

# THE WOMAN'S LEADER

## AND THE COMMON CAUSE

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### NOTES AND NEWS.

#### Unemployment and the Nation.

As the General Election draws nearer it becomes increasingly patent that the outstanding issue of this year is Unemployment. The intention of the Government not to issue its programme until just before the election, in order to give no time for criticism from its own or from other Parties, seems to us to argue a lack of faith in what it has to offer, and Mr. Lloyd George, with his uncanny power of sensing the public pulse, was wise both in view of the vital importance of the subject, and from a tactical point of view, to have come out with his bold—perhaps overbold—plan for wiping out unemployment. The new yellow pamphlet almost certainly promises too much both as regards the extent to which unemployment can be reduced, and the time in which it can be reduced. But there seems a general consensus of opinion among progressively minded people of all Parties that maintenance is not enough; that transference is not enough; that waiting for the results of the de-rating clauses of the Local Government Bill is not enough; but that what is required is a positive and bold policy of providing work of national importance which can be directed towards absorbing, directly or indirectly, some of the million unemployed. To Mr. Baldwin's fear that capital spent in this direction would mean merely deflecting it from private enterprise employing labour in this country, we can only quote Mr. Keynes's contention that a loan raised for purposes of public works would be at the expense of capital invested abroad, which for the most part causes no corresponding demand for labour in this country. To the fear that such a loan, by absorbing valuable funds might increase the rate at which the next conversion operations can be undertaken—which is, we are told, the chief reason why the Government is objecting to raising any such loan at all—can be countered the need for relieving the terrible situation in which our unemployed find themselves to-day.

#### The Liberal Scheme.

It may be that the type of public works suggested by Mr. Lloyd George are not in every respect the best selection: he has probably for instance over-estimated the demand for roads and telephones; and there are many other needs which he has not mentioned at all which will jump to the minds of both his Labour and other critics, including for example the building of nursery schools, children's playgrounds, recreation grounds, swimming pools, and so on. However, the fact that road-making can absorb large numbers of men was confirmed by the reply recently

given by the Minister of Transport in the House—a reply *The Times* did not think it worth while to publish—but which is most interesting. He was asked to state the number of men who would be employed per £1,000,000 spent on road construction. His reply estimated that for every million so expended 2,000 men might be employed direct on the work for a year in urban areas and 2,500 in rural areas and that while it was difficult to estimate the actual amount of indirect employment in producing and transporting materials and other ways, it might not unreasonably be assumed that this would amount to one man indirectly for every man directly employed. This is curiously enough equivalent to Mr. Lloyd George's own figure of 5,000 men employed per annum for every million spent on road construction. But it is astonishingly different to the estimate of the official Government Transference Board which was "that to give 1,250 unskilled men work on trunk road construction for one year would cost one million pounds. On land drainage for the same sum about 1,000 skilled men could be employed from two to three years." On these figures it based its conclusion that "any attempt by the State to provide for the problem before us by the creation of a substitute employment market on a scale sufficient to have any effect at all, would be prohibitive in cost." It seems as though the old process were about to repeat itself—the impossible quickly becomes a possible in the vocabulary of the cautious official when he sees that the country means business.

#### Age of Marriage Bill.

The Select Committee of the House of Lords on the Age of Marriage Bill has met three times. The Committee, of which Lord Ernle is chairman, has the following members: Earl de la Warr, Earl Iddesleigh, Earl Halsbury, Viscount Elibank, the Bishop of Southwark, Lord Fairfax of Cameron, Lord Sandhurst, and Lord Loch. Evidence has been heard from the Home Office, Sir Archibald Bodkin (Director of Public Prosecutions), Sir Lewis Dibdin (Dean of the Arches), the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, the Mothers' Union, and St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance.

#### "Void" and "Voidability".

Although the time has unfortunately passed of there being any serious possibility of the House of Commons being still able to consider the Bill this session, it appears as if the Select Committee's report will almost inevitably be in its favour. The House of Lords itself had accepted the principle on second reading that the legal minimum age should be raised to 16. The real point at issue therefore was whether Lord Darling's amendment to leave out the word "void" and provide that either party to the marriage who is under 16 can have the marriage voided at will, should be substituted for the wording of the Bill, which at present provides that any marriage between persons either of whom is under the age of 16 shall be void. It has been an interesting comment on the careful draftsmanship of the Bill that not one witness, including those who, like Sir Archibald Bodkin, do not wish to see the age of marriage raised at all, supported the contention that marriages under the age of 16 should be voidable. It was realized that not only would voidability create many legal difficulties, but that its substitution would render the Bill absolutely useless. After all the majority of marriages contracted by girls under the age of 16, have taken place because the girl is pregnant, and pressure has usually been brought to bear on her by her relatives and husband. Most of the cases concern girls of 15. Is it likely therefore that a few months after her marriage, when the time would presumably come when the marriage could be voided, that a girl in such a situation would have the strength of mind to go against all those with whom she is in closest contact, and who previously persuaded

her into marriage? The danger has been pointed out, moreover, by several witnesses, that to make such marriages voidable is more or less inviting a trial trip, as a boy or man could persuade a girl of any age into marriage by reassuring her that if she did not like it she could void the marriage when she became 16.

#### A Herald of the New Voter.

This week the first new voter leaped into the political arena flushed with victory, some two months ahead of her main army. Miss Jennie Lee, aged 24, school teacher, graduate, miner's daughter, and triumphant captor of a Government seat in the mining constituency of North Lanark, is something of a political portent. Turning over a recent issue of *The Iron and Steel Trades Confederation's Monthly Journal*, we came across the following comment on Mrs. Dalton's recent electoral victory in Bishop Auckland: "Though the seat was Labour the candidate was a lady, and working men have hardly got accustomed to voting for Labour women. It is pleasing to note that the loyalty of the miner to a great ideal is stronger than his prejudice against women candidates." Well, this is a possible way of looking at the North Lanark result, too. The mining community has reason, rightly or wrongly, to feel somewhat bitterly towards a government which has lengthened its hours and mocked its needs with conditional relief. Therefore, in spite of the sex of the Labour candidate, to which it may be assumed to react with the obstinate conservatism peculiar to British trade unionism, up she goes to the top of the poll with a crashing majority against both her opponents combined. And yet, we are inclined to think that the iron and steel workers perhaps overrate the forces of prejudice and convention in a changing world. We choose to believe that the North Lanark result was achieved not merely *in spite of*, but in some measure *because of* the personality of the Labour candidate: that the men and women who sent Jennie Lee to Westminster deliberately set their sails to a new wind that is blowing into politics. Be that as it may—they have given us a new woman M.P. after our own hearts: young, spirited, self-reliant, with her roots in a working-class home, and her branches reaching to the tree of knowledge. We hope that a fine career lies ahead of her, and that in the dangerous world of oratory and publicity she may never be spoiled.

#### The Government and Slum Clearance.

At the autumn national conference of the Conservative Party Mr. Baldwin held out hopes that the Government, if returned to power, would make slum clearance a major plank in its platform. Last week, speaking at Woolwich, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Health, Sir Kingsley Wood, repeated this pledge and elaborated it. But unfortunately he elaborated it in such a way as to suggest that he, at least, had not yet made any serious attempt to visualize the realities of the situation or face up to the question of what effective slum clearance really means. Local authorities, he said, had been right in concentrating on the building of new houses. It was the only possible policy. But with a million and a quarter new houses built since the Armistice the time was ripe for a great clearance of the slums, which were the breeding places of disease and misery. Now this may look all right at first sight. But it seems to ignore the fact that in the vast majority of cases what makes a slum a slum is the fact that too many people are trying to live in it. The present slum problem is to a large extent simply a reflection of the fact that, great as has been our national achievement of subsidized house building since 1919, it has not yet provided the necessary competition with slum property in the shape of houses to let at rents below 10s. per week. The measure of the possibility of slum clearance is the measure of the Government's success in pushing forward, by means of some further form of subsidy, the provision of houses of this type. "In a short time," says Sir Kingsley Wood, "well-considered plans will be put before the country." Well, there is no reason why they shouldn't be. Fortunately for the Government, a detailed and extraordinary convincing scheme for an attack on the slum problem has already been worked out in detail by Mr. E. D. Simon (*How to Abolish the Slums*, by E. D. Simon, Longman, 4s. 6d., which is shortly to be reviewed in our columns). But we hope for the Government's sake that it really will be "a short time", because only a short time remains!

#### The London Lock Hospital.

Our readers will remember that last year in these columns, and at the Annual Council Meeting of the National Union of

Societies for Equal Citizenship, the Minister of Health was called upon to hold an inquiry into the administration of the London Lock Hospital in Harrow Road. This inquiry was subsequently held and a report on its proceedings presented to the Minister. In answer to recent questions addressed to him in Parliament, Mr. Chamberlain has stated that he does not propose at present to make public this report—that he has brought the recommendation of the Committee of Inquiry to the notice of the board of the hospital and has received an assurance that they have already applied themselves to the task of carrying the *greater part* of the recommendations into practical effect. We profoundly regret this decision of Mr. Chamberlain's. This Board of Management of the London Lock Hospital consists entirely of men. It has proved itself incapable of managing a hospital for women and children, and it would seem to us that it is exactly in this reorganization that the services of women would be invaluable. It is a matter of great importance to us to know whether the recommendations insist on the appointment of women on to the Board of Management. We would urge our readers and women's organizations to take immediate steps to bring to Mr. Chamberlain's notice our grave dissatisfaction at his intention to refrain from publishing the report and his refusal to give any information as to the nature of the changes required.

#### Woman's Suffrage in France.

Our own past experience makes us very sympathetic with the women of France who are suffering from hopes deferred over and over again. The latest rebuff took place last week, when the Senate rejected a proposal to place a Bill passed by the Lower House on the order paper for the following week by 175 votes to 126. This Bill has been passed by the Chamber of Deputies; M. Poincaré has pronounced himself as favourable and yet the Senate is determined to shirk the issue. This policy of deliberately shelving a question is more exasperating than open defeat, and the French women are not in a mood to take it lying down.

#### Royal Commission on Police Powers and Procedure.

We publish in another column valuable comments on the Report of the Royal Commission on Police Powers and Procedure, by Miss Alison Neilans. We strongly advise all those interested in the subject themselves to obtain the report, which is well written and easily read (price 3s. from H.M. Stationery Office, or from the N.U.S.E.C., 15 Dean's Yard, S.W. 1). On one point only do we wish to add to Miss Neilan's comments, and that is to say that while appreciating the tribute paid to the work of women police by the Report, and the recommendation that their numbers should be greatly increased, we regret that the Report did not go one step further and urge that their use should be made compulsory. While so much relating to the organization of the police force is compulsory and does not depend on the vagaries of individual and sometimes reactionary Local Authorities, it seems particularly unfortunate that the employment of women police should still be permissive only.

#### "The Woman's Leader" and the General Election.

We appeal to our readers to help us to widen our circle between now and the General Election. Is it too much to ask each reader to find one additional subscriber for the election period at least? THE WOMAN'S LEADER can justly, we believe, claim to be the only woman's paper which is concentrating on the coming election and it asks for the support of women of all parties who realize the importance of a weekly bulletin of election prospects as they specially affect women voters. In addition to our series of letters to new voters, we propose to print during the coming weeks articles on election issues and aspects of election work from, of course, our usual all-party point of view. We also intend to give complete information relating to all woman candidates and so far as space will permit reports of election campaigns on the woman's programme throughout the country. Please help us by sending news, by securing new readers, and not least by making our competition for new voters known in the right circles.

*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 woman'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.

## REPORT OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON POLICE POWERS AND PROCEDURE.

By ALISON NEILANS.

Unlike the Street Offences Committee, the Commissioners who have been inquiring into the general powers and duties of the police have produced a genuinely unanimous report. It is a good report, and, if its main proposals are put into operation, and strictly and continuously followed, the present distrust of police methods and procedure would be considerably abated. Since the summary of principal conclusions and recommendations at the end of the report covers exactly 101 items, it is impossible even to mention each one here, much less to comment on them, but reference may be made to those of special interest to your readers.

In so far as the relations between the police and the general public is concerned the report stresses "the difficulties which are encountered by them in enforcing any law which does not command the sympathy of the public as a whole. . . . In our view the attempt to enforce obsolete laws, or laws manifestly out of harmony with public opinion, will always be liable to expose the police to temptations and to react upon their morale and efficiency." Referring specifically to the police and street offences, the Commissioners say again: "The root cause of their difficulties is the existence of laws which are out of harmony with public opinion." They state they need not deal in detail with street solicitation, because this subject has so recently been inquired into by the Street Offences Committee. As might be expected general agreement is expressed with the proposals submitted by that Committee for "a reformulation of the existing law as to solicitation," but they are careful to add: "We are not in a position to express an opinion upon the detailed conclusions of that Committee." On the subject of decency in public parks, etc., the Commissioners tell the public plainly that the police cannot act as "arbiters of contemporary morals," and that "so long as they are unsupported by the active co-operation of individual citizens who are prepared to give evidence of annoyance, the police should confine themselves to dealing with offences of this kind which occur in places frequented by the public." Further, the Report says that "there should be an absolute prohibition of the use of plain clothes police for the final step of arresting or taking the names of persons to be charged with indecent conduct."

The Commissioners are emphatic on the need and desirability of employing women police and make short work of the evidence brought before them which suggested women police had been a failure in certain places and had been discontinued for that reason. This chapter of the Report will give general satisfaction. It is thoroughly sound, and would make an excellent propaganda pamphlet. Especially good is the point that the employment of women police must not be narrowed down to taking statements in sexual cases or the detection of fortune-telling.

On the more technical side the Report is unusually helpful, and pays proper regard to the protection which should be extended to accused or suspected persons to prevent them incriminating themselves in reply to police questioning. Right legal principles are carefully enunciated covering the whole procedure from start to finish in all questioning whether of witnesses, suspected persons, or those in custody. Before any inquiry or formal questioning all potential witnesses are to be informed that the questioner is a police-officer and to be cautioned to be careful what they say. It is recommended that a rigid instruction should be issued that no questioning of a prisoner, or a person in custody, about any crime or offence with which he is or may be charged, should be permitted. Most stringent

### LETTERS TO A NEW VOTER FROM AN OLD VOTER.—VIII.

DEAR MADAM,

One cannot, as you see, summarize the creed, philosophy, and achievements of Conservatism in a single letter. And there is much that I have left unremarked: for instance, the whimsical but useful habit which the Conservative Party has of picking up the neglected principles of other parties and putting them into practice: in illustration of which one might quote widows' pensions; or for that matter, your vote.

But now I want to turn to the next largest party in the political arena: the Labour Party. And here I have been saved a lot of trouble by the fact that the Labour Party has a written programme entitled *Labour and the Nation*, which can be purchased for 3d., wherein are set forth all the things which the Party intends to do if you and your fellow voters return it to power at the next General Election.

safeguards should be taken to ensure that "voluntary" statements really are voluntary, and the prisoner must be left free to write without supervision, and if he wants to dictate a statement he must make the request in writing. The prisoner must also have time to check and amend his statement and to have his legal adviser present, if he so desires.

The national police forces as a whole are acquitted of any general charge of inefficiency, bullying, or misconduct. No credible evidence of "Third Degree" practices has been received, but, on the question of "detention as distinct from arrest", the Commissioners say sharply that certain practices of the Metropolitan Police are "wrong both in law and principle and should not be employed." They also say "we have received a volume of responsible evidence which it is impossible to ignore suggesting that a number of the voluntary statements now tendered in Court are not 'voluntary' in the strict sense of the word." This statement is immediately followed by one of the most significant paragraphs in the whole report, and one which shows clearly that an Inquiry, and also a complete change in the higher *personnel* of the Metropolitan Police, was urgently necessary.

"Some of the C.I.D. (Scotland Yard) evidence, however, which we have heard in connection with this subject leaves a somewhat disquieting impression upon our minds. There is, we fear, a tendency amongst this branch of the service to regard itself as a thing above and apart, to which the restraints and limitations placed upon the ordinary police do not, or should not, apply. This error, if not checked, is bound to lead to abuses which may grow until they bring discredit upon the whole Police Force."

Danger to the rightful-liberties of the public is not likely to come from those police forces which are under local control by county, city, and borough authorities. Scandals may occur in great cities when the police have to administer such anomalous laws as those against solicitation, street betting, and drinking after hours, but unless we lose all spirit of independence and freedom our municipally governed police are hardly likely to become a tyrannical bureaucracy, over-riding the law and intimidating the public. But a potential danger to constitutional liberty is present when any country tolerates the existence of a police force of 20,000 men free from all municipal control, outside the supervision of His Majesty's Inspectors of Constabulary, and responsible only to its Commissioner. The Metropolitan Police Force is nominally responsible to the Home Secretary, but Home Secretaries come and go as the political wheel revolves, and nothing but a great public agitation forcing Parliament to take direct action can have much effect on that force, which includes the Criminal Investigation Department. The Report of this Commission has directed a good many of its recommendations specifically to the Metropolitan Police, and these, together with the recent changes in the higher ranks and the appointment of Lord Byng as its chief, will undoubtedly remove much apprehension. Nevertheless, excellent as this Report is, it is well to remember what Josephine Butler wrote fifty years ago of the bureaucratic powers of the Metropolitan Police:—

"The people of England endure them with patience until some great scandal occurs which agitates the public mind and brings about, not the abolition of the system, but the mere transfer of the unconstitutional power into the hands of a more trusted chief. Such a transfer will not essentially mend matters, and the same abuses will again spring up and flourish. The transfer must be made into the hands of the people themselves: and even then there will be danger enough, unless, taught by adversity and sore conflict, our people of all classes rise to a higher tone and to a greater respect for justice and for the liberties of all."

### LABOUR—A CLASS PARTY.

You will be told by your Conservative friends (or enemies) that the Labour Party is a class party. And so indeed it is. It is the Party which stands primarily for the interests of those sections of the community which are dependent on the sale of their labour power "by hand or brain," and the vast bulk of them, of course, are wage-earners. Indeed, it was not until the industrial male wage-earners were given the vote and learned how to use it that the Labour Party began to take shape. In that sense it is a class party, though members of other classes, property owners, employers, and even peers of the realm, are found within its ranks. But in the same sense the Conservative Party is a class party, too, though the bulk of its supporters happen to be wage-earners. For after all, our existing property laws and industrial organization, and the inequalities of well-being and

opportunity which are bound up with them, do ensure a portion of relative comfort for the property owning and employing class, and that class may be supposed to have a natural predisposition in favour of the view that any drastic change would be disastrous for the whole nation. It is therefore greatly to that class's interest to persuade the wage-earners that this is a correct view of the situation. But to return to the Labour Party. In sharp contrast to the Conservative Party the Labour Party is naturally predisposed in favour of changes, small changes as well as large changes. Nor has it any particular reluctance to make changes which involve drastic interference with property rights, such as the generous increase of social services for the well-being of the wage-earners at the expense of taxation falling mainly on the incomes of the rich. Nor again has it any particular reluctance to make changes which interfere with the existing freedom of employers to make their own bargain with their workers; thus it is prepared for a more drastic application of protective legislation in the matter of hours, conditions of labour and the minimum wage. But one particular type of change which it advocates has recently attracted more attention than all the others put together. It is prepared not merely to press forward the more equal redistribution of wealth by taxing the incomes of the rich and spending the money on the welfare of the poor, not merely to interfere freely with the operations of capitalists conducting their own businesses in their own way with a view to good profits; it is prepared to supersede capitalistic private enterprise altogether in certain fields. For the Conservative predisposition towards private enterprise or capitalism, it substitutes a Labour predisposition towards public enterprise or Socialism.

—AND A SOCIALIST PARTY.

Observe that I have talked about "predispositions" and have carefully refrained from saying that the Conservative Party is against Socialism and the Labour Party in favour of it. If I had said that, you might have caught me out by quoting last week's letter and pointing out that Mr. Baldwin's government has in fact established the British Broadcasting Corporation as a public enterprise, and socialized the distribution of electric power in the hands of a Central Electricity Board. You might also add that you have yet to meet the Conservative who proposes to sell the Post Office and the telephones (not to mention the municipal trams, gas and electricity plants, water supplies and what not) to private companies operating for profit. That is why I talk about "predispositions". The Conservatives prefer private enterprise—for all manner of reasons, some of which I have hinted at. But they are reluctantly prepared to consent to public enterprise where a special case can be made out for it; where, for instance a particular service is of vital national importance or likely to become an oppressive monopoly in private hands. The Labour Party on the other hand prefers public enterprise because it regards private profit as an irrelevant motive which does not always act as an incentive to the production of the right things under the right conditions. It is therefore prepared to go forward with a policy of socialization, or nationalization as occasion offers, beginning with the more vital services such as coal mining, transport, insurance, and electricity generation. Different sections of the Labour Party have different views as to the rapidity with which such a policy can be pushed forward, and the kind of enterprise to which public control can be most suitably applied. But no serious Labour politician, I think, proposes to socialize everything all at once. Even Lenin at the height of his power didn't do that. Nor must it be forgotten that the word socialism may cover a multitude of different forms. It may mean centralized bureaucratic control by a government department such as we have in the Post Office. It may mean municipal enterprise as in the case of the tram services of most of our provincial cities. It may mean the erection of independent public corporations like the B.B.C. It may even be applied gradually and experimentally through the statutory control of prices and profits. And the moral of all this is that the big economic issues which form the material of modern politics are less clear-cut and simple than newspapers and party politicians would have us believe!

One word more: Last week I begged you not to identify the Conservative Party with Fascism. This week I will beg you not to identify the Labour Party with Bolshevism. The reason why the Conservative Party is not Fascist and the Labour Party not Bolshevist is that both these parties are really *Liberal*—a deep saying which I propose to elucidate next week.

Till then, greeting from an

OLD VOTER.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION: WHAT DOES THE LABOUR PARTY STAND FOR?

### EMILY HOBHOUSE.

The biography of Emily Hobhouse, compiled from diaries and letters by Miss Ruth Fry,<sup>1</sup> is valuable for two reasons. In the first place it gives us a detailed account from the point of view of a protagonist, of a significant incident of British military history: the farm-burning and concentration camp phase of the South African War. To say that the view here given is likely to be biased and fanatical is not necessarily to discount its value. For an informed and accurate historical judgment depends upon the capacity of the interpreter to focus his spot light, as it were, from a succession of different angles, upon the object of his interpretation. In the second place, we have achieved, thanks to Miss Fry, nearer access to the personality of a very notable and distinguished woman. As a biography, the book has its faults. It makes no technical pretensions. Letters, diary-entries and editorial comments are flung together somewhat at random. But the selection is well made, the chronology well sustained, and there is no intrusion of the biographer's mind between those of the reader and the biographee.

The outstanding facts of Miss Hobhouse's tempestuous career, are probably well known to the generation which counts the South African War among its memories. A sister of Professor L. T. Hobhouse, bearer of a family name well known in the annals of politics and reform, Emily Hobhouse, from the outbreak of the South African War, was stirred to pity and protest by the sufferings of a small nationality in conflict with the financial and military might of the British Empire. Her attention being directed to the peculiar hardships resulting from the military exigencies which necessitated the housing of Boer women and children in hastily assembled concentration camps, she resolved to conduct, single-handed, an expedition of relief and investigation to the camps themselves. The fact that the military authorities were well aware of the deficiencies of their own organization, cleared for her a way, stony enough, but passable, to the scene of action. She found what she expected to find: dirt and disease, muddle and deficiency of supplies, bearing fruit in the form of a heart-breaking mortality rate. Day by day, fuel was being thrown on the flames of race-bitterness between Boer and Briton. Into this muddle Miss Hobhouse plunged, her genius for constructive organization, and her blazing powers of moral indignation operating at full force. "The authorities," thus she writes from the scene of action, "are at their wit's end—and have no more idea how to cope with the one difficulty of providing clothes for the people than the man in the moon. Crass male ignorance, stupidity, helplessness and muddling. I rub as much salt into the sore places of their minds as I possibly can, because it is so good for them. . . ." Perhaps it is in this last sentence that the element of weakness in Miss Hobhouse's work is revealed. She accomplished much: immediate reforms on the spot, an awakening of the public conscience at home, eventually a commission of inquiry led by Dame Millicent Fawcett. But she rubbed salt into the sore places of people's minds, and a maximum of friction was the result.

It may be said perhaps on her behalf that the peculiarly virulent and vulgar form of jingoism which prevailed during the South African War was itself enough to account for the friction, and for the unreasoning and disproportionate storm which broke over Miss Hobhouse's head upon her return to England. It may be said too, that if she rubbed salt into the minds of her countrymen she rubbed healing balm into the minds of the Boers and so helped materially towards that subsequent political reconstruction which is one of the greatest glories of British Imperialism. As General Smuts says in his foreword to this book: "A stormy petrel to her own people, she was a great healing influence in South Africa. . . . There are times when people are abnormally responsive to sympathy. It was at such a time that Emily Hobhouse made her appeal to what was deepest in the Boer soul, and opened out fountains of a common human fellow-feeling which have flowed continuously stronger ever since." And it is significant that under the stones of the great South African National Monument at Bloemfontein, the

<sup>1</sup> *Emily Hobhouse*, a memoir compiled by A. Ruth Fry. (Jonathan Cape. 10s. 6d.)

### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MINORITIES.

The International Conference on the Protection of Minorities, held last week under the auspices of the Women's International League, came at a good moment, immediately after the meeting of the League Council in Geneva. The Committee of three appointed in Geneva is considering the proposals for minority protection put forward by Senator Dandurand and Herr Stresemann.

Sir Willoughby Dickinson, in opening the proceedings, said that the gist of the minority problem lay in "the multiplicity of small injustices done to obscure people." "They were not politicians, certainly not agitators, but largely peasants, small tradesmen, school teachers, and the like." Yet the care of the little schoolboy, Joseph God, in Upper Silesia, may involve a principle vital to thousands of other cases. Miss Durham's terse description of what happens in one country dominated by the desire to forcibly assimilate its minorities, may apply to many more. "Your mother says you are of that nationality, but I say you are not."

The Conference was not called to consider the actual grievances of minorities, though it recognized the urgent need of a thorough examination into the causes of discontent. It met to consider the proposals for more effective minority protection put forward by the speakers. Dr. Loewenfeld (Berlin) considered that one of the main difficulties in the League system of protection was the over-weighting of opinion on the political side, when petitions were being considered, and the unpopularity which a member of the Council incurred if he undertook to champion them. He thought also that there was a tendency to confine action too much to friendly representation behind closed doors, resulting often in negative action. Professor Brunet illustrated his own experience, in a vivid speech giving details of his difficulties when following up a petition. He spoke, he said, neither as a member of an International Law Association, nor as member of the French Parliament, but as one who cared for truth and justice. "The Council is occupied when it meets with very important questions—it is difficult for the modest representatives of the minority to get much attention. Say, for instance, there are three hundred parents in a place in Transylvania complaining that they have not got a school in their own language. The representative has got to get the member of the Committee of Three to give his mind as to whether that village has or has not got a school, and if not whether it ought to have one. If you persevere at Geneva you may get a real interview—or you may perhaps simply get a chance interview." If the question comes before the Council, politically interested people are there; "if it does not, the minority is not told of the result."

As might be expected, the discussions throughout the Conference showed wide agreement on the desirability of a permanent Commission; they focussed largely on the question of its composition, function, and scope, and the necessity for expert opinion in its personnel. Sir Walter Napier pointed out that there was a general guarantee for minority protection under the League, as well as in relation to petitions. "I see nothing in the Treaties to prevent the Council, if it appoints a Permanent Commission, in order to fulfil its general responsibility of guarantor, from directing it to consider and report upon all petitions presented to the Secretary-General. It should be its duty to inquire into and report upon all such petitions, after giving the petitioners an opportunity of seeing and meeting the reply of their government." The demand for fuller publicity and fuller information for petitioners was also emphasized—strengthened by Dr. Loewenfeld's statement that only in one case had the documents relating to minority protection been fully published in the Official journal. Other points raised were the generalization of legal and moral standards in minority protection, ably dealt with by Mme Bakker Van Bosse, who described the difficulties which existed at present: the refusal of governments to refer questions to the Permanent Court and the substitution of a Jurists Committee for the recognized procedure at the Hague. In summing up Professor Baker said: "The minorities have got real grievances, and I personally hesitate to think what would have been the situation if the Minority Treaties had not existed." He paid special tribute to the services rendered by Lord Robert Cecil and Mr. Branting. He believed that improvement had been effected, and that if agreement could now be reached on needed reforms, there was still more to be hoped for in the immediate future.

E. M. L.

English dust of Emily Hobhouse is mingled with the Boer dust of President Steyn and General de Wet. No future Boer can thus nurse unadulterated feelings of race hatred upon this sacred spot.

But Miss Fry herself makes no attempt to discount the faults and failings of her heroine. The single-minded reforming zeal which led her, at the outset of her active life, to carry the gospel of temperance and personal rectitude to the remote mining camps of Minnesota, and later to heal the wounds of the bleeding South African republics, had their reverse side in the queer perversity which led her during the recent war to undertake a tour in Belgium under German auspices, and to find excuses for German militarism which she would have scorned to admit in defence of British militarism. Her iron determination and transparent spirituality were entangled with a curious excess of high-strung nervousness. Her ferocity on behalf of others was mixed with a difficult egotism which made her a Mussolinian fellow-worker, and may have accounted for the spiritual loneliness in which she seems to have lived out her life to the end. And the paradox remains, that with all her violent reactions from nationalism in all its forms she was most peculiarly English. Most of the nations of the world can produce patriots to sing songs round national flags. Such songs are sung in Rome and Dublin, Berlin, Moscow and Peking, with a devastating sameness of content and intent. Those who sing them in London are not peculiarly British. It is the Wilberforces, the Gladstones, the Nevinsons, the Morels, and the Hobhouses who make our national music. Where outside these shores do such persons exist? And what would our *Kultur* be without them?

M. D. S.

### WHAT THE VOTE MAY DO.

Through the reading of a modern novel—*The Law Allows*<sup>1</sup> (by Kit Higon)—it seems to me that two new friends have become mine—the writer and the heroine; and I would fain have the experience come to others also.

One's interest centres largely in the part played by Professor Sturm, on which, indeed, the story largely turns. The Professor was no ordinary man of the twentieth century; for most of these seem wishful to persuade themselves that on the whole they welcome even the younger women to their share of responsibility in connection with the government of the country. Not so, however, the Professor! He was conscious of a dislike of clever women "realizing dimly that they might presently want to probe into matters with which their menfolk had contentedly not bothered." And finally he became convinced that the women "ought never to have been given the vote!" The heroine is a particularly charming woman: during all her young life she had been sheltered and protected, mentally as well as physically. At the age of 26 she began to realize that life does not consist only of joy—that in it, in most cases, apparently, was also much of sadness: suffering, too, there was; but surely some of this might be banished as man became more truly civilized and humane. Patricia was very devoted to her grandmother: the latter's limitations were, however, understood by the younger woman, who realized that the old lady had preferred all her life to be mentally "wrapped up in cotton-wool, and never to know anything except the pleasant things of life." "Didn't you want to know?" she queried.

Concerning the question of a husband, Patricia felt it would be just as good to "marry a poultice, and have a comfy body-protector" as to marry such a man as her grandmother might prefer, who "would keep his wife in ignorance of everything except the pretty conventionalities" of life! She had come to believe ardently in the value of the vote, having begun to realize to what purpose it might be put.

ALICE ARMSTRONG LUCAS.

<sup>1</sup> Published by Fowler Wright, price 7s. 6d.

### DEATH.

WRIGHT.—Julia Jellison Wright, formerly of West Mansion, Worthing. Born at Bangor, Maine, U.S.A., on 9th February, 1844; died at Greengill, Penrith, in her 86th year. Dear wife and mother.

## WOMEN'S NATIONAL LIBERAL FEDERATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

TORQUAY, 19th-21st March, 1929.

Torquay smiled upon the Women Liberals last week greeting them with brilliant sunshine and the Devon sunshine was reflected in the moral atmosphere inside the new Town Hall, for a note of cheerful optimism was the chief impression left on the minds of the delegates.

A full muster of delegates assembled on Tuesday morning to hear addresses from the retiring President (Mrs. Corbett Ashby) and the new President (Lady Acland), and then devoted the rest of the morning to resolutions on peace and agriculture, during which the delegates enjoyed a witty and very amusing speech from Lady Horsley, who seconded the resolution on peace. The first dissentient note was struck by an amendment, moved by Miss Hoc for the Paddington W.L.A., to delete the demand for re-opening diplomatic relations with the Soviet Republics, but this received little support, and both resolutions were passed unanimously.

Tuesday afternoon demonstrated the appreciation of Women Liberals of the keen interest which fiscal policy holds for the woman citizen and housekeeper. Resolutions condemning protection, both in its effects on trade and unemployment, and in the barrier which it creates to international trade and so to world peace, were passed unanimously. The session closed with a resolution reiterating the belief of the W.L.N.F. in equal pay, and urging that it be included in the Party's election manifesto. This resolution, proposed by Mrs. Le Sueur for the Slough W.L.A., and seconded by Mrs. Arthur Johnson, was expected to provide the keenest controversy of the Conference, but although it aroused the usual arguments as to sickness incidence among women and the claim that "men have dependents, women haven't," these were clearly answered by Mrs. Corbett Ashby, who pointed out that the most frequent cause of sickness was low wage rates and consequent under nourishment, and the resolution was carried by an overwhelming majority, there being only 12 dissentients. Wednesday morning was devoted to unemployment, which produced a most admirable speech from Dr. Betty Morgan, representing the Welsh W.L.F., and it was an intense pleasure to hear from, presumably, one of the "new voters" such a thoughtful and eloquent speech.

Wednesday afternoon was given up to criticism of the Local Government Bill, and proved the occasion for a most moving speech from Mrs. Alderton (whom we were glad to welcome as prospective candidate for one of the Hull divisions) on Maternal Mortality, which she assured us, the women of England could get reduced by 50 per cent in one year if they resolved that the still high and stationery figure *must* be reduced.

Wednesday evening saw the Town Hall crowded out by a public meeting to hear speeches from Sir Herbert Samuel and Mrs. Alderton.

What seemed a happy sequel to the passing of the equal pay resolution came when Sir Herbert repeated for the Party the pledge of belief in economic equality between the sexes given by Mr. Asquith in reply to a question from the N.U.S.E.C. at the time of the 1924 General Election and paid a high tribute to the pressure for peace exerted by enfranchised women in Europe.

In the afternoon the delegates went home, their courage high, many of their difficulties cleared up, to pass on to their associations the knowledge and hope which they had received. Torquay, 1929, had, they felt, been a success, and an inspiration.

W. LE S.

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

St. Patrick's Club Room, Soho Square, was packed on Saturday, 16th March, for the Annual Meeting of the Alliance. The reports presented again demonstrated the extraordinary vitality and energy of the Society, one notable sign of progress being the increase in the circulation of the monthly paper, over 1,300 additional copies having been sold during the year. The Treasurer's report showed a credit balance of £29 15s. 7d., and an appeal for guarantees to cover the rent for the coming twelve months of the new office, costing just double the former one, produced in a few minutes a sum within five pounds of the amount required.

Resolutions dealt with equal political rights, equal moral standard, reform of the solicitation laws, abolition of state regulation of vice, appointment of women police, fair and adequate treatment of Catholic elementary and secondary schools, the separate assessment of the incomes of married people, raising the age of marriage to 16 for both boys and girls, the retention by British women of their own nationality on marriage, equal pay and opportunities under similar conditions of work for men and

women, the exclusion of women medical students from certain London hospitals, and the abolition of the Mui Tsai system of child slavery.

The committee elected for the ensuing year comprised Miss C. M. Gordon (Chairman), Miss Leonora de Alberti (Editor of *The Catholic Citizen*), Miss Barry (hon. secretary), Miss Pauline Brandt, Miss E. Butler-Bowden, Miss Barclay Carter, Miss Fedden, Miss Eleanor Fitzgerald, Miss Douglas Irvine, Miss Sheila Hynes, Miss Jeffrey, Mrs. Laughton Mathews (Hon. Treasurer), Mrs. O'Connor, and Miss Monica O'Connor. After tea the meeting was thrown open to the public, and members reassembled to hear Miss C. M. Gordon speak on "What we can do in the General Election."

## WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

The British Section of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom held its Annual Council Meeting in London last week. This organization of women was formed at the Hague in 1915, and has National Sections in 25 countries. The most striking resolutions passed at these meetings concerned an Arbitration Treaty with the U.S.A., the Freedom of the Seas, the British Solomon Islands, and the Suez Canal. The suggestion made with regard to the last named was that, since its safety is a matter for the concern of all States, it should be protected by international responsibility, and H.M. Government should agree to it being placed under the control of the Transit Organization of the League of Nations. On the difficult question of the Freedom of the Seas, this Council recorded its belief that the Kellogg Pact provided a basis for a solution of the controversy on this subject between Great Britain and the U.S.A. The Council called attention to the continuance of child slavery in Hong Kong, in spite of the undertaking given to Parliament by Mr. Winston Churchill as Colonial Secretary in 1922 to bring about its abolition within a year. As regards the smoking of opium, the Council urged that, as this is prohibited in Great Britain it should also be prohibited in all countries under British rule; and further, it agreed to work for the limitation of the total world production of manufacturing opium to the amount necessary for medical and scientific purposes.

## THE PRIZE COMPETITION.

We give below particulars of the competition for new or potential voters. The competition is divided into two groups—the first for new voters under 30 and the second for future voters from 16 to 21. Two prizes are offered in the first group (£2 2s. and £1), and two in the second (£1 1s. and 10s. 6d.). We urge our senior readers to use this opportunity of interesting their young relations, friends, maids, indeed any girls with whom they may come in contact, and suggest that they order copies of the back numbers up to date. A limited number of sets of the first six letters, including this week's issue, may be had for 1s. post free. We ought perhaps to add that while we expect to reach girls and young women, boys or young men are not excluded should any wish to compete.

I.

### FOR NEW VOTERS.

1. Candidates are asked to select not more than four, and not fewer than two of the questions printed below. Replies must not be sent at this stage to subsequent questions.
2. Candidates may use a pseudonym if they wish, but must send their name and address, which should be written on the competition coupon given below. Each candidate must send in a separate coupon.
3. Replies must reach the office, 4 Tufton Street, not later than 30th April.
4. The decision of the editors shall be final, and they reserve the right to print any successful answers of sufficient merit.

### FUTURE VOTERS.

1. Candidates over 15 and under 21 may enter this class. They are asked to add their age and their name and address on the competition coupon. It would also help the judges if they could add whether at school or college or working. Other rules are the same as above.

### QUESTIONS.

- (1) "Is the Vote Worth While?"
- (2) "When did the Prime Minister promise to give the Vote to women on the same terms as men?" Briefly describe the course of events between the Representation of the People Act, 1919, and his promise.
- (3) "What is the point of joining a Political Party?"
- (4) "What would you do if the Party to which you belonged refused to consider a particular reform which you had very much at heart?"
- (5) "Have we achieved Equal Citizenship?"
- (6) "What is the point of joining a non-party women's organization?"

(See Competition Coupon next page.)

## NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

President: MRS. CORBETT ASHBY. Hon. Treasurer: MRS. ALFRED HUGHES.  
Hon. Secretary: MRS. RYLAND.  
General and Parliamentary Secretary: MRS. HORTON.  
Offices: 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.  
Telephone: Victoria 6188.

### EASTER HOLIDAYS.

The Office will be closed from 5.30 p.m. on Thursday, 28th March, and will reopen at 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 3rd April.

### QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATES.

Copies of the questionnaire drawn up by the Executive Committee specially for candidates at the General Election have now been issued to Secretaries of affiliated Societies, and further copies may be obtained on application to Headquarters (price 1d. each, or 7d. per dozen, post free).

### AGE OF MARRIAGE BILL.

On Thursday, 21st March, Mrs. Hubback gave evidence, on behalf of the N.U.S.E.C., before the select Committee which has been appointed by the House of Lords to consider the Bill introduced last month by Lord Buckmaster. Mrs. Hubback put forward the reasons why the National Union supports the Bill as it stands, and was strongly opposed to any amendments to make voidable instead of void, marriages contracted while either party is below the age of sixteen.

### WOMEN PEERS COMMITTEE.

A Committee has been formed to organize efforts to remedy the present law by which women who are peers in their own right may not sit in the House of Lords. The National Union will be represented on this Committee by Mrs. Adrian Corbett.

### ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING—Pooling of Delegates' Fares.

It is noticeable that the number of delegates attending the Council Meeting this year was larger than any during the last ten years. The greater number of very distant Societies represented indicated the value of pooling the fares of our delegates from each Society. With regard to these pooled fares, secretaries of Societies are requested to accept our apologies for our not yet being able to settle the amounts due from or to Societies. Our Accountant has unfortunately been unable to be at the office since the Council meeting, but the matter will be dealt with as soon as possible on her return after Easter.

### SUMMER SCHOOL.

In view of the many activities at present absorbing the attention of the National Union, the Executive Committee at its last meeting decided to abandon the holding of a Summer School at Oxford this year. It is probable that week-end schools may be arranged later.

### EAST TOXTETH BY-ELECTIONS.

The Aigburth branch of the Liverpool W.C.A., which was responsible for putting questions before the candidates at the East Toxteth by-election on points on the programme of the Union, has now reported on the replies received as follows: The successful candidate, Mr. Henry Mond (Con.) replied in favour of equal pay, but against family allowances, the right of married women to retain their employment on marriage, and to retain or change their nationality on marriage. He considered the employment of women police should be a matter for local option, and in reply to the question relating to information on methods of birth control stated that he "saw no reason to depart from the view held by successive Governments." Mr. Roberts (Lib.) and Mr. Cleary (Lab.) replied in the affirmative to questions on women police, employment of married women and nationality of married women. Mr. Roberts was opposed to family allowances and equal pay (both of which Mr. Cleary supported), but in favour of the information on methods of birth control being given at welfare centres in receipt of Government grants, which question the Labour candidate preferred to keep out of party politics.

## THE PROFESSIONAL WOMAN'S HAIRDRESSER

MADAME EDYTHE,

118 VICTORIA STREET, S.W.1. (Private Entrance).

TEL: VIC 2389.

PERSONAL ATTENTION. MODERATE CHARGES.

## NEWS FROM SOCIETIES.

CARDIFF W.C.A.

When a little change is desirable from the ordinary subjects usually taken at W.C.A. meetings, travel talks are often much appreciated. At Cardiff on 21st February, Dr. Mary Phillips, of Merthyr, gave a most interesting account of a recent visit that she had paid to Yugo Slavia. This was the more interesting because she was one of the heroic women doctors who went out to that country then known as Serbia, during the Great War, with the Scottish Women's Hospital organization. She told of the wonderful progress that Yugo Slavia was making, especially with regard to clinics and village health centres, and predicted a great future for the new country when racial differences should have died down.

On 28th February, Mrs. R. C. McLean, B.Sc., gave a travel talk at the office, making her audience wish that they could visit Paris with her and see the French capital as she described it, with constant reference to its history.

These excursions to foreign lands did not prevent the committee from giving careful attention to the agenda for the coming council meetings in London.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### THE LADY WITH THE LAMP.

MADAM,—I think Mrs. Aley's Fane Trotter has perhaps not noticed the statement on the programme of the "Lady with a Lamp", in which Capt. Berkeley indicates the purport of the play and the motives of his heroine's actions. As to the scenes between Miss Nightingale and Lady Herbert, they may be "psychologically true" of the characters created by Capt. Berkeley; it is certain that nothing like them occurred in real life. I am not concerned to criticize the play as a work of art, but to point out that it is not what it professes to be, a true picture of the people represented. The truth was much finer and more interesting than the fiction, but it is very difficult to make it known, and I am grateful to THE WOMAN'S LEADER for the generous way in which they have given me the opportunity of calling attention to the facts.

BARBARA STEPHEN.

Hall Close, Wood Green,  
Salisbury.

### THE CAUSE.

MADAM,—With regard to the recent correspondence over Ray Strachey's references to the militant organization in her book *The Cause*, may I, as an old member of that body, say how her book struck me. I read it with deep interest, and thought the author showed a marked understanding, and even sympathy, with the spirit that prompted the militant movement. The great point about Mrs. Strachey's work is the way she marshals her facts, and the clear presentation of them, showing how every side stream contributed to the great whole. She shows historical feeling and sense of proportion. In view of the value of the book as an impartial historical survey, the mistake over the W.S.P.U. balance-sheet seems to me to have been unduly stressed.

AN OLD MILITANT.

### THE RUMOUR.

MADAM,—May I urge all your readers to go at once to see "The Rumour" at the Court Theatre. It is a play of amazing quality. It was a woman, Miss Dallas, who had the vision and courage to promote a company to present the play as no manager would take it. It teaches more about the origins of war than any book or lecture could teach. It is the wittiest play I have ever seen, and the scenery technique is of the utmost originality. The actors are superb.

A. HELEN WARD.

34 Marlborough Hill,  
St. John's Wood, N.W. 8.

## OPEN DOOR COUNCIL. PUBLIC MEETING

THURSDAY, 11th APRIL, at 4.30 p.m., in the  
(Council Chamber) CAXTON HALL, WESTMINSTER.  
MRS. PETHICK-LAWRENCE, MISS MONICA WHATELY  
and MRS. WILLIAMSON FORRESTER (Manchester) will speak on  
National and International Action for  
**The Economic Emancipation of Women.**  
Chair: MRS. ELIZABETH ABBOTT.

The Public Meeting will be preceded at 3 p.m. by the Third Annual General Meeting of the Open Door Council. Tea: 4-4.30, 6d.

## COMPETITION COUPON

Name.....

Address.....

Age (if under 21).....

## COMING EVENTS.

## CONFERENCE OF RANGER PATROL LEADERS ON CITIZENSHIP.

1st April. 12 noon. Working Men's College, Surbiton.

## INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

27th April-8th May. International Conference of Executive and Standing Committees in London. Opening Welcome Meeting, 29th April, 8 p.m. Westminster Congregational Church, Buckingham Gate. The Prime Minister, representatives of London Municipal Authorities, the Marchioness of Aberdeen and Temair, and the Lady Emmott will receive the delegates. Particulars from I.C.W., 117 Victoria Street, S.W. 1.

## NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

Gillingham W.C.A.—1st April. 7 p.m. Arden Street. Annual Meeting.

Abertillery W.C.A.—9th April. 7 p.m. Ebenezer Lecture Hall, Miss Patricia Hall: "Why I Value my Vote."

## UNION OF WOMEN VOTERS.

15th April. 55 Chancery Lane, W.C. Major Hobday, F.R.C.V.S.: "Veterinary Medicine and Surgery as a Career for Women."

## WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

13th April. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Caxton Hall, Westminster. Annual Conference. Chair: Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence. 4.30, Miss Nina Boyle: "Slavery in Marriage."

## TYPEWRITING.

M. McLACHLAN and N. WHITWAM—  
TYPISTS.—4 Chapel Walk, Manchester.  
Tel.: 3402 City.

## TO LET AND WANTED.

RECOMMENDED by Mrs. Oliver Strachey. Swiss family receives paying guests. Large comfortable house and garden near Lake of Geneva. Terms £10 monthly. French lessons arranged if desired. Mlle Reitzel, le Prieuré, Tour-de-Peilz (Vevey).

BOARD AND LODGING. Quiet home at moderate terms. Bed-sittingroom and service for lady or gentleman at Cheam. Pleasant country in easy reach of London.—Apply, Mrs. Bampton, Puttsboro', Alberta Avenue, Cheam.

NEAR PLYMOUTH, country, sea, and river; boating, bathing, fishing; magnificent coast walks; large gardens; excellent buses; children taken.—The Sheiling, Newton Ferrers, South Devon.

LADY receives PAYING GUESTS in country house; delightful surroundings overlooking golf course, bracing air; every comfort, central heating, garage.—Miss Knowles, Windyridge, Peppard, Oxon.

UNFURNISHED Flat to Let; South Hampstead; two large Rooms and kitchen; use of bathroom; gas and electric light; rent 30s. a week for long let.—Apply, O'Malley, 6 Steeles Road, N.W. 3.

WANTED to Exchange, for month of May, sunny House in Berkhamsted, Herts (five bedrooms, three sittingrooms, all modern conveniences, garage, garden, near excellent golf and tennis clubs), for House or Flat (slightly smaller) in London, W. 2 or W. 11 preferred; or would consider renting.—Apply, Box 1,535, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Tufton Street, Westminster, S.W. 1.

FURNISHED Bedroom, moderate terms; meals optional. Private house adjoining Upper Harley Street. Only ladies received.—Box 1,532, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Tufton Street, Westminster, S.W. 1.

FOR Business and Professional Women. Two Bedrooms in quiet house, gas fires, electric light, geyser. Near Warwick Avenue. Tube and buses. Breakfasts only. 35s. per week each.—Box 1,534, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Tufton Street, Westminster, S.W. 1.

## POST VACANT.

WANTED, experienced Woman Organizer; election work for month of May; must be in sympathy with Labour; usual salary.—Write to Miss Picton-Turbervill, 14 Gayfere Street, Westminster.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

LADY, experienced, capable, wants to meet another who would join in opening a Pension or small Hotel, in a rising place on the French Riviera. Excellent prospects. Capital required, £300-£500.—Box 1,533, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Tufton Street, Westminster, S.W. 1.

LADY ARTIST (Russian), Exhibitor to London Group Salon d'Andonne, Paris, etc., is arranging sketching parties in Brittany, spring and summer. Fluent linguist. Excellent references.—Box 1,537, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Tufton Street, Westminster, S.W. 1.

## PROFESSIONAL.

INCOME TAX RECOVERED AND ADJUSTED. Consult Miss H. M. Baker, 275 High Holborn, W.C. 1. Income Tax Returns, Super Tax Returns, Repayment Claims of all descriptions. Telephone: Holborn 0377.

## FOR SALE AND WANTED.

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. (Stamped addressed envelope for reply.)

## DRESS.

GOWNS well cut and fitted by experienced dressmaker. Terms from 21/-. Ladies' own materials made up. Renovations a speciality.—Grace Mayman, 168 High Street, Notting Hill Gate. Phone: Park 2943. Appointments.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON AND NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 35 Marsham Street, Westminster. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Information Bureau. Interviews 10 to 1, except Saturdays. Members' Centre open daily. Restaurant open to 7.30. (Not Saturdays.)

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 31st March, 6.30, Maude Royden, "The Resurrection of the Soul."

EDUCATED HOME HELPS BUREAU, 190 Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W. 1, requires and supplies educated women for all domestic work. Holiday engagements. Registration: Employers, 2/6; workers, 1/-; Suiting fee: Employers, 10/6; workers, 2/-. (Victoria 5940.)

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Please send THE WOMAN'S LEADER to me for twelve months. I enclose 10/10.

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