

# THE CATHOLIC CITIZEN

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

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

*Francis Thompson.*

## Equal Pay and the London County Council Elections

By L. F. NETTLEFOLD

The forthcoming London County Council Elections on April 3rd offer to those who really want equal pay a unique opportunity to bring real pressure to bear in the right place, in the right way, and at the right time. If they seize this opportunity their pressure can be effective and will have repercussions far beyond the London area.

Here is an opportunity to spot-light Equal Pay as an election issue, and to swing an election on it.

*Equal Pay is a political question. It will only be conceded by those in power when they are convinced they will lose votes by refusing it.*

The London County Council is by far the largest Local Authority in the country. Its biggest responsibility is education, on which it spends 50 per cent. of the amount it raises in rates. It employs more teachers than any other education authority, and has three representatives on the Burnham Committee (the body responsible for negotiating teachers' salaries). It is the only Local Authority which has direct representatives; the others appoint indirectly through joint bodies.

An L.C.C. Election is, therefore, the opportunity to bring voting power to bear directly on Equal Pay, and as will be seen by the following account of recent events on the London County Council, there is every justification for making it a vital issue.

Salary scales for teachers throughout the country are negotiated by the "Burnham" Committee, on which Education Authorities and Teachers' Associations are represented. In theory the representatives of the Education Authorities go "unbriefed" with full power to negotiate freely. On the London County Council there is no "briefing" meeting to instruct them and, therefore, no occasion on which the question of Equal Pay can be raised before the Burnham Committee meets. It can, however, be raised after proposals have been agreed by both sides on the Burnham Committee

when the London County Council Education Committee meets to decide whether to recommend the full Council to accept the proposals. Any resolution passed then would not affect the current award, but the Council's views would be known and on record three years later when the next Burnham Award is under negotiation.

The last Award of the Burnham Committee establishes salary scales for teachers for the period April 1st, 1951, to March 31st, 1954. It retains the differential of roughly 20 per cent. between the basic salary scales of men and women teachers. It leaves Education Authorities a free hand, subject to maximum and minimum limits, to settle their own scales of allowances for posts of special responsibility.

The formal resolution to accept the proposals of the Burnham Committee came before the Education Committee of the London County Council on November 8th, 1950.

It had been arranged that two ex-teachers, both co-opted members of the Education Committee, one Labour and one Conservative, should propose and second an amendment regretting that the Burnham Committee had not taken any steps towards implementing the principle of Equal Pay. But before the Committee met, the Labour member withdrew on strong instructions from the Labour Party leaders.

The following resolution was, therefore, proposed by Miss Nettlefold and seconded by Miss Ambler, both Conservatives:—

"THAT the Council regrets that the economic situation does not permit the complete abolition of the differential between the rates of pay between men and women teachers at the present time, but nevertheless would have welcomed appropriate proposals by the Burnham Committee to reduce the differential as the first step to the final achievement of equal pay."

During the debate it became obvious that there was considerable feeling among members of the Labour Party on the Education Committee (many of whom were strongly pledged to equal pay), and despite the previous action referred to above, the party ban was lifted and the resolution was passed by 39 votes to 5.



This result greatly disconcerted the Labour Party leaders at County Hall. The Resolution was referred to the Finance Committee who resolved that:—

"The Education Committee are asked to reconsider their recommendation relating to the reduction of the differential to the rates of pay of men and women teachers and are asked to take account of the fact that financial consequences to the Council are likely to arise if the Council or Education Committee make public statements of policy on matters of salary and wage fixation which are normally set by the process of collective bargaining."

This was reported to the Education Committee on February 7th, 1951, and, the Party whip on this occasion being firmly enforced, the previous resolution was rescinded by 24 votes to 15, all members of the Labour Party voting against their previous decision.

The whole matter came up again when the question of allowances for posts of special responsibility was under consideration. The proposal originally put forward was the allowances for women should be 90 per cent. of the allowances for men. When this came before the Education Committee on April 25th, Miss Nettlefold (Conservative) moved and Mr. Wechaler (Conservative) seconded, the reference back of the report.

"With a view to raising the proposed salary scales of special allowances for women teachers to amounts equal to the corresponding allowances for men teachers."

It so happened that on this occasion several members of the Labour Party were absent, and the reference back of the report was carried by 18 votes to 17.

This time, surprisingly, although the Labour Party had been outvoted, they stood by the Education Committee's decision, and a revised report was submitted and adopted by the Education Committee and subsequently by the Council, accepting equal allowances for posts of special responsibility.

The moral of this story is plain. Expressions of support for the "principle of equal pay" are completely valueless and individual promises of support totally unreliable. It is a political matter. The only thing that will make the leaders of either party when in power, either at Westminster or County Hall, grant Equal Pay is the fear of losing votes at the next election if they continue to refuse it. If women are really determined to achieve Equal Pay—of which the justice is no longer in question—they must use the weapon of the vote for which many of us fought in the past.

At the London County Council elections on April 3rd, 1952, there is an opportunity to give a clear vote for Equal Pay by voting against the party which has dealt with the claim as did the Labour Party on the London County Council.

This coming election is going to be a very close one. If women will vote against the Labour Party on the London County Council on this occasion on account of their action over Equal Pay and will inform candidates, agents and canvassers on both sides how they intend to vote and their reasons for doing it, they will bring pressure to bear where it will be felt and in the only way that can count.

If it becomes known that the result of the 1952 London County Council election was largely affected by voting on the question of equal pay, the repercussions will be widespread and politicians of both parties will at long last realise that this is a matter that has to be taken seriously. There is a close connection between County Hall and Westminster.

May I, in conclusion, be forgiven a personal note. I am a Conservative Member of the London County Council, but where Equal Pay is involved I am not concerned with the party aspect but with breaking the present deadlock which has existed since 1945.

I was a strong suffragist, had a large share in getting the legal profession opened to women, was a member of the Royal Commission on Equal Pay and a signatory of the Minority Report. And I believe that here is a chance for powerful effective action which we must not miss.

#### TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

Leonora de Alberti in the "Catholic Citizen,"  
15th January, 1927.

We are glad to note the reception given to the Public Places (Order) Bill when Lord Balfour of Burleigh moved the second reading in the House of Lords. Its purpose is to repeal provisions in the existing law, which refer to solicitation by common prostitutes, and other provisions which do not explicitly refer to solicitation, but are sometimes used for dealing with such conduct; to substitute a simple provision, substantially covering the same ground, but applying to all persons alike; and to enact that proceedings shall only be taken on complaint by, or on behalf of, the party aggrieved. As Lord Balfour said, it is a question of common justice, since, as is well known, the present law works unjustly between men and women, and indeed between women themselves. Lord Balfour does not believe, nor do we, in the fear expressed by some of the opponents of the Bill, that solicitation will become rampant if the Bill becomes law. Public opinion will not tolerate the old condition of the streets in this or in any other country. The best defence, said Lord Balfour, is the defence of a higher and equal moral standard—not one law for the man and another for the woman. If the Bill becomes law it will no longer be possible for a woman to be brought before a magistrate and as a common prostitute convicted for solicitation, on police evidence only; in every case it would be necessary for evidence to be given by the person annoyed.—  
*A Just Demand.*

## Notes and Comments

We are glad to publish Miss Nettlefold's challenging article on Equal Pay and the L.C.C. Elections. We emphasise that the policy suggested is non-party. It was the weapon used in the suffrage campaign.

\* \* \*

A Memorandum has been sent in by St. Joan's Alliance to the Royal Commission to inquire into the law relating to marriage and divorce.

\* \* \*

We remind voters to be sure to see that their names are on the register of electors before January 24th. Otherwise they will be ineligible to vote in national and local elections this year.

\* \* \*

The Equal Pay Campaign Committee has written to the new Chancellor of the Exchequer asking him to carry out the accepted principle of equal pay without further delay, and to allow men and women to share in whatever sacrifices may be necessary in the present state of emergency. Mr. Butler replied in terms that have been used by all Chancellors of the Exchequer of late years. Certainly he believes in equal pay, certainly he hopes to introduce it within the life of this Parliament, if—and but—and when—is there any need for us to finish the sentence.

\* \* \*

The difficulties that confront the mothers of illegitimate babies in Germany, whose fathers are now in England, are still unsolved. At the annual meeting of the National Council for the Unmarried Mother and her Child, on December 11th, it was stated that neither the War Office nor the Foreign Office seem able to help.

The same problems arise where United States forces are stationed in this country, but the United States authorities are more helpful, and are frequently willing to accept responsibility.

Some letters to *The Times* have put the case for these German mothers, who seek affiliation orders against members of the British forces of occupation; in others there seems to be a resurgence of the double moral standard by which the blame is laid upon the woman. It is a cruel and insulting thing to suggest—as one letter does—that it is the young and inexperienced youth who is the victim of women whose "Continental ideas on promiscuity" differ from our own. This is the double moral standard with a vengeance, with British hypocrisy thrown in.

The chairman and hon. secretary of the Alliance had the pleasure of meeting the five members of the Japanese Social Welfare Delegation, guests of the British Council, at a party given by the International Alliance of Women Hospitality Committee at the University Women's Club.

The leader of the delegation, Mrs. Oku, is a member of the House of Councillors in the Japanese National Diet. Mrs. Oku had for thirty years addressed public meetings on women's rights in spite of arrests on account of the ban on women speaking at public meetings. Mrs. Yamakawa specialised in education and is a member of the National Educational Institute; Mrs. Tanabe is Arbitrator and Councillor of Tokyo Family Court; while Miss Kubo is a research member of the Fabian Institute of Japan. The only Catholic member of the delegation, Mrs. Kotaro Tanaka, is a graduate of the Sacred Heart College, Tokyo, and a social welfare worker. She edits children's magazines and is a member of the Child Welfare Council of Tokyo. Mrs. Tanaka was interested to learn of the work of St. Joan's Alliance when members had the pleasure of entertaining her to lunch.

\* \* \*

In the recent General Election in India, Mrs. Radhadevi Goenka, a member of the Congress Party, was elected for the Ugwa constituency of Madhya Pradesh. She defeated six men, all of whom lost their deposits.

\* \* \*

When Monsieur Spaak addressed the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe at Strasbourg after his dramatic resignation from the chair on December 11th, he accused the Assembly of "dying from sheer wisdom." He recalled the scene in Shaw's "St. Joan" when the young man who was to be the Maid's companion in her battles said: "Let us follow the mad; we see where the wise men have led us."

So many references to St. Joan followed in other speeches that the Chairman, Signor Jacini, remarked that it was as well she was not present to add to the argument.

\* \* \*

We offer our deep sympathy to Dr. Maria Schlüter-Hermkes, vice-president of St. Joan's International Alliance, on the death of her husband, Ministerialrat a.D. Johannes Schlüter; to Mrs. McCann, chairman of the Merseyside Branch of the Alliance on the death of her husband, Dr. McCann; and to Miss Marygold Sorby on the death of her mother. We ask our members to pray for them. R.I.P.



## ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE

AND

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Signed articles do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Society

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### Three Jubilees

For Australians, or at least for Victorians, 1951 has been a year of three Jubilees.

Throughout all the Commonwealth the fiftieth anniversary of Federation has been celebrated by pageants varying from the slightly grotesque (a re-creation of Stuart's exploration of the Murrumbidgee River in the dress of the period!) to processions of our Lady of Fatima, and the more conventional dinners and balls in the Federal Capital itself.

The State of Victoria celebrated the hundredth anniversary of responsible Government as a State and it also celebrated something which perhaps had an equally important effect on its future history—the discovery of gold. The naive idea that most Australians are descended from convicts is less prevalent than it used to be—how prolific these poor devils behind their bars must have been—but many of us are not unwilling to remember that we are descended from that hardy stock who, allured by the gleam of gold, may not have discovered any, but just in their stride founded a nation.

For Australian women, special interest centred in a Women's Convention at Canberra. It was attended by women from all States. Some must have travelled as far as from Leningrad to London to be there. Dame Enid Lyons was in the chair—a signal but well-deserved honour—and many of us felt that she showed a new facet of her ability, in keeping speakers within their time limit, in condensing where there was any temptation to garrulity, and in handling the gathering with tact, charm and realism.

The usual comment was heard. What was the good of it all? A not very voluble spinster answered: "There was not a woman at the convention—doctors, lawyers, journalists, Members

of Parliament, social workers, who was not there by the efforts of women who organised such gatherings in the past and forced their views upon the community. If you ask what results such pioneers produced, we answer modestly.—We in turn have a torch to hand on and we know only the old, old ways of doing it."

Canberra itself was almost incredibly beautiful in the height of an Australian spring — with its ring of mountains — blue as only Australian mountains can be blue after rain.

The Federal Parliament met in Melbourne until 1927, and it was in that year that the present King and Queen as Duke and Duchess of York opened the Parliament in its new setting. That pageant was a strange, almost ludicrous, mixture of splendour and primitiveness of the "Bush Capital" sustaining traditions that were older than the Wars of the Roses.

In a "baby" car three of us travelled the 500 miles to be present at the ceremony. We camped out and the car had almost disappeared under our baggage like an overloaded ant. That was in autumn; the leaves were golden and the far peak of Kosciuska was crowned with snow—but it was no whiter than the frost which surrounded our camp beyond the ambit of our camp fire. The air of the Monaro Plateau in autumn was like champagne, like something created for youth in the beginning of a great endeavour. Much has happened since then, to us as individuals, to Australia, to the world. Many who graced that day have "gone before us with the sign of faith." War has racked us, but with a tear for those who are gone, with a smile for the future, with courage and faith and prayer, we light our single candle beside the cake.

ANNA T. BRENNAN

### A VALIANT BISHOP

St. Joan's Alliance mourns the death of the Bishop of Pella, an old and valued friend. Monsignor William Brown, as he then was, joined the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society when, as he recalled later, "feminism was not fashionable," and few of the clergy cared to be associated with the campaign for votes for women. Ever since, the Alliance has been able to count on his support, on its platform for equal franchise and on all the occasions that have marked its history. He never failed to send in his subscription early in the year, and with the last one, this year, enclosed a characteristic note, "wish you much success." One saying of his that comes to mind is: "For any reform it is necessary to agitate, agitate; it is no use sitting down and waiting for someone else."

In the sermon he preached at Gabrielle Jeffery's Requiem in St. Patrick's, Soho, on April 20th, 1940, he said: "I am very proud that I have been associated with women who were champions of their own sex," and after praising the founder's courage, he continued: "It is the keeping on that matters . . . she put her hand to the plough, and she never looked back."

The same may with reverence be said of the bishop himself. His outstanding services as bishop, parish priest and educationalist have been described by others. His greatest triumph in the sphere of education was his successful negotiation of the Education (Scotland) Act of 1918, which gave a solution to the problem of Catholic Schools that has stood the test of time. It was a keen disappointment that a similar solution was unacceptable in this country.

During the struggle over the 1944 Education Bill, the Alliance sent a copy of Bishop Brown's fine pamphlet on Catholic Schools to every member of Parliament before the great debate.

The last time the hon. secretary saw Bishop Brown, a few months before he died, he was himself tolling the bell of his church for the funeral of a humble parishioner.

He was buried in his beloved St. Anne's, Vauxhall, the church he had built and of which he was the devoted parish priest for so many years. The Alliance was represented at his Requiem by the hon. secretary. May he rest in peace.

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### CHILD MARRIAGE

The question of child marriage was raised by Mr. Lannung (Denmark) in the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations, on the debate on the Report of the Trusteeship Council (A/1856), on December 7th.

Mr. Lannung said that the Danish delegation had always been particularly interested in questions connected with the status of women, and child marriage in Trust Territories. In Tanganyika, a territory which he himself had visited, the social status of African women was generally regarded as inferior to that of men. Polygamy and the payment of bride price were still practised. Similarly, child marriage was practised in the British administered Cameroons, and the Trusteeship Council had, at its fourth session, adopted a Recommendation requesting the Administering Authority to forbid such practices by law. The Administering Authority had replied that it was better to use persuasion and pressure on public opinion. In Togoland, under British administration, the new electoral law granted the right to vote to women on the same terms as men, and the practice of child marriage seemed to be on the wane.

The General Assembly in Resolution 323 (IV) had expressed its satisfaction at the recommendation of the Council concerning the absolute prohibition of such uncivilised practices as child marriage, and had recommended, at the same time, that measures be taken to bring about the abolition of corporal punishment. While the question of corporal punishment was on the agenda, Mr. Lannung pointed out that the question of child marriage had not been pursued, and that it was time for all authorities to eliminate such uncivilised practices as child marriage. He added that child marriage had been prohibited in the territories under French and Belgian administration.

### ANNUAL MEETING

The 41st Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, March 15th. Nominations for Committee and resolutions for the agenda must reach the Secretary not later than February 4th.

Nominations must be duly proposed and seconded and the consent of the candidate obtained.

Subscriptions to the Alliance and Catholic Citizen (minimum 10s.) are now due.

Members will be glad to know that Dame Vera Laughton Mathews has made good progress and is now convalescent.



## The Month in Parliament

There was not a great deal of importance to us in the general questions debated by Parliament between the end of November and the Christmas Recess. Questions, however, were as usual most interesting.

On December 3rd, Mr. Martin Lindsay asked the Prime Minister "when he intended to initiate an all-party conference to consider proposals for the *Reform of the House of Lords*." Mr. Churchill replied that it could not in any case be held before "sometime next year."

On the 6th, Mr. Barnett Janner asked the Home Secretary whether he will introduce "legislation to bring *bastardy orders* into line with married women's orders and guardianship orders in respect of the maximum payable for a child and continued payments beyond the age of 16 years." Sir David Maxwell Fyfe replied that a Private Member's Bill (Mr. Crouch, North Dorset) had been introduced the preceding day. Mr. Janner then asked "If that Bill is not reached will (the Home Secretary) introduce a Bill, and if it is reached will the Government support it?" To this, Sir David replied: "We will certainly give our help to see that this matter is put right in the sense the hon. Member wants."

On the 5th, as Sir David said, the list of *Private Members' Bills* was introduced. It includes several of interest to us.

*Children and Young Persons (Amendment) Bill*. "To amend the Act of 1933, and for purposes connected therewith." Presented by Mr. Norman Cole, supported, among others, by Miss Ward and Viscountess Davidson (February 15th).

*Affiliation Orders Bill*, referred to above, presented by Mr. Crouch, supported, among others, by Mr. Ede, Mrs. Corbet and Mrs. Hill (February 29th).

*Declaration of Human Rights Bill* "to establish throughout the United Kingdom and the non-self-governing Colonies and Protectorates a standard of Human Rights and Freedoms applicable to all His Majesty's subjects, without distinction of race, colour, sex, language, religion, birth or other status," presented by Mr. Fenner Brockway, and supported, among others, by Sir Richard Acland, Mrs. White, Mr. Foot and Mr. Mikardo (April 25th).

Lastly, and most important of all:—

*Women's Disabilities Bill* "to remove certain legal disabilities of women," presented by Dr. Summerskill (April 25th).

Incidentally, it is interesting to see, among the other Private Members' Bills, one to make hypnotism unlawful in public entertainments and one (which one might have hoped would no longer have been necessary) designed to prevent cockfighting.

On December 7th there was a most fruitful adjournment debate on *Higher Education for Africans*. Mr. James Johnson argued the urgency of providing more opportunities on the spot. He quoted figures including those for women. He said: "the distressing feature is the alarmingly low proportion of women. Only 43 women were (in 1950) in colleges or universities in the whole of the African Continent, which has a population of 60 million people."

The picture is particularly black, he said, in East and Central Africa. "Only Makerere has been brought up to University standard, and the figures are most illuminating. In science there are 68 men and one woman, in the medical faculty there are 30 men and no women at all, and in the education department there are 38 men and no women again. This is a sad picture."

Mr. Alport, seconding, said: "The second point which I should like to raise is . . . the education of women. I am of the opinion that many of the problems which we face in Africa can only be solved provided we can elevate the status of African women in the African community . . . In East Africa, with the exception of Uganda, there was one woman as opposed to 49 men undergoing university education in the United Kingdom, and there were five women as opposed to 184 men undertaking university education outside the United Kingdom. The disparity between these figures is obviously lamentable. I believe that the Colonial Office and the Governments not only of East Africa but of West Africa as well should—with great value to the solution of African social and economic problems—pay special attention to the whole problem of female education in Africa, and in particular to the provision of better facilities for those who wish to undertake higher education both in this country and elsewhere."

Mrs. White, following, spoke of the shortage of secondary schools for girls, and went on to say: "I am sure that, as we fought our way to higher education in this country, it is essential that we should do so in Africa, and especially if we educate the men, because there must be wives to take their places with the educated men. For instance, men teachers must have wives who can also be leaders in the community. I hope that we shall not have it said in Africa, as we have sometimes had it said in this country, that to educate women is a waste because they are likely to get married, for there are ample opportunities, I am sure, in Africa for the married women themselves in the promotion of education—for instance in informal education on which so much of the advance of education in Africa must be based."

Mr. Lennox Boyd (Minister of State for Colonial Affairs) in his reply said: "I share also the view expressed . . . in regard to the all-important part of the education of women in Africa. We will certainly do all that we can to overcome the formidable difficulties that, as all who have spoken know, surround that particular problem."

On November 29th there was an entertaining little incident which demonstrated one kind of "equality."

Mrs. Braddock complained, during a Division, that another member had, as she said, "punched" her, on her way to the lobby. The Speaker investigated the complaint after the Division was over and Mrs. Braddock explained, "I was pushed very hard on the left shoulder and I commented about it. I do not know what happened afterwards, but I want to say that had that happened to me outside this House the hon. gentleman would not have been on his feet for two seconds."

Luckily the incident ended most amicably.

B. M. HALPERN

## REVIEWS

**The Life of The Virgin Mary** (*Das Marien-Leben*), by Rainer Maria Rilke. The German Text with an English Translation and Introduction by Stephen Spender (Vision Press, 8s. 6d.).

Mr. Spender has written a translator's introduction to this moving and interesting cycle of poems where he relates how the first inspiration for them came to Rilke when he saw sketches by the painter Heinrich Vogeler, of an *Annunciation* and a scene *On the Flight*. This explains their pictorial quality—as though each scene were vividly etched in the author's mind before he put the words on paper. The translation could have been no easy matter. The result is beautiful and satisfying, more especially in the simpler poems such as *Visitation of the Virgin, Before the Passion*, and the small gem—*Pietà*. The German text is printed in parallel with the English text so that those familiar with the German language can immediately make a comparison of texts.

Apparently this cycle has been hitherto somewhat neglected. Perhaps this presentation to English readers will remedy the neglect and the reading of these poems become a moving experience to many more people. S.E.

**Maid of Orleans**, by Kathleen Stokes (Lutterworth Press, 8s. 6d.).

This new version of the story of St. Joan for older children is not really at all satisfactory. It is easy to read and not badly written, but the

blending of fact and fiction is misleading. For instance, one of her child friends in Domrémy is made to see one of her visions too, and it is described as "a great white shadow gliding along the grass" and "the figure, or shadow, or whatever the thing was."

St. Joan herself emerges merely as a very brave and pious, but rather queer girl. As may be imagined, although not overtly Protestant, it is far from Catholic in tone. To quote again, " . . . sent to her death by the Church she loved. No, it is unfair to say she was sent to her death by the Church. She was martyred by unscrupulous men, traitors to their native land, traitors also to the faith they loved."

B.H.

**The British Police**. By J. M. Hart, M.A. (Allen and Unwin, 15s.)

This latest book in the New Town and County Hall Series, supplies information on the history and administration of the police service in England, which will be of great value to students of social science, and also to the general public, which tends to take the devoted service of the police for granted.

The least effective chapter is that on policewomen, in which the writer gives, as an impartial observer, an account of the history of the movement for the employment of properly trained women in the Force, which leaves an impression far from impartial. He concludes by saying that "in ten years' time it will be easier than it is now to make a proper assessment of the usefulness of policewomen and of the numbers which it is desirable to employ in the different types of area."

Surely, few thoughtful people nowadays deny the policewoman's value to the community or consider that with nearly 20 per cent. women to men in the Force throughout the country "saturation point has been reached."

In a paragraph marshalling arguments for and against equal pay for work of equal value, the writer truly says: "We may take what criteria we like for estimating the value of services, but there seems no good reason for saying that because a policewoman does not perform the same work as a policeman she is worth less," but his conclusion that "perhaps one day they will be taken on instead of men because they are cheaper" is scarcely a serious contribution to the discussion. P.C.C.

**The Answer to Communism**, by Douglas Hyde (Paternoster Publications, 5s.).

This book by Douglas Hyde, who was for many years on the executive of *The Daily Worker*, contains an obvious challenge to



Christians. He describes men who are "hungry for a cause, starved for a faith in which to believe." Fear is no weapon against Communism; it is only a waste of time and energy while apathy among Christians is "almost a crime and being in a rut almost treachery."

It is interesting to note that Mr. Hyde says, "after only a few years of modernism the indissolubility of the marriage tie which once seemed so reactionary . . . is already being seen . . . as the most up-to-the-moment solution for what has become a major problem." So with all the problems of modern life, the answers are contained in the Faith once delivered to the saints and it is the responsibility of Catholics to know and apply them. P.C.C.

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E.C.

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### 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 10s. which includes *The Catholic Citizen*. 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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