THE

CATHOLIC CITIZEN

* VOLUME XIX. 1933



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

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NOT TO BE - TAKEN - AWAY

Catholic Citizen

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

Vol. XIX, No. 1.

15th JANUARY, 1933.

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 Thombson

Greetings to the Alliance from France.

heur et voeux de succès nés d'une sympathie profonde de la plus vive admiration pour votre en votre action pour l'avenir. Nous croyons exprimer ici, en meme temps que le nôtre le sentiment unanime de tous les membres de l'alliance disséminés dans le monde entier.

La pensée commune qui de si loin et si droit et d'une juste cause. spontanément, nous a réunies dans un meme attachement à St. Joan's S.P.A. n'est pas une pensée banale et sans profondeur.

féminines prêtes á grouper nos forces comme à satisfaire notre besoin d'action, Quelque chose cependant nous a fait chercher ailleurs une orientation plus directe dans le sens de la vérité, une action plus simple dans le sens de la justice. Dans cette recherche, nos regards en s'élevant se sont rencontrés en merveilleux point de certitude et de vie: Jeanne d'Arc.

Vous n'avez pas seulement son nom; vous avez son esprit, chose plus rare. Et depuis 21 ans St. Joan's S.P.A. poursuit sa route dans les voies dangereuses en ce monde, de la lumière. Peu soucieuse des succès faciles achetés au prix d'une fausse prudence et de secrètes abdications,

La Section française de St. Joan's S.P.A. l'Alliance n'accepte aucune de ces victoires sans veut vous offrir aujourd'hui ses meilleurs voeux valeur profonde, qui assurent la prospérité pour l'année qui commence. Voeux de bon- d'une oeuvre, par le sacrifice diplomatique de son intention profonde ou de ses principes.

Sans illusions sur les risques à courir, sans oeuvre dans le passé, et d'une grande confiance optimiste aveuglement sur les forces dont vous disposiez, vous avez toujours su contempler les deux plateaux de la balance et jeter sans hésitation, pour combler la mesure, un poids auquel vous savez donner toute sa valeur, celui du bon

Et c'est pour quoi, nombreuses, au delà des monts ou des mers nous avons voulu nous joindre á vous. Ce n'est pas la puissance Tous les pays possèdent des associations apparente ce ne sont pas les honneurs à grand éclat qui nous ont attirées, mais à vous bien connaître nous avons eu la joie de sentir plus ferme dans nos coeurs la conviction qui dès longtemps les animait: En dehors et au dessus des forces visibles il y a une force dans la verité, dans le droit et dans la justice.

Marie Lenoël.

Miss Lenoël, as our readers know, is both Founder and Secretary of the French Section of St. Joan's Alliance. We thank her for expressing the good wishes of our French

International Notes.

We learn from the "International Women's News" that as a result of the recent German elections there are 38 women members in the new Reichstag instead of 37 as in the last one. The state of the parties is as follows: National Socialist (Hitler), 196 members, among which there are no women on principle; Social Democratic, 121 members, including 13 women, as against 14 in the last Reichstag; Communists. 100 members, 13 women as against 12; Centre (Catholic) 69 members, 5 women as against 6; German Nationalist (Conservative), 51 members, 3 women as before; Bavarian People's Party, 19 members, 1 woman as before; German People's Party (Right Liberal), II members, I woman as before: Christian Socialist (Protestant-Conservative) 5 members, with no woman; State Party (left Liberal, formerly Democrats), 2 members; and several other small parties with a small membership which does not include women.

From the same paper we have note that in Denmark in the partial elections for the Landsting (Upper House) held in September last, women have lost three seats, which are now occupied by men.

In November, elections for the Folkting (Lower House) were held all over the country and there were 18 women nominated as candidates. Only four were elected; three of these sat in the last Folkting.

We are pleased to see the following reference to the nationality of married women, in "L'Action Féminine (Luxembourg) for Novem-

"With us here in Luxembourg there are women who are disenfranchised because they have married foreigners, our law decrees it. Most of these women have no intention of leaving their fatherland and it is their earnest desire to regain their political rights. To reach this goal is one of the main points in the programme of the women's movement in Luxembourg."

In the same number the writer of a previous article on "Children's Help in the Household" makes a spirited reply to a protest from a

reactionary father of a family, who is horrified at the idea put forward by the author (which has our whole-hearted support) that boys should be given a certain amount of training in domestic economy.

This, she asserts, is essential at the present time when so few families can afford paid help, in order to do away with the helplessness of fathers and sons when the mother is incapacitated by sickness or accident.

The "Schweizer Frauenblatt," as reported in the "International Women's News," gives an account of a lecture and discussion organised by the Swiss Mercantile Association at which Herr Schimpf spoke on "Women's Work and the Crisis," and paid warm tribute to the value of their work. His praise was welcomed by the crowded audience, and the following resolution was adopted: "That whereas the constitution lays down the principle of equal rights and freedom in all trades and professions, this right shall not be limited by restrictions on women's work. As a method of combating unemployment such restriction should be repudiated because it is unjust and retrogressive, and because it would not in practice achieve the desired result."

It is refreshing to find this common sense and just point of view being put forward by business men, at a time when much nonsense is being talked about driving women from the labour market to lessen unemployment among

"La Vie Catholique" tells us that at the recent Missionary Congress held at Lyons the miserable position of women in many missionary countries, and especially in certain African tribes, was considered, as also the duty of raising the position of women in the development of native races. A resolution was adopted urging that every legitimate means should be used to arouse public opinion; that Governments should do all in their power to procure the liberty of women in the marriage contract, and to raise her status in conjugal life; that Governments should favour the education of women, and to that end should encourage missionary nuns in the works they have organised.

A.A.B.

Notes and Comments.

1933. In reminding them that our paper enters city.

In the window erected to the memory of the city of the deal of the memory of the city of the deal of the memory of the city of the deal of the memory of the city of the deal of the city of the to make it entirely self-supporting. St. Joan's S.P.A. with its organ the "Catholic Citizen" has done, and is doing splendid work, and must not be handicapped through lack of means. If every reader would get a friend to subscribe there would be no deficit.

Mrs. Grace Tyndall, of Newent, Gloucester, has afforded a fine example to women who value their nationality. Her husband became a elected to the Council of the N.U.W.T. nationalised American in 1931, according to British Law, his wife automatically became an American also. According to American Law she remained British, and Mrs. Tyndall agreed. Repeatedly asked to sign the register as an alien she steadfastly refused to give up her country. On November 15th she was fined £1. The Home Office has now informed her that she will be allowed to retain her nationality. We congratulate Mrs. Tyndall on her spirited action, which will help those who are fighting for equal nationality rights.

Mme. Avril de Ste. Croix, who has resigned from the office of President of the National Council of Women of France for reasons of health, was the Council's first secretary, and has devoted her energies to its development to the present day. The new President, Mme Pichon-Landry, in an interview reported in "La Francaise," tells us something of Mme. Avril de Sainte Croix's noble work for outcast woman. On account of her experiences she was chosen by the International Feminist organizations to be their representative on the Commission of Traffic in women and children, League of Nations. We offer Mme Avril de Sainte Croix our deep gratitude for the work she has done, and is doing, for the most miserable of all women.

The current number of the "Bulletin of the Health and Cleanliness Council" reports that a Commemoration Service was held in Liverpool Cathedral on November 13th in honour of Kitty Wilkinson, a pioneer in the work of health and cleanliness. When an epidemic of cholera swept England in 1832, this working woman initiated what ultimately became a great and practical reform. Connecting dirt with disease, she opened her house at Liverpool as a

We offer all our readers our best wishes for Public Wash-house, the first of its kind in the

great women in the Anglican Cathedral at Liverpool, Kitty Wilkinson figures together with Josephine Butler, Elizabeth Fry and others.

We offer our congratulations to our member, Miss H. R. Walmesley, L.L.A., of Birmingham, on her election as President of the National Union of Women Teachers, and to Miss Nancy Stewart Parnell who has been re-

Miss Walmesley's presidential address on the task of establishing a partnership between education and industry, and on equal pay and opportunities for women was of great impor-

OBITUARY.

In the death of Sir James Reynolds, R.I.P. the Women's Movement has lost a good friend. He was always an ardent supporter of Woman Suffrage in the days when feeling against 'Votes for Women' ran high.

Only recently he signed the International Petition of Catholic Women asking for equal nationality rights between men and women. St. Joan's Alliance was represented at the Requiem at the Pro-Cathedral, Liverpool, by Miss Wylie, Vice-Chairman of our Liverpool Branch, and Mrs. Johnston. R.I.P.

We ask the prayers of our readers for the repose of the soul of Miss Coignou, one of the earliest members of the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society, who died suddenly on December 1st, R.I.P., and also for Mrs. Stack, R.I.P., mother of our member, Miss Stack, to whom we offer our deep sympathy.

Annual Meeting

for Members only.

The Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, March 11th. Nominations for Committee and resolutions for the Agenda must reach the Secretary not later than January 31st.

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

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.

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Dangers to Women.

has many times pointed out that Industrial Conventions between countries in different 1930, that the following paragraph should be stages of development constitute a danger, a danger more especially to women, since it is the unfortunate custom in most countries to place restrictions upon women in their right to work and to handicap them in gaining a livelihood. Some countries have learnt a little wisdom in the matter, and others none at all.

The Washington Convention, 1919, prohibits (Article 3) women, without distinction of age, from being employed during the night in any public or private industrial undertaking, or in any branch thereof, other than an undertaking in which only members of the same family are employed. This sweeping restriction is objectionable enough, but it was at least considered to exclude women who hold supervisory or managerial posts; but the Permanent Court of International Justice, to which the question was recently referred by the International Labour Office, by six votes to five, gave its Advisory Opinion (November 1932) that the Convention does include women in high posts, not ordinarily employed in manual labour. If this opinion is acted on, a grave injustice will be done to this class of women.

The Open Door International asks affiliated societies to approach the Council of the League asking that they should express the view that it is not desirable to give effect to this Advisory Opinion, since it makes the Convention applicable to other women than those contemplated by the framers of the Convention and by the ratifiers of it.

The British Government stands in a strange women alike.

In union with other societies St. Joan's S.P.A. position, will it accept this decision? It was the British Government which suggested, in inserted in Article 3 of the Washington Con-

> "This Convention does not apply to persons engaged in supervision or management who do not ordinarily perform manual work."

> It was the position of women engineers which had brought the matter to a head.

The proposal when it came before the International Labour Conference in 1931 obtained 54 votes to 43, but since it did not receive the necessary 2/3 majority it was not adopted. Many Governments when approached by the I.L.O., stated that they did not consider the Convention applied to any but working women. Last Autumn there was a proposal from the German Government that the Permanent Court of International Justice should be asked for an interpretation as to whether the Washington Convention (Art. 3) applied to women entirely or principally engaged in commercial or other work in connection with industrial undertakings; and pointed out that an adverse ruling from the Court would result in women being placed at a serious disadvantage as compared with their male competitors.

Is a Convention signed under a misapprehension to stand? Surely the case for revision, or for a new Convention is abundantly clear. Later, as the Open Door Council suggests, let the Convention be superseded, when constitutionally possible, by a convention placing the same restrictions as to night work on men and

The British Government which realised the grave injustice to women supervisors and managers if the Washington Convention were interpreted to include them, and which has reported annually against the application of the Convention to the women of Barbados* engaged in the manufacture of sugar—the factories working continuously in the season by day and night, stating that the closing of any avenue of unemployment open to women would be a serious matter. Cannot the British Government see that the closing of avenues of work to women anywhere, not only in Barbados, is an unjustifiable tyranny. On the contrary, the Government has changed its policy, and after eleven years during which it declared that the Convention was inapplicable to the majority of the dependencies of Great Britain, it gives in its present report to the International Labour Office a long list of dependencies where the Convention is applied, or will be applied.

Women are asking what has brought about this change of policy, and the Open Door Council calls upon women's organisations to unite in demanding that the correspondence between the Secretary of State and the Governors of the Colonies should be published.

Let women beware of International Conventions affecting their earning a living.

L. DE ALBERTI.

In our next issue we will deal with the recently published Report of the Royal Commission on Unemployment, and its discriminations against women. We will deal also with the Bill on the same subject.

* This is what the British Government has to say respecting Barbados:

THE YOUNGER GENERATION

On December 8th (anniversary of the birth of the idea of a Catholic Women's Suffrage Society) many of us of St. Joan's Alliance who are under thirty, visited Miss Geraldine Lennox at her home in the Vauxhall Bridge Road in order to see the Suffragette relics and records she is collecting there.

After we had seen the "museum" Miss Lennox gave us a most inspiring talk explaining why she considered militancy was necessary during the Suffrage campaign in this country. To many of us this evening made what we had known only as events in the past become suddenly real and alive. Miss Jessie O'Connor, on behalf of the guests, thanked Miss Lennox for her hospitality.

On November 25th at a party given at Hampstead by the kindness of Miss Barry and Miss Jeffery, we of the under-thirties had the pleasure of meeting Miss Parnell. During the evening Miss Parnell gave us an interesting talk about the position of women in the University and Public Offices of Manchester.

C.S.

REVIEW.

300 Careers for Women. Compiled by Vyrnuvy Biscoe. 2s. 6d. net. Introduction by the Rt. Hon. Margaret Bondfield. Lovat Dickson Ltd., 38, Bedford St. W.C.2. 1932.

The reviewer's first thought on opening this book must be one of amazement at the number and the nature of occupations now open to

From accountancy and aviation, to catbreeding; from women police, to the calling of a deaconess and Infant Welfare; innumerable professions and careers are laid before the reader with all necessary details to help the seeker in entering upon the chosen career. Many parents and guardians will bless the author; and many girls and older women will be saved from starting along the wrong road, by the opportunity this book gives of studying all careers open to them from which to choose.

L. DE A.

[&]quot;During the 'crop season' work goes on at the factories day and night. The employment of women in this occupation has been customary for over two centuries, and its prohibition would be greatly resented by the labouring population and would cause appreciable dislocation of the local labour market. The excess of females over males, according to the recent census, is about 50 per cent., and the closing of any avenue of employment open to women would be a serious matter. As regards the physical effect of such employment it should be recollected that in a tropical climate labour during the night hours is less exhausting than during the day. The system has no observable effect on the moral standards of the population, who are thoroughly accustomed to it.'

The Unmarried Mother.

Council for the Unmarried Mother and her Child, held on November 30th, Miss J. I. Wall, Barrister (Home Office), British Substitute delegate to the Child Welfare Committee of the League of Nations, after speaking on the activities of that Committee, turned to the question of illegitimate children, on which the League Committee, after reading the document prepared by the Secretariat dealing with reports from different countries respecting their law and practice in the matter, came to the conclusion that it could be divided into three sections: provision for maintenance; status of the illegitimate child; protection and guardianship.

The League committee had been interested in England's system of Collecting Officers, but the Danish delegate had reported more progressive methods, as in Denmark the State maintains the weekly payments to the mother if the father defaults, and subsequently takes proceedings to recover the money from him. Affiliation proceedings are not universally possible in all countries and much remains to be done. As to the status of an illegitimate child, even when laws permitted legitimation by subsequent marriage, as in the Legitimacy Act, 1926, they were sometimes nullified by the extraordinary difficulties in getting married in some countries. The League of Nations had passed a resolution drawing attention of Governments to the importance, from the point of view of child welfare, of international agreements simplifying the formalities and expenses of marriage of

As to protection and official guardianship, practised in Germany, and to some extent in Austria and Switzerland, the British representatives felt doubtful about the system, first because it might seem an unwarranted interference with the rights of a mother who was capable of giving her child all it needs, and secondly, it might attach a stigma to illegitimate

Miss Wall fully acknowledged all the good work done by the National Council.

Mr. Frank Briant, M.P., who was a member of the Standing Committee of the House of Commons on the Children and Young Persons Bill, gave an address on this Act, of which Part V, dealing with foster children, came into force on January 1st. While under-

At the Annual Meeting of the National standing the reason why in some countries there was some form of registration, he was glad, said Mr. Briant, that the Home Office had refused to accept an amendment of the Act, making all illegitimate chlidren wards of the Juvenile Court, and he thought that the Act covered every case where special guardianship was needed. Mr. Briant also paid a warm tribute to the Council.

> The National Council for the Unmarried Mother and her Child have now issued their Fourteenth Annual Report, which shows the great amount of work accomplished, and the help given by the Council in the solution of a peculiarly difficult social problem.

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 is. 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.

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TREASURER'S NOTE

A very successful dance was held on January 3rd. Our most grateful thanks are due to Miss Monica O'Connor, who organised the affair for us, and spared no effort to make it a success. The result was a most enjoyable evening, and the sum of £7 10s. was realised.

We also wish to thank those who helped by providing refreshments, and also those who helped dispense them at the dance.

Subscriptions for 1933 are now due.

P. M. BRANDT.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS. December 1st to January 1st.

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Hon. Secretary: Mrs. A. Stewart Mason, B.A., Brinsworth, Grosvenor Road, Birken-

The annual meeting of the Branch will be held in the Blue Coat Chambers, Liverpool, on Monday, January 30th, at 7-45 p.m. Speakers: Miss Barry, Mrs. Stewart Mason, B.A. and Miss Nancy Stewart Parnell, B.A. Chairman: Miss Crawford. At the recent bye-election the questionnaire of the Alliance was sent to the Parliamentary candidates for the Exchange division of Liverpool.

Subscriptions are now due (Minimum 1s. per annum,) and should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Miss Johnston, 49, Falkner Street, Liverpool, to whom subscriptions to "The Catholic Citizen" 2s. 6d. per annum, should also be sent.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Subscriptions to the Alliance and to the "Catholic Citizen" are now due. We beg all our friends to send their subscriptions without delay, and thus save extra work at the Office. Subscription to the Catholic Citizen 2s. 6d. minimum annual subscription to the Alliance 1s. At the same time we remind members that 1s. does not cover even the expense of sending notices, and we ask them to increase their subscriptions if possible.

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As we go to Press we learn with deep regret of the death of Ada Moore, an indefatigable worker for suffrage and for equality. She will be greatly missed. R.I.P.

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Why you should support The Animal Defence

Anti-Vivisection Society

35 Old Bond Street, London, W.1.

President: The Duchess of Hamilton & Brandon Hon. Director & Founder: Miss Ling-af-Hageby

THE Society has been in existence 25 years, and has worked strenuously to supress cruelty in every form, and to create a spirit of mercy and justice in the treatment of animals. The Society carries on a vigorous campaign to reform the methods of slaughter and transport, to end the horrors of the steel-trap and the fur traffic, to abolish vivisection, and generally to awaken feeling and understanding in regard to the treatment of animals.

The influence of the Society is world-wide. It stands for the principle that the cause of humanity to animals is not a side-issue, but a vital part of civilisation and social development. The Society, therefore, seeks to introduce humane education in every school. The Society's active campaigns for reform are carried out by means of meetings, lectures, extensive distribution of publications, Press publicity, international congresses, exhibitions, demonstrations, etc.

The Society has:

Organised a Deputation, supported by over 1,400 Animal Protection Societies, to the President of the Conference for the Reduction and Limitation of Armaments in Geneva, emphasising the importance of humane education and animal protection as civilising influences in the furtherance of international peace. Built a Model Humane Abattoir at Letchworth. Organised demonstrations of Humane Slaughter in London, Letchworth, Paris, Geneva and other towns, Maintains permanent Humane Exhibitions in London and Geneva. Organised the Sections relating to the protection of animals, in the Lord Mayor's Processions through London in 1929 and 1930. Maintains two motor caravans for purposes of education and agitation. Organised during the European War, veterinary hospitals for sick and wounded horses of the French Army under the authority of the French War Office. Maintained for some years a shop in Piccadilly, London, for making known the facts about Vivisection. Has published numerous articles by medical men and women against Vivisection. Has organised great International Congresses and initiated vigorous Parliamentary Campaigns.

Member's Annual Subscription, 10s.; Life Membership, £5; Associate's, 2s 6d. Cheques and Postal Orders should be made payable to The Animal Defence and Anti-Vivisection Society, 35 Old Bond Street, London, W I. Bankers: The Midland Bank, 36 Old Bond Street, W.I. Secretary: MISS L. K. SCHARTAU.

Telephone: Regent 0845.