

ON BEING OURSELVES.

THE

WOMAN'S LEADER

AND THE COMMON CAUSE

REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER.

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NOTES AND NEWS.

Viscount Cecil of Chelwood.

We greet our old friend under a new name. From henceforth Lord Robert Cecil will appear in our pages as Lord Cecil. We take this opportunity of reminding our readers that he is the same man for fear they might fall into the confusion which engulfed a certain American editor, who criticized the late Lord Shaftesbury's anti-slavery activities in the following terms: "And who is this Lord Shaftesbury? Some unknown lordling; one of your modern philanthropists, suddenly started up to take part in a passing agitation. It is a pity he does not look at home. Where was he when Lord Ashley was nobly fighting for the Factory Bill and pleading the cause of the English slave? We never even heard the name of this Lord Shaftesbury then." And who is this Lord Cecil? some of our continental critics may ask. Some unknown Viscount, suddenly started up to take part in an agitation for the peace and freedom of Europe. It is a pity he does not look at home. Where was he when his namesake, Lord Robert Cecil, was nobly fighting for the Woman's Suffrage Bill and pleading the cause of his own country's oppressed? We never even heard the name of this Lord Cecil then.

A Good Beginning.

With even greater joy, and instigated by more tangled motives, we congratulate our old enemy Sir Frederick Banbury upon his translation to "another place." Lord Cecil's work so widely transcends the stone walls of Parliament that it matters comparatively little in what Chamber he finds his platform. Not so Sir Frederick. His political activities are Parliamentary in the narrowest sense of the word. And since these activities are almost entirely negative and always wholly reactionary, we feel that in all probability he will do less harm in the Upper Chamber. We therefore take this opportunity of congratulating the House of Commons upon getting rid of one of its most destructive and uninspiring members. The removal of Sir Frederick Banbury is a good omen for the session which lies ahead of us.

Charity at Home.

We hope that, among the appeals for famine-stricken populations in all parts of Europe which are crowding in upon us, the sufferings of the crofters of the Western Isles of Scotland may be given due prominence. Very real distress is abroad among these unfortunate islanders, to whom the weather in this northern latitude has been so inclement as to produce something resembling famine conditions. We understand that the Scottish Board of Health and the Scottish Board of Agriculture, as well as the Churches and voluntary agencies, are operating actively in the matter, and that a number of relief schemes are on foot. Sir Hector Munro, of Foulis Castle, has issued an appeal for contributions on behalf of Ross and Cromarty, while the Mackintosh of Mackintosh appeals on behalf of Skye and other parts of Inverness-shire.

Foul Air.

Sir Maurice Abbot Anderson contributes to *The Times* of 29th December a plea for scientific methods in connection with the proper treatment of coal consumption. "Only the cumulative effect of public opinion," he says, "can bring reform of such conditions . . . the health of coming generations rests largely with our women; let them realize that by their influence, electoral and otherwise, on this vital question smoke-fog can be abolished . . ." We believe with him that it can be abolished, given a national effort of thought, and that it is primarily the business of the women to stimulate that effort. It will cost something, at any rate to the firms at present concerned in the production of the carbonaceous and sulphurous atmosphere which overhangs our urban areas. And though eventually the initial outlay may be compensated by the reduced fuel costs which accompany more economical combustion, it may well be that the immediate cost may fall as a burden on industry. We are not sufficiently well-informed regarding the technique of smoke abatement to know that. But against such possible cost we have to set the incalculable saving of labour and material at present used in washing and cleaning, not to mention the more remote and even less calculable saving in medical costs which must result from summer skies and purer air. That is the game which the women of this country will set against the candle of immediate industrial costs.

The Passing of a Nightmare.

We are delighted—beyond power of expression—by the determination of the world's two great oil combines, familiar to road-users as "Pratt" and "Shell," to withdraw all field and highway advertisements of their respective motor spirits. These particular advertisements, which, unlike some of their up-to-date contemporaries, make no pretence to artistic merit, have contributed more than any others to the uglification of our country roads and to the purlieus of our towns and villages. We have long been informed by writers of economic textbooks that industrial monopoly brings with it a potential economy in advertising expenses; but so far we have sought in vain for any general indication of such economy. However, "Pratt" and "Shell" have now put their oily heads together and hatched a conspiracy for the benefit of the common weal. We congratulate

"QUALITY
AND
FLAVOUR"

BOURNVILLE COCOA

See the name "GADBURY" on every piece of Chocolate

MADE UNDER
IDEAL CONDITIONS

them on their public-spirited action. We also congratulate the shareholders of their associated companies upon the very considerable sums of money which will eventually result from the withdrawal of many thousands of signs and hoardings. Other firms please copy.

Without Prejudice of Party.

The Complimentary Dinner to the eight Women Members of Parliament, which the Women's Election Committee announces for Thursday, 10th January, at the Frascati Restaurant, marks a new era in political events. Not merely are the guests of the evening women, but they represent the three great parties in the state, an almost unprecedented feature in a political gathering. Those who desire to be present should apply, at once, to the Hon. Organizer, Mrs. Earengay, 64 Belsize Park Gardens, Hampstead, W. 3, as a limited number of tickets (12s. 6d. each) are still available.

"An Epic of Womanly Courage."

The *Manchester Guardian Weekly* publishes this week an instalment of Mr. Harold Noice's story of the Wrangel Island Relief Expedition. It consists almost entirely of extracts from the diary of Ada Blackjack, the Eskimo woman, who survived her shipmates and lived in ice-bound solitude for several months, awaiting the end of winter and the coming of human help. "It is hard for one woman to take four man's place," she writes, "to saw wood and to hunt for something to eat for Knight . . . this is the worstest life I ever live in this world . . . and trying my best in everything. . . ." Thus she sums up her experience. We hope that some day the whole diary may be available for the British reader. Meanwhile we are grateful for the extracts given by Commander Noice in the *Manchester Guardian*. Incidentally, we are grateful to Ada Blackjack for showing the world what a woman can do under conditions which might have baffled Robinson Crusoe.

Teachers in Council.

On 1st January 400 delegates representing the National Union of Women Teachers assembled at Nottingham under the presidency of Miss Conway. In the course of her speech Miss Conway strongly condemned the policy of reducing free-placers in secondary schools in order to make room for fee-paying pupils. She also criticized the too free use that is at present being made of supplementary teachers and the London County Council's policy of intensive training for teachers who had received no college training. Alderman Houston, chairman of the Notts Education Committee, also addressed the delegates, and referred sympathetically to the women teachers' demand for equal pay for equal work as between men and women.

A Glaring Omission.

It is regrettable that among the names of those selected for the bestowal of New Year Honours no woman's name appears. That the omission is due to sex prejudice there can be no shadow of doubt, since the supposition that the least deserving of the gentlemen whose names appear in these diverse honourable categories is more deserving (even by the mysterious standards by which such things are judged) than the most deserving of the women whose names do not appear is patently absurd.

IN 1924.

All of us who have worked in the Suffrage movement knew that our first women in Parliament would—like their constituents, male and female!—belong to various political parties; and they do. But we also knew that there were some things for which women, on the whole, will work together regardless of party; and we hope they will!

The greatest of these is Peace. We do not all take the same view of war, but we all realize the terrible necessity of organizing the world for peace.

I believe that, in this glorious enterprise, there is a great part for our country.

Let us shake off this strange obsession that we can do nothing unless America will help us. I want America to help. I want it with all my heart. But there is to me something contemptible in this perpetual hanging in the wind till she decides to do so. It is paralysing us. It is robbing us of our nerve. Is there nothing that we can do without these plaintive appeals to someone else to help us? Let us pluck up a little of our ancient English spirit—or conceit, or whatever people like to call it—and give the world a lead.

The Italo-Greek incident of last September shows how powerful the public opinion of the world is. Let us mobilize it for the

However, the matter is of no great importance. We want an equal franchise, legal parenthood, and sundry other things very much more than we want handles to our names. Only, the omission is symbolical of something which ought not to exist.

Our Army of Occupation.

We reprint the following letter from *The Times* of 24th December, in case some of our readers failed to see it, and in so doing failed to realize the very serious problems which inevitably arise out of a military occupation, together with the valiant and wise activities of the President of the International Women's Suffrage Alliance for their solution:—

WOMEN POLICE IN COLOGNE.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE TIMES."

SIR.—It is reported that British Women Police at the Headquarters of the British Army of the Rhine at Cologne are to be withdrawn at a very early date.

Few people realize the quiet and wonderful work done by them during the last six months in our occupied area. A year ago the situation was sufficiently serious to arouse in British women a feeling of despair at the temptations to which our troops were being subjected. Every Church had its representatives working hard at canteens; the Army and Navy Canteens were there; the Y.M.C.A., Church Army, and Salvation Army provided for almost every conceivable want; but the vice and drinking were awful. We can hardly realize how hard it was for the lads sent out from quiet country villages and towns to face the difficulties. English money could pay for strong wine by the bottleful. To the German girls, workless and poverty-stricken, each young soldier was a millionaire. Figures of disease were high. There was no public opinion which could touch or influence the young soldier, while the German women were in despair at the growing immorality among the girls.

I was sent out to investigate from the women's point of view, and on my recommendation Commandant Allen and the Women's Auxiliary Police Service were entrusted with the duty of patrolling the streets and *cafés*. They were given a most cordial reception by the British Army officials on the spot. The German civil administration was equally helpful and did its best to facilitate the work. The women's organizations of all the Churches and the official welfare workers united to deal with the German girl, and a great new spirit of hope arose. The change to-day is amazing. The streets are clear and orderly; the young soldiers recognize in the women police the high ideals and practical advice of their own womenkind, and respond spontaneously in the friendliest spirit. To see the work actually done before one's eyes is to marvel at the patience, tact, and courage of our women. The German girls either dread the stern eye of the women police, if they are really bad, or, if they are beginners, foolish rather than vicious, they, too, are easily helped, and are handed over to their own countrywomen to be sent home, trained, or set to work again. A large shelter is about to open where the homeless girls may be befriended and sheltered. The figures for diseases have fallen in a manner beyond our most hopeful expectations.

With the British women are working three German women, with long social service experience, who are being trained in police work and who will, we hope, prove the nucleus of a German Women Police Force. Those who undertook the experiment must indeed be proud that, at so small a cost, the lives and happiness of our men have been so well protected. The results from the first six months make one feel confident that another six months will show even greater and better ones.

MARGERY I. CORBETT ASHBY.

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

constructive work of peace. No one has played such a part in this great work as Lord Robert Cecil. Let us rouse the nation and the Government (to whatever party it belongs) to a sense that on this point we are as one.

The little countries of Europe ask nothing better than such a lead from a great power. France will not give it; Italy will not—yet; Russia, Germany—there is no great power to do it but England.

The nations of South America, who had decided not to embark on a competition of armaments are getting uneasy. What can they do in a world organized for war? Must they not also force the pace? Or will some lead come in the opposite direction? It has not yet.

The peaceful millions of China have begun to stir. Only internal disturbance halts their growing desire for great military forces. Yet they are, by all their traditions and beliefs, a peaceable people.

To mobilize the public opinion of the world for a constructive, reasoned, and righteous policy of peace-making is the noblest task that our country can set before it. It is one which will unite people of all parties. "It may be that for such a time as this we (women) have come into our kingdom!"

A. MAUDE ROYDEN.

ON BEING OURSELVES.

My subject is frankly borrowed from an editorial in a recent issue of this paper's able contemporary—the *New Leader*. It "comes natural" for an old suffragist to seek inspiration from this source, for do we not recognize in the editor, Mr. H. N. Brailsford, one of the best and wisest friends the cause of Women's Enfranchisement ever had?

In the said article Mr. Brailsford (for I am sure it is himself speaking) urges upon the Labour Party, about for the first time to take office, the duty of being itself, of resisting the temptation of "proving its ability to govern in the conventional way," by adopting the time-honoured methods and devices and phraseology of the older parties and so disappointing its enemies and winning the respect of the "safe sections of opinion." He reminds his party that "our rôle is not to do what Liberals might do as well as Liberals might do it." The instant that we cease to be ourselves, the moment that circumstances forbid us to contribute something distinctive to the national life, the time will have come to lay our office down.

Mutatis mutandis, may we not apply this advice to the Woman's Movement? We are not "taking office," but we are taking chances of service in fresh directions and in larger numbers every year. What use are we making of these chances? How many of us are contributing "something distinctive to the national life," and how many are satisfied to do the work that men might do as well as men might do it? Politics now? But Providence has been kind to us there, and every day we realize that she knew just exactly what she was about when she gave us the quintessentially feminist Lady Astor as our first woman M.P., instead of some sobersided war-worn veteran of the Suffrage Movement, trained in all the reticences, the diplomacies, that were necessary before we had earned the right to be ourselves. It would have been so natural, so almost inevitable, for such a one who found herself in the fierce light of publicity that beats on the House of Commons to seek to evade it by assimilating herself by a sort of protective mimicry to her surroundings. Or Providence, if in an unkind mood, might have done worse by us. It might have given us as our first woman representative one of those female parvenues, of whom there are not a few in public life, who seek to commend themselves to their male colleagues by an ostentatious contempt for advanced women, and lack of interest in the special interests of women.

In another respect the "woman in politics" has lately vindicated her claim to contribute "something distinctive." Without departing from the political impartiality which is expected of writers in the *WOMAN'S LEADER*, we have ventured to point out, for has not Lord Younger done so, that the country's recent verdict for Free Trade has been largely the verdict of the housewife, who looks at the problem of prices rather than the consumer's than the producer's point of view. We may approve or disapprove the verdict, but at any rate it is well that the woman voter should bring the experience that arises from her own special functions in the community to bear upon her political judgments. But it is not enough that she should do so when an issue is submitted to her ready carved out and formulated by male politicians. She must learn in time to formulate and to force her own issues. When shall we see political parties forced by the articulate and inarticulate pressure of women's opinion to give as much prominence at elections and between them to such questions as Widows' Pensions, the rights of wives and children to a fair share in the National Income, the sanitation of the woman's workshop, which is her home, the education of the children, as they now give to questions affecting trade, commerce, employment, and wages, which alone seem to have the power of awaking the male voter to a real interest in and enthusiasm for politics?

Is it disloyal to the women who are doing such fine work in the professions, and the public services, and to the little lonely band far too small in numbers, who are essaying original work in literature and science, to suggest that they are still too much dominated by male traditions, that their minds are concentrated too much on problems which are already occupying numerous male thinkers as well or better equipped than themselves? Are there no special problems for which the special experience and functions of women fit them to make "a distinctive contribution to the national life?" The problem of population now? The real reasons for the declining birth rate as they can be ascertained only by those who hear women talk as they talk when there is no masculine auditor? The problems of child psychology, which no one surely could study so well as those who have borne children or made it their profession to nurse and teach them? The problems of distri-

bution, as they affect the housewife who is more sensitive than anyone else to the evils wrought by the profiteer who shoves up the prices of the minor necessities of life in ways that escape the notice of those who are not engaged in the weekly work of preparing the weekly budget? The problems of employment regarded from the angle of the chief sufferers from violently fluctuating wages, or ill-regulated working hours?

Let the woman of the Woman's Movement take as her motto Charlotte Brontë's saying, so recently quoted by Mrs. Fawcett in these columns: "I am determined at any cost to be my own woman." And let her not be ashamed to stress the "woman" and write it with a capital "W."

THE LEAGUE'S BIRTHDAY.

On 10th January the League of Nations will enter upon the fifth year of its existence. We shall also be entering upon what promises to be Women's Year in Parliament. These two facts may well stand side by side, for women have taken a prominent part in the work of the League since its inception, both at Geneva and in educating public opinion at home. Not the least conspicuous amongst the League's exponents are to be found in the ranks of the eight women returned to Parliament.

Let us, then, take a bird's eye view of the League and its achievements during the past year. In doing so we shall need to bear in mind that the Covenant of the League is in the forefront of the Treaty of Versailles, that there are fifty-four nations belonging to it, and that it does its work through three main bodies—an Assembly, which is really a world Parliament, a Council, which roughly corresponds to a Cabinet, and a Permanent Secretariat, which is a kind of International Civil Service.

Perhaps the League's greatest success during the past year has been in regard to the reconstruction of Austria. It sounds like a fairy-tale—only it happens to be true—that the dying country of Austria, which was like an open wound in the heart of Europe, should be put on her feet again by the League of Nations at a total cost of £7,000. Great Britain's share of this was £700, but as we shall now recover £2,000,000 which we had previously loaned to Austria, the success of the League's scheme has actually brought back this money to the British taxpayer. No wonder that Greece and Hungary have appealed to the League for economic help.

Over a million Greek and Armenian refugees from Asia Minor would have perished but for the League's work of mercy.

One cannot close even the briefest account of the League's work without reference to its scheme for the reduction of armaments. For the first time a practical scheme has been devised whereby countries can substantially reduce their armaments without the risk of aggressive attacks from unscrupulous neighbours. Even then one has said nothing about the League's splendid fight against epidemics through its health organization, or the substantial progress it has made—with the active help of the American and German Governments—towards stamping out the opium traffic, to say nothing of many other activities too numerous to mention.

HEBE SPAULL.

SCOTLAND'S FIRST WOMAN M.P.

Her Grace the Duchess of Atholl, D.B.E., LL.D., M.P., was the Guest of Honour at a Public Luncheon given in the North British Station Hotel, Edinburgh, to offer congratulations, on behalf of Scottish women of all political parties, to the first woman to be returned from a Scottish Constituency to the House of Commons. A joint committee of representatives from the Edinburgh Branches of the National Council of Women, the Equal Citizenship Society, the Women's International League, and the Edinburgh Women Citizens' Association organized the function. Lady Salvesen, in the unavoidable absence of Miss S. E. S. Mair, LL.D., presided over an attendance of 170. In replying to the toast of "Our Guest," most ably put by the Chairman, Her Grace warmly thanked the women's organizations of Edinburgh for congratulating her personally on the honour the electors of Kinross and West Perthshire had conferred upon her in returning her to Parliament. In conclusion she added that she was encouraged to feel by their kindness to her to-day that in entering this new and responsible sphere she would be inspired with that spirit of moderation and broad common sense which their countrywomen possessed in so marked a degree, qualities of which she felt it impossible to exaggerate the importance to their country's service at this complicated and difficult moment of their history.

WHAT I REMEMBER.¹ XVII.

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

BRIGHTON.

My first speech of any length in support of Women's Suffrage was made in Brighton, my husband's constituency, in 1870. Several members of his Election Committee were aghast at the proposal and thought I should injure his prospects of re-election. But we had three great friends, political and personal, in the town, Mr. Willett, Mr. Carpenter and Mr. Merrifield, none of these discouraged me. Mr. Willett was a wealthy man, a brewer, full active benevolence, and a great collector of all kinds of beautiful things: china, silver, pictures, old furniture, etc. I think his house is the only one in which I have ever enjoyed the privilege of having a Memling in my bedroom. He did not exactly smile on my proposal to address a Brighton meeting in support of women's votes, but neither did he exactly frown. He had once been a determined opponent of the Rev. F. W. Robertson when he knew little or nothing about him; later he had become his ardent admirer, but it was then too late, for the great preacher was dead; it was a lifelong regret to Mr. Willett, of which he frequently spoke, that, living as he had done for years in the same town as Robertson, he had never heard him preach. This memory possibly softened his instinctive opposition to what I was then proposing. Mr. Carpenter was a delightful old gentleman with a charming family of musical sons and daughters. He had formerly been in the Navy. His son, Edward Carpenter, well known now as a poet and a writer on socialist and revolutionary lines, was then a junior Fellow of my husband's college, and had taken Orders. He was for a short time in charge of the Trinity Hall Church, St. Edwards. When he became a poet and one of the earliest of English appreciators of Walt Whitman, and also an ardent opponent of modern developments of civilization, he sent me his little book *Towards Democracy*: my copy was characteristically bound into its cover upside down. On looking back at these far-away days and our friendship with the Carpenter family, it will be easily realized how pleased I was, in April, 1918, to learn that the Captain Alfred Carpenter of the *Vindictive*, who took such a distinguished part in the organization and leadership of the successful attack on the Zeebrugge Mole, was the grandson of my old friend at Brighton.

Of the other family in Brighton who were our warm friends, I can still, I am thankful to say, write in the present tense. Mr. Merrifield is a lawyer with none of the faults generally attributed to lawyers. He is one of the very best men I have ever known: upright, just and full of moral enthusiasm. His profession had taught him careful accuracy and caution in forming a judgment, but had not dimmed his idealism, nor his constant seeking after better things than up to that time had been possible. He welcomed every reasonable proposal for improving the status of women, advocating their education, the repeal of the barbaric laws which subordinated their individuality to father, husband or son, and consequently was a born Suffragist. His wife was half French. Her father, M. de Gaudrion, had been in his youth one of the pages in the service of Marie Antionette. In his manhood he was among the "émigrés" who found a permanent home in England and married an English lady.

The French strain was very obvious and very attractive in his daughter, Mrs. Merrifield, and in her children. To France our friend, Mr. Merrifield, gave a passion of loyalty as great almost as that which he felt for his own country. His intense anxiety during the earlier years of the war of 1914-18 almost broke down his health, and he rendered notable service to the Allied Cause by his letters to the Press, and other writings in which he set forth with masterly clarity the strength and the justice of their cause, specially emphasizing the French point of view. When the final victory came in 1918 it brought to him something that was almost a renewal of his youth. He is an octogenarian and something of an invalid; but he may be described as an athletic invalid, for his bathchair dashes over the Downs around Brighton at a pace and for distances that are simply amazing. Well, he was my best friend in Brighton over my project to give a suffrage address there in 1870. I feel very proud of my three chief friends in Brighton, and proudest of all of Mr. Merrifield. The meeting at Brighton just referred to was held on the 23rd March, 1870. The chair

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

was taken by Mr. Carpenter, who was President of the Local Liberal Association. Mr. and Mrs. Merrifield were on the platform, and so were their two daughters, then little girls. Mr. Hack and Mr. Marriage Wallis, well-known and much respected Quakers in the town, were also present, and my husband, of course. Everybody was very kind about the meeting. A working-man in the audience proposed to start a petition to Parliament there and then in the room in favour of the enfranchisement of women; but the Chairman ruled this out of order. Nothing is duller reading than speeches on issues which are dead and gone, and I have no intention of giving any account of my oration in "What I Remember." In fact, I do not remember it at all, but I know that it was printed as a pamphlet, and I hope was not without its uses as Suffrage propaganda. Our friend, Walter Morrison, then M.P. for Plymouth, told me that he read it all through on one of his railway journeys down to his constituency, and reproduced a good deal of it when he was addressing a meeting there. It is a pleasure to reflect that Suffrage seed sown there in 1870 may possibly have had some share in preparing the soil for the return of Lady Astor as the first woman M.P. in 1919.

OUR LIFE IN LONDON.

My husband meanwhile was working hard at his own subjects: our relations with India, and the unfair burdens thrown on her finances; the prevention of enclosures and the preservation of open spaces; University Reform and the removal of religious disabilities. When I first knew Cambridge no honest Jew could take a degree there for it would have necessitated swearing a solemn oath, in the presence of the Vice-Chancellor, "on the true faith of a Christian." This outrageous exclusiveness was not completely broken down until 1877, and the final blow was dealt by Parliament: it was not a reform pushed through by the governing body of the University itself. The heat and bitterness engendered by the compulsory abolition of religious tests in the older Universities can best be measured by looking back for a moment at some of the controversial writings of the time. Dean Burgon, for instance, spoke of the abolition of tests as characterized by "inherent and essential deformity," "its aim, its successful aim," he continued, having been "the disestablishment of Christianity in the Colleges." (See Sermon preached before the University of Oxford on Trinity Sunday, 8th June, 1884.)

Part of my husband's gradual alienation from Mr. Gladstone arose from what he considered the great man's weakness on the subject of religious freedom. One of his sayings about Mr. Gladstone was that "he would go as far as he dared on the road to economic and fiscal reform, but only as far as he was forced on the road to religious freedom." This divergence between the two men was intensified by Gladstone's attempt to carry a Bill for creating a new University in Ireland which was to consist of an amalgamation of all the existing Colleges of University standing. These were severally representative of the religious differences which had always caused such deep divergence in Irish life; the difficulty arising from bringing together these heterogeneous elements into a single University was to be met in Gladstone's Bill by excluding from the University curriculum theology, moral philosophy, and modern history. My husband attacked these proposals with all his strength. What right had any educational institution, he urged, to be called a University in which history, theology, and philosophy were forbidden to be taught? In his view, this was almost a sin against the Holy Ghost. On practical grounds, too, the scheme was futile, for it satisfied none of the contending parties in Ireland. In spite of the great Liberal majority which had been returned in 1868, Mr. Gladstone's University Bill was defeated by 287 to 284 in 1873, and the Government received a staggering blow. My husband's University Bill, removing the last traces of religious exclusiveness from the Constitution of Trinity College, Dublin, was then accepted by the Government and passed into law. I do not think Mr. Gladstone ever forgave my husband for this defeat of his own measure and the passing into law of its rival. Mr. Gladstone did not easily brook opposition, especially successful opposition, and my husband, for his part, never needed Mr. R. Kipling's advice to the Students of St. Andrews in 1923, and was always ready to say "at any price I can pay I will own myself."

WOMEN IN 1923.

In the last issue of this paper in 1923, the return of eight women to Westminster was mentioned as the outstanding event in home politics in the past year so far as the "Women's Movement" (we use this expression unwillingly for want of a better) is concerned. There are, however, some other features which stand out in a year not, we think, conspicuous for remarkable progress in any direction. Most of these are too well known to our readers to require amplification; they consist mainly in some reforms embodied in a little group of Bills introduced into the House of Commons by Private Members which passed triumphantly through all their stages and became the law of the land. The most far-reaching of these is, of course, the Matrimonial Causes Act, which gives to a woman the same grounds of divorce as a man, and already the good results of this measure have been commented on by those qualified to speak with authority. The Intoxicating Liquors (Sale to Persons under Eighteen) Act was a step forward in constructive temperance reform, due to the energy of our first woman Member of Parliament, and the Bastardy Act, passed at the same time, though limited in its scope, is at least a beginning in the right direction.

To turn from actual achievement to the misty region of "hopes deferred," real progress has been made during the year¹ in connection with the Guardianship of Infants Bill, the Legitimacy Bill, and the Summary Jurisdiction (Separation and Maintenance) Orders Bill (England and Wales). The movement for Women Police has not entirely stood still. In February the Home Office announced that twenty women had been promoted to the status of constable as a nucleus for a larger force in the future. Apart from this there is little to record.

Though the admission of women to membership of Cambridge University ended in failure, an amendment to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge Bill was carried, which placed a woman on the Statutory Commission of each University and Miss Phillpotts, O.B.E., D.Litt. (Mistress of Girton), and Miss Penrose, O.B.E., M.A. (Principal of Somerville), represent Cambridge and Oxford respectively.

In such a brief survey it is impossible to touch on women in international affairs, but mention must be made of the election of Mrs. Corbett Ashby as President of the Women's International Suffrage Alliance, in succession to Mrs. Chapman Catt, at the great congress which met at Rome in May, at which the women of between forty and fifty nations were represented. The increasing interest of women in the development of the League of Nations has been marked in many ways during the year, and the enterprise of the women of Wales in the organization of a Mass Memorial to the women of America on Peace and the League, which bore as its first signature "Margaret Lloyd George," deserves special mention. In Dame Edith Lytton, as substitute delegate of the Assembly of the League, the women of this country had a sympathetic and able representative.

Turning to Local Government, we wish we could record the advent of a much larger number of women on local authorities, but among other signs of progress we must find space to record the fact that there are now no fewer than five women Mayors, including Miss Colman, Lord Mayor of Norwich, as well as the appointment of Mrs. Wilton Phipps as Chairman of the London Education Committee, and Councillor Miss Bartlett, Chairman of the Birmingham Health Committee.

The progress of women in the professions demands a separate article, which we hope to be able to provide later. In law, in medicine, in education, in the Civil Service, in engineering, even in the Church, and in many new directions there is notable advance and slowly and steadily women are demonstrating their right to the claim of equal opportunities with men in the educated professions. Of industry it is impossible to speak until statistical evidence is available, but although the year closed with better prospects the black shadow of unemployment fell heavily over the country throughout the whole year. At the fifth conference, of the International Labour Organization, held at Geneva in the autumn, Miss Margaret Bondfield and Miss Constance Smith represented British women workers, and Miss Violet Markham attended as "adviser" to the Canadian Delegation.

Without question the most significant advance of the year

¹ See "A Summer Stocktaking," WOMAN'S LEADER, 10th August, 1923.

is the appointment of a woman, Miss Margaret Bondfield, to the Chairmanship of the Trades Union Congress. She thus fills one of the most important and responsible offices in the world of labour at a critical stage in the development of its activities. At a moment when strong leadership and constructive thought was needed, Margaret Bondfield was chosen to lead and construct.

Two Committees of Inquiry, on which women took a prominent part, may be mentioned. The Departmental Committee to review arrangements for the Training of Teachers and the Committee of Inquiry on Domestic Service, of which Mrs. Wood, O.B.E., was chairman.

Among notable appointments was that of Miss Lilian Barker as Governor of the Borstal Institution for Girls at Aylesbury.

We do not feel competent to survey or estimate the work of women in the field of Literature, Art, or the Drama, but the names of Rose Macaulay, May Sinclair, Ethel Sedgwick, Miss Sackville West, Sheila Kaye Smith, Elizabeth Robins may be mentioned as writers who have contributed to the year's output. We might in this connection refer to the publication of the *Woman's Year Book, 1923-24*, compiled by the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship and published by a new women's company, The Women Publishers, Limited.

Three women who left behind them work which will endure died during the year, Sarah Bernhardt, Katherine Mansfield, and Mrs. Hertha Ayrton; and, though less widely known, we must add the names of the youthful and gifted Meggie Albanesi, Charlotte Mason (the pioneer of Educational Reform), and Dr. Flora Murray, whose medical work and devotion to the cause of women claim our grateful remembrances.

E. M.

A CONVERSION.

We reprint from the *Glasgow Herald* of 1st January the following comment by Lady Frances Balfour upon the interesting event described in another part of this paper:—

"The whirligig of time brings its revenges." This saying must have occurred to the minds of many of the women who did honour to the first Scottish woman M.P. in Edinburgh as we looked down the long tables and thought of the history of each and all. There were the 'antis' trying to forget their militant past, and their leader actually the guest of honour, and an M.P. No such conversion has convulsed the country since Newman was received into the Church of Rome. We seemed to hear the Duchess's fine voice arguing, with all the gravity of conviction, that women had already so much to do they could not be given the additional burden of recording their votes. And here we sat round the elect lady, who had returned from a foray among the hills of Perthshire, boasting of her strength, which had been upheld through endless meetings, which she had addressed always with the length of an old-time sermon. Our thoughts flew to another Duchess who had used her political but irresponsible influence in the days when electors were corruptible—the Duchess of Gordon, who rode a pig down the causeways of the Old Town and showered kisses on the faithful. We prefer the responsible type. The Duchess explained the conservatism of Scotland. That has been patent to all women over the long conflict for freedom and equality. Still, the cautious Scot lingers well behind the march of progress in the lower half of the kingdom. Not long ago an appeal was put out for an object entirely concerned with young women belonging to the Church of Scotland. The chairman and the ministers who signed were all aged. Their united ages would nearly total the millennium. They were all busy men, unconcerned and only interested in the object officially. One woman's name alone figured in the list. It was an enterprise which, entrusted to the women, and specially the young women, of the Church, would have become a going concern at once. But men, and the age of fossils, were the only things that the Church recognizes. We must hope that our latest convert will be an object lesson. She has a high estate, but, what is more to the purpose, she is the elect lady, chosen by the people to represent them in a Parliament which, be it long or short, will make the history of this great democracy. Old things are passed away, and as she and her fellow-women enter Parliament we know that they will be filled with the sense of their high calling within the mother of Parliaments.

FRANCES BALFOUR."

WOMEN MAGISTRATES IN SCOTLAND.

In Scotland newly appointed Justices of the Peace found themselves for the most part without work and apparently without much responsibility. The office was looked upon as one of honour only, and beyond the convenience which resulted from being able to witness signatures, there was little to commend it to anyone who wished to do service to the community. To comprehend the reason for this distinction from English custom one would have to go into the whole legal system of the two countries. England has always laid stress on the unpaid judicial work which she demands of her citizens when they are created magistrates, and expects them to serve on the Bench when called on to do so. Scotland takes the view that judicial work should be done mainly by professional judges, whether in the Higher or Sheriff Courts. In the great cities and smaller towns there are doubtless Councillors who are elected to serve as magistrates in the City or Burgh Courts, but this does not apply in the same way to the country, and the chances of women Councillors being so elected have hitherto been slight. When women were first appointed as Justices of the Peace, they met together to consider in what way they might be of use to the community, and put forward certain suggestions on the ground that women had special qualifications for dealing with crime, and more particularly with crime committed by women and children, and that their services might be used with good effect. Most of those who were appointed as Justices were women of experience who had worked on town and parish councils, education authorities, etc.

It appeared that there was in the West of Scotland, and particularly in the busy industrial parts of the West, such as the Middle and Lower Wards of Lanarkshire, a large number of Justice of the Peace Courts, at which a considerable number of cases were dealt with under the Children Act of 1908. Now, what the Women Justices felt was (1) that it might be a general direction that women Justices, when available, should sit on such occasions, and (2) that at least a proportion of children's cases, including school attendance cases, should be allocated to Justices of the Peace Courts.

These seem small demands in consideration of the fact that in London the Children Act has been so amended that an Order in Council provides for a Juvenile Court being constituted of a police magistrate, nominated by the Secretary of State, as president, and two Justices of the Peace for the County of London, one of whom must be a woman. In Scotland we have only one stipendiary magistrate, who sits in Glasgow, and there seems to be no reason why a similar system should not obtain there. But in so far as the Sheriff Courts are concerned, it would seem possible that the Sheriff might, after consultation with the Justices, direct the Chief Constable to assign the children's cases to a specially constituted Juvenile Court. The other alternative would be for the Sheriff to summon to his assistance one or more suitable women Justices when dealing with children's cases, but this might present more difficulties. The real question is would the Sheriffs be willing to accept a suggestion from the Lord Advocate (supposing him willing and able to make it) that in the view of the Government the time had come when Scotland ought to accept the practice which has been applied in England. It has, indeed, been applied, so far as the allocation of cases goes, in parts of Scotland itself where the pressure of work makes it desirable.

As to the Burghs, the best hope for getting suitable women to take their places on the Bench is to get more women elected members of Town Councils, and once there, they may be elected Bailies and act as magistrates. We have just had one such elected in Edinburgh and are glad to welcome her.

All this shows how many difficulties women have to contend with in trying to carry out the views of the Lord Chancellor (Lord Birkenhead) in his Memorandum to the first Women Justices of the Peace. In it he stated that there are certain duties which may more suitably be performed by women, or at least by benches on which women have a preponderance, than by men and that the services of women are required, and urgently required. We hold that it is naturally not children's cases alone which should be dealt with by women, but many others besides. Fortunately, we have in Scotland an active Magistrates' Association, which is considering all these very difficult problems and which will bring this matter, as well as many others, under its review.

E. S. HALDANE.

NOTES FROM IRELAND.

Mrs. McFETRIDGE IN DUBLIN.

"Weel, Mrs. McFetridge, and how did ye get on in Dublin? I'm quare and pleased to see ye back."

"I'll just begin at the beginning, Mrs. McCrum, and tell ye all about it while ye're takin' yer tea. When we got to Dundalk, in comes a young man in green. 'Have you cigarettes, alcohol, perfumery, or confectionery, ma'am?' 'We hae nae cigarettes,' sez I, 'my man aye smokes a pipe, but he has a wee drop of whisky, a present for Andra, where we're gaun for Chrissamas, and I hae a when wee cakes I baked masel for the bairns, sure, that's no confectionery.' 'It is so, ma'am,' sez he, 'but as it's Chrissamas time I'll let yez off this time,' and off he goes laughin'. 'Thon's a brave lad,' sez Samyel, fillin' his pipe. 'I doubt them Free Staters is no sae bad after all.'

It was dark before we got to Dublin, and the crowds on the platform runnin' through other, and the jarvies shoutin' and taxis smortin' and gruntin', Samyel and me was deaved. But in a minute, there was Andra, smilin' and takin' our things and bringin' us down to the street. 'Now,' sez he, 'we'll get a tram and be home in no time.' My cousin Lizzie was at the door, lookin' out for us, and we were soon sittin' in the wee parlour behind the shop, havin' a cup of tea and sausages till it. They pay a terrible rent, but Lizzie does well in the shop, for people has more money to spend now the strikes is called off, and Andra is a sorter now in the Post Office.

Next morning we took a walk down Sackville Street, the grandest street ever you seen, with four new Banks, the Ulster Bank the finest of the lot, and Clery's shop as big as Robinson & Cleaver's and Anderson & McAuley's put together. When it's all rebuilt there won't be a street in Belfast to come up to it. Andra had all sorts of talk about the Government, and how they have to save to pay for all them big houses that have been burnt. The National Teachers is to have their pay reduced, and they're real mad that the teachers in Ulster is so much better off. One of them came in one evenin', and if you hear her, abusin' the Free State Government and praisin' up the North; there's no one like Lord Londonderry now. But all the same, their Union Committee put a big lot of money in the national loan, so all the time they believe in the Government. They say the Old Age Pension is to be reduced to nine shillin's. Pete Ryan, a decent old gardener and his wife that Andra knows, will lose two shillin's a week, and they're quare and vexed about it. Old Sir Grant Robinson-White (quare names the quality has, as if one wasn't enouch), where they were in the Lodge for years, went to England for afraid of the taxes and the troubles, but he lived no time, he'd better have stayed where he was. The Poor Law Guardians is turned out, and three Commissioners, they call them, put in; it's well one of them is a lady, she'll know what to do. They'll have their work cut out for them, sure enough. The lady Guardians done their best for the children and old people, payin' surprise visits and tryin' to look intil everything, but there was too few of them and they couldn't be up to the tricks.

Andra sez the Government has it all their own way, no one opposes them but that Labour man that used to be in Belfast, that's where they larned him to argue, I expect. Lizzie says most of the lady Members of Parliament, that's what they call the Dail, won't attend, and the one that is there she never says nawthen. 'And now,' Samyel, sez Andra, 'don't let them talk you into havin' tariffs; they'll tell ye it'll make rich men of the farmers, dinna believe a word of it.' 'Weel,' sez Samyel, 'some of the Islandmen (shipyards) and mill workers in Belfast says tariffs will make everything cheap and work plenty.' 'No such thing,' sez Andra, 'look at our tobacco, the way it's riz on us, and if they—' 'Och Andra,' sez Lizzie, 'you and Samyel has us moidhered wi' your politics. Quit your bletthers, and take us to the pictures.' 'Right oh,' sez Andra, 'that's a good idea. It's hersel has all the ideas,' sez he, winkin' at Samyel. 'Wumman, dear,' cried Mrs. McCrum, 'it's six o'clock, I must awa hame to the bairns, but I'll come in another evenin' to hear the reast o' it.'

DORA MELLONE.

NEXT ISSUE.

Our next issue will contain an article by Mrs. Cavendish Bentinck on "Anne Askew," one of our lesser known English martyrs, also an article reflecting a Roman Catholic view of the League of Nations.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

President: Miss ELEANOR RATHBONE, C.C., J.P. Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. SODDY. Hon. Secretary: Miss E. MACADAM. Parliamentary Secretary: Mrs. HUBBACK.

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

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BALLOT.

We hope the secretaries of our Societies have lost no time in approaching Members of Parliament asking them to ballot for either the Guardianship of Infants Bill or the Separation and Maintenance Orders Bill (1924). Members receive so many requests to ballot for bills, that the sooner the claims of our bills are put forward the better. We should be glad to hear of any promises received as soon as possible.

THE CAMPAIGN ON WIDOWS' PENSIONS.

It is generally agreed that the time has come when this reform has become practical politics. In order to help it on its way we ask for the co-operation of all our Societies. We wish to urge them to hold meetings, or, in any case, to pass resolutions calling upon the Government when it assumes office to carry out this reform as soon as possible. Resolutions should be sent to the leaders of the three political parties, the Minister of Health, and your Member or Members of Parliament. Miss R. I. M. Hardy, of St. Hilda's College, Oxford, has been engaged at Headquarters as an organizer for this campaign, and will be available for speaking engagements on the subject during January, and in or near London after January. Applications should be made to Headquarters as soon as possible.

CONFERENCE AND RECEPTION TO WOMEN MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND WOMEN CANDIDATES, Church House, Great Smith Street, S.W., 23rd January, 1924.

A large number of women candidates for Parliament at recent elections will be present at the above conference and reception. So far the following women members have accepted invitations:—Lady Astor, The Duchess of Atholl, Miss Susan Lawrence, Lady Terrington, Mrs. Wintringham. Visitors interested in the subject of the Conference (the Return of More Women to Parliament) will be admitted, and members of the N.U.S.E.C. desiring to attend the reception or conference, or both, are requested to apply for cards of admission.

MATINEE IN AID OF THE FUNDS OF THE N.U.S.E.C., Tuesday, 5th February, at 25 Park Lane.

The Matinee Entertainment which was unavoidably postponed owing to the General Election, will take place at 2.30 on 5th February at 25 Park Lane, S.W., by kind permission of Sir Philip Sassoon. The original programme promised to be a brilliant one, and many of the same artistes have again offered their help on the new date, including Miss Gertrude Kingston, Dame May Whitty, Miss Peggy Whitty, Mr. Ben Webster, Miss Athene Seyler, and Mr. Nicholas Hannen. Lady Brassey has kindly consented to act as hostess. Applications for tickets (10s. 6d. each) should be made to the Ticket Secretary, N.U.S.E.C., 15 Dean's Yard, and we hope that members will make a point of coming to the entertainment and will advertise it widely among their friends.

LECTURES ON ELECTION WORK.

In view of the great rush of work at the opening of a new session, it has been decided to postpone the lectures on election work which were being planned for January and February until May.

WOMEN IN THE MINISTRY.

Mr. George W. Johnson, of 22 Westbourne Park Villas, sends us the following interesting communication:—

"One of the Private Bills to be introduced into the new Parliament contains a provision interesting to women. It is a Bill for the union of two Colleges for the training of Congregational ministers, Hackney College and New College, London; and it provides that women as well as men may be educated in the new united College. A few women have already been informally admitted to the classes at New College, and two of these have been ordained as Congregational ministers; but in future women will be entitled to full membership of the College on the same terms as men. We wonder how many years will elapse before the Church of England follows this excellent example, and admits women to the Anglican Theological Colleges and to the Anglican ministry!"

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE, 55 Gower Street, W.C.1.

SLOGANS AND THE TREATIES OF MUTUAL ASSISTANCE.

The old slogans of the "Balance of Power" and that "to secure peace we must prepare for war" have been grievously discredited, but the principles are in danger of revival insidiously under the "Draft Treaties of Mutual Assistance." In the hope of furthering the "reduction of armaments" while ensuring "security" to its members, it is proposed that the League of Nations should undertake the nice adjustment of the military strength of each country, and, under certain conditions, should itself organize war. In case of hostilities or an "aggressive policy" the Council (hardly a disinterested judge) shall determine the aggressor and the other states undertake to assist that attacked. In addition defensive agreements, to be registered with the League, may be formed between two or more nations. These are only a few points. The scheme, one fears, would endanger the peace of the world. Local wars would become generalized, secret diplomacy and balance of power revived, and the attention of the League diverted from the complex task of devising peaceful methods for international settlements. Corfu and the Ruhr show the futility of believing that the application of force is a practicable function of the League. Let us, in Mrs. Swanwick's words, "revise unjust treaties; show economic good sense; develop the co-operative side of the League of Nations (abandoning all force and threats of force); recognize that disarmament will never come by undertaking to use arms but only by mutual agreements to abandon arms."

CORRESPONDENCE.

AN IRISH VIEW OF P.R.

MADAM,—As a minority voter may I express my interest in your paragraph referring to P.R. in the last issue of the *WOMAN'S LEADER*. Regarded from the quiet haven of this country, every political party in Great Britain seems at the present moment to be in a minority and to find that position very uncomfortable. The conversion to P.R. should not be difficult. It was the opinion of the *Irish Times*, which represents a minority, after the municipal election of 1919, the first taken under P.R., that it had come to stay, whereas a Belfast paper, representing a majority, stated its conviction on the same occasion that P.R. must go. At the present moment in the Irish Free State, where in the absence of definite party lines, of party cleavage, nobody is quite sure he will not be in a minority to-morrow, there is no word of changing the electoral method, while in Northern Ireland, where the majority feels sure of its position, P.R. has already been abolished for the municipal elections, and there is a rumour that the same course may be adopted for Parliamentary purposes. In 1918, my vote under the old method was thrown away; in 1922 and 1923, under P.R., it helped the return of those with whom I was in sympathy. The supposed difficulty of voting under P.R. need not be discussed. The Connemara peasant and the Dublin tenement house-dweller can use the method successfully. The moral is obvious.

DORA MELLONE.

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

Every Friday. One Penny.

If you want to keep in touch with current questions affecting the interests of women in politics, industry, the professions or the home, see the *Woman's Leader* regularly.

PLANS FOR 1924:

News from Westminster.
Women's Work in the House of Commons.
Burning Questions.
The Law at Work.
Aspects of Social Work.
Review of Books.

COMING EVENTS.

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

Discussion Meetings and Club Suppers begin 10th January.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

EDINBURGH W.C.A. JAN. 9. 8 p.m. Royal Society of Arts Hall, 117 George Street. "The Future of Domestic Service." Speaker: Mrs. R. K. Hannay, O.B.E., J.P., Member of the Committee of Inquiry into Domestic Service. Chair: Miss Amy Cameron.

LEEDS S.E.C. JAN. 7. 5.30 p.m. 18 Park Row. "Story Telling." Opener: Mrs. Firth.

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SMALL FLAT NEAR BRITISH MUSEUM.—Novelist going abroad end of January will let charmingly furnished flat for six months to one lady or one gentleman only. Nominal rent. Excellent daily maid.—Address, Box 1034, *THE WOMAN'S LEADER*, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

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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.

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

FRENCH LADY, diplômée Sorbonne, gives courses of Lectures in French literature and art to advanced students, also holds classes for young children.—For terms apply Box 1036, *THE WOMAN'S LEADER*, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

500 STRIPED COTTON HUCKABACK ROLLER TOWELS, good strong durable quality, size 17 in. x 2 1/2 yards. 1s. 4d. each or 6 towels for 7s. 11d. Write for Winter Sale Catalogue.—**HUTTON'S**, 41 Main Street, Larnie, Ireland.

LACE.—All kinds mended, cleaned and restored, embroidery undertaken; church work, monograms, initials.—Beatrice, Box 1017, *THE WOMAN'S LEADER*, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

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

POST VACANT.

WANTED, 15th January, a capable Woman, experienced, good cook, to take entire charge of small flat. Chelsea. One lady. Wages £40 to £50.—Apply Miss Bell, 70 Burton Court, Chelsea.

DRESS.

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"FROCKLETS." Mrs. Elborough, 6 Lower Regent Street, W. 1, 4th floor (Lift). Tel. Gerrard 908. Children's Dresses of original and practical design, Coats, Caps, etc., etc. Smocks a speciality. Fancy Dresses. Open daily (Saturdays excepted) to a.m.—4 p.m., or by appointment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE.—Secretary, Miss Philippa Strachey. For information about employment and vocational training, write or call. Interviews 10-1 (Saturdays excepted).—Wellington House, Buckingham Gate, Westminster.

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

THE FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Eccleston Guild House, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 6th January, 6.30, Miss Maude Royden: "Our Christian Faith: Belief in God."

LONELY? Then send stamped addressed envelope to Secretary, U.C.C., 16L, Cambridge Street, S.W. 1.

JOIN INTERNATIONAL HOUSE CLUB, 55 Gower Street, W.C. 1. Subscription, 7s. 6d. per annum. Luncheons, and Teas in the Cafeteria and in the garden. Thursday Club Suppers and Discussion Meetings re-opened in September. Discussion Meetings and Club Suppers begin 10th January.

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

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

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

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

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