

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

AND THE COMMON CAUSE

Vol. XX. No. 13. One Penny.

REGISTERED AS
A NEWSPAPER.

Friday, May 4, 1928.

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Annual Subscription for Postal Subscribers: British Isles and Abroad, 6/6.

Common Cause Publishing Co., 4 Tufton Street, Westminster, S.W. 1.

NOTES AND NEWS.

Mr. Kellogg and the French Draft.

Mr. Kellogg, in a speech last week to the American Society of International Law, returned a fine answer to the considerations which the French Government emphasized in the draft treaty submitted to the Powers. Mr. Kellogg argued that recognition in the treaty of the "inalienable right" of self-defence, gave rise "to the same difficulty encountered in any effort to define aggression," for it was "the identical question approached from the other side." "It is not," he said, "in the interest of peace that the treaty should stipulate a juristic conception of self-defence, since it is far too easy for the unscrupulous to mould events to accord with an agreed definition." With regard to the Covenant of the League and to the Locarno Treaties, Mr. Kellogg pointed out that any obligation to go to war under any of these would not attach "until one of the parties has resorted to war in violation of its solemn pledges thereunder. . . . If all parties to Locarno Treaties became parties to the multilateral anti-war treaty proposed by the United States there would be a double assurance that Locarno Treaties would not be violated by recourse to arms. In such an event it would follow that resort to war by any State in violation of the Locarno Treaties would also be a breach of the multilateral anti-war treaty, and the other parties to the anti-war treaty would thus as a matter of law be automatically released from their obligation thereunder, and free to fulfil their Locarno commitments." He regarded it preferable not to postpone the coming into force of the anti-war treaties until all the nations of the world could agree, for "a State so situated as to be of no menace to the peace of the world might obstruct agreement or delay ratification in such a manner as to render abortive the efforts of all the other Powers." We hope this elucidation will help to clear up French fears and hesitations. We rejoice at the cordial way in which Sir Austen Chamberlain referred in the House of Commons to Mr. Kellogg's proposals and at his optimism with regard to the whole situation.

The Josephine Butler Centenary.

It is unfortunately impossible in our tightly packed columns to do justice to reports of the really remarkable series of services and meetings held last week in honour of Josephine Butler's memory all over the country and indeed in other lands. We print elsewhere an impression from a correspondent of the memorable service in Westminster Abbey and of the great Central Hall Commemoration meeting. Other Cathedral services were held in Bristol, Liverpool, Manchester, Winchester, Glasgow,

Carlisle, and Cardiff. A meeting was held in the Philharmonic Hall, Liverpool, where Mrs. Butler spent part of her life. The Centenary Committee hoped for great things, but the extraordinary and unusual response which the celebrations have evoked, has far surpassed their expectations. The press which the event has received has been quite remarkable. Leaders in many papers of importance from *The Times* downwards and well-informed articles on the life and work of the great woman whom all are uniting to honour, as well as admirable reports of local meetings, supplemented by Lady Astor's broadcast address, must have brought her name and the object to which she gave her life to almost every home in the land. The celebrations are not yet over and many church services and public meetings will be held during the coming months. Other meetings were held in Newport (Mon.), Richmond, Swansea, Hampstead, Northampton, Sutton Coldfield, and in every instance great interest has been displayed.

Prostitution in the Federated Malay States.

We are glad to see that the Government has appointed a special Committee of Inquiry to take evidence and report upon the new enactments in the Federated Malay States. Our readers will remember that the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene raised this question early last year, and circulated to all women's organizations and many others a resolution protesting against the new enactments, and calling upon the Government to call together again the Colonial Office Advisory Committee on Social Hygiene. The new enactments appear to be a return to the policy of the Contagious Diseases Acts, inasmuch as they give the authorities power to order compulsory medical examination of suspected or denounced prostitutes. We are glad that this agitation, in connection with which the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship passed a resolution at its Council meeting last March, has been so successful, and we are confident that the Committee on examination will call for the repeal of these reactionary amendments. The appointment of Lord Balfour of Burleigh is a guarantee that the subject will be dealt with in the right spirit and we are glad that after all the work which it has done on the subject, the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene has its own representative, its Chairman, the Rev. W. C. Roberts.

Maternal Mortality.

We give a cordial welcome to the circular issued last week by the Ministry of Health calling upon local authorities to systematize the inquiry into maternal deaths, and we propose to deal with this important publication more fully next week. On 26th April the Minister of Health, in reply to a question, announced that he had invited some men and women to serve on a committee to inquire into the question relating to maternal mortality. At the time of going to press he has not yet announced the names. We earnestly hope that the reference of this Committee will cover the wider aspects of this grave subject.

A Setback in Canada.

Some weeks ago we reported the progress of a legal action before the Supreme Court of Canada whose outcome, concerned with the interpretation of the word "person" as used in Section 24 of the British North America Act, would affirm or deny the eligibility of women for the Canadian Senate. The judgment of the Court is now to hand. While declaring that the issue involves no pronouncement regarding the desirability or non-desirability of the presence of women as Senators, it construes the word "person" as "male person" having regard to the intentions of the Act and the state of British law at the time of its enactment.

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Thus, unless an appeal is taken to the Privy Council and successfully upheld, women can only become eligible for the Canadian Senate by an amendment of the British North America Act. We offer our sympathy to the enterprising Canadian women who are responsible for putting this matter to the test, and we hope that the necessary legislation will soon be forthcoming.

Women in Hospitals.

Attention has already been drawn in these pages to the very critical situation which has arisen with regard to the training of medical women students by the decision of three more London Hospital Medical Schools to close their doors to women students. We have also indicated that the management of at least one hospital in London has suffered partly, and we would think, largely, from the lack of women on its Board.

There is little need, therefore, to emphasize further how important is the subject of "Women in the Service of Hospitals," and we hope that many of our readers will be able to attend the Conference which the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship is organizing for 8th May, to discuss the three main aspects of this subject, viz.: Opportunities of training for woman medical students; the appointment of medical women to staff posts in hospitals; and the appointment of women on Boards of Management of all hospitals.

There has been much discussion in the papers lately, and there is every indication that the general public fully appreciate the value of the woman doctor and wish her to maintain the high position in the profession which she has already won.

At the Conference there will be an opportunity of hearing what is the real situation with regard to the training of woman medical students, and how best we may help to secure a fair share for women in the management of hospitals. The speakers include Dr. Margaret Emslie, Miss C. Fulford, Dr. Isabel Emslie Hutton, Dr. Graham Little, and Miss Eleanor Rathbone. Further particulars appear in the notes of the N.U.S.E.C.

Too Late.

The Prime Minister, speaking at a Royal Literary Fund dinner on Wednesday of last week, took occasion to mention with high praise the work of the late Mrs. Mary Webb. It appears that something more than a year ago, a friend had handed him a book by this authoress, whose name was at that time unknown to him. So great was his pleasure in the book that he was moved to ask Mr. John Buchan and Sir James Barrie whether they had every heard of the lady in question. Each replied in the affirmative, with the further assertion that she was one of the best living writers, but that nobody bought her books. Mr. Baldwin pointed out that as she had died recently at the age of 46, and as no public notice had been taken of her passing, he would like to pay tribute to her in gratitude for the extreme pleasure which her work had given to him. Since Mr. Baldwin's generous tribute there has been a considerable demand for Mrs. Webb's works in libraries, and *The Times* has published a tardy obituary notice in which we are reminded that one of them, *Precious Bane*, was awarded the *Femina-vie Heureuse* prize in 1924 for a work descriptive of English life by an author who has not attained sufficient recognition. Meanwhile, her publisher reports that though her earlier works were indeed neglected by the public, there were signs of a change. In all probability she was at the time of her death on the eve of public recognition. Now it has come too late. It is regrettable that her literary colleagues, among whom she has been for some years assessed at her true worth, could not have found occasion to strike a blow for the better popular adjustment of literary values. We cannot always be sure of having a literary Prime Minister.

Votes for Women at the French Elections.

A correspondent writes: I happened to spend a week in Paris at the time of the recent French elections and I was delighted to see how splendidly the French suffragists had taken advantage of the occasion. Hoardings everywhere were covered with interesting electoral announcements of every shade of political opinion, and among them were invariably to be found large effective posters stating that French women must have the vote and why they should have it. One of the most striking of these posters was a map of the world indicating the countries in which women were wholly enfranchised and partially enfranchised. France and the other countries which have not even made a beginning in this direction stood out black as compared with the rest of the civilized world. Of the educational value of this publicity there could be no possible doubt. They hit the eye of the passer-by even if he or she did not stop, as very many did, to read. By a fortunate coincidence during the same week the French papers announced the passing of our British Bill to

complete the enfranchisement of women through its Committee stage with a huge majority. Conversation which I was able to have with women and girls who were quite outside the feminist camp convinced me that the movement has made strides forward among women themselves and that will sooner or later bring about a change of front.

Trial and Error in France.

It was reported in the British Press last week that the French War Office has recently authorized all military units to replace male cooks by female. Moreover, it appears that this substitution is to be made on the assumption that one woman can do the culinary work of two men. It would be interesting to know something of the considerations which have led up to this sweeping decision—in a land where cooking is in the main a male profession. Is it perhaps shortage of male labour, laxity of male discipline, or deficiency of male skill? We do not know. But whatever the reasons, we are always glad to hear of any extension of the field of honourable economic opportunity for women. Almost simultaneously, to damp our hopes of real progress, comes the pronouncement of M. Faralioq of the Paris police during his London visit. "We do not intend," he said, "to copy your system of women policemen. That is a paradox so far as France is concerned. It isn't a French idea. You English people respect the officers of the law at sight and your women are 'men of action'. What would happen in Paris if we put women policemen in the streets? There would collect a jeering crowd of hobbledehoyes, girls, men, women and children round every unfortunate police woman. No, it is not possible. It is utterly impossible in France." He may be right, of course. Indeed, his view is not dissimilar to that expressed in our hearing some time ago by an able and keenly feminist young woman Consul from a South American republic. Speaking of her own problematical future, she declared that nothing would induce her to take office in France. An Anglo-Saxon country, or a Scandinavian country—yes, she said. But a Latin country—no. "My work would be made impossible as a woman. I should never be taken seriously." These utterances taken together seem to us to embody a very grave indictment of French public opinion in its whole attitude to women. Our French colleagues are certainly faced with an almost intolerably heavy task.

Reaction in Hungary.

In Hungary, too, there are indications of a lamentable popular attitude to women. It appears that a Bill has been drafted by the Minister of the Interior, "for the better protection of public morals". Therein it is provided that no woman under forty shall serve in a hotel, restaurant, or cafe. Nor, under the same measure, may any girl or woman who is not personally known to the proprietor be admitted to a restaurant or cafe without a male escort. It is sometimes asserted, in extenuation of the various prohibitions imposed by St. Paul upon the public activities of women, that the Epistles in question were addressed to communities in which female depravity had reached abnormally low levels. It may be that this is the case in Hungary to-day. On the other hand, it may be that such precautions are instigated by a recognition of male depravity carried to such a pitch as to menace the safety of women in public places. In which event equity surely demands that men rather than women should be subjected to a curtailment of normal individual liberty. In either case, if such regulations are necessary the Minister of the Interior has good cause to blush with shame for his country, and if they are not necessary he has good cause to blush with shame for his own stupidity.

Hungarian Marriages.

The Budapest correspondent of the *Observer* gives some interesting details concerning the new Hungarian civil code with regard to marriage. Elaborate provisions are made with regard to wage-earning women and those who assist their husbands in business. Money earned during married life is to be regarded as a joint possession and must be halved between the two parties in case of separation. The furniture and effects in a home are considered to be the property of the husband unless they are actually marked with the wife's monogram. Dress, jewels, and personal decorations are regarded as the property of the wife. These provisions, as given in the rough, are somewhat vague. One would like to know for instance to what extent the wife is in a position to go round the house in her husband's absence with an indelible stamp, leaving her mark upon every piece of furniture. But it is clear that these Hungarian marriage laws, whatever their practical import, contain some striking new departure. We should like to hear more about them.

DISINHERITED FAMILIES.

On 16th May Viscount Astor, at the request of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, will move the following motion in the House of Lords:—

"That a Select Committee be appointed to see whether a change is necessary in the laws governing testamentary provision for wives, husbands and children, based on the experience of Scotland, Australia and the other portions of the Empire."

Lord Astor does not go further than to ask for a Committee of Inquiry in view of there being so many alternative ways in which the present state of affairs can be remedied.

Let us consider first the present law, and then possible methods of amending it. As our readers will know, there is in England complete testamentary freedom, that is to say, no husband or wife, no father or mother, need leave a portion of their estate to the other spouse or to the children, even though the surviving spouse may not be able to earn his or her own living, and the children may still be of tender years. The National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship and many other women's organizations have realized for some time the acute injustice of the present law. A woman by marrying and devoting most years of her life to her husband and children, frequently renders herself unfit to compete in the labour market with women who have been keeping themselves all their lives. If when left a widow she has no money of her own and is left penniless, she may with her children find herself in very sore straits. The obligation is laid on a husband to support his wife and dependent children while he is living, and insured persons under the Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Pensions Act are now forced to contribute to the maintenance of their widows and orphans. It seems clear, therefore, that provision should be made for similar security for the widows and orphans of that section of the population which, by reason of their higher incomes, do not come under any compulsory insurance scheme.

The National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship and other

FIFTY YEARS AGO.

The pages of old Hansards are an attractive study, and not least the answers to questions. Here one reads of old scandals and grievances, and the chief regret is that the stories end so soon before half has been told. But enough can often be gathered to show the kind of thing that was happening.

How were children faring in the police courts fifty years ago? Here is the story of Sarah Chandler, aged 13, of Spalding, in Lincolnshire, who, when visiting her aunt at the almshouses in the town, plucked a flower from a geranium. She was charged at the Spalding Petty Sessions, and was sentenced to 14 days' imprisonment and four years in a reformatory. The Bench which committed this enormity consisted of two clergymen and a medical man. When inquiries were made, one of the clergymen took on himself the blame, and said he had persuaded his brother magistrates to take the course they did. The Home Secretary informed the House that he had ordered the child's release.

But other children were not so fortunate as to secure their freedom. Questions were asked about a child of 7 sentenced at Stalybridge to fourteen days' hard labour for picking a pocket, and the only consolation offered was that no hard labour had actually been imposed, and, when the case of Robert Gordon, aged 8, who was sentenced to one month's imprisonment, and five years in a reformatory, for putting eight pebbles on the railway was brought forward, Mr. Secretary Cross only regretted that the magistrates had not (in place of the imprisonment) inflicted a sound whipping on the reckless Robert.

An unhappy story is that of eight boys, between 13 and 10 years of age, who were all taken from their beds in the dead of night by the police and "lodged in the lock-up" on a charge of arson, bail being refused. The magistrate, in dismissing the case, said there was no evidence whatever against the boys. A pathetic feature was that on the day they were in the lock-up the inspector visited the school, and one of the boys if he had been present, would have received a prize.

There was an unfortunate occurrence at Glasgow in March, 1879, when a lad of 15 was sentenced by the stipendiary to fifteen strokes with the birch for "throwing in play a small bag of peace meal at a girl who had first thrown the bag at him, and had made no complaint." It was then found that flogging for this offence was illegal, but as it had been already inflicted

women's organizations have advocated for some time the assimilation of the English to the Scots law, under which one-half of the movable estate of a husband or wife goes to the surviving spouse where there are no children, and where there are children one-third to the surviving spouse and one-third to the children, whether these are dependent or not. It is interesting to note that in the case of many of our own Dominions, it has been found necessary not to go to the length of the Scots law, but to make provision for a spouse or dependent children left inadequately provided for. Thus in Australia in all States (except Western Australia) there are in force Testator's Family Maintenance Acts, under which a widow and dependent children can claim maintenance and support according to the circumstances from the husband's estate before the estate is divided. In three of the States the husband has the same right to a share of his deceased wife's estate as she would have in his; similarly dependent children of a woman have claims on her estate if she leaves them unprovided for. New Zealand and British Columbia have a similar law. In Manitoba a wife and husband may each claim a share of the other's estate if not left a certain proportion, and in other Canadian States a widow may claim up to the amount which she would have received had her husband died intestate. In France, Austria, Germany, Holland, Italy, Sweden and Switzerland there are also laws which reserve certain portions of a testator's property for the surviving spouse and children.

The need for provision in this country is unassailable, and does not depend on the number of hard cases. In order to convince the legislatively conservative Houses of Parliament to depart from their cherished doctrine of testamentary freedom, however, the larger number of hard cases the better. We therefore suggest that any of our readers who can obtain from their solicitors and others examples of any spouse or child who has suffered under the present law, should send them to the Secretary, N.U.S.E.C., 15 Dean's Yard, S.W. 1, at their earliest convenience, and if possible not later than 11th May.

nothing could be done. It was explained in the House that the offence was more serious than appeared. The bag contained flour, and it was a wet day.

Stealing flowers and plants was a common offence, and was treated as a crime. Two little girls who were fatherless, their mother being in very poor circumstances, and who had never been convicted before, stole some plants from a grave. They were each fined one shilling and costs, and, in default of payment, were sent to Bodmin gaol for seven days. A lad at Cambridge, who was convicted of stealing a rosebud from a garden, was sentenced to three months' imprisonment without the option of a fine. His undergraduate Sunday school teacher urged in Court that he should be leniently treated, and offered to pay any fine. This was in 1880, when Sir William Harcourt (a good friend to delinquent children) was Home Secretary. He told the House that he would mitigate the penalty, and added that "a sentence of this sort was more calculated to excite sympathy for the offender than condemnation of the offence."

The boys and girls who were treated in the police courts with such inhuman severity half a century ago are now past middle life, and one wonders how many of them are swelling the ranks of the "habituals" who are the despair of magistrates and prison authorities.

The penalties on older people were of course extremely harsh. In April, 1879, a question was asked about a man who had fourteen days' imprisonment for stealing a piece of firewood, value one penny, from a Railway Company, and in the previous year a more tragic story was told of a lad, John Nolan, who died in a House of Correction "from repeated and excessive punishment of bread and water diet." An inquiry into this case was promised by the Home Secretary. One is reminded of the state of the law before the passing of the Criminal Law Amendment Act by a question asked in July, 1880, concerning an indecent assault on a child of 6, and no conviction could be obtained, because the prisoner pleaded that the child had consented.

Whatever the evils of the penal system or of the law, there never appears to have been wanting a supply of Members of Parliament ready to draw public attention to these wrongs, and to get them righted if they could. For such we may be truly thankful.

CLARA D. RACKHAM.

DEPUTATION TO THE MINISTER OF HEALTH ON NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE BILL.

By A MEMBER OF THE DEPUTATION.

The Deputation of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship to the Minister of Health on 17th April, asking him to widen the scope of his Bill, though not immediately successful in its aims, came away with a very definite feeling of hope for the future. The general impression left in the minds of those present was that the Minister of Health himself appreciates almost as much as those who were pleading their cause before him, the need of increasing the provision of health services for the people of the country, but that for the time being the financial grip of the Government prevents his taking the necessary steps. Whether a really active fight on his part could cause those elements in the Government which oppose the spending of an increased amount on health services to yield, or whether they are really an immovable mass, we are in a position to judge; but we feel very definitely that if the Government were to come out with a bold public health policy, the most hardened economy-mongers would, as in the case of the Widows', Orphans', and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, rally to its support in appreciation of the obvious fact that true economy demands early and efficient treatment, and that any scheme dealing with national health should cover not only the workers, but also the women in the home and the children. The deputation, in addition to stating this general position, put forward the following demands:—

(1) *Allowances for Dependents of Insured Persons.*—Miss Rathbone, as leader of the deputation, pointed out that the Majority Report of the Royal Commission on National Health Insurance had recommended that this should be placed immediately among the statutory benefits, and asked that the Economy Act which reduced the contribution made by the State to the National Health Insurance fund, should be reversed to this extent, or alternatively, that the funds should be provided through the partial pooling of surpluses. The Minister, while holding out no hope of the adoption of either device, was in favour of the proposal as soon as finances permit.

(2) *Medical Benefits for Wives and Children of Insured Persons.*—On this demand, which had been advocated by the Minority but not by the Majority Report of the Royal Commission, the Minister took the view of the whole Commission that insurance was not a suitable means of dealing with the whole population. But he had the whole question in mind, and although it might not be possible to bring in any scheme during the lifetime of the present Parliament, he hoped soon to take preliminary steps, and would hope for further opportunities of completing it later.

(3) *Grading of Contributions and Benefits.*—Miss Rathbone finally put forward a demand for the grading of contributions and benefits according to earnings and quoted the experience of foreign countries. The Minister in reply suggested that the flat rate was more appropriate in England, especially as there was more provision for voluntary insurance for those who were able to contribute more than the flat rate. He did not, however, argue the case for or against graded benefits on its merits.

(4) *Improved Provision for Maternity.*—Miss Tuckwell, speaking on behalf of the Maternal Mortality Committee as well as the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, emphasized the need for improved maternity benefit, which would include ante-natal service, adequate medical attendance at the confinement, consultant service, nursing service, and maintenance before and after birth. She showed the tremendous support which the campaign against maternal mortality was receiving in the country. Mr. Chamberlain, while stating that nothing further could be done until funds were available, showed keen appreciation of the urgency of the problem. He pointed out how puzzling were existing statistics and information when trying to elucidate the causes of the present high rate, and that there was no one way of doing all that was necessary. He stated that a further effort was being made by the Ministry of Health to inquire into maternal deaths, and that the matter has been referred to the Consultative Committee on Health. He said that after consultation with the British Medical Association, a new circular was being drafted for Local Authorities, and showed that he appreciated the need for better training for doctors and midwives.

(5) *Married Women as Voluntary Contributors.*—While admitting that the Bill did much to improve the position of

(Continued at foot of next column.)

THE STREET OFFENCES COMMITTEE. BY A CORRESPONDENT.

The Committee appointed by the Home Secretary to inquire into the law and practice regarding street morality held a sitting of great interest on 20th April, as the principal witness before it on that day was Lord Balfour of Burleigh, who, as our readers will remember, introduced in the Lords in 1926 "The Public Places Street Order Bill" a Bill intitled "an Act to repeal certain laws relating to prostitutes, and to amend the law relating to order in streets and public places." That Friday morning in April at No. 5 The Sanctuary, almost within the precincts of the Abbey, there was enacted a scene not lacking in drama—the drama of conflict between the hoary tradition of State and Church, and the April breezes of the newer outlook upon life as it is and as it might be. The Chairman, Mr. Hugh Macmillan, K.C., is a most brilliant lawyer, and he is also a courteous and urbane chairman, with an evident desire to be impartial in his conduct of the inquiry over which he presides. But in spite of all his courtesy it was apparent to all present that he could hardly bring himself to believe that Lord Balfour's Bill was intended as a serious effort to deal with a grave problem. As *The Manchester Guardian* put it, "perhaps it is in a missionary spirit that he strives to secure a conviction—the conviction, that is to say, of the witness of the moment that the views he has come to put before the Committee are wrong." Lord Balfour made no attempt to meet rapier with rapier. He took his stand simply on the ground that a woman prostitute should not be penalized as such and that, in the words of his Bill, "every person who, in any street or public place, wilfully causes annoyance to any person by words or behaviour, shall be liable to a penalty . . . provided that no person shall be taken into custody for such offence except upon complaint by or on behalf of the party aggrieved." And this position he defended with the courage deriving from a thorough grasp of the principles involved—of the full recognition of an equal moral standard for men and women. It was a curious illustration of the comparative weakness of the thesis defended explicitly or impliedly by the chairman, and, among other members of the Committee, notably by the Rev. R. C. Gillie, that, though they both appeared to consider that Lord Balfour's proposal to do away with the "common prostitute" penalization, and both appeared to defend penalizing solicitation in the streets by men or women, they quoted as examples in general support of their position cases of annoyance of a woman by a man. Dr. Gillie, for example, referred almost with emotion to the dangers incurred by his own daughters or by maidservants, while Mr. Macmillan dealt with forensic eloquence on the unhappy plight of a certain Edinburgh lady of whom he had heard who had been molested by a man in one of the quiet streets of that city. It would be dishonest to deny that there are difficulties likely to arise in the enforcement of the law as it will stand should Lord Balfour's Bill find a place upon the statute book, but these difficulties are as nothing compared with the poisoning of the font of public justice and morality which results from the law as it is. The resolution brought to the Committee by Baillie Snodgrass from the Glasgow Society for Equal Citizenship and the Glasgow Women Citizens' Association boldly calls for "the abolition of legislation or regulations directed against women or any class of women on the plea of public health or public order in the name of the equal moral standard." So be it. The cleverest lawyer, the most pious clergyman, will not deflect from their goal those who are founded upon this rock of principle.

(Continued from previous column.)

married women, Mrs. Hubback drew attention to the need for no longer making special provision for those married women who leave off being insured persons. She asked that those who ceased insurance on marriage should not be relegated to a special class, but should receive the same benefits as unmarried women and men who leave off being insured, and, further, that married women should be enabled to become voluntary contributors. The Minister replied that both administrative and actuarial considerations made it quite impossible for him to permit women to become voluntary contributors, or to be in the same category as other persons ceasing to be insured. When pressed as to whether the Ministry had been making the promised inquiry into the large incidence of sickness among married women, he stated that the inquiries were not as yet complete.

It seems clear to us that although we are probably not going to get much of what we want in this Bill, better times may be coming with regard to some at least of the demands which we put forward.

THE JOSEPHINE BUTLER CENTENARY. THE COMMEMORATION SERVICE IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

The Abbey service held in commemoration of Josephine Butler was outstanding in impressiveness and in its note of harmony with the occasion. It was appropriate to reach Westminster through the vivid, stirring life of the sunlit evening, for life and energy ran high in Josephine Butler; even more was it appropriate to come out to the tranquil depths of night, for here too was something akin to her profound spirit. The service itself blended those two moods. On the one hand it had a haunting beauty and sense of consecration, on the other it honoured her strenuous effort, her mastery of the great issues which lie in our own power, her effectiveness in the practical world. It celebrated the brave champion as well as the saint, gave recognition to immediate human needs as well as to ultimate principles. In his sermon, the Bishop of Lichfield stressed the breadth of significance in Josephine Butler's work. Defining effectiveness in action as a quality of the saint, he made her life an illustration of this. He showed how her brilliance and charm, her supremely happy youth, her courageous perseverance, as well as her religious belief, all helped to impel her to the agitation and reforms for which she is remembered throughout Europe. He drew from her story the conclusion that it is impossible for the Church to shut its eyes to any side of life, and ended by a survey of what still remains to be done before the spirit of her work is realized in full.

THE COMMEMORATION MEETING IN CENTRAL HALL.

BY A CORRESPONDENT.

In opening the great meeting in the Central Hall, held in honour of the hundredth anniversary of her birth, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, who presided, welcomed delegates who were present from other countries—America, France, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, and Denmark, and the Board of the International Women's Suffrage Alliance. Messages were read from Mrs. George Grey Butler, Mrs. Butler's eldest son, Miss Emily Ford, who with her sister Isabella had worked with her, Cardinal Bourne, Lord and Lady Aberdeen, and regrets for inability to attend from the Archbishop of York, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, Lord Cecil, and many others. Lord Balfour's fine speech was the first of a succession of fine speeches of exceptional beauty and sincerity. He said that of all the habits of mankind which have caused the most misery, two stand out—war and prostitution. Sixty years ago Josephine Butler pointed out the way to get rid of prostitution by the establishment of a single moral standard for men and women. Her eternal title to fame lay, he believed, in the fact that she was an idealist who was right when the experts—the medical men, the politicians, the scientists, the men of the world, even many of the ministers of religion were wrong. Sir Michael Sadler spoke of Josephine Butler's spiritual life. One who had known her said that her thoughts were prayers. He spoke of her personal gifts of beauty, grace, vitality, wit, and her achievements as a draughtsman, painter, pianist, and writer, and above all her power of visualization. Mrs. Bramwell Booth described her meeting with Mrs. Butler in 1883, and read some striking extracts from letters written to her in her old age.

Some of these, as Mrs. Booth said, were peculiarly apposite to the present time: "We are very much on the wrong tack now in England, on a sort of down-grade in this matter. There is an almost universal tendency to run to Parliament and to Government for everything, for barriers against moral evil, for moral correction. It is true that what laws we have must be just and equal, and that the State must maintain its first function of protecting the weak from the strong. But for the moral purifying I think it both a danger and a folly to appeal to the State." It is impossible here to print more, but we hope these letters will be printed in full. Miss Margaret Bondfield told the audience that Robert Applegarth, who was a member of the famous Commission before which Mrs. Butler gave such startling evidence, was the first working man in this country to be invited to serve on a Royal Commission. He had to give up his position as a Trade Union Secretary to do this, as his brother officials objected. Dr. Ude, Professor of Philosophy at Graz University, President of the International Abolitionist Federation, gave a fine tribute from other countries to the work of an English-woman and moved the resolution which was seconded by Miss Alison Neilans, who emphasized Josephine Butler's appeal for personal liberty, responsibility and equal justice. It was

fitting that Dame Millicent Fawcett, who knew Mrs. Butler well, should take part in this great meeting. After a rousing reception, she thanked the speakers, including the delegates from foreign countries, who had taken part in a public luncheon the same day.

Dr. A. de Graaf in seconding said the evening had been for him a wonder. He had himself heard Mrs. Butler between thirty and forty years ago, and to-day the memory of her beautiful life united people all over the world. Then closed a memorable meeting.

JOSEPHINE BUTLER CHALLENGE AND THE POSITION TO-DAY

The psychological danger that this unexpected wave of enthusiasm and interest may pass without leaving behind some lasting impression has been foreseen by the Centenary Committee, and a conference is to be held at the Guildhouse on Saturday, 12th May, which will discuss Josephine Butler's Challenge as seen from the angle of the position to-day. This conference will naturally divide itself into sections dealing with the Traffic in Women and Children and Street Offences. In view of the topical interest in these problems and of the recent League of Nations Inquiry and the sittings of the Committee on Street Offences, this conference will undoubtedly attract a great deal of interest.

QUESTIONS IN PARLIAMENT.

TWO-SHIFT SYSTEM (WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS).

Mr. Kelly asked the Home Secretary the number of firms known to be engaged in the two-shift system for women and young persons; whether any orders for the working of this system have been issued this year; and the number of workpeople concerned.

Sir W. Joynson-Hicks: Orders have been granted up to date to 570 firms in respect of 636 works, but inquiries have shown that probably not more than a third of the Orders are in actual use at any one time. Thirty-six orders have been granted this year; the total number of women and young persons whom it was proposed to employ on the shifts in these cases is about 1,900.

MIDWIVES.

Mr. Day asked the Minister of Health what steps he has taken to set up a committee to inquire into the general question of the training and supply of midwives; and have any members of this committee yet been appointed?

The Minister of Health (Mr. Chamberlain): I have invited certain ladies and gentlemen to serve on this committee.

Mr. Day: Can the right hon. Gentleman say when the names of the committee will be announced?

Mr. Chamberlain: I have not yet received replies from those I have invited, but as soon as I have, I shall be in a position to announce the names.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Sir Basil Peto asked the Minister of Health whether his Department has any statistics of the number of deaths of women in pregnancy from septic peritonitis; and whether he proposes to take any steps to safeguard them against the onset of this condition at maternity welfare centres.

Mr. Chamberlain: The last year for which a detailed classification of the deaths due to pregnancy and child-bearing is at present available is 1925, and in that year there were 84 deaths from septic peritonitis, perimetritis, and pelvic peritonitis. As regards the second part of the question it is one of the duties of the doctors at ante-natal clinics to detect and remedy any focus of infection which might later be a cause of septic infection.

Sir B. Peto: Can the right hon. Gentleman have the returns of his Department kept a little more up to date—those are for 1925—and, further, may I ask whether he is not aware that septic peritonitis almost always supervenes upon attempted abortion, and is not that brought about by the policy of his Department in denying information on birth control at maternity and welfare centres?

Dr. Vernon Davies: In what way is it possible to get rid of septic peritonitis by anything that is done at an ante-natal clinic?

Lieut.-Commander Kenworthy: Will the right hon. Gentleman deny the suggestion that his policy approved by this House, of refusing Government information on birth control is in any way responsible for this state of affairs?

Mr. Chamberlain: Yes.

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTIONS, 1928.

WOMEN COUNCILLORS ELECTED.

Information received shows that 137 women were candidates at the recent elections for Urban District Councils and that the following have been elected:—

Candidates marked with an asterisk stood for re-election.

Council.	Woman Councillor.
Adwick-Le-Street	Mrs. M. M. F. Clark.
Ashington	*Mrs. Colvin (Lab.). Mrs. Horn (Lab.). *Miss Margaret J. Johnson (Ind.). *Mrs. Ledgewood (Co-op.). *Mrs. Mills (Co-op.). *Mrs. Muers (Co-op.).
Bampton	Mrs. White.
Barnes	Miss Colvill. *Mrs. Macnamara.
Bebington and Bromborough	Mrs. Caine (unopposed).
Beckenham	Mrs. Barkel.
Biddulph	Mrs. Linney.
Bolton-on-Deane	Mrs. Spencer.
Brierley Hill	Mrs. Hodggets.
Carnforth	Miss Edith C. Willis.
Chingford	*Miss M. L. Mathieson.
Chislehurst	*Mrs. F. H. Field.
Colville	Mrs. Dunkin (Lab.).
Criccieth	*Dame Margaret Lloyd George. *Miss Leah Eveline Thomas.
Cudworth	Mrs. Bell (Lab.).
Desborough	Mrs. Bosworth (Lab.).
Dorking	*Miss Douglas.
Eastwood	Mrs. Martin (Lab.).
Edmonton	*Mrs. Barrass (Lab.).
Finchley	Mrs. Timberlake.
Friern Barnet	Mrs. Bailey. *Miss H. J. Hawkins. *Mrs. Smyth. Mrs. Turner. *Mrs. Woods. Mrs. N. V. Laughton, J.P. *Mrs. Palmer. Mrs. George Lewin (Lib.). Mrs. Jeffries. *Miss J. Dennistoun. *Mrs. Porter. Mrs. Newey (Lab.). Mrs. E. A. Barton. *Mrs. Swanborough. Miss Coker. Mrs. Stallard. Mrs. Cooke (Lab.). Miss S. E. Wesley. *Mrs. A. Durrant. *Mrs. E. Ratcliff. Mrs. F. Holloway. Miss Mary Pillman. Mrs. French (unopposed). *Miss Metcalf. Mrs. Kelly. Mrs. MacVicker. *Mrs. C. A. Cartwright. *Miss Cox, (M.R.). Mrs. Kitchener (Lab.). Mrs. Mann (M.R.). Mrs. Sewell. *Miss Kathleen Edge. Mrs. E. R. Richards (Lab.). *Mrs. Johnson. Miss Dorothy Luker. Mrs. Moss. Mrs. McDougall Porter. Miss Cowan (Lab.). Mrs. Larkin (Lab.). Mrs. Moore (Lab.).
Gainsborough	
Haslemere	
Horsham	
Irthingborough	
Kettering	
Kirby-in-Ashford	
Long Sutton	
Malden and Coombe	
Maltby	
Melksham	
Newhaven	
Ottery	
Quarry Bank	
Rowley Regis	
Sheerness	
Shoreham	
Sidcup	
Sittingbourne	
Southborough	
Sunbury	
Street	
Teignmouth	
Tottenham	
Urmston	
Walton	
Walthamstow	
Whitchurch	
Willenhall	
Wem	
Wrotham	
Willesden	

A STEP FORWARD IN MIDDLESEX.

The Middlesex Justices decided last week, on a motion by Miss Smee, that in every case of criminal assault the statements of children and girls should be taken by women police.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NOTES.

A second woman member has been elected to the Kent County Council, Mrs. Deed, J.P., of Sevenoaks. For some years she has been a co-opted member of the Education Committee.

Several Boards of Guardians have appointed women as Chairmen. This has been the case at Amersham, where Miss Henrietta Busk, who was the first woman member of the Board, has been elected. Mrs. Arthur Docker, J.P. (Ashton), Mrs. Fox (Northampton), Miss C. Fulford (Fulham), and Mrs. Royston, C.C. (Auckland), have also been elected Chairmen. In the case of Mrs. Docker and Miss Fulford, they have been elected for a second term of office. Considerable feeling has been aroused owing to the action of the Leeds and North Bierley Boards in passing over the senior Vice-Chairmen, who both happened to be women and would in the ordinary course of events have succeeded to the Chair.

Mrs. E. Kaye, who has been a member of the Guisborough Urban District Council for the past five years, has been elected as Chairman. At Dewsbury, the Board of Guardians has elected Mrs. Abraham Walker for a second term of office. Mrs. Walker was the first woman to hold the office, although she had previously served two periods of two years as Vice-Chairman. She has been a member of the Board for fifteen years, and was the first woman to be elected to the Finance Committee. The following Boards of Guardians have also elected women Chairmen: Auckland, Fulham, Hull, Sculcoates (Hull), Northampton, Wallasey and Wirral. Other Boards of Guardians that have appointed women Chairmen are: Bolton, Mrs. E. Marshall; Bury (Lancs), Mrs. Kenyon; Cardiff, Mrs. Cantillon; Halifax, Mrs. Lightowler; Ipswich, Miss Jeffries (re-elected); Wandsworth, Miss Eddie Brown. Vice-Chairmen: Lambeth, Miss Willson; Kettering, Miss Wilmot; Penrith, Miss Hasell. Urban District Councils: Milton Regis, Mrs. S. E. Maundrell (Chairman); Mold, Mrs. Davies (Vice-Chairman).

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

On Tuesday, 8th May, 1928
(from 2.30—6 p.m.)

CONFERENCE

will be held at the
**Mary Sumner House,
24 Tufton Street, Westminster,**
on
**WOMEN IN THE SERVICE
OF HOSPITALS.**

Chairman:
Miss PICTON TURBERVILL, O.B.E.

Speakers:
Dr. MARGARET EMSLIE.
Miss C. FULFORD.
(Chairman Fulham Board of Guardians.)
Dr. ISABEL EMSLIE HUTTON.
Dr. GRAHAM LITTLE, M.P.
Miss ELEANOR RATHBONE, J.P., C.C.

Visitors' Tickets (price 1/-) and all further particulars can be obtained on application to the N.U.S.E.C., 15 Dean's Yard, S.W. 1.

OPEN DOOR COUNCIL

10th MAY, at 8 o'clock, CAXTON HALL (Room 13),
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To be followed at 8.30 by a PUBLIC MEETING.

Chair: MRS. ELIZABETH ABBOTT.

SPEAKERS: Miss C. Nina Boyle, "Equal Suffrage"; Miss Doris Griffin, B.A., "Equal Education"; Miss Caroline Haslett, "Women Engineers and Night-work Restrictions"; Mrs. Pashick Lawrence, "The Right of the Married Woman to Engage in Paid Work"; Miss Chrystal Macmillan, "Weight-lifting"; Miss Helen Douglas-Irvine, "The Lead Paint Act."

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

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

CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN THE SERVICE OF HOSPITALS Tuesday, 8th May, 2.30 to 6 p.m.

The principal speakers at the Conference, which is to be held at Mary Sumner House, 24 Tufton Street, S.W. 1, will be:—
Dr. Margaret Emslie.

Miss C. Fulford, Chairman, Fulham Board of Guardians.
Dr. Graham Little, M.P.
Miss Eleanor Rathbone, J.P., C.C.

The chair will be taken by Miss Picton-Turbervill, O.B.E.
The following are the aspects of the subject which will be discussed:—

- Opportunities for training of women medical students.
- The appointment of women to paid and honorary medical posts in hospitals.
- The appointment of women on Boards or Committees of management of hospitals (including mental hospitals).

We hope very much that as many as possible will take this opportunity of hearing a full discussion of the question. Visitors' tickets (price 1s.) may be obtained either beforehand, on application to the N.U.S.E.C. office, or on 8th May at the door. Those wishing for tea (price 6d.), which will be served at 4 o'clock, are requested to let the Secretary at N.U.S.E.C. know by Monday, 7th May.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1927-28.

We hope to have the Annual Report from the printer by the beginning of next week. Copies will be sent to Secretaries of Societies, Local Correspondents, and Headquarters subscribers. We hope that each member of each Society will obtain a copy of the Report (price 6d. or 7d. post free) in order to have at first hand a record of the year's work and of the resolutions on which our policy is based.

"OUR YEAR'S WORK."

This pamphlet, which gives an account of the work, which is already being undertaken or which will be dealt with during the present year, is now ready. Our Societies and all those who are interested in the object for which the N.U.S.E.C. stands will, we hope, find this pamphlet of use not only as a guide when planning their year's work, but as a means of arousing interest in others. Copies (price 1d. each, or for orders of 25 and over at the rate of 5s. per 100 copies) can be obtained on application to Headquarters.

MARYLEBONE BY-ELECTION.

As reported last week Sir Rennell Rodd (C.) was asked to receive a small deputation of women constituents, and this he did on the morning of Thursday, 26th April. The deputation was led by Miss Helen Ward, and several questions of special interest to women were discussed, in particular the need for more women police, for support for the principle of an Equal Moral Standard, and for the principle of Equal Pay for Equal Work. Sir Rennell Rodd gave a sympathetic hearing to all the points raised, and promised to give them his further consideration; on several he professed himself in full agreement. In the time available it was not possible to raise all the subjects which it had been hoped would be discussed, especially the present position of women medical students. It is hoped, however, that Sir Rennell Rodd will be able to consider these questions another time. The following took part in the deputation: Miss A. Helen Ward, Miss Auld, Miss Fisher, Miss Flugel, Miss Goff, Mrs. Van Gruisen, Mrs. Walter.

Mr. David Ross (Lab.) replied in the affirmative to all the questions on our questionnaire except that of information on methods of birth control being given at Welfare Centres.

PERSONAL.

We warmly congratulate Miss C. Fulford, member of the Executive Committee, on her election as Chairman of the Fulham Guardians for a second year. Both mover and seconder referred to Miss Fulford's success in filling this office.

EARLY CONGRATULATIONS FROM THE IRISH FREE STATE.

Dame Millicent Fawcett has received a letter of congratulation from the National Council of Women for Ireland on the

approaching victory for Equal Franchise in Great Britain. The letter states that the Council recalls that Dame Millicent was the principal speaker at the first Suffrage meeting held in Ireland organized by Mrs. Haslam in 1870. "The achievement of Equal Franchise for Irishwomen was due to the long continued suffrage agitation which owed so much to yourself." The letter runs, "It is good to think that the pioneers are still able to take part in rejoicing over the victory for which they 'died so much.'"

TESTAMENTARY PROVISION FOR HUSBANDS, WIVES, AND CHILDREN.

The resolution which, at the request of the National Union, Lord Astor has put down for discussion in the House of Lords, urging the appointment of a Committee to investigate the need of reform of the law with regard to the present complete freedom of testators with regard to their spouses or children, will come up on 16th May. A full account of the present position is given in the article "Disinherited Families." The National Union is collecting particulars of hard cases resulting from the present lack of legislation, and would be grateful if any readers who could supply relevant data would be good enough to send the information to the Secretary at N.U.S.E.C. Headquarters as soon as possible and not later than 11th May.

"THE LIBERAL PARTY AND WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE."

MADAM.—Liberal women have read Dame Millicent Fawcett's Retrospect in your issue of 20th April with great interest, but with some regret that full justice has not been done to the share of Liberal support which the Suffrage movement received. The distinguished family group mentioned by her were all Liberals. The private members' Suffrage Bills brought forward from time to time would have met a different fate if the Liberal vote had found anything like an equal backing on the Tory side of the House. Here for instance are some typical votes: Second Reading of the Conciliation Bill in July, 1910:—

	For.	Against.
Liberals	161	60
Unionists	87	113
Second Reading of Mr. Dickinson's Bill in May, 1913:—		
	For.	Against.
Liberals	146	74
Unionists	28	141

In view of these figures it is difficult to agree with Mrs. Fawcett that of the two parties Conservatives were "the best friends of the cause." It is clear from such votes that Conservative leaders must have hesitated to take Government action had they been in power. Amongst official Liberals, Sir John Simon, Lord Haldane, and Sir Francis Acland were steady supporters, whilst important speeches in favour were made by Mr. Lloyd George and Sir Edward Grey in 1911. A strong and influential body of women in the Women's Liberal Federation worked hard for the cause and exerted considerable influence in moulding public opinion.

MARGARET HARVEY,
Secretary, Women's National Liberal Federation.

1 Great George Street,
Westminster.

[We are glad to print Miss Harvey's letter. We have never underrated the support given by prominent Liberals or the persistent and successful work of Liberal women.—Ed.]

JOSEPHINE BUTLER CENTENARY

THE GUILDHOUSE

ECCLESTON SQUARE, BELGRAVE ROAD, S.W. 1
(4 minutes from Victoria Station.)

On SATURDAY, 12th MAY, A CONFERENCE

will be held on
**Josephine Butler's Challenge and the
Position To-day.**

Chair - Sir ROBERT NEWMAN, Bart., M.P.

1st Session 2.30.	1. THE TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN. The Hon. Mrs. ALFRED LYTTELTON, D.B.E. Dr. LOUISA MARTINDALE, M.D., B.S., J.P.
	4 p.m. Interval for Tea.
2nd Session 4.45.	2. STREETS OFFENCES. Miss ALISON NEILANS. Miss CHRYSTAL MACMILLAN.
6.5.	3. CONSTRUCTIVE RESCUE WORK. Miss JESSIE MARCH.

TICKETS, 1/- for the whole Conference, 6d. for each Session, also Tea Tickets, 6d. each, can be obtained from the Lectures Secretary, The Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1.

COMING EVENTS.

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH LEAGUE.

MAY 8. 1 p.m. 17 Buckingham Street, Strand. Luncheon. Guest: Dame Millicent Fawcett, G.B.E. Tickets, 2s.

JOSEPHINE BUTLER CENTENARY.

MAY 12. 2.30. The Guildhouse, Eccleston Square. Conference on "Josephine Butler and the Position To-day." Speakers: Dame Edith Lytton, Dr. Martindale, Miss Alison Neilans, Miss Chrystal Macmillan, Miss Jessie March. Chair: Sir Robert Newman, M.P.

MARY WOLLSTONECRAFT LECTURE.

MAY 21. 8 p.m. Essex Hall, Strand. Miss Evelyn Sharp, "Mary Wollstonecraft." See under Announcements. Admission free.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

Harrow S.E.C. MAY 7. 8 p.m. The Hut, Harrow. Miss Macadam, "The so-called 'Flapper Vote'—what it means and why it is needed." Chair: Mr. Robert Simpson.

Wavertree W.C.A. (Liverpool). MAY 11. 7.30. Deaf and Dumb Institute, Park Way. Public Meeting. Speakers: Miss Stewart Parnell, Mrs. Edwards, J.P. Chair: Miss Rathbone, J.P.

OPEN DOOR COUNCIL.

MAY 10. 8 p.m. Caxton Hall. Annual Meeting. 8.30. Public Meeting. Speakers: Miss Nina Boyle, Miss D. Griffin, B.A., Miss Caroline Haslett, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Chrystal Macmillan, Miss Douglas Irvine. Chair: Mrs. G. F. Abbott.

ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE.

MAY 7. 6 p.m. St. Patrick's Club Room, Scho Square. "Josephine Butler." Speakers: Lady Balfour of Burleigh, Mr. A. S. G. Butler. Chair: Councillor Mrs. Crawford.

WOMEN'S ENGINEERING SOCIETY.

MAY 7. 6.15. 46 Kensington Court, W.8. Mrs. Walter Layton, "The Work of the League of Nations in relation to Trade and Industry."

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LAKE DISTRICT.—To let, furnished, May, June, July, 25s. weekly, COTTAGE in Kalkdale, near Hardknott Pass; 5 beds; farm supplies; fishing.—Symonds, Bird How, Boot, Cumberland.

TO LET, 2 guineas a week; Herne Hill, S.E. London; charming FLAT, lower part small house, comprising drawing-room, dining-room, bedroom, kitchen, scullery; garden; house recently furnished; 2 guineas for long let.—Apply, Box 1,469, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Tufton Street, S.W. 1.

LADY living in country near London offers comfortable home to lady about 40 years of age who could make small contribution towards board and lodging, help light domestic duties, live as family.—Box 1,470, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Tufton Street, S.W. 1.

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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.

PUBLIC SPEAKING.—Classes, Lectures, Private Lessons Speech Club.—Miss Lucy Bell, Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C. 1.

JESSIE D. WALLINGTON (Drugless Practitioner) treats all conditions of ill-health by natural methods—spinal therapy, osteopathy, dietetics, etc. Particularly successful with nerve cases. Consultation by appointment.—37 St. George's Road, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W. 1. Telephone, Franklin 6487.

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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.)

BUSHEY, Herts.—Freehold, £1,350. Sunny, picturesque, 6-roomed; gas, electric; bathroom, greenhouse, open-air room, garden, butts; open country.—Brackenbury, 2 Campden Hill Square.

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YORKS.—Warnford, Thoralby, Aysgarth (560 feet up). BOARD-RESIDENCE; indoor sanitation, bath, garden, garage; near moors; daily motor-bus service up and down Wensleydale; from £2 10s.—Miss Smith.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BLUE PERSIAN KITTENS.—Amanullah and Souriyah—Jane desire honourable posts. They are exceptionally intelligent and charming.—Apply, O'Malley, 6 Steeles Road, N.W. 3.

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

GLOVES, specially good quality, natural, white, 4s. 11d. pair.—Mrs. Plevin, Northgate, Chester.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON AND NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 35 Marsham Street, Westminster. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Members' Library, Books on Suffrage, Sociology and Economics, Hansard, latest Government Publications, Periodicals, Newscuttings. 10-8 (except Saturdays).

EDUCATED HOME HELPS BUREAU, 190 Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W. 1, requires and supplies educated women for all domestic work. Holiday engagements, Registration: Employers, 2s. 6d.; workers, 1s. Suiting fee: Employers, 7s. 6d.; workers, 2s. (Victoria 5040.)

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 6th May, 3.30, Miss Sheila Kaye-Smith, "The Modern Novel." 6.30, Rev. Pat McCormick.

JOHN STUART MILL DINNER at Craig's Court Restaurant, 20th May, 7.30. Tickets 5s., from Mrs. How-Martyn, 38 Hogarth Hill, N. 11; also for Mary Wollstonecraft Lecture, 1s. and 2s. 6d., Monday, 21st, 8 p.m., Essex Hall.

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The Woman's Leader

THE QUEEN'S HALL DEMONSTRATION NUMBER

contains

John Stuart Mill's Speech, 1867 (referred to by the Prime Minister).

The N.U.S.E.C. Council Presidential Address.

A Message from Dame Millicent.

A Message from Sir Oliver Lodge.

and other articles.

The issue of 16th March gave the speech of the Prime Minister with photograph of speakers at Queen's Hall.

Subscribe as from Friday, March 9, and follow the events of the coming months

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