

WOMEN'S SERVICE
FILE COPY
NOT TO BE TAKEN AWAY

THE

Catholic Citizen

Organ of St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance (formerly Catholic Women's Suffrage Society), 55 Berners Street, London, W. 1.

Vol. XVII, No. 3.

15th MARCH, 1931.

Price Twopence.

Daughter of the ancient Eve,
We know the gifts ye gave and give;
Who knows the gifts which you shall give,
Daughter of the Newer Eve?

—Francis Thompson

Christian Ethics.

BY LEONORA DE ALBERTI.

Father Elliot Ross's book on Christian Ethics (*The Book of Right Living*. By J. Elliot Ross, C.S.P., Ph.D., Devin-Adair Co., New York), was first published in 1919, an eighth edition was issued last year. It has become a standard work on Ethics, known by the title, *The Book of Right Living*, and bears the Imprimatur of H. E. Cardinal Hayes. It is intended to be a guide for every day life, covering our duty to God, to ourselves, to our neighbour. More than half the book is devoted to Social Ethics, because, as the introduction tells us: "To-day, this is the most important section of the field. We cannot live individually good lives unless we and others fulfil the social duties imposed by right reason . . ."

In a book of this nature we turn, with some trepidation, to problems relating to women since it is an unfortunate fact that some theological writers are apt to saddle the church with anti-woman prejudices, the fruit of their own antagonism. Let us record with gratitude that such fears are unfounded as regards Father Ross's admirable treatise. He handles these problems with justice, understanding and detachment. He stands for equal pay for equal work, since there should be correspondence between the value of work and wages. "Women and single men should hold out for what has been defined as a just wage. For injustice is done those wholly dependent upon wages, if those receiving their support in whole or in part from another source

accept less than this amount. It means that wages will drop, that the standard of living will be lowered, and that large classes will be deprived of what they have a right to expect."

In turning to a wife's wages, Father Ross comes to a problem which was solved in this country many years ago by the "Married Woman's Property Act." It seems that in many States of the U.S.A. a man has a legal right to his own wages, which cannot be seized for any debt contracted by his wife, but his wife's wages can be seized to pay his debts, though she may have had nothing to do with them, and even though she has been seriously injured by his excesses. Sometimes the State has secured to a wife whatever she may make, and sometimes left the question undecided. "If the State has not spoken, then some amicable arrangement must be made regarding the disposition of her earnings. But the husband certainly has less right over them than he has over his own." We have arranged matters better than that on this side of the ocean, a wife's income and earnings are her own, though still added to her husband's for the purpose of taxation.

The ideal property arrangements for married persons, says Father Ross, should at least be a recognition of equal partnership, "though even then most women would probably not be getting the equivalent of what they really contribute . . . Comparatively few women are supported by their

husbands. The economic contribution of the woman is usually fairly equal to that of the man, as is found out when the mother dies." Further on the author returns to the subject, and tells us that much undignified bickering over money matters would be avoided, if the man would appreciate the fact that the woman really bears more than he of the family burdens. The prevalent idea that the man entirely supports the family as absurd, we are told, as it would be to consider "the receiving teller as supporting the bank, or the manager of a factory as supporting all the workmen . . . When one considers which party incurs the greater risks, and which works with greater singleness and sincerity for the family, it must pass as one of the extraordinary superstitions that the theory of the economic dependence should have gained vogue." (p. 405). None the less there can be no doubt that women have suffered under that superstition, nor is it the only one.

Father Ross has many other wise statements relating to women, even relating to dress, of which he tells us that "all decent dress or ornaments in accord with the custom of one's country, are permissible, even though they should be the occasion of sin for others."

We could go on quoting to the joy of our readers, whom we advise to read the book for themselves. It runs to close on five hundred pages, and is of interest and importance from start to finish, this brief article cannot therefore be called a review, since it deals solely with those principles which justify our own.

LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT BRANCH. Hon. Sec.: Miss N. S. Parnell, B.A., 45 Falkner Street, Liverpool.

The chief event of the month has been the very successful dance held on February 24th, in order to raise our promised £5 towards the rent of the London Office. For its success we are especially indebted to Mrs. Lyon who, though ill, secured for us an excellent band on reasonable terms, to Mrs. McCann who generously contributed to the refreshments, and was responsible for the profitable draw for the gold sovereign, and to Mrs. and Miss Johnstone and Miss M. Parnell who looked after the catering.

A letter has been sent on behalf of the Branch to Miss J. Beavan expressing our sense of loss and our sympathy with her in the death of her sister, Miss Margaret Beavan, Liverpool's first woman Lord Mayor, and a kind friend to this Branch.

Notes and Comments.

A controversy has been raging in France following on an attack, by a religious paper of some influence, on the Open Door International. A group of Catholic French women, unable to get a satisfactory reply, referred the matter to the Archbishop of Paris. We are glad to say that His Grace assures his correspondents that "the conscience of Catholic adherents of the Open Door in France and other countries, may be set at rest." We congratulate our co-religionists on securing this definite pronouncement, which confounds their enemies and ours.

We offer our sincere congratulations to the Revd. Father W. H. Kent, who celebrates his Golden Jubilee as a priest on March 25th. We need not remind Catholic feminists that Father Kent has always been a good friend of the woman's movement; as he told us, he was a suffragist before our Founder and her colleagues were in their cradle. We owe him many a good turn.

We are glad to see in the current issue of the *Christian Democrat* a letter from a member of the Catholic Social Guild, calling attention to the proposed new edition of the *Catholic Encyclopedia*, and asking members of the C.S.G. to write to the Editors asking for a revision of the article on "Woman," stating their objections to it. St. Joan's S.P.A. has written once again to the Editors on the subject. The article is in many ways objectionable, and is now completely out of date as regards the position of women.

We ask the prayers of our readers for the repose of the soul of the Very Revd. Canon Rooney, an associate of the Alliance, lately deceased.—R.I.P.

(Continued p. 27.)

ST. JOAN'S QUINCENTENARY APPEAL.

Donations for St. Joan's Memorial in Rouen, particulars of which are given at the end of the Annual Report, should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Miss Sheila Kaye-Smith, c/o St. Joan's Alliance, 55 Berners Street, W.1.

The names of donors of 5s. and upwards will be inscribed in the Golden Book, to be placed on the foundation stone of St. Joan's Memorial Church in Rouen, on May 30th, and afterwards kept in perpetuity in her church.

ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE,

AND

Editorial Office of "Catholic Citizen":

55 BERNERS STREET, LONDON, W.1. Tel. Museum 4181

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

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Miss C. M. GORDON, M.A., Chairman.
Miss LEONORA DE ALBERTI, Editor, *Catholic Citizen*.
Miss BARCLAY-CARTER, Lic.-ès. L.
Miss BARRY, Hon. Secretary.
Miss PAULINE M. BRANDT.
Miss BUTLER-BOWDON.
Miss DOUGLAS IRVINE, M.A., Hon. Press Sec.

Miss FEDDEN, Hon. Treasurer, *Catholic Citizen*.
Miss SHEILA HYNES
Miss GABRIELLE JEFFERY.
Mrs. McMAHON.
Mrs. LAUGHTON MATHEWS, M.B.E., Hon. Treasurer
Mrs. O'CONNOR.
Miss MONICA O'CONNOR.

St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance.

Twentieth Annual Report.

Feminists will not remember 1930 on account of any outstanding legislative victory, the Illegitimate Children (Scotland) and the Adoption of Children (Scotland) being the only measures in the feminist programme which have reached the Statute Book.

There have, however, been certain spectacular successes in fields hitherto regarded as a masculine preserve. In *aviation* Miss Amy Johnson made a wonderful solo flight to Australia; Miss Winifred Brown wrested the King's Cup from some of the finest airmen of the day, and Mrs. Victor Bruce was the first British aviator to make a solo flight to Japan. Miss Spooner, the only British competitor in the international Circuit of Italy, was the fourth to arrive, and she obtained the same place in the Touring Flight round Europe, winning the first prize in Category 1. In *rifle shooting* women for the first time qualified to compete for the King's Prize at Bisley, and it was won by Miss E. Foster. While the *Civil Service* Commission continues to sit, and various permanent secretaries find reasons against giving women further opportunities, the latter continue to make the most of those they already have. Miss Laura Watson won a place in Class 1 of the Administrative grade, and Miss V. Cartledge and Miss B. Griffiths were appointed the first women executive officers at Somerset House in the office of the Controller of Stamps and Regis-

trar of Joint Stock Companies. In *Medicine*, King's College has agreed again to admit Women Students, and the position of women in Public Health Services shows decided improvement. Dr. Barrie Lambert has been appointed chairman of the L.C.C. Central Public Health Committee, which is responsible for the work formerly done by twenty-five Boards of Guardians and the Metropolitan Asylum Board. Another valuable appointment is Mrs. Dewar Robertson as Chairman of the Visiting Justices of Holloway Gaol.

To turn to our own programme:

EQUAL POLITICAL RIGHTS. Lord Astor's Peeresses' Bill, was lost by six votes; Lady Noel-Buxton's return to the House of Commons gave us our fifteenth woman M.P.

EQUAL MORAL STANDARD. No progress has been made with the reform of the Solicitation Laws.

EQUAL PAY AND OPPORTUNITIES. Mr. Percy Harris's Bill, providing against Local Authorities refusing employment to women on the ground of marriage, passed without a division. In March the Government issued a White Paper asserting that protective legislation had but slightly affected employment among women, a statement promptly challenged by the Feminist Societies as based on incomplete investigation. At the request of the Belgium, British and Swedish Governments, the revision of the Night Work Convention is being considered by the Inter-

national Labour Office, and the attempt to exclude women from canal boats was defeated in the House of Commons.

NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN. Capt. Cazalet met no opposition to his Bill restoring to women their lost nationality rights, but no further progress was made. A similar measure, introduced by the late Dr. Ethel Bentham, received an unchallenged Second Reading in November, but the Government refused facilities, alleging that they were bound by pledges given to the Dominions at the Imperial Conference. They offer to abolish some flagrant hardships but refuse to recognise the independent personality of the married woman. Women greatly resent this failure to implement pledges given to them, and a special Committee has been formed to press forward the Bill—a committee on which the Alliance is represented.

MATERNAL MORTALITY. Public interest is at last being aroused by the high death rate among mothers, shown in the recent Report of the special Departmental Committee to be largely preventable. The Minister of Health has sent a circular to the Local Authorities throughout England and Wales urging them to take advantage of existing facilities to aid mothers in childbirth, and drawing attention to the fact that at least half the deaths of mothers are preventable.

INCOME TAX. Here no progress can be reported, and though a married woman may earn every penny of her income, it is still added to her husband's for taxation purposes.

WOMEN POLICE. Little progress has been made, except in isolated instances where particularly pertinacious agitation has been carried on. Miss Fortey, our member and the only woman on the Leicester Watch Committee, being a striking example. We welcome the appointment of Miss D. O. G. Peto as Woman Staff Officer at Scotland Yard.

SLAVERY. The report of the Governor of Hong Kong on Mui Tsai is disappointing. Registration of Mui Tsai is evaded, being deemed unnecessary in the case of "adopted daughters." No provision is made for their supervision, or for the appointment of suitable women inspectors.

BIRTH CONTROL. On this question there has been a setback—the Ministry of Health,

contrary to its pledge, has since July permitted information on artificial Birth Control to be given in certain instances. This circular was the subject of immediate protest by the Alliance to the Ministry.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION. When we write, the question of giving fair and adequate treatment to Catholic Schools is still *sub judice*. Nor can progress be reported on the Catholic Education Council which, despite constant agitation, is still without a woman member.

INTERNATIONAL. In response to a letter from Fr. Martindale, S.J., the Alliance sent a letter to be placed, during the Eucharistic Congress, on the Altar in the Amphitheatre of Carthage, where the Martyrs suffered.

The outstanding victory abroad is the grant of suffrage to white women in South Africa; Turkey and Greece have granted the local franchise, and in Jamaica women have obtained municipal suffrage and the right to election. In the constitution of Ecuador it is now laid down that the sexes have equal rights. Two Indian women came as delegates to the Round Table Conference, and the Simon Report stated categorically that India's progress was dependent on the advance of India's women. For the first time an Oriental Women's Congress was held in Damascus. Roumania has abolished its Licensed Houses.

Women took a prominent part in the Hague Conference on the Codification of International Law. Belgium, Holland, Czecho-Slovakia, the U.S.A., the Irish Free State and Great Britain appointing delegates. Newfoundland has elected its first woman M.P., and Canada appointed Mrs. Cairine Wilson to the Senate. Canada also sent to Geneva Mrs. Parly as a full delegate. Thither also went from Great Britain, Miss Lawrence and Mrs. Hamilton as alternates. Finland has enriched Canada by sending her a woman diplomat, and the U.S.A. now has in Mrs. Owen its first woman member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs in the House of Representatives. At Geneva, Countess Apponyi presided over the Fifth Commission.

In connection with the Tenth Annual Conference of the Action Internationale Démocratique pour la Paix we were able to give the hospitality of our office for the committee meetings of the British Section.

An appeal from the Ukrainian Women against the Red Terror was sent by us to the Catholic Press and there published.

A new International has been set up to press for the Equal Right's Treaty, which has our support.

THE NINETEENTH ANNUAL MEETING was held on March 15th at St. Patrick's Club, Soho, Miss C. M. Gordon presiding. The adoption of the Annual Report was moved by Miss Nancy Stewart Parnell, and seconded by Mrs. Thomas, and of the Financial Statement by Councillor Mrs. V. M. Crawford, seconded by Miss Young. Both were approved.

The following resolutions were moved from the chair, and carried:

1. AGE OF MARRIAGE.

St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance rejoices that the legal age of marriage for boys and girls in this country has been raised to 16.

2. EQUAL POLITICAL RIGHTS.

Women in the House of Lords. St. Joan's S.P.A. demands that peeresses in their own right should have a seat and vote in the House of Lords, and, further, that in any measure designed to reform the Second Chamber, men and women should have the same right to sit and be elected.

3. EQUAL MORAL STANDARD.

(a) *Solicitation Laws.* St. Joan's S.P.A. reaffirms its dissatisfaction with the Report of the Street Offences Committee and demands the repeal of the present Solicitation Laws, and the substitution of a law on the lines of the Public Places (Order) Bill, which deals with street solicitation by general legislation against annoyance or molestation, and under which the evidence of the person annoyed or molested would be necessary in order to obtain a conviction.

(b) *State Regulation of Vice.* St. Joan's S.P.A. calls upon the Government to hasten the abolition of all brothels known to the authorities within the jurisdiction of the British Empire.

(c) *Veneral Diseases.* St. Joan's S.P.A. welcomes the recent declarations in favour of voluntary methods of dealing with venereal diseases which have been made by the House of Commons, the Ministry of Health, the British Medical Association, and the London County Council, and re-affirms its opposition to any form of compulsory notification or treatment of venereal diseases.

(d) *Illegitimate Children.*

(1) St. Joan's S.P.A. calls upon the Government to introduce and pass without delay, a Bill providing for the enforcement of affiliation Orders overseas on similar lines to the Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement) Act, 1920; (2) to bring before

the Imperial Conference the urgent need for reciprocal legislation for the enforcement of both maintenance and affiliation orders.

4.—EQUAL PAY AND OPPORTUNITIES.

(a) St. Joan S.P.A. calls upon the Government and local authorities to establish among their employees a system of equal pay and opportunities for men and women, and freedom for married women to decide for themselves whether or not they shall engage in paid employment after marriage.

(b) *"Protective Legislation."* St. Joan's S.P.A., while believing that protection should be afforded to industrial workers, declares that to impose restrictions on women only, is to treat them permanently as minors, and to lower their status as workers.

It believes that the only policy which safeguards their individual liberty and responsibility is that of basing all labour regulations and restrictions upon the nature of the work and not upon the sex of the worker, and calls upon the Government to apply this principle to all legislation.

5.—NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN.

St. Joan's S.P.A. demands that a British woman should have restored to her the right of retaining her nationality on marriage with an alien, which was taken from her in 1870: and that, irrespective of marriage, she should have the same right as a man to retain or change her nationality.

It further calls upon the Government to press for legislation on these lines, both at the Codification Conference of International Law and at the forthcoming Imperial Conference.

6. SLAVERY.

(a) St. Joan's S.P.A. calls upon the Government to take all possible steps to discountenance among indigenous peoples any practices whatsoever involving the bartering of women and children into domestic or other forms of slavery.

(b) St. Joan's S.P.A. thanks the Secretary of State for the Colonies for his firm action re the enforcement of the Mui Tsai Ordinances, and urges him to continue this policy until the system of child slavery, which prevails in Hong Kong, is completely abolished.

7. MATERNAL MORTALITY.

St. Joan's S.P.A. deplores the continued high rate of maternal mortality, and calls upon the Government to provide adequate maternity services throughout the country.

8. INCOME TAX.

St. Joan's S.P.A. demands that the income of married persons should be separately assessed and separately taxed.

9. WOMEN POLICE.

St. Joan's S.P.A. calls upon the Government to further legislation making it compulsory for watch committees and standing joint committees to appoint a sufficient number of women police.

10. POLITICAL PARTIES.

(a) *Party Programmes.* St. Joan's S.P.A. calls upon the political parties to embody the above reforms in their programmes.

(b) *Women M.P's.* St. Joan's S.P.A. views with grave dissatisfaction the small number of constituencies hitherto allotted to women candidates, and urges that in future they should have a fair share of promising constituencies.

11. CATHOLIC EDUCATION.

St. Joan's S.P.A. calls for fair and adequate financial treatment of Catholic elementary and secondary schools.

12. BIRTH CONTROL.

St. Joan's S.P.A. re-affirms its conviction that the policy of the present Minister of Health should be continued in not allowing information on artificial Birth Control to be given at Centres maintained out of public funds, to which people of all opinions are required to contribute.

Miss Gordon in her address voiced the great pleasure of the meeting at the presence amongst them for the first time of a delegation from the Liverpool Branch, and also drew attention to various new gains made by women in the preceding twelve months. The Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Laughton Mathews, appealed for funds to maintain and increase our work. Mrs. MacMahon was elected to the Committee in place of Miss Eleanor FitzGerald, whose resignation was received with deep regret. We take this opportunity of expressing our cordial thanks to Miss FitzGerald for all the work she has done and is doing for the Alliance.

At the conclusion of the business a public meeting was held, at which Miss Nina Boyle gave a rousing address on "Slavery," which was greatly appreciated.

OTHER MEETINGS. On February 3rd, in St. Patrick's Schools, Miss Pressley Smith, Director of the Industrial Section of the Grenfell Association, gave a *lantern lecture* on their medical, economic and educational work. Lord Morris of Newfoundland presided.

On April 4th we organised a well-attended meeting, supported by seventeen women's societies, in the Kensington Town Hall, to *protest against the exclusion of women*, unaccompanied by men, from certain restaurants and coffee stalls at night. Lord Balfour of Burleigh presided, and the speakers were Mrs. Abbott, Mrs. Cecil Chesterton, Mrs. Ayrton Gould, Miss Alison Neilans, and the Chairman of the Alliance. A vote of thanks was accorded on the motion of Miss Butler-Bowdon,

seconded by Miss Chave Collisson. The following resolution was carried unanimously:

"This meeting calls upon the Government to repeal the special clauses with regard to prostitutes in the various Licensing and Police Acts, so that no vendor of refreshments need draw invidious distinctions between his customers, whether men or women, so long as these behave in an orderly manner.

It further calls the attention of keepers of refreshment houses to the annoyance, inconvenience and hardship suffered by women as a result of the rules which they have made to exclude women from their premises unless attended by men."

Since then letters have been received from Messrs. Lyons, and the Managers of the "Florence," "Pinoli," "Comedy," and "Coventry" Restaurants stating that they have no restrictions excluding women, but the "Criterion" remains obdurate.

On May 30th, the Alliance held its *inaugural reunion* in honour of St. Joan. This is the day of her martyrdom and also the date on which men and women first voted on equal terms. Mass for the intentions of the Alliance was offered by Fr. Alfred, O.S.F.C., whom we take this opportunity to thank. A laurel wreath, tied with our colours, was placed at St. Joan's shrine, Westminster Cathedral, by Miss Jeffery and Miss Butler-Bowdon, and in the evening we had a dinner, with Dom Gilbert Higgins, C.R.L., honorary canon of Rouen Cathedral, as guest of honour. In commemoration of the youth of our Patron, the proceedings were left to our younger members. Miss Butler-Bowdon presided, and speeches followed by Miss Barclay-Carter, Miss Gunning, Miss Kerr, Miss Monica O'Connor and Miss Young. We look forward to St. Joan's Day as an annual event.

On June 30th, a meeting of the Alliance was held at St. Patrick's Club, when Miss Caroline Haslett, Hon. Sec. of the Women's Engineering Society spoke on *Women Engineers*, with Miss L. de Alberti in the chair.

On September 8th, the Alliance had the pleasure of entertaining Professor Mary Hayden, of the National University of Ireland, to dinner at Pinoli's. Miss Kathleen FitzGerald presided, and Miss Hayden gave an interesting account of the position of women in Ireland.

MEETINGS OF OTHER SOCIETIES.

In February Mrs. Laughton Mathews spoke on "The Price of Citizenship" at the Annual Meeting of the *Wolverhampton Branch of the C.W.L.* The Archbishop of Birmingham, who presided, said he "could forecast a great future for St. Joan's Alliance among Catholic women."

Mrs. Liveing spoke for us against Artificial Birth Control at meetings of the *National Women's Liberal Federation at Enfield*, the *Surbiton C.W.L.* and at *Stoke-on-Trent* at a meeting organised by the *N.C.W. North Staffs. Branch.* Mrs. Laughton Mathews spoke on the same subject at a meeting of the Maidstone Women's Citizens' Association.

The Alliance sent Miss Gordon to the *W.F.L. Reception* to welcome Mrs. Pethick Lawrence on her return from South Africa, and Miss Monica O'Connor to present a bouquet in our colours to Mrs. Despard at her *Birthday Party.*

MRS. PANKHURST'S STATUE.

St. Joan's Alliance was well represented in March at the unveiling by the late Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. Stanley Baldwin, M.P., of the statue of Mrs. Pankhurst, when a wreath tied with our colours, was placed at the base by Miss Beatrice Gadsby. It bore the inscription "In admiration, gratitude and affection from the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society, now St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance." The Alliance was also represented at the consecration of the stone on Mrs. Pankhurst's grave in Brompton cemetery.

ELECTIONS.

The Alliance sent workers to aid Miss Dorothy Evans in her Parliamentary fight in *South Paddington.* Several of our members also helped Miss Bearman, a member of the Alliance, who stood as Independent Candidate for the East Barnet Urban District Council. Miss Bearman, a Guardian of many years standing, was defeated by 35 votes.

Questions as to the support candidates were willing to accord to the reforms demanded by the Alliance have been sent to those standing at every Parliamentary election.

DEPUTATIONS.

The Alliance was represented by Miss Fedden on the deputation in January, organised by the *N.C.W.* The deputation asked the Government to take all action possible to promote nationally, throughout the British Commonwealth and internationally, the principle that a woman should have the same right as a man to retain or change her nationality; and also to appoint qualified women as delegates to the Hague Conference. In March Dr. van der Pijl represented us at the *Demonstration*, organized at the Hague by the *I.W.S.A.* and the *I.C.W.*, who were received in deputation by the Bureau and the Nationality Committee of the Conference. The signatories to the resolution passed at the Public Meeting included two of our Associates, the Bishop of Pella and Don. Luigi Sturzo.

In November Lady Squires, wife of the Premier, and Newfoundland's first woman M.P., received a deputation, which asked for support for the Equal Rights Treaty and the Nation-

ality of Married Women. Miss Gordon was our representative.

ROYAL COMMISSIONS.

Miss Alison Neilans gave evidence on behalf of the Alliance before the *Licensing Commission.* Miss Chrystal Macmillan before the *Commission of Enquiry* into the Application of the Trade Board Act to the Catering Trade; and in conjunction with other societies forming the Equal Rights Committee evidence was submitted to the Royal Commission on the *Civil Service* in regard to Equal Pay and Opportunities, with special reference to opening the Diplomatic and Kindred Services to women.

CONFERENCES.

The Alliance took part also in a number of Conferences:

Subject.	Organised by.	Our Representatives.
Unemployment.	L.N.U.	Miss Harley Bacon.
Slavery.	C.R.W.L.N.	Miss Barry and Miss Gordon.
Women and Unemployment.	W.F.L.	Miss Gordon.
Position of Women in the Empire.	B.C.L.	Miss Barry, Miss Gordon, Mrs. O'Connor.
Maternal Mortality.	Miss Gertrude Tuckwell.	Miss Barry, Miss de Alberti.
Adoption of Women Candidates.	N.U.S.E.C.	Miss Barry.
Sale of Contraceptives.	L.P.M.C.	Miss Barry, Mrs. Laughton Mathews.

At the Conference on "Women and Unemployment," Miss Gordon moved the following resolution on our behalf: "This Conference urges that the Ministry of Agriculture Land Settlement Scheme shall provide adequate access to the land to women, and proper facilities for their training on both the indoor and outdoor sides of farm life." This was carried with enthusiasm.

On behalf of the National Council for the Unmarried Mother and her Child, in whose work we co-operate, Miss Gordon also proposed a resolution at the Conference organized by the British Commonwealth League.

LETTERS AND RESOLUTIONS

have been addressed to the authorities concerned as follows:

The *Prime Minister*, asking for the inclusion in the King's Speech of measures dealing with the Nationality of Married Women, Solicitation Laws and Maternal Mortality; the *Minister of Health* respecting a National Maternity Service, and protesting against the circular on Birth Control, which we consider a breach of the Government's pledge; the *Home Secretary*, asking that women, equally with men, be admitted to the proposed Police College; the *Prime Minister and Home Secretary* asking for the inclusion on the agenda of the Colonial Conference of the principal items in our programme; the *Prime Minister* and the *Dominions Secretary*, putting forward a similar request, and stressing especially the Nationality of Married Women;

the *Minister of Labour*, urging the Government to propose such amendments to the Night Work Convention as would ensure that all prohibitions and restrictive legislation apply alike to men and women, protesting against further powers being handed over by Parliament to Ministers, against certain changes proposed in the Hours of Industrial Employment Bill, and against the proposal to exclude women from Canal Boats carrying refuse; the *Prime Minister and Minister of Agriculture* demanding equal facilities for women in the Land Settlement Bill, and to the *India Office*, asking for the inclusion of women in the British Delegation to the Round Table Conference.

CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER SOCIETIES.

The Alliance is represented on the following bodies: The Catholic Citizens' Parliament, where members of the Alliance led for the motion on two occasions; The Women's Advisory Council of the League of Nations Union; The Equal Rights Committee; The National Council for the Unmarried Mother and Her Child; The Women Peers Committee; The Parliamentary and Legislative Committee of the National Council of Women; The Joint Committee of the three British Auxiliaries affiliated to the International Alliance for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship; The British Commonwealth League; the Nationality of Married Women Pass the Bill Committee; and we are affiliated to the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene and the Open Door Council.

"CATHOLIC CITIZEN."

Many questions of importance have been dealt with in our paper, including Inequalities in the Educational World, the Nationality of Married Women, Restrictive Legislation Affecting Women Only, Maternal Mortality, Women and the Licensing Laws, and Slavery. The most important subject of the year has been the controversy on the Subjection of Women, aroused by a dogmatic assertion in the Inquiry Bureau of the *Universe* to the effect that "the essential subordination of woman to man is an integral part of Catholic teaching." Challenged by the Editor of the CATHOLIC CITIZEN to produce a definition in support of his statement, the "Rev. Conductor" was unable to do so. Don Luigi Sturzo contributed an article on the subject, and by courtesy of the Editor of *The Month*, we were able to reproduce an editorial comment, showing that no such teaching existed. Other priests have written to us in the same strain.

We continue to receive messages from different parts of the globe showing that our paper carries far, and we have again to thank our gallant papersellers, particularly in Liverpool during the International Seamen's Conference, and in Oxford during the Catholic Social Guild Summer School.

LITERATURE.

An excellent pamphlet on "The Woman's Movement and Birth Control," written for us by Mrs. Laughton Mathews, has found a ready sale among Catholics and non-Catholics alike. Copies of our book, "Towards Citizenship, A Handbook of Women's Emancipation," are still available.

PRESS.

During the past year the Alliance has received excellent press notices, particularly in the General Press, in connection with the Restaurant Protest Meeting, which was given wide publicity in the London, Provincial, Scottish and Irish daily and weekly newspapers. The St. Joan's Quincentenary Celebrations Appeal is receiving wide-spread notice in the General and Catholic Press.

We express our gratitude to the Editors of *The Catholic Herald*, *The Catholic Times*, *The Tablet* and *The Universe* who have, as usual, published frequent reports of our activities.

Letters from the Alliance have appeared in *The Tablet*, stressing the necessity for alertness as to the action of Local Authorities in connection with the giving of information on Birth Control at State Aided Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics. A letter also appeared in *The Catholic Herald*, *The Tablet* and *The Universe* reminding readers with parliamentary and municipal votes to make sure that their names were on the Annual Register of Electors. A Correspondence in *The Christian Democrat* on Restrictive Legislation for Women, was carried on by the Alliance and others. Our chairman wrote to *The Catholic Gazette*, protesting against some very offensive articles on Woman's Dress. Several members of the Alliance also sent letters of protest in their individual capacity, but we regret that none of these letters received publication or acknowledgment.

With reference to the statement made by the Rev. Conductor of *The Universe* Enquiry Bureau, that the "essential subordination of woman to man is an integral part of Catholic teaching," two replies to questions by Miss de Alberti appeared in *The Universe*. Further reference to this controversy is made in THE CATHOLIC CITIZEN report.

An article submitted to *The Catholic Times* on Maternal Mortality, on behalf of the Alliance, was rejected as it "contained nothing of interest to *Catholic Times* readers."

In co-operation with other Societies, the Alliance contributed letters to *The Times* on Night Work in Factories, and on Married Women's Nationality, and to *The Manchester Guardian*, urging the representation of women at the India Round-Table Conference.

We thank *The International Women's News* for publishing monthly reports of our activities, and *The Vote*, *The Woman's Leader*, and *The Woman Teacher*, for kindly advertising our meetings among their "Forthcoming Events." Letters on behalf of the Alliance were published in *The Woman's Leader* on Women in Restaurants, and in *Time and Tide* and *The Week-end Review*, on Women in Agriculture.

The cable of congratulations, sent by the Alliance to the Women's Enfranchisement League of South Africa, on the attainment of their object, received good publicity in the South African press.

We wish to express our gratitude to our Press Secretary, Miss Douglas Irvine, and to Miss Gordon, who carried on the work until the Annual Meeting, also to Miss de Alberti, who has several times written letters on behalf of the Alliance. Their generous help has been invaluable.

HON. TREASURER'S REPORT.

Although the list of subscriptions and donations reaches a good total, it is slightly less than last year, and in view of the continued increase in our work both nationally and internationally the financial situation is always a serious one.

The biggest item which we have to meet is the rent of the office, and we are specially grateful to those friends who ease this particular burden by promising a donation of £5 yearly towards the rent. These are: Miss Bain, Miss Barry, Miss Brandt (£2 10s.), Miss Butler-Bowdon (£10), Dr. D. J. Collier, Miss Douglas Irvine, Miss E. FitzGerald, Miss C. M. Gordon, Miss Jeffery, Liverpool Branch, and Mrs. Laughton Mathews. In addition several members give £1 regularly towards the rent fund. There is an urgent need for more members who will generously promise to give £5 a year towards this necessary expense, and members are reminded that it need not be a personal gift but may be money raised by some individual enterprise on behalf of the Alliance. Liverpool Branch continues among those who give £5 yearly, and we wish we had other branches to follow this generous lead.

The Christmas Sale was as usual one of our chief money-making activities, and a new event which brought in a good sum was the Garden Party held last summer at 57 Carlton Hill, N.W.8., by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Mathews; an outstanding attraction being the songs contributed by Miss Doris Waymark. Two Jumble Sales have also been held during the year, and the following private money-raising enterprises: Bridge Drive (Mrs. Laughton Mathews); Bridge Drive (Miss Butler-Bowdon and Miss Gordon); Whist Drive (Miss M. O'Connor).

The Alliance owes special thanks to those who by their personal service have saved us expense, and thus indirectly helped to swell our funds: to our regular office helpers, Mrs. Gunning, Mrs. Hand, Miss Stammers, Mrs. Thomas, Miss Young, and most particularly to Miss Butler-Bowdon, who is Assistant Hon. Secretary and Assistant Hon. Treasurer, and in addition has most successfully undertaken the arduous task of collecting advertisements for the CATHOLIC CITIZEN; to Miss Gunning and Miss L. de Alberti, junr., for calling for letters in the holidays; to Miss Mary Snook for translating

German papers; to Miss McEvoy and Miss Springett for duplicating; to Miss Gordon and her sister, Dr. Gordon Clark, for lending their car for the work of the Alliance; to Miss Hynes for keeping the Press Book so admirably.

FOREIGN VISITORS.

We have had the pleasure of welcoming to the office visitors from other lands. These include Senator Wyse Power and Professor Mary Hayden (Ireland), Mrs. Geza de Kresz, Mrs. Sybille Erbody, Dr. Mohr Wizinger (Hungary), Miss Brennan (Australia), who has joined the Alliance. An informal luncheon was arranged to give members an opportunity of meeting Miss May Holland, M.P., (Australian substitute delegate at Geneva), but on the very day indisposition prevented her being present. The Alliance also had the pleasure of acting as host to two Italian and American guests at the reception given by the B.C.L. to women who had come with the Naval Conference delegates, and also to a guest at a similar reception to women brought here by the Imperial Conference.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MEMBERS.

We offer our cordial congratulations to Dr. Mary Beadon on her appointment as Head of the Lady Hardinge College, Delhi, and Miss Fortey on her success in persuading the Leicester Education Committee to appoint a woman as Head of the Junior Mixed School at Hinckley. We rejoice with Dr. Stella Moore on the birth of a daughter, and on the birth of a son with Mrs. Smiley, Dr. Isabel Heath, Mrs. Price.

OBITUARY.

It is with regret that we chronicle the death of a great pioneer Medical Woman—Mrs. Scharlieb, and of our members Mrs. Black, Miss A. M. F. Cole, Miss Lucking, Miss Mac-Calman and Miss Price.—R.I.P. The Annual Mass for the repose of the souls of our members and associates, was offered at St. Patrick's, Soho, on November 2nd.

ST. JOAN'S QUINCENTENARY.

During the latter part of the year the chief work of the Alliance has been concerned with the Appeal, which we initiated, for a gift from England in honour of St. Joan on the 500th anniversary of her death. It is proposed that this amende honorable from the nation should take the form of the main door, or of a stained glass window, of the Chapel to be built on the site of her martyrdom. His Eminence Cardinal Bourne is President of the Appeal, and its supporters include distinguished men and women of every shade of opinion. Our Chairman and Hon. Secretary act as Chairman and Hon. Secretary respectively, of the Appeal Committee, which comprises the officers of the Alliance and representatives of the Catholic Women's League, the Children of Mary, the Ladies of Charity, and the Dames of St. Joan. The Meeting to launch the appeal was held on November 21st, the date on which the Burgundians delivered St. Joan to the English. His Eminence presided, and the speakers were Mrs. Corbett Ashby, Miss Monica O'Connor, Sir Johnston Forbes-Robertson, Miss Picton-

Turbervill, M.P., and Dr. Letitia Fairfield. A Vote of Thanks to the Chairman and speakers was moved by His Excellency the French Ambassador, seconded by Miss Gordon.

LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

The year has been one of great activity, and it has seen a considerable increase in membership. We have been extremely fortunate in securing for our permanent Meeting Place the premises of the Liverpool Union of Girls' Clubs, at a reasonable charge, and we would like once again to express our thanks to this organization for their hospitality.

There have been five Ordinary Meetings during the year. At the first of these, on March 13th, Miss Trotter, of the W.I.L., addressed us on the "Naval Disarmament Conference." At the next, on April 15th, we had two speakers: Dr. Fitch, who spoke on the work of the "Child Guidance Clinic," and Miss Rippe, a Headquarters member, who appealed to us to take up Club Work among Catholic girls. The May meeting was held on the feast of St. Joan, when Father O'Neill, of St. Joan's Church, Bootle, gave us an informal talk on our Patron Saint. On June 26th, we had a most interesting address on "The Colour Problem in Liverpool," by Miss E. Fletcher, who had personally investigated the matter. The last of these meetings took place on November 26th, in the form of a Debate with the Liverpool Branch of the Distributist League. The subject, suggested by our visitors, was "That conditions in Modern England offer little encouragement to Youth." Though we lost on the voting, we felt very proud of our three young Speakers, Misses M. Hughes, C. Harris, and B. Richards, and we are looking forward to a return debate on a subject of our choice.

The months in which no ordinary meetings were held were generally occupied with money raising activities. In order to find our promised £5 towards the rent of the London Office, a very successful Whist Drive was organized on February 19th, which realized £4 7s. 9d. On October 13th, we augmented our own funds by a small, but delightful Social, while on December 9th, we held another Whist Drive to enable the Branch to contribute an adequate amount to the St. Joan's Quincentenary Celebrations. This brought in £4 15s. For the success of these functions, both financially and socially, we are very much indebted to Mrs. Graham, who provided delicious cakes for all three, as well as several prizes for the two Whist Drives. We also have to thank Mrs. Murphy, the Misses Clarke, Lee, Hudson, Green and Johnstone for the songs and music with which they regaled us at the Social, and Mrs. Johnstone, Miss McArdle and the Misses Parnell for contributions towards prizes and refreshments on these occasions.

During the year the Branch has been represented on the Peace Crusade Committee and the Catholic Ball Committee by the Hon. Secretary. Though the Committee felt obliged to disassociate the Branch from the Social Survey on account of the strenuous work involved, Miss Fox-Taylor and the Misses Parnell performed

a small piece of work towards it in the name of the Branch. We also co-operated in two important meetings on "Slavery"—the one organised by the Women's Societies, and addressed by Miss Nina Boyle, and the other organised by the League of Nations' Union, and addressed by Lady Simon. At the latter the Hon. Secretary proposed the Vote of Thanks on behalf of all the Women's Societies. As a result of Miss Rippe's appeal, seven of us attended a Course in Club Leadership, and now most of the seven are actively engaged in Club work among Catholic girls. On Armistice Day we were once again identified with the Women's procession to the Cenotaph, and with the Central Hall Meeting in the evening under the auspices of the League of Nations' Union. We have also signed in large numbers the Disarmament Petition arranged by the W.I.L.

An entirely new departure, but one which we hope will become a yearly part of our programme, was the expedition to London made by six of our members in order to be present at the Annual Meeting of the whole Alliance. We would like to express again our appreciation of the hospitality and welcome we received and of the inspiration we derived from this visit.

During the course of the year two Masses have been offered up at the request of the Branch at St. Joan's Church, Bootle. One of these on St. Joan's Feast, May 30th, for a blessing on the Alliance, and the other in November for the repose of the souls of deceased members, and especially Miss Crooke, lately dead. We hope to be able to have Masses offered up annually for these intentions.

As regards the more immediate objects of the Alliance, most work was done concerning the Nationality of Married Women and the establishment of Women Police in Liverpool; the means employed being correspondence, resolutions, questions at Political Meetings, and interviews with candidates. Some unavailing correspondence was entered into concerning the representation of Women on the Catholic Education Council, and resolutions were also sent to the proper Authorities upon the following subjects: "Peeresses in the House of Lords," "Equality in the Civil Service" and "Catholic Claims in the Educational Sphere."

In response to numerous appeals from Headquarters, efforts have been made by the Branch to increase the circulation of the CATHOLIC CITIZEN. Large numbers were sold at the International Congress of Catholic Seamen, and smaller numbers at other gatherings. We hope to be able to organize a Corps of Paper-sellers in the coming year, who will regularly attend meetings of Catholics for this purpose.

The Committee has met eight times during the year at 45 Falkner Street by invitation of the Misses Parnell. At its first meeting, Miss Fox-Taylor was asked to act as Assistant Secretary, and the Branch is very much indebted to her for her invaluable services in this capacity. Among other pieces of work, she has revived the custom of sending brief accounts of our activities regularly to the Catholic press.

Finally we must thank the little Corps of younger members who have made themselves

Notes and Comments

(Continued from p. 18.)

The proposal of the Child Welfare Committee of the League of Nations to undertake a more detailed examination of the whole question of the recognition and enforcement abroad of maintenance orders was considered by the Council on January 19th, on the basis of observations from eighteen Governments. One of these Governments, Great Britain, is of opinion that it is not desirable that the Child Welfare Committee should be authorised to proceed to this study on the lines proposed.

Having regard to the gravity of this problem, and the great importance which certain countries attach to its solution, the Council asked the Child Welfare Committee to examine the observations and to present a further report on possibilities of future action.

* * * *

Miss Rathbone's Bill, The Wills and Intestacies (Family Maintenance) Bill, was well received on its second Reading on February 20th, passing by a majority of 149 to 28. This shows that the House well realises the need of some such measure for the protection of families. The main object of the Bill is to prevent husband or wife willing all their money or property from the other spouse. The Bill was referred to a Joint Select Committee of both Houses.

* * * *

We congratulate Mrs. Manning on her election to the House of Commons. We are glad that a woman replaces Dr. Ethel Bentham, and one who was a suffragist, when the vote was yet to be won. She reaps where she has sown, which is not always the case.

* * * *

We offer our congratulations also to our member, Mrs. C. J. Matthew, J.P., who was returned for Limehouse at the L.C.C. Elections.

responsible for the arrangement of the room and for the refreshments. Though never appointed as such, Miss Mary Parnell has acted as refreshments Secretary throughout the year, and has been assisted in her work at various times by Miss M. Fox-Taylor, Miss L. Richards, Miss I. Johnstone, Miss C. Clarke and Miss M. Lee.

Looking back on the past year we feel that the Branch has made great strides, but the burden of its progress has rested rather too heavily on a few individuals, and we would appeal to everyone to do their best in the service of the Branch, especially in 1931, when we are to celebrate the Quincentenary of the Martyrdom of our Model and Patron Saint—Joan of Arc.

THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S NEWS

(JUS SUFFRAGII)

is an international record of the Woman's Movement. Unique in its scope this paper will appeal to every woman with a wide interest in world events.

Section Française.

Subscription: 6s per annum, post free.

Free specimen copy from the Circulation Manager, International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship,

190 Vauxhall, Bridge Road, London, S.W.1.

Obtainable at Librairie Internationale, 73 Russell Square, W.C.1.

Catholic Public School & University Men working in London: Charming bed-sitting rooms, h. & c. water basins, excellent cuisine: Patronised by old pupils from Downside, Stonyhurst, the Oratory, Balliol, Christ Church, etc., etc. **76 West Cromwell Road, S.W.5.** Tel: Western, 3338.

BOURNEMOUTH, EXETER ROAD.

WOODLEIGH TOWER Private Hotel.

This charming Hotel stands in its own Grounds, facing the Sea, with South Aspect. Two minutes from Pier and Pavilion. First-class Cuisine. Gas Fires in all Bedrooms.

Highly Recommended. Terms moderate. Phone 1096.

Resident Proprietors—Miss Dixon and Mrs. Gallaher.

Death of Miss Mabel Cochrane

We record with sorrow the death of our member, Miss Mabel Cochrane, and offer our heartfelt sympathy to her sister. Miss Cochrane was one of our earliest members, and we owe much to her for her zealous work, especially in selling our paper both here and in Ireland. We ask the prayers of our readers for the repose of her soul.—R.I.P.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.—All communications respecting Advertisements to be addressed **THE MANAGER, Catholic Citizen, 55, Berners Street, London, W.1.**

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

NON-PARTY.

Office—55, Berners St., Oxford St., London, W.1.
Patron: Saint Joan of Arc. Colours: Blue, White & Gold
Organ—"The Catholic Citizen," 2d. monthly.

OBJECT.

To band together Catholics of both sexes, in order to secure the political, social and economic equality between men and women, and to further the work and usefulness of Catholic women as citizens.

MEMBERSHIP.

All Catholic women are eligible as Members, who approve the object and methods, and will pay a minimum annual subscription of 1s. Men are invited to join as Associates, on the same conditions, with the exception that they may not elect or be elected to the Executive.

**JANE BROWN RESTAURANT,
39 Thurloe Place, South Kensington.**

Phone: Kensington 8349.

Luncheons, Teas. Catering of all kinds.
Nearest Restaurant to ORATORY and Museums.

That Book You Want!

Foyles can supply it. Immense stock (second-hand, new, out-of-print) on every conceivable subject. Special Department for Politics and allied subjects. Catalogue 665 free; mention requirements and interests. Books sent on approval. Deferred Payments arranged.

BOOKS PURCHASED.

FOYLES, Charing Cross Rd., London
W.G.2. (Gerrard 9310.) (5 lines)

DURING LENT

Lunch at

**SHEARNS
RESTAURANT**

For the best selection of meatless meals in London, attractively served in dainty surroundings.

Also the famous 1/- fresh fruit tea.

231 Tottenham Court Road, W.1.

GATHOLIC FUNERALS

Conducted in an Exceptional Manner, at Most Moderate Charges, in Town, Country, or Abroad.

Distance No Object. Day and Night Service.

PRIVATE MORTUARY CHAPELS.

Personal attention at all Hours by

ALBERT FRANCE, Catholic Undertaker,
45 Lamb's Conduit St., Theobald's Rd. W.C.1.

Telephone: HOLBORN 4901.

FOOT SPECIALIST.

Miss Drummond W.L.S., Ch. (fully trained nurse, ex-service), specialises in treatment of bunions, corns, chilblains and all foot troubles, superfluous hairs, warts and moles successfully removed. Free consultation. Victoria 5026.—108 Chandos House, Palmer Street, Victoria Street. Opposite Army and Navy Stores.

**Are you trying to get rid
of a bad Cold?**

FOR building up vitality and resistance to chills and colds, the Tonic Wine made by the monks at Buckfast Abbey has no equal. Take a glassful every night at bed time—you will enjoy sound refreshing sleep. your powers of endurance will be increased, and you will be in every way more fit to withstand the cold and damp weather which is so treacherous at this time of the year.

Of Wine Merchants, Licensed Grocers and Chemists. 3/6 & 6/- per bottle



GUARANTEE

**BUCKFAST
TONIC WINE**

MADE BY THE MONKS OF BUCKFAST ABBEY, SOUTH DEVON.

Sole Distributors: J. CHANDLER & CO. (Buckfast) Ltd., 41/42 Parliament St., Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

Printed for the Publishers by S. WALKER, Catholic Printer, Hinckley, Leic.