

WHAT IS EQUALITY?WOMEN'S SERVICE.
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AND THE COMMON CAUSE

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NOTES AND NEWS.**Straws.**

We have always tended in these columns to adopt an optimistic attitude as to the Government's intentions with regard to Equal Franchise and cannot share the view of *Time and Tide*, as expressed in its last week's issue, that the Government has made "what amounts to a declaration of war" on women's organizations. Without daring to be too definite in our prophecies we have consistently felt that the signs of the times are in our favour. Two events this week, we think, serve to justify our point of view. First the Prime Minister has agreed to receive the deputation of women's organizations for which the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship has been asking for the last two years. Representatives of the N.U.S.E.C. and of the Equal Political Rights Campaign Committee will be received by Mr. Baldwin on Tuesday, 8th March, at his room in the House of Commons to discuss the problem of Equal Franchise. Secondly, the 1922 Group in the House of Commons, which includes all Conservative back-benchers, had a meeting on Monday "to discuss what (Note—not 'whether') extension of the franchise should be given to women." They had received what is rather an unusual experience for this group—an intimation from the Government Chief Whip that he would like a direct lead from the Group as to whether the vote should be given to women at the age of 21 or 25. A resolution was passed by a majority of the members present in favour of Equal Franchise between men and women at the age of 21.

Contrariwise.

That the Government's intentions with regard to Equal Franchise are, even if known to itself, still wrapt in mystery for the general public is clear from the variety of the statements which have been made in the Press. This week's *Sunday Times* writes, for instance: "The matter has not been formally before the Cabinet, but from the information that has reached them the Whips and the party managers have come to the conclusion, I understand, that the increase in the woman's vote would be by no means unfavourable to Constitutionalism, and that it would be advantageous if the concession was sponsored by the Unionist party. Nothing more, I imagine, will be heard of the curious proposals that both sexes should be enfranchised at 25. There is such a thing as prescription, and, so far as man is concerned, the enabling age has stood at 21 for something like six centuries." The *New Statesman*, on the other hand, which has paid singularly little attention to the question so far, writes as follows: "Mr. Baldwin coquetted with the ladies at the last General Election, promising them an extension of the franchise. Since

then there have been some frantic efforts by Conservatives to explain away this pledge. An elaborate argument has been put forward in Ministerial quarters that what was meant was that women should have the vote at twenty-five, and that coincidentally male voters of twenty-one should no longer be registered, so that in time the men's vote might be levelled up to the twenty-five years limit. But this is regarded by organizers of all parties as a fool's argument. The franchise once given, as it was to men at twenty-one, can never be taken away again in a democratic country. It is generally recognized at Westminster that if the Government do move in this matter they must extend the franchise to women at twenty-one. But I understand that Conservative headquarters are now against it, and that party efforts will be made to suppress the reform." Where is truth to be found? It is all to the good that the more optimistic view is found in the Government paper, and that both unite in condemning the proposal to fix the minimum voting age at 25.

Solicitation.

The Home Secretary has at last consented to set up a committee to deal with solicitation. This in itself is a victory for Lady Astor and Lord Balfour and our own propaganda. He has not, however, told us what type of committee, so we are left to suppose that it will be departmental. It should, in our opinion, be an established principle that where the reputation of a department is called in question, any committee of inquiry appointed should be a joint committee of both Houses. Public opinion will not be pacified in this matter by the sight of policemen examining the police. If we are unable to gain this point, we must at least work for a public, not a secret inquiry. At least we can rejoice, however, that something is to be done. With the working of the present system no one can be satisfied. To begin with, it does not stop solicitation or even sensibly check it. Next, it is unjust to the women, large numbers of whom are prosecuted and sent to prison every week on unsupported police evidence. When magistrates express disapproval of a procedure which places a whole class of human beings and citizens at the mercy of individual constables, they are told that the men annoyed will not come forward as witnesses, so that if independent evidence be required the law can no longer be enforced. Unfortunately a widespread belief has grown up among those familiar with the question that in certain districts the law is only enforced at the cost of an almost systematic blackmail. This charge may be exaggerated or mistaken, but its mere existence is extremely harmful, and it is difficult to see how it can be disproved as long as a woman has no appeal from the single statement of a constable. The remedy is to stop prosecutions for soliciting, as such, and to let the police use their present powers, where they detect the practice, of simply moving on the women or men concerned, or arresting them for causing obstruction. This would secure the orderliness of the streets, and would leave it possible to prosecute for annoyance where annoyance could in fact be proved. It is part of the English legal system that guilt must be proved against a prisoner, and in dealing with this type of offence it is as dangerous to the police as it is coarsening the public conscience that customary safeguards should be set aside.

Committee on Mental Deficiency.

In the House of Commons on 21st February the Duchess of Atholl, in stating the personnel of the Committee on Mental Deficiency, set up by the Board of Education, announced that the members included Mrs. Pinsent, C.B.E., Miss Evelyn Fox, and Miss Redfern.

Out of the Jury Box.

Daíl Eireann on 15th February passed the second reading of a Bill one of whose provisions exempts women from sitting on juries. One reason given by the Minister for Justice was that under the existing act women are allowed to claim exemption, and that so many had either done this or been challenged by counsel that in the end only forty women had served during the last year. This showed that Irish women as a whole did not want to serve on juries, and he did not consider that it was worth putting officials to trouble and the State to expense to secure such meagre results. These arguments will hardly secure the approval of readers of this journal. Practically no men, except writers of fiction, want to sit on a jury. Those who do want, want for the wrong motive. They are not in the least anxious to secure the administration of justice, they merely think that the experience might be interesting to themselves. It is not necessarily among these that the best type of juror is found. Women who exercise the vote may be required to perform jury service for three reasons. The first is that a voter should be acquainted with the life and organization of her community; the second that the rights of citizenship carry with them a moral duty to play the full part of a citizen, and the third that justice, on the whole, will gain from the presence of women in the jury-box. Of these only the last could be tested by experience; we believe that the test has been successful. Women jurors have shown themselves to be clear-headed and extremely conscientious. Their male colleagues are, we are informed, mortally afraid of them, and the result has been a useful antidote to slackness and frivolity, whether induced by the witticisms of judges or native to the juror's temperaments. So much for the general argument; this particular Irish Bill is further illogical in that it refuses to allow those willing to serve to do so, because those who need not serve are not willing and do not. We believe that future Irish Cabinet ministers now unborn or playing about at school will regret, if it be persisted in, a decision which is indefensible in principle and one day amid electoral outcries certain to be reversed.

The Reform of the Poor Law.

The National Council of Women is to be congratulated on a conference which it organized and held this week in order to give women an opportunity of discussing the issues involved in the proposed abolition of Boards of Guardians. The speakers included Miss Fulford, Miss Bertha Mason, and Miss Eleanor Rathbone, and an excellent discussion followed, all the more interesting because the majority of the participants were either members of Boards of Guardians or other local authorities. Miss Mason with convincing figures showed that the proposed changes would mean the loss of the services of women all over the country. Miss Fulford's description of the work demanded from a Guardian made her hearers realize the magnitude of the duties and responsibilities which it is proposed to add to the present County and County Borough Councils. Miss Rathbone, believing that change is inevitable, suggested that women's societies should explore the best methods of minimizing the most serious of the probable consequences. A letter to the Minister of Health asking him to receive a deputation was approved by those present. Now that the consideration of the subject has been postponed to the Autumn Session, the intervening period gives women's organizations the opportunity of studying the matter in all its bearings. We have not forgotten our promise to our readers to continue the articles on different aspects of reform which have appeared from time to time in our columns, though the pressure of other subjects has postponed their appearance. Within the next few weeks we intend to print contributions from Miss Fulford, Miss Bertha Mason, and Mrs. Hewlett Hobbs and others with exceptional knowledge and experience.

Liberal Organizing Committee.

We are glad to note that on the newly-constituted Liberal Administrative Committee, of which Sir Herbert Samuel is chairman, Mrs. Corbett Ashby and Mrs. Wintringham are serving. As the Liberal party organization has in the past not been above criticism with regard to the treatment of its women members, it is as well that a change in the right direction is being inaugurated.

A Larger Slice for the Women.

We shall shortly be reviewing the new study of the national income, 1924 [*The National Income, 1924: A Comparative*

Study of the Income of the United Kingdom in 1911 and 1924], by Professor A. L. Bowley and Sir Josiah Stamp, but should like to draw attention now to the interesting conclusions to which the inquiry points with regard to the proportionate increase in women's wages. It states: "The effective increase of prices (since 1911) was about 90 per cent., and consequently the real Social Income was very nearly the same at the two dates. The real income per head decreased 5 or 10 per cent., since the population had grown about 7 per cent. . . . Within the wage-earning classes women and unskilled workers have received a substantial real advance in wages; the great majority of skilled workers made at least as much (after allowing for the rise of prices) in 1924 as in 1911." It is a satisfaction to feel, owing very largely we imagine to the action of Trades Boards, that the financial position of the woman worker is really improving.

The Foundations of Equality.

The annual Council meeting of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship has a place of its own among the various annual assemblies of women's non-party organizations. Unlike most of its contemporaries, it possesses a definite formula which is obligatory on its affiliated societies. Each year the Council decides on the programme for the coming twelve months' work. Since the reconstitution of the Union to meet the altered conditions in 1918, the general reforms on the programme have remained the same, with exactly the same order of priority. This is as it ought to be. Whatever may be the interpretation of the word "equality" no one can possibly accept the formula of the Union who refuses to give the place of pre-eminence to the extension of the vote to women on the same terms as it is granted to men. This is the foundation of all equality between the sexes. Without an equal franchise other so-called equalities are but counterfeits. Nine years after the Representation of the People Act, the first and most important task of the Council is still to reiterate its demand for an Equal Franchise and to decide its policy for the present critical situation. Its one and only public meeting—the demonstration in Caxton Hall—is once again a suffrage demonstration, another of a long line of great national gatherings of women who come together to give voice to their strong sense of injustice and their determination to bring the strongest pressure on the Government to take immediate action. All three political parties will be represented on the platform, and the body of the hall will be filled with representatives of constituencies from North, South, East, and West. Many London meetings have been held within the last twelve months on the same subject; nevertheless, we believe every London suffragist, especially those who remember the campaigns of the past, will make a special effort to take part in this national demonstration.

What is Equality?

We do not make any apology for continuing our symposium on the much-disputed question "What is Equality between the sexes?" As we stated in our issue of 4th February, far-reaching decisions which turn on the answer lie before the delegates to the annual Council meetings referred to above. We are convinced that this subject is of interest outside the ranks of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, and in view of its importance we are glad to find space for articles from different points of view by Miss Helen Ward, Lady Balfour of Burleigh, and Mrs. Stocks. We invite correspondence from our readers.

Questions in Parliament.

Offences against Young Persons.—In answer to a question from Viscount Sandon as to what action was proposed with regard to the subject of the Report of the Committee on Offences against Young Persons Sir W. Joynson-Hicks replied that as regards administrative action, he had already commended the Report to the consideration of magistrates and the police. Whether any, and if so what, legislation should be proposed was a matter which would be better considered when the Committee on Youthful Offenders had made its report. It was proposed to give effect to Recommendation 27 in the Mental Deficiency Bill of last Session. In answer to a further question, Sir W. Joynson-Hicks replied that he hoped the new Committee would report within two months' time. It had been sitting for a long time, and the report would be long and comprehensive, dealing with the whole question, not including Scotland.

NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER.

BY OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT.

On Monday, 14th February, occurred the long-expected debate on the Government's trade union legislation. It gave rise to some notable speeches. Sir John Simon challenged the Labour party to say whether they supported a general strike or not. He was answered by Sir H. Slessor, but only partly: for the fact remained that the party were divided. Therefore, though Sir Henry Slessor, by general consent, put the Labour case as well as it could be put, the weight of Sir John Simon's charge remained unanswered. The Prime Minister spoke, not at length; Mr. Thomas wound up for the opposition; then came Sir Douglas Hogg's speech in reply. That was perhaps the most dramatic incident of the day, and for this reason—until he rose, no one knew what the Government's intentions were. They had kept their own counsel. All that they had made public was what had been contained in the King's speech, that they intended to legislate on industrial disputes. Therefore excitement ran high, in hope that Sir Douglas Hogg would reveal the secret. If he did so, it was by inference only: but the whole House, after hearing him, had not a shadow of doubt that legislation will be confined to two points, the general strike and mass picketing. Anyhow, that is a safe prophecy.

On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 15th, 16th, and 17th February, came supplementary estimates. The subsidy on beet sugar came in for criticism, as usual, but also as usual survived the attack. There is a general feeling that the starting of the cultivation of sugar beet in this country is an experiment well worth the trying. Some Members, too, quarrelled with the payment of the cost of the Duke of York's mission to Australia, but the general sense of the House was against them. Therefore not much of interest emerged on supplementary estimates: but very different was the case of the two motions by private Members on 15th and 16th February.

On the first Mr. Hurst pleaded for a reformed constitution of the House of Lords, and an excellent debate followed his excellent speech. Opinion was divided on party lines, but the discussion was lifted above party. For the Government Sir William Joynson-Hicks was non-committal: the Government, he said, could not support the motion and would not vote. Mr. Ramsay MacDonald said some true things, the truest being that a great constitutional

change of this sort can only be carried by agreement between parties. Listening to the speeches for and against, the impression left on the mind was that we shall certainly always have a second chamber, and that probably for a long time that second chamber will be the House of Lords. The difficulty the reformers have in front of them is that, though they are agreed that reform is necessary, they are hopelessly divided as to its nature. Direct election, indirect election, nomination by the Prime Minister, nomination by him and the leader of the opposition, with or without a leaven of peers elected by themselves—these, or combinations of these in varying proportions, all have stalwart advocates. Amid these desperate divisions the present House will probably survive. It would increase its chances by one reform, small in extent but symbolic in character, the admission of peeresses in their own right.

The second motion was by Mr. Short on Wednesday, 16th February, pleading for raising the school age to fifteen, thus putting into force the report of the Consultative Committee. He was supported not only by the Labour party, for Lady Astor both spoke and voted for the motion. Lord Eustace Percy's reply was not well received. His objections were two: first, that you cannot coerce local authorities; second, that the proposal would wreck the present policy of dealing with children over fourteen by means of secondary schools. This, he argued, was not only the right policy, but a policy on which we had already embarked. To upset it would be disastrous. An amendment to the motion, moved from the Government side of the House, was carried by a majority of only 18.

On Friday, private Members' day, Mr. Mitchell Banks brought in his Bill forbidding foreign money coming in to help industrial disputes. Again an excellent debate followed: in fact, the debates in this Session have been unusually good. In this case, party lines were disregarded, for Conservatives spoke against it, and the Government in the person of the Home Secretary advised its rejection. It was defeated by 183 votes to 75. Thus ends an interesting week.

China, of course, occupies most Members' thoughts: but more of this next week.

THINGS INDUSTRIAL SEEN IN CHINA.¹

By DAME ADELAIDE ANDERSON.

III.

Through the sympathetic interpretation of Miss Zung Wei-Tsung, and the support of Miss Dingman and other co-workers on the Industrial Committee of the N.C.C.C., we were able, in a session of three hours, to give tentative replies to most of the twenty-nine questions from the leader, whose appeal for labour reform was given in Article II. They were classified by him under seven main heads, interpreted as:—

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Development. | 5. Combination. |
| 2. Warfare. | 6. Personnel. |
| 3. Legislation. | 7. Miscellaneous. |
| 4. Civilization. | |

Certainly it appeared that a good deal more study of the lives of Chinese workers was needed to attain full comprehension of the original ideas towards which this leader was feeling his way. Yet how absorbing, how palpitating with life, was this conference. The ideas expressed mark the beginning of a popular movement away from the position indicated in Morse's *Gilds of China*, when he wrote (in 1909) that "in her gilds, as in so many of her institutions, China illustrates for us Europe as it was in the Middle Ages."

Under the first head, the leader inquired whether agricultural, industrial, or commercial development is best suited to China and whether Chinese manual workers can secure rights as human beings? Under the second he wanted to know whether without bloodshed Chinese workers and capitalists can come together? Under the third he asked why it is that Chinese workers are not treated as other members of society and are denied rights, e.g. the right of association, freedom of speech, and the right to strike. Under the fourth head, "Civilization," he wanted guidance to the kind of education that the Chinese "common" labourer ought to receive; what chance there was

for them to study under existing conditions, and whether a workers' revolution is necessary?

Under the fifth head, "Combination," came wide and penetrating questions, some of which a "foreigner" could hardly be expected completely to answer without considerable study of China, such as "Why do Chinese labour unions fail to be self-governing, and why do real unions fail to appear?" Others showed considerable reading in trade union history—beyond what might be expected from a Chinese worker speaking only his own language—such as, "What is the best way for Chinese workers to start organization, whether by trades or by industrial unions or by mixed territorial unions, and whether it is yet possible for Chinese workers to unite with those of other countries?"

Under the sixth and seventh heads came various searching questions. If they could be steadily followed up by experienced trade unionists and economists, told off to ascertain their significance, and to help Chinese workers to avoid the many pitfalls and dangers surrounding them, blessings might be the outcome not only for China and her industries, but eventually for the whole world of modern industry. For example: Is it necessary to have experts for organizing labour? How many in China at the present time care about the hardships and the organization of the workers? How can the old-fashioned work-places be improved and old-fashioned apprenticeship be reformed? This last is an illustration of the normally balanced and practical mind of the Chinese worker. There is perception of the important fact that much of the present suffering of labour grows out of unadapted earlier conditions and standards.

With so comprehensive an "examination-paper" before me, it was necessary to explain that if I was to speak from direct knowledge, it must be from my experience during official administration of the standard conditions of health, safety, and welfare for the factory worker provided by the British law,

¹ Previous articles have appeared in our issues of 4th and 18th February.

which had been to a great extent voluntarily developed by the joint and independent activities of practically-minded industrial people. For such in the main the manufacturers and manual workers of Great Britain certainly are. It was a matter of common knowledge, I said, that British trade unionists as well as outside reformers, doggedly working for the best part of a century, had most materially contributed to the working out of factory law and its administration with the more recent co-operation of hygienists, chemists, and engineers. And I suggested that Chinese workers might gain much by consulting British trade union leaders, by avoiding violent and revolutionary methods, and by developing from their old guild organizations certain ideas as to the goal of co-operation between trade unions and employers' associations. I urged them to study the growth and development of Workers' Educational Associations in Great Britain and Australia.

Our own reporter was present, and her summary of the proceedings is helpful:—

"The questions were extremely comprehensive, covering the ground not only of the theoretic status of labour, but its practical application to the position of the Chinese industrial worker to-day, and his prospects in the future. Dame Adelaide Anderson, through the medium of Miss Zang, carried on a long discussion on the basis of these questions with the three principal spokesmen of the workers, and it was found that the main theme that was returned to again and again from all the points raised was labour organization and the growth of trade unionism. . . . It was apparent from the remarks of the workers' representatives that trade unionism as known in the West cannot be said to exist in China, but that labour is just beginning to emerge into group consciousness—the meeting itself was indeed a sign of a move in this direction—and is in the sorest need of instruction in the aims and method of successful organization. It was pointed out that the prime requisite is education among the mass of the workers. . . . This most interesting and suggestive meeting closed with discussion as to the possibility of forming a tutorial class for study on the lines indicated by the list of questions, which might be the nucleus of a national workers' educational association forming an invaluable means of hastening the coming of industrial democracy."

My own vivid impression remains—of a remarkable vigour and acuteness of mind in these Chinese workers. Here is a great field for adult education and for introduction to sane, fruitful methods of trade union organization. The appalling length of hours of work presents a grave obstacle and the problem is to know where to begin to concentrate in breaking the chain of ignorance, helplessness, and oppressive conditions. No doubt attack must be made at various points. The existence of the present contract system of recruitment and supervision of the workers seems calculated to lead to periodic trouble and to the extensive, violent outbursts that in themselves are an obstacle to adequate, steady reform. The underlying conditions of *malaise*, "dis-ease," added to the lack of any clear law regulating Combination, would go some way to explain some of the sudden executions of labour leaders by Chinese Provincial authorities that are reported from time to time. And these very conditions combined with the ignorance and helplessness must have made a regular hot-bed for the beginnings of the Labour troubles in 1925, which passed rapidly from an industrial to a political and racial phase. At this meeting there was not the least suggestion that foreign employers were in any way specially concerned. These workers certainly dealt with, and primarily had Chinese employers in their thoughts.

(To be continued.)

WHAT IS EQUALITY?*

III.

By A. HELEN WARD.

In Miss Rose Macaulay's book *The Making of a Bigot*, she describes the embarrassments of one who while a sincere adherent of the High Church school of thought, nevertheless held that other forms of religion might have some good in them, and who loved therefore occasionally to listen, say, to a distinguished Nonconformist divine, and, who at a later period in his life, joined the Socialist party, but showed an unfortunate inclination to stray out of the fold for an evening and listen, shall we say, to the then equivalent of Mr. Lloyd George or Mr. Baldwin. The suspicion with which his colleagues consequently regarded him darkened his life and he decided to become a bigot, that is, a person wholly convinced that all truth dwells with him and all falsehood with the other fellow. Some of us find ourselves in sympathy with Miss Macaulay's hero. We are wholly convinced that the day the N.U.S.E.C. becomes ashamed of its adherence to the great principles upon which the "Woman's Movement" has been built up, upon that day

* Previous articles on the subject appeared in our issue of February 11th.

it will be shorn of its strength, and disintegration will set in. Suffragists have never feared ridicule and the witty gibe about "me too" leaves us amused, not dismayed. Likewise talk of the "old feminism" and the "new feminism", does not make us ashamed, merely perhaps more full of that vigilance which is the price of liberty. The principles preached by the pioneers do not date, but certain aspects of the "new feminism" make us uncomfortably reminiscent of the Anti-Suffrage Society in all its glory. Nevertheless how incontrovertible is the fact that there are fastnesses to be won wherein the hydra-headed monster we have to attack reveals himself in other than an obvious form. The problems of maternity offer no exact parallel by which the freedoms of men can be measured with those of women. Yet a proper adjustment of these matters is essential if women are to have an equal fullness of citizenship with men.

But it is here that our embarrassments seem in a slight degree analogous to the embarrassments of Miss Macaulay's hero. We so heartily agree with the N.U.S.E.C. Council in its general attitude that we cannot wholly agree with Mrs. Abbott or with Miss Rathbone. The truth of things does not lie in logic, nor always in brilliant debating points, but in a subtle balance of judgment, stabilized by a definite adherence to big principles. In spite of what its critics may say, the N.U.S.E.C. Council has so far shown this balance of judgment. By its strong endorsement of the active campaign for equal franchise, for equal pay and opportunity, for protection for the worker based on the nature of the work, for an equal moral standard, for freedom for the married woman to decide her own affairs as a married man decides his, the Council has shown itself of the "me too" school unashamedly, possibly more markedly so lately than four or five years ago. But it has also by large majorities declared for certain reforms in regard to which there is no direct parallelism discoverable between the case of men and that of women, and it has declared for a few causes not in any technical sense feminist, but in regard to which it is seemingly that a national all-party organization of women should step into the arena. Such a cause is the League of Nations. The Council has shown a sound instinct in thus acting, but it has left a difficult task to the Executive Committee. The practical question of the moment is, can this task be made easier by the passage of a resolution in March on guiding principles? If such a resolution, even by a little careful redrafting, could be consented to by a large majority, without the spirit of the debating society ("I have won, you have lost") creeping in, it might prove of great value. But any resolution which divided the Council into two parties when in fact there are at least three parties and probably more, would seem undesirable, at least to those among us, and there are probably hundreds, who are convinced that the N.U.S.E.C. would make a grave mistake if it deflected from the well-tryed and amazingly fruitful "equality" principle, but who are also convinced that it does well to have a varied and elastic programme, and to include in that programme various complex problems, some of them of modern development, in regard to which a straight parallelism of circumstances between men and women is not, in the nature of things, practicable. The best method of securing unity in diversity on a broad foundation of principles is for the various "sides" to affirm as lucidly as Miss Rathbone and Mrs. Abbott have affirmed, their own position, but to refrain from denying the modicum of truth in their opponents' positions. *But do let us hold to our affirmatives*, and let us all be neither old nor new feminists but just present day feminists with a glorious tradition to follow, to add to, and to hand on.

IV.

By DOROTHY BALFOUR OF BURLEIGH.

What is Equality? That it should be necessary even to ask such a question must bring bitterness to the hearts of those among the old fighters who still read this paper.

It may, however, be a timely question, and serve to warn Societies belonging to our great Union of the danger which lies ahead of it. The N.U. has for many years enjoyed a reputation for statesmanship and sagacity of which it may well be proud. It has kept its course straight between the Scylla of mere violence and the Charybdis of sheer sentimentality. It has avoided the heroic and tempting path of vociferating blindly for immediate and complete equality, and leaving to those very people who least wish us to have it, the task of devising the means of granting it. It has also avoided the other extreme, that of assembling as a species of woman's parliament and debating all questions from such a super-statesmanlike

attitude that the conclusion usually arrived at is that it is wiser to do nothing. But a new danger has recently been showing itself on the horizon of the N.U.—first as a distant shadow in the water, more lately as a rock upon which the N.U. may split and founder, the rock of "New Feminism."

This doctrine of New Feminism seems to admit the theory of Equality only in so far as it will help towards the achievement of the particular Social Reforms advocated by its supporters. The doctrine of Equality on the other hand—although many of its advocates believe in and work for them as excellent measures in themselves—only admit the inclusion of these Social Reforms in the N.U. programme in so far as they conduce to the quicker realization of Equality. Old hands, who have watched the weakening and the final petering out of groups who have confused these two ideals, have always prophesied the splitting of the N.U. on this issue, and have stood out against the exclusion of extraneous matter on its programme. Perhaps they were right. Some of the old hands and some of the new, like myself, see Equality, or rather the danger of its exclusion in almost every question before the public to-day. I welcome the introduction of certain new reforms on our programme because I see, in some part at least of them, a means of conducting towards Equality, and I also welcome them because I hope they may receive at the hands of the N.U. that final Equality shaping which they would get nowhere else. But, keen as I am on State Provision of Children's Allowances, and the removal of the barrier against women obtaining birth control advice in State-aided Welfare Centres, I would far rather see these valuable reforms swept off the N.U. programme altogether than see the keen edge of our Equality sword blunted by the inclusions of these and other reforms.

Miss Rathbone thinks "the task of the N.U. began but not end with equality, and that" the destruction of barriers must be followed by the reconstruction of conditions to fit the needs and aspirations of both sexes." Exactly. *Followed* but not *preceded*. Let us hasten to destroy the barriers in order to reconstruct the conditions. That is the whole argument in favour of Equality. But let us not put the cart before the horse and seek to reconstruct conditions before destroying the barriers; or else we may find ourselves building up new barriers more difficult of destruction even than those existing to-day.

V.

By MARY STOCKS.

Mrs. Abbott's vigorous attack upon the "New Feminism" provokes me to attempt an answer. But it is not a very easy case to answer, for much of it is not at all clear. For instance, what is all this talk about a "measuring rod"? If anyone can be accused of over much reliance upon "measuring rods" it is surely those rigid equalitarians who can only visualize their standards of what is desirable by measuring them against the standards already achieved by men. There was once upon a time a stork who dined with a fox. The fox provided the material of the feast in a flat dish of his own choosing. Very naturally he chose it with reference to the flexible capacities of his own tongue and without reference to the rigidity of the stork's beak. The stork had perfect equality with the fox to eat out of the same dish, but he got very little to eat.

Mrs. Abbott demands, in the name of equality, that "such rights, liberties, and opportunities as the State allows to its citizens shall not be withheld from women"; that "wherever and whenever the State sets a value upon its citizens, it shall not set an inferior value upon women." But what is this State which has established rights, liberties, and opportunities, and determined values? It is a State whose conception of what kind of liberties and opportunities are necessary, has been determined almost exclusively by men; a State whose standard of values has been set almost exclusively by men. It is a State which symbolizes the flat dish to which Mr. Fox accorded Mr. Stork equal right of access.

Now—let us see how this works out in practice. Mrs. Abbott says that the *New Feminist* "sees in maternity an eternal disability." Whether that is true or not we shall consider in a moment. Meanwhile, the fact remains that maternity is a necessary function, a function which absorbs a large part (not the whole) of the time and energy of those who perform it, and a function which only women can perform. Now men, in evolving these social standards which Mrs. Abbott is so ready to accept, have chosen to assume that the only jobs worth doing, the only jobs which command social prestige and economic independence, are jobs which involve the ability to fight or to engage

uninterruptedly in the production of exchangeable wealth. It is mainly by this standard that "the State sets value upon its citizens." But by this standard maternity is a disability. By this standard the State *must* "set an inferior value on its women"—on the bulk of them, at any rate, who are engaged on work other than the uninterrupted production of wealth for exchange. But suppose we dare to question this standard of values? Suppose we say boldly that maternity is a job worth doing, and a job which should constitute *in itself* a claim to social prestige and economic independence, even though it does not involve the production of exchangeable wealth, even though it may interrupt the production of exchangeable wealth? Surely to make such a claim is to deny that maternity is a mere disability?

The editors tell me that the readers of THE WOMAN'S LEADER are very easily shocked. If it were not so, I should be tempted to say: the *New Feminist* is damned if she will accept those old masculine ideas of what jobs are important and what jobs are "disabilities."

CONSCRIPTION IN THE BRITISH EMPIRE.¹

It must come as a painful shock to many of us to find in Mr. Rennie Smith's pamphlet "Military Service in the British Empire" (published by the National Council for Prevention of War, price 1d.) how wide a hold the principle of compulsory military service has obtained throughout the British Empire, and how the insidious poison is threatening fresh fields in Iraq, Rhodesia, and Kenya.

In our principal colonies, South Africa, Australia, Canada, and New Zealand, the training begins in the schools. In the most impressionable years, before he can seriously think out the rights and wrongs of the question of militarism, and regardless of the parents' wishes in the matter, the boy is drilled, taught to shoot, and filled with the idea of force as the deciding power in all disputes between nations, races, or classes. The high ideal "to do justice and to love mercy" falls into the background, and "my country right or wrong" takes its place, and in some of our colonies, a blatant nationalism, exceeding even that of our home-bred jingoes. What is the cause of this unhappy state of things? and can we do anything to help the rest of the Empire?

The root cause in all countries is the same—fear—though the object of fear is different in various parts of the Empire. In Australia and New Zealand they are arming against the dreaded Yellow Peril. In South Africa, Rhodesia, and Kenya (where only the white subjects of His Majesty receive military training) the fear is of a native rising; ignorant, or regardless of the fact that—in the words of Rennie Smith, "where attention is being paid to his welfare . . . where educational institutions are being well and wisely laid, where wages and labour conditions are being steadily improved, where the personality of the native is being respected as the foundation and the hope of African civilization, the danger of native risings is negligible." With the bogey of Bolshevism haunting all governments at the present time, we must reckon that, too, among the "fears" that make for militarism. The big strike in New Zealand in 1913 certainly gave an impetus to it then, and a definite state of class war existed. It is up to us who see the dangers ahead to strengthen in any way we can the forces working for Peace and Justice throughout the Empire, and to build up a strong body of informed opinion at home, to combat the serious evil of conscription. M. L. LLOYD.

¹ Contributed by the Women's International League, 55 Gower Street, W.C. 1.

National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship.
15 DEAN'S YARD, WESTMINSTER, S.W. 1.

Mass Meeting on Equal Franchise

In the CENTRAL HALL, WESTMINSTER,
On THURSDAY, 3rd MARCH, 1927, at 8 p.m.

SPEAKERS:

LORD BALFOUR OF BURLEIGH. Mrs. CORBETT ASHBY.
Miss MARGARET BONDFIELD, M.P. Capt. E. EVANS, M.P.

Chairman: Miss ELEANOR RATHBONE, J.P.

Tickets, 5s., 2s., 6d., 1s., and 6d. Blocks of seats for organizations sending 6 or more members can be obtained from the SECRETARY, N.U.S.E.C., 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1, at the following reduced rates:—2s. 6d. for 1s.; 1s. for 6d., and 6d. for 3d. Admission free. Seats will be allotted in order of application.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEWS.

By BERTHA MASON.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS: WHAT PARISH COUNCILS CAN DO.

The annual parish meetings which are assemblies of the local government electors of the respective parishes must take place between 1st March and 1st April of every year. One of the duties of an annual parish meeting in rural districts where the population is over 300, is the election of the Parish Council, whose function it is to manage the affairs of its parish. (In parishes where the population is under 300, parish affairs are controlled by the parish meeting.) A Parish Council consists of from five to fifteen members, as may be fixed by the County Council. Women, as well as men, who are over 21 years of age, and local government electors, or any person resident in the parish on or before 25th March of the preceding year, or within 3 miles of the parish, are eligible to stand for election. Women can do good service to a village community if they will come forward as candidates; if this is impossible, then by taking an interest in the elections themselves. There are 13,000 parishes in the country, of which about 7,000 have Parish Councils.

When these parishes were created in 1894, great hopes were entertained that the new local authorities would create interest in Parish Council elections, and quicken and stimulate village life. These hopes, unfortunately, have not been justified. Little interest, as a rule, is taken in the annual parish meetings or in the work of the Councils elected thereat.

It must be frankly admitted that the powers and functions of Parish Councils are limited at present; the things they may not do greatly exceed, as we hope to show in a later article, the things they may do. Herein, perhaps, lies the secret of the apathy and lack of initiative in regard to parish affairs, which, up to now, have been such a distressing feature, with some notable exceptions, of village life. But granting this, Parish Councils really have a few powers which, if properly exercised, can do much to promote the health, happiness, and comfort of the villagers.

For example, though they cannot build (except on allotments), Parish Councils can examine into local housing conditions, and make representations to Rural District Councils; they can utilize any water in the parish for a water supply, and take steps to prevent the spread of disease. Their powers include the provision of allotments, the repair and maintenance of footpaths, veto on the closing of rights of way, provision of recreation grounds, and the administration of non-ecclesiastical charities; they may, with the consent of their parish meetings, put in force the Adoptive Acts, and improve the health and comfort of the people by erecting libraries, wash-houses, and laying out burial grounds.

These things are worth doing, they concern men and women alike, but hitherto it has been difficult to persuade either men or women to take interest in this work. But a day of awakening has come!

To understand clearly the situation, it must be remembered that hitherto one of the most important duties of Parish Councils has been the appointment of Overseers of the Poor, whose main duties in rural parishes was the preparation of valuation lists, and the making and levying of the poor rate.

One morning in 1925 the parishes awoke to the fact that Parliament was busily engaged through the medium of the Rating and Valuation Bill, 1925, in abolishing the Overseers and arranging for their duties to be taken over by the Rural District Councils, no place being found on these new Rating Authorities for representatives of the 13,000 parishes. Power was being taken away and nothing given in return! Such action regarded as an "infringement of rights" roused the parishes to action. Parliament was bombarded with protests and calls for recognition, by 3,000 irate parishes, and with such effect that a clause was inserted in the Bill and passed, giving power to every Parish Council or Parish Authority to appoint two representatives to act as members of the Rating Authority in which it is situate.

"A famous victory" truly, due to the united effort of little peoples supposed to be asleep! A victory, too, with far-reaching consequences. But that is another story.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

President: Miss ELKANOR RATHBONE, C.C., J.P. Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. SODDY.
Hon. Secretary: The LADY BALFOUR OF BURLEIGH. Parliamentary Secretary: Mrs. HUBBARD.
Offices: 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W.1.
Telephone: Victoria 6188.

ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING, 2nd-5th March.

Times of Sessions.

Wednesday, 2nd March, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, 3rd March, 10 a.m. to 12.45 p.m., and 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Friday, 4th March, 10 a.m. to 12.45 p.m., and 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, 5th March, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Council Events.

Conference on Health and Unemployment Insurance, Wednesday, 2nd March, at 4.30 p.m., Speakers, Mr. J. L. Cohen, Mr. Kershaw, Miss Rathbone.

Reception, Wednesday, 2nd March, at 8.45 p.m., at Household and Social Science Department of King's College for Women. Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay will give a short Recital. (See advertisement.)

Mass Lobbying of Members of Parliament, Thursday, 3rd March, at 6 p.m., at the House of Commons.

Mass Meeting on Equal Franchise, Thursday, 3rd March, at 8 p.m., at the Central Hall, Westminster. Speakers: Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Miss Margaret Bondfield, Capt. E. Evans, M.P., Mrs. Corbett Ashby, Miss Monica O'Connor, Mrs. Bryan Gillett, etc. (See advertisement.)

Public Luncheon, Friday, 4th March, at the Criterion Restaurant, at 1 o'clock. Speakers: Viscount Astor, Viscount Cecil of Chelwood, Miss Maude Royden. Tickets, 5s., members and M.P.'s; 7s. 6d. (non-members).

Officers' and Members' Conference, Friday, 4th March, at 4 p.m.

Statements of Views on Immediate Programme of Nominees for Officers and Executive Committee.

These statements have been printed, and can now be obtained from Headquarters, price 4½d. post free.

Time Table of Agenda.

It has been decided that the group of resolutions on Equal Pay for Equal Work will be taken on the morning of Thursday, 3rd March, and that the group of resolutions dealing with the programme will be taken on Friday morning, 4th March.

Nominations for Executive Committee.

Miss Chrystal Eastman has withdrawn her nomination owing to her expected absence abroad.

PERSONAL.

We offer our sincere sympathy to Miss A. Helen Ward on the death of her sister.

PAMPHLET ON WOMEN JURORS.

A useful pamphlet on Women Jurors, Their Qualifications and Duties, written by Mrs. Margaret Ross in 1921, has been revised by Miss Berry, and can be obtained from Headquarters, price 1½d. post free.

RESPONSES TO THE GUARANTEE FUND.

	£	s.	d.
Already published	537	10	0
A Man Member of Parliament	150	0	0
Joseph, Miss S. L.	10	6	
Le Sueur, Mrs.	1	1	0
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Whyte, Mrs. A.	1	1	0
Wicksteed, Mrs. M. L.	3	3	0
Societies	£693	8	0
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Kensington and Paddington S.E.C.	5	0	0
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Bellows, Miss		10	6
Bolton W.C.A.	5	0	0
Federation of Women Civil Servants	2	2	0
Jones, Miss K.		10	0
Malvern S.E.C.	1	0	0
Morris, Miss Mabel		5	0
Sheffield S.E.C.	10	0	0
Ward, Miss A. Helen		10	0
Warr, Mrs. H. M.	3	3	0
Wavertree, W.C.A.		5	0
	£184	13	6

NEWS FROM SOCIETIES.

CARDIFF W.C.A.

On Wednesday, 9th February, a deputation urging the appointment of women police was sympathetically received by the Watch Committee. The deputation consisted of representatives from the Y.W.C.A., the Federation of University Women, and the W.C.A.

WEST BROMWICH S.E.C.

On 18th January, the local branch of the N.U.S.E.C. organized a public meeting in the Carnegie Library, West Bromwich. The attendance was good. The chair was occupied by F. O. Roberts, Esq., M.P., supported by the officers of the branch, and several local magistrates and councillors. The speaker was Miss Maude Royden. The chairman declared himself a supporter of equal suffrage and emphasized the necessity of constituents making plain their views to their representative in Parliament. Miss Royden spoke in her usual arresting manner, and chose as her subject Idealism in Politics. Two anonymous donations have been sent to the treasurer, and three new members have been gained as a result of the most successful meeting held by the branch since the granting of woman suffrage.

GLASGOW S.E.C. AND W.C.A.

A dinner to commemorate the passing of the Representation of the People Act was held on Monday, 7th February (for 6th February) in the Cadoro Restaurant. The guests of the evening were Bailie Bell, Bailie Barbour, and Bailie Snodgrass. A telegram of greeting was sent to Dame Millicent Fawcett.

Public Meeting.

In the Central Halls on Thursday, 10th February, Miss Neilans spoke on the Equal Moral Standard. That keen interest had been aroused by Miss Neilans' address was shown by the number and nature of the questions which were put at the end of the meeting.

BERKENHEAD AND DISTRICT W.C.A.

The annual meeting of the Birkenhead and District Women Citizens' Association was held on 27th January in the Town Hall, Birkenhead, and was largely attended. The Deputy Mayor, Councillor R. P. Fletcher, presided, and spoke very highly of the work of the Association in the town. A most interesting address was given by Mrs. Van Gruisen, a member of the Executive of the N.U.S.E.C., who has been Chairman of the Birkenhead W.C.A. ever since it was formed. Mrs. Van Gruisen has retired from the chairmanship this year, but has been appointed President. A presentation was made to the Hon. Organizing Secretary, Mrs. Abraham. Mrs. Abraham has resigned her secretaryship this year, and the members felt that they would like to make a recognition of the valuable work that Mrs. Abraham has done for the Association ever since it was formed, and of all the time and energy which she has given to it. The presentation took the form of a cheque. Mrs. Colin MacIver is taking the place of the retiring Chairman, and Mrs. Patrick Abercrombie is the new Hon. Organizing Secretary.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Resolution on China, passed by the Women's International League Executive Committee on 8th February, 1927.

"The Women's International League recognizes that the Christmas Manifesto of the British Government constituted an important step towards direct negotiation with the Chinese Nationalists, and welcomes the fact that such negotiations are now proceeding. It expresses the hope that Great Britain will pursue the policy of restoring to the Chinese complete control of their own laws and finances, whatever may be done by any other Power. It should be the policy of the British Government to negotiate an agreement with the Chinese forces by which the Foreign Settlement in Shanghai should be spared in the civil conflict. The dispatch of extensive British forces is prejudicing such an agreement and we urge the Government to recall them."

National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship.

RECEPTION

TO MEET THE

DELEGATES to COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 2nd MARCH, at 8.45 p.m.

Household and Social Science Department,
KING'S COLLEGE FOR WOMEN, CAMPDEN HILL RD., W. 8
(Near Kensington High Street Station).

JEAN STERLING MACKINLAY
will give a short Musical Recital.

Tickets for non-members (including refreshments) 2/6. May be obtained N.U.S.E.C., 15 Dean's Yard, S.W.1. Evening Dress optional.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PARTY POLITICS IN THE "WOMAN'S LEADER."

MADAM,—The writer of "News from Westminster," though no doubt an M.P., is ignorant of the Labour party policy. In this week's issue the old story that the "tail wags the dog", that Mr. MacDonald is dominated by what is called the extremist, is reiterated, and the debate on China on Thursday, 10th inst., cited as an example. Mr. MacDonald's policy on the China question has been consistent throughout. His speech at the Albert Hall before Parliament met, and on the China debate on 10th February, show this to all who take the trouble to read them carefully. THE WOMAN'S LEADER is a non-party paper, but several times I have detected subtle—perhaps even unconscious—attacks on the leaders of the Labour party. Pernicious just because they are subtle.

E. PICTON-TURBEVILLE.

WHAT IS EQUALITY?

MADAM,—Though not a member of the N.U.S.E.C. may I express my surprise at some of the statements of the "New Feminism"? It appears from Miss Rathbone's article that the "new feminists" are declared upholders of the view—so often imputed to us "old feminists" by our opponents—that men are men and women are women, and the less they meet the better. We, on the other hand, are held up as aping men—another charge with which we are also familiar. Surely in asking for equality with men in citizenship whether in its State or social aspect, we are not claiming that things are good merely because men have them, but that in the State and the social order of our time all citizens shall have the same rights. Citizenship should be as sexless as the Kingdom of Heaven.

Women are to show their "constructive ability" by making suggestions founded on the view of women as a community within the community and these suggestions are to be accepted with due deference, though making them have not been able to construct for themselves equal political rights, equal professional rights, equal status in marriage, or anything approaching equal economic status?

It may be true that women suffer in their individual bodies more than men from bad housing and smoky atmosphere (though I doubt it), but these are nuisances which injure the health of the whole community and zeal for reform should be based on the widest interests of that community. As for birth control and family allowances, since we are later on asked to remember that men are financially responsible for the cost of the family, it is hard to think that they can be less affected by these matters than women. In fact, freedoms and abuses in the body politic affect all citizens of the State; reforms should be brought about by the efforts and with the agreement of those citizens. The constructive ability of all should go to the making of them, but assuredly as long as one section has a preponderance of political and economic power, its views will prevail be the remainder never so constructive.

I have ventured to write this letter because I feel very strongly that the cause of feminism still needs an organization to carry it forward. Some of us feel that the N.U.S.E.C. should provide that organization, but we cannot join it while its issues are so confused.

KATHERINE BOMPAS.

[We propose to keep the discussion on this subject open for a few weeks, and in closing it to invite brief replies from writers on each side.—ED.]

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COMING EVENTS.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETINGS. MAR. 2-5. At King George's Hall, Y.M.C.A., Great Russell Street, W.C.1. Sessions: Wednesday 2-4 p.m., Thursday 10 a.m.-12.45 p.m. and 2 p.m.-4.30 p.m., Friday 10 a.m.-12.45 p.m. and 3 p.m.-5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

CONFERENCE ON NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE. Wednesday 4.30 p.m. Speakers: Mr. J. L. Cohen and Mr. Kershaw.

RECEPTION. Wednesday 8.45 p.m. At Household and Social Science Department of King's College for Women, Campden Hill Road, W.8. Recital by Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay.

MASS MEETING ON EQUAL FRANCHISE. Thursday 8 p.m. In Central Hall, Westminster. Speakers: The Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Miss Margaret Bondfield, M.P., Mrs. Corbett Ashley, Capt. E. Evans, M.P.

PUBLIC LUNCHEON. Friday 1 o'clock, at Criterion Restaurant, Piccadilly. Speakers to include The Viscount Astor, The Viscount Cecil of Chelwood, and Miss Maude Royden.

Glasgow S.F.C. and W.C.A. FEB. 25. 4.15 p.m. 172 Bath Street. Mrs. Aldridge on "Women in Industry."

Edinburgh W.C.A. MAR. 7. 5.15 p.m. Study Circle, 27 Rutland Street. Dr. Margaret Martin on "The Provision for Women during Child-birth."

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

FEB. 25 and 26. Annual Council Meeting at Caxton Hall, Westminster, S.W. 1.

TYPEWRITING.

M. McLACHLAN and N. WHITWHAM—TYPISTS.—
4 Chapel Walk, Manchester. Tel. 1 3402 City.

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SOUTHERN FRANCE.—VILLA to be let, furnished, 1st March. Two reception, three bedrooms, bathroom (h. and c.), electric light, central heating. Garden, lovely views sea, hills and picturesque old walled town. Excellent daily servant. Perfect spring and summer climate. 3 to 4 guineas weekly; six months, £75 only.—Durand, Propriete Vermin, Route S. Jeannet, Vence, A.M. France.

LARGE, unfurnished ROOM to let in Bloomsbury, overlooking gardens; 3 windows; rent 20s. weekly, with use of kitchen and bathroom (keyser); attendance by arrangement.—Box 1,300, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

WIMPOLE STREET (adjoining) for working gentlewoman, one single, one double room. Gas fires, ring; meals by arrangement; letter.—Box 1,400, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

CHILTERN HILLS.—Attractive, sunny COTTAGE to let during summer; 2 sitting, 3 bedrooms, bathroom (h. and c.), electric light, loggia, garden; 4 guineas.—Miss Cobb, Chinnor, Oxon.

OFFICES to let, near Victoria Station; first and second floors; 2, 3 or 4 newly decorated rooms; terms very moderate.—Hayler, 99 Buckingham Palace Road, S.W. 1. (Tel. Vict. 8702.)

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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.)

POSTS WANTED.

SECRETARY.—Lady desires post secretary to association or private individual; shorthand, typewriting, book-keeping, fluent French; experienced, travelled, adaptable.—Box 1401, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

AS WORKING HOUSEKEEPER to one or two ladies. Elderly woman, strongly recommended by Kelly, 3 Vere Street, W. 1.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON AND NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 35 Marsham Street, Westminster. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Expert advice on Openings and Trainings for professional women; interviews 10-1 (except Saturdays) or by appointment.

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 27th February: 3.30 Music. Professor J. Arthur Thomson on "The Naturalist's Approach to Religion." 6.30, Maude Royden, "Poetry and Parable."

C.B.C. Society for Constructive Birth Control and the Free Birth Control Clinic, founded by Dr. Marie Stopes and Councillor H. V. Roe. New address: 108 Whitfield Street, off Tottenham Court Road.

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NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

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