies of these Bills can be obtained from Headquarters.

EDWARD WRIGHT AND CAVENTISH BENTINCK LENDING LIBRARIES.

The following books have recently been added to the library: Birth Control (Halliday Sutherland); The Housing Question, by a Former Housing Commissioner; Freedom and Growth (E. Holmes); History of Women's Suffrage (America), Ida Husted Harper; Among the Head Hunters of Formosa (J. B. Montgomery); Youth and the Race, Edited by Sir Jas. Marchant, British Nurse in Peace and War, Elizabeth Haldane; Fecundity versus Civilisation, Adelyne More; Woman and Natural Law, Francis Swiney; Milk and Milk Products (Interim Report, 1923); Women of 1923 (International), New York Women's News Service; The Dominant Sex, M. and M. Vaerting.

NEWS FROM SOCIETIES.

PLYMOUTH W.C.A. CONFERENCE.

An important Conference dealing with women's part in citizenship, legislation, and administration, which was organized by the Women Citizens' Association, took place on 3rd and 4th May at the Shelley Hall, Plymouth. It was well attended, and delegates were present not only from all parts of Devon and Cornwall, but from Bristol and South Wales.

On the evening of 3rd May the Mayor and Mayoress held a reception in the Corn Exchange.

The Conference finished with a mass meeting in the Plymouth Guildhall on the evening of Friday, 4th May, when an address on "Women in Parliament" was given by Mrs. Wintringham, M.P. Great disappointment was felt at the unavoidable absence of Lady Astor. Other speakers at this demonstration were Alderman L. Munday and Commandant Allen. Dr. Mabel Ramsay moved a vote of thanks to the speakers, which was seconded by Mr. Isaac Foot, M.P.

DONATIONS RECEIVED.

A donation of £5 to the N.U.S.E.C. General Fund has been received from the Harrogate S.E.C. A donation of £3 3s. has also been received from Barnsley S.E.C.; one guinea for the General Fund, one guinea for the WOMAN'S LEADER, and one for the I.W.S.A.

CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS.

EDUCATIONAL UNION FOR THE REALIZATION OF SPIRITUAL VALUES.

MADAM,—May I be permitted to draw the attention of your readers to a Holiday Conference that is being arranged at Ilkley, in Wharfedale, for August. Last January I had the opportunity of visiting, with a party of English teachers, the Waldorf Co-educational School at Stuttgart, of which Dr. Steiner is educational director. Here education is practised as an art, and the teachers strive for a living spiritual perception of the inner nature of the child.

WOMEN'S PIONEER HOUSING, LTD.

The third Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of Women's Pioneer Housing, Ltd., was held on 24th April, when the Committee of Management were able to present a most satisfactory report and balance-sheet.

NINA BEVERLEY, Hon. Sec. Ilkley Holiday Conference.

46 GLOUCESTER PLACE, LONDON, W. 1.

As is well known by now, the object of this Society is to provide housing for professional women. During the past year five houses have been secured and converted into open flats varying in size from the bachelor dwelling of a bed-sitting-room and kitchen to the larger flat of two bedrooms, sitting-room, kitchen, and bathroom, where two or even three women can join in having a comfortable home.

The Profit and Loss Account showed a substantial profit, and a full dividend of 6 per cent. on all shares for the year 1922 was proposed and carried with acclamation.

It would seem that Women's Pioneer Housing, Ltd., has now passed its experimental stages, and, having overcome the difficulties that beset all pioneer efforts, has a prosperous future before it. There is only one dark side to the picture, and that is the impossibility of keeping pace with the demand that exists among women workers of all kinds for a "home."

The methods adopted by the Society—the conversion of large houses—has proved eminently successful, but the lack of capital places a constant restriction on the number of houses that can be secured. Now, however, that the Society is able not only to pay interest on loan stock (as it has done all along), but is also able to pay a dividend, investment in the Society will become more popular.

Copies of a new prospectus can be had from the Secretary, 92 Victoria Street, S.W. 1.

THE CROSBY HALL ENDOWMENT SCHEME.

A meeting of the Patrons and supporters of the Crosby Hall Endowment Scheme was held at the Goldsmiths' Hall, E.C. 2, on Tuesday, 8th May, at 4.30 p.m. In the absence of Lord Milner, from whom an expression of regret was received that he was unable to attend, the chair was taken by

Sir William Plender, G.B.E. Other speakers were: Sir Robert Kindersley, G.B.E., Sir William Schooling, K.B.E., Dr. Winifred Cullis, O.B.E., D.Sc., Chairman of the Committee on International Relations, British Federation of University Women, and Professor Caroline Spurgeon, President of the British Federation of University Women and the International Federation of University Women.

Among those present were Lady Kindersley, Lady Hamilton, Lady Morant, Mr. Arthur Collins, late City Treasurer of Birmingham, Miss I. A. R. Wylie, Sir Adrian Pollock. A financial statement was made with regard to the progress of the Fund, from which it appears that approximately £9,000 was already subscribed or promised.

It was announced that Mr. John Drinkwater had promised to give a reading in Crosby Hall in aid of the scheme.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

The suggestion of the Assembly of the League of Nations to the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Women and Children to consider the feasibility of making illegal the presence of foreign prostitutes in licensed houses should have our earnest and sympathetic consideration. Many of the girls in these houses are foreign. They are ignorant of the language and customs of the country and this facilitates the brothel keeper's hold on them. If the importations were stopped it would greatly hamper the supply of "fresh goods" the trade demands.

COMING EVENTS.

SOCIETY FOR THE OVERSEA SETTLEMENT OF BRITISH WOMEN. MAY 28. Central Hall, Westminster, 3 p.m. Conference. Speakers: Rt. Hon. L. S. Amery, M.P., Dame Merial Talbot, D.B.E. Chair: Countess Buxton, G.B.E.

APPEAL FUND OF THE FOUR WOMEN'S COLLEGES IN OXFORD. MAY 26. 8 p.m. "Old Vic," Waterloo Road, S.E. "The Antigone Sophocles" (in English), by the Woking Branch of the W.E.A. Tickets, 10s. 6d., 5s., 2s. 6d., and 1s. Boxes by arrangement. Application for tickets can be made to: Mrs. A. Percival, 10 Berkeley Street, W. (Tel. 345 May); Miss Rymor, 47 Harrington Gardens, S.W.; Miss Strauss, 25 Cheyne Walk, S.W.; Ashton Mitchell, 38 Bond Street, W. 1, and 35 Sloane Street; Messrs. Harrods.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION SOCIETY. MAY 6, and Successive Wednesdays. School of Economics, 5 p.m. Course of Lectures on "Methods of Election." Ticket for the course 10s. Lecturer: Mr. J. H. Humphreys (Sec. P.R. Society). Forms of application from P.R. Society, 82 Victoria Street, or School of Economics.

GUILDHOUSE WOMEN CITIZENS SOCIETY. MAY 28. 8.15 p.m. Expedition to the London Museum.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL FRANCHISE CLUB. MAY 23. 8.15 p.m. "Utopia and its meaning." Mr. Loftus Harz.

CROYDON W.C.A.—NORTH WARD. MAY 25. Afternoon. Mrs. Rankin on "Widows' Pensions".

LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION. MAY 18. Chingford and Clevedon. MAY 22 and 23. Aberystwyth. MAY 24. Stockwell. MAY 25. East Retford and Healey.

NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE.

Next week's issue will contain an article by Miss Madeleine Symons dealing with the future of the Trade Boards; also a full account of the proceedings of the International Suffrage Alliance, contributed by our Rome correspondent.

Educational Union for the Realisation of Spiritual Values. HOLIDAY CONFERENCE AT ILKLEY, YORKS AUGUST 4TH TO 18TH, 1923. Dr. RUDOLF STEINER will lecture on "EDUCATION IN THE LIGHT OF ANTHROPOSOPHY." The Opening Address will be given by MISS MARGARET McMILLAN, C.B.E., Teachers from the Waldorf School, Stuttgart (of which Dr. Steiner is Educational Director), will take part. Demonstrations of the New Art of Eurhythm will be given. For Particulars apply to the Secretary— Ilkley Educational Conference, 46 Gloucester Place, W. 1.

TYPEWRITING AND PRINTING.

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

EXPERT TYPEWRITING and Visiting Secretarial Work; meetings reported verbatim; Stencilling, etc.; Ladies trained as Secretaries, Journalists, and Short Story Writers.—The Misses Neal & Tucker, 52 Bedford St., Strand, W.C. 2.

TEMPLAR PRINTING WORKS, BIRMINGHAM.
SPECIALISTS IN WORK FOR NATIONAL SOCIETIES.

ENQUIRIES SOLICITED.

WHERE TO LIVE.

THE GREEN CROSS CLUB FOR BUSINESS GIRLS, 68 and 69 Guildford Street, Russell Square, W.C. 1.—Spacious accommodation for resident and non-resident members; large dining, common, library, and smoking-rooms; excellent meals at moderate prices; hockey, gymnastic classes, dancing, tennis, etc.; annual subscription £1.

HOSTEL FOR VISITORS AND WORKERS; terms from 4s. 6d. per night, or from 18s. 6d. per week, room and breakfast.—Mrs. K. Wilkinson, 59 Albany Street, Regent's Park, N.W. 1.

LADIES' RESIDENTIAL CLUB offers single bedrooms to residents between the ages of 18 and 40. Frequent vacancies for visitors also. Excellent catering, unlimited hot water. Airy sitting-room. Only 2 min. from Tube and Underground. Rooms with partial board, 33s. to 38s. weekly.—Apply, 15 Trebovir Road, Earls Court.

FOR LADIES (students and others), accommodation with partial board; lounge; gas fires; single rooms from £2 2s., double from 30s.—10 Endsleigh Street, Bloomsbury, W.C. 1.

FOR REST AND HOLIDAYS.

LOW GREEN HOUSE, Thoraby, Aysgarth, Yorks.—Paying guests received; good centre for walks, tennis club, charabanc.—Particulars from Miss Smith.

LOVELY HEREFORDSHIRE.—Guests received in Country House; golf, tennis, and garage.—Terms, Taylor Smith, Marsh Court, Leominster.

NORTH DEVON.—Homely comfortable country Cottage; guests 2 gns. weekly for short term, 37s. for long; buses to all parts; bracing.—Box 990, WOMAN'S LEADER, 62 Oxford Street, W. 1.

CROMER.—A lady receives a few PAYING GUESTS in her charming cottage near the sea and facing golf links; exceptionally comfortable; terms very moderate.—Miss Foxall, Hilburgh Cottage, Northreps Road, Cromer, Norfolk.

TO LET AND WANTED.

LAKE DISTRICT.—To Let, furnished, for July, convenient Village House, four bedrooms, near Ullswater. Four guineas weekly.—Apply, Mrs. Wright Brown, Tirril, Penrith.

HIGHEST PART OF HAMPSTEAD.—Large airy Bed-sitting-room, lovely view, 25s. weekly.—Box 989, WOMAN'S LEADER, 62 Oxford Street, W. 1.

SMALL furnished HOUSE to let in Petersfield, Hants, from 21st June to 12th July; gas fire, cooker, and geyser.—Box 991, WOMAN'S LEADER, 62 Oxford Street, W. 1.

VERY comfortable furnished HOUSE to let for three or six months; three sitting, four good bedrooms, bath, shed, shady garden, quiet road leading to common, ten minutes station; 4 guineas a week.—Cosens, 16 Thornton Hill, Wimbledon, S.W. 19.

SERVICE FLAT to let; sitting, bed, and bathrooms; 3½ guineas p.w., includes everything but food; restaurant (moderate prices) in house.—M. E., 63 St. George's Square, S.W. 1.

TO LET.—Westminster, near House of Commons, charming wee Georgian house.—Apply, Mrs. Murray, 20 Langham Mansions, Earls Court, S. 9.

HOUSING, GARDENING, Etc.

PRACTICAL TRAINING FOR LADIES in Gardening (all branches), Dairy and Poultry Management. Expert Teachers. Lovely old manor house and grounds. Home life. Hockey.—Apply, Principals, Lee House, Marwood, Barnstaple, N. DEVON.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

ROLLER TOWELS.—550 Linen Roller Towels, extra strong durable make. Made from the best quality linen crash rolling which will wash and wear for many years; 2½ yards long, 4 towels for 11s. 6d. (regular price, 15s.). Write for Bargain List—TO-DAY.—HUTTON'S, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ireland.

REMNANT BUNDLES OF COLOURED DRESS LINEN. fine quality which we can recommend for Ladies' Summer Frocks. These bundles contain two Dress Lengths, 4 yards each, 35 inches wide in any of the following colours:—Saxe, Kingfisher, Rose, Lemon, Tangerine, Orange, Nut Brown, Coffee, Jade, Sage, Grey, Lavender, and Hello. Two Dress Lengths in a bundle, 18s., postage 6d. extra. This is an exceptional bargain; these bundles are to-day worth 32s.—HUTTON'S, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ireland.

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

UNCRUSHABLE DRESS LINEN for Spring and Summer wear, all pure linen, dyed perfectly fast colours in Sky, Azuline, Sapphire, Butcher, Marine, Navy, Shell Pink, Rose Pink, Coral, Old Rose, Tangerine, White, Ivory, Cream, Lemon, Gold, Orange, Flame, Bisquit, Beige, Rust, Brick, Cerise, Cherry, Tabac, Tan, Nut Brown, Coffee, Nigger, Jade, Emerald, Kesedia, Myrtle, Grey, Mole, Hello, Lavender, Fuchsia, Pansy, and Black. 36 inches wide, 3s. 6d. per yard. To-day's value, 5s. 6d. per yard. These lovely dress linens will be very largely worn this year. Patterns Free. For all orders under 20s. add 6d. for postage.—Hutton's, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ireland.

LOVELY BLUE PERSIAN KITTENS for sale; pure bred, exquisite appearance, charming characters, females; moderate price to real cat-lovers.—Apply, Miss O'Malley, 6 Steeles Road, London, N.W. 3.

DRESS.

KNITTED CORSETS.—Avoid chills, no pressure. List free.—Knitted Corset Co., Nottingham.

THE HAT DOCTOR, 34 Little Sussex Place, Hyde Park Square, W. 2, cleans, reblocks and copies hats at lowest possible price. Renovates furs. Covers satin or canvas shoes or thin kid with brocade or velvet. Materials and post, 13s. 6d.; toe-caps, 8s. 6d.; your own materials, work and post, 8s. 6d., in three days.

PROFESSIONAL.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

ANN POPE will be at the office of THE WOMAN'S LEADER on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays from 2 to 5, and will be pleased to give advice or information on household matters free to subscribers, beginning 16th April. An Employment Agency for "House Assistants" is also being organized, and all letters should in future be addressed: Miss Ann Pope, "House Assistants' Centre," THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 62 Oxford Street, W. 1. The fees for letters by post are still 1s. (2 questions); recipes from 2d. each. The Employment fees will be 1s. registration in every case; 2s. to be paid by assistants on engagement, and 5s. by employers. All letters must be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope and the proper fees.

THE SOCIETY OF WOMAN JOURNALISTS' SHORT STORY COMPETITION.—Open to all the world, men and women. Two prizes of £10 and £5 respectively will be given for the two best Detective Stories, judged by Mrs. Bellor Lowndes. Also two prizes of £10 and £5 for the best two Love Stories, to be judged by Mr. A. S. M. Hutchinson. Send stamped and addressed envelope for list of rules to The Short Story Secretary, Miss Evelyn Miller, Society of Women Journalists, Sentinel House, Southampton Row, W.C. 2.

HELP OTHERS TO HELP THEMSELVES HONESTLY.—Central Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society; D.P.A.S.'s at all H.M. Prisons, assisting over 20,000 annually, irrespective sex, creed, age, nationality. Wives and children aided.—W. W. Jemmett, F.I.S.A., Secretary, Victory House, Leicester Square, W.C. 2.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 5, Victoria Street, S.W. 1.—Secretary, Miss P. Strachey, Information Department for advice about Women's Work and Training, by letter or interview.

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

THE FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Eccleston Guild House, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1: Sunday, 20th May, 3.15, Music, Poetry, Lecture, Dr. Dearmer. 6.30, Maude Royden: "On being sorry for oneself."

ALLEVIATE LONELINESS by forming Congenial Friendships, home or abroad.—For particulars write, Secretary, U.C.C., 16 L., Cambridge Street, S.W. 1.

JOIN INTERNATIONAL HOUSE CLUB, 55 Gower Street, W.C. 1. Subscription, 7s. 6d. per annum. Dainty Luncheons and Teas in the Cafeteria. Thursday, 24th May, 8.15 p.m., Mr. McKnight Kauffer, "The Modern Poster."

PUBLIC SPEAKING.

PUBLIC SPEAKING TAUGHT BY POST.—The Postal Course of 12 Progressive Lessons, prepared by Miss Marion McCarthy (sister of the talented actress, Miss Lillah McCarthy), will teach you how to speak clearly and convincingly.—Write for particulars, 16 Hallam Street, Portland Place, London, W. 1.

POSTS VACANT AND WANTED.

MAKERS AND MENDERS.—Gentlewomen will be glad to undertake making and mending of household and personal linen; reasonable charges; carriage paid one way. Will also go to houses to mend and make; £1 a week, with expenses and hospitality.—Address, "Work," Neals Cottage, Bodium, Sussex.

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MAN AND WIFE. Wife good plain cook and good clean worker; man for boots, knives, windows, etc.

Other workers disengaged and others wanted. Registration Fee, 1s., lasts one year. Suiting Fee: Employers, 5s.; Workers, 2s. Temporary help, 8½ per cent for both, or one penny on every shilling.

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