

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

AND THE COMMON CAUSE

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NOTES AND NEWS.

Honours.

When we run our eyes down the honours list, and note the tedious recurrence of the evasive phrase: "For political and public services," we cannot find it in our hearts to regret the small proportion of women's names which appear throughout its length. But those which do appear are, in nearly every case, such that their inclusion increases the prestige of the whole list. It is perhaps difficult to determine whether the peculiar tribute which is paid this year to medical women is in the nature of a Judas kiss, or whether it may be taken as an official gesture of disagreement with the exclusive policy of the London medical schools. More probably it is an insignificant coincidence. Nevertheless Lady Barrett's admission as a Companion of Honour, Professor Louise McIlroy's D.B.E., and Professor Winifred Cullis' C.B.E. suggest well-placed recognition of high eminence. Miss Lilian Baylis' incomparable service to the drama through the medium of the Old Vic brings her a well-deserved C.H. And Dame Edith Lyttelton's accession as a Dame Grand Cross, to a higher grade of the Order of the British Empire, represents a satisfactory tribute to her very considerable services to the women of all nations at Geneva. Mrs. Laura Knight, A.R.A., becomes a Dame Commander, together with Miss Bertha Phillpotts for "services to scholarship and education". It may be suggested by the uninitiated that the ladies whose names we have indicated appear to represent a higher degree of eminence or devotion than some of those gentlemen to whom higher seats have been assigned in the hierarchy of worldly titles. Indeed it is difficult to escape such a conclusion. Nevertheless we remain convinced that there are inequalities about which it is better worth while to make a fuss, and therefore reserve our powder and shot.

The Nationality of Married Women.

We are glad to report that the Bill to be introduced by Miss Wilkinson this week, after we have gone to press, will provide that a British woman shall retain her nationality on marriage with an alien, and that she shall not be deprived of her nationality unless she herself by a voluntary act asks to give it up. It will be remembered that when a resolution on these lines was adopted by the House of Commons in 1926, Miss Wilkinson fought hard and with success to prevent the adoption of an amendment which would have caused a woman to lose her

nationality on marriage with an alien and would have made it necessary for her to require to ask to be re-demitted. We hope that she will be equally successful this time in carrying the House with her. Of all the women's equality questions before the country there is none on which there is so much agreement among different sections of women. Since a woman has just been admitted to equal voting rights it is suitable that this should be followed by the securing for her of the most fundamental of all political privileges, that of being recognized as an individual citizen in her own right.

Legitimacy at Doubt.

We referred some months ago to a decision of Lord Merrivale in connection with a question relating to the custody of a child born illegitimate whose parents subsequently married and were asking for a divorce. Last week this view was endorsed in a similar case by Mr. Justice Hill, in spite of arguments put forward by the Attorney-General that the registration of such a child places it in the same position in regard to orders for custody in the Divorce Court as a child born in wedlock. Seemingly the only way therefore to ensure that such a child's new status of legitimacy shall be placed beyond doubt for all purposes is for those whom the Act intended to benefit to obtain a declaration of legitimacy from the court on a separate petition.

The Age of Marriage.

This Bill is being delayed somewhat in its passage through the House of Lords. Its Committee stage had been put down two days after its second reading, and certain peers who wished to move amendments felt this was too soon and urged successfully that it should be postponed. Lord Buckmaster, though anxious to finish its stages in the Upper House as soon as possible in order to facilitate its passage through the Commons this session, reluctantly agreed, and the Committee stage was begun on 1st March. Lord Darling moved an amendment that for the word "void" in the clause "a marriage of persons either of whom is under the age of 16 shall be void" should be substituted the word "voidable". The ground on which this was urged and supported was the desirability that any child which might be born to a girl (Lord Darling persisted in calling her a woman!) under 16 should be born legitimate. Lord Buckmaster's contentions that the proposed change would negate the whole spirit of the Bill, that a man who, by the nature of the case, was guilty of a criminal offence against a girl, should not be enabled, under any circumstances, when she was still under 16, to become her husband, and finally, that any child born could be legitimated by the subsequent marriage of the parents, were all ably put forward. But the House wished still further to consider the subject, the hour was late, and the Committee stage was again postponed, this time until 12th March. Lord Buckmaster received most valuable support from Lord Reading and the Bishop of Southwark.

Unjust Wills—Lord Astor's Bill.

Lord Astor will shortly be reintroducing the above Bill into the House of Lords. The second reading will not be moved this session as Lord Astor's chief object is to enable the Bill to be discussed, criticized, and supported in various quarters, including legal circles and among women's organizations. Certain important modifications have been made already since last session. The children for whom provision must either be made by the

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testator or can, failing this, be made by the Executors or the Court, must be *dependent* children, that is children either under the age of 16, and still being educated, or through mental or physical disability unable to earn their own living. The provision to be made for a spouse in order to prevent a will being appealed against is to be the income of one-third of the estate or £3 weekly, whichever is larger. The dependents who have a claim under the Bill are those for whom the testator must provide by law. Certain minor alterations are also made. It is hoped that our readers and others will make a point of studying this important measure.

The League Council at Geneva.

The Council of the League of Nations, which opened its fifty-fourth session at Geneva on 4th March, is spending most of its time discussing the vexed problem of Minorities. As there are between 40,000,000 and 50,000,000 people in Europe to-day whose religious, racial and linguistic rights are guaranteed by the League of Nations under the Minority clauses of the Peace Treaties, it is of course a matter of first-class importance. Apart from the usual Petitions from Minorities, two items appear on the Agenda under the heading of the "Protection of Minorities". The first has been placed on the Agenda at the request of Senator Dandurand, the representative of Canada, and appears as "Procedure applicable to minorities petitions". The second, placed there at the request of Dr. Stresemann, the German Foreign Minister, appears as "The guarantee by the League of Nations of the provisions concerning the protection of minorities". At the December meeting of the Council, an altercation took place between Dr. Stresemann and M. Zaleski, the Polish representative, concerning the activities of the Volksbund in Polish Silesia. Because M. Zaleski alleged that the Volksbund was fermenting discontent in the district, Dr. Stresemann announced his intention of having the whole problem of Minorities raised at the March meeting. Since then the Polish Government has dissolved the Diet (i.e. Parliament) in Polish Silesia and then proceeded to arrest one of the members, Dr. Ulitz, the President of the Volksbund, on a charge of treason. As Dr. Ulitz could not be arrested whilst he was a Member of the Diet, it is assumed that the Polish Government dissolved the Diet in order to effect his arrest. The incident has thrown the whole of Silesia into a state of great excitement. It is alleged in Austria that the Polish Government wishes to make the minority problems a question of the security of the State and hopes in that way to abolish Upper Silesian autonomy.

Birth-rate and Infant Mortality.

When maternal and infant welfare receive really adequate attention the preponderance of the female over the male population may disappear. According to the Registrar-General the proportion of male babies born during the quarter was 1,043 to 1,000 females. We are glad to record that the infant mortality rate for this year is the lowest yet recorded for England and Wales, being 65 per 1,000 live births.

Quebec Again Refuses to give Women Votes.

Quebec has the unenviable distinction of being the only province in the Dominion which refuses votes to women. The Legislative Assembly, by a vote of 50 to 16 defeated a private member's Bill for allowing women the suffrage in provincial elections. On the principle of being thankful for small mercies, we are glad to note a gain of 5 votes since the subject was brought up last year.

The Migration of the Turk Complex.

The Chief Justice and Legal Board of Jerusalem have refused to allow Mrs. Rosa Ginsburg to qualify as an advocate at the Palestine Bar. It is remarkable that the refusal of the Chief Justice should be founded on a letter from the Colonial Office which ruled that the admission of women to the Palestine Bar must be "postponed." Mrs. Ginsburg is a law graduate of the Sorbonne, but her repeated requests to be allowed to sit for the Foreign Advocates' Examination has been turned down on the ground that in any case she would not be allowed to practise, because under Turkish law only a "person" may qualify as a lawyer. The High Court presided over by a British judge, proposed that the application might be divided into two parts, and that in the beginning Mrs. Ginsburg might be satisfied with an order on the Legal Board to admit her to the examinations. In Turkey itself this form of sex determination has been abandoned. Women have been allowed to practise at the

Bar in Egypt and Syria, and a Moslem woman lawyer has appeared before the Constantinople court.

Questions for the New Voter to Answer.

Though we have no intention of launching into prize competitions as a usual thing, we propose to depart from custom in the case of the young voter. We believe that it is easier to work with some definite object in view, be it examination, competition, class, or lecture, and for this reason we propose to offer prizes at intervals between the present time and the General Election for the best answers to the questions which have been appended to the letters to the new voter which are appearing in our columns. Prospective new voters under 21 will be entered in a separate class. Next week full particulars of the conditions of the competition will be given, and the questions up to date repeated. We hope this proposal may interest not only individual young readers or daughters of readers, but that it may be found useful by teachers and club leaders. We remind readers that questions and discussion are invited, but possibly the new voter will become more articulate when our correspondent reaches deeper waters and cross-currents of opinion.

A Woman against a Woman.

Opinions differ sharply on the ethics, or perhaps propriety is a better word, of a woman candidate opposing another woman as in the case of North Lanarkshire. Possibly circumstances must be taken into consideration. We understand that women eminent in their parties have refused to stand against Lady Astor or Mrs. Winttingham, and we can readily believe that there are women of all parties whom no women of any party would wish to oppose. The two North Lanark women candidates are, however, both young and have no personal claims on the loyalties of women of all parties. Nevertheless with so few women in Parliament we cannot but regret that a second woman should enter the fray. We have not yet heard their views on the reforms which we have made our own, but so far as one can judge from their records both have personal gifts and experience which will stand them in good stead if successful now or later at the General Election, for we suppose they will stand again. Both are interested in education. Miss Jenny Lee, the Labour candidate, is a school teacher. Miss Elizabeth Mitchell, the Liberal, got a first in Greats at Oxford, has taught at Holloway College, and served on the Lancashire Education Authority. We ourselves feel divided interest, as behoves our non-party attitude. We want the return of another woman, and were glad to be assured, before Miss Mitchell's intervention, that Miss Lee's chances were very good indeed. On the other hand, we should also like to see the single Liberal woman now in Parliament joined by another to make the proportion of party women at present four, four and one, more nearly equal. But we believe that in any event the result is going to be the return of another woman.

Chinese Women on the March.

A correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* has produced some interesting facts concerning the position of the women's movement under present conditions in China. It appears to be on the move even in the interior, as is shown by the publication of a stirring appeal issued to the women of Honan province by a "Committee for the Advancement of Women's Rights". The appeal refers to the age-long oppression of women and points out that now at last, under the banner of the Kuomintang, a precarious foothold has been secured in the social and political arena. It refers with indignation to the existence of prostitution, girl slavery, and polygamy, and incidentally to the absurd taboo which forbids social intercourse between men and women. Outside Honan, the *Manchester Guardian* correspondent reports the appointment of the first Chinese woman magistrate in the province of Hoep. The magistrate in question, Miss Kuo Feng-min, a member of the Kuomintang, secured her position in a competitive civil service examination. She is 29 years of age, and we venture to extend to her, across some thousands of miles of space, our happy congratulations on her success and our sincere good wishes for the future.

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.

VICTORY—AND AFTER? ¹

By ELEANOR F. RATHBONE.

Just ten years ago, you first chose me as your President, and now I greet you for the last time in that capacity.

It has been a great ten years, full of achievements of which we may be justly proud, not only because of our share in them, but because they are themselves evidences and first fruits of that older achievement—the Franchise Act of 1918. We used to be told that we exaggerated the power of the vote, but only ourselves can know the difference—the infinite difference—it has made to our work in atmosphere, in rate of progress, in solid results.

Yet at times, progress has seemed (to our impatient generation) not fast but very slow. There have been occasional harvests of refreshing fruits, followed by long dry times. Thus in 1919 there was that great Measure, the Sex Disqualifications Removal Act, cast up on our shores by the receding wave of the reconstruction movement. Then came a series of years when I find myself at our Council meetings comparing the National Union's year to a fisherman's day of great expectations but no fish, to the labours of Sisyphus, pushing its hewn rocks of legislation up Constitution Hill, only to see them roll to the bottom again, to the reiterated record of trivial daily happenings, which flashes itself off against the sky in Trafalgar Square.

Yet how abundantly our method of reiterated, steady effort has been justified. When we look back to the list of feminist reforms which we set ourselves to achieve in the first year after the victory of 1918, we find only one heading under which it is not possible to claim either complete victory or substantial advance. But with few exceptions, every advance has been painfully won after years of effort which seemed abortive at the time, but served to educate public opinion and convince Parliament of the strength and justice of our demands.

Take Equal Franchise—our latest, most complete, and most important victory. As early as 1919 we were organizing public meetings and processions of "Women under Thirty" as a means of coercing the Coalition Government to fulfil its pledge to remove "all existing disabilities in the law between men and women". Each subsequent year had its special device to break up the prevailing lethargy. I have only space to remind you that it was in response to appeals from the National Union that in 1922 Mr. Bonar Law declared the favourable opinion which was said to have greatly influenced the present Cabinet; that in 1924 Mr. Baldwin gave his famous election pledge of "Equal Political Rights" for men and women; that in 1925 the Home Secretary repeated and amplified that pledge, which has since been so honourably fulfilled.

In the Equal Moral Standard we have been less successful, because here is a reform which can never be fully implemented by legislation, nor by anything less fundamental than a change of heart. But we have at least secured equality in Divorce, through the Matrimonial Causes Act, 1924, our very own progeny, conceived, drafted, and promoted in our office, and carried through Parliament practically without opposition.

Our work for improvement in the status of wives and mothers has resulted in three reforms—Equal Guardianship, amendments to the law relating to Separation and Maintenance Orders, and Widows' Pensions, all three garnered in during the present Parliament, but as a result of long and patient tilling of the soil. The two former reforms were based on Bills of our own painfully carried through their various stages in several successive Parliaments. For Widows' Pensions, in the shape finally enacted, we were less directly responsible, but we can at least claim priority in stirring up the agitation which made legislation inevitable.

In the matter of equal pay and opportunity, we have made little or no headway. The reasons are obvious. Exceptional unemployment has intensified masculine jealousy, and against the barriers of trade union and professional exclusiveness the methods we are wont to use in Parliament are well-nigh useless. It must be part of our work for the future to find other methods.

What of that future? I doubt if there are many members of the National Union who believe that we may safely sing our *Nunc Dimittis*, lay down our arms, and depart to enjoy a well-earned rest, or to enlist under other banners. But it is clearly time to review our forces and plan fresh campaigns. That is the business of this Council, and I do not wish to anticipate your decisions. But before taking leave of office in the Union I will tell you shortly my own conception of its future tasks:—

¹ Presidential Address, delivered at the Annual Council Meeting of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship on 6th March, 1929.

First, we must complete the destructive part of our work, by knocking down the remaining barriers of sex exclusiveness. So far as these are tangible barriers, embodied in laws or regulations—such as the law obliging a married woman to take her husband's nationality, or the regulations in many municipalities and other administrative bodies obliging her to resign on marriage—this should be comparatively easy. Regulations present a harder problem than laws, because there the evil is hydra-headed. It crops up in a thousand places and we have to contend not only with sex prejudice, but with the dislike of Parliament to interfere with the claim of those administering large concerns to regulate their appointments as seems best to them. We shall meet this difficulty best if we recognize that it has its reasonable side and can often only be got rid of indirectly, by getting at its hidden roots. To take one example, I believe that equality of opportunity and pay in the service of local authorities (and it is instructive to remember that in Manchester this service provides the livelihood of a tenth of the inhabitants) will only be really achieved when first, the training and recruitment of the Local Government service is nationally provided for on a scientific basis, and secondly, the great economic obstacle to both equal opportunity and equal pay has been met by family allowances.

The same principle is even truer of those intangible barriers to sex equality which exist in the hearts of men. These can only be overcome by cultivating the faculty of regarding obstacles through the eyes of those that raise them, and then seeking to cut away from the obstacle everything that serves to clothe it in a vesture of reason and respectability and to cover up its core of sheer sex prejudice.

And that brings me to the second remaining task of the women's movement, a task in itself worth while, but incidentally essential to the achievement of the first. Much of the difficulty of getting rid of sex barriers arises from the fact that women really do not invariably fit well into the administrative and economic structure of society as we find it. Naturally they do not, because that structure has been built by and for the sex which has hitherto practically alone inhabited it. We must recondition the structure till it has room and equipment to enable both men and women to do the work they are individually fitted for under conditions which meet the needs of both. It is futile to shut our eyes to the fact that the difference between the functions of paternity and maternity is a far-reaching fact which has its reactions on the whole sphere of economic activity. That these reactions have often been absurdly exaggerated is no reason for denying that to some extent they exist.

I believe it is perception of this truth which has led the National Union, true to its original role of pioneer, to reject the narrower view of the functions of an equality Society, a view which would condemn us to forever going about the world with a measuring tape, and, whenever a new reform is suggested, applying the tape and announcing "This must be good, because men have already ordered 99½ yards of it. We too will order 99½ yards, not an inch more or less." That is not equality; it is a slavish imitation of men, and it has its roots in the serf mentality which some women have inherited from generations of subjection. Hence, the National Union has already begun to use its new tool of citizenship upon those parts of the social structure where improvements are most necessary to meet women's special needs—upon questions such as family allowances, birth control, housing, and social insurance.

Thirdly—and here I know I am venturing on uncharted and probably stormy waters—must the contribution of the women's movement to the common weal, so far as it is a specialized contribution, be limited to those questions which specially concern women and their children? Or should it transcend these? It would be rash to give a dogmatic answer. Possibly the reactions of the movement may take unexpected forms, some of them hidden from the eyes of this generation. No one can tell what fundamental changes in standards and values it may produce. But there is one idea which has been forcing itself on my mind lately, so I will just throw it out for your consideration.

Can it be merely a coincidence, that during those past generations when it required an immense effort for women to break through the tradition which forbade them to take part in public work, those who did break through were nearly all dominated by the same kind of motive—an overmastering desire to relieve some immense, hitherto neglected area of human suffering and

injustice. Elizabeth Fry's work for the prisoners, that of Dorothea Dix for the lunatics, of Harriet Beecher Stowe for the slaves, of Florence Nightingale for the sick, of Josephine Butler for the prostitutes—had all this common characteristic. Is it possible that in the minds of women, more often than of men—as in the mind of the madman in Shelley's "Julian and Maddalo"—there is a

"nerve o'er which do creep
The else unfelt oppressions of the earth."

Or to use a more up-to-date metaphor, is there a wave-length set up by human suffering, to which the minds of women give a specially good reception? Or is the explanation not psychological, but to be found in the nature of the work usually done by women, which sharpens certain of their faculties? It is the fact that while at present most men are engaged on jobs concerned with the production, distribution, or exchange of wealth, most women's jobs are concerned directly with the human beings for whose benefit wealth is ostensibly produced. They are engaged on bearing and rearing, teaching, nursing, amusing, or otherwise serving these human beings. It is a not unnatural consequence that men are more apt than women to forget the end in the means. They are indeed encouraged by tradition and public opinion to an absorption in their professional work which would be thought selfish in women, who are expected at all times to show "a mind at leisure from itself", to notice everyone's needs, desires, and feelings.

There may be some who, in their reaction against the sentimental conception of women, may resent the idea of utilizing rather than combating this traditional difference of outlook. There may be others who will agree that, however much it may have been exaggerated by popular presentation, it corresponds to real facts of human nature and experience. If so, it may happen that among the results of the new citizenship of women, a result at which the Women's Movement might do well to consciously aim, as its third specialized contribution to the common weal, will be a changed attitude on the part of Society towards human happiness and suffering, especially towards the happiness or suffering of its less powerful and articulate members, a more scientific study of the reactions of political and economic machinery upon well-being, and much more resolute dealing with poverty, disease, and ugliness.

In fulfilling these three functions, I foresee a programme for the Women's Movement, and possibly for the National Union, which is not likely to be completed within the lifetime of even its youngest member.

LETTERS TO A NEW VOTER FROM AN OLD VOTER.—V.

DEAR MADAM,

You are doubtless young enough to remember what happened to Tweedledum when he was reminded of his rattle. I mention it because it is what happens to me when I am reminded of the disabilities which beset women. You do not feel like that, because you have not fought for your vote, and perhaps it is a good thing that you do not, because there comes a time in all constructive movements when old battles are best forgotten. But old battles must not be forgotten until they are wholly and entirely won. And my incidental reference last week to women's political organizations and the need for joining them, acted upon me as that rattle acted upon Tweedledum, and served as a reminder that many of our old battles are not wholly and entirely won—or rather, if you will excuse this old-world military phraseology, that their advance is not yet safely consolidated. Therefore I must continue my digression from the highway to party politics, and try as best I can to tell you in a short space why you as a woman voter must still for certain purposes make common cause with certain other women voters whose party political views may be generally repugnant to you.

THE LETTER AND THE SPIRIT OF EQUALITY.

At first sight you may be tempted to suppose that you are an "equal citizen" with men, because you have the vote on precisely the same terms. Very well then—try your hand at the Civil Service. You will find certain branches of it closed to you at the outset; for instance, the Diplomatic and Consular. In those to which you may have entry, you will find that although you have to satisfy the same standards and perform the same tasks as are demanded of your male colleagues, you will get less pay because you are a woman. And because you are a woman the Government which employs you will take a peculiar interest

in your domestic affairs, and if you venture to get married you will be summarily sacked—whatever may be your own wishes in the matter. If you foreswear marriage and remain in your department, I venture to think that in all probability you will find the chances of promotion subtly weighted against you. Because you are a woman, men will say that other men will be reluctant to take orders from you. If your choice of service lies with a local authority, your experiences will be much the same. You will certainly, if you are a teacher, get less pay because you are a woman, and you may very well find yourself under the sway of a local authority which will take the same impertinent interest in your domestic affairs. In every department you will find it relatively easy to get in at the bottom, but exceedingly difficult to get up to the top, on account of this tide of opposition which will flow against your promotion—because you are a woman. In the professions outside the public service, you will find again that things are much the same, though your sex disabilities will be less definite and you may find it a little difficult to put your finger on the precise written rule or regulation which damages your chances. Probably it doesn't exist. Probably you are up against a kind of vague prejudice, an unspoken determination on the part of men to keep the best jobs in their own hands; a traditional habit of meeting or dining, in a place from which you are tacitly excluded, a place nevertheless where business is done, shop talked, and careers moulded. This is particularly the case in University life—in speaking of which, I speak of what I know. If you are so placed that industrial rather than professional life is your sphere, you will find that conditions are, if anything, worse. It will be generally assumed that you are neither a very serious nor a very permanent worker, therefore you will find it difficult to gain access to highly skilled jobs which involve training. In many cases definite trade union rules will bar the way. Your work will therefore, in addition to being relatively uninteresting, be relatively poorly paid. And you will doubtless be told that this is because you have no children to keep—though you will observe that many of the young men of your own social circle, who are getting much higher wages than you are, have no more children to keep than you have yourself!

Suppose, therefore, that you, as a professional or industrial worker, adopt the obvious alternative, and get married. Suppose too, that your marriage is followed in due course by motherhood. You will then find that you have plenty of difficult and interesting work to do, and that all the world is ready to talk to you of the high importance—the social and national importance—of doing it well. But it is work which requires its own material and the skilled service of others. In other words it costs money. And looking back upon your professional or industrial career, you will find that whatever the personal advantages of the change, you are in one respect at least, worse off than you were before. For your work as a mother carries with it no proportionate claim to income, material, or service. Your husband may, of his bounty, and out of his surplus income, be able to provide you with the resources for doing your work properly. Or he may not. And if he does not, you may be told that it is *his* look-out, and that he oughtn't to have indulged himself in the expense of you if he was not prepared to see you through. Thus you will be urged to look upon yourself, and upon your promising young family, as one of your husband's expenses, a desirable alternative to a motor-car, a useful incentive to his industry. And this view may conflict strangely with your own view of yourself as someone who is performing an important social and national job, and of your children as the individual citizens of the future without whom there would indeed be no future for your country or your race.

INEQUALITY OF INCENTIVE.

And I will venture in conclusion to indulge in yet another supposition. Suppose you are made in a less stern mould than I have been so far taking for granted. Suppose you emerge from school or college as the case may be, with no intention of doing a hand's turn of work, and no pressing economic reason for doing it. Then I say, you will suffer the greatest of all sex-disabilities: the disability of having little expected of you. However sensible your parents may be, the world at large will do all in its power to undermine what sound resolution you may have. It will still tell you (in spite of your apparently equal citizenship) that you need not work; that you are less charming when you do work; that other girls of your class don't work and why should you? That now is the time for you to amuse yourself and that there are plenty of odd jobs for you to do whenever you chose to do them. It will not tell your brother these insidious and stultifying untruths, but it will tell them to you. And if you

believe them you will find that as the years go on your time will become, in the eyes of the world, less valuable, your faculties less worth cultivating. And you will most bitterly envy those people who have a real function in the community, whose time is respected, whose minds and personalities are in contact with things outside their small personal circle, so that they are not wholly at the mercy of its ups and downs, its frictions and bereavements. But because you are a woman, the trap will be set and baited for you at the very outset of life.

Now you may judge from the length of this letter, and from its explosiveness, that the trumpets of old battles are blowing in my ears. Have I said enough to convince you that there are still battles to be won? That there is still a banner under which all women can fight, whether they be Conservative, Liberal, or Labour women? I hope so.

Greeting to you from

AN OLD VOTER.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION: HAVE WE ACHIEVED EQUAL CITIZENSHIP?

EVENTS THAT MUST NOT BE MISSED.

We propose from time to time to give under this heading information of dramatic, artistic, and literary events of special interest to our readers. Under "Forthcoming Events" we shall continue to chronicle notices of meetings mainly of women's organizations which are sent us. We invite the co-operation of our readers in this, and shall be glad to have suitable events brought to our notice.

The Lady with a Lamp. By Reginald Berkeley. Garrick Theatre (transferred from Arts Theatre Club; see "The Real Florence Nightingale," page 388, in issue of 18th January, and on page 11 issue of 15th February).

Exhibition of pictures by working men and women. Tate Gallery, S.W. 1.

Ideal Home Exhibition. Olympia, Kensington, W. 14. Till 22nd March, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Tickets 2s. 6d. and 2s.

Exhibition of Dutch Pictures, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W. 1. Closing date 9th March, 9.30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Rumour, by C. K. Munro, Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Square. Every evening 8.30; matinees Thursdays and Saturdays.

BROADCAST FEATURES.

Monday, 11th March, 10.45 a.m.—Law and the Home: How the Law affects Master and Servant; Mrs. Crofts (5XX only).

Wednesday, 10.45 a.m.—A woman's commentary. Mrs. Oliver Strachey (5XX only).

Wednesday, 7 p.m.—Public Departments (all B.B.C. stations except 5GB). 13th March: Ministry of Health.

Wednesdays, at 7.25 p.m. Mrs. Sidney Webb. "How to Study Social Questions." 13th March, "The Interview and Oral Evidence." (London and Daventry.)

THE RUMOUR.

It seems almost incredible that no London producer would touch Mr. C. K. Munro's brilliant play, "The Rumour," and that it was left to an enthusiastic woman and her friends to put up the wherewithall for its staging at the Court Theatre. We were present at the matinee last Saturday when the play seemed to be thoroughly appreciated by an almost full house. The characters are real people, there is scarcely a dull moment, and the dialogue is extremely witty and amusing. If it stirs up our anti-war emotions, and our indignation against financiers who are able too easily to gull the public, yet it calls for no undue mental effort after a strenuous day's work, and we can thoroughly recommend our readers to support it as a good show. Again we urge immediate booking to ensure that the play may not have to be taken off prematurely.

A LAYWOMAN'S THOUGHTS ON THE DUTCH PICTURES.—II.

In my last article I spoke of the effect of joy and prosperity presented by the Dutch pictures at Burlington House, and of the apparent comradeship between the men and the women. It may be of interest to comment upon one or two of the hundreds of pictures which go to create this impression. There is, for example, Rembrandt's "Portrait of the Wife of Johannes Elison", very quiet in tone, but speaking of the sitter's seemingly complete harmony with the conditions of her life, sad or glad alike, and his "Catharina Hooghsaet, fifty years of age", with her parrot, and the humorous twinkle in her eye. Much she has seen of life, but always the good rather than the bad, has remained with her. These two women might be found in any class of society, but in "The Wedding Contract" of Aert de Gelder there is the constantly recurring suggestion of the remarkable prosperity of these Dutch Burghers. Here is a delightful old mother going carefully through the marriage contract as one responsible for the family fortunes. Wide awake, competent, merrily shrewd, her children's future would be safe in her hands. In de Hooch's "Card Players" we have again a most able woman, but she prefers to spend herself in a game upon which she is concentrating all her brain power, and it is plain that she will not easily be beaten. The very embodiment of domestic peace and comfort is in Metsu's "Lady at the Harpsichord", so well dressed, so calm, of so mellow and genial a character, that we almost envy the self-respecting little maid who feels herself free to rest upon the chest visible through the open door. Of the dog it may be well not to say too much, for he appears to be of that indeterminate breed so often the choice of the best masters in art in the Dutch school. But be his breed what it may, he is evidently one more happy member of a happy household. The laywoman finds it hard to speak of the women of Johannes Vermeer. His "Girl Reading" is just one of a series of strong and dignified women, but here, as in the famous "Portrait of a Young Girl", the colour and texture are of such amazing quality that the human aspect is almost forgotten even by the lay person. The blue, a blue that never was on sea or land, the curious half yellows, the massive light and shadow, all these things linger in the imagination. So many of these pictures seem to be full of light, whether the sun shows or not, but in de Witte's "Bedroom with a Woman at the Harpsichord" the sun itself comes through the large window on the right and actually marks out rectangles on the floor. A little picture full of the joy of living is de Hooch's "Golf Players". Who could be more delightful than the merry, enterprising, strong little girl, with her golf stick and her brother? She is of the stuff of which heroes are made.

In de Hooch's "Interior" we are reminded again of the well-being of his countrymen, with its "two ladies and a gentleman, the former eating dessert and the latter smoking" in a most richly furnished room, while in his "Dutch Garden Court" and "Pantry" not wealth so much as solid comfort is suggested.

In these few "thoughts" it is impossible even to hint at the richness of the material offered to the public at Burlington House. The early religious pictures, and those of the nineteenth century might respectively have a series of articles all to themselves. The Maris family, Van Gogh, the landscapes of Cuyp or Hobbema the domestic studies of Jan Steen, the characteristically Dutch sea-scapes of Van Goyen and others, the various attractive ice scenes, Rembrandt's etchings, space forbids even an exhaustive list of all that remains, and the big Rembrandts demand a whole volume.

It can only be added that these pictures, though they represent a very high level of art, are also popular in the best sense. They can be enjoyed even by those without art training, they can be enjoyed by all who love life. Here and there there is a hint of sadness or even of tragedy, especially for example in some of the pictures of labouring men among the nineteenth century masters, but, for the most part, there remains with us a sense of colour and light and of all that, in its best meaning, is connoted by "good living".

A. H. W.

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MADAME EDYTHE,

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TEL.: VIC 2389.

PERSONAL ATTENTION. MODERATE CHARGES.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEWS.

By BERTHA MASON.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILLS AND OTHER MATTERS.

On 18th February, the Local Government Bill (England and Wales), passed Third Reading in the House of Commons, by 292 votes to 113—majority 179. Later in the week, the Bill as amended in Committee, was sent to the House of Lords, where on 26th February its Second Reading was moved by the Lord Chancellor. Lord Parmoor moved the rejection of the Bill. The debate was continued on the following day. On a division the Second Reading was carried by 102 to 20.

The Committee stage of the Scottish Local Government Bill was completed on the 26th February. At the time of writing the Bill awaits Report stage and Third Reading.

It is, we understand, the wish of the Government that both Bills shall receive the Royal Assent before Parliament adjourns for the Easter holidays at the end of March.

We propose, therefore, to abstain from further analysis and criticism until the Bills have passed through Parliament. Then we hope to devote one article to a brief summary of the Acts, with special reference to the position of women and the Health Services, the two subjects on which the majority of the organized women's societies have concentrated their attention during the last few months.

Meanwhile we ask the attention of our readers to certain facts in respect to the recent Metropolitan Borough Council elections which demand consideration.

A return recently issued by the London County Council, shows that the number of Local Government electors on the register at the time of the November elections of 1928 was 1,920,835, as compared with 1,913,828 at the previous election of 1925, an increase of 7,007, or 0.4 per cent. The total comprised 945,143 (49.2 per cent) men, and 975,692 (50.8 per cent) women, i.e. a preponderance of women to the extent of 30,549.

Of the total electorate, 1,806,926, or 94.1 per cent, were given an opportunity of voting, as compared with 95.5 in 1925. The percentage actually voting was 32.3 as compared with 42.5 in 1925. A lower percentage than this has only once been recorded, viz. in 1919, when the percentage of those voting was 27.9.

No borough as a whole was uncontested. In twenty of the twenty-eight boroughs there were contests in every ward. The aggregate number of wards contested was 258 out of a total of 288.

The highest proportion of electors voting in any Metropolitan Borough at the 1928 election was in Woolwich (47.6 per cent). The lowest was in Holborn, Kensington, and Westminster (all 25.9 per cent).

As compared with 1925, each Metropolitan Borough shows a decrease in the proportion of the electors voting.

The highest percentage voting in any ward was 55.04 in St. Catharine's Ward, Deptford, and the lowest 16.5 in Cavendish Ward, Marylebone.

The total number of candidates returned was 1,385, an increase of 19 over the number in 1925. The increase is due to an increase in the number of councillors on the Finsbury Metropolitan Borough Council from 54 to 56, on the Lewisham Council from 42 to 50, and on the Woolwich Council from 36 to 45.

The number of men returned was 1,199, as compared with 1,255 in 1925. The number of women was 186, as compared with 141 in 1925.

As compared with 1925, each Metropolitan Borough shows a decrease in the proportion of electors voting. The highest percentage voting in any ward was 55.4, in the St. Catharine's Ward, Deptford, and the lowest, 16.5, in Cavendish Ward, St. Marylebone.

These statistics are disappointing and point to increasing apathy on the part of men and women in regard to the government of their cities and boroughs. Why should the percentage of votes recorded be 47.6 per cent in Woolwich and only 25.9 per cent in Holborn, Kensington, and Westminster? What is the reason for the drop in the number of those voting, 32.3 per cent in 1928 as compared with 42.5 in 1925?

We should gladly receive and welcome information on these points, which are all important, from those living in those districts referred to who have knowledge of and information in regard to these matters.

OBITUARY.

LADY COURTNEY OF PENWITH.

Lady Courtney of Penwith, who died last week, was not formally a feminist and would not have called herself one. She believed in the education of women and in the opening up of opportunity for them but I never heard her speak with the same indignant eloquence as her husband about the disabilities of women. It was part of the chivalry of those two so admirably matched persons that this should have been so.

Yet, in the several preoccupations of her active and beneficent life—the social work she co-operated with at Toynbee Hall, her abiding concern in the provision of decent housing conditions, her passionate advocacy of peaceful and reasonable methods to replace the waste and folly of war, her sense of the value of minorities and the need for their fair treatment—one may say that she was a better feminist than many who interpret the word more narrowly.

Though she served on a variety of committees and did good work for them and was very generous in subscription to a number of objects, probably the most valuable contributions to her time were made first in the support and comradeship she gave to her husband, before and after he was smitten with partial blindness, and secondly in the exercise of a delightful gift of hospitality. No one was ever less of a lion-hunter than this almost Quakerish lady; but she was a very intelligent woman and she had a taste for intelligent company. Small talk was not in her line, though she was homely in the very best sense. So when people met in her charming house in Cheyne Walk, they expressed their thoughts and hopes and plans; acerbity or exaggeration were distasteful to her. "She was full measurable, as women be," and she frequently tempered by her tolerant wit the vehemence of some of the hot-gospellers who were drawn to her.

She was in the fortunate position of being able to follow her light without being made to suffer severely for it and this made her very tender to Conscientious Objectors of various sorts whose sufferings she pitied and whose courage she applauded, even when she found them "difficult".

From the inception of the women's movement for co-operation rather than conflict, which started with the world war and developed into the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, she was associated with it. She became treasurer of the British Section, and frequently lent her house for lectures and discussions and for social purposes. Dr. Elizabeth Rotten, who worked so indefatigably for interned Englishmen in Germany, was a guest of Lady Courtney's at the time that our Government insisted on deporting her.

Lady Courtney lived to be old; but one never felt her to be old. One could always laugh with her, and that is a good test. She outlived her noble husband more than ten years, but never lost her courage, and lived fully to the end. H. M. S.

MISS MARY LOWNDES.

We announce with deep regret the death at the age of 72 of Miss Mary Lowndes who has for many years been closely identified with the suffrage movement. Miss Lowndes was founder of the Artists' Suffrage League, and founder and manager of *The Englishwoman* from which the Englishwoman Exhibition developed. An appreciation of her life and work will appear in our issue next week.

A PIECE DAY FESTIVAL.

An interesting account appears in the International Council of Women *Bulletin* of the celebration of a Peace Day Festival in Jugo-Slavia organized jointly by the National Council of Women and the Junior Red Cross (which has a membership of 170,000 in Jugo-Slavia) which is in future to be held annually. All branches of both organizations took part in the celebration, and at Belgrade there was a Conference of all societies connected with social service and education, and also an open air service in the Park "Mall Kallmegegn" in which ministers of religion belonging to the Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant, Jewish and Mahomedan faiths all took part. In addition to this the Ministry of Religion asked all churches throughout the country to arrange services and sermons bearing on the League of Nations. The Ministry of Public Instruction gave directions that lectures should be given in all schools during the week about the League of Nations and the necessity for international Peace and Goodwill.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

President: Miss ELKANOR RATHBONE, C.C., J.P. Hon. Treasurer: Miss MACADAM.
General and Parliamentary Secretary: Mrs. HORTON.
Offices: 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.
Telephone: Victoria 6188.

THE GENERAL ELECTION APPEAL.

The retiring Treasurer prints to-day a third list of donations towards the General Election Fund. She hopes in publishing her final list next week to reach at least the minimum asked for, £300. But as practically the whole work of the office during the next three months will be devoted to the Election Campaign, this is not enough, and the Treasurer-Elect will certainly need more to enable her to carry on.

GENERAL ELECTION FUND.

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Already received	212	5	0
Beeton, Mrs.	1	0	0
Bertram, Mrs.	5	0	0
Brunner, Miss C.	2	0	0
Bryson, Miss H. I.	5	0	0
Couper, J.P., Miss A. M.	10	0	0
Darbishire, Mr. and Mrs.	5	0	0
Eaton, Miss Christabel	10	2	0
Elliot-Nish, Mrs.	10	0	0
Evans, Miss A. G.	1	1	0
Fraser, Miss K. P.	10	0	0
Goodrich, Miss	2	6	0
Hall, Mrs. Lawrence	10	0	0
Hatch, Miss D. Coombe	5	0	0
Hess, Mrs.	10	0	0
Hickes, Mrs.	6	8	0
Humphreys, Mrs. Noel	1	1	0
Kennedy, Esq., J. Y.	1	0	0
MacIver, Mrs.	1	0	0
Mackintosh, Mrs.	1	1	0
"M.H."	5	0	0
Millburn, Mrs.	2	6	0
Neal, Mrs.	1	0	0
Nussey, Miss	1	1	0
Prestwich, Miss C.	1	1	0
Raven, Miss A.	2	6	0
Sickenga, Mrs.	2	0	0
Tennant, J.P., Mrs. Coombe	1	1	0
Walker, Mrs.	1	0	0
Ward, Mrs.	5	0	0
Total received 2nd March	£256	10	4

ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING.

By the time this appears we shall be more than half-way through the Annual Council Meeting, but one of the principal functions, the Public Luncheon, will not yet have taken place. This is to be held at the Criterion Restaurant on Friday, 8th March, at 1 p.m. The principal guest will be Sir William Joynson-Hicks, Bt., M.P. We are particularly glad of this opportunity of entertaining the Home Secretary at our first Public Luncheon since the passing of the Equal Franchise Act which he piloted through the House of Commons. Other guests will include the Earl of Lytton, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., Miss Ishbel MacDonal, and our two latest women Members of Parliament, Mrs. Dalton, M.P., and Mrs. Runciman, M.P.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL.

The N.U.S.E.C. has approached a number of Peers in the House of Lords urging upon their consideration the need for amending the Local Government Bill in the following respects:—

- (1) That the Minister shall have power to require an increased membership of County and County Borough Councils as part of the scheme submitted.
- (2) That County Council areas shall be divided into two or more member electoral districts instead of one member districts as at present.
- (3) That the system adopted in Local Government Elections shall be the alternative vote or proportional representation.
- (4) That the inclusion of co-opted members, including women on Public Assistance Committees of County and County Borough

Councils, and on the sub-committees of County Borough Councils be made compulsory instead of permissive.

(5) That the maternity and child welfare services should be excluded from the block grant.

AGE OF MARRIAGE BILL.

As our readers will have seen, the debate on this Bill, which Lord Buckmaster has introduced into the House of Lords at the request of the N.U.S.E.C., has been postponed until 12th March.

NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN BILL.

The N.U.S.E.C. in co-operation with the National Council of Women, has circularized the House of Commons in the hope that Members will give their support to the above Bill, which Miss Wilkinson is introducing under the Ten Minutes' Rule.

KATHERINE MAYO AND INDIA.

The article by the retiring President, "Has Katherine Mayo Slandered Mother India?" which appeared in the *Hibbert Journal*, January, 1929, has been published separately by Constable and Co. Copies may be had at this office 6d. post free.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE REAL FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.

MADAM,—May I thank your correspondents for their comments on my article? and may I add that Lord Stanmore—a witness by no means partial to Miss Nightingale—gives in his *Life of Lord Herbert* no indication whatever that Lady Herbert ever felt anything but friendship for Miss Nightingale, or had any cause of complaint against her.

Plays are of course generally dependent in large measure on sex for their interest; but it seems to me that those women who are moved (like Miss Nightingale) by intellectual activity, public spirit, and moral conviction to engage in public work, ought surely to resent the way in which sex is represented in this play as the ruling force throughout. I see that a film is probably going to be produced on the subject of the play, in which this aspect is almost sure to be emphasized and further distorted. It seems unfortunate, to say the least, that this view should be promulgated at a time when women are taking a growing part in public life, and are admitted to the Civil Service, the House of Commons, and the Government.

BARBARA STEPHEN.

Hale Close, Wood Green,
Salisbury.

A LAYWOMAN'S THOUGHTS ON THE DUTCH PICTURES.

MADAM,—The Emerald Isle is an island of wit and humourists, and even a heavy John Bull like myself can understand the desire of wits and humourists to exercise their talents in the columns of THE WOMAN'S LEADER, as elsewhere.

But why is my friend Miss Mellone so angry with me? May I take her points one by one:—(1) That she does not think much of me as an art critic leaves me unworried, as that is not my profession. (2) She creates an Aunt Sally called the *guiding principle in the selection of pictures for exhibition should be an "adequate number of suitable pictures by competent women,"* and begins shying hard heavy things at it as if it were me. But it isn't. It is the figment of Miss Mellone's imagination as anyone can see if they do me the honour of reading my article in the issue of 22nd February.

(3) She is frightfully funny about "unrecognized women" and observes: "The discovery of unrecognized women, whose work should rightly be placed side by side with that of Rembrandt or Franz Hals, would create a sensation in the art world." Yes, *what* a sensation if the doubtful Hobbema sent by the Glasgow Corporation is found to be by Mrs. Hobbema! But in the meanwhile may I remind my candid friend that not only is Rembrandt shown at Burlington House. Has she ever heard of someone called Paulus Potter, painter of "A Pig lying on the Ground"? Surely the pretence hand of woman might accomplish something notable in this strictly domestic line?

(4) But Miss Mellone's fiercest tilt is against the idea of Dutch prosperity. I know about Motley. I even know that his fourth volume of The United Netherlands deals with the first nine years of the seventeenth century. I am glad I know these things as they are my best defence. Thus says Motley: "Splendid satins and velvets; serges and homely fustians; laces of thread and silk; the finer and coarser manufactures of clay and porcelain, (etc., etc.), all this was but a portion of the industrial production of the provinces," and again, "From Cathay, from the tropical coasts of Africa, and from farthest Ind, came every drug, spice, or plant, every valuable jewel, every costly fabric" (etc.). But, says my critic, I do not say that our portly housewives sometimes starved in the wars, such was their heroism. No, I do not say this, but it is not because I do not know it, but because it is wholly irrelevant to the subject of my article, viz. Dutch conditions as shown in the *Burlington House pictures*.

(5) About the churches Miss Mellone may have her way. I do not like bare churches, but perhaps she and the Dutch do. But why does she call my writings "art criticism" here though she denies the title in her first paragraph?

(6) Finally, I feel almost sure that she is being terribly sarcastic when she says it will afford great satisfaction to our art friends in Holland to know that the British (or, as Miss Mellone more tellingly, but quite inaccurately, says, "One British woman") public like them. May I implore her to remember that the inhabitants of Holland are not natives of the Emerald Island. The Irish would naturally hate to be liked by the British, but she must not therefore deduce that the Dutch hate to be liked even by the most despicable among heaven's creatures.

A. H. W.

COMING EVENTS.

ELECTRICAL ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN.

13th March. Visit to the Ideal Home Exhibition. Further particulars from the E.A.W., 46 Kensington Court, W. 8.

FABIAN SOCIETY (WOMEN'S GROUP).

12th March. 8 p.m. Caxton Hall. Mrs. Swanwick, M.A. "Women in the Future: Life and Function." Chair, Mr. H. W. Nevinson.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

26th April-9th May. Meetings of the Executive and Standing Committees in London. Particulars from the Secretary, 117 Victoria Street, S.W. 1.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN (BIRMINGHAM BRANCH).

22nd March. 3 p.m. 154 Gt. Charles Street, Miss Kelly, J.P. (member of Street Offences Committee), "The Street Offences Report."

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

Saturday, 9th March. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. King George's Hall, Great Russell Street, W.C. Final Session of Annual Council Meetings.

Acton W.C.A.—14th March, 8 p.m. Central Hall. Public Meeting on "Remedies for Unemployment." Speakers: Mr. Bankes (Conservative); Mr. Mortimer (Liberal); Mr. Montague, M.P. (Labour).

Cardiff W.C.A.—14th March, 3.30 p.m. 17 Quay Street. Miss Collin, M.A.: "Retrospect, 1928."

Lewisham W.C.A.—15th March, 3 p.m. The Hall, Courthill Road. Miss A. H. Ward: "The Woman's Movement Internationally."

Glasgow S.E.C. and W.C.A.—18th and 25th March. 8-10 p.m. 172 Bath Street. Speakers' Class.

OPEN DOOR COUNCIL.

14th March. 12.45 p.m. Luncheon at Pinoli's Restaurant, Wardour Street. Speaker: Lady Balfour of Burleigh.

PUBLIC MEETING, on "Municipal Lodging Houses for Women." (Organized by Women's Societies.)

15th March, 8 p.m. Town Hall, Paddington. Speakers: Mrs. Cecil Chesterton, Miss Rosamund Smith, L.C.C.; Major Cohen, M.P.; Alderman Esther Rickards, L.C.C. Chair: Lady Balfour of Burleigh.

ST. ALBANS WIVES' FELLOWSHIP.

13th March. Bush Hall, Hatfield. Mrs. Van Gruisen: "The Importance of the Vote."

ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE.

16th March, 5 p.m. St. Patrick's Clubroom, Soho Square. Miss Gordon, M.A.: "What the Vote has Done."

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WOMEN POLICE.—Six months' training offered to social worker before entering Police Force; maintenance given, age 25-30, height over 5 ft. 6 in., sight sound without glasses.—Apply, Women Patrols, 5 Cases Street, Liverpool.

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YOUNG Dutch Girl of very good family would like to spend April-May in good English family, to improve her English. *Au pair* or small remuneration. Willing to help in household.—Mrs. van Biema Nykert, 105 Westbourne Terrace, W. 2.

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JOURNALIST takes Educated Women as Pupils. Six lessons £2 2s.; short article criticized free.—Crawford, 190 Lea Road, Wolverhampton.

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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.)

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

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ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON AND NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 35 Marsham Street, Westminster. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Information Bureau. Interviews 10 to 1, except Saturdays. Members' Centre open daily. Bedrooms available from 4th March. Single room (with breakfast) 6s. 6d.; double room (with breakfast) 10s. Restaurant on premises. Apply by letter to the Secretary.

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 10th March, 3.30, Sir Henry Japp, "The Christian Science Movement"; 6.30, Maude Royden.

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

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