

# THE CATHOLIC CITIZEN

*Organ of St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance (formerly Catholic Women's Suffrage Society).  
8<sup>B</sup>, Dryden Chambers, 119 Oxford Street, London W.1.*

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Price Sixpence

Daughter of the ancient Eve,  
We know the gifts ye gave and give;  
Who knows the gifts which *you* shall give,  
Daughter of the Newer Eve?

*Francis Thompson*

## Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders

By M. Chave Collisson

The British Government was host for the Second United Nations Congress when meetings were held at Church House, Westminster. An official reception was given at Lancaster House and an extremely delightful garden party was held at Trinity College, Cambridge, with conducted tours of the Colleges, and an excellent tea. A choice of special visits selected from a very wide range of penal institutions was open to delegates.

Delegations were governmental, intergovernmental, or representative of specialised agencies of United Nations and also of non-governmental organisations in consultative status with ECOSOC. In addition, individual participants, backed by some form of substantial recommendation, were admitted.

The list so far available shows over 800 names: of whom approximately 250 were governmental; and over 140 from non-governmental organisations.

The Congress was divided into three sections and delegates chose the section they wished to attend. The sections were: (1) New forms of juvenile delinquency, their origin, prevention and treatment ("new" was defined either because appearing for the first time in a particular country, or because of increase in gravity, violence, and apparent lack of motive). One theme for discussion was police services for the prevention of juvenile delinquency. (2) Prevention of types of criminality resulting from social changes and accompanying economic development in less developed countries. The relation between urbanisation and crime, and consideration of short term imprisonment. (3) Pre-release treatment and after care, as well as assistance to dependants of prisoners. The integration of prison labour in the national economy, including remuneration of prisoners.

New forms of delinquency mentioned included a very large number of items, car stealing, sex

delinquency, gang fights, dope peddling, vandalism. Delinquent gangs were the subject of much discussion. They were mentioned as widespread in West Germany, the United Kingdom, Sweden, Australia, the Philippines and South Africa.

The relation between rapid industrialisation in certain countries, and the growth of juvenile crime, was hotly discussed and it was disputed as to whether "under-developed" countries was in fact the right term for areas where industrialism was changing the social structure.

The broadly alarming feature of the discussions, as heard and reported, was the bewildering variety of ways in which juvenile delinquency appears to be developing and growing. The migration of families, or perhaps of the male members, to centres of crowded town life, with inadequate housing available, seems linked with delinquency in old established as well as newer centres. Stockholm, New York, Los Angeles were amongst those quoted in this connection.

The question of police activity in social work was discussed. Most delegates showed disapproval of police interference in social work, though ideas as to the value of sporting clubs run by the police for boys were widely differing.

Some delegates showed a tendency to use the Congress for propaganda; chiefly political. It is at this point that the weakness of these huge Congresses becomes apparent. For under the U.N. Rules of procedure, Government delegates have the first opportunity of speaking; and sometimes more than one delegate wished to contribute; then the specialised agencies, and intergovernmental bodies came in; and only when these requirements were fulfilled did the non-governmental agencies get some chance. No governmental delegate is going to provoke unpleasant situations by disputing what some other delegate has said; consequently, there can be no very real

discussion, but in most cases simply a presentation of facts relating to a particular country, or thesis. The strength of the Congress lies very largely in other directions. First, the documentation is immense, and thorough. Twelve important Reports were provided, with much else; a daily Congress Journal summed up debates; in the lounge (where coffee, tea, and a small bar met the needs of the thirsty) there were literally hundreds of copies of scores of documents sent in by individuals, organisations, or interested groups, for free distribution, some of them most valuable. Second, the presentation of a broad world picture is in itself interesting, for even if propaganda is clearly visible, there are also facts and reports available. Thirdly, the making of contacts, meeting of former friends, discussions with new acquaintances, is of inestimable value. Fourth, the very fact that everywhere concerned and serious minds are set on the many-sided problems awaiting solution means that the spark of enthusiasm, the fire of desire for a better society, the profound sense of pity for the young, is communicated and inspiring.

One of the highlights of the Congress was the forthright and valuable address by Professor L. Radsinowicz, Wolfson Professor of Criminology, Director of the Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge. The subject was "Criminological and Penological Research." This special lecture was attended by an audience which crowded out Church House Assembly Hall; and nothing was more applauded than the Professor's refreshing plea for the discarding of the confusing and pseudo-scientific jargon which has grown up round the early attempts at criminological study.

The final resolutions of the Congress will be given in full form when the official Report is issued. Amended and sometimes re-amended, they contain useful working propositions, but nothing of outstandingly novel value.

The Reports, now available at the Information Centre of U.N. in Stratford Place, are worth close study. Those interested should note that these documents run in a series marked A. CONF., followed by numbers running from 1 to 10. They are in pairs, one of each pair being a report from one or more authorities from a special area, the other, a general survey made by the Secretariat. Subjects treated include: Integration of Prison Labour with the National Economy; Prevention of types of criminality resulting from social changes; New Forms of Juvenile Delinquency; Pre-Release Treatment and After Care, as well as assistance to Dependants of Prisoners; Short-term imprisonment.

There is also the useful A/Conf/17/11—"School and Social Maladjustment of Youth" submitted by UNESCO.

### ECOSOC

The following is the substance of a speech given by Mademoiselle Archinard, representative of St. Joan's International Social and Political Alliance before the Economic and Social Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organisations, Geneva, July 7th, 1960:

Mr. President, allow me to thank you for having kindly consented to hear my organisation in spite of the late hour and the number of speakers.

Mr. President,

St. Joan's International Social and Political Alliance has followed with great interest the work of the XVth. Session of the Commission on the Status of Women and expresses the hope that the Council will give a positive answer concerning all the draft resolutions it has laid before you.

In particular, a certain category is closely linked with the traditional activity of my organisation. You have before you, Mr. President, in the chapter "Status of Women in Private Law", under A and B "Minimum Age of Marriage, Consent to Marriage and Registration of Marriages", a draft Convention and a draft Recommendation; and under C a draft Resolution on practices which seem dangerous for the development of the feminine population in certain countries.

Mr. President, it is not with a feeling of superiority that we European women, for example, intervene in favour of women of other countries. We know very well that in every country strange practices have tended to graft themselves on the traditional background. For instance we still all know persons now aged, who were given in marriage at a time when implicit obedience to parents was supposed to be an integral part of Christian behaviour. Well, all that has now largely been sifted out.

Now we think with joy of the new countries which have become independent and which, without any foreign interference, are going to solve their problems for themselves, who are going to eliminate, from what is most authentic and valuable in their lore, things which are perhaps superadded and which may be harmful for their evolution. My organisation believes in the equality of all women, of all races and origins, if only disastrous customs or interventions do not prevent them from developing normally.

The Annual Mass for deceased members, associates and benefactors of St. Joan's Alliance will be offered on Sunday, November 6th at 6 p.m. at St. Patrick's, Soho Square. As it is evening Mass, we hope that many members will be able to attend and for those who require it, a meal in Soho afterwards can be arranged.

### Notes and Comments

The Home Secretary, addressing the Annual Conference of the Association of Municipal Corporations promised "to go a very long way in mopping up bogus clubs" which were becoming dens of crime. Mr. Butler said he was worried about some elements of crime which the Street Offences and other Acts have not been able to touch.

In this connection, we recall the case quoted by Mr. Alan Brown in Parliament, of a girl of fifteen who absconded from a remand home and was picked up by a stranger in a café and put on the streets for the purposes of prostitution. Mr. Brown said "that since the Street Offences Act came into operation, recovery by authorities of girl absconders has become more difficult because ponces into whose hands they so often fall keep them under cover and out of sight, possibly in dubious night-clubs."

The man convicted of living on immoral earnings and publishing an obscene directory, thought he had found a way to a fortune when the Street Offences Act barred prostitutes from soliciting in the streets. He decided to "help" them and their clients, by publishing the "Ladies Directory", which advertised addresses of girls with photographs and details of services rendered. He was so successful that five editions at increasing prices were produced in nine months before he found that to enrich oneself at the expense of public morals was not within the law, as he had thought. He was sent to prison for nine months. Possibly now prosecutions may be considered against shopkeepers who allow "models" to advertise.

Newspaper reports of what Father O'Leary of the Catholic Marriage Advisory Council was supposed to have said in San Antonia a few weeks ago were (as we have it on the highest authority) extremely inaccurate. He was attempting to increase, not diminish, the appreciation and respect of the sexes for each other; that is, the sense of his lecture was rather the opposite of that conveyed by the Catholic press. Far from expressing such offensive opinions as that women are incapable of saying what they mean, Father O'Leary was quoting generalisations sometimes made by some men and some women and examining them in the light of objective truth.

Such mis-reporting, whether by intent or through inefficiency, should not be allowed to go uncorrected for it can do nothing but harm.

Mr. Charles Hogan, Chief of the United Nations Non-Governmental Organisations Section of the Economic and Social Council kindly gave a talk on the Function of Consultative Status to representatives of Non-Governmental Organisations during his brief stay in London when on his way from the meeting of ECOSOC in Geneva.

It was a pleasure to meet Mr. Charles Hogan again and his talk was most valuable.

The Sisters of St. Peter Claver are not restrained by British Trade Union Regulations which allow no women compositors. They have opened a press training centre at Lusaka, Northern Rhodesia, where African girls will acquire the technical knowledge of printing. The centre will be available for girls of all denominations. Two Bemba girls are already in training and twenty each year will be taken for a two-year course.

At the opening recently in Nigeria of another Catholic printing centre by the Sisters of St. Peter Claver in Ibadan, the Holy Father sent a telegram conveying his blessing and good wishes.

Congratulations to two Liverpool members of the Alliance. Mrs. De Rouffignac has been re-elected for another three years to the Liverpool District Eastern Hospital Management Committee on which she has served since 1949. She is also Chairman of the National Hospital Service Reserve of Broadgreen Hospital, and Chairman of Park Hospital House Committee. Miss C. Brady, Hon. Secretary of the Merseyside Branch, has been elected to the Executive Committee of the Liverpool Standing Conference of Women's Organisations.

The Open Door International at its eleventh Conference, held in Helsinki in June, passed two Resolutions, the one calling for equal opportunities for women and girls in all training and/or apprenticeship schemes and for vocational guidance to be based on aptitude rather than sex, the other, calling for the application of the principle of non-discrimination based on sex, throughout the whole field of work.

We are glad to note that the editor of *The Catholic Times* who has for some weeks endured, with his readers, a spate of boring and fatuous letters on the "Hats in Church" controversy has ended the correspondence with the remark that the "silly season" is now over. May we hope—for ever!

## ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE

AND

Editorial Office of "The Catholic Citizen"

8<sup>B</sup> DRYDEN CHAMBERS, 119 OXFORD STREET, LONDON, W.1. Tel. Gerrard 4564

Signed articles do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Society

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## Operation of the Street Offences Act

Views expressed by Mr. Anthony Greenwood, M.P., at the Twentyfirst Congress of the International Abolitionist Federation, Cambridge, September, 1960

The Street Offences Act came into force on August 15th, 1959. It at once succeeded in clearing the London streets but it is still too early to form a final conclusion on all the other effects it has had.

In the first six months of the Act's operation there were 800 arrests and summonses in London. In the comparable period a year earlier the figure had been 8,000; 26 sentences of imprisonment were imposed in London and in the same period 1,324 cautions were administered. Commenting on these figures in a leading article on 27th August, 1960, *The Times* asked whether there was any evidence that fewer young women were becoming prostitutes and how the system of cautioning was operating. Had it, for example, resulted in putting many girls in touch with moral welfare agencies? It also expressed some concern about the effect of the Act on venereal disease since fewer prostitutes are coming before the Court and thus within range of medical inspection.

There appear to be four generally acknowledged results of the Act:—

1. There has been a tremendous growth in the call-girl system, with the girls adopting various methods of advertising, e.g. the use of touts at railway stations who invite travellers to 'parties', the use of advertising for 'models' or 'dancing partners' in shop windows, and the insertion of advertisements in various publications.

2. The number of women operating has declined to some extent. The older women, faced with the threat of imprisonment have found it difficult to change their method of operation and their qualities do not justify their protector in incurring the heavy overhead expenses inherent in the call-girl system.

3. Undesirable cafés and clubs have proliferated and constitute a serious menace in various parts of London and the provinces.

4. There is also some revival of public soliciting. Cars, for example, are widely used by prostitutes. Welfare workers in Stepney have reported an increase in street soliciting from doorways, and a police sergeant giving evidence at the West London Court on July 1st, 1960, reported that there were then "more prostitutes operating in Kensington Road than before the Street Offences Act came into force."

The most disturbing result of the Act, however, was disclosed in the Annual Report of the Central After-Care Association to the Home Secretary, published in August, 1960. The Committee reported as follows:—

"The introduction of new laws concerning soliciting has resulted in the homeless and friendless girl being in an even more dangerous position than hitherto, since once she has been picked up and introduced to the call-girl system she is not likely to be seen in the streets by the policewomen, who have in the past rescued many such girls from a life of prostitution.

"The fact that only a small number of girls is involved does not make this a less serious problem, though it is, for this reason, more likely to be overlooked."

Although as I have said, it is still too early for a final judgment, one thing is patently clear. The Act has to a considerable extent cleared the streets, but there is growing up or consolidating in the background a formidable vice machine with all the dire consequences for our social and political health that that may involve. It is a problem which will have to engage the urgent attention of our administrators, social workers, and legislators during the next few years.

## ST. JOAN'S INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE

Points from reports of National Sections

### France

*L'Alliance Jeanne d'Arc*, in common with other women's organisations, is fighting for the reform of those clauses of the *Code Civil* dealing with matrimonial régimes which are derogatory to the status of women and still reflect the point of view of 1804. *L'Alliance* also takes an active part in pressing for the ratification of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others.

### Germany

Five members of the Alliance are members of the Bundestag and two are members of the legislatures of the Länder.

The possibility of legislation for part-time work for women Civil Servants and a draft Bill concerning protection of young persons have been discussed with the Bundestag members.

Members in Düsseldorf have done considerable research on the participation of women in the service of the Church. The new educational programme has been much discussed as also the problem of special legislation for women workers.

### Netherlands

The Katholiek Vrouwendispuut gave much attention to the statutory renewal of all the committees of the Catholic People's Party and took an active part jointly with the Union of Catholic Women's Movements in the Netherlands in supporting candidates for the General Election. Attention has also been given to discussion on the position of women in the Church.

### New South Wales

In New South Wales members took an active part in the campaign for more women in local government and were happy to report a considerable increase of women elected in December 1959, especially in city and suburban Councils.

A Marriage Bill, to be brought before the Federal Parliament seeks to raise the minimum marriage age to sixteen for girls and eighteen for boys. The same Bill also includes provision to legitimise children born out of wedlock when their parents subsequently marry.

Mr. Justice Kinsella kindly addressed the members of the Alliance, giving a resumé of the provisions of the Matrimonial Causes Bill.

### South Australia

In South Australia a Film Appreciation Unit has been formed as a result of which a weekly classification of films appears in the Catholic weekly *The Southern Cross*.

Members attended the Jubilee celebrations of the League of Women Voters and congratulated them on the successful achievement of fifty years work.

Organisations on which the Alliance is represented include the Liaison Committee of International Women's Organisations and the Aborigines Advancement League.

### Victoria

In Victoria the Alliance made representations to the State Parliamentary Statute Law Revision Committee, advocating a minimum legal age of marriage of eighteen years for men and sixteen for women.

Members wrote to their M.P.s concerning the Matrimonial Causes Bill. Many objectionable clauses of the Bill were amended but the Act includes provision for divorce after a period of five years judicial separation.

Replies to a questionnaire about the Alliance were sent, as requested, to Canberra, to the Social Science Research Council, which is sponsoring a major research project on the "Role of Women in Australian Public and Professional Life."

## HERE AND THERE

The addiction of some clergymen and psychologists to generalisations about "woman" and "women" can arouse a resentment, which, in this author's view, is thoroughly wholesome and often justified. Even when these descriptions of what women are, or ought to be, are not unrealistic, patronising and contradictory (as they sometimes are), the mere fact that "woman" unlike "man", is treated as an *object* which needs to be described and can be circumscribed is rightly felt as arrogance by anyone who knows herself to be first and foremost, a human *subject* with unlimited possibilities.—Fr. Victor White, O.P. (*Soul and Psyche: The Feminine Principle*, Appendix VI, p. 24) quoted in *The Catholic Herald*.

## HON. TREASURER'S NOTE

The **Christmas Sale** will be held on Saturday, November 26th, at the Clubroom, St. Patrick's, Soho (12 to 5.30). Please send gifts for the stalls as soon as possible. New goods of all kinds are wanted. Groceries, cakes and sweets, etc., are also needed and all goods should be clearly marked with the price, as this saves time and trouble in the office. Lunches and teas will be provided at reasonable prices. Offers of help on the day, either with the stalls or with the refreshments will be welcomed. Please let me know as soon as possible if you are able to help in this way.

Noreen K. Carr

## INTERNATIONAL NOTES

Lady Horsbrugh was the leader of the Parliamentary delegation of the British Government and the three political parties at the meeting of the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg last month.

**Cyprus.** Archbishop Makarios has appointed Mrs. Stella Souliotou to his cabinet as Minister of Justice. She was the first Cypriot woman to qualify as a barrister, and during the war she worked with the W.A.A.F. After the war she returned to her practice and she is the only woman in the Cabinet.

**British Guiana.** The restrictions on the employment of married women in the Public Service have now been removed by the Government. The Civil Service Association has withdrawn its opposition and supports the Government decision.

**Singapore.** The Singapore Bill on marriage came into force on March 2nd, 1960. This takes the place of the Civil Marriage Ordinance and supplements it. A welcome new clause raises the minimum marriage age to eighteen. The Bill does not apply to Muslims but it forbids polygamous marriages by Chinese, Hindu or other custom, and requires three weeks notice of intention to marry, two witnesses to the marriage and registration of marriages. It grants the same right to wives by custom as to wives married in the Registrar's office or in a Christian Church—to seek or resist divorce, and ensures to them and their children the same right to maintenance and support.

The Bill goes far to recognise the wife as a partner in marriage and no longer a chattel: husband and wife have equal rights in the ownership and management of the matrimonial home and bind themselves to safeguard the union and provide and care for the children.—(*African Women*).

## U.S.A.

In our April issue, we reported that, in Maryland, a law was introduced debarring any mother who has given birth to more than two illegitimate children from receiving public welfare benefits. Her children were to be taken from her.

Now we have received information from the same correspondent, quoting Mr. Arthur Fleming, the Secretary of Health and Welfare, as being 'disturbed' by the decision of the Louisiana State authorities to take needy children off relief because their mothers were unmarried. About 6,000 mothers and 23,000 children were said to be on the verge of starvation in consequence. Mr. Fleming said: "Illegitimacy is a serious problem, but I don't believe we will ever solve it by bringing about suffering to defenceless children"—nor may we say, by penalising women and children for faults shared by men.

## EQUAL RIGHTS AND THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

The Republican and Democratic Party Conventions have both discussed the Equal Rights Amendment which reads: "Equality of Rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex." The Republican Party Convention declared in its campaign plank: "Equality for Women—Congress should submit a constitutional amendment providing equal rights for women." The Democratic Party plank supports "legislation for women which will guarantee equality of rights under the law, including equal pay for equal work," but ignores the need for constitutional change.

The Equal Rights Amendment has been before Congress for thirty-six years; now, for the first time, a presidential candidate has openly endorsed it. Vice-President Nixon in a statement made public by the National Women's Party, said that "the task of achieving constitutional equality between the sexes still is not completed. It is my hope that there will be widespread support for our platform declaration on behalf of an equal rights amendment to our Constitution which would add equality between the sexes to the freedoms and liberties guaranteed to all Americans."

So far, there has been no statement from Senator Kennedy.

## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

From "The Catholic Citizen," 15th October, 1935

... Mother Kevin, speaking on the work of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mill Hill in Uganda, at the house of the Chairman of St. Joan's Alliance, Mrs. V. M. Crawford, said there was an urgent need for educated and intelligent nuns; mere piety was not much good without character and the missionary spirit. There was no talent that could not be used for the service of God in mission work. It needed real intelligence to reach the minds of the Africans and often a nun could do so more easily than a priest. Since 1931 eight convents had been founded, making eleven in all; the nuns had to build them themselves and each had its chapel and its dispensary; in any sickness the Africans came for help to their 'white mamma' and every nun had to know something of first-aid.

A particularly interesting feature of the work of the Sisters was their creation of an African community. Fifty-seven African nuns had already been professed (for the first ten years they took annual vows), while ninety were undergoing their novitiate. They came from the boarding schools of the Order, where children entered at five; the novitiate lasted five years—from thirteen to eighteen. To Africans the regular life, the meals at regular hours, meant an immense sacrifice, but rules were rarely broken. Many of these African Sisters taught in the elementary or secondary schools; forty were certified teachers, while others had been trained as nurses. In spite of the real savagery of their background—they were cannibals fifty years ago—their standard of intelligence was often high; they were skilled in weaving, too, and both boys and girls (boys especially) did exquisite embroidery.

## OBITUARY

We ask our members to pray for the repose of the soul of Monica Whately, who died on September 12th, fortified by the rites of Holy Church.

Miss Whately was one of the first members of the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society and was Hon. Treasurer from its foundation until 1915.

She stood as a Parliamentary candidate (Lab) for St. Albans in 1929 and again for Wandsworth (Clapham) in 1933, and was for some years a member of the London County Council.

She was an ardent feminist and absolutely fearless in championing the many causes which she had at heart. As her enthusiasms took her further and further afield, the Alliance did not always see eye to eye with her and her membership lapsed.

Her colourful personality and indomitable spirit will be missed by her friends in many parts of the world.

We remember with gratitude the generous support given to the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society by her mother, her sisters and herself. May she rest in peace.

The Alliance was represented at her Requiem at the Church of Notre Dame de France, Leicester Square, by Miss Gadsby and the Hon. Secretary.

Miss Edith Picton-Turbervill, O.B.E., who died last month at the age of eighty-eight was keenly interested in social and ecclesiastical questions. She was a Member of Parliament from 1929 to 1931 and the first woman nominated by the Government to sit on the Ecclesiastical Commission of Parliament. She was an ardent worker for the admission of women to the Anglican Ministry. In 1936 she was appointed to the government Commission of Enquiry into the system of Mui-Tsai in Hong-Kong and Malaya. The evidence before the Commission showed there were great numbers of girl children whose parents sold them into domestic slavery, often under the guise of "adopted daughters." Miss Picton-Turbervill disagreed with the Majority Report which optimistically believed that the system was dying out, and the Minority Report which bore her signature, and advocated the notification of every girl living in a family not her own, was accepted by the Governments concerned and became the basis of laws which led to the final abolition of the Mui-Tsai system in Hong-Kong and Malaya.

A memoir of Sylvia Pankhurst who died in Addis Ababa, on September 27th, will appear in our next issue.

## REVIEWS

**And I Shall Be Healed.** By Edeltraud Fulda. Translated by John Coombs. (Heinemann, 21s.)

There are two photographs in this book—one of the author in the middle of her long illness and the other after her cure at Lourdes. If anything could convince of the miracle wrought at Lourdes these two photographs should do so. The long illness began in 1937 with the young girl's operation for burst duodenal going on by various painful stages and with various attempts to cure by operation till in the end the diagnosis was Addison morbus, an incurable disease only kept under by continuous and increasing injections of hormone. The interest of the book lies in the fact that during her illness Miss Fulda kept a diary so that we get a vivid—and painful—account of her care by doctors in Italy and in Vienna, of their diagnoses and the hospital treatment which nearly always followed. The illness drags on right through the war years which affected the whole family in varying degrees and we get an interesting glimpse of what Hitlerism first and war afterwards meant to Vienna. In the difficult years of peace just after the war ended it was almost impossible for someone so sick to get to Lourdes. Yet in the end it was managed and Edeltraud and her mother travelled there in an almost private capacity—that is, not as part of an official pilgrimage. A young Dutchman of immense faith took her in hand as her brancardier, almost forcing her to go for the dip in the piscines which she, at the time, felt sure would mean her death. But it meant life not death—from the moment of her first immersion the cure began. She was able to sit up and to eat and from then on was restored gradually to full health without aid of further medicaments and doctors. She was determined "to give thanks" and in the end her cure was officially declared a miracle in 1954.

This is a hard unsentimental book in many ways. Miss Fulda writes: "During those years of endless uncertainty I became a different person, because one certainty stood firm for me—God." This stubborn certainty underlies the despairing and sometimes cynical entries of the diary—this and the marvellous description of the devotion of her mother. That mother was, so it seems, at the beginning not even a very ardent Catholic, but she never let go of her daughter, was at her side in her worst hours, never let her down or lost hope in her ultimate recovery and even in her own illness cared for her. And her devotion was rewarded for a greater Mother took matters in hand.

Miss Fulda subsequently took her own pilgrimage to Lourdes and the description of this pilgrimage is interesting and by no means starry-eyed. The Lourdes described by a very sick person is also intensely moving to anyone who has viewed Lourdes from the angle of a healthy person.

The author hopes "that the sick, the seekers, the unbelievers, also the doctors, will read my story without prejudice, and will then ask themselves in all sincerity whether they can go on as before, still doing without him? Without Him, who is always there, waiting for us, whom mankind adores but also curses, the forgotten, but wonderful and ever-patient God." P.C.S.

*The Anti-Slavery Reporter and Aborigines Friend* contains a valuable summary of the evidence which the Anti-Slavery Society has gathered during the past few years as to the continuance of chattel slavery in certain parts of the world.

Apart from the sovereign states in which are found the chief slave markets, it is only too possible that in some cases the gaining of independence will remove the chief restrictions on domestic slavery and that slaves who have been freed will be recaptured. It is to be hoped that the independent states from which men, women and children are taken by force or fraud will find means to protect their own people.

The Anti-Slavery Society continues to urge the necessity for some expert supervisory machinery to ensure the successful working of the anti-slavery convention and quotes informed opinion and the example of the League of Nations in support. In view of the fact that only one Government has fulfilled the requirement of the 1956 Convention and supplied the Secretary-General with information on its legislation, it would seem that some machinery is indeed required. P.C.C.

#### BOOKS RECEIVED

**The Catholic Marriage Manual.** By Rev. G. A. Kelly. Foreword by Francis, Cardinal Spellman. (Robert Hale, 21s.)

### Christmas Sale

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26th

12 - 5.30 p.m. at

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and

JANUARY to MARCH, 1961

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## ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE

NON-PARTY

Office—8B, Dryden Chambers, 119, Oxford Street,  
London, W.1.

Patron: *Saint Joan of Arc. Colours: Blue, White and Gold*

Organ—"The Catholic Citizen," 6d. monthly.

#### OBJECT

To band together Catholics of both sexes, in order to secure the political, social and economic equality between men and women, and to further the work and usefulness of Catholic women as citizens.

#### MEMBERSHIP

All Catholic women are eligible as Members, who approve the object and methods, and will pay a minimum annual subscription of £1 which includes *The Catholic Citizen*. Men are invited to join as Associates, on the same conditions, with the exception that they may not elect or be elected to the Executive.

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