

# THE WOMAN'S LEADER

## AND THE COMMON CAUSE

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### NOTES AND NEWS.

#### Mussolini.

We offer to the Italian people congratulations on their escape from the commission in their midst of a great crime: the crime of political assassination. And yet we wonder how many of them realize, in the hue and cry of jubilation, that their present political situation must of necessity prove a very fertile breeding-ground for crimes of this description. For all history (and not least the nineteenth century history of Italian freedom) serves to prove that the standard of "gunpowder treason and plot" goes up inevitably when the standard of free speech, free Press, and free opposition goes down. We will, however, withhold further criticism of a political system which, though it is wholly alien to our own in spirit and in method, may nevertheless suit the needs and weaknesses of a people whose virtues do not run on political lines but may be none the less contributory to the fulfilment of European civilization.

#### Italy and the League.

There is, however, one aspect of current Italian policy on which we cannot withhold criticism since it concerns not Italy alone, but the cause of Peace, to whose service the Governments of Western Europe are pledged by their signature of the League of Nations' Covenant. Mussolini has been expressing himself during the week on the matter of foreign policy, and his voice recalls not the accents of post-war Locarno, but the accents of pre-war Berlin. He declares that if the "Italian frontiers are even questioned Italy will move immediately towards war, with the Italian people trained and ready to follow." He asserts that he is creating a "new Italy," and that he will create it with "brain and brawn—if necessary, with blood." Now, as a matter of fact the Italian frontiers have not been "questioned," so there is really no occasion for these Bismarckian utterances. But it is within the bounds of possibility that they might be "questioned," and quite judicially "questioned," under the aegis of the League Covenant and with full guarantees against such "questioning," involving predatory violence. It is therefore impossible to contemplate such statements—and many others of similar strain which we have neither the space nor the inclination to quote—without suspecting that the Italian Dictator has in general very little respect for the League ideal, very little faith in its machinery, and very little intention of contributing to its dignity. It is as well that the Italian people should realize

these external implications of their present political régime, and that they should realize simultaneously the burden, the danger, and the disgrace of international isolation.

#### Committee of Inquiry on Unemployment Insurance.

We are glad to see that on the Committee of Inquiry appointed by the Ministry of Labour "to consider in the light of experience gained in the working of the unemployment insurance scheme what changes in the scheme if any ought to be made," Miss Bondfield and Viscountess Milner are among the 13 members. Our readers do not need to be reminded that Miss Bondfield was Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Labour in the late Government, and that she is secretary of the Women's Section of the National Union of General Municipal Workers.

#### The Control of Clubs.

On 6th November the Home Secretary received three deputations who urged him to resist the demand put forward by a deputation received by him the day before, which represented members of clubs and had pressed for an alteration in the hours, etc., with regard to the supply of intoxicating drinks. One of these deputations was organized by the National Council of Women, and included Lady Emmott and Mrs. Wintringham, who both spoke, and pointed out the solid body of opinion behind their request, which included a large number of women magistrates. She further urged the significance of no women having taken part in the "Clubs" deputation. The Home Secretary stated that the matter would have to be a Cabinet question, and that he himself was in favour of "the fullest inquiry" into the whole position.

#### The Home Secretary and the Solicitation Laws.

The Home Secretary has consented to receive a deputation on 13th November, under the auspices of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, which will put before him the need for the appointment of a Committee "to take evidence and report on the state of the streets and public places in regard to solicitation for immoral purposes and on the law and administration concerning these matters." The A.M. & S.H. has invited the co-operation of all societies interested, and we believe that a very representative and influential deputation will wait upon the Home Secretary. It will not, however, attempt to deal with more than two points: the urgent need for such a Committee of Inquiry, and the proposal that the Committee should be a Select Committee appointed by Parliament rather than a Departmental Committee appointed by the Home Office. Everyone will agree as to the need for an inquiry in view of the present muddled and obsolete state of the law on this subject and the confusion arising from the existing uncertainty as to what evidence is required to prove the offence. In a leaflet published by the A.M. & S.H. it is stated that a Committee of Inquiry should "act neither as a defender nor an opponent of the present system but merely as a judicial body," and that for this reason non-Parliamentary representatives either of the Home Office or of the various societies concerned should not serve on the Committee but should only come before it as witnesses.

#### Results of The Guardianship Act—A New Light.

An interesting circular has recently been sent to the Managers of Reformatory and Industrial Schools by the Home Office. It runs as follows:—"I am directed by the Secretary of State to say that his attention has recently been drawn to cases of

enlisting boys into the Army without the previous consent of the father, although in some instances the consent of the mother has been obtained. Hitherto, in the absence of committal to a Certified School, the mother's right to the custody of a child has been inferior to that of the father; but by the Guardianship of Infants Act, 1925, which came into force on the 30th September, 1925, the right of guardianship now runs equally with the father and the mother. In future the Managers should accordingly endeavour to secure the consent in writing of both parents to any proposed disposal of a child to the Army, to sea, or by emigration.

#### The London Society for Women's Service.

The London Society for Women's Service has tabled an important resolution for its annual meeting to be held on 27th November. This resolution, which stands on the agenda in the name of Mrs. Oliver Strachey, runs as follows:—"That in view of the fact that the work of this Society is now national in scope, and with a view to its still wider expansion, the name be henceforth 'The Society for Women's Service,' and that it no longer be regarded as the London Branch of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, but as an independent Society working in co-operation on points of common agreement; and that the affiliation arrangements be altered accordingly and the Society for Women's Service be henceforth affiliated in the same manner as the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene and other independent national societies." This seems, on the face of it, an eminently reasonable proposal. From the moment when the old London Society for Women's Suffrage decided to focus its attention on one particular and rather technical aspect of feminist activity, the problem of training, pay, and opportunity for women in industry and the professions, the logical justification of taking London as a territorial unit of organization became somewhat obscure. Since then, the growth of organizations for Equal Citizenship in general in the London area, but separately affiliated to the N.U.S.E.C., has further complicated the position. Therefore, without prejudice to other pros and cons which may emerge in process of discussion, we are inclined to regard the proposal of the London Society for Women's Service to substitute a functional for a territorial basis of organization as one which should conduce to effective specialization and co-ordination of effort in the woman's movement.

#### Population in the Future.

Professor Bowley, who is perhaps the most eminent statistician of to-day, publishes in the *Manchester Guardian* of 9th November an illuminating analysis of the past and an intriguing hypothetical forecast of the future population figures of Great Britain. He points out that in the decade 1901-11 the average annual increase was 461,000 less 90,000 by migration, whereas in the four years 1921-5, the annual increase was 305,000 and the annual loss by migration 95,000. Birth- and death-rates have, of course, as he points out, been diminishing during the last 50 years, and the actual number of births per annum have been diminishing for the last 20 years. "The number of school children has been on the down grade for some years; the number of boys and girls now entering industry, the survivors of those born in 1911, is no greater than in the previous ten years, and a serious fall will be felt by 1930, when the births subsequent to 1915 become dominant. If the school age is raised industry will soon be short of recruits." On the other hand, however, the number of adults seeking work has increased and will further increase, while the number of pensionable age has grown and will grow more rapidly still. On the hypothesis that the number of births recorded in 1924 (840,000) may be taken as the future annual figure, and that there will be no further change in the death-rate, he tells us that the population of Great Britain, which was 42,766,000 in 1921, will probably be 45,799,000 in 1931, and 48,091,000 in 1941—figures which make no allowance for emigration. Supposing net emigration to be at the rate of 50,000 per annum for the next six years, we should total 45,100,000 in 1931, and should look forward to a greater reduction in 1941. He adds that a continuance of the present number of births and the present death-rate would give us an ultimately stationary population of fifty million persons.

#### Housing, Education, Employment, and Old Age.

If the above estimates are excepted, Professor Bowley suggests that the following conclusions may be drawn:—(1) When the present abnormal housing shortage is met and existing bad premises rebuilt, it should be possible quite easily to obtain

the normal increase needed year by year; (2) The number of children of school age has already passed its maximum; (3) Allowing for emigration the number of adult men seeking work will grow at, roughly, 100,000 per annum in the immediate future and soon begin to decline; (4) The number of men and women over 65 is increasing rapidly and will continue to increase until 1970, when it will be affected by the check in births after 1903. These are interesting if indeterminate speculations. Exactly how indeterminate they are can be imagined when we realize that Professor Bowley, while he attributes some force in recent birth-rate movements to a temporary shortage of housing, does not discuss (he is after all a statistician rather than a sociologist) the probability of a very steep rise in human standards of housing, education, general mobility, and leisure. Nor does he speculate upon the possible consequence of such a rise when it touches the female half of the population and finds it equipped, as never before, with the means of deliberate limitation.

#### Woman President-elect of the Indian National Congress.

We learn from the *Manchester Guardian* that Mrs. Sarajini Naidu, the poetess and president-elect of the Indian National Congress, is the first woman to hold this post. As our contemporary points out, "In spite of the size, schisms, and frequent turbulence of the Congress no doubts are expressed as to this Indian lady's fitness to control the thousands of delegates who will flock to Cawnpore in December. On the contrary, her election is welcomed with gratitude and relied upon as that of the one person capable of restoring cohesion to that sadly fissiparous body. Mrs. Naidu stands above all for Hindu-Muslim unity, and her greatest contribution to politics has been her endeavour to heal party differences. Of all his followers she stands nearest to Mahatma Gandhi in her readiness to champion the downtrodden of all religions and races both in South Africa and in India."

#### Good News from New Zealand.

We offer hearty congratulations to Miss Melville, of Auckland, on her election as first woman member of the New Zealand House of Representatives. It is strange that New Zealand, which was the first country to embark upon the great adventure of Women's Suffrage, should thus tardily produce its first woman M.P. It is indeed high time that this omission should be made good. Meanwhile, we in Great Britain are delighted that to Miss Melville should have fallen the honour of leading the way for others. Those of our readers who were present at the Brighton conference of the National Council of Women last autumn will remember her as an interesting and interested visitor in our country. They may also recall the fact that she is a practising barrister and a city councillor in her own.

#### Bad News from Australia.

Last week, by 28 votes to 25, the New South Wales Legislative Council rejected the second reading of a Bill (and a Government Bill, too) whose object was to enable women to sit as members of the Council. Well, well—it is possible that Second Chambers have their uses. But they appear to suffer all the world over from a singular reluctance to adapt themselves to the sex-equalitarian standards of their age in matters which touch directly their own internal functioning.

#### A Green, White and Gold Fair.

The Women's Freedom League will hold on 20th and 21st November its annual "Green, White, and Gold Fair," which will be opened on Friday, 20th November, at the Central Hall, Westminster, by Dame Millicent Fawcett. We remind our readers of this fact because, apart from the galaxy of amusing but transitory entertainments offered by this pleasing annual event (including excursions into phrenology, numerology, and character reading), it offers also the very solid advantage of discharging simultaneously and with the same coin two burdensome and onerous social duties: the duty of giving Christmas presents to one's friends and relatives and the duty of assisting a good cause.

*POLICY.*—The sole policy of THE WOMAN'S LEADER is to advocate a real equality of liberties, status 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 women's movement, but of special interest to women. Articles on these subjects will always be signed, at least by initials or a pseudonym, and for the opinions expressed in them the Editor accepts no responsibility.

### THE LOGIC OF HISTORY.

Political forecasts of the coming Session's work suggest that the local government system of this country is about to be dipped into a melting pot, from which it will emerge in a recognizable but far tidier form. There is, to begin with, that overhaul of the rating and valuation system which the Minister of Health regards as a necessary preliminary to his long-promised measure of Poor Law reform. And suggestions have been put forward in connexion with it concerning the necessity for a contemporary overhaul of our present system of grants-in-aid.

But to the ordinary reader of this paper such financial readjustments in our local government structure will appear as minnows beside the leviathan reform which looms in the middle distance; we mean, of course, the reform of the Poor Law, embodying, as the Government's draft proposals show in tentative outline, the abolition of the Boards of Guardians and the distribution of their functions among committees of existing County, Borough, and County Borough Councils.

Now, as our readers should be already well aware, this is no new bombshell of a proposal. It is as old as the Maclean Reconstruction Committee, which in 1918 presented Mr. Lloyd George's Government with a concrete scheme for the reform of local government on these lines. Indeed it is, as we pointed out last week, very much older than that. It is in essence the scheme which Mrs. Sidney Webb and her three colleagues embodied in their famous Minority Report to the Poor Law Commission of 1909. And one may suspect that even then it was no sudden emanation from the evidence collected by that Commission, but rather the propitious flowering of a seed that had long been maturing in the fertile composite brain of Mr. and Mrs. Webb, sown there by their long preoccupation with the historical evolution of English Local Government. For, as a matter of fact, this elemental proposal to abolish the Boards of Guardians and allocate their functions to other existing bodies is one which springs very naturally and very fitly from the logic of nineteenth century history. When directions were given for the creation of Poor Law Unions and the election of Board of Guardians by the famous Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834, there were no pre-existing democratic local authorities which could properly have been entrusted with that difficult tangle of far-flung problems which we are accustomed to lump together under the title of "destitution." Indeed, there were no democratic local authorities in existence at all, since the unreformed Municipal Corporations, and the half-reformed vestry meetings of the time hardly deserved such an adjective. Nor was there in existence an expert local bureaucracy capable of handling a single one of the administrative problems connected with the phenomena of destitution—let alone the whole bunch of problems. What then could have been more inevitable than that the social reformers of the time, working in an administrative wilderness and under pressure of urgent and progressive abuses should have created a new local area for the relief of destitution, a new elected body for the relief of destitution, and a new central and local bureaucracy for the relief of destitution, leaving the multifarious causes of

destitution unsorted and very largely unexplored. It is with the ultimate fate of this same area, this same elected body, and this same bureaucracy that we are concerned to-day.

But our social reformers of to-day no longer move in an administrative wilderness. For the intervening years have covered a period of social reconstruction, which, seen in its historical perspective, is perhaps the most fruitful in the history of the world. That period has given us, on the model set by the Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834, a vast network of elected local governing bodies, operating through a local civil service and standing in defined relation to the Central Government. And through the combined instrumentality of central government, local democracy, and trained bureaucracy, these years have seen the development of the health service, the police service, the education service, the old age pension service, and the insurance service for sickness, widowhood, and unemployment. Nor is there a single one of these newer specialized services which does not now, at some point of its activities, compete with and overlap the composite service still performed by the Guardians in the relief of destitution. Whether or no there is still a residue of unclassified and unclassifiable destitution with which the health authorities, the police authorities, the education authorities, or the various pensions authorities are none of them competent to deal is still a matter of some controversy. The present Government apparently inclines to the view that there is not. But this much is incontestable: whereas the Guardians formerly bore their burden of social maladjustment alone and unaided, to-day they bear it in company with many younger and, some people would say, more scientifically equipped competitors.

We offer this somewhat pedagogic analysis of the situation for the enlightenment of those who may be so misguided as to imagine that the present proposals for the break-up of the Poor Law and the transfer of its functions to other bodies involve some reflection upon the efficiency or devotion of countless generations of Guardians. We are inclined to think that if unpretentious and unrequited devotion to the public good could be measured in units of output, the number of units accredited to four generations or so of Poor Law Guardians would surpass that of any other category—with the possible exception of the clergy. Therefore, those who favour the break-up of the Poor Law as at present constituted must join with those who may regret it in the hope that to the new machinery may be transferred the motive power of the old. Or, in other words, that the most active and devoted of our Poor Law Guardians may find even more adequate scope for their service on the specialized bodies which will undertake their old functions.

We ourselves have a very particular reason for such a desire. Boards of Guardians and those who elect them have hitherto shown greater readiness than have the newer bodies to utilize the experiences and services of women. If the local government reforms which lie ahead of us are likely to result in the loss to public life of any part of these services and experiences, then such likelihood must be counted as a heavy weight in the balance against their acceptability.

### KING ALFRED SCHOOL.

Ideals are proverbially difficult to realize in a world of fact. But if at all vital they create an atmosphere; and atmospheres, both for good and for bad, are the greatest and most persistent of facts.

Our ideal may be stated thus: to fit ourselves for the Society of to-day without losing touch with the natural and primitive sources of strength that have hitherto nourished the greater moral qualities in man.

Accordingly we forgo with open eyes the advantages (for there certainly are advantages as far as the teacher is concerned) in the boarding-school system, which takes children from their natural homes. We forgo the advantages, real or alleged, of schools which separate brothers from sisters and boys from girls, and men teachers from women teachers. We reject the artificial stimulus of that kind of punishment and reward which has no intrinsic connexion with the merit or fault. (A silver medal is not the natural consequence of a good French accent, nor is a series of ill-written lines the inevitable product of disobedience, and so forth.) We reject any artificial status of our staff, and rely upon the natural maturity and experience of the elder to support him in his dealings with his juniors.

And last, but not least, we have, by a great effort, succeeded in planting the school in the nearest approach to a wild natural environment, which the London area provides. Our 6 acres of unwall, uncurbed and unuttered mother earth, with their natural allotment of rain and sun and air and still bearing on the surface many ancient trees, are themselves an education of a deep part of man such as the city, if left to itself, must almost necessarily and entirely cut off.

It will be seen therefore that when we speak of attempting to be as "natural" as possible we do not mean something vague or sentimental but something with a definite meaning.

A secondary consequence of this attitude is that we have a shorter number of hours for study than many schools. Not only do we recognize more fully than some the claims of the home to the children's evenings, but we recognize the educational and moral value of various kinds of handwork, such as most children naturally spend a large part of their time upon. And this in its turn leads to a special type of teaching. As we cannot afford to repeat "ad libitum" the processes (for instance) of arithmetic and grammar, we are obliged to rely more upon "understanding" as compared with "habit." Both, of course,

are necessary, but we believe that rather less repetition is necessary if a thing has once been thoroughly grasped.

But, after all, perhaps the thing that we most count for is the fact that for nearly a whole generation we have survived the innumerable vicissitudes incidental to any venture in idealism. King Alfred himself showed that in extreme danger and difficulty the only practical thing was vision. His vision, dimly understood as it was, finally gave his countrymen confidence in their cause and in themselves, a confidence never again entirely lost, and which created England no less truly than St. Joan, by a like inspiration and confidence, created France.

To give idealists the sense of practicality might almost be taken as the description of our aim.

Now at King Alfred School we have three sets of idealists to deal with, and they have their moods of misgiving as well as their moods of confidence and even elation. There are the members and friends of the King Alfred School Society, founded in 1898, who support the movement with funds, and, on the whole, a very robust faith. The Society's subscriptions are the only fund which fills the place (in a small measure) of endowment, without which no day school in competition with the big Public Schools can hope to balance its budget.

Then there are the parents who entrust their children to the school, often, but not always, members of the Society. Some of these send their children from purely practical motives, but the majority are men and women who want for their children the very best and who believe that it is only idealists who can provide this. They know that ideals are needful things to live with, but they want to feel assured that their children will have something to live by. Lastly there are the children. All children are idealists of sorts. And there is no sort of idealism more prevalent than some sort of moral idealism. They may fail from various causes. The ideals themselves may be false. More often they fail from being misunderstood or belittled by the grown-ups. But oftener perhaps the better ones fail because they have not inspired confidence in the children's own minds. Once you can persuade children that they can be what they want to be, they mostly want to be the right thing. Once you can inspire parents with confidence that their children can grow up and live and flourish with vision, better even (and much better) than without, they know very well that it is vision above all things that they want for their children.

Once you can convince educational enthusiasts that a school whose main inspiration is idealism can hold its own in this world you will find people willing and eager to support it. But, like King Alfred, you can only prove these things by doing them, and, imperfect as our success may have been, we have up to our lights been doing them for nearly 30 years, and were never more prosperous than to-day. JOSEPH WICKSTEED.

(M.A. Oxon, Headmaster.)

### "WE TWA."

By A. HELEN WARD.

"And they married and lived happily ever after!" Too often we incline to the thought that such a thing happens only in a fairy tale, and then only if the fairies are princes and princesses. And indeed even the little people, the fairies, have their little troubles—a pea in the bed and such like.

Into the lives these of two human beings, Lord and Lady Aberdeen, trouble entered, the death of loved ones, criticisms and calumnies. And yet happiness, the happiness of well-lived lives, of many friends, of the consciousness of the Golden Rule fulfilled, appears as the real and lasting thing.

We speak of a fairy prince and princess because the pomp and circumstance with which the "twa" were almost a ways surrounded is quite surprising, so far did it exceed what falls to the lot of ordinary people. Four horses and postilions, and royal salutes and private railway trains, and equeries are merely bagatelles of every day. They are not, one has to remind oneself, royal personages, but in Scotland and in Ireland and in Canada they were, without doubt, the next best thing.

The young "prince" first appeared before his bride-to-be in "the hot summer of 1869," riding a good-looking chestnut horse, and craving shelter for the night in her father's country mansion. "Veritably," as Lady Aberdeen herself remarks, "a familiar opening for a fairy tale!" And possibly, Miss Ishbel Marjoriebanks, to give her the name of her birth, had some communing with things to which mortal eye is generally blind, for she tells a story of her childhood that will make the mouth of the modern psychologist water:—

<sup>1</sup> *We Twa*: The Reminiscences of Lord and Lady Aberdeen. (W. Collins, Sons and Co., Ltd. Price 36/- net.)

"I found myself in perpetual disgrace. . . . One reason, unknown to any one in those days accounts for a good deal of the trouble. An idea seemed to be revealed to me that I was destined to be my adored mother's protector, and that I would be able to save her from all sorts of troubles, which if I would be faithful to certain directions given by secret voices, which I was on no account to divulge to any one. The messages thus brought I was to learn so many lines of poetry or verses of a hymn whether I was twelve years old, when my mission would be crowned with success. Under these sealed orders, I was told one day that I must practice my scales so many times each—no more nor no less—or that I was to walk only on the dividing lines of the pavement stones and not in between. Another day it was just the reverse, or I was to go upstairs two steps at a time, or that I was to learn so many lines of poetry or verses of a hymn whether I was told or not. Endless were the details I had to carry out, and as far as I know I did not fail, but it was at the cost of endless collisions with the authorities. . . . by the time I was eleven I was practically free of the incubus which I believe in one form or another makes the lives of many children miserable."

"Ishbel" was a young person willing to endure much in what she conceived to be a good cause.

Fairy princes seem to sit rather lightly to their public duties, but in this matter of duty the Aberdeens show themselves of the higher human breed. But the word duty is a stiff word, too narrow in implication for the rich humaneness of their outlook. In outward form, their sense of duty was conditioned by the protestantism of their ancestors, but in essence it partook of the nature of that almost mystical virtue of "simplicity" extolled by many Catholic masters of the spiritual life. A simplicity of life in the midst of "pomp." A simplicity of enjoyment of these and of all the good things life showered upon them, but, best of all, a simplicity in unaffectedly desiring to share all with their fellow human beings.

That each of the "twa" pulled his or her full weight is evident. Also that Lord Aberdeen shared the view held by Lady Aberdeen of the great importance of the various organizations of women over which she presided. One of several reasons given by her for Lord Aberdeen's resignation of the office of Governor-General of Canada in 1898 is that "The International Council of Women was to meet in London in 1899, and it was very desirable for the President to be at headquarters during the preceding months."

Lady Aberdeen has held office in so many admirable associations of women, or of men and women, for social reform that it is impossible even to enumerate them here.

The Women's Liberal Federation must have a word, because while its President, Lady Aberdeen, in spite of a lifelong and devoted friendship with the Gladstones, was found unequivocally on the right side in the suffrage agitation which rent that body for so long, torn as it was between party loyalty to backward leaders and loyalty to the great idea of women's enfranchisement.

A fine tradition of freedom was maintained on the Aberdeen estates. The malicious story that Lady Aberdeen once, when dining with an American magnate, turned to a maid servant behind her, and pointing to the maid's cap, exclaimed "Take off that badge of servitude," and another that the Aberdeens, while representing the crown, always dined once a week with their household staff, gained such a strong hold on the public credulity that they were twice solemnly questioned on the subject by court officials at home. The foundation of fact from which these fictions derived was most honourable. The fact was that the Aberdeens had founded a club for the men and women of their Scottish household on a democratic basis which, in addition to a variety of social meetings, organized for itself a fire brigade, cricket, lawn tennis, and football clubs, allotments, Shakespeare readings, singing, drawing, wood-carving classes, and anything else the members wished. More remarkable, at least to us English, (I am credibly informed that such things are everyday affairs in Scotland!) were the early days of the Onward and Upward Association, which, in spite of its Victorian name, existed to enable the girls on the farms to do serious study, of the efficiency of which there is the testimony of "University men, who were among the examiners and who were wont to marvel at the excellency of the work produced and to say, after watching the progress made by girls who stuck to the work year after year, that their papers equalled those of many University students."

Speaking of farms reminds us to observe that animal lovers will find much to please them in the casual references scattered over the volumes to the cats and dogs and horses, and even cattle, who found their rightful place as friends of the laird of Haddo House and his lady. And surely no lives, however full of good works, are really fully lived without this friendship with the dumb ones and with the wilder nature, happily still to be found in Scotland and Ireland and Canada. Those bred

among such things go gallantly into the great adventures of life. Lord Aberdeen's closing chapter, "Fifty years a Laird," dwells with pardonable pride more on the heavy practical responsibilities so admirably met by him and his Gordon forebears, but it tells something also of the free outdoor life in which he got his training for Ireland and Canada. On Hallowe'en, Sir Ian Hamilton, addressing the Gordon Highlanders Old Comrades' Association, modestly observed "The Gordons are a clan apart. . . . They secured the pick of the ladies. . . . They were also men of their word, honourable men, and they bear that reputation to this day!" The old order changes, but one thing remains, the supreme value of character, in public and in private life. As a self-revealing study in character, *We Twa* should command a wide circle of readers. May many years of happy and distinguished usefulness remain to the authors.

### A CASUAL COMMENTARY.

A book of essays by Rose Macaulay<sup>1</sup> (a charming little book nicely covered and elegantly printed) is a welcome distraction from the ordinary business of existence. For how pleasant it is to move in company with this deft and skilful author over the problems of social reform and politics, and religion and literature! It is like skating on thin ice with a companion so expert and so light-footed that not merely does the surface of your joint operations remain intact, but you are hardly even conscious of the deep dark waters underneath—to say nothing of the solid earth which lies below them. It is a jolly exercise—invigorating and wholly refreshing. Nor is there any harm in it at all, for one is not really deceived for a single moment. One knows that real life, and real thought, and real problems are not really like this. Skate with Stella Benson over her little world and you may be precipitated at any moment into deep bottomless waters. Skate with Thomas Hardy and with a crack and a splash you will bump on to frozen and unyielding rock. But skate with Rose Macaulay and you are safe. You end up with dry feet and a laughing countenance and a perceptible debt of gratitude to the companion with whom you have for a space made merry. M. D. S.

### THE LEAGUE AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

By LESLIE R. ALDOUS.

There is hardly a country in the world which does not benefit in some degree as a result of the work which the League of Nations is carrying on for public health. A most encouraging report of this branch of the League's activities was heard at the recent Sixth Assembly at Geneva, and important plans were laid for the future.

It is an interesting fact that a large proportion of the League's health work is undertaken at the special request of individual Governments and national health administrations, who feel unable to cope unaided with epidemics that break out. Even the Soviet Government which, as a general rule, will have nothing to do with the League of Nations, has asked for an inquiry to be set on foot in Eastern Siberia with a view to the prevention of epidemics, particularly the plague.

This inquiry will benefit not only Russia but all of Europe, for epidemics are no respectors of frontiers. The League, it will be remembered, has already been successful in checking the outbreaks of typhus and typhoid which threatened to sweep over Europe from Russia and Poland after the War.

A bureau has been established at Singapore to collect information on epidemics which spring up in the East and warn the interested countries, by telegraph and "wireless", so that they may take preventive measures in time.

France has now made a request to the League for the establishment of a similar bureau in West Africa. Our territories in Africa are so extensive that this proposal will be watched with interest in this country.

The League is also busily engaged with the problems of malaria, cancer, tuberculosis, and sleeping sickness.

Public health administrations of all countries—our own included—are feeling the benefit of the League's interchanges of public health personnel. These have been made possible by grants of money from the Rockefeller Institute in America. Several of these interchanges have taken place in recent months. A Study tour in the Mediterranean is shortly taking place, when ports such as Marseilles, Algiers, Genoa, Naples, Alexandria, Piraeus, and possibly one or two Turkish ports will be visited. On October 18th an interchange of health officers began in Japan, in which Australia and New Zealand were represented.

Few branches of the League can have a fuller and more encouraging record of work to their credit than the Health Organization.

<sup>1</sup> *A Casual Commentary*, by Rose Macaulay. (Methuen and Co., 6s.)

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEWS.

By BERTHA MASON.

#### SOME IMPRESSIONS OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

The elections for Borough Councillors in London and the provinces are over, and the results of the polls are before us.

We will deal first with London, where all the Councillors retired after three years' service. The 1,366 seats vacated were filled (barring two) on 2nd November, and for three years. The weather on that day was ideal for an election, bright and clear, and favourable in every way for a heavy poll. The number of candidates who went to the poll approached 3,000.

#### INCREASE OF VOTES.

An outstanding feature of the elections in London was the increase in the number of those voting. It is difficult at this early stage to get the exact figures, but a preliminary analysis shows that, roughly speaking, about 47 per cent of those entitled to vote did actually go to the poll stations, as against 36 per cent in 1922 and 27 per cent in 1919. This is a distinct advance. At the same time it must be frankly admitted that, even on this increase, only one out of every two entitled to vote took the trouble to exercise the privilege; in other words, more than half the electors responsible for the local government of London refrained from voting at the recent election, and no further opportunity will occur—except, maybe at a by-election—until 1928. Surely "There is something rotten in the State of Denmark!"

#### THE ISSUE.

The main issue which confronted the electorate was not housing, as might have been expected, nor public health, nor maternity and child-welfare, not even the collection of dust and refuse, which seemed at some meetings to be a burning question, but—*Rates*.

#### THE PARTIES.

The two main parties soliciting the votes of the electors were the Municipal Reform Party and the Labour Party—with a sprinkling of Progressives, Independents, and the nominees of Women Citizens' Associations and other organized bodies. The results show that the Labour Party retain control of the Boroughs of Battersea, Bermondsey, Bethnal Green, Deptford, Poplar, and Woolwich, and have secured majorities in Stepney and Shoreditch, with a net gain in the 28 boroughs of about 90 seats. On the other hand, the control of 19 boroughs remain as heretofore in the hands of the Municipal Reform Party.

The composition of the new Councils is shown in the following table:—

Municipal Reformers	936
Labour Party	364
Independents	37
Progressives	27

The two main parties both profess themselves satisfied with the results.

#### GREENWICH.

The position in Greenwich is unique and not devoid of humour. The new Council is composed of 15 Municipal Reformers, 14 members of the Labour Party, and one Progressive, who, until after the election of Mayor, at all events, holds the balance in his hands. The policy of the Council will probably be determined by the Alderman.

#### WOMEN.

Three hundred and forty-three women went to the poll in London, of whom 140 were returned. The number of women serving on Borough Councils in October last was 122 Councillors and 6 Aldermen. There is therefore a satisfactory rise in the number of women elected to serve for the next three years, and the number may be further increased on 9th November, when the Councils will consider Aldermanic vacancies. We note with pleasure and satisfaction that the names of many women who served their country as Borough Councillors during the past three years are among the successful candidates, some of whom were returned unopposed, while others headed the poll; amongst them Councillor Miss Eve, Mayor of Stoke Newington, Mrs. Drapper—one of the two women members of the Food Council—Mrs. Mercer, the retiring Mayor of Birkenhead, and Miss Helen Fraser, who has twice contested Parliamentary elections. Wandsworth is the one solitary borough in London which has failed to return a woman to its Borough Council.

The following table shows the number of women councillors in each borough :-

Battersea . . . . .	2	Kensington . . . . .	12
Bermondsey . . . . .	11	Lambeth . . . . .	4
Bethnal Green . . . . .	2	Lewisham . . . . .	4
Camberwell . . . . .	2	Paddington . . . . .	5
Chelsea . . . . .	7	Poplar . . . . .	7
Deptford . . . . .	6	St. Marylebone . . . . .	7
Finsbury . . . . .	3	St. Pancras . . . . .	5
Fulham . . . . .	2	Shoreditch . . . . .	5
Greenwich . . . . .	8	Southwark . . . . .	6
Hackney . . . . .	2	Stepney . . . . .	6
Hammersmith . . . . .	2	Stoke Newington . . . . .	2
Hampstead . . . . .	6	Westminster . . . . .	8
Holborn . . . . .	4	Woolwich . . . . .	3
Islington . . . . .	6	Wandsworth . . . . .	0

#### THE PROVINCES.

Polling took place on 2nd November in over 300 cities and boroughs in England and Wales to fill the vacancies which occur owing to the retirement of one-third annually of the Councils.

An examination of the results of the elections in about 80 of the largest and most representative provincial cities and towns show that in the provinces, as in London, the majority of those elected were returned on the party ticket.

From many places have come reports of the apathy which is still a feature of municipal elections.

#### Women.

Ashton-under-Lyne has again returned Mrs. E. M. Wild, wife of the new Mayor.

Birkenhead. Mrs. A. Mercer, the ex-Mayor, at the head of the poll.

Birmingham. Miss Clara Martineau (re-elected) and Miss Florence Sant.

West Hartlepool. Miss Vitty (re-elected), who is in her 70th year

Wimbledon. Lady Roker (re-elected).

Swindon. A woman who takes the seat rendered vacant by the death of her husband.

Walsall. 1 woman. Gateshead. 1 woman.

Norwich. 3 women. Sheffield. 1 woman.

Nottingham. 2 women. Wigan. 3 women.

Leeds. 1 woman.

In Hastings special interest attaches to the return of Miss A. M. Lile, J.P., and last year's Deputy Mayor. Miss Lile was put forward in 1919 by the Women Citizens' Association, when she was returned with a record majority. In 1922 she was again opposed and again returned. This year she was opposed by a Socialist and another Independent and again returned at the head of the poll.

Our warm congratulations to Miss Lile, the Women Citizens' Association for their splendid fighting, and to all the successful women candidates throughout the country.

#### WOMEN MAYORS.

Amongst the Mayors elected on 9th November are the following women :-

Dunstable . . . . .	Miss Lucy Dales.
Eye . . . . .	Miss E. M. Short (re-elected).
Higham Ferrers . . . . .	Mrs. F. J. Simpson.
King's Lynn . . . . .	Mrs. S. A. Croxon.
Lincoln . . . . .	Miss M. E. Neville.
Honiton . . . . .	Mrs. Phillips.

#### WOMEN IN THE EMPIRE.

The British Commonwealth League has printed a report of the Conference on the Citizen Rights of Women within the British Empire held in July of this year. It forms a handy compendium of useful information about the position of women in the Dominions, and may be procured from the headquarters of the League, 17 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, for the modest sum of 1s. 6d. post free. The existence of this League has helped to bring life of British women overseas more vividly before the women who remain at home. At a recent meeting of the Six Point Group, Mrs. Britomart James, President of the Women Citizens' Association in Victoria, spoke of the Women's County movement in Australia. She urges the emigration of educated women to Australia and points out the advisability of going to the country or small county towns instead of the great cities.

## NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

President: Miss ELEANOR RATHBONE, C.C., J.P. Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. SODDY.  
Parliamentary Secretary: Mrs. HUBBACK.

Offices: 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.  
Telephone: Victoria 6188.

### RECEPTION TO THE DUCHESS OF ATHOLL, M.P., Tuesday, 17th November, at 4.15 p.m.

There are still a few tickets (price 2s. 6d.) available for the reception which is to be given at the Lyceum Club on 17th November, at which the Duchess of Atholl and Miss K. D. Courtney will speak on the Work of the Sixth Assembly of the League of Nations. The other speakers will include Lady Berry, M.D., and Miss Eleanor Rathbone, who will act as chairman.

### SALE OF WORK, CHURCH HOUSE, 3rd December.

Mrs. Dixon, 49, Drayton Gardens, S.E., is having a "White Elephant" stall at the Sale of Work which is to be held in aid of the funds of the N.U.S.E.C. at Church House, on 3rd December. She will be very grateful for any contributions sent to her at the above address. Other contributions may be sent to the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Stein, 10, Weymouth Court, Weymouth Street, W. 1, or, on the day of the sale, to 15 Dean's Yard, S.W. 1.

#### PERSONAL

We congratulate Mrs. Phillips, who was until recently a member of our Executive Committee, on her election as Mayor of Honiton.

#### NEWS FROM SOCIETIES.

##### DUNFERMLINE S.E.C.

This Society opened its Winter Session on Wednesday, 4th November, with a most successful social meeting, at which Miss Macadam spoke on Women's Bills in Parliament. Tea (given by members of Committee) was served as people arrived, the little hall was full, the audience most keenly interested, questions were asked, and a large number of new members enrolled. Mrs. Becker, J.P. (President of the Society) was in the chair. The experiment of making a charge for the meeting (tickets being sold by members of Committee at 6d. each) was very successful.

##### CARDIFF W.C.A.

On 30th October, Miss M. E. Barke, M.A., who represented the W.C.A. at the International Prison Congress recently held in London, gave a most interesting address on "Prison Reform." After giving an excellent account of the Congress, Miss Barke described visits paid to the Borstal Institutions for men and women, and paid high tribute to their valuable work. The Governor of Cardiff Prison, in commenting on the address, pointed out that the number of persons in our prisons was rapidly decreasing. Fifty years ago there were about 30,000 prisoners; to-day there were only about 9,600. In Cardiff itself there were far fewer prisoners than there were a few years ago. The chair was taken by the Lady Mayoress of Cardiff (Miss Pethybridge).

### The Women's Guild of Empire.

## WEEKLY MEETINGS

in

## THE CAXTON HALL

On WEDNESDAYS

Beginning November 18 at 7.45 p.m.

MRS. FLORA DRUMMOND MISS ELSIE BOWERMAN  
and others will speak.

Subject: "Common Sense Cures for Present Discontents"

ADMISSION FREE. A few tickets for reserved seats, also free, on application to Miss Pollock, 24 Buckingham Palace Road, S.W. 1. COME & BRING YOUR FRIENDS.

#### WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

## GREEN, WHITE & GOLD FAIR

FRIDAY and SATURDAY, 20th and 21st NOVEMBER.

THE CENTRAL HALL, WESTMINSTER.

From 3 to 9 p.m.

To be formally opened each day at 3 p.m.

On Friday, by DAME MILLICENT FAWCETT, G.B.E., J.P., LL.D.  
On Saturday, by MISS LIND-AF-HACEBY.

THE CHANTANT (4-6 P.M.)

Tickets (including tax) 1/10 the first day until 5 o'clock; after 5 p.m. and on Saturday, 1/2. On sale at 144 High Holborn, W.C. 1, or at the doors.

#### OUR WHO'S WHO.

Mr. J. Wicksteed is a well-known educationalist and Headmaster of King Alfred School. Miss Helen Ward is familiar to many of our readers for her work, her speaking, and her writing on behalf of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, the London Society for Women's Service, the League of Nations Union, and the Women's International League.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### EQUAL FRANCHISE.

MADAM.—The Labour Party are perfectly within their rights in saying that if they can't have equal suffrage at the age of 21 they would rather wait till they can.

The Conservative party are also within their rights if they say that if they can't have it at the age of 25 they don't mind if they wait a little longer for it.

The Prime Minister is also within his rights if he says an alteration of the electorate should be an agreed measure.

It is clear that if these three continue in these opinions equal franchise will be delayed. But the responsibility for delaying it must be equally shared among the three. For if either of them thought equal franchise of supreme importance, they would cease to insist upon the condition they now attach to it.

MAUD SELBORNE.

### THE STATE OF THE STREETS.

MADAM.—Since the introduction into Parliament by Lady Astor of the Public Places (Order) Bill, the Home Secretary has shown that he is not averse to the appointment of a Committee of Inquiry to take evidence and report upon the state of the streets and the law and its administration in regard to solicitation for immoral purposes.

In preparation for such a Committee of Inquiry, this Association would welcome observations from reliable persons as to the present state of the streets and public places in any part of the country. For this purpose anonymous communications are useless, but correspondents are assured of honourable confidence being observed concerning their names and addresses.

Experiences resulting from deliberate loitering in doubtful districts would serve no useful purpose for this Inquiry. We want to know to what extent, if any, respectable pedestrians of either sex passing through the streets

on their legitimate business are subject to accostation and interference from people of presumably immoral intention. May I beg that you will be good enough to help this Association to obtain this information by inserting this letter in your columns.

ALISON NEILANS,  
Secretary, Association for Moral and Social Hygiene,  
Orchard House, Great Smith Street, S.W. 1.

### THE TEMPERANCE PROBLEM.

MADAM.—In reply to the assertion made by your correspondent, Mr. C. R. Vener, in your last issue that "There is no evidence of what would now be called *Pussyfootism* in the inception of the licensing system," I would give the following information in refutation of the statement.

In the reign of Henry VII (1497), because of the inevitable results consequent on the sale of intoxicating liquors, two Justices of the Peace were empowered "to reject and put away common ale-selling in towns and places where they shall think convenient." In the reign of Edward VI (1574) liquor shops were denounced as resorts of evilly disposed persons and the cause of "much evil rule," and an Act was passed to prevent the spread of such evil. During the same reign, in 1552, the evil not having abated, a second Act was passed, in which it is stated that "Intolerable hurts and troubles to the Commonwealth doth daily grow and increase through such abuses and disorders as are had and used in common ale-houses." The 1553 Parliament again dealt with the liquor traffic by passing an Act limiting taverns to towns and cities so that London could only have 40 liquor shops, Westminster three, York eight, and Bristol six, "but in every other town only two." In Charles I reign (1625) Lord-Keeper Coventry gave utterance to the following words relative to the character of liquor shops: "I account ale-houses and tipping-houses the greatest pests in the Kingdom."

The evils resulting from the use of intoxicating liquors, both before and since the inception of the licensing system are well known. In spite of hundreds of Acts of Parliament, "improved" public-houses, and all the efforts of men and women, the liquor traffic will continue to inflict its woe upon society unless the most drastic action is taken to remove it from the life of the people.

GUY HAYLER,  
President, World Prohibition Federation.

### TRAINING IN CONSTRUCTIVE BIRTH CONTROL.

MADAM.—Perhaps the readers of your journal will be glad to know that to meet the demand for *clinical instruction* springing up all over the country, the C.B.C. offers a special course of training and practical work to qualified midwives at the Clinic for Constructive Birth Control, 108 Whitfield Street, Tottenham Court Road, London, W. 1. Successful candidates gain the C.B.C. certificate.

M. C. STOPES,  
President, Society for Constructive Birth Control and Racial Progress.

## LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE.

Hon. President - Dame MILLICENT FAWCETT, G.B.E., LL.D.

### ANNUAL MEETING. FINAL NOTICE.

To be held at WOMEN'S SERVICE HOUSE, 35-37 Marsham Street, Westminster, S.W. 1,  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27th, 1925, at 5 p.m.

(TEA, 4.30 p.m. Price 9d.)

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Acting President . Miss B. A. CLOUGH, proposed by Mrs. O. Strachey and seconded by Miss O'Malley, has been duly elected, no other candidate standing.  
Treasurer . . . . . The Hon. Mrs. SPENCER GRAVES, proposed by Lady Strachey and seconded by Miss Hurry, has been duly elected, no other candidate standing.

Committee . . . . . Only ten nominations have been received in addition to those of the President and Treasurer, and the following are all duly elected :-

*Miss NOELINE BAKER	proposed by Mrs. Renton	seconded by Miss O'Malley.
*Miss CLEGG	.. Miss Helen Ward	.. Mrs. Glover.
*The Lady EMMOTT	.. Miss Clegg	.. Miss B. Oetzmänn.
*Mrs. ARNOLD GLOVER	.. Mrs. Falconer	.. Mrs. O. Strachey.
*Mrs. KINNELL	.. Miss Clegg	.. Miss Ross.
*Miss I. B. O'MALLEY	.. Miss S. Rintoul	.. Miss W. Rintoul.
*Mrs. IVAN SANDERSON	.. Miss O'Malley	.. Mrs. Heath.
*Lady SPRIGGE	.. Miss Helen Ward	.. Mrs. Oliver Strachey.
*Mrs. OLIVER STRACHEY	.. Miss Mary O'Malley.	.. Miss Barbara Strachey.
*Miss HELEN WARD	.. Mrs. Glover	.. Mrs. Falconer.

\* Member of Outgoing Committee.

### BUSINESS.

Mrs. KINNELL IN THE CHAIR.

1. Annual Report and Statement of Accounts.
2. Appointment of Auditor.
3. Resolutions :-

(1) That the Society do not at present declare either for or against Family Endowment. Proposed by the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.  
(2) That in view of the fact that the work of this Society is now national in scope, and with a view to its still wider expansion, the name be henceforth "The Society for Women's Service" (Rule 1 being altered accordingly); and that it no longer be regarded as the London Branch of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, but as an independent Society working in co-operation on points of common agreement; and that the affiliation arrangements be altered accordingly and the Society for Women's Service be henceforth affiliated in the same manner as the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene and other independent national Societies. Proposed by Mrs. OLIVER STRACHEY.

P. STRACHEY, Secretary.

Members are urged to attend and take part in the business of the Society.

N.B.—CHRISTMAS SALE, Friday and Saturday, Dec. 11th and 12th, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. PLEASE GIVE. PLEASE COME.

## COMING EVENTS.

**COUNCIL FOR THE REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN IN THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.**

NOV. 30. Annual Meeting at Women's Service House, 35 Marsham Street, S.W.1. 2.30 p.m. Business Session. 4.15 p.m., Meeting on the Work of the Sixth Assembly of the League of Nations. Speaker: The Duchess of Atholl, M.P. Chairman: Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, J.P., D.Sc. Admission free. Both meetings open to the public.

**ENGLISHWOMAN EXHIBITION.**

NOV. 12-21. Exhibition of Arts and Handicrafts at Central Hall, Westminster.

**GUILDHOUSE WOMEN CITIZENS' SOCIETY.**

NOV. 16. 3 p.m. The Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Lecture on Music with Musical Illustrations, arranged by Mrs. B. C. Boulter.

**LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION (WITHINGTON BRANCH).**

NOV. 13. 8 p.m. Public Meeting in Schoolroom of Palatine Road Congregational Church. Speaker: Mr. Frederick Whelen. Chairman: Mr. L. F. Behrens.

**LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE.**

NOV. 13. 5 p.m. 35 Marsham Street, S.W.1. Mr. E. J. Lidbetter on "Hereditary Pauperism and Mental Deficiency."

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

NOV. 17. 4.15 p.m. At Lyceum Club, 133 Piccadilly, W. Reception to meet Her Grace the Duchess of Atholl and Miss K. D. Courtney, who will both speak on the Work of the Sixth Assembly of the League of Nations.

**Furieux Pelham.** NOV. 20. 3 p.m. Inaugural Meeting in Village Hall. Mrs. Arthur Brown and Miss Beaumont on "Legislation Affecting Women." Chairman: Mrs. Campbell.

**Croydon W.C.A.** NOV. 18. 3 p.m. St. Mildred's Hall, Bingham Road. Mrs. Rivers Moore on "The Work of a Probation Officer."

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

NOV. 12, 13 and 14. 12 to 8 p.m. Stall at Christmas Sale, Cathedral Hall, Westminster.

**SIX POINT GROUP.**

NOV. 16. 5 p.m. 92 Victoria Street, S.W.1. Miss M. Geikie-Cobb on "The Law Relating to Children and Young Persons." Chair: Mrs. Crofts, M.A., LL.B.

**WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.**

NOV. 13. 8 p.m. First Meeting of Equal Franchise campaign at Minerva Club, 56 Hunter Street, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Speakers: Mr. Gwyn Morris and Miss Nina Boyle. Chairman: Dr. Elizabeth Knight.

NOV. 20 and 21. Green, White and Gold Fair at Central Hall, Westminster.

**WOMEN'S INSTITUTES.**

NOV. 17. 2.30 p.m. Conference of Women's Institutes at St. Margaret's Hall, Uxbridge. Mrs. Arthur Browne on "Laws Affecting Women and Children."

NOV. 19. Danbury Women's Institute. Miss F. M. Beaumont on "Widows, Orphans and Old Age Pensions Act."

**TYPEWRITING AND PRINTING, Etc.**

**M. McLACHLAN and N. WHITWHAM—TYPISTS.**—4 Chapel Walks, Manchester. Tel.: 3402 City.

TYPEWRITING executed promptly. Careful, intelligent work by expert lady. Very reasonable terms.—Box 1,176, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W.1.

**TEMPER PRINTING WORKS, BIRMINGHAM.**

SPECIALISTS IN WORK FOR NATIONAL SOCIETIES.

ENQUIRIES SOLICITED.

**TO LET AND WANTED.**

**FLORENCE, ITALY.**—Miss Muirhead, 11 Viale Mazzini, receives PAYING GUESTS; moderate terms.

**FLAT,** near British Museum, big sitting-room (semi-basement), two bedrooms, bath, kitchen and scullery, and back garden; unfurnished; £2 a week. Long or short lease to suit tenants; vacant possession.—Apply, Mrs. Stejhen, 50 Gordon Square, W.C.1.

**STREATHAM.**—Well-furnished APARTMENT; tram, bus, trains; two good rooms; gas cooker; suitable two ladies, two teachers, or quiet couple; two guineas.—Appointment to view by letter, 63 Babington Road, S.W.

**COMFORTABLE FLAT or ROOMS** wanted for two, for winter months; within mile of Piccadilly or short bus-ride; modern conveniences.—Box 1,200, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W.1.

**FURNISHED ROOM** to let; breakfast provided, supper could be arranged; moderate rent; gas fire, all conveniences; facing Hampstead Heath.—Box 1,199, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W.1.

**TWO unfurnished ROOMS;** larder; suit one or two ladies; use kitchen-garden.—Wayside, Stow Mary, Essex.

**UNFURNISHED or partly furnished FLATLET** to let; garden floor, south aspect; large room, kitchen, own entrance, w.c.; gas cooker, e.l., use geyser; suit professional woman.—Letters only, S., 7 Gwendwr Road, W.14.

**BED-SITTINGROOMS,** with breakfast. Gentlewomen (professional, business, students), permanent or temporary. Gas fires, meters, e.l. Quiet, select.—10 Endsleigh Street, Tavistock Square, W.C.1.

**SMALL BED-SITTINGROOM,** with breakfast, use kitchen; £1 a week; dinners available. Country cottage, Surrey; near bus.—Box 1,202, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W.1.

**BUSINESS woman,** with small, comfortably furnished HOUSE near Tooting Broadway, would like another to share; terms moderate; references exchanged.—Apply, Box 1,202, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W.1.

**ENGLISHWOMAN** (Cambridge Tripos) desires residence *au pair* terms, in country near London; assistance offered in accounts, literary, secretarial or domestic work.—Apply, Box 1203, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W.1.

**POLISH girl Student** (London graduate) wants furnished ROOM, London, from Dec.; no meals, or breakfast only; very moderate; references.—Box 1,205, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W.1.

**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 377.

**FOR SALE AND WANTED.**

**KITCHEN TOWELS.**—100 dozen Heavy Irish Linen Kitchen or Pantry Towels, made from very strong Irish Linen yarn, guaranteed all linen. Will wear for many years, size 22 x 27 ins., 6s. 6d. per doz. Real bargains. Write for Complete Bargain List to-day.—HUTTON'S, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ulster.

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

**POSTS VACANT.**

**LIVERPOOL PERSONAL SERVICE SOCIETY** requires ASSISTANT (woman) for responsible case-work.—Apply, stating age, experience and salary required, to Secretary, 89 Victoria Street, Liverpool.

**DRESS.**

**"FROCKLETS."** Mrs. Elborough, c/o Madame Sara, 163 Ebury Street (5 min. Victoria Station). Tel. Ken. 3947. Children's Dresses of original and practical design, Coats, Caps, etc., etc. Smocks a speciality. Fancy Dresses. Open daily (Saturdays excepted) 10 a.m.—4 p.m.

**LADIES' Chamois-leather Gauntlet GLOVES,** 4s. 11d.; satisfaction guaranteed.—Mrs. Plevin, Northgate, Chester.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

**WILL ANYONE LEND A SMALL CAR?** Urgently needed for N.U.S.E.C. Organiser undertaking work on the programme of the Union.—Apply, 15 Dean's Yard, S.W.1.

**CRIS DILLWYN POTTERY,** South Harrow; Tel. 1,092. EXHIBITION, 35 Marsham Street, Great Smith Street, Westminster, Thursday, 26th November, 11-6.30. Christmas presents. Orders carried out. Very moderate prices. Buses 32, 51, 83, 88. Admission free.

**LECOLE DES PETITS.**—Home School for children aged 3-9. Boarders and Day Pupils. Entire charge taken at moderate fees for parents abroad. Comfortable, sunny, modern house, large garden, delightful country. The school aims at providing a happy, healthy and interesting home. Educational games of the "Maison des Petits," Geneva, and of Dr. Montessori are used. Dalcroze eurythmics. Games. French spoken regularly.—Prospectus from Principal, Alwyn, Stanmore, Middlesex.

**LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE,** 35 Marsham Street, Westminster. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Information Bureau. Interviews, 10 to 1, except Saturdays. Members' Centre open daily. Restaurant open 10 to 7.30. (Not Saturdays.)

**FELLOWSHIP SERVICES,** Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Sunday, 15th November: 3.30, Music; Lecture: Professor Frederick Soddy on "The Conflict between Ideals and Finance." 6.30, Maude Royden: "The Authority of Christ."

**C.B.C.** Society for Constructive Birth Control and the Free Birth Control Clinic, founded by Dr. Marie Stopes and Councillor H. V. Roe. New address: 108 Whitfield Street, off Tottenham Court Road.

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