THE

# CATHOLIC CITIZEN

VOLUME XXVII 1941



ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE 55 BERNERS STREET, LONDON, W.1.

## INDEX

## VOLUME XXVII 1941

				P	AGE			P	AGE
ABBOTT, ELIZABETH						War Injuries 3, 12, 13, 17,	19, 41,	52, 60,	69.
The Old, Old, Stor	y				47			77, 82,	
AFRICAN WOMEN						Westminster City Council			41
Annual Report					22	FEMINISM			
Bantu Women				64.	66	Christopher Hollis in the Table	et		13
Basutoland					10	We Beg to Differ, P.C. Challor			78
Battle of Africa					55	A Meditation, H. Douglas Irvi			81
Black but Beautifu					75	Dorothy Sayers on			89
Mabel Shaw					57	Fire-Fighting			3
Uganda Teachers					10	FITZGERALD, E.			
Uncanonised Mart	vr				44	Bombs Don't Discriminate			86
Welfare Workers (					68	Froud, Ethel			52
ARCADIA SHARED, CI		,			91	Gauld, Mrs. Finlayson R.I.P			33
ARCHDALE HELEN		. opon	101		0.1	Gwynn, Mrs. Stephen, R.I.P.			43
Woman Power				401	94	HINSLEY, H. E. CARDINAL			TO
AUSTRALIA				64, 71,		Valiant Women			9
BIESHEUVEL, DR. S.		1, 2,	, 00,	01, 11,		Huggett, Mrs. R.I.P			10
Let Women replace	Men e	vervw	here		75	Hughes, Rev. Arthur, Apostolic A			41
Bowden, Elizabeth, I					51	Incentives to Sin			63
CHALLONER, P.C.				10,	, 01	International Labour Conference			88
We beg to differ					78	Insurance National Health			49
Chaplaincy at Oxford					41	Inter-Racial Problem (U.S.A			49
Chaplains to Women					11	mi DA1 ATT	1		07
CHRISTIAN CRISIS, H					70	The Röle of Woman INTERNATIONAL NOTES			87
Christmas Sale		ougias			97			10	
Civil Defence									, 44
					15			44, 45,	
Conferences				69, 77,	89	Basutoland			
Conscription and Reg					00	Bermuda			97
Courses W M	19	, 31, 4	1, 85	, 93, 94,	, 90	Brazil			64
CRAWFORD, V. M.	D-4				00	Bulgaria			
Rerum Novarum in		-				Cuba			81
Diplomatic and Const		rvice	57	, 67, 69,	, 79	Dominica			97
Douglas Irvine, H						Domingo, Santa			72
Christian Crisis					70	Egypt			88
Feminism, A Medit					81	England			97
EQUAL PAY AND OF		NITIES				France	28, 49	, 53, 64	
Banks		•••			19	Germany			6
Civil Service			•••	41,		India			88
Cooks, L.C.C.					57	Ireland			88
Drapery Trade etc.					77	Japan			6
Disablement Traini	ng				93	Kenya			88
Engineers				65, 77,	90	Nigeria			68
Health Insurance					49	Philippines			6
Ministry of Labour				3,	41	Poland			5
National Service					41	Rhodesia, N			64
Pensions and Grant	S				77	Sweden			10
Royal Observer Cor	ps				57	Switzerland		6, 64	97
Teachers' Bonus					60	Thailand			72
Transport and Gene	ral Wor				69	Uganda			10
Wage Standards					3	U.S.A		28, 45,	88
War Factories				65, 85,	93	Jeffery, Gabrielle, Memorial Card			61

PAGE	PAGE
Kempe, Margery 43	Australia 1, 29, 71, 87
LET WOMEN REPLACE MEN EVERYWHERE,	Brazil 28
Dr. S. Biesheuvel 73	Convent meeting 53
Liaison Committee, Women's International	France 28, 49
Organisations 63, 81	Sale 89, 97
Liverpool and District Branch	Same Risk Same Rate 12
7, 15, 65, 75, 81, 89, 98	SHAW, MABEL
Lockington, W. J., S. J.	The Battle of Africa 55
Women in the Bible 1	SPENDER, CHRISTINE
Married Women's Work, National Service 93, 96	Arcadia Shared 91
Mathews, Vera Laughton 93	A Voice in the Wilderness 42
McNabb, Vincent, O. P., Jubilee 77	Black But Beautiful 75
Medical Schools 85	A Question of Modesty 4
Midwives Institute, Jubilee 72	What of the Future? 83
Morals and the Troops 72	Woman Power 50
Nationality of Married Women 5, 33	Women and Work 50
NEVINSON, H. W. (Joseph Clayton, M. Morison) 96	Women under British Democracy 17
Nurses 40, 49	State Regulation of Vice 63, 72, 88, 97
Obituary 7, 10, 33, 41, 43, 49, 51, 52, 61, 71, 79,	Status of Women 63
89, 96, 97	STRACHEY, PHILIPPA
Oldham Branch 15, 82	Women and Foreign Service 67
Parish Assistants in Germany 6	Trade Unions and Women 3, 47
Police Women 11, 17, 33, 68	Twenty-Five Years Ago. 7, 15, 28, 37, 41, 53, 61
Pope Pius XII on Modern Progress 18	71, 79, 89, 97
Prisons 60	Tyburn Nun, Silver Jubilee 49
QUESTION OF MODESTY, A, Christine Spender 4	VALIANT WOMEN, H. E. Cardinal Hinsley
RERUM NOVARUM IN RETROSPECT,	Voice in the Wilderness, A 42
V. M. Crawford 39	Christine Spender
Reviews	War Injuries. Civilian Compensation for
Angelic Romance, Helen Douglas Irvine 62	3, 12, 13, 17, 19, 41, 52, 60, 69, 77, 82, 86
Apostle of Charity, Theodore Maynard 62	War Orphans 77, 85
Benedictines of Caldey, Peter Anson 15	WE BEG TO DIFFER, P. C. Challoner 78
Black Martyrs, J. B. Thoonen 75	Woman Power
Christian Crisis, Michael de la Bedoyère 70	Christine Spender 3
Land of Spices, Kate O'Brien 44	Helen Archdale 94
Legion of Mary, Cecily Hallack 29	Woman's Creed, A 2
Murder in a Nunnery, E. Shepherd 14	Women and Foreign Service,
St. Mary Magdalen, Vincent McNabb, O. P. 14	Philippa Strachey 6
St. Thomas Aquinas, Gerald Vann, O. P. 44	Women and Work, Christine Spender 5
Shield, The 80	Women are Growing Impatient, P. Deakin 1
To the End of the World, Helen C. White 62	Women in the Bible, W. J. Lockington, S. J.
What of the Women?, Elaine Burton 80	Women in the Services. 9, 11, 19, 28, 36, 45, 57
Women's Partnership in the New World,	63, 72, 77, 85, 9
Maude Royden 83	Women in 1641 1
Women at Work, M. A. Hamilton 47	
Eric Gill, Autobiography 42	Women over Forty 2
I Too Have Lived In Arcadia,	Women under British Democracy,
Mrs. Belloc Lowndes 91	Christine Spender 1
Rôle of Woman, The 87	Women Wardens, Civil Defence 1
St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance	Women's Consultative Committee Ministry of
Annual Masses 49, 77	Labour 4
Annual Meeting, Thirtieth 11, 34	Youth Clubs 8
Annual Report 20	Zaro, Mrs. de, R.I.P

# Catholic

Organ of St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance, (formerly Catholic Women's Suffrage Society), 55 Berners Street, London, W. 1.

Vol. XXVII, No. 1.

15th JANUARY, 1941.

Price Twopence

Daughter of the ancient Eve. We know the gifts ye gave and give ; Who knows the gifts which you shall give, Daughter of the Newer Eve?

-Francis Thompson

## Women in the Bible

Extracts from a lecture given by Very Rev. Father W. J. Lockington, S.J., to St. Joan's Alliance in Australia

Much has been spoken and written to-day society. Most of it deals with non-essentialsfundamentally there is no division in mankind, each human being has a soul in which it is like to God and it must have full freedom to obey the Commandments of God. It is foolish to speak of man's rights and of woman's rights as if they were distinct. There are human rights that belong to the human race as a whole. In the fight for Justice and Charity, regarded by the Church as great human rights and the base of all social life, men and women are equal.

To show what part God intends woman to play in the making of human society, we cannot do better than look to the Bible, the sacred books that contain the Message of God to mankind, and see how this message has affected woman. To this end let us take the history of some of the women of the Old Testament, whose names shine like jewels in the darkness of

primitive ages.

Genesis, the first Book of the Divine Message, contains the history of the beginning of human life. In this book we find that woman's place and work rank as highly as that of man. The mother is as highly esteemed as the father and her field of work is unlimited. At the very opening, we find the promise of the greatest of all pure creatures, a woman Mary the Mother of God, she is linked with God the promised Redeemer. As we study the sacred narrative we find that Adam and Eve were strengthened to face life—unknown and difficult -by the all-embracing promise from God that through a woman, freedom would come and restoration of their heritage.

Through the ages we see the generations of about woman and her powers and her place in the Chosen People faithfully fighting forward, conquering seemingly insuperable difficulties, strengthened by the promise of the woman through whom their lost heritage was to be restored. That woman was, as I have said, Mary the Mother of God.

Mary is the divinely appointed Mother of all, and to those who know her not, life is an insoluble enigma. A few months ago a poignant instance of this truth occurred in London. A woman in that city, after a life of poverty and hardship, was at the point of death, and was plunged in terrifying desolation. Deprived of true religion and all its strength, she cried in her blind misery-"I hope to have a few words with the Mother of Jesus, for being a woman, she must understand." That poor soul was like a dying child calling blindly for its mother, while the mother stands by the bedside unknown. We can measure the gloomy depths of this deprivation by the teachings of the Saints. For instance, St. John Damascene writes: "Mary is the Book in which God the Father is pleased to write down the Divine Word." The Holy Ghost prepared the pages and adorned them with the pure gold of perfect Charity and the priceless jewels of His gifts.

Mary's book of studies was the Old Testament with its Divine message. The famous Fenelon in his book on the Education of Woman -which is highly prized to-day, is insistent on the value of Scripture history as a subject of study. He concludes his work with the final chapter of the Book of Proverbs, where God outlines the qualities of woman's virtues. This gives the eternal ideal of woman traced by the inger of God and shows the unchanging values of a woman's life. It has been called the Golden Alphabet of woman's world. It gives us five royal ideals: (i) Loyal devotion to her family; (ii) Joy in her work; (iii) Social charitable care for her household and for the poor; (iv) Cultivated mind; (v) Fear and love of God.

"Valiant" in Hebrew, means the courageous, thorough energetic woman and might be translated "the woman full of character."

In the pages of Holy Writ the sacred Message shows us very plainly that in the divine plan, woman is equally important with man.

At the dawn of history stands Miriam the sister of Moses; God made her a prophetess and revealed to her His plan of Redemption. The prophet Micheas, giving the Message of God, places her in the same rank as her two brothers, Moses and Aaron, in whose hands lay the priestly and the kingly government of the people. For instance, when God complains of the ingratitude of the Jews, he says: "For I brought thee up out of the land of Egypt, and I set before thy face, Moses, Aaron and Miriam." In the IV Book of Kings, chapter xxii, verse 14, we find recorded that the priests consulted the prophetess Holda "to consult the Lord through her."

Joel, the prophet of Pentecost, in his vision of the outpouring of the gift of prophecy, spoke of it as coming to women as well as to men.

Anna, the mother of Samuel—the pattern of quiet religious life in the home, is the patroness of all teachers.

Deborah was a Judge, and the deliverer of her people. Her story is told in the Book of Judges, a Book that relates the happenings of the 13th, 12th and 11th centuries B.C.

These were times of transition from the Mosaic epoch to that of the Kings. It was a period of turmoil and ferment and might be called the "stone age" of religion. There was national decadence with its inevitable punishment. The Jews were for twenty years, captive to the Canaanites. Soldier leaders of the Jewish armies were afraid to attack the host that threatened destruction. They begged Deborah to lead the Army and she did so. They followed her, and her paean of victory still tells of the heroine of the battle on the slopes of Thabor. It is a record of honour to the world of woman. Deborah is the Joan of Arc of the Old Testament

Jezebel brought untold calamities upon her people by using her gifts for evil. She was a Phoenician, whom King Achab married for

political reasons. She brought the worship of Baal into Israel and by it many were corrupted. The Court of false prophets supported her. The great Elias thundered against her and a life and death struggle began. Jezebel, utterly unscrupulous, induced the weak-minded king to condemn the faithful prophets and sent her soldiers to capture Elias. The people revolted, Jehu was made king and routed the followers of Baal. The manner of Jezebel's death is known to you—a horrible end to a horrible life.

Against the life of this woman, that like a poisonous weed injured all it touched, towers like a glorious tree, the splendid figure of Judith. She was a widow, living in seclusion and prayer. When the Chosen People were threatened with destruction, the prince and the ancients besought Judith to save them "for thou art a holy woman." "The Assyrian King, Nebuchadnezzar had resolved to be King of the whole earth." He had already subdued many nations, when he sent Holofernes against Israel, with a great army he invested Jerusalem. Stricken with fear the elders decided to surrender the city at the end of five days, to the mighty host that surrounded it-Judith, hearing this, left her seclusion and reproached them for their lack of Trust in God-you know her story. She was hailed as the Deliverer of her Nation: "Thou art the glory of Jerusalem, thou art the joy of Israel, thou are the honour of our people" (Judith 15/10). Her magnificent prayer of thanksgiving still echoes in the hearts

Another great heroine was Queen Esther, she was the Royal Consort of King Assuerus at the Persian Court of Susa . . . Aman the Prime Minister, had schemed and plotted for a massacre of the Jews. Esther by her fearless courage prevented this and saved her people. Another woman—we do not even know her name—through her son Samson delivered the Israelites from the captivity of the Philistines. The Sacred Scriptures refer to her as the "wife of Manue." God's angel came to her—Manue was pointedly put aside—and said "Thou shalt bear a son and he shall be a Nazarite of God and he shall begin to deliver Israel from the hands of the Philistines."

Another exquisitely beautiful life story is that of Ruth. A noble soul, we see her clinging in gentle affection to Naomi, yet capable of deeds of fearless courage.

Another Saviour of her people was Abigail. The Sacred Scriptures describe her as "A prudent and very comely woman." Her husband was a very wealthy man but a miserly

(Continued on page 7)

## Notes and Comments

Since December 24th every civilian over the age of 15 has been entitled to benefits under an extension of the Government's compensation scheme for raid injury or death. Under the new scheme, housewives and all other persons not "gainfully employed" will receive the following payments, irrespective of rank or wealth:

	Not in hospital	In hospital
Men	21s. od.	10s. 6d.
Women	IAS. od.	75 od

The widow of a worker killed in a raid will receive an inclusive allowance of 50s. a week for 10 weeks as some recompense for the loss of her husband's earnings.

Allowances to Civil Defence workers and the "gainfully employed" have been increased to rates commensurate with those paid under the Workmen's Compensation Acts.

New rate Old rate
Married men, in or out of hospital 35s. 33s.
Single men, not in hospital . 35s. 20s.
Women workers, not in hospital . 28s. 18s.

In cases where the single man or woman is in hospital a small deduction is made towards the cost of treatment unless the man or woman has been regularly maintaining a home for wholly dependent relatives.

We warmly associate ourselves with the letter sent to the Chancellor of the Exchequer by women M.P.s, namely Viscountess Astor, Miss Cazalet, Lady Davidson, Miss Megan Lloyd George, Miss Rathbone, Dr. Summerskill and Miss Irene Ward, which registers the strongest possible protest against the indefensible differentiation in the rates to be paid to nonearning men and women, both while in hospital and while treated at home. The signatories consider that not only is the differentiation unjustified, but that the amounts suggested for women are wholly inadequate. "Whatever case," states the letter, "there may be for differentiation between men and women in payments which are in the nature of compensation for lack of earnings there is none in the case of those not earning.'

We add a strong protest against the differentiation in the category of the "gainfully employed." Why should the single man receive 35s. (an amount equal to that of the married man) whether he has dependents or not, while the "woman worker" only receives 28s., also irrespective of her dependents?

Shortly after the raid of fire bombs on the city of London, Mr. Herbert Morrison, in the course of a statement, said:

"I have been asked whether women are to undertake fire-bomb fighting. This is dangerous work for that matter so is work with the ambulance service. The time is long gone by when women could be kept away from dangerous work in defence of their country, and if they are ready for service I am not going to say no.

going to say no.

"The women of this country have shown that when air raids come they have just as high courage and just as steady nerves as men. It may be that the idea of defending their homes or the businesses where they work as front-line fighters will make a special appeal to them."

We offer our congratulations to Miss Verena Holmes, B.Sc. (Eng.), A.M.I. Mech. E., M.I. Loco E., A.M.I. Mar. E., who has been appointed Technical Adviser to the Minister of Labour on the training of women for engineering.

Thirty-eight women experienced in social welfare work are to be appointed to the staff of the Special Commissioner for the Homeless in London. Paid at £250 per annum their main functions will be to assist in and to report upon the arrangements for the reception of the homeless at rest centres and for their subsequent rehousing or evacuation.

The Labour Woman reports the thirteenth Annual Conference of "Trade Unions which enrol women workers in Scotland," which was held in Glasgow at the end of October. Of the 82 delegates appointed by 21 unions, 71 were women. The most important debates arose on the Annual Report presented by the Organisation of Women Committee of the Scottish T.U.C., which contained valuable sections on women workers under National Health and Unemployment Insurance and Factories Acts, on Equal Pay and on Women's Wage Standards. The report asserts:

"Undoubtedly the general level of wages among women workers is too low but we see no possibility of any lasting improvement until the degree of trade union organisation is improved. The relatively low payment for women's work is inextricably bound up with the fact that about 75 per cent of women workers still fail to understand the economic and social advantages which organisation would bring to them . . . unless the disparity between the levels is reduced it will continue to be a danger to male and female workers alike"

orkers alike.'

#### ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE.

Editorial Office of "Catholic Citizen":

55 Berners Street, London, W.I. Tel. Museum 4181 Signed articles do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Society. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

MISS P. C. CHALLONER, M.A., Chairman, MISS BARRY, Hon. Secretary. MISS BILLING MISS PAULINE M. BRANDT. MISS BARCLAY CARTER, Lic.-ès. L. MISS HELEN DOUGLAS IRVINE, M.A.

MISS GRAHAM.

MRS. HAND. MISS NEILSON MISS MONICA O'CONNOR Miss J. Organ, Hon. Treasurer. MISS NANCY STEWART PARNELI, B.A. MRS. SHATTOCK, M.B., B.S. MISS CHRISTINE SPENDER, Hon. Editor.

# The Question of Modesty

W. O'Gorman, C.M.G., M.D., which recently appeared in the Catholic Times. Colonel turn. These are, at bottom, the exigencies of O'Gorman begins by recognising that "the war, perhaps this is "the secret organised conoutrageous assaults of the enemy on our civilian population have proved beyond cavil the marvellous goodness and fortitude of our women folk in all walks of life." He goes on to cavil severely at the "fashions and accompanying manners" of women surmising that we shall be visited "more shatteringly" by "the scourges of God through the modern Hun' unless there is reform. "Let women gravely ponder on the influence they exercise on men both for evil as well as for good. Let parents and teachers beware how they refrain from exercising stern control on girls under their charge." (We wonder if Colonel O'Gorman realises that there are sometimes very undesirable reactions from over-severe control in childhood and youth?)

The Colonel is under the impression that "fashions and accompanying manners can be, and are, manœuvred into being by secret organised conspiracies." What on earth does he mean by this? Do the Freemasons or Communists manœuvre fashions into being? "Women run mad after what they consider is fashion," he writes. "Their principle of action is 'Everybody is doing it!" Poor misguided women! Yet when has man run away from this principle when it comes to clothes? Flesh coloured stockings and bare legs come in for a share of wrath, not to speak of short skirts. The Colonel is really a little out of date—it is long since flesh-coloured stockings were in fashion -sober browns are to the fore at present and soon no-one will be able to wear "trans-

This is the title of an article by Lt.-Col. P. a "mania" for them or not. Moreover the "extreme short-skirt craze" will probably respiracy" to which Colonel O'Gorman refers? But we should not be surprised if men's garments were not affected also. Already there has been correspondence in the newspapers concerning the advisability of forbidding boys under a certain age to wear anything but shorts. and proposing the narrowing of men's trousers, in order to save material.

> The attack passes on to the tennis court. "where women players seem to think that as much nudity as they dare to display should be their aim." Cycling and hiking clothes are next disparaged; then back we come to flesh-coloured stockings which seem to be the Colonel's "bête noire." These inevitably lead to the consideration of "naked limbs." Lip-stick and nail varnish receive much ire. The use of these indicates "a maniacal rage to entrap the male sex' showing 'how fatal it would be to marry such creatures"-such folly would lead to domestic disaster. "Respectable ladies" are exhorted "to take courageous action to stem this tide of degradation.'

The Colonel quotes a pamphlet written by Fr. Zanetti, S.J., in which the Rev. Father writes: "A virtuous and innocent woman precisely because she is such, does not respect the evil resulting from what she calls 'fashions'. though her manner of dressing may be attended by no special danger to herself, it may be a fruitful source of the worst temptations for the men who happen to see her. With due respect to Father Zanetti surely the upbringing of sons should be shaped to environment if what parent" stockings any more—whether they have he says is really the case? It is however a fact

that almost anything may be an occasion of temptation—it largely depends on temperament. Is not our daily prayer "Lead us not into temptation"?

As for the letter quoted by Colonel O'Gorman from the Bombay Examiner—this poor young man must be abnormal if he has immense struggles with himself in beholding such ordinary sights as sleeveless frocks and short skirts. Either he should close his eyes firmly whenever he sees a woman or he should undergo some form of mental treatment. We do not wish to mock at the upholders of modesty, but we do consider that some of those who defend this virtue have rather mistaken ideas and put non-essentials before essentials. Several of the things which Colonel O'Gorman attacks are in fact quite sane moves towards health and hygiene which it would be well for men to copy instead of scorn. Other things like lip-stick and nail varnish are now part of woman's daily routine and except where exaggeration is concerned their use has very little significance. It is curious that the Colonel does not mention powder or rouge. Actually their use has become so usual over a number of years that it is possible that even he might object to seeing women going about looking like anæmic rabbits, with shiny noses, in the interests of modesty!

There is surely a time and place for everything, including dress. Bathing dresses, evening dresses, night-dresses, worn in their proper context, are suitable and modest—worn "out of time" are a nightmare of immodesty. Our Victorian ancestors would look aghast at our legs. We would look aghast at the Victorian bosom. The well-balanced young woman with a sense of proportion and a sense of humour will always be well and suitably dressed and never immodest. The depraved young woman out for erotic adventure will be immodest whatever her dress. As for men, it is for them to choose what they like. There are no lack of decent girls, and as the Colonel remarks, war has called out all their inherent decency.

It is for both sexes to remember St. Paul's saying: "All things are lawful unto me but not all things are expedient."

CHRISTINE SPENDER.

Mrs. C. S. Way, of Garthmyl Hall, Montgomeryshire, has been nominated at the Law Courts for the office of Sherriff. We congratulate Mrs. Way and wish her all success successful applicants of many, the consideration in her work.

#### Nationality of British Women

QUESTIONS ASKED IN THE HOUSE

Sir W. Davison asked the Home Secretary what arrangements have been made for the speedy restoration of British nationality to English women who have married Germans but have always lived in Great Britain and whose husbands have applied to be naturalised before the war; how many such applications have been received; and for how long they have been under consideration?

Mr. H. Morrison: In the course of the last 12 months about 800 applications have been received from British-born women married to German nationals who are resident with their husbands in this country. and in more than half of these cases naturalisation has already been granted to the wives irrespective of the question whether the husband has or has not applied for naturalisation. Of the outstanding cases some have been recently received and others are in varying stages of progress. The period taken to complete a case varies according to the nature of the enquiries which have to be made, but despite the difficulty of finding time in present circumstances for the investigations required in naturalisation cases, special arrangements have been made to secure that applications from British-born women shall be dealt with as expeditiously as possible.

Sir W. Davison: Does the right hon. Gentleman realise that the point of the Question deals with English women who are married to Germans, have lived all their life in this country with their husbands, and perhaps never been in Germany at all? Surely this great delay might be avoided in these very hard cases?

Mr. Morrison: I was quite clear as to the purpose of the Question, but we have to look at everyone, British or not, in these cases, and they must be examined. I think the records show that a very considerable proportion of the cases have been dealt

And later Mr. Wedgwood asked the Home Secretary whether, in view of the fact that an alien member of His Majesty's Forces is not deemed an alien under Statutory Rules and Orders 1940, No. 1900 (The Aliens (No. 4) Order 1940) he will see that Britishborn women marrying an alien member of His Majesty's Forces do not assume their husband's nationality automatically, but may be allowed to retain their British nationality, if they so desire; and whether, in particular, his attention has been called to the case of Private L. E. Kramer, who served in France with the Auxiliary Military Pioneer Corps, and who, for the above reason, cannot marry an English girl as he does not want her to lose her British

Mr. Morrison: The Order referred to does not affect the provisions of the British Nationality and Status of Aliens Act 1914, relating to the national status of British born women marrying aliens. As regards the case of Private Kramer, if he is the subject of a State at war with His Majesty and the lady whom he wishes to marry is a British subject by birth, it will be open to her on marriage to apply for a certificate of

The Times of January 4th reported that several British-born women married to Italians have had their British nationality restored to them by the Home Secretary being "the first of whose cases has just begun."

### International Notes WOMEN PARISH ASSISTANTS

Germany. A correspondent in the Standard (Ireland) writes that there is in Germany a development of Catholic Action that is unique. It is the Gemeindehelferin, or parish female assistant—a paid profession of women, which obliges them to assist the priest in so far as possible in all parochial duties and activities. It began some fifteen years ago, when a German priest found it necessary to employ a secretary to assist him in his writing and book-keeping, and instruction of converts. Now there are over four hundred Gemeindehelferin, properly trained and qualified, at work in Germany.

The Gemeindehelferin are not selected at will or in arbitrary fashion. The profession is one that is treated as a definite vocation and for which one must undergo a definite training. This training takes two years at a special school in Freiburg-im-Bresgau. Here moral training gets first place, and great attention is given to the development of character, and the training of the candidate in habits of piety. The studies also include courses in dogmatic and moral theology, liturgy, church music and catechetical instruction. A few months are specially devoted to practical training in parish and social welfare work. At the completion of the course, there is an examination in all the work of the course before the Bishop.

Candidates admitted to the Freiburg training school must be twenty-four years of age and must have the highest references in regard to character. Those whose lives have already been distinguished by charitable works get prefer- laws only took into account the adultery of the

In general the work of the Gemeindehelferin is to assist the priest in all his parochial duties in so far as they can. One very important branch of their work is the religious instruction of children, which because of Government regulations must be conducted outside the school. House visiting and recalling lapsed Catholics to their duty is their most important work .-Tablet.

Switzerland. At the 29th Annual Meeting of the Swiss Society for Woman Suffrage held at Neuchâtel at the end of October, the following resolution was unanimously adopted, and is printed in Le Mouvement Féministe (Geneva):

'The Swiss Society for Woman Suffrage follows with great interest political movements called to life in our country by the European upheaval and notes with

regret that neither new political parties nor movements devoted to reconstruction have called on women to collaborate with them.

Nevertheless, the participation of women in the national life is more than ever necessary.

Women are ready to consecrate themselves to this task but remain convinced that the recognition of their right to vote will alone permit them to accomplish it effectively."

Philippines. The Association of University Women's Committee on Laws recently drew up a memorial to the National Assembly to amend the Civil and Commercial Codes. Proposed amendments included those dealing with the right of a wife to share in the management and disposition of conjugal property; equal rights of guardianship over minor children; the raising of the legal age of marriage from 14 to 17 for boys and from 12 to 15 for girls; wife's inheritance rights, and the annulment of articles restraining the married woman from various civil acts, or from engaging in commerce or professions without the consent of her husband. The memorial was supported by the National Federation of Women's Clubs and the League of Filipino Women Voters.

Japan. The Japanese Welfare Ministry has appointed the first woman Assistant Inspector of Labour. She is Mrs. Tanino, a writer of various studies on women in industry.

The penal code of Japan is in process of revision and the revised code contains measures favourable to women. Where the divorce law is concerned men and women are placed on an equal footing since the adultery of the man is considered, whereas former woman. A revolution in Japanese custom is the prohibition against hiring out minors to pleasure houses or geishas.

# Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, March 15th. Nominations for Committee and resolutions for the Agenda must reach the Secretary not later than February 10th.

We remind members that nominations must be duly proposed and seconded and the consent of the candidate obtained.

Subscriptions to the Alliance and to the "Cathoric Citizen" are now due. We beg all our friends to send their subscriptions without delay, and thus saveextra work and expense at the Uffice. We remind subscribers that owing to increased rate of postage the minimun subscription to the "Catholic Citizen" is now 3s. Minimum annual subscription to the Alliance is 1s. at the same time we remind members that 1s. does not cover even the expense of sending notices especially nowadays and we suggest to them that they should make 5s. the minimun subscription to include the "Catholic Citizen."

#### Women in the Bible

(Continued from page 2)

boor. His flocks had been protected for many months from marauding Arabs, by David and his followers. When David asked for a few sheep for food for his followers, in recompense for their service, he was churlishly refused-David, blazing with anger, swore that he would put the man and his servants to the sword and seize his possessions.

One of the servants of the churl set off to explain the danger to Abigail, confident that she lone could prevent the threatened catastrophe, and so it proved. Abigail prepared a caravan of gifts and set out to meet David. She found him advancing to the attack at the head of his followers and pleaded with him wisely and success-

The history of the Queen of Sheba is well known to you. The Sacred Scriptures tell us that she came to Solomon "after a long journey" because she had heard of his great wisdom. Womanlike "she tried him with questions." Solomon received and treated her as an equal.

I might, if time permits, speak to you of Queen Respha, who watched night and day through long months, the dead bodies of her splendid sons; of the heroic daughter of Jeptha, filially obedient to death; of the mother of the courage to face torture and awful death for God and dying with them; of the widow of Sareptha; of the Sunamite woman; of Anna the wife of Tobias; of Josabeth, who at the risk of her own life saved and guarded the King of Israel, the ancestor of our Saviour.

But the instances I have selected, though few, are sufficient to show the part that God has destined woman to play in the Redemption of Martin-in-the-Fields of Miss Amy Johnson, the human race.

HON. TREASURER'S NOTE

The sum of £17 4s. was made by the "Christmas Sale" in December. We thank all those who sent donations to the imaginary sale and those who bought things from the Office. Unfortunately the response was not nearly as good as usual, with the result that we end 1940 with a deficit. Please begin the New Year well with sending in your subscriptions

Memorial Fund.—Thanks to a donation of £1 3s. from Miss S. P. McEntee, Ph.D., of U.S.A., and a donation of 3s. from Miss C. E. L. Grant, the fund I. M. ORGAN. has now reached £105 15s.

Liverpool and District Branch: Hon. Secretary, Miss Bowden, 22 Jehu Grove, Liverpool 8.

Many members are giving their services in canteens. The Secretary helps in a Rest Centre and the Secretary and Chairman assist at the Committee meetings of the Liverpool Council of Social Service.

We offer our sympathy to our Chairman who has been bombed out of her home.

A letter has been sent to the Birkenhead Town Council begging for the appointment of an adequate number of fully attested policewomen. The matter has been referred back for discussion. It was only considered again after much pressure from outside

#### Twenty-Five Years Ago

Leonora de Alberti in the Catholic Suffragist, January 15th, 1916:

Let us bear in mind that it is quite impossible to prevent married women from working, though it may be possible to shut certain trades to them, no one has attempted to drive them from the wash-tubs or from charing, nor will they be prevented from doing home work, the most ill-paid of all. And always it is only the poorer classes who can be dictated to .-Christian Feminism.

#### Obituary

We ask the prayers of our readers for the repose of the soul of our member, Miss C. E. Buckley, who died recently. Miss Buckley devoted much of her life to the Apostleship of the Sea in Genoa, where she did splendid work.

We also ask prayers for Mother Christian, Superior of the Ladbroke Square Convent of the Missionary of Our Lady of Africa (White Sisters), who died recently at the age of 47. Mother Christian, who laboured in Africa for Machabees and her seven sons, giving them many years, was much interested in our work for the raising of the status of African women. In 1934 she spoke for us on the position of native women in North Africa and her speech was reproduced in the Catholic Citizen. We offer our sympathy to the White Sisters in their loss. R.I.P.

Miss Kathleen FitzGerald, B.A., represented the Alliance at the Memorial Service in St. pioneer airwoman.

# ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE.

NON-PARTY

Office-55, Berners St., Oxford St., London, W.I.
Patron: Saint Joan of Arc. Colours: Blue, White & Gold
Organ-"The Catholic Citizen," 2d. monthly.

#### OBJECT.

To band together Catholics of both sexes, in order to secure the political, social and economic equality between men and women, and to further the work and usefulness of Catholic women as citizens

#### MEMBERSHIP.

All Catholic women are eligible as Members, who approve the object and methods, and will pay a minimum annual subscription of 1s. Men are invited to join as Associates, on the same conditions, with the exception that they may not elect or be elected to the Executive.

#### THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S NEWS

For 34 years a channel of friendship between the women of many countries now comes under the management of the Women's Publicity Planning Association.

It will provide a platform for the expression of the views of all who believe that women must share the responsibility of planning the new social order.

For further particulars write to-

14 Dartmouth Street, Westminster, S.W.I

#### THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE CLUB 42 Emperor's Gate, S.W.7.

A Residential Club for Professional Women and Students Visitors taken for short periods.

Terms from £1 15s. to £2 9s. partial board. For further particulars apply—The Secretary. Telephone: Western 3738.

## Booksellers to the World

# FOR BOOKS

Large Dept. For Books on Religion
JOIN THE CATHOLIC BOOK CLUB!

Members buy outstanding Catholic Books (published at 7/6, 10/6 & 12/6)
For only 2/6

113-125 CHARING CROSS RD., LONDON,

Telephone: Gerrard 5660 (16 lines)

# A. FRANCE & SON

(Holborn) Ltd.

## CATHOLIC FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Head Office, Holborn 4901
45 Lambs Conduit Street, W.C.1
PRIVATE CHAPELS OF REST



# RHEUMATISM

£5,000

#### URGENTLY NEEDED

to complete the Ward, Treatment Rooms, and Research Laboratory of the first research department established by the Empire Rheumatism Council (President: H.R.H. The Duke of Gloucester, K.G., P.C., G.C.V.O.) at

# THE HOSPITAL OF ST. JOHN & ST. ELIZABETH

St. John's Wood, N.W.8

Send your donation NOW to the Secretary

DHB

# THE YOUNG CHRISTIAN WORKERS

". . . This multitude of young people in whom so many hopes for civil and religious society repose."—Pope Pius XI.

Read more about this Catholic Action
Youth Movement in

### "The YOUNG CHRISTIAN WORKER"

Written and Produced by Catholic Working Youth.
Published Monthly.
3s. per annum, post free.

Obtainable from

YOUNG CHRISTIAN WORKERS, 56 Bridge Lane, London, N.W.11 (Tel: SPEedwell 7098).