# WOMAN'S LEADER AND THE COMMON CAUSE

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NOTES AND NEWS.

# Disarmament.

It was reported on Monday that a deadlock has been reached in the disarmament preparations now going on in Paris. Comment is somewhat premature, but at least one cause of trouble seems to lie in the different attitude towards their defences necessarily adopted by insular and continental powers. In the report of Sub-Commission A which has just been issued, Belgium, France, Italy, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Roumania, Jugoslavia, and Spain agree that the whole of a nation's armaments, navy, army, and air force, must be taken together in estimating its power. Great Britain, on the other hand, though agreeing that this is true to a certain extent, and altogether true of continental powers, points out that the navy of an insular power with overseas possessions is required for purposes such as the safeguarding of its trade and food, and the defence of its outlying possessions -which are not related at all to the naval requirements of other powers or to the size of their navies or even of their total armaments. Great Britain also states that whereas the armies of continental powers are maintained for defence, those of insular powers are needed to fulfil their oversea commitments, and again bear no necessary relation to the armies of their neighbours. In the case of an air force, however, Great Britain considers that there is no important difference between the positions of the two types of country. She is therefore unable to agree that it is possible to reduce the three kinds of armaments to a common denominator, and, treating them numerically, work out a sum which will give the amount of power allowed. This particular Sub-Commission is that of the military experts, so that their differences are not necessarily fatal, though they are a rude test of the sincerity and courage of the various governments. The exact position, at the time of our going to Press, does not appear. The Chairman of the last session of the Commission expressed himself as hopeful that a satisfactory solution would be found. This may or may not give grounds for optimism. On the other hand Lord Cecil is again at work combating those birds of ill omen-charges of British hypocrisy and ill-will.

# Separated Women and Charges of Adultery.

Our readers will remember that when the Summary Jurisdiction (Separation and Maintenance) Act was passing through Parliament, we always advocated that the old Act should be amended so as to remove the obligation now laid on a Court to discharge a maintenance order when a wife is proved to have committed adultery, and to leave it to the discretion of the Court whether the circumstances of the case warranted the order being discharged or not. The only alleviation of the old state of affairs which the new Act provided was that the Court was given discretion in such cases not to annul maintenance orders made on behalf of children. We understand that this power to discharge a maintenance order in the case of adultery is the only connection in which a matter so delicate and difficult to handle as adultery comes within the scope of a Summary Court. That some Courts fail in their methods of dealing with it is shown in the cause from which an appeal was lodged last week in the High Court. A woman who had been in receipt of a maintenance order since 1919 was appealing from an order of the Justices discharging that order on the ground that she had committed an act of adultery. It was shown that it was only when she was actually in the court eighty miles from her home and from where the act of adultery was supposed to have been committed that information was given to her as to what the charge really was. The President of the Court of Appeal drew attention to the gravity of the charge, and the unsatisfactory nature of the original trial, and has ordered a re-hearing of the whole case.

# The Legitimacy Act, Children's Allowances, and Widows' Pensions.

In a review of the working of the 1925 Pensions Act in *The Times* this week, it is pointed out that widows with children born before the marriage of their parents will now be eligible for pensions and children allowances on their behalf. The Act provided for the possibility of legislation which would legitimize such children on the marriage of their parents, and the passing of the Legitimacy Act now entitles them to benefit. The Ministry of Health has kept a record of rejected claims and pensions, and allowances will be awarded as from the beginning of this month. The Ministry of Health announce that the administration of the Act has given rise to singularly few cases of attempted fraud. Widows have occasionally altered birth and marriage certificates in order to get allowances for children who were not their own, or not the children of the dead insured person, and a few women who are not widows have tried to get pensions when their breadwinners died. But as all such records can be checked, it is believed that no such attempts are likely to succeed.

# Dame Millicent Fawcett's Journey.

We wish to offer our very best wishes to Dame Millicent Fawcett and to Miss Agnes Garrett who are leaving for a third visit to Palestine on 22nd January. Dame Millicent asks us to say that letters will not be forwarded, but everything will be kept for their return at the beginning of April. When we remember that Dame Millicent is celebrating her eightieth birthday this year and Miss Garrett did so some years ago, we rejoice that their lifelong devotion to the women's cause has resulted in such amazing vitality and vigour. We hope that they will have an excellent journey, an interesting time and a safe return.

# "Ma".

The older one grows the fewer the famous people one wants to meet in the flesh. Authors are at their best in their books, musicians glare, footballers-grin, politicians don't listen, and yet pretend to—only a few remain. And surely one of these is "Ma" Ferguson. It must be truly interesting to meet "Ma." She is a great woman, or rather, a great survival. The perfect wife. To "Ma" what "Jim"—Jim is her husband—does, is right. Jim was Governor of Texas, was impeached for maladministration of public funds, and prevented from again standing-

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for office. To "Ma" all this was perfect; he was her Jim. Since he could not stand to continue his maladministration, 'Ma" stood for him, and they proceeded to maladministe shoulder to shoulder. Her "slogan" was "Me for Ma" and the slogan of her opponents "Not Me for Ma—too much Pa!" which only, of course, enhanced her domestic reputation. Apart from this she was known to the electors as an excellent pie-maker Since she has been in office, besides dutifully assisting her husband in his jobbery, she has specialized in pardoning convicted criminals. So extensive did her pardoning become, that the Texan Courts announced the other day that they would hear no more cases until after her term of office had expired. This was, of course, extremely hard on those criminals who, before they committed their crimes, had counted on being tried before 'Ma" left office. Let us hope they will realize that it is not her fault, and vote for her along with the thousands who were pardoned. This week "Ma" goes. She is not likely to come back, but we believe that Texas will remember her with gratitude She may have cost them something-some millions of dollarsbut she has given them their bit of fun.

# The Imperfect Conscience.

Another lady, this time a woman of title-has been prosecuted for an attempt to smuggle silk dresses and the making of false statements in connection with the attempt. She was fined 475. and costs, and the dresses forfeited, though she withdrew her statements at the time, and in fact, jibbed at confirming them in writing. These heavy penalties are of course the indication and the result of the enormous amount of smuggling that goes on. For some reason the authorities habitually lenient towards tobacco, eau-de-cologne, and Marc, which in the good old days they merely confiscated and said nothing about, have always been stern with regard to lace, and it seems that they regard silk dresses as lace and not as bottles of liqueur. This raises an interesting if cynical supposition: when the promised female customs officers are appointed, will they perhaps adopt a precisely opposite view-take away the lace and silk stockings and say nothing about them, and denounce and prosecute the smuggler of cigars ? Probably not ; probably they would not dream of it. In the meantime the silk tax is providing us with an interesting study-that of the law which classifies the population according to virtue. Everybody breaks the speed-limit ; only criminals embezzle; but here is a law which is felt as binding by about one-third of the ordinary population. Which third is it? It would be interesting to know. Let us hope it includes all solicitors, teachers, and sellers of second-hand motor-cars. The next point in the case is that the lady was prepared to lie, but not to commit herself in writing. Was this conscience stirring up at last? Was it prudence suggesting that one may deny a statement, but cannot, without chemicals, blot out a signature ? Or was it a survival of some primitive instinct from the days when only men of great cunning or sanctity could write, and magicians who desired a man's undoing would like nothing so much as his writing or mark ? Whichever of these, it remains true that all writing is dangerous, and especially signatures, and especially signatures on official papers under statements which are not true.

# **Obnoxious** Quotations.

The Observer announces that it will award a prize of one guinea to the reader sending in the best list of six poetical quotations obnoxious to the modern feminist. We wish the competitors luck. They will have ample choice, for English poetry is, and always has been, studded with the kind of thing they want, from

# Woman talks out, Man walks out

to the Taming of the Shrew. But we doubt whether any of these. however sharp, will seriously disturb the modern feminist. To this fortunate creature her ill-treated ancestresses seem a very proper subject for scorn.' They allowed themselves to be crushed, and they reaped their reward in jeers. This is what the modern feminist would expect to happen. Nobody jeers at her or is likely to. The modern cock-shy is her opposite, that sprightly being known to the Press as "the jazz-girl" or the "cocktail flapper." It is she nowadays who "while she draws the eyes and the notice of men forfeits their true respect " and " makes every decent husband, father, brother, and uncle blush for her sex." And while they are busy blushing, the modern feminist qualifies as an engineer or prepares for the next election.

# Sixth Winter School for Health Visitors.

The Sixth Winter School for Health Visitors and School Nurses, held (by permission of the Principal and Council) at Bedford College, University of London, from 29th December to 11th January last, was attended by 133 health visitors and school nurses in the service of seventy-three local authorities or voluntary committees. In addition, approximately 100 tickets for single lectures were issued. Two lectures were given each morning—the first being an inaugural address by Dame Janet Campbell, Senior Woman Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare to the Ministry of Health. The range of subjects covered was wide, but all had a direct bearing on the problems physical, psychological, and social-which confront Public Health workers. One of the lectures which aroused the most lively discussion was that on "Family Endowment" given by Mrs. Hubback. The afternoons throughout the course were devoted to "visits of observation." These afforded the students opportunities of seeing how local authorities, other than their own, administer the Maternity and Child Welfare and Education Acts, and of obtaining some insight into industrial welfare, the care and education of "uneducable" mental defectives, the problem of delinquency and penal reform, and the care and education of homeless children. Visits were also arranged to hospitals and clinics providing specialized treatment for mothers and young children, to Treloar's Hospital, Alton, to Queen Mary's Hospital, Carshalton, and to the Cambridgeshire Tuberculosis Colony, Papworth. The success of this course, both numerically and educationally, reflects great credit on the Association responsible for its organization-the Women Sanitary Inspectors' and Health Visitors' Association.

# The Speaker and the Public Services.

.The Speaker of the House of Commons has contributed an article on social service in 1927 to the Social Service Bulletin for January. Mr. Whitley says that the public services have outstripped the knowledge of the plain man and woman to-day. There is too great a gulf between electors and those who administer the public services." He believes that the remedy is to be found through voluntary associations for the education of the citizen and for social welfare, and he hopes that 1927 will be marked as a year in which co-operation between public authorities and voluntary organizations has made real progress. Mr. Whitley has laid his finger on one of the weak spots of modern life. The average man and the average woman are not interested, except as unwilling ratepayers, in the public services of the community. How can their interest be awakened?

# Mrs. Pankhurst as Parliamentary Candidate.

Mrs. Pankhurst has been adopted as prospective Unionist candidate for the Whitechapel Division of Stepney. The standing member is Mr. Gosling (Labour) and it is known as one of the liveliest constituencies in the country. For such an old war horse this is, however, only an added attraction. Mrs. Pankhurst has for some time been speaking for the Conservative party.

# Our Plans.

It is surprising how the books that they would most enjoy can escape the eyes of even well-read people. It is in the belief that this happens more often than one would suppose that we propose to publish a series of articles on women writers of the They will be written by various hands, and will include past. among others, Mrs. Thrale, Madame de Sévigné, and Mrs. Gaskell. The two last because of their work and Mrs. Thrale because-though nobody reads her now-she was so charming that not to know her is to miss a friendship. We shall also publish some short articles on "Women in Industry since the War," by Mrs. Blanco White, who was Director of Women's Wages in the Ministry of Munitions, and afterwards in charge of various industrial investigations for the Ministry of Labour. This is a subject on which very little indeed is known, and the articles will be authoritative and written from a strictly impartial standpoint. Another series of articles, by Dame Adelaide Anderson, will deal with the subject of women and children in industry in China.

A good education is a preparation for life. We all know this. None of us acts upon it. Five hundred years ago, when modern education began, it was not a preparation for life, but for scholarship. Since then circumstances have changed, even ideas have changed, but the schools, though they think they have changed, are still very much where they were. Five hundred years ago theoretical knowledge was scanty, exotic, and thrilling to the scholarly temperament. A laborious man in his lifetime could work through the whole of it. Then Learning gave her sons the Elixir of Life in a goblet. Now she can only show them a guide to Niagara, and tell them how to fill for themselves what they can carry with them. The result is a change in our attitude. We talk now not of acquiring learning but of training the mind, not of amazing facts, but of building up instruments able to handle facts. The schoolmasters talk of these things. But they do not change their teaching.

This is the first difference. There has been another as vital. Education, from a personal, has become a national concern. A child's education is determined not only by his claim that he shall be equipped to cope with modern conditions, but of the demand of the community that he shall be disciplined into a healthy and useful citizen.

These changes of direction are admitted, but our lessons, our curricula, and the atmosphere of our schools still most imperfectly reflect them. The result is that it is usual to find in boys and girls who have spent twelve years at school, a complete abandonment as soon as they leave of every scholarly interest. This is not because their life in the world completely satisfies them. The average town-dwelling woman in particular is restless and bored. Nothing would be of greater value to her than a varied and interesting inner life; than the belief that she had a power of choice among marvellous adventures of the mind and spirit. This is the gift which the schools should have given her. And they do not. As a rule she does not dream that it exists.

And yet she is a member of the race which reacts and has reacted to the universe in so many thousand ways. Exploration, music, engineering; the study of languages, religions, stars dress-designing, philosophy, plumbing ; they are all in her blood, activities of her fellow-men. A spark of the curiosity which called them into being lives in her as in all of us. The good school would so handle its teaching and its pupils that it could say to them, "Here is, as it were, an outline map of human knowledge, capacity, and endeavour. Little is filled in. But you know your way about it, and you have been taught to think, to read, to

# WOMEN IN THE MEDICAL PROFESSION. By L. MARTINDALE, J.P., M.D., B.S. (Lond.).

The demand for more medical women continues, and it is satisfactory to find that in 1926 a larger number have put up their plates as general practitioners than during any other previous year. Satisfactory also is it to know that in spite of many prophecies to the contrary the resident appointments in most of the hospitals, which, during the war, were thrown open to women, have remained open, and graduates have the opportunity of serving in the capacity of house physicians and house surgeons in many of our general hospitals, so fitting themselves for future work both in general and consulting practice.

As many as 468 women have qualified in medicine during the year 1926, and the annual entry of new students into the London (R.F.H.) School of Medicine for Women alone was this year greater than in any pre-war year.

the Chair of Midwifery and Diseases of Women, in the Birmingham University

(2) Dr. Lily Baker has been elected Assistant Physician, with charge of the Ante-natal Department, to the Bristol Royal Infirmary—a medical woman for the first time becoming a member of the Medical Faculty of the University of Bristol. (3) Dr. Elizabeth Selkirk has been appointed Medical Superintendent of the Hollymoor Mental Hospital, Birmingham.

(4) Dr. M. J. Procter has been appointed Medical Officer of Health to the Ampthill Urban District Council.

(5) Miss Ida Mann, F.R.C.S., has been elected Assistant Ophthalmic Surgeon to the London Ophthalmic Hospital, with

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search for facts, and to compare them and reason about them, and find their places on the map for yourself. Whether it is art, science, history, sociology—whatever it may be—something that men are doing or have done will interest you, and may give delight and a purpose to your whole life." Instead of this, the majority of the scholars leaving our secondary schools cannot understand the meaning of a tenth of the titles which they would read as they walked by the shelves of any good library. The truth is that nearly all subjects are still taught in schools from the wrong end. A girl has an hour a week for three years to give to science. The school, hampered by coming examinations, chooses one specialized branch, say botany. But it does not-effectivelysay "what can we show her in this time that will give her a glimpse of scientific method, help her to reason correctly, reveal to her the pleasure of watching great minds at work, and leave her touched by the promise and fascination of plant life, if not by the majesty of science itself.'

What it does is to teach her classifications useless to anyone but a future specialist and immediately forgotten by him-for specialists keep bookshelves where they can find these lists and tables when they want them.

After this comes our second point-the community's claim on its children. Some mild attempts are being made to teach ' civics." These lessons usually consist in handing out information which is easily accessible in books of reference. What is not only not taught but carefully shut out of the schools, is training in a citizen's first essential-the power to form impartial judgments on matters which affect his personal interests or appeal to his emotions. If children are encouraged to reason at all, it is on facts which are either dead or supposed to allow of but one conclusion. Where opinions are alive and differ, either the question is taboo or information appears in the form of dogma. Even history is taught for its facts, never for its lessons. Unless they are themselves intending to teach in schools, everything relating to the children's future lives is shut out by the schoolroom doors. Even when they are learning what may vitally affect them, its bearing and importance are concealed. No events are recognized but the school life, the Oxford and Cambridge boat race, and Empire Day. There are no ethics but the school code, and only one nice-minded way of looking at that. And this goes on with boys and girls of 17, 18, even 19, who may in a few months find themselves with their lives in their own hands.

A good education is a preparation for life, and not for becoming an excellent pupil-teacher.

(6) Dr. Christine Murrell was re-elected to the Council of the British Medical Association.

(7) Dame Janet Campbell was appointed by the Ministry of Health to act as the British Expert Representative on a Committee appointed by the League of Nations to investigate the question of Infant Mortality and the means for the protection of children from a health point of view.

(8) Lady Barrett, C.B.E., M.S., M.D., was appointed Dean of the London (Royal Free Hospital) School of Medicine for Women, with Professor Lucas Keene as Vice-Dean.

Great satisfaction and pleasure has been felt by a wide circle of admirers and friends of Dr. Mary Scharlieb on hearing that His Majesty the King had conferred upon her the Order of D.B.E

Last year mention was made in this journal of the formation of a Cancer Research Committee of the London Association of the Medical Women's Federation. The Medical Research Committee helped to start this work, the British Empire Cancer Campaign granted a loan of radium and the salary of a wholetime Medical Research Officer, and the British Medical Association put at the disposal of the Committee an office in their new building in Tavistock Square at a nominal rent. An appeal in the Press also brought in appreciable sums of money to help on the work. The authorities of the South London Hospital for Women, the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital, the Royal Free Hospital, and the New Sussex Hospital, Brighton, were approached for permission to carry out the investigation in their hospitals. The first report has just been issued, dealing with the present position of Radiotherapy in cancer of the uterus,

various therapeutic methods and follow-up systems, and the technique used by the Committee, together with a review of the cases treated-a most encouraging report. For the work to be of any real value, however, it is imperative that it shall continue for some years, so that the cases can be carefully watched and the treatment repeated or augmented with other radiotherapeutic measures; and an appeal for further funds is therefore being issued.

Another outstanding event has been the meeting in Prague of the Medical Women's International Council. This took place in August, and women doctors from many countries attended it and took part in the discussions and deliberations. The meetings were held in the picturesque Town Hall, in which also was held the reception and luncheon given by the Mayor and Councillors. The Czech Ministry of Health, moreover, sent representatives (a Dr. Smetz, who was accompanied by Dr. Johanovska, the only woman doctor in the Ministry) to the public meetings on "Tuberculosis and Pregnancy" and "Women as Police Surgeons ". One of the German delegates read a most interesting paper sent in by Dr. Anita Lemos, a dermatologist and police

The reports of the activities of the various National Associations were particularly interesting :

The French Association has now 102 women doctors as members

"	Austrian	,,	,, 330		,,
,,	German	,,	,, 626	,,	. ,,
,,	Swiss	,,	,, - 26	,,	,,
,,	Polish	.,,	,, 30	,,	,,
,,	Canadian	,, ,	,, 54	,,	,,
,,	Italian	,,	,, 20	,,	,,

These figures give no idea of the number of the women doctors in each country. In Germany, for instance, there are 1,395 women, distributed as follows

In	large towns	(over 100,000 inhabitants).	10.	1	943
,,	medium "	(10,000-100,000 inhabitants)			279
	small	and country	1000	1.00	175

Considering that the first women doctors in Germany only qualified some 25 years ago, the progress is remarkable. Munich, with its 84 women doctors to a population of 670,000, has the highest percentage of women doctors, and Berlin comes third, with 400 women doctors in a population of nearly four million.

One of the most interesting of the national reports, however, was that presented by the British delegate, describing the work of the Medical Women's Federation, of which Dr. Christine Murrell is the new President and Dr. Jane Walker the Hon. Treasurer. The Federation showed an increase of membership from 850 to 1,200, consisting of 13 Associations from different areas in England, Scotland and Wales. The work of the various Sub-Committees was described, including that one appointed to make a report regarding the ability of women to qualify for the "B" Pilot's Certificate in Aviation. The report of this Sub-Committee, which was formed in the early part of the year, embodied the opinions of a physiologist, a physician, a surgeon, a neurologist and a gynæcologist, and through them the consensus of opinion of the Executive, the Council and the members of the Medical Women's Federation. The question of allowing women to compete for the certificate was fully discussed at the International Air Conference in 1923. This body of men voted that women should be debarred from competing, giving as their sole reason that a woman, at the menstrual period, ought not to be responsible for the lives of those she might be carrying in her aeroplane. The Sub-Committee were able to come to the conclusion that there was no reason whatever why women should not enter for and obtain the "B" certificate and make, moreover, efficient pilots. They therefore drew up a report which was sent to the British Air Ministry, with the result that the ban has been removed and women are now eligible as "Air Pilots in aeroplanes carrying passengers and goods, provided they can qualify for the "B" Pilot's Certificate.

It would be impossible to close this short account of the work of medical women during 1926 without alluding to the success which has attended their efforts to increase the hospital accommodation offered to women of the poorer classes and to those professional and other women of limited means, in hospitals staffed entirely by women. The Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital is building new wards and theatres, and the New Sussex Hospital, Brighton, starts this month a new wing to accommodate an increased number of patients; further proof, if indeed any were needed, that there is a demand for the work of women physicians and women surgeons.

# PARTY POLITICS IN MUNICIPAL WORK. By S. M. SMEE, I.P.

Writing under the above title in a December issue your Liberal correspondent expresses the opinion that a woman Councillor " will find it an easier and a happier task in municipal affairs to work as a member of her party and that ultimately she will accomplish more than if she remain Independent." Easier, much easier, it certainly may be not to think things out for yourself, not to make inquiries into the merits of any question or to come to a decision thereon, but just to vote as you are bidden.

Happier, too, perhaps if you are by nature a sheep, or enjoy being a mere machine for recording someone else's views, or can persuade yourself that you have no personal responsibility. But that such a Councillor will "accomplish more" in the sphere of local government, as your Liberal correpondent suggests, I emphatically deny. The chances are that as a puppet member of a political party she will seldom or never be allowed a free vote on any really important matter, much less will she be at liberty to initiate reforms, to advocate things that she sees should be done. Will not, in fact, be able to call her soul her own.

Even in advocating the introduction of party politics in municipal affairs your correspondent gives a typical example of the humiliating position in which the party voter may be placed. We are told that "At the annual election of Chairman of Committees a strict party vote is expected" but "there are methods of mitigating the offence " if, for example, anyone is brave enough to vote for the outstandingly best Chairman for the Highways or Burial Board Committee irrespective of his or her political label. Mitigating the offence of using one's own judgment or voting as one thinks right in municipal affairs What a Gilbertian situation ! Under these circumstances it is not surprising that the comedies enacted on the floor of the average Council Chamber are more diverting than many of those staged at a regular theatre.

As the result of many years' experience may I offer words of warm encouragement to any other woman who contemplates entering public life as an Independent member, free from the degradation of party tyranny? The start will not be easy, but nowever difficult it may be I feel sure she will always feel it was well worth while.

Let her be quite undaunted by the suggestion that " a woman is at a disadvantage because she does not meet the members of her Council in business or at luncheon or in the smokingroom at the Town Hall". Let her rather realize that the very opposite may well be true. Just because she is not involved in business with other members of her Council, because she has not had a drink with any of them at the Club, has not been button-holed in the smoking-room, she can hold up her head and rejoice in her complete freedom to deal with any question on its own merits, to vote as she herself thinks right, unprejudiced by business or personal considerations, unhampered by reciprocal promises.

National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship. 15 DEAN'S YARD, WESTMINSTER, S.W. 1. MASS MEETING EQUAL FRANCHISE In the CENTRAL HALL, WESTMINSTER, On THURSDAY, 3rd MARCH, 1927, at 8 p.m. SPEAKERS: LORD BALFOUR OF BURLEIGH MISS MARGARET BONDFIELD, M.P. Further particulars as to other Speakers, including a prominent Liberal, will be announced later. Tickets, 5s., 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d. Blocks of seats for organizations sending 6 or more members can be obtained from the SECRETARY, N.U.S.E.C., 15 Dean's Yard, West-minster, S.W.1, at the following reduced rates -2s. 6d. for 1s.; 1s. for 6d., and 6d. for 3d. Admission free. Seats will be allotted in order of application.

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# THE OLD POOR LAW.

Our Poor Law will deserve the name of the New Poor Law until Mr. Neville Chamberlain or his successor breaks it up. And considering the active administrative metabolism of the nineteenth century, the Poor Law of to-day is astonishingly like the New Poor Law of 1847 as it emerged shining and clearcut from the hands of the Statutory Commission. Much of its logical consistency has gone of course, and a great deal of its uniformity, but the spirit of Edwin Chadwick still livesin West Ham, and the reins of control are still strongly held in Whitehall. Anyway, be that as it may, the story of the New Poor Law is pretty well known to administrators and social workers. What is less well known is the story of the Old Poor Law which was transformed out of knowledge by the scientific reforming zeal of Chadwick and his colleagues between 1832 and 1847: the Old Poor Law which was part of the administrative jungle of eighteenth century local government and whose history is to be found not in statements of principle, reports of commissions and public statutes of the realm, but in a tangled undergrowth of haphazard parish records and private Acts.

It is the history of this old Poor Law that Miss Marshall traces 1 in the volume before us, during the period which lies between the Act of Settlement in 1662 and Gilbert's Act in 1782. One may call it the period of laissez faire in local administration, bounded on one side by the collapse of centralized Privy Council Control and the tacit abandonment of the high constructive aims of the Elizabethan Poor Law, and on the other by a growing realization of the inadequacy of the system, which culminated in the reforming zeal of the early nineteenth century and the reimposition of central control through a government department created for the purpose.

Now in carving her way through this undergrowth of historical fact. Miss Marshall is not moving through wholly unexplored ground. We know something of the nature of its vegetationlargely owing to the illuminating explorations of Mr. and Mrs. Webb in the history of local government. Crabbe's poems, too, and Dickens' novels have rendered us familiar with certain aspects of the old Poor Law. Therefore Miss Marshall does not so much construct new judgments as confirm and amplify old ones. But her book is nevertheless of value. She presents a very vivid picture of the confusion of the subject-its queer mixture of feckless liberality and brutal repudiation of responsibility, the lack of uniformity from parish to parish, the eternal chivvying of paupers and potential paupers under the Acts of Settlement, the motives which at the end of the seventeenth century led certain parishes to set up workhouses and impose the "workhouse test", the kind of workhouses they set up, the treatment of children under the mockery of " parish apprenticeship ", the inefficiency of the unpaid annually elected overseers. All these things come in detailed documented review. So do the poor themselves : obscure unhappy figures, widows, orphans, unmarried mothers, aged and impotent, and rank upon rank, the parents of large families. For it is interesting to note that just as to-day the greatest single cause of destitution is the inability of the normal wage to meet the needs of the family at its period of maximum dependency, so too does this appear to be the principal cause of poverty in the eighteenth century (see pp. 104, 105, and 164).

But can we echo the optimistic expression of faith with which this painstaking author concludes her thesis : " Unlike their predecessors the reformers of to-day are no longer sailing an uncharted sea. For awash above the waves, lie the wrecked hulls of past experiments, proclaiming their mute warning, 'Here danger lurks. Beware!'" Alas we cannot. For these wrecked hulls do not in fact lie above the waves, but below themto be disclosed only by the careful soundings of the student of history. And how many of our twentieth century adminis trators could pass an examination on the old Poor Law? How many of them wi'l even read Miss Marshall's book ? M. D. S.

# WOMEN CONSTABLES.

Worcestershire has refused to appoint women constables, the chairman of the standing joint committee being of opinion that " it would be a great mistake to have a lot of women going about gossiping and saying they were policewomen. I was going to say, drinking in public-houses," he added, but I had better not say that.

<sup>1</sup> The English Poor in the Eighteenth Century, by Dorothy Marshall, M.A., Ph.D. (Routledge and Sons, 12s. 6d.)

# THE WOMAN'S LEADER.

# AT THE PARTING OF THE WAYS IN CHINA.1

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The political centre of gravity in China has passed away from Peking and Canton to the great waterway of the Yangtse kiang. This river was already the economic centre of gravity in the country. Since 1842, foreign merchants and manufacturers have been establishing themselves in the great cities on its banks, particularly in the International Settlement at Shanghai and in the foreign concessions there and at Hankow and Kiukiang. Labour conditions have been intelerable, even in the factories owned and controlled by the British and other foreigners. This centre of capitalistic enterprise and exploitation has now been invaded by the progressive government of the People's National Party (Kuo-min-tang) which has advanced northwards from Canton. Can one wonder that the pent-up discontent of the workers has broken its bounds and that, for instance strikes and riots have followed upon the release of the industrial city of Hankow from its former reactionary rulers ? The capture of the British Concession by Chinese insurgents and the resultant clamour of British residents there, and in other cities on the Yangtse, for retaliation and a display of force, nevertheless create a dangerous situation. At Shanghai in particular, where the Chinese general Sun Chuan Fang is preparing to resist the Kuo-min-tang armies and where a foreign-controlled municipality, with its own volunteers and police force, is prepared to resist labour opposition, the danger is very real. In the meantime, the British Chargé d'Affaires is carrying on relatively conciliatory, though belated, negotiations with the Ministers of the Kuo-min-tang at Hankow. The question now is : shall the forces making for war, or those making for Peace, win the day ? M. A.

# THE PORTRAIT OF THE DUCHESS.

The employees and tenants on the Atholl estate have presented the Duke and Duchess of Atholl with a portrait by Sir James Guthrie and a bronze bust of the Duchess. The Duke in acknowledging the gifts, promised that the portrait should hang on the walls of Blair Castle or be given to Scotland. America would not gain possession of it. The Duchess spoke of the experience she had gained in visiting the homes of Atholl as one of the reasons that led her to a parliamentary career. We are unable to grudge Scotland the portrait of its distinguished daughter ; nevertheless we should have liked to see among the historic portraits in Westminster the first woman who entered the British Parliament, with the first woman who held Cabinet office. We have not ceased to regret the rejection of the striking picture of Lady Astor's entry into the Chamber.

# A LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION CONFERENCE.

The League of Nations Union is holding a conference in February on Methods of Fixing Minimum Wages and Conciliation and Arbitration in Industrial Disputes. These subjects are to be discussed in May by the Tenth International Labour Conference, and it is hoped by the previous discussion to give public opinion some means of expressing itself. There can be no doubt that the subjects are of the most urgent importance, and as the speakers—among whom are Sir William Beveridge, Miss Gertrude Tuckwell, Sir Ernest Petter, Mr. G. N. Barnes, Sir William Mackenzie, Mr. Arthur Pugh, Professor Gilbert Murrayare well qualified to deal with them, we hope that the conference will be fully successful. We regret, however, that from a discussion on methods of fixing the minimum wage the subject of family endowment should apparently be omitted. No minimum wage can be scientifically fixed, whether in a normal or economic sense, unless it is known how many people will be supported by it. Possibly, however, the unnamed speaker from France, who is announced in the programme, will make good this deficiency.

# DEATH.-MRS. HELEN PRIESTMAN CLARK.

We regret to announce the death last week of Mrs. Helen Priestman Clark, eldest daughter of John Bright and one of the early adherents of the movement for Woman's Suffrage. An appreciation of Mrs Clark's life will appear in our issue of next week

<sup>1</sup> Contributed by the Women's International League, 55 Gower Street, London, W.C.

# SOME GOOD DETECTIVE STORIES.

THE FOOTSTEPS THAT STOPPED, by A. Fielding. (Collins, 7s. 6d. net.)

THE VERDICT OF YOU ALL, by Henry Wade. (Constable, 6s. net.) THE WYCHFORD POISONING CASE, by the Author of the "Lavton

Court Mystery ". (Collins, 7s. 6d. net.) THE-BENSON MURDER CASE, by S. S. Van Dine. (Benn, 7s. 6d.

net.) THE MELLERIDGE MYSTERY, by A. O. Cooke. (Arnold, 7s. 6d. net.)

Detective stories are always in demand at this time of year, and fortunately there are some good ones to recommend. The Footsteps that Stopped lives up to its excellent title. Mrs. Tangye a rather handsome, rather opulent, rather young and perfectly healthy, married woman is found in her well-furnished morning room at Richmond, shot with the revolver she had acquired while she was in the W.A.A.C.'s. Everybody laments the accident, but only Inspector Pointer sees anything odd about it. He follows things up with his accustomed care, and lets the reader have a glimpse at all his clues. The end of the book is, as so often in detective stories, rather disappointing ; the melodrama in Professor Orison's studio is unconvincing, and there is not enough explanation of the actual circumstances of the murder. Still, this is an excellent tale.

Even better is The Verdict of You All. Mr. Wade is, I think, a new author of detective stories. The care with which he builds up his complicated plot, and the pleasant shock he gives us at the end, make us wish to put him at once at the top of his class. The book is well written, and has just the right amount of detail.

This is an important point in detective stories. It is difficult to enjoy them properly unless there is enough description of places and people to make one able to see the whole thing, and for the time live in the story. It is pleasant to identify ourself with the investigator by following his life from hour to hour. Nor should things be hurried at the end, a surprise is all to the good, but it should be followed by a full and convincing explanation of how things really happened. On the other hand there must not be too much padding in the course of the story. We want to know what the detective thought, but not everything that he said or the exact number of cigarettes and pipes he smoked. And this applies still more strongly to the subsidiary characters. The Wychford Poisoning Case, a very good modernized version of the Maybrick Case, is rather spoiled by too lengthy descriptions of vulgar romping and chaff among young men and girls. A little of it would be sufficient to give the desired frivolous atmosphere and show the exact social *milieu* in which the chief characters moved. Too much becomes boring and does not help in the working out of the very well conceived plot.

The two last detective stories on our list suffer much more seriously from this defect. I do not know whether American readers will be amused by the supposed Anglicisms of the connoisseur and dandy detective Philo Vance. Personally I find him intolerable, and had not patience to follow his investigations into the death of Alvin H. Benson to the end. The American police must be extraordinarily patient, if they do not decide to leave all their murdered millionaires unavenged, rather than call in the services of such a very talkative and affected detective. As for The Mellbridge Mystery, it is nearly all padding. The descriptions of a quiet little country town on the borders of Wales and its inhabitants are pleasant in themselves, but there is not enough story to justify them, and before we know how and why Marsh the novelist was murdered in his comfortable rooms, we are almost driven to wish ourselves in New York.

I. B. O'M.

# COMMON SENSE IN THE NURSERY.<sup>1</sup>

The author tells you in the introduction to this book, that it corresponds, in fact, to the cookery book not yet written that will tell you how to fry an egg, how to make toast, and how to simmer a stew." It is written, in fact, for the inexperienced mother, but there is plenty of matter here for any mother still capable of benefiting by new ideas and practical suggestions. The book lives up to its title, common sense is the key-note, the reasons for precautions and treatment are clearly given, and

<sup>1</sup>Common Sense in the Nursery, by Charis Barnett. (Christophers, 5s.)

the bulk of the book is so simple and non-technical that one thinks continually, "I wonder why I never thought of that ! The author is singularly free from any of the fads which are

JANUARY 21, 1927

the usual accompaniment of books on such a subject. She herself seems to think she may be dubbed a faddist for her chapter on "fresh air," but in these days of widespread information as to the health-giving properties of violet rays, the chapter will seem to most people as full of common sense as the rest of the book. The chapters on meals, clothes, baths and washing will be particularly useful to many mothers, for few books give such attention to small details. It is never assumed for one moment that you know already. The author has also a great deal of helpful advice to give on matters not strictly relating to health. The furnishing of the nursery, the choosing and treatment of the child's nurse, how to correct little faults, and how to exact obedience with kindness, all these are dealt with in a fresh and stimulating way, and there is a short chapter " advice to strangers" which should be read by many women who are not

The author's intolerence for other people's stupidity is always veiled by a very kindly humour, and the book is delightfully MBB written throughout.

# SOCIAL INHIBITIONS.

Miss Hope Mirrlees has written a very intriguing story<sup>1</sup> about a state (whose latitude and longitude we have failed to locate in the Times Atlas) very richly endowed by nature with the necessary resources for home production and foreign trade. Its southern boundary was the sea, into which flowed its important commercial river. Its northern and eastern boundaries were mountains. But its western frontier was the Elfin marshes beyond which lay Fairyland, and out of which flowed, into the very heart of its capital city, Lud-in-the-Mist, a small tributary river. From this western frontier, as one might expect, came continual trouble. It had its roots in the prohibition of all intercourse with the people on the other side. Even to mention their existence was an obscenity, though their existence was a disturbing fact patent to all individual consciousnesses. In effect, the citizens of Lud-in-the-Mist were engaged in a long war of prohibition and social taboo-a losing war as things turned out, for by hook or crook fairy fruit found its way across the frontier, and people ate it, with disastrous effects upon themselves and their domestic environment. On one occasion an entire boarding school for the daughters of the bourgeoisie became infected, sacks of the prohibited stuff were introduced into the establishment and consumed by the youthful boarders, who eventually ran screaming across the western frontier, leaving their headmistress to endure the imprisonment and social obloquy which she deserved.

But the western frontier conquered in the end, and with the resumption of normal and amicable intercourse between the two spheres of influence, a more abundant life became available to all-and with none of the obscene consequences which the prohibitionists had foreseen. The moral of which is, that if fairy fruit must be eaten (and indeed it must) let it be eaten at table or in the open air, and not under the table or in the caverns of the earth. Nevertheless-this is not the last word upon the moral of Miss Mirrlees' enchanting tale. The last word must be spoken by Miss Mirrlees herself, in her own grave beautiful prose-or by Miss Jane Harrison, who reminds us in the short passage which the author quotes as a foreword, of all the impulses of life as yet immortalized, imperious longings, ecstacies, whether of love or art, or philosophy, magical voices calling to a man from his ' Land of Heart's Desire,' and to which if he hearken it may be that he will return no more-voices, too, which, whether a man sail by, or stay to hearken, still sing on.' M. D. S.

# THE GUILDHOUSE MONTHLY.

Admirers of Miss Maude Royden's sermons will be glad to learn that they are now being published in The Guildhouse Monthly (price 3d.), which can be obtained at the Guildhouse, Eccleston Square. This new paper is the organ of the Fellowship Guild, and will contain as well the other sermons, lectures, and addresses delivered there. We welcome this new contemporary, and wish it all the luck we hope it will deserve.

<sup>1</sup> Lud-in-the-Mist, by Hope Mirrlees. Collins, 7s. 6d.

[ANUARY 21, 1027.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

# President : Miss ELEANOR RATHBONE, C.C., J.P. Hon. Treasurer : Mis. Soddy. Hon. Secretary : The LADY BALFOUR OF BURLEIGH. Parliamentary Secretary : Mis. HUBBACK Offices: 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1. Telephone: Victoria 6188.

# ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING, 1927.-Wednesday, 2nd March (afternoon), to Saturday, 5th March (morning).

# Visitors and Special Railway Facilities.

We hope that societies realize that not only delegates, but also visitors to the Council Meeting can take advantage of the reduced railway fares. We trust therefore that Societies will endeavour to send not only their full quota of delegates, but as many members as possible as visitors. Visitors are entitled to attend all sessions and entertainments of the Council on payment of 3s., or a single session for 6d. We wish to remind our Societies again that we are anxious to know as soon as possible the number of those travelling, as we hope soon to be sure that a sufficient number are coming to entitle us to the reduced fares.

Mass Meeting on Equal Franchise. Thursday, March 3rd, 8 p.m. Central Hall.

Applications for the meeting are coming in well, and we hope our Societies are doing all they can to bring from their localities not only members of their own Societies, but also members of every possible organization, men's and women's, and more especially groups of young women, whether from colleges or factories, etc.

### Conference on Women and Insurance

In view of the many aspects of National Health and other forms of insurance which will be discussed by the Council, the Executive Committee has decided that a Conference on the subject should be held during the Council Meeting. Mr. J. L. Cohen and others will speak.

# Members of Parliament and Equal Franchise.

It is proposed that all delegates attending the Council meeting should go in a body to the House of Commons on Thursday. 3rd March, to see their member or members of Parliament on Equal Franchise. We hope that Societies will respond to this suggestion and make the necessary appointments. Further particulars will be announced later.

# EQUAL FRANCHISE MEMORIAL.

The Equal Franchise Memorial, with 132 signatures, has been sent in to the Prime Minister, coupled with a request for the inclusion of a promise to deal with Equal Franchise in the King's Speech. Signatures received now can still be sent in. We hope shortly to be able to publish news of the deputation the N.U.S.E.C. has asked the Prime Minister to receive on Equal Franchise

# **RESPONSES TO THE GUARANTEE FUND.**

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# NEWS FROM SOCIETIES.

EXETER WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS Deputation to Watch Committee

Deputation to Watch Committee. On 30th December, the Watch Committee of the Exeter City Council received a deputation comprising Lady Florence Cecil, Mrs. Gamble (President of the Exeter S.E.C.), Miss Harding, Mrs. Payne, Mrs. Fletcher, Councillor Miss E. Platt, and a representative of the Free Church Council. The deputation, which was introduced by Councillor Mrs. W. Browne, a member of the Watch Committee, submitted the following resolution : The Devon Council of Women, supported by representatives of other women's organizations in Exeter, think it advisable to appoint women police with the power and status of constables and the Watch are therefore police with the power and status of constables and the Watch are therefor police with the power and status of constables and the Watch are therefore urged to use the powers conferred upon them to that end. The deputation suggested that the objection of extra expense, involved by the appointment of police women, did not apply in this instance for, if as was said, the Police Force was 'understaffed, the two or three women asked for might well undertake the lighter duties of some of the policemen, and it was added that Exeter had also found women's help in detective work of considerable that Exeter had also found women's help in detective work of considerable assistance in the past. The deputation was on the whole favourably received. The matter was referred for discussion to the next meeting of the Watch Committee, and the women concerned in the deputation will certainly leave no stone unturned in their endeavour to see that the matter is not shelved.

# EQUAL POLITICAL RIGHTS.

As an outcome of the meeting organized by St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance in St. Marylebone on 6th December, on 13th January the Attorney-General, Sir Douglas Hogg, was waited on by a deputation of his constituents. Councillor Mrs. V. M. Crawford in the name of the deputation demanded the inclusion of a measure giving votes to women at 21, and on the same terms as men, in the King's Speech and stressed the urgency of immediate legislation if the Prime Minister's pledge Equal Political Rights at the next election" was to be fulfilled. Miss Helen Ward pointed out how many young working women, finding no constitutional scope, were being drawn into the Communist Party. Dr. Elisabeth Jacobs as an "under thirty " showed up the absurdity of a state of affairs in which she who had the responsibility both of motherhood and of a large medical practice was yet denied the right to vote. Sir Douglas Hogg in reply, said that he did not know what the Government was going to do, but that the subject of the alteration of the franchise was receiving its attention, and that therefore, as a member of the Cabinet, it would be improper for him to make any statement.

# A CHAIR OF DIETETICS.

A letter suggesting the foundation of a Chair of Dietetics in connection with the School of Hygiene, University of London, appeared in The Times this week. Our readers will remember how often our contributor Ann Pope has urged in these columns the close relation between diet and good health. The discussion which ranged around the new regulations with regard to the prohibition of preservatives has attracted a good deal of attention to the question of food values and the public certainly has a right to look for authoritative guidance on the subject.

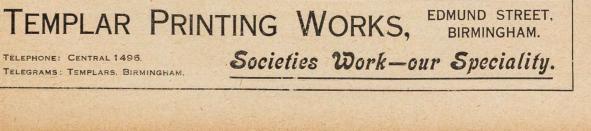
# CORRESPONDENCE.

# OUR UNJUST LAWS.

MADAM,—The letter appearing in your last week's issue signed by "A Working Woman" lays bare one of the many hardships inflicted on maried women by our Income Tax laws. The repeated efforts made by the N.U.S.E.C. and kindred Societies to remove this grievance have so far failed, and will continue to fail, so long as Governments are in the habit of looking at questions of this sort from the point of view of expedience.

long as Governments are in the habit of looking at questions of this sort from the point of view of expediency. Whilst the law remains in its present form, married women will always be at a disadvantage, but as half a loaf is better than none, I would advise the person referred to by "A Working Woman" to apply for Separate Assessment. She will then be able to recover a part of the tax that has been deducted from the Trust Income, and her husband will have to pay a correspondingly larger amount to the Revenue out of his earned income, and have so much less to spend on drink. I might mention that application for Separate Assessment has to be lodged not later than 5th July. Hund M. BAKER.

HILDA M. BAKER.



# THE WOMAN'S LEADER.

# COMING EVENTS. Penistone and District S.E.C. JAN. 26. 7.45 p.m. Miss Macadam on "The Women's New Programme,"

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

JAN. 28. r p.m. Informal Lunch at Lyceum Club, 138 Piccadilly, W. Chair: The Marchioness of Aberdeen. For particulars apply, I.C.W., 25 Victoria Street, S.W. 1.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

Barnsley S.E.C. /AN. 26, 5 p.m. St. Mary's Parish Room. Miss Macadam on The Equipment of the Woman Citizen." Bolton W.C.A. JAN. 27. 7.30 p.m. Annual Meeting in Congregational School, t. George's Road. Miss Eleanor Rathbone on "The Future of the Women's Movement," hair : Councillor Mrs. H. A. Barnes.

**Edinburgh S.E.C.** *IAN.* 28, 8 p.m. Central Hall, Tollcross. Mass Meeting in pport of Equal Franchise. Speakers: Councillor Mrs. Buchanan. Alderton, J.P., Sir Samuel hapman, M.P., athe Right Hon. William Graham M.P., and others.

Kensington and Paddington S.E.C. JAN. 31. 3.30 p.m. Drawingroom Meeting at 4 Onslow Gardens, S.W. 7. Miss C. Fulford on "Poor Law and the Proposed ie Hon. Mrs

North London Group of Societies for Equal Citizenship. FEB. 2. 8 p.m. Conference on Equal Franchise and Women's Questions before Parhament. Speakers: Mrs. Corbett Ashby, Mrs. How Marting, and Mrs. M. W. Nevinson, J.P. Chair : Lady Pares.

# TYPEWRITING.

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# FOR SALE AND WANTED.

**G**REAT SALE.-COTTON SHEET BARGAINS.-Special offer for this month only. An odd lot of plain linen-finished cotton sh-ets, very superior quality, single bed size, 54 × 90 ins. tos. 560, per tyr, 56 × too ins., t4s. 561, per pr.; 2×3 yds., 458, per pr.; double bed size, 21×3 yds., 208, per pr. Write for Sale List To-day.—HUTTON'S, 4r Main Street, Larne, Ulster.

GREAT SALE.-NEVER-FADE LINENS.-For all those purposes for which coloured Linens are now so popular, Hutton's Never-Fade genuine frish Linens are iteal. Guaranteed absolutely fadeless by sun or washing. Sale Price as, tool. per yard (35 ins. wide). They are increasingly in demand for curtains, bedspreads, table-runners, etc., as well as for dresses and children's frocks. There are 64 artistic colours to s-lect from, including ten of the newest shades. Every yard stamped "Hutton's Never-Fade Linen". Send for full range of potterns and Sale List, FREE.-HUTION'S, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ulster.

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, roo Raby Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. (Stamped addressed envelope for reply.)

# DRESS.

"FROCKLETS." Mrs. Elborough, c/o Madame Sata, 163 Ebury Street (5 min. Victoria Station). Tel., Ken. 3047. Children's Dresses of original and practical design, Coats, Caps, etc., etc. Smocks a speciality. Fancy Dresses. Open daily (Saturdays excepted) 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

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### MISCELLANEOUS.

Q<sup>UIET</sup> ROOM FOR LUNCH AND TEA at "Bleuheim," 8 Blenheim Street, New Bond St. (close to Oxford Street).

# ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON AND NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 35 Marsham Street, Westmin-ster. Secretary, Miss P. Suachey. Expert advice on what to do with your girls. Addresses to schools and societies in London and Provinces by arrangement.

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 23rd January; 3.30 Music. Mr. N. S. Mallik on "Hinduism." 6.30, Maude Royden, "To him that overcometh."

**E**DUCATED HOME HELPS BUREAU, Philbeach Hall, Philbeach Gardens, Earl's Court, requires and supplies educated women for all branches of domestic work. Registra-tion : Employers 25. 6d., Workers 15. Suiting, 75. 6d. and 25. Telephone, Western 6323.

# **CHARGES FOR PREPAID CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS.**

**Portsmouth W.C.A.** *JAN. 28.* 8 p.m. The High School. Annual At Home by reliation of the Chairman, Miss Cossey.

FEB. 3. 7.30 p.m. Green Row Rooms. Meeting for Women only on "The Prevention of Venereal Disease." Speaker : Mrs. Ramsay, J.P.

Redhill and Reigate W.C.A. JAN. 25. 3 p.m. Group discussions on Restrictive Legislation, Disabilities of Married Women, and Smoke Abatement Speaker: Miss Whately,

JAN, 22. 7.30 p.m. New Gallery, 12 Shandwick Place, Edinburgh. Reception to Scottish Council Delegates.

JAN. 22. 10.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. 27 Rutland Street, Edinburgh. Annual Business Meeting of Council.

[AN. 20. 6.15 p.m. Friends' House, Custom Road. Conference on "The Adoption of Compulsory All-in Arbitration by Great Bittain." Speaker: Mr. W. Arnold-Forster. Chair: Miss K. D. Courtney.

SCOTTISH COUNCIL OF WOMEN CITIZEN ASSOCIATIONS.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

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## INSERTIONS.

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# NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

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# Edward Wright & Cavendish Bentinck Lending Libraries.

These two libraries contain some three thousand volumes, including sections on current political, economic and social matters of special interest to women as citizens, as well as a historical section of the Women's Movement, which dates back to the 15th Century. Boxes containing approximately 20 books are available for Societies, Study Circles, etc.

# SCALE OF CHARGES.

For individuals, 10s.6d. per annum for two volumes er week, or 3d. per volume per week. Book-boxes

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