

THE CATHOLIC CITIZEN

WOMENS SERVICE
URBAN

Organ of St. Joan's Alliance (formerly The Catholic Women's Suffrage Society).
36A, Dryden Chambers, 119 Oxford Street, London W.1.

Vol. L. No. 4

15th APRIL, 1964

10s. per annum

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

MARIE-HELENE LEFAUCHEUX

"Chevalier sans peur et sans reproche"
An Appreciation

By S. Grinberg-Vinaver

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Since the creation of the United Nations, during the last eighteen years of her life, Marie-Hélène Lefauchaux was a champion, a courageous and untiring spokesman for all women—regardless of race, creed or nationality. Where women were concerned, she was a true citizen of the world who knew no political or geographical frontiers.

Her international spirit was especially apparent and valuable in her work at the United Nations and in its Commission on the Status of Women. She contributed—more than any other single person—to establish the reputation of this Commission and to raise its prestige, both in and out of the United Nations.

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During the last decade, Madame Lefauchaux concentrated her efforts on the improvement of the status of women in family law, both in advanced and in developing countries. From her first-hand knowledge of Africa and her numerous personal contacts with its women, Marie-Hélène gained the certainty that laws, customs and practices concerning marriage were the chief obstacle to the emancipation of women and to the respect of their human dignity. She knew that, both in Moslem and in black Africa, girls were (and still are) married off at an early age, without having been consulted or having appeared at the ceremony. This prompted Marie-Hélène to initiate in the United Nations the movement for the Convention on Marriage. In the Commission on the Status of Women, where her prestige was unique, she worked with energy

on the successive drafts. When the Convention was finally adopted by the General Assembly, Mme. Lefauchaux, while gratified with the fact, was seriously disappointed with what she called the "watering-down" of its provisions: she was opposed to the deletion of a specified minimum age of marriage and to the admissibility of reservations to the essential clauses of the Convention, in particular that dealing with free consent, to be given by parties in person.

Marie-Hélène Lefauchaux was President of the International Council of Women from 1957 to 1963. At the end of her term of office, she was elected by acclamation its Honorary President and pledged herself to continue her important work on the non-governmental level where she will be sorely missed.

Until her last moment, she worked for the cause. To this work, she brought all the resources of her brilliant mind and of her passionate spirit. The name of Marie-Hélène Lefauchaux will go down in history as that of a great woman, a true feminist who was never afraid to fight injustice.

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The Human Rights Commission, on which Marie-Hélène Lefauchaux had represented the Status of Women Commission so ably, paid homage to her memory on February 25th, the President and each member expressing admiration for her extraordinary qualities and their own sense of personal loss in her death.

On March 9th the International Council of Women held a service of remembrance and thanksgiving at the United Nations in New York, under its President Mrs. Schuller McGeachy, when tributes were paid by the representatives of the Secretary-General, the Status of Women Commission, the I.L.O. and UNESCO, and the new African States. Miss Catherine Schaefer, representative at U.N. of the W.U.C.W.O., spoke for the "other N.G.O's", including specifically St. Joan's Alliance.

Notes and Comments (continued from page 20)

While *The Catholic Citizen* drew attention to various good points in the Guardianship of Infants Bill now on its way through the Dail, the Joint Committee of Women's Societies in Ireland is far from satisfied with the Bill. The Joint Committee is delighted with Section 6, equal rights of guardianship (for which it has been pressing for years) but is disappointed to find that Section 7 gives great power to the Courts to undo the good in Section 6. The Joint Committee was surprised to see that under Clause 2 of Section 8, the Court may appoint a guardian to act jointly with the surviving parent even though the deceased parent had not thought it necessary to do so. Clause 4 of Section 11 extends the right of a father to apply for the custody of his illegitimate child; the Committee can see no reason for this when such fathers have neglected their duty to legitimize the child or even to contribute towards the child's maintenance. Finally, the Committee believes that Sections 14, 15 and 16 of the Bill will impede the effort to re-settle with the parent or parents as many as possible of the large number of children now in institutions. The Joint Committee deeply regrets that the Bill does not give equal rights to mother and father in the matter of Consent to Marriage of Minors, and that it does not change the present requirement of the Passport Office for the *father's* consent to a minor going abroad.

* * *

Dr. Marita Harper's campaign to eliminate the presence of pornographic literature in Swindon has received the full backing of the Swindon Council of Christian Churches. "For giving this lead", the Council writes, "she deserves the full support and gratitude of all professing Christians." Mr. Francis Noel-Baker, M.P. for Swindon, is tabling the following motion (he hopes to do so on an all-party basis): "That this House deplores the publication, importation from other countries, and sale by family newsagents and other shopkeepers of pornographic periodicals of a perverted and sadistic nature and calls on the businessmen concerned to refrain from selling such matter, or the authorities to prevent it being imported into the United Kingdom, and our local police to take more effective action to prevent its sale." The Alliance wishes success to Dr. Harper and all who crusade against the dissemination of filthy and degrading publications.

* * *

Unesco

In conformity with the resolutions adopted by the General Conference of Unesco 1962—inviting

DUPLICATING, verbatim shorthand, typing (Tapes/Mss), translating.—Mabel Eyles, 10 Beaconsfield Road, London, N.11. Ent. 3324.

ST. JOAN'S ALLIANCE

NON-PARTY

Office—36A Dryden Chambers, 119 Oxford Street, London, W.1.

Patron: *Saint Joan of Arc. Colours: Blue, White and Gold*
Organ—"The Catholic Citizen," 10s. per annum.

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.
Life Membership £10.

JAPANESE Silk Scarves 31" sq. Heavy quality water repellent. Hand-rolled. In the latest colours and designs of the Orient. In the best stores at 12s. 11d. to 16s. 11d. each. Our price 7s. 11d. each, post 6d.; 3 for 22s. 6d. French Briar Pipes much reduced 5s. each, postage 1s.; 3 for 15s.—J. Davies, Newarth Lane, Hesketh Bank, Preston.

Catholic Funeral Upholders

JOHN HUSSEY Ltd.

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(Adjoining 104) Kensington Church St., W.8

A SUITABLE MORTUARY CHAPEL

can be placed at the disposal of families

Habits supplied for Deceased Members
of Confraternities. MASS CARDS

Tel. BAYswater 3046.

Telegrams: Requiem, Kens., London.

Member States to provide aid for African educational development, notably for the extension of educational opportunities for girls and women—the Swedish Government has given a remarkable example.

It has offered Unesco a voluntary contribution for the financing of educational projects for girls and women in Africa. Among these projects are: construction and maintenance of a girls' secondary school in Tanganyika, able to take 500 boarders, award of scholarships for four years to 300 girls in secondary schools in Ghana, construction and maintenance of a primary teacher training college able to take 180 women boarders in Sierra Leone, scholarships for women training as community workers, etc.

It may be hoped that this generous example will be followed by other governments.

L.B.

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AMERICAN WOMEN AND THE CHURCH

It would not, I think, be unfair to say that, by and large, the Catholic women of America have always been rigidly conservative. Now, however, there are definite indications that they, too, have become conscious of the wind of change.

In an article in *The Commonweal* entitled "Women and the Church", Professor Rosemary Lauer of St. John's University, New York, writes of the incident which took place in November in Rome when an accredited journalist, invited to be present at one of the Council Masses, was physically prevented by "police action" from approaching the altar rail with the other communicants. And why? Because the journalist happened to be a woman. As Professor Lauer says, the "New Look" at women, brought about by Cardinal Suenens and the Melkite Bishop of Galilee at the Second Vatican Council, was not transmitted to the petty officials at the Basilica, and she comments as follows:

"How could such a thing happen? As is the case with almost everything that occurs in the world today, 'police action' can only be understood in an historical context. We in the West have inherited certain traditions of thought and practice, and according to these traditions, women ought to be treated differently from men. Nor has there been any successful attempt to rationalize the traditional practices with anything like a 'separate but equal' theory. Despite all the fine romantic statements about women's place being on a pedestal, the roots of our tradition require that women be given a 'separate' treatment because they are *not* equal, because they are *inferior*."

Professor Lauer tacitly asks the Catholic women of America to re-evaluate themselves in the light of the "New Look", and in her article in *The Sign*, Katherine Burton does so far more directly. She enters the lists (her own words) against Father Karl Rahner, S.J., who contributed an article to an American magazine which certainly does not seem to come from the pen of so progressive a priest. He deplored the feminization of Catholic practice which he said was offensive to the virility of the modern male. This did not make sense to Katherine Burton (nor does it to us) but, as she says, Father Rahner went on to labour the point by stating that women are more pious than men, enclosing the word "pious" in quotes as if it were suspect. According to Father Rahner, the Church, in consequence of this attitude of women, appears to many as "the exclusive provenance of women", and the net result of this inexcusable religious attitude of women alienates the male who is by nature "inclined to find gratification amongst the measurable values of his secular life."

There is, of course, a kind of piety at which Father Rahner is quite right to tilt, but he does

not help his case when he speaks of Scripture as putting women in their place and by saying that Scripture does not give them as much leeway as the Church has since granted them. Here, Mrs. Burton opposes him on firm ground: "Scripture tells us very clearly that no man except John showed up at the Crucifixion, while three women stood close to Jesus and others were only a little distance away. It took the Resurrection to bring the men back; the women didn't have to come back, they had stayed." She then goes on to speak of the deaconesses and their many duties, and reminds her readers that even in the fifth century, there were forty deaconesses and sixty priests in one city, while in the eleventh, a Missal in the West had a special prayer for deaconesses.

We congratulate *The Commonweal* and *The Sign* on publishing these two articles. Even if they cause offence, they can do nothing but good.

In a letter to *The Commonweal*, Miss Mary Daly, the first American woman to obtain a doctorate of theology (S.T.D. at Fribourg), deploras the fact that Professor Lauer's article is "unique". She says "there should be a barrage of such essays."

P. D. Cummins

SLAVERY

It is good news that the Secretary-General of the United Nations, U Thant, following the Resolution (960(XXXVI)) concerning Slavery passed at ECOSOC last July, has appointed a special Rapporteur "charged with the preparation of an accurate, comprehensive and up-to-date study on the extent to which slavery, the slave trade and institutions and practices similar to slavery, still persist." This will, however, not be presented to ECOSOC until 1965.

The Rapporteur, Mr. Mohammed Awad of Giza (United Arab Republic) will gather information from the Governments of Member States, from Specialized Agencies and from Non-governmental Organizations in consultative status.

Mr. Awad has been Rector of the University of Alexandria and Minister of Education in the United Arab Republic, and he has done much work with UNESCO. He also served as a member of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.

He has recently been appointed by the I.L.O. to assist the Government of the Sudan in the settlement of the nomadic tribes of the Butana.

While appreciating this appointment we still hope that a Committee of Experts will be set up.

We ask the prayers of our readers for the repose of the soul of Miss Margaret M. Lawson of Edinburgh who died on January 20th. R.I.P.

Notes and Comments

The Executive Committee re-elected Miss P. C. Challoner as Chairman and Mrs. P. D. Cummins, Editor of *The Catholic Citizen*. Miss W. Mann was elected Hon. Treasurer; Miss Gabrielle Day was re-appointed Secretary.

* * *

We were delighted to have a visit from our International President from April 2nd-4th. This flying visit was full of hard work; but pleasure was mixed with profit and several members joined Madame Leroy for dinner at the Women's Service Club on the Friday and much enjoyed this opportunity of meeting her and also our new member from America (and Fribourg), Miss Mary Daly, S.T.D., who was passing through London.

The President left to attend a meeting of L'Alliance Jeanne d'Arc at the home of Madame Pesson-Depret in Paris en route for Barcelona where she will represent the Alliance at the Conference of International Catholic Organizations. There she hopes to meet Miss Frances McGillicuddy, St. Joan's representative from New York who is making good use of a holiday in Spain and Portugal.

* * *

We send our congratulations to Bruno Leroy, on his marriage in Brussels on March 31st to Mlle. Christiane Massion, and wish them both many years of happiness.

* * *

St. Joan's Alliance remembers Mme. Lefaucheux with particular gratitude and affection and is glad to recall that she had a special understanding of those questions which the Alliance has so much at heart. It was under her chairmanship that the Alliance was able to bring the question of ritual mutilations to the notice of the Status of Women Commission in 1952 and she kept the matter alive.

* * *

Fifty women now hold senior posts in the United States Administration. It was President Johnson's express wish that the Administration should not remain a "stag line". One of the most recent appointments was that of Mrs. Mary Ingraham Bunting, President of Radcliffe College, Massachusetts, who now becomes the first woman member of the American Atomic Energy Commission.

* * *

The first woman political candidate for the highest administrative post in the U.S.A. is Mrs. Margaret Chase Smith. In announcing her candidature for the Presidency of the United States in November she said "I accept the challenge and look forward with pleasure to putting it to the test."

With sorrow we record the death of Miss Kathleen Moclair who died in Dublin on March 24th. Like her sister May who died in January 1950, she was completely selfless and overflowing with Christian charity. Whenever she came to London she never failed to visit us. She was last with us helping at our Christmas Sale two years ago. To her sister Dr. Delia Moclair and twin nieces to whom she was so devoted we send our deep sympathy. R.I.P.

* * *

Decima Moore, Lady Guggenheim, who died aged ninety-three in February, was one of the original Savoyards and a most active member of the Actresses' Franchise League. To a reporter who met her at the memorial service for Christabel Pankhurst a few years ago and who expressed surprise at seeing her there, she exclaimed: "Of course I was a suffragette—I couldn't have kept my self-respect if I hadn't been."

* * *

In answer to a question from Lady Horsburgh, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry for Science said that twenty-one per cent of the students now in London medical schools were women.

* * *

A special feature of the great University of the Sacred Heart in Milan is its annual "University Day". Initiated by Pope Pius XI and supported by succeeding Popes, the celebrations take place on Passion Sunday and are designed to widen popular support and to ease the financial burden of the University. Its faculties have now been increased to seven, with a medical school in Rome, but theology is not included as this is taught in the Seminaries. The publications of the University run into thousands and we have been fortunate in exchanging some of these with our own *Catholic Citizen*.

ST. JOAN'S INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING 1964

Members who are able to attend the twenty-first Council Meeting to be held in Antwerp from August 28th-31st, are asked to notify the Hon. Secretary, St. Joan's International Alliance, 36A Dryden Chambers, 119 Oxford Street, London W.1, as soon as possible. Accommodation will be available at the Maria Mediatrix Home at a cost of eighteen shillings a day. We hope many members will avail themselves of this opportunity of taking part in the international work of the Alliance; the journey is easy both by sea and air, the surroundings delightful, and much of great interest will be discussed at the meetings.

ST. JOAN'S ALLIANCE.

BALANCE SHEET FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1966.

RECEIPTS.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Balance b/f from 31st. Dec. 1965	217.	12.	8.			
Donations (United Kingdom)	289.	17.	0.	119.	10.	3.
Fees & Subscriptions	110.	0.	0.	159.	11.	9.
Catholic Citizen	158.	19.	0.	157.	2.	2.
Proceeds from Fares	174.	10.	11.			
Delegates Fees	81.	15.	0.			
Payment for meals	30.	0.	0.			
Sale of Booklets	14.	0.	0.			
Sale of Advertisement spaces	12.	19.	6.			
Sundry Cash Receipts	6.	16.	8.			
Interest Building Society Account	3.	9.	2.			
Loan from Dr. Passhinder	85.	0.	0.			
Donations to Special Fund	129.	10.	0.			
Transferred from Special Fund	268.	13.	10.			
	436.	4.	2.	436.	4.	2.

SLAVERY

It is a good news that the Secretary General of the United Nations U Thant following the...
 £2019. 7. 11.

Total Assets 31st December, 1966.

Balance General Account	£58.	4.	1.
Memorial Account	309.	9.	4.
Building Society	173.	8.	3.
Premium Bond	1.	0.	0.
Special Fund	271.	7.	1.

I have examined the above statement with the books and papers relating thereto and certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief it is a true and correct statement of the affairs of St. Joan's Alliance.

(Signature). W. Mann

61, Greening Street,
S. E. 2.

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Notes and Comments

Our Committee received Miss P. C. ...
 Mrs. P. D. Connors ...
 Mrs. W. Mann ...
 Miss Gabrielle Perry ...

EXPENDITURE.

	£.	s.	d.
Printing Costs	666.	2.	10.
Documentation	32.	1.	4.
Postage	91.	10.	10.
Clerical Assistance	480.	6.	10.
Rent	343.	0.	0.
Electricity	15.	13.	2.
Telephone	34.	18.	10.
Advertisements and Announcements	21.	16.	9.
Subscriptions and Donations	17.	16.	0.
Lightfitting, sign writing etc. on removal	10.	16.	8.
Office requisites	1.	8.	1.
Sundry expenses	12.	5.	9.
Council expenses	84.	4.	0.
Insurance	3.	13.	9.
Cheque Books	1.	0.	0.
Transfer to Memorial Fund	32.	19.	0.
Transfer to Special Fund	111.	10.	0.
Balance carried forward to 1st January, 67.	58.	4.	1.

Outstanding Accounts not yet received:

Rates for 1966 approximately	£35.
Florence Barry Memorial Plaque	£95.
	£180.

ST. JOAN'S INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING 1967

Members who are able to attend the 1967 Council Meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, from August 24-28, are asked to contact the Secretary, Mrs. W. Mann, 61 Greening Street, S.E. 2, London, S.E. 2, as soon as possible. The programme will be available at the next meeting. It is a most important meeting and we hope many members will attend. The opportunity of taking part in the 1967 meeting will be a most valuable experience.

test,"

ST. JOAN'S ALLIANCE

founded 1911

BRITISH SECTION OF ST. JOAN'S INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE
AND

Editorial Office of "The Catholic Citizen"

36^A DRYDEN CHAMBERS, 119 OXFORD STREET, LONDON, W.1. Tel. Gerrard 4564

Signed articles do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Society.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ex-officio MME MAGDELEINE LEROY BOY, Dr. Jur. President St. Joan's International Alliance.

MISS P. C. CHALLONER, M.A., *Chairman*MISS F. A. BARRY, *Honorary life member*

Mrs. M. W. BENTLEY, M.A.

MISS M. BLACKBURN

MISS PAULINE M. BRANDT

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MISS W. MANN, *Hon. Treasurer*

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MISS MARY PARNELL

MISS E. D. PRICE M.B.E.

MRS. SHATTOCK, M.D., D.P.M.

MISS CHRISTINE SPENDER

FIFTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING

The Fifty-Third Annual Meeting of St. Joan's Alliance was held at 27 Wilfred Street on March 21st. Members who packed the room will agree that the proceedings were outstandingly stimulating.

Miss P. C. Challoner, the Chairman, welcomed those present and called upon the secretary, Miss Gabrielle Daye, to read the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of March 16th, 1963, and of the Extraordinary General Meeting of April 27th, 1963. These were confirmed and signed.

The Annual Report was read by Miss Daye and its adoption moved by Mrs. Shirley Williams. In a brilliant speech, she said how encouraging it was to see from each successive Annual Report the steady progress the Alliance had made towards achieving its aims, and that the advances of the past twelve months were particularly gratifying, for instance the admission of the hereditary peeresses to the House of Lords. The Robbins Report acknowledged that girls represent this country's greatest source of untapped labour; under the present system, however, thousands of girls will not have the opportunity of higher education as most university places go to boys, a state of affairs that the Report seeks to remedy. Turning to equal pay, Mrs. Williams said that while there are many injustices still to be righted, many wage increases have been made irrespective of the sex of the workers. It is also notable that although there is a gap in certain industries between the wages of male and female employees, this gap is not widening. Mrs. Williams then dwelt on some of the urgently needed reforms for which the Alliance works, and instanced the equal guardianship of children. She urged the Alliance to safeguard and strengthen the family. The deliberate policy of separating a husband from his wife and children when a family had to be taken into the care of a local authority resulted in countless tragedies,

so did the parting of old couples who, for reasons of ill-health or inadequate means, were often institutionalized separately. Mrs. Williams' speech made it abundantly clear how much she will bring to Parliamentary and public life if she is elected M.P. for Hitchin.

Mrs. Parry Hausenstein, seconding the adoption of the Report, said that perhaps at no time had women's influence been more needed than today. In the past year, there had been glaring instances of the lack of concern for moral issues; the truth had been distorted, the spiritual sacrificed to the material, and the Alliance in its efforts to advance the cause of social justice must never lose sight of the danger of liberty turning into license.

The Report on *The Catholic Citizen* was read by Miss Christine Spender who, as Mrs. P. D. Cummins was absent through illness, moved its adoption. She drew attention to the work still carried on by Miss Florence Barry and asked members, in view of steeply rising printing costs, to make every effort to increase the paper's circulation. They could do so, for instance, by taking out subscriptions for their parish priests and Members of Parliament.

The motion was seconded by Miss Margaret Clarke. Modesty kept an editor silent on her work, she said, but ten years' editorial experience had made her fully aware of the difficulties of bringing out a paper and members ought to know them. An editor is faced with too few or too many contributions, and when all goes smoothly, praise is never given; one trivial mistake in print, however, is invariably pointed out. A debt of gratitude was due to Mrs. P. D. Cummins for all she had done to maintain the high standard of *The Catholic Citizen*, but to continue her work, she needed the encouragement of her readers. Miss Clarke then spoke of the two important functions of the paper: in the first

place it was the link between members of the Alliance and kept those who could never attend meetings constantly in touch with the problems that are the Alliance's particular concern; secondly, it provided a permanent record in the national archives of St. Joan's work and achievements.

In calling upon Miss Noreen Carr to speak to the treasurer's report, the chairman thanked her once more for her long and devoted service. Miss Carr said how anxious she was that the new hon. treasurer should find the finances of the Alliance in a healthy state, and suggested that, to the sum members were prepared to give, a shilling or a pound for each of the fourteen years she had acted as hon. treasurer might be added, while as it was Leap Year, perhaps they would help to defray the expenses the extra day had entailed. As usual, Miss Carr charmed money out of purses, and the collection yielded £93.

The chairman opened her address by saying that in pursuing the new, the Alliance was not forgetting the old. Much encouragement had been received in the past year, not only from the late Pope John but also from eminent prelates at the Oecumenical Council. She read the message addressed to the International Alliance of Women at Istanbul in 1935 by the great and good man who became John XXIII, and reminded the audience that his words "Yours is a work of redemption" summed up St. Joan's work for the abolition of slavery, the circumcision of girls, and customs similar to slavery that affect thousands of women. She stressed the loyalty the Alliance has always shown towards the Teaching Authority of the Church, and quoted John Stuart Mill on the saying of St. Paul: "Women, obey your husbands, and servants, obey your masters" which, said the great reformer, did not mean that St. Paul upheld the legal authority of husbands and slave-owners, and did not prevent women from working to alter the law. The chairman summed up with the great words: "In my end is my beginning."

The Resolutions were then moved and passed with verbal amendments. (For full text, see page 33). The chairman invited members to speak to the Resolutions. Dr. Amy Fleming of the Open Door Council spoke in favour of the I.L.O. Resolution. She explained in detail the reasons for basing protective legislation on the nature of the work and not on the sex of the worker, and dealt with the anomalies of the existing situation. In view of the General Election, Miss Nancy Stewart Parnell, in a stirring speech, begged members to take the resolutions home and make use of them with their candidates. Should members be asked what function a feminist society could fulfil today, Miss Parnell said, they could reply from knowledge. Quoting Père Teilhard de Chardin she urged members to broadcast the seed.

Miss Pierotti, vice-chairman of the Status of Women Committee, suggested some verbal amendments to the resolutions; these were accepted.

Dr. Shattock, introducing the resolution on the fuller participation of women in the service of the Church expressed the Alliance's feeling that it was in duty bound to inform its superiors of its work in this sphere. This was the culmination of much thought and earnest deliberation. Those who read these resolutions for the first time may find the wind of change excessively fanned, but, said Dr. Shattock, to the words "hang on to your birettas" which appeared in an article by our American friends, she preferred those of the Psalmist: "Do manfully and let your heart take courage."

Concerning Canon Law Miss Joan Morris said that recommendations regarding the revision of Canon Law were no longer merely welcomed—they were being invited. The Alliance should put forward its viewpoint without delay—it would be extremely difficult to do so later. She went on to say she had listed each reference to women in Canon Law, and tabled the three main obstacles which bar the way at present to the fuller participation of women in the service of the Church. Unfortunately, time did not permit Miss Morris to go fully into the details that her valuable research work has brought to light, and it is hoped that at a later meeting, we shall have a further opportunity of hearing her.

Finally Dr. Marita Harper said that she found *The Catholic Citizen* a mine of information, and while she had piles of presscuttings, she always filed *The Catholic Citizen* uncut because of the value of the contents. While agreeing reluctantly to the resolution to omit the December issues of *The Catholic Citizen* she added as a corollary that the number of subscribers be increased.

The Executive Committee was re-elected with the exception of Miss Carr, who was obliged to resign owing to ill-health. Dr. Marita Harper was elected in her place.

Miss E. D. Price, the international hon. secretary, urged as many members as possible to attend the International Council Meeting in Antwerp, August 28th-31st, as it was important that the Alliance should demonstrate to overseas members its unflinching enthusiasm and devotion to its aims. After all, the movement had started in this country, and from this country it had spread round the world.

This concluded the formalities of the Meeting. Over tea, members exchanged ideas and experiences, and renewed in one another the energy, fervour and inspiration needed if the Alliance is to make further progress in the year that lies ahead.

Margaret C. Clarke

The Month in Parliament

The Royal Navy

When the Civil Lord of the Admiralty produced his Navy Estimates for consideration in committee Miss Joan Vickers expressed astonishment that no reference had been made to the Wrens. She suggested that the Wrens should be given more posts overseas. Miss Vickers also said that she hoped that attention would be paid to the matter of accommodation, as many of these service women live in poor hutted conditions. (3rd March).

Girls from the Near East

The Secretary of State for the Home Department said that he is now prepared to consider applications from girls in Eastern Europe to make *au pair* visits to this country or take up domestic employment here for periods not exceeding 12 months. (5th March).

A Matter for Both Sexes

Mrs. Emmet reported that a number of her constituents had complained that the committee advising the Home Office on the supervision of laboratories using live animals for scientific or medical purposes consisted entirely of males. Mr. Brooke replied that on the resignation of a member he had invited Dr. Frances Gardner, F.R.C.P., to fill the gap and that she had accepted. Mr. Brooke seemed pleased to accept the credit for having, as he said, "broken the all-male character of this committee." (5th March).

Pornographic Material

Mr. Brooke told the House that he was determined to close the loopholes which have been shown up by the decisions of the courts under the 1959 Obscene Publications Act. (5th March).

Welfare Services

Miss Vickers asked the House to consider a motion to extend the provisions for co-operation between the services concerned with children and families in need of help. She protested that sending neglectful parents to prison achieves nothing; and that this should never be done before the fullest enquiry has been made by the probation officer and a psychiatrist. Miss Pike, joint Under-Secretary of State for the Home Office, pointed out that at present 132 local authorities hold regular meetings called by a co-ordinating officer who, in 62 cases, is also the children's officer. Miss Pike expressed the hope, that as the public become more aware of the preventive work being done, the local authorities will review and develop all the services. She stressed the importance of voluntary help: "The root of this problem lies in the strength of society. It lies in the reality of the care and compassion of society, which will make certain that these people who, for one reason or another, are in some way inadequate, have all the forces of society to help them. These are things that cannot be done by

statutory arrangements alone." (6th March).

Comparative Earnings

Ministry of Labour enquiries into the earnings of employees in the twelve main industries revealed that the average weekly wage of men in 1963 was £16.14s.11d.; that of women was £8.8s.3d.; of boys £7.8s.8d. and of girls £5.9s.2d. In the motor industry the men's average was over £10 greater than the women's. In the iron and steel industry boys' wages were higher than those of adult women. In construction boys' takings averaged £7.12s.2d., girls' £4.17s.1d. (16th March).

The Marriage Market

The Attorney General (Sir John Hobson) defended the practice of the courts whereby judges, in assessing damages claimed by a widow under the Fatal Accidents Act, take into account what they consider to be her future matrimonial prospects. Mr. Abse protested that not only are judges not competent to make such assessments, but that by such a procedure women are subjected to treatment that might be expected by a slave girl in a Persian market. Sir John replied that it is generally accepted that judges deal with these cases "with delicacy and good judgement" in most cases. (23rd March).

Representation of the People

Mr. K. Robinson asked the Home Secretary if he would introduce legislation to amend the Act by which a wife residing abroad is denied the same voting rights as her husband. Mr. Brooke said that he had no change in view. The proposed amending Bill was on three successive Fridays (6th, 13th, 20th) prevented from having a second reading by a cry of "object". Mr. Lubbock asked the Speaker if he could rule this behaviour out of order on the ground that a committee is considering this attempt to prevent a measure of justice from being discussed. The Speaker said that there was nothing for him to say, except that the objection was not out of order. (12th and 6th March).

Married Women's Property

The Lords' Bill about the property rights of married women was passed without amendment. (13th March).

Immigrants We Must Keep

Mr. Pannell asked how many immigrants from Eire or the Commonwealth convicted of living on immoral earnings cannot be deported because on conviction they have resided for five years or more in the United Kingdom. Mr. Brooke replied that since the Commonwealth Immigrants Act came into force (May 1952) there have been, in the Metropolitan area only, 25 such persons from Eire and 139 from Commonwealth countries. (5th March).

C. M. Cheke

RESOLUTIONS PASSED AT THE FIFTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING MARCH 21st, 1964

House of Lords

St. Joan's Alliance welcomes the passing of the Peerage Bill by which hereditary peeresses were given their rights after a campaign lasting over forty years.

Jury Service

St. Joan's Alliance trusts that the Departmental Committee on Jury Service will recommend that the qualifications for Jury Service be based on the Electoral Register, thus enabling a greater number of women to serve on Juries.

Private Employment Agencies

St. Joan's Alliance urges the Government to introduce legislation to provide for a system of licensing and supervision of private employment agencies.

I.L.O.

St. Joan's Alliance calls upon the Government to instruct its delegates to the forthcoming International Labour Conference to ensure that equal protection be given to men and women against exploitation, injury, industrial accident or disease. Further, that incapacity for work on account of maternity be dealt with under the same regulations as apply to absences owing to illness, injury or other incapacity for work.

General Election

St. Joan's Alliance asks each of the three political parties whether if returned to office, they will introduce legislation:

- (1) giving a married woman the right to her own independent domicile;
- (2) giving both parents equal rights of guardianship over their children;
- (3) granting equal pay to women in the industrial grades of the Civil Service;
- (4) for the separate assessment and taxation of the incomes of married persons and the removal of all sex discrimination in taxation;
- (5) giving full equality to Catholic Schools in the National System of Education;
- (6) to amend the Street Offences Act, 1959, by the deletion of Clause (1) and the substitution of a clause applicable to all citizens whether men or women who cause annoyance or nuisance by loitering or soliciting in the streets or public places.

Fuller Participation of Women in the Service of the Church

St. Joan's Alliance respectfully begs His Grace the Archbishop of Westminster and the Hierarchy of England and Wales to request the Vatican Council to invite competent women to attend meetings of the Council as "auditors"

It further respectfully asks the support of the Hierarchy for the following resolutions which were passed by St. Joan's International Council Meeting at Freiburg in September 1963:

- (a) In view of the growing desire for the fuller participation of the laity in the Apostolate, St. Joan's International Alliance reaffirms its belief that the dedicated work done by so many women for the Church would be more firmly based if they had some outward sign of the official support and blessing of the Church. As a concrete suggestion St. Joan's International Alliance submits that, if in future, diaconal duties are to be trusted to laymen as an independent ministry, this ministry be open to both men and women.

- (b) St. Joan's International Alliance welcomes the setting up by His Holiness Pope John XXIII of a commission for the revision of Canon Law. Encouraged by the words of His Holiness in *Pacem in Terris* the Alliance expresses the hope that special consideration will be given to those Canons which refer to women.

- (c) St. Joan's International Alliance reaffirms its loyalty and filial devotion and expresses its conviction that should the Church in her wisdom and in her good time decide to extend to women the dignity of the priesthood, women would be willing and eager to respond.

The Catholic Citizen

In view of the increased costs of production of *The Catholic Citizen*, rather than increase the subscription, St. Joan's Alliance agrees to omit the December issues.

REVIEWS

The Psychology of Loving. By Ignace Lepp, translated by B. B. Gilligan. (Helicon Ltd., 25s.)

Father Lepp is concerned with the psychological rather than the moral or theological aspects of love, but although he refers to "depth psychology" he deals with the cases he describes on a common-sense level and avoids the jargon of psychotherapy. His book is therefore easy to read and will prove helpful and instructive to anyone not familiar with the normal—and not so normal—motivation of human action. His occasional insistence on feminine passivity is perhaps an echo of once familiar theories, but he is singularly free of prejudice as regards the choice of a profession by women. He advises all women who can do so to take up professional work, for it "gives a married woman the economic independence without which it is difficult, if not impossible, to enjoy the moral independence which the modern woman desires . . ." and "even if she has to give up her professional activity in order to attend to her duties . . . she presents a psychological picture which is altogether different from the case of a woman who has to be supported by her husband because she is not desirous of, or is incapable of, earning her own living . . ." (page 165). This view, not often expressed by psychologist or theologian, will be welcome by the married professional women who are not used to the reception of bouquets!

F.M.S.

The Trial of St. Thomas More. By E. E. Reynolds. (Burns, Oates, 25s.)

E. E. Reynolds is the editor of the lives of More by Roper and Harpsfield. He is also the President of the Amici Thomae Mori Society, a recently formed international society whose purpose is to promote the study of the life and works of St. Thomas More.

In this present book, Mr. Reynolds takes the opportunity to modify and correct certain statements made in his "St. Thomas More" and

"Margaret Roper". He examines the sources of our knowledge of the trial, assesses their value, examines the three crucial Acts, and demonstrates that More did not endanger his life for legal or political reasons, but maintained his stand because he saw clearly that the unity and the authority of the Church were threatened. This is a sober, scholarly book intended for those who already have considerable knowledge of the subject, and as such, it commands respectful attention. The illustrations struck me as being quite irrelevant; in any case, a book of this character does not require illustrations.

P.D.C.

BOOKS RECEIVED

- From the New Babylon to the Time of Christ.** By Robert J. Hoare. *Mitre Histories*—2. Illustrations by G. S. Ronalds. (Burns, Oates and Macmillan, 6s. 6d.).
- A Catholic's Guide to Social and Political Action.** By Reverend Father C. C. Clump, S.J. (Catholic Social Guild, Oxford, 6s.).
- Christian Medical Practice in Africa.** By Anthony T. Andreasen, F.R.C.S. (The Africa Centre Ltd. and The Sword of the Spirit, 3s.).

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

*Evelyn Billing in "The Catholic Citizen",
15th April, 1939.*

The latest biography, (by Ida Coudenrove), drawing upon authentic documents, gives us a vivid account of her life. We see how the little girl coveted the honour of serving her Lord as a priest, in order to bring the Mass to the hunted Catholics in hiding. Though that privilege was denied her, Mary early dedicated herself to the Divine Bridegroom, refusing Lord Neville's offer of marriage and thus inflicting pain on a much loved and loving father. Thenceforth her lot was travel and sojourn in many places between Flanders and the Mediterranean, during which time she experienced in turn the joy of achievement, the bitterness of slander, and the desolation consequent upon the official strictures of the Church she loved so well. . . .

Mary Ward deserves the special interest and prayers of every feminist and Catholic Action member. She claimed a woman's right to do active work in the world for the Church. She established the fact that laywomen in ordinary everyday dress can and should do useful active Catholic work in the world. One wonders if she is satisfied with the status of women today! Moreover Suffragettes will specially sympathize with her because she was told in Rome that, though her plans were good, that was not the appropriate time for putting them into action. Was not that an argument we were tired of hearing when women demanded the franchise?

Mary Ward—Pioneer of Catholic Action.

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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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