

THE  
**WOMAN'S LEADER**  
 AND THE COMMON CAUSE

REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER.

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NOTES AND NEWS.

**The Opening of Parliament.**

No stranger to British politics present on Tuesday at the State opening of Parliament would have guessed that according to the gloomy prognostications of certain of our contemporaries the country is heading straight for perdition. On the contrary, prominent Conservatives and Liberals readily admitted that the new House was likely to be full of vivid interest, and the proceedings up to the time of writing indicate that all parties are meeting the unprecedented situation in a way which reflects credit on the Mother of Parliaments.

**The King's Speech.**

By the time this paper is in the hands of our readers it will be known whether the critical division which will decide the fate of the Government will have been taken this week, or, as seems more probable at the time of writing, will be deferred until next week. An almost unique state of affairs in politics has produced a King's Speech different to any other in our recollection. We do not find the customary necessarily short statement dealing with legislation which it is genuinely hoped to carry through during an always too short session, but rather an elaborate statement of Conservative policy at home and abroad inevitably framed more for propaganda than political purposes, which makes it of academic rather than practical value. As an indication, however, of what the Conservative Party is likely to support in the next Parliament, it deserves our careful consideration. In foreign politics references to reparations and the settlement of Europe, the unqualified support of the League of Nations and in home affairs, to public works for the relief of the unemployed, the development of juvenile unemployment centres, to the extension of the probation system, the inquiry into agriculture, and many other matters concerned with social welfare, give us grounds for satisfaction. With regard to the reforms for which this paper specially stands, while regretting the absence of any allusion to Equal Franchise, Equal Guardianship, and Widows' Pensions, we welcome the reference to the Separation and Maintenance Orders Bill, and to the Bill amending the law relating to the legitimation of children born out of wedlock whose parents have subsequently married.

**A Birthday Party.**

On Thursday, 10th January, the League of Nations Union celebrated the fourth birthday of the League with a luncheon party at the Criterion Restaurant, presided over by Professor Gilbert Murray. In his presidential speech, Professor Murray took the opportunity of expressing satisfaction with the Albert Hall utterances of Mr. Ramsay MacDonald on the preceding Tuesday. "It would be his policy," Mr. MacDonald had said, "to complete the League of Nations and to use it without reserve as the chief instrument for establishing international justice." Professor Murray called attention to the use of the word "justice" rather than "peace," and pointed out that the way to peace was through justice. Lord Cecil, who was present and spoke as chief guest of the Union, gave a general stocktaking of the League's position, and dwelt upon the hopeful conclusion that "the League stood stronger in the world than it had ever stood."

**Prices and Produce.**

On 10th January the Departmental Committee on the Distribution and Prices of Agricultural Produce, issued its final report. Our readers will remember that four interim reports on particular foodstuffs have already been issued, and have been the subject of comment in our pages. With the final report it is impossible for us to deal comprehensively, since so many points of vital interest are involved in it. Two findings, however, deserve special attention. The first relates to the part played by the middleman. The Committee are convinced not merely that distributive charges on home produced food are excessive, but that distributive machinery is cumbrous and inefficient. Taken as a whole, the Committee opines distributive costs are a far heavier burden than society will permanently consent to bear. As regards the various trading and marketing organizations in the distributive trades, the Committee finds that these aim largely at trade defence, and are almost entirely lacking in any constructive aims connected with the improvement of the service concerned. To judge from the findings of the Committee, the policy of the distributors has been that of "Large profit on a small turnover"—with very doubtful success as regards their own ultimate pecuniary interest. The second point which calls for remark is the Committee's suggestion that the customer of to-day is failing to exercise adequately his right of discrimination between one retailer and another. The war-time habit of mind still clogs his initiative. His local retailer still looms over his fate; the semi-official and unchangeable giver or withholder of daily bread. In an article next week Ann Pope will deal with certain aspects of the report in greater detail.

**"A Mug's Game."**<sup>1</sup>

Owing to the dissolution of Parliament, the Select Committee appointed to consider the question of the imposition of a duty on betting, was unable to conclude its task. It has, however, issued a report which provides a record of its proceedings and the minute minutes of evidence taken, which will be of great sociological interest, and it is regrettable that the high price, £1 1s. 6d., will prohibit its wide circulation. Before separating the Committee reached and adopted fifteen out of sixty-two paragraphs of a report presented by the Chairman and rejected by nine votes to seven an alternative report by Mr. Isaac Foot. The Committee went the

<sup>1</sup> Report of a Select Committee to consider the question of imposing a duty on Betting. (139. Price £1 2s. 6d. net.)

length of admitting that a duty was "practicable," though by eleven votes to seven the words "and desirable" were deleted. The Committee was unanimous, however, in their views on the present inconsistency of the law as between rich and poor, and on the grave dangers associated with the widespread betting habit.

#### Betting and Housekeeping Money.

In the above-mentioned report reference is made to the increase of betting among women and to the canvassing of working-class homes in order to induce women to bet. This practice is described as "most pernicious, as it can only be done out of the housekeeping money and probably without the husband's knowledge." Mrs. Bompas, of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, in a letter to *The Times*, writes: "It is surely a misconception of the economics of working class married life to imply that money spent by the wife on amusement or the satisfaction of personal desires is a greater loss to the family income than money similarly spent by the husband. When a man spends his money on drink or betting it is generally without his wife's knowledge, and certainly at the expense of the 'housekeeping money.'"

#### British Empire Exhibition.

A women's section of this exhibition has recently been formed on which the Queen and Duchess of York are respectively Patron and President. The Women's Section is independent of the Board, and an important item of its work will be to consider how best to welcome the visitors from the Empire Overseas. It has already been announced in these columns that the International Council of Women are arranging to have a pavilion at the Exhibition, at which conferences and meetings will be held and which will be let out to other women's organizations for stated periods. The Executive Committee of the Women's Section includes Lady Galway, Lady Novar, Mrs. Gideon Murry, Mrs. J. R. Clynes, and Mrs. Strachey, together with representatives from the Royal Colonial Institute, the International Council of Women, the National Council of Women, the Victoria League, the Overseas League, the Y.W.C.A., the English-Speaking Union, etc.

#### The Ministry of Healing.

The report of the Committee appointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury on spiritual means of healing has just been published by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge in pamphlet form. The Committee was composed of representatives of the clergy and of the medical profession, including one woman, Dr. Jane Walker, with the Bishop of Oxford as Chairman; the report has been signed by all its members, though two members, Sir Clifford Allbutt and Sir Robert Armstrong Jones, dissociate themselves from the recommendation on the use of unction. We hope later to deal with the recommendations of this interesting report.

#### Marriage by Purchase.

Instances were given by correspondents in *The Times* last week of husbands in this country selling their wives in the public market little over a hundred years ago. In one case the lady in question, wife of a farmer, brought him the sum of eighteenpence, "and in order that the bargain might stand firm, they had writings drawn."

#### Final Bar Examinations.

We most heartily congratulate the following on having passed their final examination for the Bar, and are delighted to see so many names added to the Roll of Women Barristers:—

*Class I:* Certificates of Honour (in order of merit).—Stevens, Mary Robina, G.

*Class II* (in order of merit).—Willis, Irene Cooper, I.; Malone, Sidney Alice, G.; Price, Edith Mary, I.; Macmillan, Chrystal, M.; Steyn, Gladys Evelyn, M.; Leadley Brown, Cicely, L.

*Class III.*—Gibbs, Henrietta Mary, Lilian, M.

#### A Woman Pharmacist and a Woman Accountant.

Miss Agnes Thomson Borrowman enjoys the distinction of being the first woman member of the Society's Board of Examiners. Miss Borrowman, who is a Scotswoman, has already done some original work in her own field, and has taken a spirited line with regard to the diffidence of women pharmacists in their claims to equality of remuneration and treatment with male members of the profession.

Miss Ethel Watts, B.A., was the first woman to pass the final examination of the Institute of Chartered Accountants. Other women are practising as accountants, some as members of the Society of Incorporated Accountants, and one, Miss Harris-Smith, has been made a Fellow of both Societies. The final examination has a very high standard, and includes subjects such as Accountancy, Company Law, Partnership Law, Income Tax, etc., etc.

#### Women and Agriculture.

We congratulate Miss Courtauld, of Earls Colne, Halstead, on her election as president of the Essex Agricultural Society.

#### Lady Astor's "At Homes."

Lady Astor's political "At Homes" have become a well-known and much appreciated feature of the Parliamentary Sessions. Unlike most political hostesses, Lady Astor does not confine her hospitality to members of her own political party, but asks men and women of other parties and of every point of view. Her monthly "At Homes" which give members of organizations an opportunity of meeting Members of Parliament, Government Officials, etc., are of the utmost value in bringing together many who share the same interests from different points of view. On Friday, 11th January, guests were invited to meet Mrs. Fawcett, and the eight Women Members of Parliament—a worthy occasion—and the spacious rooms of 4 St. James Square were crowded with those who had come to do honour to these women.

#### New Editor of "The Queen."

Miss N. G. Royde Smith, who was for many years the literary editor first of the *Saturday Westminster* and recently of the *Weekly Westminster*, has accepted the important position of editor of *The Queen*. The number of women editors is very small, and it is gratifying to think that the post has been given to a woman whose work has shown the range and quality of Miss Royde Smith's. Under her direction the "Problems and Prizes pages" of the *Weekly Westminster*, and the poems and essays they contained each week have played an important part in modern literature and literary criticism. She has also recently won for herself a high place among contemporary dramatic critics. Since the days of Lady Colin Campbell we can recall no woman editor of a general paper of real distinction, and we hope that Miss Royde Smith will establish a new tradition.

#### Ourselves.

We have much satisfaction in being able to report that the last £50 required to make up the £850 required has just reached us from Dr. Elizabeth Courtauld, who has also generously promised a new typewriter for the office. We may add that though there will be no more public appeals, any additional financial assistance which may be sent us will be money well invested from the point of view of the best interests of the paper, as a little extra expenditure at the present time would bring in rich returns in better production, increased advertisements, and circulation. In reply to some letters of friendly criticism that have reached us, we further add that we are not yet satisfied with our front page, and hope that we shall be able to produce something more pleasing to the eye before long.

*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.

#### NEXT WEEK AND AFTER.

We have pleasure in announcing an article in next week's issue by Stella Benson, now Mrs. O'Gorman Anderson, of Yunnan, China, the magic of whose novels and verses has delighted many of us, entitled "An Extract from a Chinese Diary." In view of the critical political situation, additional space will be allotted within the next few weeks to Parliamentary news in addition to "Notes from Westminster" from our Parliamentary correspondent. Articles by Miss Tancred on the present position of Women Police, by Miss Kathleen Courtney on the European Situation, by Ann Pope on the Consumer's Responsibility, Margaret Macmillan, and others will appear within the next few weeks.

## NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER.

By OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT.

Certain Parliaments in the past have become known by certain names, for instance, there is the Long Parliament, and the Rump Parliament. Is it not possible that the present Parliament may become known to history as the Stalemate Parliament?

We have three great political parties—Conservative, Liberal, and Labour—neither have an independent working majority, so there is bound to be a working coalition between two of the parties in order that the government may be carried on.

It is interesting to note that each party appealed to the country for a mandate; the bulk of Conservatives asked for a mandate for Protection, the Labour Party for a mandate for Capital Levy; and the Liberal Party for Free Trade and anti-Socialism. The Conservatives and the Labour Party both failed to obtain their mandate. The Liberals came back with increased members, but still the smallest party of the three.

The position is most confused. Though the Government went to the country having had a majority of over 70 in the last Parliament, and now return in a minority approaching 100, they are still numerically the strongest party in the new House of Commons, and therefore would seem, on the democratic theory of the greater number ruling, to have best claim to be in office, but the fact remains, whatever party forms the Government in the new Parliament it must be in a minority in the House of Commons—a most unfortunate state of affairs, and one which creates great difficulties to all parties, but perhaps the greatest of all to the Liberals. Had they gone to the country as Free Traders and as strong opponents of Mr. Baldwin's Protection policy, and had Mr. Baldwin still declared his intention to pursue that policy, their position would have been easier, but the Protection policy having been dropped the situation is changed, as the immediate danger to Free Trade has passed. But a further difficulty confronts the Liberal Party. They went to the country not only as anti-Protectionists, but equally as anti-Socialists. If they turn the present Government out of office it will mean a Socialistic Government must take its place. The question for the

Liberals to decide is whether the majority of those who voted for them would have preferred Mr. Baldwin's Government to remain in office, having abandoned Protection, or whether they would have preferred a Labour Government to be placed in power. One thing is clear, the present situation presents to the nation a great constitutional problem.

The Government may claim they have the right to remain in office as the party that won more seats than any other at the last General Election. The Labour Party claim that if the Government are defeated on a vote of confidence they have the right to form a Government as the next largest party in the Commons, while the Liberals claim that their chance must come if the Labour Party are also outvoted in the House. The weakness of the last argument rests on the fact that it is in the power of the Liberal Party to defeat in turn the present Government and a subsequent Labour administration, and thus procure the Government for themselves.

It is not proposed in this article to discuss the merits of the different parties, but merely to refer to the position that now prevails at Westminster. Nor is it certain that under the present conditions of parties another General Election would make the position easier. The great question seems to be are we to have in future a House of Commons formed of groups? If so, surely we must have fixed periods for Parliaments. To allow the Prime Minister to dissolve Parliament in the old days of two great political parties may have worked well, but to allow anyone the same right who chanced to be Prime Minister in a House of Commons consisting of groups would be quite another matter, as under the group system government would change with much greater rapidity, as experience in France has shown.

There still remains the alternative of the great centre Party.

[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.—E.D.]

## THE WHISKY RUNNERS.

On 29th September of last year a correspondent to the *Spectator* called attention to the dissemination of a circular inviting the investment of British capital in whisky-running operations off the U.S.A. coast. "The scheme," remarked the editor of the *Spectator*, "is a disgrace to those who make it and to those who respond to it." Such must be the considered opinion of all decent citizens. Nevertheless, the enterprise thus characterized, appears to have flourished, and its circulars are still being disseminated. One of them found its way into our hands this week, and we therefore take the opportunity of presenting its contents to our readers.

It is issued from Yeoman House, Haymarket, in the name of one, Lieut.-Col. Sir Broderick Hartwell, who announces that he is "shipping a fourth cargo of whisky abroad within the next few weeks," and promises to partakers in the enterprise "a certain 20 per cent. profit . . . every 60 days." He goes on to explain that he has arranged with an American syndicate to take at least 10,000 cases of high-class Scotch whisky a month, and that a deposit of £10,000 in U.S.A. Gold Bonds has already been lodged as guarantee of payment in cash "on arrival at a point 25 miles from the shore." Then follows a short account of the rich returns reaped by participators in connection with the three preceding shipments, winding up with a "personal guarantee" of 4s. in the £1 for a minimum subscription of £3 on the fourth shipment. This profit is to be paid within 60 days from the date on which the vessel leaves England—so calculated as to allow "a month for bottling, labelling, and packing, a month for transport, and a month lying off the coast for unloading." Would-be subscribers are at the same time reminded that "the export of whisky from this country is perfectly legal. It helps British trade, increases employment, and swells the National Revenue."

So much for the prospectus. A more repulsive section of the circular is, however, to be found on its back page, where Lieut.-Col. Sir Broderick Hartwell gives us a series of extracts designed to excite ridicule against the Prohibitionist policy of the U.S.A., and indeed to cast aspersions upon our friendly relations with that country. The latter object is furthered by two passages published under the title "The great and friendly U.S.A." The first, signed "W. M.," lays stress upon the onerous terms of our recent debt settlement with the U.S.A. The second, signed "B. H." (Lieut.-Col. Sir Broderick Hartwell, no doubt), follows up the matter in the following terms:—"And isn't it odd how that 'ominous fall' in the value of the £1 ALWAYS occurs just when we are due to pay our dear 'friends'

as below? Of course it means a few MORE millions from the poor old tax-payer's pocket—but then that, of course, is not the fault of the 'great and friendly' United States. Oh, gracious, no!" Wherefore, the following moral, aptly drawn by "B. H.":—"There are few things we can sell to the U.S.A. to get a 'bit of our own back'; but Scotch whisky is one—therefore, if they want it, let us by all means sell it to them and get some good American money for it, and as much as possible." The second and third groups of extracts, from the *New York Herald* and the *Evening Standard* respectively, dwell upon the widespread evasion of the U.S.A. prohibition laws. They are designed to illustrate the moral that "The People of the U.S.A. want Scotch whisky and will have it," and that the authorities are not particularly keen to put a stop to liquor-running activities. Thus concludes Lieut.-Col. Sir Broderick Hartwell's statement of his case for an enterprise designed to "help British Trade" at a profit of 20 per cent. per 60 days.

Now all this is, of course, perfectly legal. No violation of any law, British or American, is involved in the sale or transshipment of whisky outside territorial waters. The law is broken not by the British skipper who carries the stuff to within 25 miles of the U.S.A. coast, but by the American skipper who runs it ashore. But the British skipper who follows this course, knowing and glorying in the illegal sequel to his operations is, so it seems to us, sailing dangerously near the wind. He is actively conniving at a violation of the laws of a friendly—we do not, like "B. H.," write the word in inverted commas—power. His case is one degree better and two degrees worse than the case of the Russian Communist organization, which expends money in this country for the purpose of subverting our laws and government. It is one degree better because the Russian Communist organization which we have in mind, the Third International, was an official organ of the Government and not, like Lieut.-Col. Sir Broderick Hartwell, an irresponsible private individual. But it is two degrees worse because in the first place it is inspired by pecuniary profit rather than by political principle, and because in the second place it is carried through at the expense of a friendly and not of a semi-hostile power. But all said and done, there is not much to choose between the two as regards their effect upon international law, order, and courtesy. We should like to see the development in this country of such a volume of articulate public opinion as would render postal advertisement of this shady whisky-running scheme a practical impossibility.

WHAT I REMEMBER.<sup>1</sup> XIX.

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

## IRELAND (continued).

Much later I was in the north of Ireland escorted by my old friend, Miss Dorothea Roberts. She was herself an Irishwoman and an eager promoter of many kind schemes for benefiting the girls and women of Donegal and other parts of N.W. Ulster. She had started a knitting industry in which the workers were paid the full value of what they produced, and were thus protected against the exploiter and profiteer. I was struck by the very flourishing look of the village shops in the north, well stocked with excellent grocery of all kinds, tea at 5s. per lb. and so on. But here, too, the trail of crime and compulsion was plainly visible. Boycotting had lately been invented; it was a form of bitter compulsion on people in humble positions, but caused comparatively little inconvenience to the well-to-do. These could provide themselves with necessaries by parcel post, and I remember very well how one large family enjoyed the joke of seeing the postman labouring up their drive heavily laden, he being the very man who had promoted the boycott against them. But it was very different with people who had only a narrow income to meet necessary expenditure. We stayed the night in a little fishing lodge at G., in county Donegal. The man fulfilled his engagement to look after his employer's fishing, this was what he was paid for; he was also a Protestant. These were his only crimes, but he had been severely boycotted, at the time of our visit, for eight months. His wife told us with tears in her eyes that when it was absolutely necessary to go to a shop for tea, sugar, and other things which they could not make for themselves, her husband went at the peril of his life. There was a bridge which it was necessary to cross, and there he was often waylaid by a crowd of rough youths and assailed with sticks and stones. On the mantelpiece of the bedroom in which I slept there was a small card about 2 inches long, the size of a gentleman's visiting card, on which were printed, in small type, these words:—

"Put thou thy trust in the Lord and be doing good;  
Dwell in the land and verily thou shalt be fed."

I have never forgotten this, and the contrast it presented with the flaming texts with illuminated letters three inches high with which some pious people decorate their rooms. The date of this was May, 1889. I know that those simple words "verily thou shalt be fed" upheld the heart and courage of these persecuted people.

Another thing which I noticed in the north, as well as in other parts of Ireland, was the extraordinary squalor in which the mass of the people lived. There was no attempt at beautifying or decorating their homes; none of the dainty prettiness, neatness and exquisite cleanliness which make cottage interiors in England so charming. If we saw even so small an attempt at decoration as was manifested by a scarlet geranium in the window, we unconsciously acquired the habit of astonishment, and would ask, "Who lives there, where the flower is?" The answer was generally that it was a family from England or Scotland. I enquired of those who know Ireland well if they could account for this difference between the two countries, but never got any satisfactory answer. That it is noticed by Irish men and women themselves when their eyes have been opened by residence in other more orderly lands, is evident from the witty scenes in *John Bull's other Island* when Larry Doyle brings his English friend, Broadbent, to stay under the paternal roof in Ireland. Miss Edgeworth's immortal Thady in *Castle Rackrent*, dusting down the window seat with his wig, is another example of what I mean. Of course, I know quite well that for the most part in the houses of the professional and educated classes in Ireland there is as much domestic order and beauty as could be found anywhere in the world; and I know that Irish gardens are justly celebrated all over the world; but these things have not leavened the lump, as they have in England, and I leave it to others to try to solve the problem why this is so.

There was always a fairly strong suffrage movement in Ireland and many of the most distinguished Irish men and women have given it invaluable support. An early article by Sir Horace Plunkett on the actual working of women's suffrage in Wyoming was a valuable contribution to our knowledge on the subject. We have also had on our side Mr. G. Bernard Shaw, the Rev. J. O. Hannay, Canon of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, better known

<sup>1</sup> This article is one of a series which will extend over several months.

by his pen-name of George A. Birmingham. Miss (Enone) Somerville and Miss Violet Martin (Martin Ross), whose first book, *Experiences of an Irish R.M.*, is known and enjoyed throughout the whole English-speaking world, has been followed by a long series of books on Irish life inimitable in their wit and insight. These wise and witty Irish men and women belonging to all parties have given unstinted support to the enfranchisement of women, and so have the leaders of education throughout Ireland, including Miss White, LL.D. in Dublin, Professor Hartog, the Jewish Senior Wrangler of 1869, who had been excluded from his degree because he could not take an oath "on the true faith of a Christian," in Cork, and Mrs. Byers, of Belfast. It is very greatly to the credit of the leaders of the suffrage movement in Ireland that although the whole period of the struggle was one of fierce antagonism, amounting virtually at times to civil war, as between Home Rulers and Unionists, there was never any difficulty in arranging successful and harmonious conferences on the suffrage question between representatives of all the parties in Ireland. Such an amount of good sense and moderation was not to be found in either England or Scotland at the time.

I have two little anecdotes to tell illustrative of the generous side of the Irish peasant character. My authority for them is Sir Henry Blake. During very troubled times in Ireland, a small expedition was sent to arrest a man charged with a serious crime; the route lay through a desolate and lonely country, and at one point it was necessary to cross a stream. This was done without difficulty; the man sought for was found, arrested and brought away, but when they arrived at the stream which had been so easily crossed a few hours back, it had become a formidable barrier, being in reality a tidal river now flowing deep and strong. When talking over alternative courses, the prisoner volunteered the information that he knew a place where the stream could be safely forded even at high water, and he volunteered to carry the whole party, one by one, on his back across it; and this is what was actually done. No thought of treachery appeared to occur either to the prisoner or to members of the party who had arrested him.

My other story is that having had a man arrested and punished severely for a serious crime, the magistrate and the ex-prisoner met again when the former was bent on descending a great cliff on the Donegal coast in search of sea birds' eggs. There was one clutch of eggs the magistrate was particularly anxious to seize; but it was inaccessible unless he was lowered on a rope from the top of the cliff. This being obvious to both men, the magistrate was lowered over the cliff until he had possessed himself of the eggs he coveted, and was safely raised to the top again, by the very man on whom he had quite recently passed a severe sentence. Again no thought of treachery occurred to either of them.

## THE 1924 CONFERENCE OF THE WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM.

(British Section: 55 Gower Street, W.C. 1.)

This year the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom is holding its biennial Conference in Washington, on the invitation of the American section. The interest of the invitation is twofold. European politics will once more, at Washington, be discussed in the atmosphere of the United States, and many American women, representative of various Societies, will consider European and World questions with representatives and fraternal delegates sent by women's and mixed organizations from all over the world; while in their turn, the European representatives in particular, perhaps, will profit from gaining on the spot some conception of the point of view and special difficulties of the United States in their doubts about participation in European affairs.

It is not the direct aim of the Conference to promote understanding between the U.S.A. and Europe, but it is certain that this will be one of the indirect and most beneficial of the results of the publicity which will ensue from the discussions.

This will be the first W.I.L. conference to be held outside Europe. It will be under the Presidency of Miss Jane Addams, who has been president of the League since its foundation in 1915. K. E. INNES.

## THE WOMAN'S LEADER

EVERY FRIDAY. ONE PENNY.

## SPECIAL TERMS FOR SOCIETIES

Send 6/6 to the Office of the Paper, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1. 1/8 for Three Months. SUBSCRIBE TO-DAY.

## INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP AND THE CHURCHES.

By THE REV. ALEXANDER RAMSAY, D.D.

It was on 2nd August, 1914, that a company of Christian people, leaders and members of many diverse communions in Britain and America and the Continent, gathered in conference at Constance. They were deeply concerned at the state of Europe; they saw the Powers ranged in rival alliances, and many lands turned into an armed camp. Could nothing be done to prevent an impending catastrophe? Could not the Church of Christ in all its sections and in concert be rallied to exert its influence for the promotion of peace and goodwill among the nations? It had obvious qualifications for this unique task. It was an international fellowship, overleaping racial distinctions and territorial boundaries. It bound in the sacred bond of a common faith and a common loyalty multitudes, differing in race and speech and tradition. It claimed to be animated by the principles of love and brotherhood, which, if accepted and practised, would end strife. Obedience to its Lord and Master laid it under obligation to seek their diffusion and supremacy. There had been an interchange of visits on a large scale by representative members of German churches on the one hand and of British churches on the other, with the same end in view, in the immediately preceding years. The time seemed opportune, and certainly the call was urgent and brooked no delay. It had to be admitted that the influence of the Church in international relations, in shaping right policies and preventing unjust rivalry and aggression, had been disappointingly small. But those met in conference read the signs of the times and the charter of the Church and they had no doubt of the gravity of the world-situation nor of the duty of the Church to face this new and tremendous task. Unanimously they passed this resolution: "That inasmuch as the work of conciliation and the promotion of amity is essentially a Christian task, it is expedient that the churches in all lands should use their influence with the peoples, parliaments, and governments of the world to bring about good and friendly relations between the nations so that, along the path of peaceful civilization, they may reach that universal goodwill which Christianity has taught mankind to aspire after." It was clear that if any effect was to be given to these words, the churches in all lands must act in concert, and, so far as possible, in their corporate capacity in a common endeavour to achieve such a consummation. Therefore, for the carrying out of this object they founded "The World Alliance for promoting international friendship through the Churches." Cumbrous as the title is, it clearly states both the aim in view and the instrument alone to be used to effect it.

Even while they were in conference, the great war broke out, and so the "World Alliance" was born amid circumstances that were a terrible commentary on the necessity of its mission. During the years of war, little could be done beyond keeping the organization in being, but since the end of the war the work has greatly prospered. The plan of operation is to set up Councils in different lands and hold at intervals international conferences of delegates from the various Councils, while an international Executive Committee takes general oversight. Of these great international conferences three have been held since 1918, and they are probably the only gatherings on a large scale where men prominent in the churches of the lately belligerent powers have met together in friendly intercourse and for discussion of the matters of international policy from a Christian standpoint. The last held in Copenhagen in August, 1922, attracted world-wide attention and awakened great interest in England. The National Councils now number twenty-eight, and are found in practically all the states of Europe save Russia. An influential Council exists in the United States and a very vigorous Council is found as far afield as Japan. These Councils consist of representatives of the various Christian communions in a land who are willing to co-operate in the cause of peace. In the British Council (Offices: 4 The Sanctuary, Westminster, S.W. 1) the Church of England as well as the Presbyterian Churches of Britain and all the Nonconformist Churches take part officially. On the Continent and in America all Protestant churches co-operate and the Greek Orthodox Church is also actively associated with the Alliance. To our keen regret the Church of Rome has not yet identified itself with this movement. The Archbishop of Canterbury is President and the list of Vice-Presidents includes many of the best-known names in the Christian Church of our day.

These Councils seek to give voice to the common Christian mind on questions threatening the peace of the world and thus

educate and enlighten the Christian conscience on international affairs. They labour to create a public opinion that will insist on resort to methods of arbitration in disputes between States. They seek to secure the fulfilment of treaties safeguarding the civil and religious rights of minorities in those lands of Central and Eastern Europe, where this question is a cause of very grave unrest.

The ideal of the League of Nations commands the enthusiastic support of the Alliance and resolutions endorsing it have been again and again passed in the international Conference. The Alliance desires to see the inclusion of all nations within its membership and the League so strengthened as to become the Parliament of a federated humanity. Without the soul which the inspiration of religion can give, the League cannot fulfil the hopes which its founding has raised. In this effort to mobilize the forces of the Christian Church for the increase of international goodwill and co-operation and for the prevention of war, the sympathy of all enlightened women can certainly be relied on.

NOTES FROM SCOTLAND.  
AFTERTHOUGHTS ON LOCAL VETO.

The Local Veto polls of Scotland have made little change, and may be said to have caused disappointment in both camps. To the Temperance Party the falling away of five places that voted No-Licence in 1920, was specially disquieting, while the fully organized Trade interest, with its money-bags behind it, expected to carry all in front of it. The fight was not an equal one, for to obtain No-Licence, a percentage of 55 of the votes polled, with 35 per cent of the total electorate voting, is necessary, while a bare majority on the No-Change or Repeal Side carries. This is, of course, a heavy handicap, and but for it, very different results would have been attained in some areas. Many things, however, told against the Temperance Party in this contest. The poll was largely overshadowed by the General Election, which, in absorbing the interest of the electorate, weakened meetings and made canvassing a difficulty—the always inadequate number of canvassers and women speakers could not bear a double burden. It must be remembered that while the No-Licence worker and canvasser was invariably an altruistic person, the workers on the other side had the strong inducement of personal gain, and the spending of money was an investment for the future.

One thing that told disastrously against the No-Licence was the widespread confusion between it and Prohibition. The discussion of American affairs is both interesting and instructive so long as they are not confused with the politics of our own country. No-Licence is not Prohibition. It can only be carried by the large-majority of an electorate, in their own particular area, for a period of three years. After it is carried, it is still possible to have a licensed club in the area. Hotels with licences may be unaffected, and tradesmen from outside areas deliver alcohol as ordered. To call No-Licence Prohibition seems to me as absurd as it is untrue. Yet the whole artillery of "The Trade" was turned against Prohibition, and by fighting this sham antagonist they diverted the eyes of the public from the real contest. "The Trade" was rather helped in this by a section of Temperance reformers who, in their zeal for prohibition, advocated it strongly on platforms, and in canvassing, regardless of the fact that the practical question at issue was the closing of the public house, and the withdrawal of the grocer's licence in the electors' particular area for a period of three years. The reader may ask what particular benefit will result from the No-Licence if clubs and hotels may retain licences and grocers' carts from other areas supply drink bottled?

The hardened drinker will still secure alcohol, though he must order it beforehand or may have to walk some distance for it. The people who are helped by the new order of things are the young, who have no public house to learn to drink in. Also the drunkards, and there are many, who are making a hard fight to reform, but to whom every public house door is a dragon to be overcome. The Local Veto Act is a democratic measure that allows each elector freedom to decide the licensing affairs of his or her own district, and the further freedom of changing his or her mind three years later. Temperance workers are not discouraged by this second poll. They would like the Act to be amended to allow a simple majority to decide the issue, as in all other questions, but even with its handicaps they realize, that to have won practically 40 per cent of Scotland, is a great triumph that promises the sure, if slow, deliverance of the youth of the country from the curse of alcoholism.

MARION J. BUCHANAN.

## SOME ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION, 1923-1924.

When the history of the International Labour Organization—the World's Industrial Parliament—is written it will be found that from the year of its creation, 1919, it dealt comprehensively and methodically with the outstanding problems affecting the great mass of the workers, east and west, north and south. At its five annual conferences it has considered essential questions such as the hours of labour, the welfare of women and children and the conditions of their employment in industry; unemployment and emigration, the right of association, the prohibition or regulation of dangerous processes, and the organization of factory inspection. It must not be thought, however, that the decisions arrived at by the conferences are merely recorded in Geneva, made public all over the world, and then left to the discretion of governments to apply and ratify—or not—within the given time-limit. The task of giving further effect to many of these decisions by means of wider and closer study of the subjects involved is put into the hands of advisory committees which are specially set up to deal with particular questions. The reports of meetings of some of these committees are, with the exception of the account of the fifth annual conference on "The General Principles for the Organization of Factory Inspection," the most interesting part of the work of the I.L.O. from 1923-24. In August, 1923, the Joint Advisory Committee on Agriculture held its first session in Geneva. The Committee consists of three delegates from the Governing Body of the I.L.O., representing the Government, Employers' and Workers' groups respectively, and three representatives of the International Institute of Agriculture in Rome. It was assisted by several experts. The questions discussed were, the vocational training of agricultural workers, workers' co-operation in agriculture and the prevention of anthrax infection in flocks.

Workers' Co-operation in Agriculture had also been discussed at the 1921 Conference at which a recommendation was passed inviting Governments to examine the advisability "of taking steps to encourage the creation of agricultural workers' co-operative societies for the working and purchase or renting of land; and of taking steps to this end to increase agricultural credit especially in favour of co-operative agricultural associations of land workers established for the purpose of agricultural production," and furthermore requesting Governments "to furnish the Office with periodical reports on the steps taken by them to give effect to these provisions."

Again, in this case a questionnaire was prepared by the experts and approved by the Committee. An interesting point arose on this subject of co-operation, which drew attention to the necessity to bear in mind and study the relations which might be established between agricultural credit societies and producers' and consumers' co-operative societies. The result was that the Committee adopted a resolution inviting the two organizations represented on it "to investigate the means by which agricultural co-operative organizations, and in particular agricultural credit institutions could organize direct contact between producers and consumers of agricultural produce, and in particular consumers' co-operative societies."

It is not always realized that the League of Nations has had, through its International Labour Organization, direct discussion on the world-problem of the employment of disabled ex-Service men. Away back in 1921, the representatives of the chief national federations of disabled ex-Service men of six countries met at Geneva and asked the International Labour Office to study problems concerning the medical treatment and supply of artificial limbs to disabled men, and for international protection for these men and their re-absorption to industry. In April, 1923, the Governing Body decided to convene a meeting of experts for the purpose of studying methods of finding employment for the disabled.

The meeting took place at Geneva in the following August, and was attended by experts from thirteen countries, including, for Great Britain, Lieut.-Col. G. Crosfield, Vice-Chairman of the British Legion, and Mr. J. R. J. Passmore, of the Ministry of Labour.

Apart from the actual provisions of the resolutions that were passed, much interest is attached to the opinion of such an international body on the fundamental principles or handling the problem. The experts are "definitely of opinion that it is

pre-eminently the duty of the State to assume complete responsibility for the means of livelihood and welfare of those disabled during the war," and they agreed that a system of employment founded upon the voluntary collaboration of employers by means of renewable agreements had been and still might be valuable, but was inadequate.

When further consideration is given—as it must be given—to unemployment in its relation to disabled ex-Service men, it would be well if these resolutions embodying the "fundamental principles" of the international meeting of experts could form part of the foundation of the nations' handling of this urgent question.

In addition to these principles, the conference adopted many "essential provisions," to be included in all legislation, regulations or agreements for finding employment for disabled men. Perhaps the most interesting of these deal with the percentage of men to be employed and with their wages. With regard to wages, it was agreed that "the amount of the pension of a disabled man should not have any effect on wages, but wages should be fixed independently of the pension."

Finally, the Advisory Committee on Industrial Hygiene held its first meeting at Geneva in September, 1923. The Committee was set up as the result of certain decisions of the first I.L.O. Conference, 1919, and is composed of medical inspectors of factories, and other persons who have scientific and technical knowledge of industrial hygiene, drawn from about a dozen countries. The two items on the agenda were:—(1) The examination of work undertaken with regard to the study of unhealthy processes; (2) The organization of research and study concerning hides and skins infected with anthrax.

Although the activities of this great World Industrial Parliament make, in many instances, dry material reading, they are worth watching for several reasons by many different groups of the community. Above all, however, they are of value as the examples and expression of those basic ideals on which they rest, the ideals which point the way to economic and industrial peace—co-operation, co-ordination of efforts and results, and a uniform, world-standard of industrial welfare.

M. E. COHEN.

## NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

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### ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING, 26th, 27th, 28th March.

On the occasion of the Annual Council Meeting, a *Public Luncheon* will be held on Thursday, 27th March, at which the eight women Members of Parliament and other Members of both Houses who have rendered signal service to our cause during the year will be invited as guests of honour. Lady Astor, the Duchess of Atholl, Miss Bondfield, Miss Susan Lawrence, Lord and Lady Terrington, and Mrs. Wintringham have already accepted invitations.

It is hoped that a large number of Societies will send delegates to the Council this year. The political prospect is particularly interesting from the point of view of women's work. Delegates who wish for hospitality are asked to apply as early as possible to the Secretary, N.U.S.E.C., 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

Visitor's tickets may be had at a charge of 3s. for three days, or 1s. for each day.

An *Evening Reception* will be held, of which particulars will be announced later.

CONFERENCE ON THE RETURN OF MORE WOMEN TO PARLIAMENT, 3 p.m.; RECEPTION TO WOMEN MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, 4.30 p.m., Church House, Great Smith St., S.W. 1., 23rd January.

A large number of women candidates at recent Parliamentary Elections, and the following women Members of Parliament, have accepted invitations for the Reception at Church House on 23rd January:—Lady Astor, the Duchess of Atholl, Miss Jewson, Miss Susan Lawrence, Mrs. Philipson, Lady Terrington, and Mrs. Wintringham. Members of the N.U.S.E.C. or others wishing to attend the Reception or the Conference or both are requested to apply for cards of admission.

## MATINÉE IN AID OF FUNDS OF THE N.U.S.E.C., 5th February.

The final programme of the Matinée Entertainment to be given on 5th February in aid of our funds will shortly be issued. Miss Gertrude Kingston will collaborate with Miss Clare Greet in a duologue; Miss Athene Seyler and Mr. Nicholas Hannen propose to give a one-act play by A. A. Milne; the pupils of Miss Sylvia Hobday will give an exhibition of Children's Dancing; Dame May Whitty and Mr. Ben Webster have promised a duologue of which the title will be announced later; Miss Doris Vane will sing, Miss Peggy Whitty will recite, and Miss Kathleen Wilson has arranged a piano solo. We can certainly promise a delightful afternoon. Sybil Lady Brassey, Vice-President of the N.U.S.E.C., has consented to act as hostess. We wish to remind all our friends that we count on their presence and their help in advertisement. Preliminary handbills will be sent on application to the Ticket Secretary, N.U.S.E.C., 15 Dean's Yard, S.W. 1, to whom applications for tickets (price 10s. 6d.) should also be addressed.

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GLASGOW S.E.C., 1922-23.

We congratulate the Glasgow Society on its fine record of work during the year. It is good to read of the return of a woman to the Glasgow Municipal Council, and of four women to Glasgow and Govan Parish Councils with the support of the Society, and also of the splendid work done to help Miss Fraser's candidature at Govan during the 1922 General Election. The Report records a number of successful Public Meetings and many other activities, including participation in an Autumn Week-end School held at the Dunblane Hydropathic Establishment, 5th to 8th October.

One of the most interesting pages is that on which an account is given of the negotiations between the Glasgow S.E.C. and W.C.A. on the subject of amalgamation. The conclusion of these negotiations is not given in the Report, but our readers will be aware that they were entirely successful, and that the union of the Glasgow S.E.C. and W.C.A. has been finally and most satisfactorily arranged.

## OUR OWN LAWYERS.

We congratulate Miss Chrystal Macmillan and Miss Leadley Brown on having successfully passed the final Bar examinations. Miss Macmillan's legal knowledge has long been regarded with awe by members—which awe will now be redoubled by its having received the seal of examination. Miss Leadley Brown is giving a great deal of valuable work to the National Union on the Status of Wives' and Mothers' Committee in helping to draw up a memorandum with a view to a Bill dealing with the status of the married woman.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### ANNE ASKEW.

MADAM,—Your sense of justice will, I feel sure, allow me a few lines in the *WOMAN'S LEADER* in which to protest against the tone of the article on "Anne Askev" in the issue of 11th January. The writer is, of course, entitled to hold her own views, but she can hardly be ignorant that there were martyrs on both sides, nor can she rightly claim, as she does, that because Anne was "a woman of intelligence" she therefore accepted the Protestant doctrines. Were there no intelligent persons who remained Catholics? There are so many Catholic martyrs who suffered for their faith under Elizabeth and James I that the little *Kalendar of English Martyrs* published lately has the names of these for nearly every day. Were these all mental deficients, or are those converts from one or other form of Protestantism who are now being received daily into the Catholic Church?

It is surprising that such an attack on doctrines and beliefs held sacred by many readers of your paper should be published in it, and we consider it no less than disastrous that this should be the case.

ISABEL WALLIS,  
Hon. Press Sec., S.J.S.P.A.

[We think readers of all shades of opinion will agree that Mrs. Cavendish Bentinck's article on Anne Askev is in no sense an attack on "doctrines and beliefs."—Ed.]

### REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT: CASE OF THE MARRIED WOMAN HOUSE-OWNER.

MADAM,—With reference to the note in a recent issue of the *WOMAN'S LEADER* on the subject of a claim by Mrs. Pistor to Parliamentary and Local Government votes on account of her ownership of the house in which she and her husband resided, and in view of the publication in the next few days of the List of Electors, Spring, 1924, it would perhaps be of interest to set out some points relating to the position of the married woman under the Representation of the People Act.

Under the Act the married woman's Parliamentary vote depends on her or her husband being entitled to a Local Government vote, and unless she "occupies" as owner her Local Government vote also depends on her husband's qualification for the premises in question. The qualification

for the Local Government vote is occupation "as owner or tenant." In a Franchise Act "occupier" must be construed in the same way in which it has been construed in previous Acts, for the last ninety years at all events, and in law a woman residing with her husband is not usually the occupier of the house in which they reside. It must be borne in mind that, legally, "to occupy" is not synonymous with "to inhabit." The owner provides the walls and roof of the house, the occupier furnishes the house and provides the means for carrying on the family life, and so converts the bare walls into a home, while both owner and occupier may inhabit the house.

As already stated, mere occupation is not in itself a sufficient qualification; there must be either occupation as owner or occupation as tenant. Where the wife owns the house it is clear that the husband cannot occupy as owner; he must therefore occupy as tenant in order to qualify for his Local Government vote or for his wife to qualify for either or both votes.

In the case of Mrs. Pistor, the decision of the County Court Judge was that the woman-owner by residence in the house puts an end to her husband's occupation and becomes the occupier in his stead. If this were so the same thing must be true if the owner of the house, living in it, were a son or daughter of the head of the family or were a stranger in blood. The head of the family is, by this decision, deposed and his position taken by the other member of his family or by the stranger.

The far-reaching character of the consequences which must ensue if the married woman house-owner be regarded as *ipso facto* the occupier do not appear to have received much consideration.

The name of the wife will be substituted for that of her husband upon the Rate Book, and if the rate be not paid it is the wife who will have to pay the penalty in the shape of distraint upon her personal property or of imprisonment.

The wife's name will also replace her husband's upon the Jury List. It is against the wife that proceedings under the Public Health Acts will have to be taken.

The wife will become liable for payment of income tax under Schedule A and Land Tax, and also of Inhabited House Duty.

The points at issue in deciding the title to a vote may seem small to some, but are, nevertheless, of very real importance, for the law has to be administered as it is laid down, and not as one may think that it ought to be. The desirable thing, of course, would be for husband and wife to be on an equality and regarded as joint occupiers of the house in which they both reside; equally responsible for rates and taxes and equally liable under the Juries Act, Public Health Acts, etc. Until such time as an alteration in the law brings this about it is a simple matter for the husband to become the tenant of the house and so enable his wife to qualify for both votes. Incidentally, he would also become qualified for his Local Government vote, which otherwise the Act does not allow him.

E. M. WHITE.

## "HATS OFF!"

MADAM,—May I protest against last week's cheap and tasteless paragraph "Hats off" on at least three grounds:—

1. Its low ideal of the function of Parliament as consecrated means devoted to some sacred purpose. It should be a consecrated building (I dislike the word edifice), and if it carries out the ideals set forth by Ramsay MacDonald it will deserve that title.

2. Using the term consecrated building in its narrow sense of one dedicated to the worship of God, then the writer ignores the fact that preaching is one of the least of the purposes for which it exists.

3. The *WOMAN'S LEADER* might have spared us any reference to the dress of the women M.P.s, as we have read of it *ad nauseum* in the daily Press.

M. STYER.

## ELECTORAL REFORM.

MADAM,—In the "Notes" in your issue of 28th December, you express the opinion that it will be good for the people of this country to be obliged to master the principles underlying the various proposals for electoral reform. May I suggest that it would be well for all bodies of women who hold meetings to make a careful study during the next few months of Proportional Representation and the Alternative Vote? It is more than time that our citizens had a real understanding of what are now urgent political questions. The writer of the interesting letter from Ireland, which you publish in your latest issue, rightly claims that P.R. gives to minorities just representation. I do not think that this can be obtained by the alternative vote, as no elector will feel himself truly represented except by a member of his own party, and if we retain the single-member constituencies it is clearly impossible for all to be satisfied.

I have probably in these few lines said more than enough to call forth a host of arguments from your readers. Could not the meetings which I suggest most usefully take the form of a reasoned consideration of the relative merits of P.R. and the Alternative Vote?

H. URSULA WILLIAMS.

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## COMING EVENTS.

## GUILDHOUSE W.C.S.

FEB. 4. 3 to 4.30 p.m. The Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Cinematograph Lecture on the World's Children, Mrs. Downer ("Save the Children Fund"); Mrs. Hitchcock will sing Folk Songs.

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

JAN. 24. 8 p.m. Dr. Armin Wegner: "The German Youth Movement."

## NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

JAN. 23. 3 p.m. Church House, Great Smith Street, Westminster. Conference on "The Return of More Women to Parliament." 4.30 p.m. Church House. Reception to Women Candidates and Members of Parliament.

FEB. 5. 2.30 p.m. 25 Park Lane, S.W. Matinée entertainment in aid of funds of N.U.S.E.C.

CHESTER W.C.A. JAN. 20. 8 p.m. King's School. Miss Macadam.

CHURCH STRETTON S.E.C. JAN. 28. 3 p.m. Miss Macadam.

CROYDON W.C.A. JAN. 22. 3 p.m. Miss Macadam.

LEEDS S.E.C. FEB. 4. 5.30 p.m. 18 Park Row. Rev. H. Bowman (Vicar of St. Mark's, Woodhouse).

MAIDENHEAD W.C.A. JAN. 25. 2.30 p.m. "Widows' Pensions." Speaker: Miss Hardy.

PRESTON W.C.A. JAN. 30. Miss Macadam.

ROEHAMPTON W.C.A. JAN. 22. 2.30 p.m. Bowling Green House, Putney Heath. "Widows' Pensions." Speaker: Miss Hardy.

## LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION, FELLOWSHIP BRANCH.

JAN. 25. 8 p.m. The Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. "The Ruhr and the Rhineland." Speaker: Dr. J. C. Maxwell Garnett, C.B.E. Chair: Miss Maude Royden.

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## PROFESSIONAL.

"MORE MONEY TO SPEND" (Income Tax Recovery and Adjustment).—Send postcard for particulars and scale of charges to the Women Taxpayers' Agency, Hampden House, 84 Kingsway, W.C. 2. Phone, Central 6049. Estab'd 1908.

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

LADY having small exclusive dress business in an inland health resort would take a young lady as an articled pupil.—Full particulars on application to Box 1,041, WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

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DOUBLE DAMASK TABLECLOTHS.—Fine quality of real Irish linen double damask tablecloths in handsome centre designs. Size 13 x 13 yards, 21s. 9d. each; 2 x 2 yards, 25s. 6d. each; 2 x 2 1/2 yards, 31s. 10d. each; 2 1/2 x 2 1/2 yards, 35s. 6d. each; 2 x 3 yards, 38s. 3d. each. These lovely damask tablecloths will wear for a lifetime and always retain their snowy silky sheen. They are 10s. below to-day's shop prices. Write for Winter Sale Catalogue.—HUTTON'S, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ireland.

LACE.—All kinds mended, cleaned and restored, embroidery undertaken; church work, monograms, initials.—Beatrice, Box 1,017, WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

SECOND-HAND CLOTHING wanted to buy for cash; 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.

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## PUBLIC SPEAKING.

PUBLIC SPEAKING.—Will those wishing to follow Marion McCarthy's Special Course write at once to 16 Hallam Street, Portland Place, W. 1.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE.—Secretary, Miss Philippa Strachey. For information about employment and vocational training, write or call. Interviews 10-11 (Saturdays excepted).—Wellington House, Buckingham Gate, Westminster.

THE PIONEER CLUB has reopened at 12 Cavendish Place. Town Members £5 5s. 1. Country and Professional Members £4 4s. Entrance fee in abeyance (pro. tem.).

THE FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Eccleston Guild House, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 20th January, 6.30, Miss Maude Royden.

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(2) To encourage training and interest in Domestic occupations.  
(3) To do everything possible to raise the status of Domestic Service, as Florence Nightingale did that of Sick-Nursing.

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

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