

# THE WOMAN'S LEADER

## AND THE COMMON CAUSE

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### NOTES AND NEWS.

#### The Abbey Memorial Service.

The Memorial Service held at midday on 19th November was too late for a notice in this paper apart from Mrs. Strachey's broadcast impression which we were permitted to print. For the sake of readers unable to be present but eager for more detail we have obtained leave to reprint extracts from the *Manchester Guardian* account, written with sympathy and inside knowledge. Older suffragists and friends of Dame Millicent must have entered the Abbey with mingled feelings—renewed sadness for her loss battling with thanksgiving for her completed life; pride that our leader should be honoured by the nation dimmed by the fear that the ceremony would be too formal and impersonal. But this fear was found to be groundless. The service was all that could have been wished. Dame Millicent's name was not mentioned. But that did not matter. Her personality was present throughout the words and music of an almost perfect order of service. Mrs. Strachey and the writer of the *Manchester Guardian* article have rightly not stressed the feminist character of the occasion for it was a national gathering. But mingled with the brilliant red and blue and gold of academia or mayoral distinction it was good to see the red, green, and white of the organization Dame Millicent led so long, and the purple, white, and green, and green, white, and gold of the sister organizations with whom she always maintained such happy relations. Suffrage colours in Westminster Abbey at a service "in grateful memory" of one who had given her long life to the cause! But the note of the service was thanksgiving—thanksgiving and the conviction that "their good things be not abolished." "They rest from their labours and their works do follow them."

#### Clemenceau.

The great French statesman who died this week was, with all his virtues and merits, no great admirer of women. No doubt he realized, as every wise man did, that they had their usefulness even in war time. But he could not be said to be either a born or a converted feminist. When the war was over and the peace negotiations were going on he was one of those visited in Paris by Dame Millicent Fawcett and the other representatives of the women of the allied countries. He received the deputation very politely, sitting in his room at the Ministry of War with his hands closely cased in his yellow kid gloves. Dame Millicent put the matter before him clearly. She told him that the women of all the world were awakening as never before, and that their help was imperatively needed in the reconstruction time. Clemenceau listened, smiling. Then in his perfect English he replied that there was force in what she said, and that for his part he would be glad to see the municipal franchise extended to women in his own country. Seeing perhaps some dissatisfaction in the faces before him he added quickly, "And now, since we agree on this let us separate at once. It is always well to

part as soon as you reach an agreement." That was in 1918. It is now 1929. And even municipal suffrage for women still carries in France.

#### Miss Bondfield and the Unemployment Insurance Bill.

Miss Bondfield has the privilege of being the first woman in this country to move the second reading of a measure of first-class importance. That she was fully alive to her responsibilities and the need for careful statements was evident from the fact that contrary to her usual practice she read her speech. This meant inevitably that what she gained in caution she lost in impressiveness, and she is to be congratulated on her clear and careful exposition of the Bill, which on its merits met with comparatively little serious criticism. As Mr. Lloyd George pointed out, each item taken by itself cannot but be agreed to by most of those who have already accepted the principle of unemployment insurance at all. We ourselves rejoice that the main additional benefit should have taken the form of an extra 2s. for adult dependants. Mr. Lloyd George, who was in his best vein, directed his criticism not so much to the Bill as to the fact of such a Bill's being necessary, and made an eloquent plea for the expenditure of money not on the relief of unemployment but on its prevention. By the time this is in the hands of our readers the committee stage of the Bill will have been started, and like its predecessor, the Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Pensions Bill, is likely to meet with much detailed though probably unavailing criticism.

#### Employment of Young Persons.

The text of the Children and Young Persons (Employment and Protection) Bill, which Mr. Sorensen is introducing on Friday as a private Member's Bill, has now been published. The Bill not only consolidates the existing law but makes many fresh provisions, and if carried should go a long way towards remedying the evils of unprotected juvenile labour. It provides that no person under 13 shall be employed in any capacity unless employed when the Bill comes into operation, that no person under 16 shall be employed for more than 38 hours a week, and that no person under 18 shall work at all on Sundays.

#### Births and Deaths.

On Saturday of last week the Registrar-General issued his quarterly return for the thirteen weeks ending 28th September. It established two new records. The birth-rate was the lowest hitherto recorded for any third quarter, and corresponded to an annual rate of 16.4 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with a rate of 16.7 per 1,000 for the complete year 1928. The lowest third quarter birth-rate hitherto reached was 16.5 during 1927. The infant death-rate also touched the unprecedentedly low level of 54 per 1,000 births, as compared with an average for the preceding ten third quarters of 60 per 1,000. The natural increase of population by excess of births over deaths during the quarter was 67,170—a slightly smaller increase than that of the three preceding third quarters, but yet sufficiently large to remind us that our housing problem is not a static one.

#### Mr. Thomas's *faux pas*.

Big headlines were given on Monday to Mr. J. H. Thomas's statement that "it was not only uneconomic, it was not only unfair, but it was against the nation's interests for women to work for what they call 'pin money' and deprive other people of legitimate work." He appealed not only to women workers but also to men in receipt of pensions to refrain from entering the labour market. We cannot help feeling that although certain hard cases may have come to Mr. Thomas's notice, he is on very dangerous ground if he attempts to argue that the possession of a competence sufficient for bare existence should be a disqualification for work. We would even suggest that this is

a slippery slope on which Mr. Thomas himself might come to grief. If Mr. Thomas relinquished his present work might he not be able to live as well as any of the women who work for pin-money or of the men pensioners? It is true that there are conceivably circumstances in which anyone, whether man or woman, already having sufficient for their own maintenance, would be acting against the interests of the community in accepting a routine job at the expense of someone who needs it in order to live. But a general appeal such as Mr. Thomas's is likely to increase the prejudice against the employment of women, the great majority of whom work not for the provision of luxuries but of necessities, and to encourage the pernicious doctrines both that work is a charity and that there is a limited amount of work to go round. It would almost appear as though some people were afflicted with a kind of sectional communism which they apply only to one sex. In the case of women it is proper that wealth shall be distributed "unto each according as she has need." In the case of men, the job is to the efficient and the salary to him who can earn it—and the desire to earn it, even on the top of a parental allowance or an unearned pittance, is laudable ambition stimulated by legitimate desire for an infinitely expanding standard of life. There may be something to be said for the communist philosophy of distribution in general, but there is nothing whatever to be said for its application to one sex, and we think that Mr. Thomas richly deserved the prompt and devastating trouncing which he received from Lady Rhondda.

#### The Minister of Education on Married Women Teachers.

The suggestion recently put forward by the President of the Board of Education that local education authorities might avail themselves of the services of married women teachers to meet the expansion of the staff occasioned by the foreshadowed extension of the school age, aroused in us certain misgivings. We feared, and still fear, that many local authorities will only modify their restrictive policies to the extent of making use of married women to meet a temporary pressure, engaging them when necessity compels and sacking them when opportunity permits. It is gratifying to find that Sir Charles Trevelyan himself realizes this possibility and deprecates it. Speaking at the annual dinner of the Manchester Teachers' Association on Thursday of last week, he said that "if married women were going to be retained or brought back into the profession, they ought not to be kept as emergency teachers but should have their permanent place in the profession. He hoped the local authorities who were facing that problem would deal with it in that spirit." We hope so too. Our only disappointment is that Sir Charles Trevelyan did not make his views clear on the general question of married women's employment. "He did not want," he said, "to express his own individual views on that subject." We wonder why not? Judging from our memories of an admirable pamphlet written some years ago by Miss Susan Lawrence and published by the Labour Party, he should have been able to do so with perfect propriety within the four corners of his party's policy.

#### An International Venture.

We are interested to learn that plans are on foot for the acquisition of the former residence of Lord Berkeley on Boar's Hill, near Oxford, and its development as "an international and overseas club" and "a centre of international, overseas, and other conferences." The names of Mrs. Corbett Ashby, Mme Rieder, Miss Maude Royden, and Miss Picton-Turbervill among the supporters of the scheme, bear witness to the admirable uses to which such a centre would be put, and one can well imagine the magnetic pull which the mere physical attraction of such a spot, overlooking on one side the towers of Oxford, on the other the green fields of Berkshire and its distant downs, might exercise over the most distant quarters of the globe. Already the scheme has materialized as "Foxcombe Hall, Ltd.," registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, with a London office at 27 Clement's Lane, E.C. 4, and it is hoped that the money necessary to finance its further progress may be obtained in the form of share capital in the near future.

#### Nationality of Married Women.

An interesting address was given to the Grotius Society by Mr. Llewellyn Jones, M.P., in which he summarized English and international law on the status of married women in respect of nationality. He showed how the sub-committee of the League of Nations Codification Committee had reported, on the basis of replies received from twenty-five countries, that it was unlikely

that the countries concerned would be prepared to accept the principle that the marriage of a foreign woman did not involve the loss of her original nationality. This may unfortunately be true, but it makes it all the more important that the women of each country should bring their Governments round to the need for married women to have the same rights in this respect as have married men.

#### The Mobility of Husbands.

Mr. Justice Hill was faced recently with an awkward problem of conjugal rights. A man was given a business appointment in India on condition that his wife must remain in England, since her extravagance was unwelcome to his partners. The husband took the appointment, and provided his wife with an adequate allowance, whereupon she sued him for restitution of conjugal rights, demanding that he should either accept her company in India or return to her in England. Mr. Justice Hill dismissed her claim on the ground that a husband, being bound to maintain his wife, must be allowed to choose where and how he will earn his living. It is difficult, of course, to comment upon a solution of what must in its nature be a highly individualized situation, the intelligent and equitable adjustment of which must involve reference to personal factors of which we have no knowledge. For instance, was the wife in question so impossible a person that she could not reasonably be tolerated as a companion in India? On the face of it very exceptional personal disqualifications would be required to justify the admission that a man cannot be reasonably expected to live in the same country with his wife. Were such circumstances present? We have no means of knowing. But we hope that the spirit of Mr. Justice Hill's decision may be operative whenever a case arises in which a wife wishes to pursue a career, in lieu of maintenance, in a place to which her husband is indisposed or unable to follow her.

#### Long Skirts.

The enfranchised and emancipated women of to-day are up against a more potent and insidious threat to their liberties than they are perhaps aware of in the attempt of the dress designers to reimpose long skirts. So far, only the evening dress has been conquered. Trailing draperies and crushable flounces may impede easy packing, complicate quick, cheap transport during the evening hours, and emphasize the difference between those who can buy new evening dresses in response to changing styles and those who cannot; but so far our working hours remain unaffected. It is for all women who care for quick movement, light travel, mobility, cleanliness, and the obliteration of class distinctions to see to it that the threat is held strongly at bay. Indeed, there are indications that it is being held at bay. From place to place we hear of saleswomen who report that customers have point-blank refused a lengthening of the skirt, and in the multitudinous expressions of personal opinion by eminent ladies in response to Press inquiries there is a consensus of opinion that the long skirt *shall not, must not, will not* show its dirty face again by daylight. There is a danger, however, that the younger women whose memories do not stretch back into the days of our martyrdom to its impediments, may underrate the benefits of freedom and walk gaily into the trap set by those who would increase retail turnover at the expense of beauty, convenience, mobility, and hygiene. Is it nothing to them that Dame Millicent Fawcett, looking at them with the smiling eye of a social artificer who looks upon his work and finds it good, "liked especially their long pink legs"?

#### Sex Equality in the House of Commons.

We are delighted to hear that all the women M.P.'s with the exception of the Duchess of Atholl have sent a combined request to the Speaker that in future the Distinguished Strangers' Gallery shall be open to equal terms on distinguished women as to distinguished men.

#### Progress and Reaction in Turkey.

We learned last week that the project set on foot by Turkish feminists for the introduction of women police in Constantinople has been abandoned in face of a strong wall of opposition, having its roots, apparently, in official suspicion of some dark and ulterior political motive on the part of its promoters. On the other hand, the franchise question seems to be making gradual progress. The President of the National Assembly, Kiazim Pasha, confidently predicts the safe passage of the proposed law to confer the municipal franchise on women, and foreshadows a time, not far distant, when Turkish women will sit in Parliament.

## HUMAN PROPERTY.

The 1926 Slavery Convention of the League of Nations was signed by representatives of fifty-six countries. Yet Lady Simon, in her remarkable book *Slavery*,<sup>1</sup> published last week, asserts that there are at least four million persons in different parts of the world who are held in bondage as saleable property—bondage which is not merely technical but which in many countries is still accompanied by incredible physical and mental torture. Sir John Simon, who took such a notable part in securing the political freedom of the women of this country, has contributed a preface to his wife's book in which he anticipates the answer to the question with which the book opens. "What can I do to help to set these millions of slaves free from their soul-destroying, body-destroying bondage?" His answer is: It can be swept away by the leadership and pressure of the League of Nations . . . the conscience of the world working through the instrument of international action, will not rest until it be ended."

Lady Simon's book is an able and well-documented survey of the problem from its most revolting manifestations in slave raiding and trading, to the more disguised form of forced or indentured labour. It is a book that will in all probability be widely read by those who have escaped the more official publications of the League of Nations on the subject. That such hideous conditions of servitude should still prevail in Abyssinia, Arabia, Liberia (that free and independent state founded to provide a new home of liberty for the slaves released from the Southern States of America), and China, is a sickening indictment of modern civilization. A bright spot gleaming in its black pages is the romantic description of the complete abolition of slavery in the Himalayan State of Nepal.

We turn uncomfortably to the records of British territory. The status of slavery was abolished by an Act of Parliament in 1833 after a long struggle described by Lady Simon in her chapter "The Gallery of Emancipators." Slavery no longer exists in British Dominions, and in certain territories such as Burmah and Sierra Leone efforts to make slave owning illegal have in the last year or two been crowned with success. But as readers of this paper know full well, the practice of Mui-Tsai

## NOTES FROM WESTMINSTER.

The Widows' Pensions Bill having been disposed of so far as the Commons is concerned, the House has now turned its attention to the second of the Government's major Bills, that dealing with unemployment insurance. Miss Bondfield explained the measure to the House on 21st November in a speech reasonable in tone, convincing, and beautifully lucid. But considering that this was the first occasion on which a woman Cabinet Minister has introduced an important Bill, one could wish that she had not so completely denied herself the exercise of the qualities of oratory which she so conspicuously possesses. I remarked this to two or three Conservative and Liberal Members who happened to be sitting near me on the cross-benches when she finished. They did not agree with me, saying "the House does not like oratory." This is a familiar House of Commons *cliché*, but like many *clichés* is, I believe, untrue. The House does like oratory, provided it accompanies and is not a substitute for solid reasoning. Certainly most of the experienced front-bench Parliamentarians use oratory when they are making important speeches—that is to say, they, after their several fashions, so modulate their voices and intersperse their material with provocative onslaughts on their opponents and with references to the general principles guiding their policy as to rivet the attention of the House and to rouse its corporate emotions. Miss Bondfield's speech, excellent in matter, was rather too palpably and too rapidly read. It seemed in the key of a committee discussion rather than of a Second Reading debate. The two women members of the Government seem bent on dispersing the fiction that women are sentimental and emotional creatures. One could almost wish they occasionally allowed themselves to be a little more sentimental and emotional. But certainly they have both deserved the compliment paid them by Major Elliot in moving the rejection of the Bill, when he said that they "had established their right to be treated exactly as we should treat a Minister of the Crown of the other sex" because they always "gave us a Roland for our Oliver."

<sup>1</sup> *Slavery*, by Lady Simon. (Hodder and Stoughton. 12s. 6d.)

or child slaves still persists, though a great step forward has been taken as recently as October of this year in a decision of the Secretary of State for the Colonies enforcing registration.

There is, however, another aspect of the subject which cannot here be overlooked, which Lady Simon has not included specifically, and that is the degrading and compulsory servitude of women and girls not to slave owners or employers but to their husbands or the men of their families. In three vigorous articles<sup>1</sup> which appeared in this paper recently Miss Nina Boyle describes the extent of this elusive but none the less revolting form of slavery countenanced even in lands where traffic in human property is illegal. In territories of countries which adhere to the Slavery Convention children of tender years are sold to old men, and often chiefs have huge collections of women. Such treatment of women must surely be regarded as slavery if the definition of Article I of the Slavery Convention of 1926 means anything at all. "Slavery is the status or condition of a person over whom any or all of the powers attaching to the right of ownership are exercised." Yet there is no protection for millions of women and children, purchasable chattels at the mercy of the men of their race. We believe, that an all-party and more or less unofficial Parliamentary Committee consisting of men and women Members of Parliament has recently been formed to consider the protection of the women in the British possessions. The full glare of publicity will, we trust, be shed on hideous practices now obscured under the veil of domestic sanction. Lady Simon's chapter on China will go far to bring this about. Her final words on the new international effort and its challenge to civilization show us the way out. We look to the League of Nations. But the League must have national public opinion behind it. British women who have won their political freedom must bring the pressure which they have learnt to exert to bear on those who represent them in a commonwealth of nations in which enfranchised women so far are in a minority. Last week our Parliamentary Correspondent *Crossbench* spoke of the difference made by the entry of women into British politics. Women must now force their way into international politics if only to stamp out the hideous crime of slavery.

The most effective and dramatic speeches for the opposition case have been those of Mr. Maxton and Mr. Lloyd George. The former, as spokesman of the thirty-one I.L.P. stalwarts, who are in moral rebellion against the timidity of the measure, was remarkably outspoken, but his speech, had it come from a woman—or indeed from almost anyone else except himself—would certainly have provoked cries of "Sob-stuff!" from the Tory back-benches. Mr. Lloyd George, who is putting out his full strength in this Parliament and whose imperturbable good humour in trying circumstances must win the admiration of even his severest critics, delighted the House by his description of the I.L.P. Group as "over-principled ruffians", a quotation from Bagehot which just exactly hits off—if not the real characteristics of those in question—at least their opponents' way of viewing them.

The Second Reading debate was prolonged into Monday and then closed by a speech by Mr. Tom Shaw, of which more is likely to be heard. Mr. Shaw, whose official sphere of action is the War Office, wandered far indeed from the cautious and strictly official attitude of Miss Bondfield and ventured on an excursion into financial policy which made everyone wonder what Mr. Snowden would think of his colleague's economics. Incidentally, he told a delightful story of two "duettists" in a Yorkshire town who had unfortunately brought different songs and compared these to the conflicting arguments put up by the two official opponents of the Bill, Major Elliot, who had complained that it robbed the children, and Mr. Locker-Lampson, who objected to its giving the children something for nothing.

The impression left on the mind of many hearers by the debate was that there is a real difference of attitude, not merely in the Labour Party, but on the Government front bench, which may lead to difficulties later on. The more conservative wing, represented by Mr. Snowden and Miss Bondfield, are oppressed with the financial and administrative difficulties of carrying out their election pledges. The measures they are

<sup>1</sup> "Slavery," by Nina Boyle. 13th, 20th, and 27th September. Three articles post free, 6d.

bringing forward represent, I suspect, the most they think possible, administratively and financially as well as politically. Others, such as Mr. Tom Shaw and Mr. Lansbury, are bent on representing the measures actually before the House, as forced on them solely by their lack of a Parliamentary majority. The duet sung by Miss Bondfield and Mr. Tom Shaw, just as much as that of Major Elliot and Mr. Locker-Lampson, was really blended of two quite different and conflicting melodies.

CROSSBENCH.

### THE ABBEY MEMORIAL SERVICE.<sup>1</sup>

Fifty Members of Parliament, including nine women, attended the service held to-day in Westminster Abbey "in grateful memory of Millicent Garrett Fawcett." Viscount Cecil, Lord Parmoor, Lord Astor, and Lord Riddell were among those seated in the choir stalls. Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, who had hoped to be present, sent a representative. Other Ministers present were Mr. Philip Snowden, Mr. George Lansbury, Mr. Arthur Henderson, and Miss Margaret Bondfield. Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Stanley Baldwin sat side by side in the choir stalls, but Mrs. Baldwin and Miss Megan Lloyd George, M.P., occupied seats in front of them, for there is a rule that would have greatly interested Dame Millicent that women may not sit in the stalls of the choir. Several London mayors had come to do honour to one of London's greatest citizens, and the people of her birthplace were represented by the Mayor of Aldeburgh.

It was a remarkable gathering, bringing together as it did all branches of what has been known for so many years as the women's movement—pioneers of the old and of the new women who had fought for a principle in the hope that their successors would have freedom and wide opportunities, and women who owe to those efforts their own record of varied achievement—all united in gratitude to the wise and unfaltering leader. . . . The scene was indeed full of colour, for many came in their academic robes, and rich reds and blues glowed against the gilding of the choir. Sir Frederick Pollock, in scarlet robes, was among the distinguished men in academic robes. Many women doctors came in their robes, including Lady Barrett, Dean of the London School of Medicine, Lady Berry, Dame Millicent's niece Dr. Louisa Garrett Anderson, and Dr. Jane Walker. Lady Frances Balfour, who was sitting beside Lady Selbourne and near Mrs. Corbett Ashby, the president of the National Union for Equal Citizenship, wore the rich red and blue robes of a Doctor of Laws; Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon wore those of a Doctor of Philosophy, and one or two of the women barristers came in academic dress. Mrs. Swanwick, for so many years editor of "The Common Cause," wore the more sombre gown of a Master of Arts.

One could review the history of British women for decades by recounting the names of women present, women who had been the first to take part in local government, women magistrates, writers, actresses, women who are opening new doors into commerce and industry, others who are leading in social work, and the women Members of Parliament, including Miss Eleanor Rathbone, Miss Picton Turbervill, Dr. Ethel Bentham, and Miss Ellen Wilkinson, former colleagues of Dame Millicent, the Duchess of Atholl, Lady Astor, and Dr. Marion Phillips, whose place in the Legislature must have seemed to her almost the crown of her work. Miss Philippa Fawcett was there and many of her relatives.

The Dean and clergy, in full sympathy with the occasion, gave stateliness to the simple and beautiful service. When the procession had passed through the nave, and the choristers, clad in white and scarlet, had taken their places in the choir, the Dean and the accompanying canons, wearing their gold and purple copes and followed by other clergy, and officials of the Abbey, passed up to the sacristy and ranged themselves to the right and left of the altar. After the singing of one of Dame Millicent's favourite hymns, "The King of Love my shepherd is," the Dean read the passage from Ecclesiastes beginning "Let us now praise famous men." There had been some disappointment because no arrangement could be made in this service for an address, but the Dean's notable reading of the immemorial words "Their glory shall not be blotted out. Their bodies are buried in peace, but their name liveth for evermore. The people will tell of their wisdom," made one feel that the heart of the truth about one famous woman had been fully expressed.

<sup>1</sup> Reprinted by the kind permission of the MANCHESTER GUARDIAN.

### FROM A DISTANT LISTENER.

The following is a few words I felt like writing after listening to Mrs. Oliver Strachey on the wireless. You may care to print them as coming from an outsider. I do not belong to any of the women's societies:—

Many miles away with the earphones of my little crystal set fixed firmly on my head, I listened to-night to Mrs. Oliver Strachey give an account of the Memorial Service which had taken place in Westminster this morning.

It was an inspiring account and made me feel what a great privilege it would have been to be there.

There must be many women like myself, who will only realize as they listened to Mrs. Strachey broadcast, how little they did in the great struggle. Many may feel sorry, perhaps even ashamed that their pathway or their inclination was not turned in the direction of Dame Millicent Fawcett and her associates early in the strife and consequently missed the real joy of splendid victory.

To read the reminiscences in this week's WOMAN'S LEADER of those who knew the great Leader of the Cause, as well as her own works, is to feel a friendship born of the spirit and not the flesh, real to those who have not been privileged by the human touch.

The women of to-morrow are being born into a world of freedom to their sex and although they never could realize what the struggle meant to those who fought it, will, nevertheless, thrill when they read the lives of women like Dame Millicent Fawcett and the other women of this past generation, and for their sakes, if no other, will play their part in the same noble spirit.

O. E. JAY.

### FROM A YOUNGER SUFFRAGIST.

As the daughter of a suffragist I have been brought up to admire Dame Millicent Fawcett and I was present at the Memorial Service held in her honour on Tuesday. Looking round the Abbey I was much struck by the keen, intellectual faces of the pioneer women gathered together to do honour to a great woman's leader. I was proud to see so many women wearing academic dress, amongst whom I recognized those who had taught me at school and lectured to me at college. I saw members of Parliament who had come to honour a woman whom only a few years ago they practically outlawed. Surely Dame Millicent would be proud of such a triumph. There were comparatively few young people present, but those who were chiefly acted as stewards. It was fitting that they should wait on the old soldiers. Then I thought of the heritage that that congregation had given me, a degree, a vote, and practical equality with men; a heritage for which all these suffragists had worked so hard during so many years, and which we young women of to-day accept as a matter of course and as our right. Perhaps they are pleased that it should be so, but, nevertheless, I think we should try and appreciate their struggles and be thankful for their victory.

E. K.

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### WOMEN IN THE SYNAGOGUE.

By GERTRUDE M. SPIELMAN.

For the past sixteen years the Jewish woman who is a worshipper in synagogues of the Orthodox order (and these are by far the larger number in London) has been striving to obtain certain rights and privileges which are accorded to men in virtue of their being seat-holders, that is, paying a seat-rental. The women members of the Reform and Liberal Jewish Congregations are under no such disability, and as the question can hardly be considered of a religious character, it seems strange that the difficulty in obtaining equality of treatment in Orthodox synagogues is so hard to overcome. But that the opposition is very real is proved by the fact that despite the activity of the Union of Jewish Women, the valued support of the Communal Press, and of a considerable number of ministers, all efforts have failed hitherto and resolutions brought forward on two separate occasions at specially convened meetings of the Council of the United Synagogue have been lost by a considerable majority. The reason is not far to seek. The Council of the United Synagogue is composed of elected representatives of each of the constituent synagogues forming the United Synagogue, and it is responsible for the lay administration of the synagogue and everything connected with the buildings, the cemeteries, the appointment of officials, and in addition it controls many charitable and social activities for the benefit of the Jewish community. The constitution of the Council demands that any change or reform must be in accordance with the spirit of traditional Judaism, and this is the rock against which all attempts to obtain equal rights for the woman seat-holder has foundered! The objection advanced—quite erroneously—is that women would agitate for reforms in the Service, and it is the fear of this that has caused such a large majority to vote against synagogue rights being given to women.

The "rights" which are being sought are twofold, and hitherto it has been a moot point whether to go for "Voting and Electoral" rights or to proceed gradually, asking for "Voting" powers only. By "Voting" is comprised the right to attend and vote at meetings of seat-holders summoned annually for the purpose of electing the wardens and members of the Board of Management of each synagogue, as well as its representatives at the Council and on the Board of Deputies—the Jewish Parliament.

Up to the present efforts have been directed towards obtaining voting rights only, on the assumption that less opposition would be aroused and that electoral rights were bound to follow, as was the case when women obtained the Parliamentary franchise in 1918.

"Electoral" rights would confer the right to serve on synagogal boards of management, and would likewise allow of women being elected as representatives of their synagogue on the Central Council and the Board of Deputies.

At a meeting of the Union of Jewish Women held last month it was resolved to start the campaign afresh and to depart from the course adopted formerly by pressing now for full rights. Members present were almost unanimous in considering that this would be the wiser as well as the franker course to pursue, and it is devoutly to be hoped that success will crown their efforts.

### TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILDS.

Lady Cynthia Colville, President of the Townswomen's Guild Appeal, was at home on the afternoon of Monday, 25th November, to the Vice-Presidents of the Fund. Lady Cynthia, who always throws herself heart and soul into any causes in which she is interested, has persuaded nearly fifty of her friends to take this office, and to help her in the collection of the £15,000 which is needed to start Guilds in all parts of the country. Among those present were Mrs. Baldwin, Lady Beaumont, Mrs. Cubitt, the Hon. Mrs. Franklin, Lady Gainford, Lady Gray, Miss Haldane, Mrs. Arthur Henderson, Miss Eleanor Lodge, Lady Melchett, Mrs. Philip Snowden, Dame Meriel Talbot, and Mrs. Watt. Lady Cynthia spoke of the great need there was in small towns and residential suburbs for the new Townswomen's Guilds, which are to fulfil a rôle similar to that played by the Women's Institutes in the rural areas. Lady Cynthia pointed out that the cost of starting one of these Guilds was only £25, and that thereafter each Guild became self-supporting.

Mrs. Corbett Ashby, as President of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, under whose auspices the Townswomen's Guilds are being formed, told of the very marked success of those Guilds already formed and how very great was the demand for their formation in the many districts where no similar organization had yet been provided. Announcements were made at the meeting of a number of £25 foundation gifts, in some cases donors had given sums enabling several new Guilds to be started.

### QUESTIONS IN PARLIAMENT.

Monday, 11th November.

#### WORK SCHEMES.

Viscount Wolmer asked the Lord Privy Seal how many women it is estimated will find employment under the schemes he has already announced.

The Lord Privy Seal (Mr. J. H. Thomas): In view of the nature of the trades in which such unemployment as exists among women is found, the benefit which they derive from works instituted with Government assistance must necessarily be in the main through increased employment indirectly resulting from such works. In these circumstances no estimate of the numbers affected is possible.

#### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Lieut.-Col. Heneage asked the Minister of Health what grant he proposes to make towards maternity and child welfare services.

Miss Lawrence: It is estimated that the total grant payable during the present financial year in respect of these services will be about £1,170,000, as compared with £1,071,500, the total grant paid last year.

Tuesday, 12th November.

#### ARMY SCHOOLMISTRESSES, INDIA.

Miss Rathbone asked the Secretary of State for War if he will state with regard to the civilian schoolmistresses who have been recruited for temporary service in Army Schools in India, why such schoolmistresses are being graded as of lower status than nursing sisters; and, as a number of civilian schoolmistresses have withdrawn their applications for temporary Army service when they have learned the conditions under which they will be required to serve, will he say what action he proposes to take in the matter.

Mr. Shaw: These ladies temporarily fill vacancies for Queen's Army Schoolmistresses and therefore are subject to the conditions applicable to those permanently appointed. The conditions attaching to the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service do not apply. The conditions of service are under consideration at the present moment.

Thursday, 14th November.

#### MARRIED WOMEN TEACHERS.

Captain P. Macdonald asked the President of the Board of Education whether in view of paragraph 10 of Circular No. 1,404, he proposes to bring pressure to bear on local authorities to rescind or modify regulations forbidding the employment of married women as teachers.

Mr. Morgan Jones: My right hon. Friend has already advised the local education authorities to take into consideration their future requirements before discharging married women teachers, and I have no reason to think that they will fail to take this advice.

### THE WOMAN'S LEADER

SPECIAL NUMBERS.

#### MEMORIAL NUMBER, 15th November, 1929.

CONTAINS:

Reproduction of portraits of Dame Millicent Fawcett, including the most recent by Lionel Ellis, and a photograph taken after the Royal Assent to the Equal Franchise Act, 2nd July, 1928. "What we Remember"—short appreciations from Dr. Louise Garrett Anderson, the Lady Frances Balfour and others, and a short sketch of Dame Millicent's life and work by Mrs. Oliver Strachey.

Copies (price 2½d. post free), still to be had. Per dozen copies post free 2s. 6d.

#### THE NEW YEAR NUMBER—the annual survey of the Year.

Women in Politics	Women in Social Work
Women in Local Government	Women in Commerce
Women in the Professions	Women in Literature
Women in Industry	Women in the Theatre
Women in the Churches	Women in Medicine
Women in International Affairs	Women and the Administration of Justice

by well-known writers.

Order now—indispensable as a record of women's achievements and progress throughout the year.

A subscription for 6 months 5s. 5d., or one year, 10s. 10d. (post free), sent now will include copies of the special numbers. Copies of the New Year issue supplied to Societies at very reduced rates. Obtainable from the Manager, 4 Tufton Street, Westminster, S.W. 1.

## NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

President: Mrs. CORBETT ASHBY.  
 Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. ALFRED HUGHES. Hon. Secretary: Mrs. RYLAND.  
 General and Parliamentary Secretary: Mrs. HORTON.  
 Offices: 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W.1. Telephone: Victoria 6188.

### CONFERENCE ON OUR WINTER'S WORK.

The small informal conference held on Tuesday, 19th November, proved of real value in giving officers and members of Societies an opportunity of discussing questions of organization. Reports of the work of the various committees of the N.U.S.E.C. were given by their respective chairmen: Miss Fulford (Local Government), Mrs. Adrian Corbett (Health), and Mrs. Hubbard (Parliamentary), and general problems of organization and the formation of new Societies were discussed.

### ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN (SCOTLAND) BILL.

The Duchess of Atholl has succeeded in piloting the Illegitimate Children (Scotland) Bill through its second reading without a debate. The Bill, which was read a second time on 20th November, now awaits consideration by the Standing Committee on Scottish Bills.

### DEPUTATION ON WOMEN POLICE.

The deputation on women police which the Home Secretary and the Secretary of State for Scotland last summer agreed to receive, will be received on Monday, 2nd December, at 2.30 p.m. The deputation, which, it will be remembered, is being organized by the National Council of Women and the N.U.S.E.C., will consist also of representatives of other women's organizations. A short memorandum relating to the points to be raised has been drawn up, copies of which can be obtained on application to Headquarters.

### ABBEY MEMORIAL SERVICE.

The list of former Officers and Executive Committee members of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, who came from all parts of the country to the service in memory of Dame Millicent Fawcett, is too long for quotation in full. So, too, is the list of 121 national and local women's organizations officially represented. It was a peculiar satisfaction to those present, that Lady Maud Parry, a Vice-President of the N.U.S.E.C., and widow of Sir Hubert Parry, whose musical setting of Blake's *Jerusalem* was sung at the close of the service, was able, after her long illness, to be present.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

"A LAND OF DRUGS."

MADAM.—Dr. Fairfield is puzzled by the undeniable fact that abortion increases with the increase of contraception. I think the explanation is this: To many of the cultured, in this country, contraception appears right in itself, and abortion wrong. But to the uncultured in this country, and to all classes in many countries (such as Russia and China), no distinction is drawn between the two. The ordinary poor woman either thinks both wrong, or neither. If she thinks it right to limit her family by artificial means, she sees no harm in slaying that which can neither fear nor feel.

Dinbren Hall,  
 Llangollen.

MADAM.—The question of the relation between self-induced abortion and birth control which puzzles Dr. Letitia Fairfield is readily explicable. In the first place, the revolt against unwilling and inferior motherhood is a creditable one; and the increasing freedom and thoughtfulness of women means an increasing determination to avoid not motherhood but its unworthy forms.

In the second place, religious persecution in this country has deprived birth control of its proper share of scientific research and medical competence. Doctors cannot fight and study. Consequently, present-day birth control methods are neither perfect nor are they always properly taught, and when they fail abortion is resorted to. Only when the Churches cease to use enforced ignorance in place of persuasion to achieve their ideals will birth control begin to replace abortion in the lives of desperate and ignorant, or desperate and medically ill-served, women.

One hundred and fifty years ago it was possible to say that it was "setting a high value on one's opinions to roast men on account of them." An examination of the files of any birth control clinic shows that the roasting still goes on.

40 The Pryors,  
 N.W. 3.

### CATHOLIC WOMEN AND THE N.C.W.

MADAM.—Your paragraph concerning St. Joan's Alliance in last week's issue seems to me founded on a misapprehension. We have withdrawn from affiliation with the N.C.W. because we do not wish to form part of an Association which has pledged itself to forward a movement we consider fundamentally wrong. But withdrawal from affiliation does

not involve refusal to co-operate in propaganda which we hold to be right and just. We are not and never have been affiliated to the N.U.S.E.C., but from the very earliest days we have constantly united with them on matters common to both our programmes—at this very moment in the deputation to the Home Secretary, which they are organizing in support of Women Police.

C. M. GORDON,  
 Chairman of St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance,  
 55 Berners Street, W. 1.

### "MOTHER CHINA."

MADAM.—I shall be grateful if I may be allowed to comment on a paragraph that appears in your issue of 15th November, headed "Mother China," as I think it may cause some misconception.

The fact that there are in Peking still 91 thousand women out of 518 thousand odd, whose feet are still bound does not indicate necessarily that the custom is dying hard there. The abolition of foot-binding is still very recent, and most of the older women, whose feet were bound in childhood, continue the practice, as the deformity of the feet by that time makes normal feet impossible.

During a stay of a fortnight in Peking last year, spending much time among the Chinese and especially watching the young people in the streets and fairs, we only saw two young women with their feet bound, and we were told they had come in from the countryside. The women of the new China have completely discarded the habit, though their mothers and grandmothers cannot, if they would, undo the crippled feet that were the custom in their day.

44 Upper Park Road, N.W. 3.

EDITH M. PYE.

### BARMAIDS AND THE I.L.O.

MADAM.—May I be allowed to say a few words on the employment of women in the bars of seaport public houses, which was discussed by the International Labour Conference on the Welfare of Seamen in Ports.

In the recent communication of your correspondent, she considers the matter only as it affects the employment of women. She divorces it wholly from its effect upon the community. But it is exactly this effect upon the community generally, and in the first place upon the seamen themselves, that is the fundamental point we ought to consider in the matter.

Why is there a demand for women and girls to serve in these seaport public houses? The seamen's hard life at sea makes him peculiarly open to temptation when he lands with money in his pocket and makes him also an easy prey to the unscrupulous. No temptation is more hard to resist, or more persistently thrust upon him, than the combination of drink and women which is provided for him in these drinking places.

The appeal of sex to men whose higher intelligence has been narcotized and whose animal instincts have been liberated by the physiological effect of alcohol upon the brain, is too well known to need emphasizing. It has caused the physical and moral ruin of thousands and has reacted with terrible results upon the community as a whole.

No wonder that the fifth International Conference on the White Slave Traffic urged that the employment of women in bars should be prohibited by their Governments.

The fact is the women are not there to draw beer, they are there to draw men.

The decision therefore of the Conference which your correspondent notes (and approves) to consider the matter of employment in bars as parallel for employees of both sexes, only confuses the issue, namely, can the employment of women in bars be justified in the interests of seamen and the community?

If it cannot, then surely women ought to help and not hinder the efforts to put a stop to a practice which must tend to the degradation of both the men and the women concerned in it.

ELDRD HORSLEY.

### INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE AGAINST THE EXPORT OF HORSES FOR BUTCHERY.

MADAM.—May I ask the support of your readers for the Bill to stop the export of horses for butchery.

In 1911, at Antwerp, I met a procession of British horses, roped together three abreast. There were lame, diseased, utterly worn-out horses, and blind pit ponies. There were also floats conveying (to the slaughter house) horses too injured or exhausted to walk. On enquiry I learned that our old horses came every week to Antwerp and Ghent, and also to France and Holland. Monsieur Ruhl, the great Belgian Humanitarian, helped me, and together we followed the horses by day and by night, from landing to death, and the English Press reported what we saw. After three years, we, and the friends who helped us, obtained an amendment to the Act—useful but inadequate. Then the war stopped the traffic.

After the war—under the present Act—conditions were such that when we reported them there was a storm of public indignation. The Ministry then put good Inspectors at the ports, with orders to reject freely. This caused an enormous lessening of the live export, and gave rise to an export of carcasses of horses killed on this side. There is reasonable profit in this trade, and it gives employment, and keeps valuable by-products in this country. But there are widespread financial interests in the live export, and so long as it is possible, no facilities will be given to the traffic in dead meat.

At present an average of about 200 more or less worn-out horses a week are exported for butchery. They suffer from long journeys by sea and by land, from hunger and thirst, and often from cruel killing. I have seen them put on and off the trains, stood amongst them on the boats, walked beside them to small butcheries (I saw one go down on his knees to snatch at a bit of grass on a country road). I have heard them scream and groan in slaughter houses. Is it enough that fewer horses are exported and those not wholly worn-out, while some still go to such conditions?

The Bill to be re-introduced the first week in December by Mr. Broad, would prevent the export of horses that could be profitably sold for butchery. Incidentally it would also prevent the export of more or less worn-out horses for work. And it would not interfere with the really

legitimate traffic. May I beg all who sympathize with our aims to write to their M.P.s, asking them to promise to be present, and give their support, when Mr. Broad's Bill is introduced? We shall be pleased to give any information at this office.

A. M. F. COLE,  
 International League Against the Export of Horses for Butchery,  
 11 Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.

### "PRACTICAL MATTER OF EQUAL PAY."

MADAM.—The article appearing in your issue of 18th October entitled "Practical Matter of Equal Pay" quotes a passage from a pamphlet issued by the Federation of Women Civil Servants in 1924, which is somewhat misleading and requires modification, in view of the lapse of time since its issue, the changed conditions in the Service, and a considerable advance in public opinion.

In 1924 public opinion had still to be won over to the principle of Equal Pay for Equal Work in the Service notwithstanding the fact that the House of Commons had twice affirmed its acceptance of that principle. On all sides we were confronted with opposition to the application of the principle merely on the grounds of the cost to the Exchequer. Estimates given from time to time by the Treasury were both widely divergent and misleading. The Federation had therefore to combat this attempt to kill the movement for Equality, and as an *expedient* decided to suggest one way whereby the principle could be applied at once at a very low cost. But time has passed, and public opinion is now pressing for the removal of this long-standing injustice and for the fulfilment of the Government's pledge of 1921.

Permit me to quote an example of how the suggested method of 1924 would adversely affect the women. Take the Clerical Class:—

<i>Men's salary.</i>	<i>Women's salary.</i>
At age of 16, £60.	At age of 16, £60.
" " 18, £80.	" " 18, £80.

Thence by £5 increments to £100 at age 22; thence by £10 increments to £120 at age 24; thence by £15 increments to £150 at age 26, and thence by £10 increments to maximum of £250 attainable at 36.	Thence by £5 increments to £120 at age 26; thence by £7 10s. increments to maximum of £180 attainable at 34.
--	--

Thus a woman aged 34, now on her maximum salary of £180, would take

another 7 years in which to reach the men's maximum of £250, and during those 7 years there would be no Equality, and no woman on her maximum salary. This latter fact would operate adversely against the women when being considered for promotion to a higher grade, as big jumps in salaries on promotion are not encouraged by Departments.

The Federation realized how unjust to the women an application on the old lines would be, and therefore early this year the following resolution was passed by the Council and published in our paper *Opportunity*:—  
 "That the policy of the Federation be to endeavour to obtain equality by placing women at that point of the salary scale which they would have reached had there been no differentiation in pay."

On this basis an estimate has been formed of the probable increase in a typical office where men and women are employed and the cost is found to be about 5 per cent increase on the present estimates for that particular office. This is not a formidable price for the nation to pay to honour its pledge, and it is but a small portion of the money due to the women for their work all these years.

In a small pamphlet it is impossible to deal with all the repercussions of the application of a big principle, but the Federation has always stood for the fullest equality between the sexes. If women only are employed in any grade in the Service, our policy has always been that the salary and conditions should be those which would apply to men, if men were employed in the grade.

The Federation is opposed to any grade of the Service being confined to women. We have always demanded that entry into every grade of the Service should be open to both men and women on the same terms.

The question of levelling down the men's wages to the women's in any profession should never arise. Why consider it as a possibility? Wages are still too low in most professions, and the women's demand for justice can and should be granted without any lowering of the standard of living.

There is only one sound principle on which to base wages, i.e. an occupational rate for a definite qualification. The principle of determining wages by family obligations cannot be accepted. The granting of family allowances should be ancillary to Equal Pay between the sexes.

V. APLEBY,  
 Hon. Secretary,  
 Federation of Women Civil Servants.

35 Marsham Street,  
 S.W. 1.

## LONDON AND NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE.

### ANNUAL MEETING. FINAL NOTICE.

Women's Service Hall, 46 Tufton Street, Westminster, Tuesday, 17th December, 1929, at 5.30 p.m.  
 TEA can be obtained in the Restaurant under the Hall before the meeting.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

<i>President</i> . . .	VISCOUNT CECIL OF CHELWOOD, proposed by Miss Clough and seconded by the Hon. Mrs. Spencer Graves, has been duly elected, no other candidate standing.	
<i>Acting President</i> . . .	No candidate is standing.	
<i>Treasurer</i> . . .	THE HON. MRS. SPENCER GRAVES, proposed by Mrs. Garforth, seconded by Miss Naish, has been duly elected, no other candidate standing.	
<i>Committee</i> :—		
*Miss CLEGG	proposed by Mrs. Glover	seconded by Miss Smieton.
*Miss CLOUGH	" Lady Sprigge	" Miss Ward.
*Miss HANNAH COHEN	" Miss Clough	" Mrs. O. Strachey.
*Miss D. J. COLLIER, M.B., B.Ch.	" Miss Stoney	" Miss Watts.
*The LADY EMMOTT, J.P.	" Miss Ward	" Mrs. Trevor Edwards.
*Mrs. ARNOLD GLOVER	" Mrs. Kinnell	" Miss Stoney.
*Miss K. I. HANCOCK	" Mrs. Hubbard	" Mrs. Horton.
*Mrs. KINNELL	" Mrs. Stoney	" Miss D. J. Collier, M.B., B.Ch.
*Miss HONOR LAWRENCE, J.P.	" Mrs. O. Strachey	" Lady Sprigge.
*Miss ENID RUSSELL-SMITH	" Mrs. Trevor Edwards	" Miss Watts.
*LADY SPRIGGE	" Miss Douglas	" Miss Mackay.
*Miss IRENE STONEY	" The Hon. Mrs. Spencer Graves	" Mrs. Kinnell.
*Mrs. OLIVER STRACHEY	" Miss K. I. Hancock	" Miss Melville.
*Miss HELEN WARD	" Mrs. Glover	" Miss Goddard.
*Miss ETHEL WATTS	" Miss Robinson	" Mrs. Strachey.

THE BALLOT WILL REMAIN OPEN UNTIL 8 P.M.

\* Member of Outgoing Committee.

#### BUSINESS.

##### I. Appointment of Returning Officer and Tellers.

##### II. Appointment of Auditor.

##### III. Alteration of Rules:—

###### 1. Proposed by the Executive Committee:—

In Rule VI. To omit the words "an Honorary President, Acting," and insert the word "a" after the words "shall be" so that the Rule read: "The Officers of the Society shall be a President, Treasurer, Chairman of Committee, and the Secretary."

In Rule VII (1). To omit the word "Acting."

In Rule X (b). To omit the word "Acting."

###### 2. Proposed by Mrs. Oliver Strachey:—

In Rule VII (1). To omit the word "ten" and insert the word "thirteen" so that the section read: "The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, the Treasurer, and thirteen other members."

##### IV. Resolutions proposed by the Executive Committee:—

(1) That owing to the increasing divergencies between the work of the two organizations, the London and National Society for Women's Service discontinue its affiliation to the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, but that it be an instruction to the Executive Committee to maintain close co-operation on all points where the policy of the two bodies is similar, and to continue as in the past to support those of the activities of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship which fall within the objects of the London and National Society for Women's Service. In thus altering a bond which has been in existence since the foundation of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, the Society wishes to record its appreciation

of their common past. It is inevitable that full enfranchisement should be followed by divergent activities in women's organizations: it is indeed valuable to the country that this should be so, and this Society, while no longer taking a share in the responsibility for the policies of the Union, offers its good wishes to the National body of which, at one time, it was the London member.

(2) That this meeting welcomes the appointment of a Royal Commission on the Civil Service with wide terms of reference, and trusts that its recommendations will at last bring about that full equality of opportunity and pay for men and women civil servants which the House of Commons resolved to establish ten years ago.

(3) That this meeting welcomes the decision of the Government to ratify the Washington Hours Convention, thereby establishing the same legal working hours for men and women in industry. It calls upon the Government to include the explicit statement of this advance in the forthcoming Factory Bill, and to draft the Bill so that the classification "women and young persons" shall no longer appear, but that instead adult workers shall be classed together and young persons (both male and female) separately provided for.

Further, it urges that the provisions prohibiting night work and Sunday employment to women should be extended to men, and that exceptions to these or to any other hours regulations should be based upon the nature of the work and not the sex of the worker.

P. STRACHEY,  
 Secretary.

## COMING EVENTS.

## B.B.C.

Wednesday, 4th December. 10.45 a.m., The Duchess of Atholl, M.P.: "The Week in Parliament."

Wednesday, 4th December. 3.30-3.45 p.m., "How We Manage Our Affairs." Mrs. Rackham, J.P.: "How we Provide for the Poor and Destitute."

## C.B.C.

5th December. 8.30 p.m. Essex Hall, Strand, W.C. Debate on "Constructive Birth Control." For, Dr. Marie Stopes; against, M. Finucane, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., Chair: Aylmer Maude.

## GUILD OF GIRL CITIZENS.

7th December. 7 p.m. Minerva Club, Hunter Street, W.C. Miss Chave Collisson: "The effect of Economic Changes upon Women of less forward races under the British Flag: their need and our responsibility." Chair: Miss E. Gunter.

## HOWARD LEAGUE FOR PENAL REFORM.

13th December. 1 p.m. Luncheon. P.noli's, Wardour Street, W. 1. Speaker: Mrs. Rackham, J.P.: "Public Opinion and the Treatment of Crime."

## MORLEY COLLEGE FOR WORKING MEN AND WOMEN.

61 Westminster Bridge Road, S.E.

29th November. 8 p.m. W. Clarke Hall: "The Law and the Poor."

6th December. 8 p.m. Sir Arnold Wilson: "The Middle East." Chair: Major H. F. Chettle, O.B.E.

## NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN (Birmingham Branch).

5th December. 8 p.m. Library, King Edward's Girls' School, High Street. Mrs. Gray: "The Women of India."

## NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

Acton W.C.A.—5th December. 8 p.m. Municipal Offices, Winchester Street. Dr. Ethel Humphrey: "Mrs. Fawcett's Lifetime—a Yardstick of Change."

Preston W.C.A.—4th December. 7.30 p.m. Orient Café, Friargate. Mrs. Stocks: "Married Women as Earners." Chair: Mrs. Bedwell.

## SIX POINT GROUP.

3rd December. 3 p.m. 92 Victoria Street, S.W. 1. Annual Sale of Christmas Presents. Music: Tea.

## ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE.

9th December. 6 p.m. St. Patrick's Clubroom, Soho Square. Rev. C. Martindale, S.J., and Mrs. Laughton Mathews, M.B.E., will speak on "Birth Control—the Catholic Point of View." Chair: Miss C. M. Gordon.

## WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

4th December. 8 p.m. Minerva Club, Hunter Street, W.C. Public Debate: "That the Income of a Husband and Wife should be separately assessed and separately Taxed." Proposer: Miss Chrystal MacMillan, M.A.; Opposer: Mrs. E. Hubback (principal of Morley College).

5th December. 4.30 p.m. Minerva Club. Miss Nina Boyle: "Slavery Convention of the League of Nations." Chair: Mrs. Pethick Lawrence.

## WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

6th December. 3-6 p.m. University of London Club, 21 Gower Street, W.C. Miss F. M. Wilson: "Conditions in Macedonia," and Mme Camille Drevet (Paris): "My Work for the League in the Balkans." Discussion: Tea. Tickets from 55 Gower Street, W.C.

## TYPEWRITING.

M. McLACHLAN and N. WHITWAM—  
TYPISTS.—4 Chapel Walk, Manchester.  
Tel.: 3402 City.

TYPEWRITING accurately, neatly and intelligently done by expert. 10d. 1,000 words.—Edith Capell (P), "Werin," Norton Towers, Halifax.

## TO LET AND WANTED.

BOARD AND LODGING. Quiet home at moderate terms. Bed-sittingroom and service for lady or gentleman at Cheam. Pleasant country in easy reach of London.—Apply, Mrs. Bampton, Puttsboro', Alberta Avenue, Cheam.

RECOMMENDED by Mrs. Oliver Strachey. Swiss family receives paying guests. Large comfortable house and garden near Lake of Geneva. French lessons arranged if desired. Mlle Reitzel, le Prieuré, Tour-de-Peilz (Vevey).

COMFORTABLE Rooms or Board-residence in lady's warm, comfortable house; modern conveniences; excellent cooking; near sea, shops.—Sunnycroft, Sidmouth.

HAMPSTEAD.—Bright quiet double room in private house; close to Heath and Tube; some attendance available; let furnished December for 3 months. Telephone: Hampstead 6380, between 9.30 and 12.30.

EAST LISS.—Small unfurnished house; five rooms and bath, kitchen, balcony; moderate rent.—Whiteley, Sussex End, Liss, Hants.

LARGE, Well-furnished, very comfortable double bed-sittingroom to let, with breakfast and dinner; very suitable for studio; educated and refined people only.—Phone Park 9829, or write Box 1,572, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Tufton Street, Westminster, S.W. 1.

UNFURNISHED, quiet attractive rooms for professional women; kitchen, bath, telephone; low rental; one now vacant, 1st floor.—22 Queen's Road, St. John's Wood.

## PROFESSIONAL.

INCOME TAX RECOVERED AND ADJUSTED. Consult Miss H. M. Baker, 275 High Holborn, W.C. 1. Income Tax Returns, Super Tax Returns, Repayment Claims of all descriptions. Telephone: Holborn 0377.

## POSTS WANTED.

LADY desires paid part-time Secretarial post; experienced in Committee work; can type and do work at home if required.—Miss Beaumont, 22 Argyll Mansions, Chelsea, S.W. 3.

HOUSE HELP; superior, trustworthy; free noon to four, or would cook evenings; Kensington district.—Recommended by Mrs. Badger, 48 St. Marks Road, W. 10.

## FOR SALE AND WANTED.

SECOND-HAND CLOTHING wanted to buy for cash; costumes, skirts, boots, underclothes, curtains, lounge suits, trousers, and children's clothing of every description; parcels sent will be valued and cash sent by return.—Mrs. Russell, 100 Raby Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. (Stamped addressed envelope for reply.)

MRS. BARLOW pays utmost value for discarded Clothing; "everything".—Castleway, Hanworth, Middlesex.

## DRESS.

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

SHOES recovered, satin, brocade, or velvet, 13s. 6d.; ladies' and gents' hats cleaned and re-blocked; new hats made to sketch; furs re-lined.—The Hat Doctor, 52 James Street, Oxford Street, W. 1.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS.

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

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

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 1st December, 6.30 p.m., Maude Royden: "What Makes Man Immortal."

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