

THE  
**WOMAN'S LEADER**

IN POLITICS                      IN INDUSTRY                      IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
IN THE HOME                      IN LITERATURE AND ART                      IN THE PROFESSIONS

AND  
**THE COMMON CAUSE**

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**NOTES AND NEWS**

**Equal Franchise at Home.**

Mr. Lloyd George, in reply to questions by Mr. Lunn (Rothwell, Lab.) and other members, whether it was proposed to introduce legislation giving the vote to women on the same terms as to men, said:—"No, Sir. I do not think that it would be wise to re-open again, after so short an interval, franchise questions which were settled by general agreement in the last Parliament." Mr. A. Williams (Consett, Liberal) then asked the Prime Minister how he reconciled this with his previous declaration for equal rights for men and women, but Mr. Lloyd George, with his usual ability in evading awkward questions, ignored the questioner.

**Equal Franchise in Ireland.**

The position is now somewhat less obscure. It is clear, both from the text of the measure read a first time in the House of Commons on Thursday last, and from statements made in Ireland by Mr. Collins, that the coming elections in Southern Ireland will be held on the present register. The body elected will be something more than a Constituent Assembly, as apparently it will have power to pass general legislation, though its main business will be to draft the Constitution of the Free State. Once this Constitution is drafted, the Assembly will be dissolved and the first Parliament of the Free State elected. It may safely be left to the women's societies to secure inclusion of an equal franchise clause in the Constitution, and also provision that it shall come into effect before the elections which will follow the final enactment of that measure.

**Famine Relief.**

Dr. Nansen's appeal seems to have fallen on deaf ears as far as the Government is concerned. Last week, in the House, Commander Kenworthy asked the Prime Minister whether his attention had been drawn to Dr. Nansen's recent statements, and what steps are contemplated by the Government. Mr. Lloyd George, in his most suave manner, replied that "the Government are fully alive to the terrible state of the famine-stricken

areas of Russia, and in spite of the heavy burdens resting on the shoulders of this country owing to the recent war, and the consequent trade disturbance, they have already made substantial contributions of material and stores to assist in alleviating the suffering. They hope to give further assistance in the same direction." He went on to say that the only hope for Russia lay in bringing her into closer community with the rest of Europe, and that could only be done on the conditions settled by the Supreme Council at Cannes. He looked forward to the Genoa Conference as a means of establishing these conditions on a firm and workable basis. But, meanwhile, human beings are dying daily in their hundreds, and falling, in their agony, below the level of the wild beasts, while we stand by and haggle over our pound of flesh. The peasants are suffering the most horrible tortures, while the Governments of the West hardly lift a finger to help them. The material and stores, what are they in comparison with America's generous gift of £5,000,000? We should be ashamed to give so poor a gift. Even if we set our own unemployed to work on the vitally necessary agricultural implements we should be doing something, and solving some of our own problems at the same time. Genoa promises great things, but in view of the Note from France, there may be delay, and the starving, tortured children cannot wait. The Government must be made to change its mind, and every member must reflect the public opinion in his constituency. This is everybody's business if they do not wish history to condemn our nation and our generation for this appalling breakdown of humanity and Christianity.

**The Asylums Inquiry.**

Sir Alfred Mond has admitted that an inquiry may have to be made into the question of the Lunacy Laws by a Royal Commission in the near future. This is an example of the result of the pressure of public opinion, and we must not be content with the Minister of Health's vague promises. There is a strong feeling in the country that an inquiry should be made by men and women with complete independence of outlook, and we must insist that Sir Alfred Mond's Departmental Committee shall not take the place of a Royal Commission, whose report must be



acted on, and not shelved as so many others have been. Changes in the law are necessary, and the Minister of Health must face facts and be prepared to deal fully with the situation which confronts him.

#### The Death Sentence on Young Mothers.

Mr. Arthur Henderson gave notice last week of the Bill which our readers will remember we described in a recent issue. It provides that a woman charged with the murder of her infant child may be convicted of manslaughter if at the time of the offence, she had not fully recovered from the effects of childbirth. We hope this Bill will go through.

#### Admission of Women to the Exchange in Germany.

German women are now admitted to the Exchange, from which, up to the present, they have been legally excluded. The women's organisations have been working for some time for the removal of this restriction, and, finally, in December, a motion to abolish the clause excluding women in Section 7 of the Exchange Law passed its first, second, and third readings, and was carried unanimously without a debate by the Reichstag. We can also prophesy another step forward. Up to 1920 German women had neither the right to vote for the Wards of Commercial Courts, nor were they eligible to sit on them. In 1920 the law was altered and the right to vote was granted, but in a special clause persons who are not qualified for office as jurors are not eligible for the Trade and Commercial Courts, although "persons of the female sex are eligible." It is not yet possible for women to become jurors, so that, as far as their eligibility for the Courts is concerned, they have in no way advanced. The Jurors Bill, however, is to be one of the first things the Reichstag will deal with this session, and there is every hope of its passing, and thus opening not only the important sphere of jury service, but also the door of the Commercial Courts to women.

#### Mme. Curie.

As prophesied in these columns last week, Mme. Curie has been elected a Free Associate Member of the Academy of Medicine in place of the late Edmond Périer, Director of the Museum. We are glad her male rivals had the grace to withdraw voluntarily, but in any case her election was probable. Mme. Curie is the first woman elected a member by any Academy of France during the last 150 years.

#### The Purchase of Chinese Girls

The Salvation Army has recently bought one hundred Chinese girls from their parents at 30s. each in order to save them from a life of shame. We have often in this paper drawn the attention of our readers to the system of child slavery which exists in Hong Kong and other parts of China, and now that Parliament has reassembled pressure should be put on Members to have this state of affairs altered in any part of the world for which the British Empire is responsible. It cannot and should not be left to private endeavour to save these children. The Salvation Army was desirous of buying more girls in the districts where the famine is raging, but the cost of maintaining them is too great. As we go to press a Conference is being held at the Caxton Hall to protest against this system of child slavery. We hope it will rouse public opinion to the gravity of the situation.

#### Commandant Allen and Other Women Candidates.

We learn that Mrs. Lamartine Yates is not now standing as a prospective Independent candidate for North Lambeth at the L.C.C. Elections, but that Commandant Mary S. Allen, O.B.E., is contesting North Lambeth as an Independent candidate in her place. Her Committee Room is at 107, Lower Marsh, S.E., and she would much appreciate any help which can be given her. Other prospective women candidates whose names have not as yet been noted in these columns are Miss Ida Samuel (Progressive), standing for Finsbury; Mrs. Campbell (Labour), for West Islington; Mrs. Merrifield (Labour), for Chelsea; Mrs. Lineham (Labour), for Fulham; and Mrs. Drake (Labour), for North Kensington.

#### Children and Shakespeare.

Mr. Fisher, in the House last week, said he proposed to amend Article 44 of the Code of Regulations for public elementary schools so as to make it clear that attendances of children at demonstrations or performances designed to illustrate and supplement the studies of the scholars in the subjects of the curriculum might, under certain conditions, be reckoned as

attendances at school. This is obviously the sequel to the L.C.C. fight on this question a short time ago. It was then decided that there was no definition in the educational code of what constituted elementary education, and it was decided that attendance at performances of Shakespearean plays was not "a visit during school hours to places of educational value and interest." Mr. Fisher's proposal is a little vague, and his answers about the extra cost involved were as conciliatory as possible. It depended, according to him, entirely on the action of the local authorities. Irate members who were not convinced by this reply will have an opportunity of airing their grievances when the proposed amendment of the code is laid before the House.

#### Inadequate Nursing Staffs.

A recent case of death in the Poot Law Infirmary at Norwich draws attention to the burning question of the inadequacy of the nursing staffs in these institutions. A patient, who had had a leg amputated, died within an hour and a half of the operation from cardiac failure. He had been in the institution for a fortnight, but his brother was only notified three hours before the operation took place. At the inquest it transpired that the resident medical officer signed the sick notice to be sent to the patient's relations three days before the operation, but the over-worked nurses found no time to despatch it earlier. The Sister-in-Charge of the ward was responsible for 124 cases, and the man had to be left for five minutes while the nurse attended to another patient. The Sister and two junior probationers constituted the nursing staff of the entire male hospital at the time. The Doctor said he had complained to the Guardians several times, and was amazed that no catastrophe had occurred before. The man should not have been left for a moment for at least an hour and a half after returning to the ward. The Sister did more than could be expected of her with the staff at her disposal. The Coroner said the Guardians should look into the matter of the staffing of the hospital, but the Clerk to the Guardians disagreed, and said that, as a matter of fact, they were over-staffed with nurses! What chance the probationers have in such an understaffed hospital to learn the principles underlying their profession, or to come up to the standards required by the General Nursing Council is another, and almost equally important, question. Outside pressure must be brought to bear on the Guardians, for this state of things is scandalous.

#### Women Police.

One peculiarity of the Geddes Report which will strike all women, is the tone of its reference to Women Police. Their powers may indeed be limited; the women's societies have expressed their opinion forcibly on this subject many times. But to assert that "their utility from a police point of view is, on the evidence submitted to us, negligible," is to show that the members of the Committee have not read the Report of the Home Office Committee on Women Police, nor the evidence placed before it by Chief Constables and others. Even with their limited powers, the Women Police have saved the country a great deal of expense by cautioning and advising girls and women who would otherwise have gone to greater lengths, until they found themselves in the police courts and a charge upon the country as short-sentence prisoners. The saving in round terms of pounds, shillings and pence is always hard to compute in such circumstances, but anyone privileged to see statistics dealing with the work of the Metropolitan Women Patrols knows that their preventive work, in the way of warning girls, finding shelters, passing on to homes, restoring lost or runaway children is a most impressive piece of national economy. That it is also a legitimate and important form of police work is fully recognised in the Report of the Departmental Committee. One attempt at least has already been made to prejudice public opinion against them on the score of expense. The *Daily Mail* of February 13th asserted that the total cost of the Metropolitan Women Police was £50,000, which works out at £500 a head. It was stated by the Home Secretary last October, in reply to a question of Sir John Rees, that the total cost was slightly under £170 a head. We shall await an explanation of this remarkable discrepancy with interest.

**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.

## THE ECONOMY AXE.

The publication of the Geddes Report, with its massed ranks of figures and its wholesale indictment of unnecessary expenditure, has given rise to a flood of comment. We are not directly concerned, in this paper of ours, with the details of national expenditure, nor with such questions as the establishment of a Ministry of Defence. Not that we could not, if we chose, say a lot about each one of the disputed matters; but if we did, some of our readers might very possibly—in fact would very certainly disagree with what we said, and fall upon us with well-merited abuse for departing from our impartial treatment of matters not coming within our own proper scope.

For all our necessary caution in the matter however, there is one observation arising out of the Geddes Report which we feel compelled to make, and that is concerning education. We deplore the suggestion that education is a good field for economy, and the contention, both implied and expressed, that money spent on the training of young children is money wasted. Nothing, in our view, is more erroneous, and nothing is more shortsighted than to cut down our efforts in this direction. It might be, in fact it is, true that they are not entirely successful; but the shortcomings of our system are not that it is wasteful and extravagant, but rather that it is so pinched and hampered that development and experiment are frustrated. What we need really is far more, and not far less education—and this in the interests of national finance as much as in the interests of anything else. How are we to recover the stability and good trade which we need with an ill-educated and imperfectly prepared people?

We must not, however, follow out this line of thought any further, since it leads straight into controversy: we must come back to our proper thesis, which is that the suggestion that education is a good subject for wide retrenchments shows the great need still remaining for women and still more women in public life. Great though the similarities of men and women are and closely as their interests are tied up together, it is quite undeniable that the two sexes have a different way of thinking of their children. And we believe it would be altogether impossible to find any responsible set of women who would put forward the view that if savings were needed it should be the children who should suffer first. Bad though our monetary position may be, we are not starving: yet even if we were, women would not cut off the children's food until they had starved themselves. Everyone knows this in the case of individuals, and in such a matter as food, which is habitually in women's control. Yet when it comes to things on a wider scale, to the direction not of a family budget but of a nation's, then the women drop out of power and the children cease to come first. We cannot but think that this example of the mentality of "business men" ought to be a warning example indeed. Statesmanship, and Government expenditure, and public policy are matters of concern to us all, and "business men," and their ways of thought, are fortunately only a part of our people. The British nation is not a limited liability company run for the profit of its shareholders. It is much more like an estate left in trust for the benefit of posterity, and therefore it will be fantastic and absurd if we allow the standards of relative importance which come naturally to the brains of the Geddes Committee to influence the development of our social institutions.

While we are treating of this report we cannot refrain from regretting its attack upon the Women Police. The report says that their "police functions proper" are negligible, and that they can therefore be swept away. But what are "police functions proper"? To the mind of one section of the community they are the dealing with drunk and disorderly bullies; to the mind of another they are the regulation of traffic. To our mind they are all these and more, but they are also those invaluable preventive tasks which our women Police and Patrols have so admirably carried out. We are confident that their loss will simply result in a greater expenditure on juvenile crime. It is a deplorable recommendation.

For the rest we must restrain our opinions; we will only add that taking it all in all, the next time a Government wants an expert Committee with an Axe it would be well advised to put some women upon it.

## NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER.

By OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT.

The first week of Parliamentary business has been taken up with the usual discursive debates on the Address. On Wednesday, the 8th, the debate began with foreign affairs, a vigorous attack upon the Government being opened by Lord Robert Cecil, and backed up by Captain Colin Coote. From this depressing subject it passed to the subject of Ulster, and ended with a smart duel between Mr. Oswald Mosley and Mr. Churchill. Duelling with words is coming back into political favour, and already this House has seen a number of more or less polished examples of it. Thursday was given over to unemployment, when the Labour Party made out their case very fully. Nothing practical emerged from the debate however, and the House is still convinced that the only possible remedy is that recovery of trade which depends upon so many and such abstruse factors.

Friday's debate was upon agriculture—a rambling and unsatisfactory affair, from which the only thing which emerged was the evident expectation on all sides of a bad prospect ahead. The Government's statements of to-day do not bear a very close comparison with those of the same men on the same subject two years ago. But no doubt this would be a hard test to apply in these bewildering times.

By Monday the Geddes Report was in the hands of members, and the Admiralty had made its amazing publication. The Government has done itself and its prestige no good—in the House at any rate—by allowing this procedure. A public dog fight among the State Departments and the Geddes Committee with the Cabinet as referee, is not exactly an edifying spectacle, and the House does not like such abrogation of authority. This matter, upon which feeling runs high, somewhat obscured Mr. Asquith's economy speech, and his attack upon the proposed cut in education lost force from the general belief that it is not really going to be made.

As we go to press India is under discussion. It is a problem as difficult as any which this country is facing to-day.

Two events of special importance to the readers of this paper have happened in the week, the first being the explicit declaration of the Prime Minister, in answer to a question from the Labour Party, that he did not propose to re-open the franchise question by introducing a Bill to give votes to women on the same terms as men. This declaration has not been altogether unexpected; but it is none the less unwelcome for that, and in the face of it, and of the Civil Service position, the famous equality pledge of 1918 has a decidedly hollow sound. It is well known that Governments seldom introduce franchise bills until they are about to go to the country, and it is well known also that the next election will not be very long delayed. If this measure of justice was to be done—and the demand for it in the country is noticeably strong—then the present moment would be the right one to do it. Now that the Government has definitely refused, we know where we are.

The other important matter is the result of the private members' ballot for time to introduce their own measures. It has been a very curious thing to see how consistently luck and chance have favoured the women's causes in this matter from the year 1860 onwards. This year has not been an exception, and although, of course, as the readers of this paper know, procedure by private members' bills is not very often effective, it is always much better than no Parliamentary opportunity at all.

The three special Bills which have secured places are The Separation and Maintenance Orders Bill, introduced by Sir Robert Newman, and coming third; the Children of Unmarried Parents Bill, and the Guardianship of Infants Bill, which come ninth and tenth. By mutual arrangement it is hoped that all three may actually be taken on the same day—an obviously convenient procedure. But meanwhile, the Government has announced its intention of taking up itself the problem of the illegitimate child.

The new Criminal Law Amendment Bill is down for a very early second reading. It has not appeared yet, but if, as is fore-shadowed, it does not include the "reasonable cause to believe" clause it will have to be amended in the House. Its friends must not cease watching because it is now a Government Bill.

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



## THE BOARD OF CONTROL AND CONTROL OF THE "BORDERLAND."

By the AUTHOR OF "THE INSTITUTE."

The promised inquiry into the administration of mental hospitals, and the legal position of their unfortunate inmates, has resolved itself into a few brief sittings, where the evidence received was supplied almost entirely by the medical men at present in charge of such places. It is not to be wondered at, therefore, if the recommendations were chiefly concerned with the bringing of more patients, and still more patients, under the care of the mental specialist. Not only certificated and certifiable cases, but others who could not by any argument be pronounced other than sane, are now to submit themselves as "voluntary patients" to his control—and pay his fees.

If we knew as little about the treatment of smallpox as we do about the treatment of insanity, it would be asking rather much to suggest that everyone who happened to suffer from a backache or a spot on his skin should place himself, as a voluntary resident, in the nearest smallpox hospital; where he would, of course, run the gravest risk of catching the disease in good earnest. Yet the highly strung and imaginative individual, suffering from overwork or insomnia, who is requested to submit to the constant and distressing company of other people similarly afflicted, to many irksome rules and regulations, to a good deal of harshness and bullying from the authorities, and to being altogether cut off from the wholesome influences of the everyday world, runs an equally serious risk of a complete nervous breakdown, when it will be the easiest thing in the world to certify and detain him as an ordinary lunatic without his own knowledge that this has been done.

It is, perhaps, not generally appreciated that a great many cases under the much-advertised "voluntary system" are thus certified and detained every year; they never dream, poor things, of the change in their status until chance or accident or the gossip of their fellow-patients—for news percolates through the wards of a mental hospital in the same mysterious way that it percolates through the cells of a convict prison—reveals the horrifying truth to them.

Now insane patients may roughly be divided into two classes. There are the genuine "functional" cases, where the mental symptoms are the direct result of bodily disease—chronic alcoholism, epilepsy, general paralysis, or senile decay. They are not often curable; and if they are kindly and sensibly treated, and allowed frequent visits from their friends, they would be as well off in a properly staffed mental hospital as anywhere else. But for the purely "nervous" cases—the vast majority grouped under that convenient and elastic designation "melancholia"—it is the most damnable form of treatment that could possibly be devised. It will, I think, be found upon inquiry that the so-called "delusions" of the melancholic invariably have a pretty strong foundation in fact. He really is in danger of financial disaster; he really has been rather a failure in life; he really has been shabbily treated by someone in whom he placed his trust. He may have brooded over his troubles until they assumed exaggerated proportions in his mind—that is a mistake we are all very apt to make, but the troubles are really there, none the less, and if they could be removed or alleviated his recovery would follow automatically. It will certainly not follow if we cut him off from all possibility of superintending his own private affairs; if we take him away from the comfort and familiarity of home, and place him amongst congenial strangers in the bleak and unfriendly institutional atmosphere; if we evade his legitimate questions, and keep him, night and day, in a state of harrowing suspense as to his own exact legal position; if we treat him habitually not only as a child, but as a naughty child.

Certificates of lunacy must be signed at present by two doctors and a magistrate. This custom dates from the days when the only class of lunatic to be forcibly detained were wandering

imbeciles of the "Poor Tom" type, whose pilfering or other excesses brought them, sooner or later, under supervision of the law. Even now, the certificate takes the form of a plea to the district magistrate to detain such and such a person "found at" such and such a place.

The modern J.P. naturally signs exactly what the doctor advises him to sign; it is a purely formal routine, as is the signature of the second doctor; and the family physician—well, he has a holy horror of mental cases, which are very troublesome and don't pay; the patient's friends have asked him to "do something," and as a rule he honestly believes the sufferer would be better off in an asylum, though he has no experience of asylum treatment himself and views mental doctors with the heartiest contempt as the general failures of the profession.

The certificate, therefore, is easily signed; and it is not to be supposed that the patient's friends will be in a great hurry to demand his return, especially if they are told that his progress, under institutional treatment, is but slow. And if they wish to visit him, they are warned not to do so, as this will "upset him." The sight of a friendly face, the sound of a familiar voice speaking of home, is indeed likely to produce a strong emotional reaction in the course of his terrifying exile! For a similar reason (and also to save the authorities trouble) his letters are severely censored or suppressed; and, in short, he disappears into a little private hell of his own, perhaps for a few short years, which seem eternity to him, and perhaps for the rest of his natural life.

I have not dwelt upon those cases—by no means impossible, and I am afraid by no means rare—when a woman, depressed and perhaps indignant or hysterical after months of marital unhappiness, is certified as mentally unsound and detained in an asylum while her husband seeks consolation elsewhere. I need only say that in the case of such a woman, it is almost impossible to obtain her release without her husband's willing consent—which he is hardly likely to give.

The best and boldest stroke of reform, and the only one which will permanently improve the position of these poor patients, would be the entire abolition of the certification system, and the placing of mental cases on precisely the same level as cases of influenza or appendicitis. A man with appendicitis is temporarily incapable of attending to his own affairs, but we do not abolish his legal rights for an indefinite period, and cut off his communication with the outside world upon that score alone. If we did, he would be very unwilling to confess to his disorder, and there would be a vast increase in the death rate from untreated appendicitis every year. If we ever discover a suitable treatment for "borderland" cases of insanity—and it may be that we are already moving upon the right lines—we shall only attract voluntary patients when they know for certain that they never can and never will forfeit their ordinary privileges of citizenship, and that they may see their friends or write to them, freely, whenever they choose, and go home when they wish to go home. Criminal lunatics—and these, as a matter of fact, are extremely rare—would come under the control of the police as they do now. And severe cases of genuine insanity would be treated just as a case of delirium tremens is treated in an ordinary hospital, and controlled in the same manner. We must get rid of our childish terrors of any poor person who is, or has been, mentally affected, for it is this unworthy and cruel terror which lies at the bottom of all the injustice at present dealt out to him.

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## THE GIRL GUIDE MOVEMENT.

In this disordered world of ours, with its vast opportunities, many possibilities, and many pitfalls, there stands among its fellows a movement so full of life and energy that it is fast pushing its way forward, not only in the British Isles and Dominions, but over the whole world, as the many foreign countries where there are now Girl Guides testify.

The Girl Guide Movement, since its foundation in 1910, has been, and is, rapidly increasing in numbers, in its six branches of—Rangers (girls over sixteen years of age), Guides, Brownies (little people under eleven), Cadets (training to be Guiders), Sea Guides, and Lones (isolated members, unattached to companies).

Last year's Guide "census" recorded over 355,000, showing an increase of over 100,000 during the year. But the Guide Movement is not out for numbers, but primarily for "happy citizenship," as its founder, Sir Robert Baden-Powell, often reminds us. How is this great aim to be brought into practice?

The word "Guide" itself will answer the question, because the movement is training its members to be "Guides," not to be "Scouts," aping boys or men; it is for training in woman citizenship, and "the goal of true guiding is womanhood."

*Growth of Character.*—Character training must come from the girl herself. "To educate (*educare*—lead out) from within, rather than to instruct from without," is one of the chief aims of guiding. The Guider is there to guide and to lead, but the actual management of the company rests with the girls themselves. They are divided into "patrols" (groups of six or eight girls), each responsible for itself, under its own leader, who sits as representative of her patrol on the "Court of Honour," the business committee of the company, where the Guides learn self-government in its most practical form. A modern writer tells us "not to preach 'don't,' but to entuse with the right spirit," and it is this aim which the Guiders keep before them. The very fact of being a Guide, an enrolled member of that far-reaching fellowship, each one responsible for the good name of the whole, brings in that *esprit de corps* often unknown before the girl joins the Guides. The law, which one and all promise on their Guide honour to do their best to keep, shows the standard of the "Guide herd." Not a law of "don'ts" and "thou shalt nots," but "a Guide is honourable, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, and pure in thought, word, and deed."

*Usefulness.*—"Think noble things, and live to make them true"; so often the inspiration is there without the opportunity, or the practical knowledge. But Guiding is eminently a practical movement, and the Guide not only wants, but learns how, to help. In the Company Evening—the weekly meeting of the company—she is trained, and trains herself, in the various tests, and so carries out her motto, "Be Prepared," for all that may come her way. And as youth must needs have encouragement in a visible form, as well as an abstract ideal, she can earn the many and various badges which show proficiency, from the "Second Class Guide" to the proud possession of "Gold Cords." But the badges are merely a "means to an end," not "an end in themselves," and are only used as an incentive for the Guide to go on learning more about the subjects she chooses.

*Intelligence.*—The question is often asked why such subjects as signalling are included in Guide training. The answer is simple enough—signalling is one of the finest intelligence tests ever invented—a quick signaller must necessarily be a quick thinker, and there are many things brought into Guiding which train eye and brain that seem of little practical value to the "outsider."

*Development.*—Physical as well as mental development is aimed at in Guide training. Drill is not used for the sake of military discipline, but to cultivate that very necessary quality, self-control, in the individual; also a sense of pride in her "corps" (a Guide is never proud of a slack or "sloppy" company).

*Enjoyment.*—Every girl has hidden deep within her a craving for romance, adventure, and, as she puts it, "a good time." In Guiding she finds "happy citizenship" in its truest sense. The uniform, ceremonial, and the romance of the Sisterhood (from its President, Princess Mary, down to the smallest Brownie), all appeal to her girl-nature; above all, the personal touch with her Guider (not "officer," but one to "guide" and lead)—and it is chiefly with the Guiders that the future of this great movement depends. The girls are coming forward in their hundreds and thousands. Must we hold them back?

The Guide Captain's is not a "whole-time" job, but it colours all that we do, and we go forward to meet the future as a great and glorious adventure.

Will you come and be thrilled?

H.D.

## A PRACTICAL SCHEME TO HELP UNEMPLOYMENT.

We are very glad to give publicity to a scheme which has reached us for relieving, if only in a small way, the present state of unemployment among educated women.

As everyone knows, while times are so bad, social and philanthropic and semi-political organisations, which normally carry on a great volume of useful work, are crippled for lack of funds, and are unwillingly reducing the numbers of their paid staff. From this cause, many hundreds of organisers, secretaries, investigators, and other special workers are at present thrown out of work, while the activities carried on by their organisations are suffering from lack of these workers. In this case it is not that the work no longer exists to be done, as is the case with the failure of a business firm, but really that there is not the money to pay the salaries. The work is as pressing as ever—in fact, it is even more pressing than ever.

In these circumstances, it has occurred to a group of people that it might be possible to raise money in order to re-create some of these vanished posts, and Miss Tynan, with whom the idea originated, has sent out the following letter to a number of women who have themselves been fortunate enough to obtain posts and who are still holding them:—

"So far as I am aware, you do not know me, and I do not know you. But we have one thing in common—it is that we have both experienced a period of unemployment, and we have both received help and advice and encouragement from the London Society for Women's Service.

"I feel, therefore, as a member of the Society, that I may ask for your co-operation in carrying out an idea which suggests a way in which we might do a piece of practical service to a few of the women workers who are at present unemployed.

"It is well known that there are many organisations who could usefully employ an additional worker, but who are unable to do so from lack of funds. The Invalid Children's Aid Society, the Save the Children Fund, the League of Nations Union, and our own Women's Service, are some of the societies I have in mind.

"Don't you think we might join together and finance two or three such jobs? By such a scheme we should give constructive assistance to a few unemployed women in a form that would be infinitely more satisfactory to them than mere pecuniary help, and at the same time we should do a little to relieve the financial burden on some of the organisations with whose excellent work we are all acquainted.

"If you agree, will you guarantee a definite weekly or monthly sum for three months, either personally or collected from a group of your friends? I can afford a personal weekly contribution of 5s., and I hope to get smaller subscriptions from a group of friends, which will bring it up to 10s. a week. Please remember that though for administrative purposes it would be convenient to have small amounts collected and sent in one sum, periodically, no contribution is too small.

"Women's Service will help us to arrange the details, and will give us facilities for holding a meeting to discuss the scheme if sufficient support is forthcoming. Will you, please, let me have your opinion as soon as possible, and tell me if you would attend a small meeting to discuss it?"

The response to this letter so far encourages Women's Service to think that at any rate one such job can be provided, but we greatly hope that our readers will be interested enough to enable the scheme to be extended further.

In all essentials, this is the same proposal as was carried out so successfully by the N.U.W.S.S. in 1914, under the title of the "Professional Women's Service Fund," and all those who were interested in that fund, or who approve of the general idea, are asked to communicate either with Miss Tynan, or with the Secretary of the Women's Service Bureau, 58, Victoria Street, London, S.W. 1.



## A GRANT-IN-AID.\*

## THE TWO LADY DOCTORS.

By A. EMIL DAVIES.

There has evolved in connection with municipal government an excellent system of grants-in-aid, whereby the State, to encourage a municipality to perform something meritorious but not obligatory, pays it a certain percentage of its expenditure, thus preserving the incentive to local economy, and yet spurring on the municipality to do something additional. For example, if a council supplies milk to necessitous mothers, the State bears half the cost.

The valuable institution of the grant-in-aid runs through our national policy in a manner more comprehensive than many of us imagine, as the following incident will show:—

A lady doctor employed by a certain Town Council had the audacity to get married. The Council shocked at the extraordinary occurrence, dismissed her. She took up a private practice: and that is all there is to it.

But in a neighbouring town another lady doctor, employed by the municipality, also fell in love, and desired to marry. Warned by her colleague's fate, however, she first consulted the Chairman of the Public Health Committee which employed her, and he regretfully informed her that if she persisted in her intention, she, too, would be dismissed.

"I understand, then, that this is a disqualification?" she inquired. He assented. "Well," she continued, "suppose I live with my friend without being married, should I be dismissed then?"

He pondered awhile. "Would you live within the borough boundary?" he asked.

It was difficult, she pointed out, for a Medical Officer of Health to reside outside the district in which her duty lay.

"I appreciate your point, but I am afraid," said the Councilor, "we could not shut our eyes to the circumstances."

So the lady doctor and her fiancé took a week-end cottage at a seaside place several miles from the borough boundary.

But where does the grant-in-aid come in? you may ask.

Well, the first lady doctor, who was dismissed, found that the joint incomes of herself and husband were reckoned as one for income-tax purposes, so they could only get one abatement between them; whereas the other couple, not being married, secured double abatements and allowances as two separate persons, and the money thus saved paid for the week-end cottage.

This was a valuable grant-in-aid, but in aid of what, I dare not say.

## NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

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

## ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING, MARCH 7th, 8th, and 9th.

Several interesting features have arisen in connection with the forthcoming Council Meeting. The first is the number of new names nominated for the Executive Committee, including two Members of Parliament and others of exceptional experience. The second is that applications have already been received for visitors' tickets. One very keen, newly formed Society, composed for the most part of young married women, is sending several visitors as well as delegates. Full details of the arrangements will be issued with the Final Agenda on February 24th, as well as on a hand-bill for general distribution. So far as arranged the principal outside events will be:—

Tuesday, March 7th.—Reception at Bedford College, at which women candidates to Parliament have been invited to speak (open for small charge to public).

Thursday, March 8th.—Public Luncheon (Holborn Restaurant).

Friday, March 10th.—Morning—Conference of officers and members of Societies. Afternoon—Public conference on the problem of Venereal Disease.

## CRIMINAL LAW AMENDMENT BILL.

Our readers will be delighted to see that the Criminal Law Amendment Bill is being introduced by the Government.

## PRIVATE MEMBERS' BALLOT.

## SEPARATION AND MAINTENANCE ORDERS BILL.

Members will be delighted to hear that our luck holds, and that we have again secured not only one, but two places, in the Private Members' Ballot. Sir Robert Newman will introduce the Separation and Maintenance Orders Bill on May 26th (General Election permitting). As before, we have been fortunate enough to obtain the support of Members of all parties, as follows:—Mrs. Wintringham (Ind. Lib.), Mr. Arthur Henderson (Lab.), Captain Coote (C.L.), Sir William Howell Davies

\* Reprinted by kind permission from *The Star* of November 2nd.

## REVIEWS.

## SHORT NOTICES.

## International Federation of University Women, Report, 1920-21.

The awakening of educated women to the importance of promoting good international relations is reflected in the evident progress of the International Federation of University Women. In 1919 the Federation was formed by the women of the universities of Great Britain and the United States. In 1920 they were joined by the women of France, Canada, and Spain. The latest Report states that there are now at least seventeen affiliated federations, each representative of the whole body of university trained women of the country. The object of the Federation is the promotion of friendship between the educated women of the nations of the world, and the Report contains an interesting account of activities directed towards that end. Club houses are being organised in several cities, travelling fellowships are offered for women graduates of all nationalities belonging to the Federation, and a Conference is to be held in Paris next summer.

## Higher Education for Women in Great Britain. By Phoebe Sheavyn, D.Litt., Senior Tutor for Women Students, University of Manchester. International Federation of University Women. 6d. net.

Dr. Sheavyn's little book gives an admirably lucid account of the opportunities for the higher education of women in Great Britain. A concise summary of the general educational system leads to a survey of the various types of university training available, and a consideration of the careers open to women who have received a university education. The book has been written in response to a request for information from the women of other countries, who will find Dr. Sheavyn's clear exposition of the British University system particularly valuable. A special section is devoted to the opportunities for students from abroad.

## Woman: A Citizen. By A. E. Metcalfe, B.Sc. Allen &amp; Unwin. 2s. 6d.

This book, although published in 1918, just before the last General Election, is extremely useful to women to-day, as only very minor alterations have taken place since that date, and, in view of the approaching inevitable General Election, women would be wise if they availed themselves of the opportunity now given to acquire the book at half price. The author has a few copies left, and is offering them to any women's organisations at half the published price. Her address is 18, Maitland Park Villas, N.W. 3.

(C.L.), Lt.-Col. Hurst (C.U.), Captain Loseby (C.N.D.P.), Mr. Sexton (Lab.), and Lt.-Col. Dalrymple White (C.U.).

We hope that our Societies will all make it their business to become thoroughly acquainted with the Bill, and, nearer the time, to pass resolutions, in favour of it. Our Societies are particularly urged to bring the need for the Bill before other women's organisations in their own locality. Copies of the Bill, and of Mr. Clarke Hall's pamphlet on Maintenance Orders can be obtained from Headquarters, and a new leaflet will be issued shortly dealing with the clauses of the Bill itself.

## GUARDIANSHIP, MAINTENANCE, AND CUSTODY OF INFANTS BILL.

The Guardianship, Maintenance and Custody of Infants Bill has also won a place in the Ballot, and will be taken on the same day as the other Bill. It is being introduced this session by Lt.-Com. Chilcott (C.U.), and supported by Viscountess Astor (C.U.), Mrs. Wintringham (Ind. Lib.), Sir James Agg-Gardner (C.U.), Captain Bagley (C.U.), Colonel Sir James Greig (Co.Lib.), Dr. Murray (Ind.), Sir Robert Newman (C.U.), Lt.-Col. Raw (C.U.), Mr. James Brown (Lab.), Sir Martin Conway (C.U.), and Captain Loseby (C.N.D.P.). Nearer the time, therefore, it will be necessary to send up resolutions, on this Bill, in order to show that it has the whole-hearted support of the women of the country.

In the meantime, we are hoping to have this Bill introduced into the House of Lords. Lord Askwith has already consented to take charge of it; this course has many advantages, one of which is that the Bill will pass through some of its stages earlier than is possible if it is introduced on May 26th. When the Bill comes up in the House of Lords we shall want all the help we can get in approaching the Peers in order to obtain their support.

## CHILDREN OF UNMARRIED PARENTS BILL.

As we were pushing our own two Bills we have not been able to give active support towards getting this Bill balloted for. We understand, however, that this Bill will, in all probability, embody the clauses of

Captain Bowyer's Bill of a similar title last Session, with the addition of a clause making the appointment of Collecting Officers compulsory. When the time arrives for the discussion of this Bill we shall ask our Societies to do what they can to gain the support of their Members of Parliament on its behalf.

## METROPOLITAN WOMEN POLICE PATROLS.

Our readers will perhaps have noticed a paragraph in the Geddes Report which stated that "These Women Patrols, 110 in number, are in addition to the numbers of police. Their pay is only 10s. a week less than that of the 'uniformed' constable. Their powers are very limited, and their utility from a police point of view is, on the evidence submitted to us, negligible. We do not think that in present circumstances this expenditure can be justified."

It has come to our knowledge that this recommendation has already been acted on, and Metropolitan Police Women who were all of them taken on for one year from the time of their enlistment, are being given one month's notice as this year comes to an end. It is not necessary to dwell in these columns on the need for women police, though it is useful to remember the recommendations of the Report of the Committee on the Employment of Women on Police Duties, 1920, Section III. (14):—"We are of opinion that in thickly populated areas, where offences against the law relating to women and children are not infrequent, there is not only scope but urgent need for the employment of policewomen."

Our members are asked therefore to approach their Members of Parliament asking them to protest against this proposal in the House of Commons, which if carried out would set back for an indefinite number of years the appointment of women police.

## L.C.C. ELECTIONS.

As we have not yet had answers from all the candidates to whom our Questionnaire was sent, the answers we receive will be published next week.

## OUR "SLOW BUT SURE" APPEAL CAMPAIGN.

Cheques and postal orders do not pour in as in pre-war days, when a special staff had to be engaged to deal with the response to an urgent appeal. There are many reasons for this which need not be enumerated here, including the fact that owing to a small staff and pressure of work it is impossible to get the appeal out so rapidly as we would wish. One generous friend who had heard of the appeal but who had not received a copy of it wrote to us reminding us of her interest and enclosing a donation. We beg others who have not yet received the appeal to follow her example.

We report with pleasure this week other donations from the Kensington S.E.C., to which we are constantly indebted for help of various kinds, and from the Cathcart Constituency Committee of the Glasgow S.E.C.

The Oxted and Limpsfield W.C.A., which is not affiliated to us, has sent us a donation which we greatly appreciate, in recognition of the help given from our headquarters.

We also thank the executors of the late Miss Elizabeth Rathbone, our President's sister and always a kind friend, for a donation of £25.

## METROPOLITAN POLICE WOMEN PATROLS.

MADAM.—The following letter has been addressed by the National Council of Women to the Home Office:—

SIR.—We have heard with grave alarm of the proposal to disband the Women Patrols Division of the Metropolitan Police, and on behalf of the National Council of Women we beg to ask your serious consideration of the following important points. The Council feels that it is entitled to approach you on this matter as being the body which initiated the Women Patrols, from which sprang the officially appointed Women Police.

1. Much of the work done by the Women Patrols will still have to be done by women paid out of the Police Fund—i.e.,

(a) The escort of female prisoners and children to Remand Homes, &c.;

(b) The searching and care of female prisoners at stations where no permanent Matron is employed;

(c) The watching of female suicides in Hospitals, &c.

2. The period of three years, during which the women have held their appointments, has been a time of trial and training. The Metropolis is only now beginning to reap the benefit of this expenditure of public money.

3. The equipment of the force, much of which must still be in good condition, must have cost some hundreds of pounds, while its value as old police clothing would probably be negligible.

4. Since the passing of the Police Pensions Act, 1921, the Women Patrols Service is pensionable, and the members will therefore be entitled to one month's full pay for each year of service as a retiring gratuity. This will doubtless amount to a considerable sum for which—while thoroughly deserved by the women—the country will receive no equivalent.

5. If the women are disbanded many of them must inevitably swell the list of unemployed women in receipt of doles. It must also be remembered that the greater number of these women have dependents (Mrs. Carden, Chairman of the Selection Board at Scotland Yard, made a point whenever possible of choosing the wives or dependents of ex-Service men).

6. The most important work done by the Women Patrols is the taking of statements of children and young persons in criminal cases. If the Women Patrols are disbanded the vast majority of these cases must again be dealt with by male officers—a scandal to any civilised community.

With a full knowledge of the urgent need for economy, we admit that it may be necessary temporarily to reduce the number of Women Patrols, but we would urge that at any rate a small number of selected women be retained to perform those duties which must be done by women, as well as to form the nucleus of an efficient Force in a few years' time when the

It is not proposed to close the appeal for some months, as we understand that some societies have special efforts in view, and with over £250 already we have every confidence that the £1,000 which is absolutely necessary to enable us to carry on with any degree of effectiveness will be forthcoming.

DONATIONS TO GENERAL PROPAGANDA FUND.		£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged ...	...	183	0	6
Miss H. Fryer ...	...	2	2	0
Miss K. B. Brereton ...	...	10	6	0
Miss D. Nussey ...	...	5	0	0
Miss K. F. Jones ...	...	10	0	0
Mrs. A. Gordon Pollock ...	...	2	2	0
Kensington S.E.C. ...	...	10	0	0
Mrs. E. Layton ...	...	2	0	0
Mr. J. A. Morton ...	...	10	6	0
Mrs. M. K. Richardson ...	...	8	0	0
Mrs. Weldon ...	...	5	0	0
Glasgow S.E.C. Cathcart Constituency Committee ...	...	5	0	0
Mrs. A. B. Gillett ...	...	1	0	0
Miss E. M. Le Cocq ...	...	2	6	0
Mrs. A. Little ...	...	2	0	0
Miss Miriam Marston ...	...	2	6	0
Mrs. Margolouth ...	...	1	0	0
Mrs. H. S. Cooper ...	...	5	0	0
Mrs. Fyffe ...	...	5	0	0
		£220	18	6

## DONATIONS TO ELECTION FUND.

Already acknowledged ...	...	18	0	6
Miss H. Fryer ...	...	3	3	0
Miss K. F. Jones ...	...	10	0	0
Mr. J. A. Morton ...	...	10	6	0
Mrs. M. K. Richardson ...	...	7	8	0
Miss Ellen C. McKee ...	...	10	0	0
Mrs. A. B. Gillett ...	...	2	0	0
Miss Mason ...	...	2	0	0
Mrs. A. M. Overton ...	...	1	0	0
Mrs. Fawcett ...	...	25	0	0
Miss C. Robinson ...	...	5	0	0
Oxted and Limpsfield W.C.A. ...	...	1	1	0
		£57	5	8

Received from the Executors of the late Miss Elizabeth L. Rathbone ... £25 0 0

## BARNESLEY S.E.C.

This Society was addressed on January 25th by Miss H. Reynold of Harrogate, the retiring secretary of the Yorkshire Council, who took as her subject "The Call For and Against Family Endowment." All the members present appreciated the clear way in which Miss Reynold laid the case before them.

## CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS.

need for such stringent economy will, we trust, have ceased to exist.—We are, Sir, your obedient servants,

FRANCES BALFOUR (President, N.C.W.).

NORAH E. GREEN (Gen. Sec., N.C.W.).

JANE BOYD POTTER (Convener, Women Police and Patrols Committee).

M. G. CARDEN (Hon. Sec., Women Police and Patrols Committee).

## SEPARATION AND MAINTENANCE ORDERS BILL.

MADAM.—May I venture to point out the somewhat misleading statement in your interesting account of the Conference of Women's Societies on the Separation and Maintenance Orders Bill, in your issue of February 3rd? This Bill does not deal with judicial separations at all, as this form Divorce and Admiralty Division. It only deals with an application for a Separation Order before a Court of Summary Jurisdiction, this being, in fact, the only kind of separation open to any but the better-off members of the community.

Moreover, under the present law, a wife need only leave her husband when she is applying for such an Order in a Court of Summary Jurisdiction on the following grounds:—(a) Persistent cruelty; (b) Failure to maintain herself or her children.

EVA M. HUBBACK.

## N. CAMBERWELL BYE-ELECTION.

Polling in this constituency is on February 20th. Two candidates have been nominated, Mr. Ammon (Labour) and Mr. Mellor (Conservative). The London Society is active in the constituency, and as we go to press its deputations representing also the local W.C.A. and the members in the constituency of the N.U.W.T., and the Fed. W.C.S., and, of course, the N.U.S.E.C., are waiting upon both candidates. Before these deputations Mr. Ammon had included equal franchise in his election address, and had answered all the questions with the unequivocal word "yes." Mr. Mellor had not as yet answered the question, but had declared himself in favour of equal franchise.

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## COMING EVENTS.

## LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION.

FEB. 17. Leeds, Training College, Beckett Park, 8 p.m. Speaker: Frederick Whelen, Esq.

FEB. 18. Hull, Albion Hall, Baker Street, 7.30 p.m. Speaker: Frederick Whelen, Esq.

FEB. 22. Berkhamsted School, Sessions Hall, 8 p.m. Speaker: Col. D. Borden Turner.

Manchester, Town Hall (Branch Secretaries), 3.15 p.m. Speaker: Frederick Whelen, Esq.

Newcastle, Baptist Church Hall, 7.30 p.m. Speaker: Charlton Wilkinson, Esq.

## WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

At Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn.

FEB. 17. 3 p.m. "What is Wrong with the Administration in our Asylums?" Speaker: Dr. Lomax. Chair: Dr. Knight.

FEB. 20. 8 p.m. "The Working Woman's Delegate at Washington." Speaker: Miss Kate Manicom. Chair: Councillor Jessie Stephen.

FEB. 22. 3.30 p.m. "The Spinster of To-day and of a Hundred Years Ago." Speaker: Councillor Margaret Hodge.

## SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

FEB. 21. A lecture on "Ireland Past and Future," by Mr. George Russell ("A. E."), will be given, at 8.15 p.m., at the Rooms of the Royal Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W. Chair: Lord Henry Cavendish Bentinck, M.P.

## THEOSOPHICAL ORDER OF SERVICE.

FEB. 22. At 3, Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1, 8.30 p.m. "The Problem of the Unemployable: A Practical Solution." Speaker: N. Vanner Moore. Chair: H. Baillie-Weaver, LL.B.

## UNION OF JEWISH WOMEN.

FEB. 19. Conference at the Hall of the West Central Jewish Girls' Club, 31, Alfred Place, Tottenham Court Road, W.C.1. Speakers include the Very Reverend the Chief Rabbi, Miss Margaret Langdon, Mrs. Haldinstein, Mrs. Henry Fawcett, J.P., LL.D., Hon. Lily Montague, Mrs. F. G. Joseph.

## N.U.S.E.C.

FEB. 17. Shanklin, W.C.A., 5.30 p.m. "How Women can Influence Legislation." Speaker: Mrs. Hubback.

Hertford, W.C.A., 3 p.m. "Men and Women who are Building up the League of Nations." Speaker: Mrs. Walter Layton.

## MEDICAL, Etc.

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FEB. 18. Ryde, W.C.A., 3 p.m. "Bills before Parliament in which Women are Interested." Speaker: Mrs. Hubback.

Sisters' Training College, Church Army, 11.45 a.m. "Equal Franchise." Speaker: Miss Macadam.

FEB. 22. Reigate, W.C.A. "Bills before Parliament in which Women are Interested." Speaker: Miss Macadam.

## WOMEN'S NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO SECURE STATE PURCHASE AND CONTROL OF THE LIQUOR TRADE.

FEB. 20. Eltham, Women's Adult School, 3 p.m. "State Purchase as a Solution of the Drink Problem." Speaker: Miss M. Cotterell, O.B.E.

FEB. 21. Bromley, W.C.A., 8 p.m. Lantern Lecture on the Carlisle Experiment. Speaker: Miss M. Cotterell, O.B.E.

FEB. 22. The Caledonian Women's Co-operative Guild, 3 p.m. "Public Ownership of the Liquor Trade." Speaker: Miss M. Cotterell, O.B.E.

FEB. 23. St. John's, Hoxton, 8 p.m. Lantern Lecture on the Carlisle Experiment. Speaker: Miss M. Cotterell, O.B.E.

FEB. 24. Bournemouth, National Council of Women, 3.30 p.m. "State Purchase of the Liquor Trade." Speaker: Miss M. Cotterell, O.B.E.

## PIONEER CLUB.

FEB. 21. 8.15 p.m. Debate: "That Civilisation requires the Services of the Helot." Opener: Mr. Cuthbert Baines, author of "The Black Circle." Opposer: Miss Margaret Frere. Chair: Miss Isobel Eggar.

FEB. 23. Psychology Class. "The Psychology of the Group Mind."

## INTERNATIONAL FRANCHISE CLUB.

FEB. 22. 9, Grafton Street, Piccadilly, 8.15 p.m. Subject: "Women as Parliamentary Candidates." Speaker: Professor Winifred Cullis, O.B.E., D.Sc. Chairman: Miss M. P. Grant.

## L'INSTITUT FRANCAIS.

FEB. 23. A Dinner will be given at Hotel Victoria (Edward VII. Rooms), Northumberland Avenue, at 7 for 7.30 p.m., to celebrate the anniversary of the Institute. The guest of honour will be Mme. Norman Bohn, the foundress of the Institute, whose work has rendered such valuable service to the Entente. The Legion of Honour was recently conferred upon Mme. Bohn, and the opportunity will be taken of presenting her, at the dinner, with a miniature jewelled Cross of the Legion of Honour, and an illuminated address.

## GUILDHOUSE WOMEN CITIZENS' SOCIETY.

FEB. 27. 3 p.m. "What I want to do for Westminster." Speaker: Miss Lilian Dawson, L.C.C. Candidate for Westminster. Chair: Miss Helen Ward.

LARGE FRONT BED-SITTING-ROOM in lady's house; gas fire, ring, own meter; electric light; bath (geyser); telephone; cleaning; some attendance; breakfast if desired; pleasant, convenient neighbourhood; suit lady worker; terms moderate.—Miss Bolton, 9, Primrose Hill-road, N.W.3.

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"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. 1906.

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GARDENING FOR WOMEN at Ileden College, G Kingstone, near Canterbury. 300 ft. up. Practical comprehensive training, individual consideration. Gardening year begins mid-September.—For illustrated prospectus apply Secretary.

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SECOND-HAND CLOTHING wanted to buy for cash; S costumes, skirts, boots, 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.

CHOCOLATE AND SWEET-MAKING FOR LADIES. American Candies, &c. Lessons given privately. Sweets supplied retail and wholesale. Reduction for Bazaars.—Write Miss Martin, 93, Chelsea Gardens, S.W.1.

UNCRUNSHABLE DRESS LINEN.—Uncrushable Dress Linen for Spring and Summer wear; all pure linen, dyed fast colours, in 32 shades: Sky, Light and Dark Sage, Navy, Shell Pink, Pink, Strawberry, Helio, Mauve, White, Ivory, Cream, Champagne, Tassore, Tan, Primrose, Myrtle, Sea Green, Slate, Brown and Black. Patterns free; 36 inches wide, 4s. per yard (worth 6s. 6d. per yard). Add 9d. for postage on all orders under £1.—HUTTON'S, 41, Main-street, Larne, Ireland.

PIANO, Harmonium, Bicycle, Vacuum Cleaner, Typewriter; cheap.—Gold, 41, Colville Gardens, Bayswater.

TYPEWRITER, Blick, portable, in case, for sale; perfect mechanical condition; £6.—Mrs. G., 26, West Hill, N.6.

## DRESS.

CORSETIERE.—Thoroughly experienced. Highly recommended. Perfect fit. Corsets of former and latest models, also Surgical and Maternity.—Margaret Madden, 62, Great Portland-street, W.1.

COSTUMES, coats, furs, underwear, gentlemen's and children's clothing, house furnishings wanted. Specially good prices given.—Hélène, 361, New King's-road, Fulham, S.W.6.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS.

"THE PASSING OF THE POOR," by M. E. Blyth (M. E. B.). S.P.C.K., 3s. 6d. Prospective Poor Law Guardians will find useful information in this little book.

THE FELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Eccleston Guild House, Eccleston Square, S.W. Sunday, Feb. 19, 6.30, Prof. Arthur Thompson. "The Wonder of the World."

THE PIONEER CLUB has re-opened at 12, Cavendish Place. Town members, £5 5s.; Country and Professional members, £4 4s. Entrance fee in abeyance (pro. tem.).

PREVENTION OF VENEREAL DISEASE. The Association for Moral and Social Hygiene relies solely on moral and non-compulsory methods and is prepared to defend this position as being the most practically effective one. Donations urgently needed for propaganda.—A. M. and S. H., Orchard House, Gt. Smith-street, S.W.1.

CONSERVATIVE WOMEN'S REFORM ASSOCIATION, 48, Dover Street, W.1. February 23rd, Sir Robert Newman, M.P., on "Separation and Maintenance Orders Bill."

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 58, Victoria Street, S.W.1. Vic. 9542. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Expert information and advice about trainings and openings given; letter or interview.

## PUBLIC SPEAKING.

PUBLIC SPEAKING.—MARION MCCARTHY. Specially graduated course indispensable to those engaged in Public Work.—Apply 16, Hallam St., Portland Place, W.1. Langham 2530.

## POSTS VACANT OR WANTED.

FULL OR PART TIME DOMESTIC WORK, HOUSE-KEEPING, &c. Useful helps, daily and residential, disengaged; registration fee, 1s.—Address Hon. Secretary, Educated Home Helps Bureau, Philbeach Gardens, S.W.5.