

THE  
WOMAN'S LEADER  
AND THE COMMON CAUSE



Price 2d.

Number 14.

*2nd November, 1931.*

## TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILDS HANDICRAFT EXHIBITION.

To be held at the time of the Annual Council Meeting, in March, 1932, in London.

## CLASSES OF EXHIBITS.

1. Embroidery General.
2. Canvas Work and Tapestry.
3. Cross Stitch :—  
Worked by counted threads of material.
4. Smocking.
5. Plain Sewing :—  
(a) A sampler 12 in. square. At least six stitches must be shown.  
(b) Any garment.
6. Machine Work :—  
(a) Man's shirt.  
(b) Child's garment.
7. Knitting and Crochet :—  
(a) Socks and stockings.  
(b) A baby's garment.  
(c) General.
8. Lace.
9. Rugs :—  
(a) Woven.  
(b) Canvas backed.  
(c) Embroidered hemp.  
(d) Thrift.
10. Leatherwork.
11. Gloves—only hand-made.
12. Toys :—  
(a) Soft.  
(b) Hard.
13. Basketry and Raffia :—  
(a) Pulp cane work.  
(b) Coiled basketry.  
(c) Raffia work.  
(d) Rush work.  
(e) Willow.
14. Stool seating :—  
(a) Rush.  
(b) Grass.  
(c) Cane.  
(d) Leather.  
(e) String.
15. Quilting.
16. Articles made from waste (including papier mâché).
17. Lampshades.
18. Preserving :—  
(a) Jams, jellies, marmalade.  
(b) Honey : (1) run ; (2) comb.  
(c) Bottled fruits.  
(d) Pickles and chutney.
19. Co-operative exhibit, must be worked by at least 12 members if the membership of the Guild is over fifty, and by eight members if the membership is under fifty.

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5. Different coloured labels must be attached to each piece of work sent. Official labels, price 1s. per dozen, to be obtained from Headquarters :—  
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No work will be exhibited under 50 per cent of the marks.
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Dean Street - - London  
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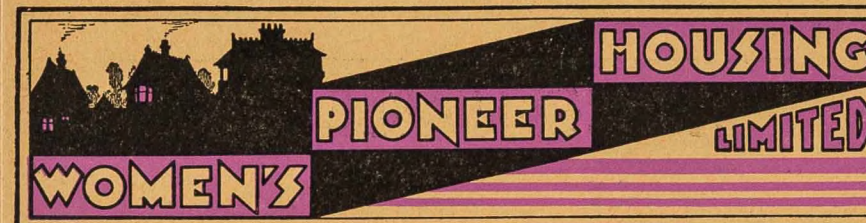
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## In Members of Parliament.

A number of women Members of Parliament at the time of writing is thirteen. Miss Rathbone's time of writing is thirteen. Miss Rathbone's time is still to come, so that it is likely that this year will see only a very small reduction in numbers. It has, however, seen a great increase in the allocation of women among the ranks. The clean sweep of Labour women takes from the service of the country many of our finest talents. Miss Margaret Bondfield, for example, our first woman Cabinet Minister ; Miss Susan Lawrence who had served as Parliamentary Secretary both of the Board of Education and the Ministry of Health, had nationwide reputation before they entered Parliament ; Dr. Mary Phillips, chief woman officer of the Labour Party ; Miss Picton Turbervill, member of the Executive Committee of the National Union of Women's Societies for Equal Citizenship, and Honorary Secretary of the Y.W.C.A. ; Mrs. Manning, ex-President of the National Union of Teachers, and Miss Wilkinson all came to Parliament with fine qualifications which they enhanced when there. Of our present members we welcome back an old friend, Lady Astor, the Independent member who has championed most of the causes for which this paper has stood ; Lady Iveagh, a warm supporter of Townswomen's Guilds, and the Duchess of Atholl, a member of the late Conservative Government. Other new women who are all Conservatives, the names are Miss Thelma Cazalet, former member of the L.C.C. and Chairman of one of its Education Committees ; the Hon. Miss Mordaunt, former factory inspector and a member of



## OFFERS TO INVESTORS

a Safe  
and  
Lucrative  
Investment

No  
Depression  
Here

Housing  
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Women

6%  
on Shares  
again declared  
1931

LETTERS

for  
the 10th  
Year in  
Succession!

Yields Good Returns

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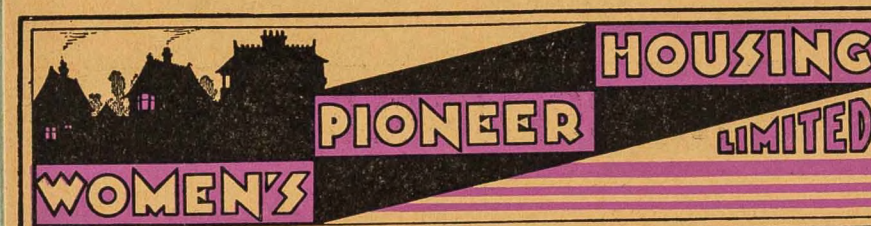
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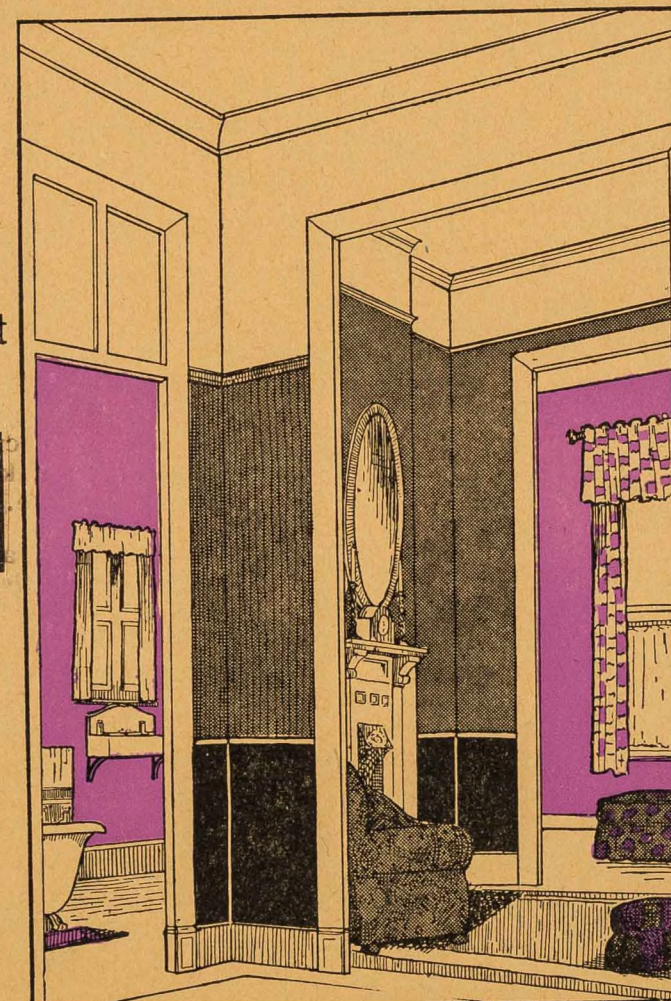


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## "Pioneer Houses" 1921-1930

- |                                   |                                     |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 67, Holland Park Avenue, W.11.    | 151, Cromwell Road, S.W.5.          |
| 28, Millbeach Gardens, S.W.5.     | 2, Porchester Square, W.2.          |
| 134, Holland Road, W.14.          | 2, Horbury Crescent, W.11.          |
| 24 & 25, Gledhow Gardens, S.W.5.  | 14, Collingham Road, S.W.5.         |
| 29, 30 & 31 Gledhow Gdns., S.W.5. | 99, Oakley Street, S.W.3.           |
| 21 & 22, Stanley Crescent, W.11.  | 62 & 63, Redcliffe Gardens, S.W.10. |
| 65, West Cromwell Road, S.W.5.    | 8, Stanley Gardens, W.11.           |
| 62, Ladbroke Grove, W.11.         | 17, Elsham Road, W.14.              |
| 67, Ladbroke Grove, W.11.         | 128 & 130, Abbey Road, N.W.6.       |
| 11 & 13, Ladbroke Gardens, W.11.  | 126, Abbey Road, N.W.6.             |
| 14 & 15, Ladbroke Gardens, W.11.  | 1, St. Stephen's Crescent, W.2.     |
| 34, Ladbroke Square, W.11.        | 5, Clarricarde Gardens, W.2.        |
| 16, Ladbroke Square, W.11.        | 65, Harrington Gardens, S.W.7.      |
| 19, Ladbroke Square, W.11.        | 14, Oakhill Road, Putney, S.W.15.   |
| 28, Barkston Gardens, S.W.5.      | 14, St. George's Road, N.W.6.       |
| 10 & 12, West Eaton Place, S.W.1. | 15 & 16, Bramham Gardens, S.W.5.    |
| 1, Nevern Road, S.W.7.            |                                     |

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## A PROFITABLE AND PUBLIC SPIRITED INVESTMENT

## WOMEN'S PIONEER HOUSING LTD.

was formed eleven years ago to provide, on a co-operative basis, the small homes so urgently needed by professional women and other women of moderate means, who by necessity or choice are living "on their own."

**LARGE WELL-BUILT HOUSES** are bought by the Society and are then converted into small one, two or three-roomed open or self-contained flats, each with modern hygienic offices and constant hot water supply.

**AN EVER GROWING DEMAND** for such accommodation is evidenced by our lengthening waiting list of would-be tenants.

The demand for the type of flat which we provide is growing and will continue to grow as fast as grows the increasing proportion of women who are taking up their own independent mode of life.

**FURTHER CAPITAL IS NEEDED** and can be utilised to bring in an immediate and certain return to the Society. Although rents are substantially below the current commercial rates, they are yet on a strictly economic basis, being calculated fully to cover the cost of upkeep and repairs, the sinking fund for depreciation and a reasonable interest on the capital sunk in the house, with a satisfactory margin to provide reserves.

**ON THE ORDINARY £1 SHARES** the maximum dividend of 6% has been paid regularly since the foundation of the Society in 1921.

**THE 5% LOAN STOCK** has a fixed dividend which stands in priority to that on the Ordinary Shares.

**"B" LOAN STOCK** is designed to provide a convenient means of gradual saving. Sums of £1 up to £100 can be invested at 5% per annum. There is a fund for the redemption of this Stock.

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The fact that this enterprise has maintained the maximum permissible dividend of 6% throughout a period of unexampled financial depression proves its stability.

**SECURITY OF CAPITAL** is of course, the first requirement of an investor. The soundness of Women's Pioneer Housing Ltd. depends upon

1. **VALUABLE PROPERTIES** in desirable neighbourhoods, many in squares or with private gardens, converted into
2. **UP-TO-DATE DWELLINGS** equipped and arranged so as to be eminently lettable.
3. **A GROWING LIST OF WOULD-BE TENANTS** which averts all risk of unprofitable vacant premises.
4. **SETTLED & SATISFIED TENANTS** many of whom have already occupied our flats for a number of years.

**INVESTMENTS BY TENANTS** are a condition of the tenancies and thus each has a direct interest in keeping up the tone and the value of the property.

Investors may nominate one tenant in respect of every £200 held in Shares or Loan Stock though the tenant may be herself unable to make any investment.

6. **A SINKING FUND** fully adequate to cover depreciation.

## WE INVITE INVESTORS

who prefer to devote their savings to a purpose socially beneficial while giving a reasonable return, to consider the Ordinary Shares and Loan Stock of WOMEN'S PIONEER HOUSING LTD., and to satisfy themselves of its growing prosperity and efficiency by applying for our Prospectus and the latest Balance Sheet.

To do so involves enquirers in no obligation whatever.

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## PUBLIC UTILITY SOCIETY.

(Registered pursuant to the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 1893-1913).

92, VICTORIA STREET, London, S.W.1

## COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

Chairman :	Vice-Chairman :
MRS. H. A. ARCHDALE.	W. E. A. NORMAN, Esq., A.S.A.A.
MRS. BERNARD BUTLER.	MRS. ELLIOT.
MISS D. E. EVANS.	THE HON. LADY SHELLEY-ROLLS
CLAUDE HARRISON, Esq., F.R.I.B.A.	C. S. PEEL, Esq.

Tenants Representatives :  
MISS PARKYN, MISS SMALLWOOD, MISS WALDRON.

**THE SECRET OF SUCCESSFUL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT IS CONSTANT PERSONAL ATTENTION. THIS IS GIVEN TO ALL WOMEN'S PIONEER HOUSING PROPERTIES BY THE**

## MANAGER AND SECRETARY :

Miss E. A. Browning

Registered Offices—92, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.  
Telephone—Victoria 4494.

The advice of experts is taken on all technical points and the accounts are audited by one of the Government's panel of public auditors, whose duty it is to watch the interests of the members.

Consulting Architects—Messrs. R. CREESE, HARRISON & SON,  
28, Craven Street, Strand, W.C.2.

Architect—Miss GERTRUDE W. M. LEVERKUS, A.R.I.B.A.,  
5 Gower Street, W.C.1.

Solicitors—Messrs. TORR & Co., 38, Bedford Row, W.C.1.

Auditor—Miss E. WATTS, B.A., F.C.A., 77, Chandos House,  
Palmer Street, S.W.1.

Bankers—MIDLAND BANK, Ltd., 127, High Holborn, W.C.1.

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## The League of Nations.

During the last month the eyes of the whole world have been fixed on the efforts which have been made by the Council of the League of Nations to induce Japan to withdraw her troops from Chinese territory and to leave it to the Council to adjudicate on the merits of the quarrel caused, according to Japan, by the failure of the Chinese Government adequately to protect Japanese in Manchuria. At the time of writing Japan has not agreed to the Council's demands, and still insists on her right to negotiate directly with China, who in her turn has asked for League action. That the League has not up to the present been able to make Japan keep to her promise to avoid war, both under the Kellogg pact and under the Covenant, is regrettable and a sign that it is still far from maturity. But, at the same time, the "war" has been prevented from spreading, and there is every reason to hope that by the middle of November, when the Council reassembles, that Japan will have shown her respect for civilized opinion all over the world by withdrawing her troops and by agreeing that the dispute shall be settled by League machinery.

## France and America.

What may prove to be the outstanding event of the last month was the visit of the French to the American President. At this stage it is very difficult to gauge its future results. Both countries expressed their intention to remain on the gold standard and to continue to study how to maintain the relative stability of currencies in the world. Both expressed the hope that the Conference on armaments will be able to organize a permanent peace; both recognized the need to extend in some form the Hoover holiday from international debts. This is all to the good, but we are bound to wonder if the same understanding can be maintained

when in the further working out of these problems fundamental differences of opinion will probably come into view.

## General Election.

The overwhelming nature of the Government victory is evident. As a non-party paper it is not fitting for us to make any comment, beyond pointing out the very grave responsibility which rests on any Government who has not got confronting it a sufficiently strong opposition to offer effective criticism. All eyes are now fixed on our new Government whose immediate tasks are to work out a constructive policy to solve our troubles at home, and—still more important—to take the initiative towards international co-operation in regard to those most vital of our difficulties which depend on world rather than national solutions. A strong searchlight has been thrown by the results of the Election on the weakness of our present system of voting. Those who wish to see Parliament a more accurate mirror of the voting strength of the nation would do well to turn their minds to questions of electoral reform.

## Women Members of Parliament.

The number of women Members of Parliament at the time of writing is thirteen. Miss Rathbone's result is still to come, so that it is likely that this Parliament will see only a very small reduction in their numbers. It has, however, seen a great change in the allocation of women among the parties. The clean sweep of Labour women takes away from the service of the country many of outstanding distinction. Miss Margaret Bondfield, for example, our first woman Cabinet Minister; Miss Susan Lawrence who had served as Parliamentary Secretary both of the Board of Education and the Ministry of Health, had nation-wide reputation before they entered Parliament; Dr. Marion Phillips, chief woman officer of the Labour Party; Miss Pictou Turbervill, member of the Executive Committee of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, and Honorary Officer of the Y.W.C.A.; Mrs. Manning, ex-President of the National Union of Teachers, and Miss Ellen Wilkinson all came to Parliament with fine reputations which they enhanced when there. Of the present members we welcome back an old friend, Lady Astor, the Independent member who upheld most of the causes for which this paper stands; Lady Iveagh, a warm supporter of Townswomen's Guilds, and the Duchess of Atholl, a member of the late Conservative Government. Of the new women who are all Conservatives, the best-known names are Miss Thelma Cazalet, Alderman of the L.C.C. and Chairman of one of its important Education Committees; the Hon. Miss Pickford, former factory inspector and a member of

the Departmental Committee on relation to industry; Miss Graves, who undertook such important work for the Foreign Office during the War, and is a member of the Holborn Borough Council; the other new women members have nearly all undertaken political and social work in the districts in which they live, and so come to Parliament with some experience of administrative problems.

#### An Edinburgh Celebration.

The Edinburgh Equal Citizenship Society had a pleasant celebration on 3rd October in honour of Dame Sarah Siddons Mair, LL.D. Dame Sarah has had a long and distinguished career of public work in Edinburgh, dating back to her foundation of the Edinburgh Women's Debating Society in 1865. The occasion of the reception was the recent conferment upon her of the D.B.E., and among those who met together in her honour was Dame Sybil Thorndike, who was, as it were, Dame Sarah's twin D.B.E. In the course of a speech in honour of the principal guest and of her work for the advancement of women, Dame Sybil Thorndike put up a stiff defence of the modern girl—coupled with a warning to the present generation of women that they were still on the defensive and that the time to rest on their oars had not yet arrived. That is a gospel which is from time to time reiterated in these columns.

#### CARRYING ON

Perhaps our readers will hardly recognize an old friend in a new cover. THE WOMAN'S LEADER has reached another milestone on its road, and we hope it will go forward gathering an ever-growing band of readers in its train.

To many of us THE WOMAN'S LEADER is an old and valued friend; on our book-shelves we have past numbers bound that tell of many battles lost and won, many heated controversies that have waxed and waned, many reforms that first saw the light of day in this small weekly paper and now find a place in the statute book of the nation.

To turn the pages of back numbers is to see a procession of notable women pioneers marching forward to victory, the suffragists, the educationalists, the doctors, the lawyers, women guardians, women councillors, women Members of Parliament, the first woman barrister; some of them have already passed triumphant into the shadows; and in high relief we have young women spreading their wings to Australia, to Africa, to Japan, the pioneers of this age. Perhaps the greatest achievement of THE WOMAN'S LEADER has been that it has led, it has always been ahead of the times, and now it aims to lead again in a new form the ever-growing body of women citizens who want to "make their best contribution towards the common good."

Our readers would wish, we know, to join us in

#### Armistice Day, 11th November.

The thirteenth Armistice Day will dawn on a far from peaceful world. None the less it is a world in which strenuous efforts are being made to promote peace. The five international women's organizations with headquarters at Geneva sent a telegram to the President of the Assembly, claiming to speak for 40 million women belonging to 56 countries and urging that the Council bring the Sino-Japanese conflict to a peaceful settlement. There are now nearly one and a half million signatories in this country to the National Disarmament Declaration, and in many centres special efforts are to be made to collect signatures next week. If any of our readers have not yet signed this Declaration we suggest that they should do so in Disarmament Week.

*POLICY.—The sole policy of THE WOMAN'S LEADER is to advocate a real equality of liberties and opportunities between men and women. So far as space permits, however, it will offer an impartial platform for topics not directly included in the objects of the woman's movement but of special interest to women. Articles on these subjects will always be signed, at least by initials or pseudonym, and for the opinions expressed in them the editor accepts no responsibility.*

thanking the retiring Editors, Miss Macadam, Mrs. Stocks, and Mrs. Hubback for all they have done to make the LEADER what it is: pressure of other work has forced them to hand the torch to others to carry on, but they have promised to join the gallant band of voluntary contributors who make the publication of this paper possible. Other old friends who have promised to continue to help us are "Cross Bench", Miss Bertha Mason, Mrs. Rackham, and others. The new Editor, Mrs. Priestley, is known to many members of the National Union for her delightful speeches at the Council meetings, and at the Paignton Rally. She will endeavour, with the help of an Advisory Editorial Committee, which includes the ex-Editors, to keep the high standard of achievement in the past, to make THE WOMAN'S LEADER fill the needs of old friends who we hope will prove faithful and also the new and ever-growing reading public of Townswomen's Guild members with their wide range of interests.

We need a largely increased circulation if the paper is to continue in these times of financial stringency; will all our well-wishers send us 2s. 6d. immediately to cover their subscription for one year, and thus encourage us to go forward in this new venture with "Glad Hearts Adventuring".

B. R.

#### MRS. MARKHAM ON THE GOLD STANDARD.

1. *What is meant by a country's being on the Gold Standard?* That its central bank (in Great Britain the Bank of England) is bound to exchange notes for gold on demand. (Our Bank was only bound to do this when bars worth £1,600 were asked for, these being mainly used to pay balances on our foreign trade.)

2. *What are the advantages of being on the Gold Standard?* They are (1) that there is less temptation for the Government to inflate by printing paper notes, when these notes are backed partly or wholly by gold; (2) that the currency of the country remains comparatively stable in its relation to currency of other countries.

3. *Why did Great Britain come off the Gold Standard?* Because many foreign depositors wished to sell English pounds; i.e. they wanted to exchange our notes for our gold, in order that the position of the banks in their own countries might be strengthened, which position had been weakened by loans to Germany—which Germany was unable to repay. There was also a lack of confidence in Britain's power to pay in gold, partly because her bankers had lent large sums to help Germany, and partly because of the fear that she might not be able to balance her Budget. This "Flight from the Pound" (i.e. the selling of British notes for gold) was aggravated by some British citizens who thought their money might be safer if invested in foreign currencies. The Bank found itself with too little gold, and asked to be relieved from the obligation to sell.

4. *What is meant by our "going off the Gold Standard"?* Passing a law taking from the Bank of England the necessity of selling or buying gold when asked.

5. *What has been the effect of going off the Gold Standard?* That our pound has become of less value in terms of foreign money, as it is no longer linked to gold. It now depends for its value partly on the number of foreigners wanting to pay us for our exports, compared with the number of Englishmen wanting to pay foreigners for our imports, and partly on the belief both in this country and abroad as to whether this Government is or is not likely to inflate (Inflation means a Government's increasing the amount of currency it controls, when there is no corresponding increase in the goods and services produced; each unit of currency thus becoming worth less). Imports will now cost more than before, as our pound exchanges for less in foreign money and will thus be discouraged. Exports will be encouraged because foreigners will have now to pay less of their money for them. This will help to redress the trade balance, unless either wages and retail

(Continued on page 243.)

#### "WOMEN IN PUBLIC LIFE."

Nearly ninety students settled in at the University Hall, St. Andrew's, from 2nd to 6th October to consider the subject "Women in Public Life". The School was run jointly by the Scottish Federation of the N.U.S.E.C. and the Scottish Council of Women's Citizens Associations, the St. Andrew's W.C.A. undertaking the local arrangements. The Provost came to give the students a welcome and the Clerk of the Weather ably seconded their efforts for a delightful week-end.

Speaking on Women on Town Councils, Councillor Isabella Burgess, J.P. (Aberdeen), deplored the fact that women's contribution to the membership of Town Councils in Scotland was still at its minimum, there being only twenty-one women Town Councillors in the whole country. The Rev. Margaret Hardy (Leeds) described the work of a woman minister in a slum parish. The Duchess of Atholl was the exponent of the work of Women in Parliament. She emphasized the difference their presence had made in the House. She claimed no privilege for women as women yet the men had become keenly conscious that there was a distinctive women's point of view on many questions and wished to hear it. She deprecated the idea of a woman's party. As befitted a School meeting in an educational centre like St. Andrew's, the subject of Education received much attention. Miss K. H. McCutcheon, M.A., spoke on how to train our girls to avoid the muddles and inefficiencies of party politics and class jealousies of the present time. Visits were paid to St. Leonard's School, the University, and Sir James Institute for Classical Research.

Dr. C. I. Gavin, a Parliamentary candidate, spoke of the outlook of the modern University Woman, and another phase of Education was dealt with by Mrs. Cochran (Dundee) as she traced the progress made in the development of Handicraft. Dr. Mary McCunn gave a vivid account of the problems to be faced in the Public Health services. Dr. Jack, of St. Andrew's University, gave a most useful summary of the causes and results of the world Economic Crisis and explained the mysteries of the Gold Standard.

Finally, four young speakers—two law students, a teacher, and a student of economics—spoke on Internationalism and the Reduction of Armaments. One had been with a party of student delegates to the U.S.A. and one to an international school in Geneva. Their impressions were hopeful: "We could look to Geneva as the star to which to hitch our wagon."

M. B.

## NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

President: Mrs. Corbett Ashby. Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Van Gruisen.  
 Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Ryland. General and Parliamentary Secretary: Mrs. Horton.  
 Offices: 4 Great Smith Street, S.W. 1. Telephone: Victoria 6188.

## OUR MONTHLY LETTER.

It has been our practice up till now to send a letter every month to the Secretaries of our affiliated Societies indicating topical subjects on which local action might appropriately be taken. This letter has also been sent to those of our subscribers who give annually £1 or more and who desire to be kept in touch with the activities of the Union. In addition, each week in THE WOMAN'S LEADER a column has been reserved for Headquarters information, so that readers of the paper could be kept informed of our work. Now that the control of THE WOMAN'S LEADER has been taken over by the N.U.S.E.C. and the paper is appearing monthly, it is proposed to combine the Monthly Letter with the Headquarters news. A copy will be sent to all Secretaries and to certain subscribers, but its publication in this combined form in THE WOMAN'S LEADER will bring the activities of the Union as a whole to the notice of individual members of Societies and other readers who cannot otherwise easily keep in touch with our work. We hope that this experiment will prove successful.

## THREE GREAT PROBLEMS—AND THEN?

Everyone will be waiting with the greatest interest the new Parliament's proposals for remedying the economic situation. For is it not every citizen's responsibility to try to understand our national difficulties and to help to meet them? In addition two other very grave problems equally require honest and sympathetic consideration by the British electorate: the constitution of India, which is now being discussed by the Round Table Conference; and a method for securing reductions in armaments by international agreement, which is the subject of the special World Conference convened by the League of Nations for February. What legislative programme will be introduced by the Government after the immediate business of dealing with the present crisis is accomplished is as yet unknown.

## GENERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

As soon as the dissolution of Parliament was announced a special meeting of the Executive Committee was held. It was, of course, fully realized that the issues before the country at this Election would bear almost entirely on the present economic crisis. But it could not be foreseen for how long the new Parliament would be in power, nor what legislation it would undertake before its dissolution. For many years it has been the practice of the National Union, in accordance

with the decision of the majority of Societies, expressed at the Annual Council Meeting, to take advantage of the opportunities afforded by parliamentary elections to bring before the candidates of all parties those points on the programme of the National Union for which the support of Parliament is desired. After considering the matter very carefully the Committee felt that it would be wise to recommend that our Societies should approach the candidates of all parties but that their questions should be limited to two general principles only. It was suggested that the support of candidates should be asked: (1) For the principle of equality of liberties, status and opportunities between men and women; (2) For disarmament by international agreement so that the new Government may be encouraged to take a lead in this matter at the forthcoming World Conference.

## TOWN COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

We very much hope that those of our Societies that are affected by the Town Council Elections have been able to keep these all-important elections to the fore. It is most unfortunate that the General Election should come at this juncture and overshadow the Local Government campaign. So much of what we are particularly concerned with comes within the scope of Local Authorities! The urgent need for more women on the Councils that manage our towns' housekeeping cannot be overestimated. We hope that full advantage will be taken of the opportunity where it is offered this month to return women candidates.

## ANNUAL MEETINGS.

Guild Officers are reminded that the Guild rules lay down that the Annual Meeting should be held in the months of October, November, or December; this applies to all Guilds except those formed since July this year. Notice of the meeting should be sent by the Secretary to each member of the Guild at least ten days in advance. At this meeting the annual report and statement of accounts should be presented to the members by the Committee and the election, by ballot, for the new Officers and the Executive Committee of the Guild should be held. The programme for the coming year should be submitted for approval at this meeting also. A leaflet dealing with the Annual Meeting is being sent to Guilds and further copies can be obtained on application to Headquarters. The organizers will be glad to help any new Guilds with preparations for their Annual Meeting.

## THE HOME PAGE.

## GAMES FOR PARTIES.

By EUNICE COCKER.

The essentials that ensure the success of games at a party are very simple. They are:—

- (1) A programme prepared in advance;
- (2) Apparatus ready to hand.

When preparing a programme for our Townswomen's Guilds it is well to remember that our members are of all ages, and so alternate vigorous races and dances with games which can be played whilst seated. This has the dual purpose of giving our younger members breathing space, and our older ones the opportunity of taking part in the fun.

A typical programme which fulfils these aims is as follows:—

- |                             |                                |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| (1) Jolly Miller.           | (2) Musical Trays . . . prize. |
| (3) Barn Dance.             | (4) Balloon Tennis.            |
| (5) Polka.                  | (6) Paper Bag Race . . prize.  |
| (7) Waltz.                  | (8) Chocolate Button Race      |
| (9) Veleta.                 | [ . . . Two prizes alike.      |
| (10) Sir Roger de Coverley. | (11) Auld Lang Syne.           |

The apparatus necessary to carry out this particular programme would be: Dance music; six old trays; twelve balloons; half gross of large paper sweet bags; half pound of chocolate buttons; 12 teaspoons; twelve dusters or large handkerchiefs; twelve large safety pins; four prizes for the competitions.

It is well for the organizer to have a whistle, which is more arresting than a bell, as well as music for fox-trots, Boston two-step, etc., in case additions or substitutes in the programme are required.

A few notes on the lesser-known games may be helpful.

(1) *Jolly Miller*.—One player stands in the middle, whilst all the others arm-in-arm in pairs march round her singing:—

"There was a jolly miller who lived by himself,  
 As the wheel went round he gained his pelf,  
 One hand in the other and the other in the bag,  
 As the wheel went round he made his grab."

On the word "grab" each player on the inner side of the ring leaves her partner's arm and makes a dash for the arm ahead of her in the outer ring. At the same time, the player in the middle tries to forestall someone before she reaches her new partner. If she is successful her place in the middle is taken by the player now without a partner. And so the game continues. Yes! It *does* sound infantile, but the very fact that everyone is singing, everyone is moving, that there is a constant change of partners, and that there is a joyous laugh when someone is "out," kills every bit of reserve and ensures the happy atmosphere that means the whole party is going to be a success.

## A PILGRIM'S GRACE.

Give me a good digestion, Lord,  
 And also something to digest;  
 Give me a healthy body, Lord,  
 With sense to keep it at its best.

Give me a healthy mind, good Lord,  
 To keep the pure and good in sight;  
 Which, seeing sin, is not appalled,  
 But finds a way to set it right.

Give me a mind that is not bored,  
 That does not whimper, whine, or sigh;  
 Don't let me worry overmuch  
 About that fussy thing called "I."

Give me a sense of humour, Lord,  
 Give me the grace to see a joke;  
 To get some happiness from life,  
 And pass it on to other folk.

Author Unknown.

## REPORT ON POSTCARD COMPETITION.

Such was the enthusiasm of competitors that our competition editor is suffering from severe eyestrain after having struggled with the minute handwriting that was essential if the writer was to say one-half of what she felt the occasion demanded. The prize is awarded to Mrs. Allan, Acock's Green; highly commended, Mrs. Terry Barnet.

The following is Mrs. Allan's effort:—

## THE T. G. RALLY.

A starting out in half wavering, half pleasurable anticipation.

A delightful journey; with "halt and pleasant greeting by the way."

A welcome, and a sense of "belonging."

Sudden sweet little friendships.

Inspiring contact with eloquent pioneers (we are greater than we thought).

Farewell, with hope of future meeting; and so the return—enriched—invigorated—to pass on perhaps some little of the Rally's enthusiasm.

## THIS MONTH'S COMPETITION.

This month we offer a Prize for the best

"Two Time-Saving Devices  
for the Housewife"

in 50 words.

PRIZE: One year's subscription to "The Woman's Leader."

The name and address (or pseudonym) and Guild of a competitor must be clearly given on the postcard. Entries should be addressed to c/o the Competition Editor, "The Woman's Leader," 4 Great Smith Street, S.W. 1; and must reach the office not later than Monday, 16th November. The Editor's decision is final.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEWS.

By BERTHA MASON.

## A CALL TO ACTION.

On Monday, the 2nd November, elections for the twenty-eight Metropolitan Boroughs and for Borough Councils in the provinces will take place. In London, as our readers are aware, the municipal elections are triennial, councillors retiring *en bloc* at the end of their three years' service. In the provinces, as a rule, one-third of the council retires each year.

*Danger of Apathy.*

This year the elections for municipal councillors have been overshadowed, and to some extent lost sight of, in the tumult and clash of the General Election. That election is now over. Though at the time of going to press the results are not fully known, it is safe to say that workers are tired, overstrained, in some cases disheartened, and possibly a little out of temper. There is danger that interest in the municipal elections may be lukewarm, and voting neglected and overlooked.

With all the earnestness we appeal to our readers, and especially to members of the Towns' Guilds who are electors and who have been working hard in the General Election, to remember that the municipal elections of this year are of more than ordinary importance. For the following reasons, we appeal to them "to carry on" even if weary, until Monday is over.

(1) The urgent call to the country recently issued for economy, for "wise spending," the cessation of "unwise spending," and for sacrifice, is a call to all *local authorities* as such, to do their part in this hour of national crisis.

If the Government measures now in operation, entailing as they do self-sacrifice on the part of all, and actual suffering and hardship for many, are to be really effective, they must be supported and largely supplemented by *every local spending body*. It is only necessary to bear in mind that about one-ninth of the whole national income is administered by local authorities, to realize the importance of electing to these bodies, men and women who are imbued with vision, a sane understanding of the real meaning of economy, the importance of receiving full value for money spent, the avoidance of extravagance, and the vital need for these measures at this time.

(2) The Government call for economy and sacrifice is an appeal also to *local government electors* who on Monday next will be called upon to elect representatives to Metropolitan Boroughs and Borough Councils throughout the country, to cast aside the electoral apathy and indifference which in time past has been so grievous a feature

of municipal elections, to rise to the occasion which now presents itself, and to use the power in their hands for the good of their country, regardless of all or any party considerations.

*Call to Women.*

Especially to we appeal to women electors, "who are the guardians of the family fireside and of the family cupboard," to remember that:—(a) women are citizens; (b) in many districts the majority of those whose names are on the Register are *women*; (c) "No vote is a vote"; (d) women are responsible equally with men for the honour, the credit, and the well-being of the nation.

It does not fall within our province to suggest *how* people shall vote. But we can and do appeal to women local electors, to *use* the instrument in their hands for the good of their country, and on Monday exercise their votes on behalf of candidates who if elected, will face, regardless of all party considerations, the national crisis in a spirit of service and sacrifice.

The immediate need of the moment is a revival of the civic spirit of olden times, when:—

"None were for a Party,  
But all were for the State."

## IMPRESSIONS OF THE RALLY.

It was with mixed feelings that I stood, with two companions, outside Foregate Street Station, Worcester, on the morning of Friday, 2nd October, waiting for the arrival of a charabanc marked "Townswomen's Guilds." Was I going to be more bored than instructed and more instructed than amused? Was it going to be worth the hundred and one preparations that had to be made before leaving one's home and family for five days? While I was in the act of thinking these thoughts up came the charabanc and we boarded it amid friendly greetings from those already in possession—and so to Paignton. After a journey not without incident, we arrived at the Palace Hotel, and having disentangled our luggage, sat down to our first "family" meal. What a babel of voices! Anyone would have thought that the rule of silence had been imposed on the journey down, or that we were meeting after long years of separation. A reception after dinner opened our programme of work and play. Lady Cynthia Colville, Mrs. Corbett Ashby, Miss Picton-Turbervill, and our Committee made us feel the interest and importance of this first rally, and we went to bed full of good resolutions for the week-end.

Our Committee wisely got us to work early, and 10 o'clock on Saturday morning found us collected in the ballroom—yes—but not to put it to its normal purpose, but to listen to two lectures, the

first by Mrs. Hornabrook on "Local Government," the second by Mr. R. S. Lambert, editor of the *Listener*, on "The Cinema as it is and as it might be," with Mr. Cyril Maude in the Chair. Space forbids me to give you the substance of these and the other lectures we heard during the week-end. I can only say that the whole course was of great practical value, and that the discussion after each lecture showed the keenness of the audience and foreshadowed much future activity in the Guilds.

On Saturday afternoon we drove to Dartington Hall, an old Devonshire mansion, with a large estate which Mr. and Mrs. Elmhirst are now developing in a variety of ways. We saw forestry, weaving, cider-making, and the nucleus of a school which when complete will accommodate two hundred children, from 2 to 19; last, but not least, on a hot afternoon, we were given a real Devonshire tea. Then back to dinner, whist drive, games, and dancing.

On Sunday morning we were free; in the afternoon we drove to Dartmoor, which unkindly clothed itself in mist. Still we had an opportunity of seeing our charabanc drivers at grips with Devonshire lanes. After tea an inspiring talk by Miss Picton-Turbervill on "Pioneers" and in the evening a talk by the same speaker in lighter vein on "A Day in Parliament"; then the singing of "England" opened a concert given by delegates.

Monday morning brought two more lectures, "Handicrafts," by Mrs. Clegg, and "The Young Offender," by Mrs. le Mesurier. Then came a drive to Slapton Sands, which braced the delegates for what was in some respects the most important meeting of the conference, when we discussed "Ourselves." Mrs. Adrian Corbett first traced the history of the early struggles of women to obtain not merely the vote, but enfranchisement of many kinds, and showed how the Townswomen's Guilds had arisen as the youngest child of this movement. Mrs. Ryland and Mrs. Hughes explained how having produced this splendid child we now had to provide for it—in other words, that we must have funds. Then followed a most heartening quarter of an hour. Far from showing the dismal looks that appeals for money often produce, the delegates were eager to insist that the Guilds must keep their Committee in funds to carry on and spread the work. Many made offers of money, some from less wealthy districts offered to sell old clothes, if we would supply them, for the good of the general fund. From this splendid meeting we passed on to a full-blown public dinner, where we entertained the Mayor of Torquay and other notables, and made a presentation to Mrs. Gray, the organizer of the Rally. You would have thought this enough for one day. But not for the T.G. A

roll-call next gave us a chance of hearing all about other Guilds, and getting many hints. After this we went to bed, some sooner, some later.

Tuesday morning saw us all re-embarking in our charabancs, and so farewell to Paignton and the Rally. If any of my readers feel inclined to see a real bit of democracy in the working, I mean people of many different social strata not only meeting to talk, but eating and sleeping and taking their pleasure together, and each one doing what she can to make the whole thing *go*, I recommend those readers to book early for the next T.G. Rally. The Rally at Paignton was a triumphant refutation of the old contention that woman is not a clubbable animal.

## BUXTON CONFERENCE.

A very successful conference of the Guilds in Lancashire, Cheshire, and Derbyshire, was held at Buxton, on 7th October, at the Eagle Hotel. Owing to the absence of Mrs. Corbett Ashby, through indisposition, the chair was very ably taken by Mrs. Ryland, who was supported by Mrs. Taylor, President of Timperley T.G. There were about 120 present, the following Guilds being represented:—

Lancashire.	Cheshire.	Derbyshire.
Springwood	Buckton Vale.	Alvaston.
(Liverpool).	Hale.	Belper.
Ormskirk.	Timperley.	Chapel-en-le-Frith.
Eccles.		Derby.
Horwich.		Littleover.
Wigan.		New Mills.

Sale, Cheshire, and Prestwich, Lancashire, were only formed the last week in September, so were unable to arrange for delegates to attend.

Mrs. Ryland spoke on the management of the monthly and annual meetings, the social side of the Guild work, handicrafts, and lectures; she also explained fully the work of the parent Association and origin of the formation of Townswomen's Guilds. Mrs. Ryland asked a member from each Guild to tell the meeting of their activities, then asked everybody in the room to say what they liked best in their Guild, which led to a most interesting discussion. Mrs. Taylor, who had represented the Northern Area at the Paignton Rally, gave a short account of the activities there and launched into the financial aspect of the Guilds and put forward a suggestion made at Paignton that each Guild should give a quota, £10 if possible to Head Office each year, to help in the organization. An excellent lunch was provided at the Hotel and many members also stayed for tea and explored the old Peak town of Buxton.



## NEWS FROM GUILDS.

## Acock's Green Townswomen's Guild.

This branch was started in January and reports splendid progress. There are now forty-four members, who all enjoy the meetings. They have had demonstrations on glove and rug making, on the use of the Singer machine, and also some interesting lectures. Mr. Taylor, of Kodak, Ltd., gave an instructive talk on "How to get the best use out of your camera."

## Cranford Townswomen's Guild.

An inauguration meeting always has the flavour of an adventure about it. Cranford was no exception. There was a feeling of uncertainty as we sat in that little hall, wondering how many people would come in, whether the Guild would be a success, and some of us wondering what Miss Matty would have thought about it. How Cranford must have changed since her time. One pictures her letting her shawl slip from her shoulders and holding up her hands in horror, yes, in horror, at the things women in her village are doing to-day. But Miss Matty's days are gone, and we hope that the women of Cranford will go boldly forward and make a real success of their Guild.

## Exeter, "Isca" Townswomen's Guild.

As the St. Thomas' Townswomen's Guild in Exeter has proved so successful and useful, a new Guild for the eastern end of the town has been formed. Mrs. Gray, from Headquarters, spoke at the inaugural meeting, on the importance and advantages of the Townswomen's Guilds, the object of which was to improve home life. The new Guild is called the "Isca" Townswomen's Guild.

## Hampstead Townswomen's Guild.

At their meeting in October, the Hampstead Guild heard a very interesting address by Mrs. Carnegie, of the Hampstead Borough Council. She gave her audience a clear idea of the varied work which a Borough Council undertakes, from housing problems, maternity and health questions, to the care of cemeteries, libraries, trees and open spaces, etc., and made them realize how important a part women can play on Councils.

## Haywards Heath Townswomen's Guild.

Haywards Heath Guild seems to have a diversity of interests. We hear that they have been "Canadianizing" their gardens by growing Indian corn, without much success however. They have done one very valuable piece of public work in bringing about the opening of the local centre of the County Library, which has now 867 readers. At their September meeting, Mrs. Lomax Earp, representative of the Health and Cleanliness Council, gave an interesting address on health in the home. She stressed the importance of a cheerful and unhurried home, said that children however small, should be encouraged to have hobbies, and advocated that there should be more women on urban and rural councils.

## Horwich Townswomen's Guild.

The last two meetings of the Horwich Guild have been very interesting. At the September meeting, Mrs. Grieve, a Guild member, gave readings from Barry, Field, and Noyes, which were much appreciated. At the October meeting, Mrs. Hornbrook gave a convincing address on the need for the right type of women on Councils. This was followed by a report of the Buxton Conference, which gave valuable material for discussion. This Guild has a motto for each of its meetings, chosen with reference to the subject for the evening. For instance, when the subject was the possession of the franchise, the motto chosen was "Property has its duties as well as its rights." Other Guilds may be glad to know of this idea for their meetings.

## Long Eaton Townswomen's Guild.

Long Eaton Townswomen's Guild has been taking an active share in the Long Eaton Carnival Week in aid of the Derby and Nottingham hospitals. By means of a whist drive, a cake and sweet stall and other efforts the Guild has raised £45 towards the hospital funds. It is very encouraging to see a Guild taking part in a public effort like this, and winning recognition for itself as a public spirited body in its own town.

## Ormskirk Townswomen's Guild.

The Ormskirk Guild held its first annual meeting in September, the Secretary was able to give a very satisfactory report of the past year's work. In numbers the Guild has increased from twenty-six to 164 members. As well as all the social activities which form so important a part of the life of a Guild, they had had many interesting talks on subjects such as Child Welfare, Housing and Sanitation, the Work of a Woman Councillor, the Empire and its Women, etc. Mrs. Falloway, the organizer for the north-west district, who was presiding at the meeting, congratulated the secretary and the committee on the excellent progress the Guild had made.

## Westcliffe (Bournemouth) Townswomen's Guild.

Miss Sterling gave an interesting lecture on "Citizenship" at the September meeting of this Guild. She traced the growth of citizenship from the earliest days of "free man," and said that to-day we should think of ourselves as citizens of the world. She found the solution of most of the present problems in the two thousand-year-old command "Love one another." This Guild, though recently formed, is making excellent progress. Many new members have been enrolled, and a satisfactory financial report was given at the meeting.

## Weybridge Townswomen's Guild.

Weybridge Guild has progressed rapidly, its members now numbering 106. It held its second meeting in October, when Miss Hamilton Smith gave a report of the Paignton Rally, which was followed by a demonstration on home dyeing. Plans proposed for the winter include an embroidery circle, a leather-work class, and a local survey.

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(Continued from page 237)

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS.

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**L**ONDON AND NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 27 Marsham Street, Westminster. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Expert advice on what to do with your girls. Addresses to schools and societies in London and Provinces by arrangement.

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## COMING EVENTS.

**MORLEY COLLEGE FOR WORKING MEN AND WOMEN.**

61 Westminster Bridge Road, S.E. 1. Series of Public Lectures on "Biographies," Tuesdays at 8 p.m. 17th November: Mrs. Oliver Strachey, "Dame Millicent Fawcett."

**NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.**

4th November, 4.30 p.m. 50 Porchester Terrace, W. 2 (by permission of the Hon. Mrs. Franklin). Reception to Dame Edith Lytton. Chair: Miss K. D. Courtney. Tickets 2s. 6d., from 4 Great Smith Street.

**ACTON W.C.A.—12th, 13th, and 14th November, Y.W.C.A. Bazaar.** Please support our stall.

**BARNSELY S.E.C.—13th November, 7.30. St. Mary's Parish Room.** Speaker: Miss Nancy Parnell.

**BOLTON W.C.A.—26th November, 7.30 p.m.** Ring of Bells, Church House. Mrs. Nunns: "A Woman Citizen of the Nineteenth century."

**EDINBURGH W.C.A.—18th November, 8 p.m.** Y.M.C.A. Hall, South St. Andrew Street. Discussion: "Are we getting the best results from our educational system?"

"OLD VIC."

22nd November, 7.30 for 8, Dinner to Cicely Hamilton, at the Florence Restaurant, Rupert Street, W. Chair: Sir Nigel Playfair. Tickets (7s.) from Miss Marsh, 132 Cheyne Walk, S.W.

**PETERSFIELD S.E.C.—3rd November, 7 p.m.** Sandylea, Heath Road. Miss Enid Laphorn, "The Nationality of Married Women."

**STEPNEY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD.—4th November, 2.30 p.m.** Address on "International Peace." Demonstration, "How to cut out a dress." Community singing.

**WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.**

12th and 13th November, 3-9 p.m. "Universal Market" Fair at Caxton Hall, Westminster. To be opened by Miss Cecily Hamilton and Miss Lillah McCarthy, O.B.E., Christmas gifts, entertainments, refreshments.