

# THE WOMAN'S LEADER

## AND THE COMMON CAUSE

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### NOTES AND NEWS.

#### A Breathing Space.

The world breathed again when President Hoover rose to the heights to which it was hoped he would reach, and proposed a year's holiday from all war debts and reparation payments. At the time of writing France has not as yet replied, but as has been pointed out in the Press, hers is really only a choice between a moratorium as proposed by America and agreed to by all, and a moratorium carried out by Germany because, in fact, she cannot pay. It is unbelievable that a year's breathing space will not allow for the revision of all the international debt agreements. If only the policy of our own Balfour Note had been adopted at the time it was made, what suffering and bad feeling would have been spared to the world. Let us take care that a similar opportunity is not again lost.

#### British Delegates to the League.

We are more than satisfied with the British delegates to the Assembly of the League of Nations this year. The four delegates are Mr. Arthur Henderson, Mr. Graham (the President of the Board of Trade), Lord Cecil, and Miss Susan Lawrence. There will be general approval of this group, every one of which, from the Foreign Secretary himself down, is so well qualified to represent this country. The four substitute delegates are equally well chosen, including Dr. Hugh Dalton, Mr. Charles Buxton, Mrs. Hamilton, and Professor Noel Baker. This is the first time that a British woman delegate has been appointed, though on previous occasions women, including Miss Lawrence herself, have taken the place of delegates who have left Geneva. Both Miss Lawrence and Mrs. Hamilton have been before, and both are representatives of which women may justifiably be proud.

#### Night Work of Women at the I.L.O.

At the time of writing we have not heard the result of the final vote at the International Labour Conference on the revision of the Washington Convention of 1919 concerning the employment of women. The special commission on the subject recommended the amendment of the British Government that the restrictions laid down in the Convention as to hours should not apply to women holding responsible positions, and the Belgian proposal leaving it to public authorities to change the hours of night work from 10 p.m.—5 a.m. to 11 p.m.—6 a.m. Both amendments were hotly opposed at the plenary meeting last week, but were finally adopted though there appears to be some doubt as to whether the necessary two-thirds majority will be secured for the amended Convention.

#### The Unemployment Insurance Bill.

The Bill issued at the end of last week to expedite the findings of the Royal Commission on Unemployment Insurance—or such of them as the Government chooses to expedite—is an interesting and unusual piece of legislation. One wonders what Lord Hewart thinks about it, in view of his recent stand against administrative law, since few legislative ventures of recent times have proposed a more generous delegation of legislative responsibility to the executive government. Indeed, there are features about it which strangely recall that historic monument of bureaucracy (we use the term with no suggestion of reproach), the Poor Law Act of 1834. Like that famous measure, the new Bill indicates certain directions in which reform is desirable, and bestows upon an executive officer indeterminate power to make regulations for reform in those directions, either by general orders or by special orders. In the earlier case of similar legislation the executive power was represented by three salaried commissioners. In the present case it is to be represented by the Minister of Labour assisted by an appointed advisory committee. Thus, in the new measure, and thanks to "question time," the executive power will be less protectively secluded from current criticism than were the Poor Law Commissioners of 1834. But the power itself, in respect to the classes of unemployed indicated, remains to all intents and purposes as undefined and as susceptible to intelligent discrimination as that conferred by the 1834 Act upon the "Pinch Pauper Triumvirate." And perhaps some of our readers may be tempted to say that the machinery of 1834 is a suitable vehicle for the spirit of 1834, and that we could in this latter age do with a few drops of that astringent draught. But the back bench supporters of the present Government are unlikely to think that.

#### Women and Unemployment Insurance.

Women's organizations are faced with a difficult problem in connection with the Unemployment Insurance Bill, referred to above, in which married women are placed in a class by themselves and specially legislated for. This segregation of married women as a class apart, considered in relation to their husbands, appears to be, as we pointed out two weeks ago, a grave departure from the principles of the Unemployment Insurance Acts, which have hitherto never comprised "any discrimination against any claimant for benefit on the grounds of sex or marriage". On the other hand, the serious "anomalies" of the married woman who goes out of industry but continues to draw benefit offer special difficulties: these are aggravated by the general attitude of employers towards married women and by the complete lack of co-ordination between Unemployment Insurance and National Health Insurance. In the majority of cases married women are the first to be dismissed and the last to be re-engaged. The article on "Women and Unemployment Insurance," printed in this issue, should be carefully read as it will serve a useful background to study of the problems presented in the new Bill, to which we must necessarily devote a good deal of attention in the coming weeks.

#### Report on the Will and Intestacies (Family Maintenance) Bill.

This Bill has now been reported without amendment from the Joint Committee. In other words, the Committee has passed a report which recommends that this particular Bill should not be proceeded with. The Report, however, expressed the opinion that it is wrong that a spouse or parent should die and leave a surviving spouse or children unprovided for. It even goes further and suggests that it is well worth while for the House of Commons to consider the desirability of passing legislation to remedy the admitted evil on the lines of the New Zealand law. This law, which has been adopted by several other Dominions, provides that where spouse or children have not been provided for in the will of the deceased spouse or parent, they may

apply to the court, whose duty it is to take all circumstances into account and to set aside a portion of the estate or an allowance for the claimants which is related to their former standard of living. In practice it is not likely that there would have been time for Miss Rathbone's Bill to reach the Statute Book this session, and though we regret that the principle of her Bill, which is that the financial aspect of the marriage contract and of the parental relationship should not be unnecessarily terminated by death, we feel it to be a great triumph that the need for a change in the law is acknowledged. The National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship and the women's organizations, such as the National Council of Women, the Women's Co-operative Guild and the Women's National Liberal Federation, who fought for the principle, will surely get busy to initiate fresh legislation next session. Although the details of Miss Rathbone's Bill were criticized, it is considered to be a great achievement that its main premises were accepted, and we feel confident of ultimate success.

#### Honour from Church and State.

On Wednesday of last week, Miss Maude Royden, whom we proudly claim as a former editor of this paper, received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from the Chancellor of Glasgow University, Sir Donald MacAlister. In presenting Miss Royden, the Dean of the Faculty of Theology, sketching her career, said that a few months ago Miss Royden had been invested with the Order of the Companionship of Honour for her social work—(readers will have their own definition of "social work" in this instance)—but that after the outbreak of war she was drawn to the ministry of religion, and the University of Glasgow recognized her eminence as a Christian preacher. At a luncheon which followed, Sir Donald MacAlister said, amid applause, that it might well be that the example and success of Miss Royden as an expositor of Christian faith and doctrines would weigh heavily in the removal of some traditional barriers to the ministry of the Churches of this land. On Sunday Dr. Royden preached in the Glasgow Cathedral.

#### Women in the Wesleyan Ministry.

At the annual conference of the Primitive Methodist Church last week a report from a committee appointed to consider the admission of women to the ministry was considered. The committee was constituted last year by the three Methodist Churches—Primitive, United, and Wesleyan—as it was felt that the matter was one which should receive joint consideration in view of the approaching union of the three churches. The committee recommends that any woman who believes herself called to the ministry should be accepted for a course of training which shall be approved by the Conference; and that after training she shall serve a probation period of four years. At the end of this time she shall be ordained to the ministry and receive authority to preach and administer the Sacraments. In the event of her marriage, however, she must resign or, as the report puts it, "her marriage shall be regarded as equivalent to resignation, unless, on special application, the conference shall otherwise determine." The reason for this condition of service is the assumption that by marriage a woman accepts another vocation, involving responsibilities which would interfere with the fulfilment of her duties as a minister. We have not yet heard the result of the discussion of this report. Nor are we sufficiently well informed as to the training required in the Methodist church for women candidates for the ministry to know to what extent those proposed for women are on different lines. We shall therefore reserve our comments except in so far as we emphatically dissent from the proposal to bring the ministries of women to an end on marriage.

#### Women and the New Spanish Constitution.

It is another sign of the times that the younger members of the Sub-Committee of the Juridical Commission appointed by the Government to draft a new Constitution for Spanish Government, favoured the extension of the franchise to women. Women played a prominent part in the revolution, and there were not wanting signs that the new Republic was conscious of their claims to citizenship. The present time of reconstruction is their opportunity, and we hope they will make the best use of it.

#### Bedford College.

On Wednesday last the Queen opened the new building at Bedford College. It is eighty-two years since the College first started in one house in Bedford Square, with 200 ladies over the normal student age, most of them taking only one class a week. In a short space of time it has developed into a spacious college in its own grounds in Regent's Park, with 600 students practically all of whom are working for degrees. In its own

history, indeed, it epitomizes the progress of women's education and of the women's movement as a whole. The new building has been fitly named after Miss Tuke, the distinguished principal of the College between 1907 and 1929, which marked its most rapid growth. A fine heritage has been left to Miss Jebb, the present principal, of which in the short time she has been at the College she has shown herself in every way worthy.

#### From the Embankment at the Albert Hall.

The procession to the Albert Hall National Disarmament Demonstration will proceed from the Victoria Embankment at 1.30 p.m. via Northumberland Avenue, Trafalgar Square, Pall Mall, St. James's Street, Piccadilly, Hyde Park Corner, and Knightsbridge. The following organizations have already signified their intention of joining in the procession: London Brotherhood Federation (to be in charge of entire stewarding arrangements), Sisterhood Committee, St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance, National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, Fellowship of Reconciliation (which is trying to organize special contingents from all the churches which are working for the Declaration), London Liberal Federation, Women's National Liberal Federation, Union of Democratic Control, Women's Peace Crusade, British Commonwealth League, Branches of the League of Nations Union, Girls' Life Brigade, Wood Green and Southgate Women's Arbitration Committee, World Peace Union, Theosophical Order of Service, Christian Endeavour Union of Great Britain and Ireland.

### QUESTIONS IN PARLIAMENT.

Tuesday, 16th June.

#### SCOTLAND, MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

*Mr. Sinkinson* asked the Secretary of State for Scotland the number of mental defectives under 18 years of age in Scotland; how many are educable and uneducable; and how many are in institutions, criminal or otherwise.

*Mr. Westwood*: The duty imposed upon the education authorities in Scotland by the Mental Deficiency and Lunacy (Scotland) Act, 1913, to ascertain what children residing within their areas are mentally defective within the meaning of the Act, and to make provision for the education of those who are capable of receiving benefit from special instruction, extends only to children between 5 and 16 years of age. According to the last return made by the education authorities, the number of children between these ages who were ascertained to be mentally defective was 4,910, of whom 3,993 were ascertained to be educable, and 917 uneducable. The number of educable mentally defective children receiving instruction in schools and institutions was 3,938. Between the ages of 5 and 18 years of age there are 192 educable, and 696 uneducable children, certified under the Act and in residence in certified institutions, and 110 uneducable mental defectives under guardianship in private dwellings. There are no mental defectives under 18 years in residence in the State institutions.

#### AFRICAN COLONIES, CHILD WELFARE.

*The Duchess of Atholl* asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies in which of the African colonies there are services for child welfare and African women are being trained as mid-wives; and what tribes these measures are reaching.

*Mr. Lunn*: Child welfare services exist, and native women are being trained as midwives in all the Tropical African Dependencies, with the exception of Somaliland and the Gambias. These services are open to all native women, irrespective of their tribal origin, though, as the Noble lady will doubtless understand, mother and child welfare clinics and training in midwifery are at present only available at the more populous centres. Reference to the local governments would be necessary if information is desired as to the particular tribes which are profiting most from the facilities provided.

#### BERMUDA, FRANCHISE.

*Mr. McShane* (for *Dr. Morgan*) asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies whether in view of the decision of the legislative council of British Honduras not to extend the franchise to women, as urged by the Secretary of State for the Colonies in an official dispatch, it is the intention of the Secretary of State to take any action to bring the constitution of the Colony into line with his recommendations.

*Mr. Lunn*: I think that my hon. Friend must have intended to refer to Bermuda, since the question of granting the franchise to women has not arisen in British Honduras. As regards Bermuda I must refer my hon. Friend to the reply of the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies to the hon. Member for the English Universities (Miss Rathbone) on 2nd June.

### FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.

Since Sir E. T. Cook published his two volume biography of Florence Nightingale and in so doing breathed new vigorous life into the appealing figure of the Lady with the Lamp, much has occurred to keep that flame of life brightly burning. There was Mr. Lytton Strachey's brilliantly executed abstraction from Sir E. T. Cook's material, of one neglected element in Florence Nightingale's character. There was Capt. Berkeley's vivid and admirably constructed play, which, whatever may have been its degree of historical accuracy, and the reality of its grim Nemesis, brought the drama of her life and work before a larger and more varied public than biography could ever hope to touch. There was the woman's movement, struggling triumphantly through the final stages of political and social emancipation, with its kindling of interest in its own origins and in the lives of those who had fought its earlier battles. Mrs. Oliver Strachey brought grist to that last mill when she published as an appendix to her book, *The Cause*, that cry of angry frustration from the heart of the young Florence Nightingale which rivals in its bitter unhappiness some of the darker passages in Charlotte Brontë's letters. And—less irrelevant than it might seem—there was Bernard Shaw's *St. Joan* with its unforgettable portrait of a "God intoxicated" young woman, and behind it that expanding preoccupation with the mystical as opposed to the theological element in religion which has given such wide currency to the works of Von Hügel and provoked some of the most striking achievements of the B.B.C.

It is with this last facet of Florence Nightingale's life and work that Mrs. I. B. O'Malley is pre-eminently concerned in a detailed record of the first thirty-six years of her life, published this month.<sup>1</sup> The book is based upon a mass of personal notes, journals, and letters entrusted to the author, and sufficient in quantity and quality to carry her a considerable distance beyond the degree of understanding distilled by Sir E. T. Cook from material then available. This, of course, is the book's main justification. It is not, however, its sole justification, for Mrs. O'Malley writes with such a peculiar degree of philosophic perception, historical knowledge, and unobtrusive literary ability as in itself to justify the questionable enterprise of retreading the well-worn highway of Nightingale interpretation. Thus equipped, she has "tried to give a faint representation of what might have been in the autobiography if it had existed and to show Florence Nightingale's early years as they may have appeared to herself." In fact, she has done something more, for the book falls into two parts as distinct in their approach as in their subject-matter, and the two parts are so perfectly complementary as to achieve a dramatic unity.

The first, compiled as the author has described, presents us with an intimate and highly subjective study of Florence Nightingale's mind during the years of her preparation for the Crimean campaign. It is seldom that one gets so revealing and continuous an insight into any human mind as we get here, thanks to Florence's habit of transferring its processes to paper and the readiness with which she confided them to other people. Thus we actually find written records of the occasions on which she was conscious of communion with God and some indication of the æsthetic environment which stimulated those occasions.

### NOTES FROM WESTMINSTER.

As everyone knows, the threatened crisis ended in smoke and inside the Commons there were probably few who were not secretly relieved, on personal if not on public grounds. The few exceptions may have been the prospective office-bearers on the Opposition benches, but even they cannot have relished the prospect of taking on to their own shoulders the burden of dealing with the proposals of the Unemployment Insurance Commission. No one knows so well as the Minister for Labour how heavy that burden is, and when, nearly a week after the crisis, Miss Bondfield had to defend her own proposals, there was a note almost of envy in her ironic congratulations to her opponents on their escape.

Parliamentary life is full of unexpected happenings and though the fizzling out of the crisis was not unexpected the ruling of the Deputy Chairman which prevented the discussion of the famous Liberal amendment which had produced the compromise, was unexpected to most of us. We were prepared for a first-class battle, though with a predetermined ending, over that amendment and found ourselves instead set free before nine o'clock after an afternoon spent on the details of the Land Tax.

<sup>1</sup> *Florence Nightingale, 1820-1856*, by I. B. O'Malley. (Thornton Butterworth, 21s.).

We find, for instance, a first reference to her "Call" as insistent and as definite as St. Joan's reports of the visitations of St. Catherine. And upon the framework of these amazing contacts we are able to build up, thought by thought, that integrated philosophy of human life in relation to reality which in its practical implications gave rise to such unending friction with an environment of Victorian upper-class convention. Nor does Mrs. O'Malley's record spare us one jot of the restless unhappiness, the conscious frustration, the endless self-communing over difficult personal relationships, which such friction engendered. That Florence Nightingale was, during this preparatory period of her life, terribly introspective, leaves no room for doubt. Whether such an abundance of spiritual life as she possessed can be achieved without a dangerous degree of introspection leaves more room for doubt. But to say that a venture is dangerous is not to say that it should be avoided. In Florence Nightingale's case that abundant life seems to have been generated like a powerful furnace at full blast in a confined space. It might have ended in an orgy of destruction. But in the end the dramatic instincts of Providence triumphed and Florence got her chance.

In Part II Mrs. O'Malley swings us sharply from the subjective to the objective. We emerge, fascinated and strangely enlightened, from the recesses of Florence's mind and look down upon the events and concrete achievements of her famous sojourn at Scutari. We see her in the familiar guise of the Lady of the Lamp, grappling with the mud and blood and bugs of the notorious Barrack Hospital and with the prickly inefficiencies of military and civilian officials. We knew all that, of course, though Mrs. O'Malley paints it for us in minuter detail than we have yet been given. It is the Florence Nightingale of Mr. Lytton Strachey and Captain Berkeley, the supreme, equitable, and untiring administrator that we see in this hectic environment. Yet we had not realized, until Mrs. O'Malley dotted the i's and crossed the t's of this appalling situation, the whole range of its complications; for instance, the devastating unreliability of Florence's own picked nursing staff, the persistent drunkenness of the "professionals," the jealousies of the "ladies" and the incorrigible intrigues of the Irish Catholics. She worked as though on a quicksand in which there were desperately few places for solid foothold—fewer, indeed, than could be known by her own contemporaries. Exactly what mental processes of assurance and doubt worked themselves out behind the closed doors of that master mind, whether she lived on capital, drew dividends, or saved we have, at this stage of Mrs. O'Malley's story, no means of knowing. Florence had no time to write and it may be that she had no time to think of anything beyond the hourly exigencies of her impossible task. But at any rate, the furnace of which we spoke was burning fiercely and in the open—the more fiercely, perhaps, for its slow and painful stoking. Whether in fact it burnt itself out we have no means of knowing, for Mrs. O'Malley rings down her curtain on the close of the Crimean campaign. If she were to continue her researches with the same measure of care and perspicacity we might perhaps find the answer to that question. On the other hand, we might prefer not to find it.

They were important details, however, and there were many in all parties who regretted that the Government, among their many concessions did not concede the proposal to extend the exemption of land worth less than £120 to all land up to the extent of that value. The hardship of compelling a man with property bearing a tax of 10s. 6d. to pay the whole while exempting altogether whose land would have justified a tax of 10s. is a hardship common to all rigid means limits, and effective play was made with the anomalies and evasions which were likely to result. But the Government, tired perhaps of concessions, remained adamant. The remaining days of the week were mostly given to other detailed amendments. Though the Solicitor-General makes the very best of his Government's case, there is no doubt that the principles of Henry George have not gained in favour during these discussions of their application to conditions so different from those under which they were first enunciated. Town Planning experts and those who care for rural amenities are increasingly unhappy about the possible effects on ribbon development, open spaces and the like, of a policy aimed at inducing full commercial use of undeveloped land.

Late on Wednesday evening (17th June) Lord Hugh Cecil

made one of his too rare appearances in presenting a motion to enable the Cathedrals measure to receive the Royal Assent, the object of the measure being to enable a Commission to be set up, on the lines of the Universities Commission, by which reforms in the constitution of the Cathedrals may be carried through. It is one of the curious privileges of the Church that measures of this kind are able to be dealt with under the Standing Orders after the usual hour for rising. Perhaps it is just as well that Parliament should be discouraged by the lateness of the hour from interfering too closely with affairs of which the majority of them have little knowledge or concern. But a good deal of restiveness showed itself among the Members who take special interest in this subject, whether from the Anglo-Catholic, Roman Catholic or Nonconformist point of view, on the subject of restricted facilities for debate. Mrs. Manning's complaint that the measure though dealing with the election of Bishops, provided no facilities for the appointment of women to the Episcopate, was presumably not very seriously intended, and elicited nothing from Lord Hugh Cecil except the characteristic retort that "the measure does not deal with distinctions between the sexes in respect of the Christian ministry, but it is always open to ladies to wear gaiters." Rather cheap, perhaps, but Lord Hugh has a way of saying these things that gives them the distinction of a Woolworth necklace in a velvet and Russian leather casing.

In the House of Lords Miss Picton-Turbervill's Bill to prevent the imposition of a capital sentence on a pregnant woman enjoyed an easy passage and an unexpected triumph in being moved by the Lord Chancellor and seconded by the Leader of the Opposition, Lord Hailsham. Would that the same spirit of chivalry were manifest in the attitude of their Lordships and of the other powers that be towards reforms affecting larger numbers of pregnant women than those convicted on capital charges.

The most interesting debate of the week has been that of Monday, 22nd June, on the Government's policy relating to unemployment insurance and the interim Report of the Commission. Miss Bondfield opened with a vigorous fighting speech, somewhat marred in effectiveness by its being undisguisedly read from her manuscript. Certain Opposition back-benchers made repeated efforts to disconcert the Minister by objecting to her reading her speech, and when the Deputy-Chairman overruled the objection, by pretending inability to distinguish between her quotations and her own utterances. I have seldom seen an uglier exhibition of bad taste, and the Leaders of the Opposition showed visible discomfort. I hope they gave their cubbish followers a good castigation in private. Miss Bondfield, as usual, stuck to her subject like a little bull-dog. She read more openly than before, noting with a sarcastic inflection whenever "quotation ends". Mr. Ernest Brown, who opened for the Liberals, also read his speech undisguisedly, and one could not but wonder whether that gallant fighter did so the more in unspoken defence of the Minister. The nominal prohibition of read speeches has, in fact, fallen into desuetude. Lots of Members, especially Ministers, obviously follow written manuscripts, the extent to which they succeed in disguising this depending on the quality of their memories. Undoubtedly, however, the practice does detract from the effectiveness of oratory to a surprising extent. As speeches, the two best efforts of the evening were those of Mr. George Buchanan and Mr. Baldwin, though two more contrasted orators it would be difficult to find. Mr. Buchanan's speeches are like a Scottish torrent in an industrialised mountain district. The stream is turbid with the output of the factory and the mine and the slum as well as with fragments torn from Nature. Yet, if analysed, his argument shows a stricter adherence to certain simple conceived principles than that of most of the more orthodox speakers who are trying to reconcile the principles and dogmas of their creed with the necessities of political opportunism. Mr. Baldwin's speech produced one aphorism which is likely to catch on in the saying that "finance is the Achilles heel of every democracy".

CROSS BENCH.

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### WOMEN AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

At a meeting held recently in Manchester, of delegates from local societies affiliated to the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, an afternoon's discussion was devoted to the question of women and unemployment insurance in the course of which Miss E. S. Fraser, of the Ministry of Labour, gave an address on the situation as it is. The facts and figures which Miss Fraser set forth were felt to be so helpful to the discussion that several delegates expressed a desire that the gist of her address should be made available, through the medium of THE WOMAN'S LEADER, to other affiliated societies who may be tempted by the urgency of the problem to undertake similar discussions. We gladly accede to the view, and a summary of Miss Fraser's address follows:—

Compulsory insurance against unemployment was introduced for a few trades, such as Shipbuilding and Ironfounding, in which mainly men are employed, by Part II of the National Insurance Act of 1911. 2½ million workers of 16 years of age and upwards were covered by this scheme, but there are no details available as to the numbers separately of men and women insured prior to 1916-17. In 1916, however, the Scheme was extended to cover munitions industries which were expected to suffer from depression at the return of peace, and by July, 1918—the fourth year of the war—the number of women insured under the 1911 and 1916 Acts amounted to over a million.

In 1919 it was decided that Unemployment Insurance should be widely extended to constitute the principal means of providing against unemployment in industry, and the Act of 1920—now known as the *main* Act—brought within the Scheme practically all persons employed in manual labour, except those engaged in agriculture and private domestic service, and non-manual workers earning not more than £250 a year. The Act of 1920 has, however, been amended by twenty-four subsequent Acts, and it is impossible in a brief space to trace the various changes made in the last ten years in rates of benefit, in contributions, and in the conditions for the receipt of benefit. There can be purchased, however, through any bookseller, a useful summary of the Unemployment Insurance Acts for the price of 3d.

For Ministry of Labour purposes the country is divided into seven Divisions. The South-Eastern Division, which includes London, has in it the highest number of insured women workers—over 800,000—while the North-Western, which covers Cumberland, Westmorland, Lancashire, Cheshire, and the New Mills and Glossop districts of Derbyshire, ranks second, with over 600,000 insured women. There are more insured women workers employed in the Distributive Trade than in any other Trade in the country. The Cotton Trade is next in order, but a feature of the Cotton Trade in the North-Western Division is that the number of women employed in it—over 300,000, is the highest number of insured women employed in one industry in any Division.

Everyone is well aware that the severity of unemployment in 1390 resulted in heavy calls being made upon the Unemployment Fund which, ten years earlier, had an invested Fund of some £22,000,000, but in December, 1930, had a debt of £57,290,000.

The number of unemployed women in Great Britain in December, 1929, was over 238,000, but in December, 1930, it was over 529,000, and this increase was distributed over the seven Divisions of the Ministry as follows:—

|                         | Increase. |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Wales . . . . .         | 3,480     |
| South Western . . . . . | 7,176     |
| South Eastern . . . . . | 31,160    |
| Scotland . . . . .      | 35,822    |
| North Eastern . . . . . | 39,005    |
| Midlands . . . . .      | 50,481    |
| North Western . . . . . | 124,207   |

It will be seen that the increase within the year was most marked in the North Western Division, where the Register rose from over 86,000 in December, 1929, to over 210,000 in December, 1930, and was then only 27,970 short of the Women's register for the whole of Great Britain a year earlier.

In November, 1929, a special analysis of the Women's Register throughout the North Western Division showed that there were 5,783 single women who had been out of work for 13 weeks or more. A similar analysis made in January, 1931, showed that the number of single women who had been out of work for 13 weeks or more had grown from 5,783 to 31,739. The textile areas account to a large extent for this figure which indicates

how grave is the problem of unemployment amongst women in and near Lancashire. There has been a very slight reduction this year in unemployment amongst women in the North Western Division, the highest number recorded as unemployed in 1931 being 228,990 on 12th January, and the lowest number 199,070 on 18th May.

It has to be borne in mind that the unemployed do not represent a "standing army". Some are what is known as "temporarily stopped". That means that they are working on and off, that they register at the Exchange when not in work, but that they have a prospect of returning to their former employment. Others registered as "wholly unemployed" have varying spells of unemployment. The Exchange registers consist of women, married and single of all ages and all degrees of physical capacity, with widely differing records of employment and widely differing expectations of re-entering industry. Some may be out of work for only a few days. Others may have little prospect of ever again obtaining regular work.

The Unemployment Insurance Scheme is administered through the Employment Exchanges because they provide the means of bringing together employers requiring workpeople and workpeople desiring employment, but there are certain classes of women who cannot speedily be placed. In the North Western Division cotton is the outstanding example of a trade which, at the present time, offers to many of its skilled women operatives little, if any, prospect of a return to their own occupation. Other classes of unemployed women who are faced with a difficult problem are:—

- (1) Persons displaced by new machinery;
- (2) elderly workers who, if discharged during periods of severe unemployment, have often the utmost difficulty in obtaining a fresh start;
- (3) skilled workers who, owing to physical disabilities, are no longer able to follow the occupations in which they are skilled, and
- (4) women thrown out of employment through changes in fashion.

To some women who have little prospect of a return to their own occupation a short period of training in other work is of great value. The training of unemployed women is carried out by the Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment on behalf of, and by means of, a grant from the Ministry of Labour. The Chairman of the Committee is Miss Violet Markham.

The work of the Committee falls under three heads:—

- (1) The provision of domestic training in Home Training Centres;
- (2) the Individual Vocational Training Scheme under which provision is made in individual cases for training in Shorthand and Typewriting, Comptometer Operating, Midwifery, Nursery Nursing, Cookery, and Institutional House-keeping, and
- (3) the provision of outfits for women who have secured resident domestic employment, but who are unable to accept situations owing to the lack of necessary uniform which they cannot provide out of their own resources.

During 1930 thirty-seven non-residential Home Training Centres were in operation throughout the Country, in which accommodation was provided for the training of about 4,000 women and girls in the course of a year. With very few exceptions the training is given in houses which are furnished and adapted for the purpose. The Central Committee state that reports received from employers during the year 1930 continued to be, on the whole, very encouraging.

The first residential Home Training Centre was opened in 1930 at Leamington Spa, and so successful was the experiment that the Committee decided to open early in 1931 a further Centre at Appleton Hall, near Warrington, where there is accommodation for 60 trainees. Experience has proved that the residential form of training has considerable advantages. The trainees can obtain more practice in the routine work of a house than is possible in a non-residential institution and, moreover, they become accustomed to living away from home and learn to accommodate themselves to new conditions. Consequently, they suffer less from home-sickness when they enter their first place. The response made to the facilities offered at Appleton Hall, which is known as the Lancashire and Cheshire Centre, has been good. This new Centre was opened on 5th March, and at 16th May, 1931, over 300 applications for training had been received from women and girls who represented fifty-five towns in the North Western Division ranging from Carlisle in the north to Macclesfield in the south.

In conclusion, it is desired to remind members of Women Citizens' Associations that there can be obtained free of charge from any Employment Exchange explanatory leaflets relating to the Unemployment Insurance Acts, which include:—  
(a) U.I.L. 8, giving particulars of the provisions of the Unemployment Insurance Acts; (b) U.I.L. 34, relating to the determination of claims for benefit; (c) U.I.L. 36, regarding domestic work and unemployment benefit.

### THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN CONFERENCE, ABERDEEN, 1931.

By MARY BURY.

Aberdeen entertains its visitors with royal hospitality and the 400 or so delegates to the Representative Council of the N.C.W. were favoured with brilliant sunshine which showed the gleaming houses of the beautiful White Granite City at their best. Following the address of welcome from the Lord Provost of Aberdeen, the Marchioness of Aberdeen and Temair, president of the Aberdeen Branch of the N.C.W., also welcomed the delegates. Mrs. Keynes in her presidential address, while granting that much social work was now carried out professionally, said she saw no lack of work for the N.C.W. to-day.

Before proceeding with the resolutions which had been balloted for by the Branches, the Council re-affirmed one passed in 1930, again calling on the Government to introduce legislation on the lines of the recommendations of the Reports of the Departmental Committees on Sexual Offences against young children and the Treatment of Young Offenders.

One of the most interesting discussions of the Conference took place on a resolution appealing to all Licencing Authorities to put into operation the model rules recommended by the Home Office in view of the urgent need for some uniform standard of conditions for Cinema Licences, and indicating that the appointment of a Consultative Committee representative of the Home Office, Film Censors, Film Producers, and Social Organisations would create more immediate and effective contact with public opinion and maintain the highest moral and artistic standards in the films produced and exhibited. Dr. Ogilvie Gordon emphasised the present lack of co-ordination and said that their best hope lay in encouraging British Industry and in strengthening the hands of the Local Authorities, giving them longer notice of the films to be shown in their areas so as to allow of more adequate supervision. An amendment moved by Mrs. Barnes, and seconded by Mrs. W. Cadbury, called for the setting up of a full Government inquiry with a wider and even international scope. This was a bigger question than that of State or no State censorship and there was need of something more far-reaching. A Government inquiry would not veto a Consultative Committee. It was necessary to get at all the facts from the public, exhibitors and producers. Miss Cowan said that the Home Office Rules did not cover Scotland, other speakers were afraid of Government red-tape, and said that individual pressure could more easily be brought to bear on Local Authorities and more could be done by them in respect of border-line films. The amendment was lost and the resolution carried.

A resolution requesting the Home Office to appoint a Woman Commissioner of Prisons and a woman Director of convict prisons to visit prisons in which women were confined, and urging also the necessity for a revision of the methods of dealing with women prisoners was carried, the mover, Miss Craven, arguing that the smaller number of women prisoners (1 to 6 of men) and their better behaviour made unnecessary the fortress type of prison. She advocated the cottage home variety of prison which would give opportunity for domestic work on a small scale and better classification. Similar suitable arrangements were demanded for Scotland.

A resolution on the Nationality of Married Women was moved by Lady Emmott on lines familiar to our readers, and ably seconded by Mme. Lorisignol, herself in the position of a British-born alien in her own country.

Speaking on the resolution on Women Police, calling on the Secretaries of State in England and Scotland to draft regulation for policewomen for submission to a Police Council called and selected for the purpose, on which women should have a fair representation, Miss Tancred said that Mr. Clynes had already promised to do this and that Miss Peto had been appointed as advisor to the Police in Scotland Yard.

The Disarmament Conference was the subject of a lively debate. The resolution moved by Mrs. Morgan, and seconded by

Mrs. T. Johnston, called for a concentrated national effort to ensure that the Conference of 1932 should result in immediate reductions in the Army, Navy, and Air forces of the world, and called upon H.M. Government to spare no effort to obtain that expenditure on armaments should substantially be reduced in those countries where reductions had not been imposed by the Peace Treaties. The Conference was roused by an amendment moved by Mrs. Paterson (Dorset) in a fighting speech, seconded by Mrs. Williamson (Portsmouth), that the British Empire be excluded from any further reduction in Naval armaments, which called forth speech after speech in opposition. The amendment was defeated and the resolution was carried with a further amendment that they urge the Government to take the lead in proposing the reduction of armaments at the 1932 Conference.

There was considerable discussion on a resolution asking that with every Juvenile Court there should be facilities for necessary expert examination (physical and psychological) for all offenders. It was carried though some speakers expressed distrust of experts and pictured every child who had kicked a football in the streets undergoing psychological examination. The Manchester delegates put forward a resolution urging the Government to give effect to the recommendation of a Departmental Committee on the subject of Remand Homes specially for juvenile offenders. It was urged that no pains should be spared to prevent any one making his first acquaintance with prison. Entry to prison should be the last resort, more remand homes were needed. The prison population was swollen by young people on remand.

In another resolution, originally put forward by the N.U.S.E.C., the meeting declared its opinion that the time was ripe for legislation requiring a testator to provide for his or her surviving spouse and children and pointing out that England was behind Scotland, the Dominions, and most European countries in this respect.

Lodgings for women was recommended to the N.C.W. branches as a subject for inquiry, and they were also urged to bring persuasion to bear on Local Authorities to employ Women Managers trained on Octavia Hill lines in the new housing estates and to ask the Universities to give facilities for specialized training of such candidates in the Social and Economic courses.

In a resolution dealing with the Causation and Prevention of Mental Deficiency the Government was asked to set up a Royal Commission to investigate its relation with other social problems and abnormal conditions and to consider measures, including segregation and sterilization, by which it might be prevented. An amendment urging legalization of voluntary sterilization was lost.

Public meetings were held each day, speakers and subjects including Dr. Jane Walker on "The Right Use of Leisure," Miss Eleanor Elder on "The Drama as applied to Amateur Production," Mrs. Watt on "The Country Women of the World," Mr. D. Cleghorn Thomson on "Broadcasting," and the Rev. A. E. Binks on "The Cinema."

"Arms and the People"  
**NATIONAL DISARMAMENT DEMONSTRATION**  
11th July, at 3.30  
ROYAL ALBERT HALL, S.W.

Speakers: The Prime Minister,  
Rt. Hon. Stanley Baldwin, M.P.  
Rt. Hon. David Lloyd George, M.P.

The purpose of the Demonstration, besides the rallying of national opinion for the limitation and reduction of armaments, is to bring about international repercussions, so that other countries may realize that Great Britain is wholeheartedly behind the movement, and earnestly desires the success of the World Disarmament Conference in 1932.

Tickets: 10/- 5/- and 2/6.  
Groups of 12 Tickets or more can obtain reserved seats at 1/-.  
Apply at once to:  
Secretary, League of Nations Union, 15 Grosvenor Crescent, S.W. 1.

**THE WOMAN'S LEADER**  
EVERY FRIDAY. TWOPENCE.

SPECIAL TERMS FOR SOCIETIES

Send 10/10 to the Office of the Paper, 4 Gt. Smith St., Westminster, S.W. 1.  
2/9 for Three Months. SUBSCRIBE TO-DAY.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEWS.**

By BERTHA MASON.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE (OUTDOOR RELIEF).

The first Report of the Royal Commission on Unemployment Insurance is now before the country, and our readers are doubtless already familiar with its main recommendations.

Pending an authoritative statement from the Government (which may appear before this article is in print), as to their action in regard to the proposals, we refrain for the moment from comment on the Report as a whole, and simply remind our readers at this juncture that whatever may be the decision of the Government, fresh legislation will be required almost at once, as the existing provisions for the payment of transitional benefit will shortly expire.

In reply to a question put to the Minister of Labour in the House of Commons on 11th June, Miss Bondfield stated that "the amount of Treasury advances to the Unemployment Insurance Fund outstanding to-day is £85,620,000, leaving a balance of borrowing powers of £4,380,000."

It was likely, she said, that this balance would be exhausted early in July, and further provision would be necessary before that date.<sup>1</sup>

The present income of the Insurance Fund is little more than half the expenditure on a live register of 2,500,000 unemployed.

The present debt on the Fund, as already stated, exceeds £80,000,000, and is increasing at the rate of nearly £1,000,000 per week. The cost of transitional benefit falling directly on the Exchequer is estimated at £30,000,000 for the present year, and it may be more. In addition, the Exchequer has to find about £15,000,000 as the State contribution to the Unemployment Fund.

These are factors beyond dispute, and show that consideration of the proposals and action thereon cannot be indefinitely delayed.

Meanwhile, the object of this article is to draw attention to that section of the Report which is devoted to:—

*Public Assistance (Outdoor Relief).*—The Poor Law, it is pointed out, is administered by Local Authorities on principles entirely different from those of an unemployment insurance scheme. The Poor Law deals with anyone who is destitute, whether within or without the defined sphere of Unemployment Insurance. About six million workers employed under a contract of service, and, in addition, a large number of persons engaged in business on their own account, are not covered by the Unemployment scheme. Those who, when unemployed, are not qualified for unemployment benefit (either insurance or transitional) may be relieved according to need by the Poor Law Authorities.

*Poor Law Principle.*—It is a general Poor Law principle that in determining what relief should be given, income and means from every source available to the household (with certain statutory exceptions) must be taken into account. "Nevertheless, many Poor Law Authorities," the Report proceeds, "have adopted scales of relief for the guidance of their committees as indicating generally the appropriate total to which income from relief, plus income from other sources, may be brought."

We are informed that those authorities who have adopted such scales have been to a greater or less degree influenced by the scale of unemployment benefit. In most areas the scale is below unemployment benefit, in some areas it is higher, particularly in the case of persons with a large number of dependants, and the Poor Law may then supplement the unemployment benefit paid, by the Labour Exchange.

*Increase in Number of Able-bodied Recipients.*—Since 1921 there has been, says the Report, "a great increase in the number of able-bodied persons applying for out-door relief. At our request, the Ministry of Health and the Scottish Department of Health undertook a special analysis of the persons, ordinarily engaged in some regular occupation, to whom out-door relief was given during the week ending 7th February, 1931." The results of that analysis show that the numbers of persons relieved "on account of unemployment" in Great Britain at that date were 57,041 men and 4,592 women. The number relieved for "causes other than unemployment" were 42,777 men and 6,572 women.

<sup>1</sup> The Bill which is now before Parliament increases the borrowing powers of the Unemployment Fund to £115,000,000, and extends the transitional period by six months for the payment at benefit in cases where the insurance conditions have not been complied with.

**NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR  
EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.**

President: MRS. CORBETT ASHBY.  
Hon. Treasurer: MRS. VAN GRUISEN. Hon. Secretary: MRS. RYLAND.  
General and Parliamentary Secretary: MRS. HORTON.  
Offices: 4 Great Smith Street, S.W. 1. Telephone: Victoria 6188.

DISARMAMENT DEMONSTRATION, 11th JULY.

Many of the affiliated societies are sending parties to the demonstration at the Albert Hall on 11th July, and there will be an N.U.S.E.C. box, from which will be displayed our banner. Arrangements are being made for the N.U.S.E.C. to take part in the procession to be organized by the Women's International League. We shall be very glad indeed to hear from any individual members of the N.U.S.E.C. willing to take part in the procession; it will start at the Embankment at 1.30 p.m. We want this contingent to be as large as possible and are hoping that the delegates from affiliated societies will be able to join it.

"POOR CAROLINE" TEA PARTY, 13th JULY.

Miss Winifred Holtby, as already announced, will discuss her novel, *Poor Caroline*, with Mr. Michael Franklin at a Tea Party which Mrs. Adrian Corbett is very kindly giving for us at Pembroke Lodge, Pembroke Gardens, W. 8, on Monday afternoon, 13th July. As space is strictly limited, we would, therefore, urge applications for tickets to be made as soon as possible. These may be obtained (price 7s. 6d. and 5s.) from 4 Great Smith Street, S.W. 1. To most of our readers Miss Holtby is already well known as an enthusiastic feminist, as well as a very successful novelist. This Tea Party will form an exceptionally pleasant opportunity of meeting her and hear a discussion of a book which has much in it of very direct interest both to old Suffragists and to modern feminists.

NEWS FROM SOCIETIES.

MALVERN S.E.C.

The members of the Malvern Society for Equal Citizenship met in the Lyttelton Choir Room recently. Mrs. Priestley, the President, was in the chair. A most interesting account of impressions of the life and work of Canadian women was given by Miss F. M. Jones, a member of the Society, who last year exchanged work with a Canadian teacher. She found greater equality of status between men and women than in England, as no traditional prejudice in this respect existed. The Canadian Women's Institutes were an immense power in social and educational work, using both these terms in their widest sense. The whole address was full of interest, and all present joined with the Chairman in very hearty thanks to Miss Jones. Afterwards Miss Ogle, of Malvern Girls' College Staff, a visitor for the evening, who exchanged duties last year with a teacher from the United States, was asked if she would speak of her experience, and very kindly consented.

CORRESPONDENCE.

UNTRAPPED FURS.

MADAM,—I have seen two letters in back numbers of THE WOMAN'S LEADER on the cruelties connected with trapping wild animals for their pelts. Your readers may like to know where they can obtain beautiful furs, either pelts or made-up garments, which have been obtained from untrapped animals, humanely killed. They can get them from The Fir Board, Campsea Ashe, Wickham Market, Suffolk.

This is a co-operative society run by rabbit breeders, which buys pelts from its members, dresses the pelts, and sells them to the trade and to private customers.

The furs are beautiful, undyed and in many lovely colours. Everyone to whom I have shown specimens are delighted with them, and many are astonished that such lovely furs should be rabbit. You can have grey, brown, blue, black, silver, etc.

(MRS.) EVA WALLER.

Stanley House,  
Halewood, Liverpool.

*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.

Of those relieved "on account of unemployment," 39,052 men (68.4 per cent of the men), and 1,554 women (38.8 per cent of the women) were persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts.

They included persons with disallowed claims for benefit, persons serving a waiting period, and a number of persons receiving concurrently out-relief (in money or kind) and unemployment benefit. The numbers in receipt of payment from both sources were 13,544 men (34.7 per cent of the insured men), and 611 women (30.3 per cent of the insured women), or a total of 14,156 (34.9 per cent).

It is apparent that the number of cases in which unemployment benefit is so far insufficient to meet the needs of the worker and his family as to compel the worker to have resort to public assistance is but a small fraction, less than 1 per cent, of the total number of workers in receipt of unemployment benefit.

We cannot quote further, as we have already exceeded our space—but the extracts given show that the Report raises important issues for Local Authorities responsible for the administration of Public Assistance, and the decision of the Government in regard to the recommendations of the Commission will vitally affect them.

THE DISARMAMENT CAMPAIGN.

The number of signatures collected to date is 927,000.

Important signatures since last report: Mr. J. D. Millar, K.C., M.P., The Bishop of Worcester, The Right Rev. Thomas Henshaw, D.D., Lord Bishop of Salford, Mr. T. Sturge Moore, The Bishop of Liverpool, Lord Radstock, The Bishop of Ottawa.

The British signatures obtained represent 2.4 per cent of the total population of Great Britain; the Welsh signatures 6.25 per cent of total Welsh population; the North Wales signatures 16.5 per cent of total population of North Wales; the Merionethshire signatures 25 per cent of total population of that county.

*Birkenhead:* A Joint District Committee has been formed and is working under the title of Birkenhead Disarmament Campaign. Posters and forms are being distributed and meetings arranged. The organisations co-operating include League of Nations Union, Society of Friends, Fellowship of Reconciliation, etc. Canvassing has already started.

*Brighton and Hove:* A joint committee has been formed uniting religious, social and political organisations. The president is the Bishop of Chichester and the Vice-Presidents include the Vicars of Brighton and Hove, etc. Work proceeding under title of International Disarmament Campaign. The societies helping include: L.N.U., Rotarians, Toc H, National Council of Women, Central Women's Guild, Boys' Brigade, National Union of Teachers, British Women's Temperance Association, Labour Party, Liberal Association, and the Churches. The Co-operative Society is allowing signatures to be collected in its main shop and workers are there morning and afternoon.

*Church of England General Assembly:* Canon Guy Rogers has put down a motion that "the Assembly should recommend Church people generally to sign the International Declaration on World Disarmament."

*Church of Scotland:* Agreed at the General Assembly to collect signatures.

*Crewe:* Enthusiastic meeting in Mayor's Parlour on 2nd June, at which canvass of the town was decided upon by representatives of a number of societies. 50 canvassers enrolled to date. Intensive campaign in 2nd and 3rd weeks of July.

*Edinburgh:* Forms distributed to students at the University and in the public libraries. 300 students have already signed, and all the leading doctors, e.g. Sir Harold Stiles, Professor Gulland, etc.

*Glasgow:* West of Scotland District Council of the L.N.U. has circulated a form to each household in Glasgow where there are members of the L.N.U.

*Hornsey:* 282 signatures obtained by Women's Section' Hornsey Branch of the British Legion.

*Hull:* 130 signatures of the Principal, Staff and students of Hull Municipal Training College. 78 signatures from Park Street Unitarian Church.

*Leeds:* Delegates representing over 2,300 women attended a Garden Fête addressed by Mrs. Zangwill. 1,300 signatures obtained. Canvassing proceeding.

*Macclesfield:* A Joint Disarmament Committee has been formed and house-to-house canvassing is being planned.

*Manchester:* Over a thousand signatures have been obtained in the course of tours to small mining towns near by.

## COMING EVENTS.

## B.B.C.

27th June-4th July. New College, Oxford, Summer School Conference for training Wireless Group Leaders. Arranged by the Central Council for Broadcast Adult Education.

Monday, 29th June. 7 p.m. Miss V. Sackville-West, "New Books."  
Tuesdays, 30th June. 10.45-11 a.m. Professor and Mrs. V. H. Mottram, "Meals in Summer."

Wednesdays, 1st July. 10.45. Miss Lloyd George, M.P., "The Week in Westminster."

## BRITISH COMMONWEALTH LEAGUE.

3rd July. 1 p.m. Luncheon at 17 Buckingham Street, Strand. Guests: Mrs. Littlejohn, J.P., Mrs. Bellas (Cape Town). "Women's Opportunity in the Present Crisis."

## NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR PREVENTION OF WAR.

27th June, 5 p.m. Conference on the Prospects of Disarmament at Denison House, Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W.1. Speakers: Professor Noel Baker, Dr. Ernst Deissmann, W. Arnold Forster, Brig.-Gen. Spears, C.B., and representatives of France and U.S.A.

## TYPEWRITING.

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

MISS HOBBS, 121 Beaufort Street, Chelsea, S.W. 3.—Typewriting, Shorthand, and Longhand Service; visiting, with or without machine; arrangement by correspondence.

TYPEWRITING of all kinds, including French and German, from 1s. per 1,000 words.—Miss Pollard, 36 Amphil Square, N.W. 1. Museum 3965.

## TO LET AND WANTED.

HAMPSTEAD.—TO LET, July-Sept., bright, airy, furnished bed-sittingroom; gas, electric light; close Tube; 16s. weekly.—Angus, 22 Belsize Avenue, N.W. 3. Tel.: Primrose 1043.

WESTMINSTER.—To Let, single office; quiet, very central; electric lighting and heating; moderate, inclusive rent.—Apply, Box 1635, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Great Smith Street, S.W. 1.

24 HARCOURT TERRACE, South Kensington. Large, bright, semi-basement, Bed-sittingroom and Kitchen, to be let for four months; newly furnished and decorated; every convenience; 'phone No.: Flaxman 8031; terms 35s. per week inclusive.

NEAR Baker St.—Comfortable, quiet Bed-Sittingroom in professional woman's flat; gas fire, geyser, electric light; board as required; terms moderate.—Box 1,633, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Great Smith Street, S.W. 1.

NEAR Hampstead Heath, Belsize Park Station; in lady artist's new studio house, charming sunny bed-sittingroom (furnished); gas fire, ring, fitted lavatory basin, electric light; bathroom; attractive garden; some attendance; extra bedroom optional. Prim. 3876.—28 Glenilla Road, N.W. 3.

TO LET, Furnished Bed-Sittingroom; gas, electricity; garden; suit woman worker out all day; £1 1s. weekly.—Dr. Tchaykovsky, 5 St. John's Road, Harrow.

UNFURNISHED very large Room in excellently appointed and very quiet house for ladies, at Hampstead, N.W. 3; telephone; beautiful garden; 30s. weekly inclusive; electric light and constant hot water; small attractive room; 16s.—Box 1,641, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Great Smith Street, S.W. 1.

TO LET, Top-floor Flat (three rooms and dressing room, in nice quiet house; suitable for a lady.—Apply, Caretaker, 103 St. George's Road, S.W. 1.

TO LET, Furnished Bed-Sittingroom in flat; pleasant outlook; sunny; near Tavistock Square.—Box 1,640, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Great Smith Street, S.W. 1.

## HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION.

COAST OF DORSET.—Comfortably furnished Cottage to let (not August).—Apply, Mrs. Cancellor, 7 Ladbroke Road, W. 11.

FRENCH Lady (widow) and three children (10-15) would like to hear of English family (seaside or country) where children could board inexpensively. Mother would help in house and give lessons in exchange; or can any reader recommend really cheap lodgings, or offer suggestions for assisting Mme. C. and children to have a holiday in England?—Write, Mrs. Corbett Ashby, c/o, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Great Smith Street, S.W. 1.

VEGETARIAN Guest House; ¼ hour by tram from centre of Bath; central heating; large garden; fine views; boating and bathing in River Avon.—Misses Tollemache, Bath, Bath.

WENSLEYDALE.—Board - Residence, comfortable Georgian house; near Aysgarth Falls; centre unspoilt scenery; sunny garden, own vegetables; garage; annexe to let as bed-sittingroom; motor-coach or rail to Aysgarth.—Smith, Warnford, Thoraby, Aysgarth, Yorks.

LAKE DISTRICT.—Comfortable; good cooking; inside sanitation; electric light; very moderate terms; highly recommended; excellent centre.—Davies, Priory Boarding House, Cartmel, Grange-over-Sands.

TO LET, furnished, for July and August or for a longer period, Cottage in the village of Clapham, near Worthing, Sussex; three minutes' walk from the Downs, three miles from the sea; two bedrooms (two beds in each room), 1 sitting room, 1 kitchen, dining room, large scullery, cooking stove, etc.; electric light, main water; garage near, 5s. a week; no bath room; good outside sanitation; woman available to cook and "do" for tenants. July, 3½ guineas; August, 4 guineas; longer period less.—Apply, Principals, School of Gardening, Clapham, near Worthing, Sussex.

## NATIONAL DISARMAMENT DEMONSTRATION.

11th July, 3.30. Albert Hall, S.W. Speakers include the Prime Minister, Mr. Baldwin, M.P., and Mr. Lloyd George, M.P. Tickets (10s. 6d., 5s., 2s. 6d. and 1s.) from the Secretary, League of Nations Union, 15 Grosvenor Crescent, S.W. 1.

## NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

13th July, 3.30. "Poor Caroline" Tea Party at Pembroke Lodge, Pembroke Gardens, W. 8. Speakers: Miss Winifred Holtby and Mr. Michael Franklin. Tickets from 4 Great Smith Street, S.W. 1.

## Acton W.C.A.

9th July. Visit to Gunnersbury Park and Museum. Miss Smee, J.P., will conduct members. Meet Museum entrance 3 p.m.

## Petersfield S.E.C.

7th July, 7 p.m. Northbrook, College Street. Mrs. Corbett Ashby, "Parliamentary Work of the N.U.S.E.C."

## SIX POINT GROUP.

9th July, 6 p.m. 92 Victoria Street, S.W. 1. First of series, "What the Equal Rights Treaty Means—." Miss Burl, "— to Teachers." Chair: Miss W. Holtby.

## WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

2nd July, 7-9.30 p.m. Mrs. Despard's 87th Birthday Party. Speakers: Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, and others. Music.

NORTH DEVON.—Lady offers room, board, 25s. weekly; lovely outlook; near town and buses.—Box 1,637, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Great Smith Street, S.W. 1.

PAYING Guest taken in private house overlooking Falmouth Harbour; terms moderate—Apply, Mrs. Lester, 1 Stratton Place, Falmouth.

## 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.)

MARY EVELYN'S Experiment.—A home hand-canner (never used) for sale; cost over £3, will sell for £2, three dozen new cans included; also two dinner services, and other surplus glass and china bought to stage press photographs.—Box 1,639, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Great Smith Street, 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.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON AND NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 27 Marsham Street, Westminster. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Expert advice on what to do with your girls. Addresses to schools and societies in London and Provinces by arrangement.

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 28th June, 6.30: Maude Royden.

## ADOPTION.

BABY Girl, seven months old, gentle birth, to be adopted; mother (married) died childbirth, father abroad; attractive, pretty healthy child; to be brought up C. of E.; all particulars available; can be seen London.—Box 1,638, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Great Smith Street, S.W. 1.

THE WOMAN'S LEADER can be supplied direct from this Office for **2½d.** including postage. Send 10/10 to the Manager, WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W. 1 (Telephone Victoria 6188), and the paper will be sent to you at any address for a whole year. Persuade your friends to do the same.

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

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