

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

AND THE COMMON CAUSE

Vol. XVII. No. 40. One Penny.

REGISTERED AS
A NEWSPAPER.

Friday, October 30, 1925.

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Annual Subscription for Postal Subscribers: British Isles and
Abroad, 6/6.

Common Cause Publishing Co., 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

NOTES AND NEWS.

The Tragedy of Damascus.

We commiserate with the French people on the crime against civilization which has been committed in their name by the shelling of Damascus. The crimes of Governments or their agents are at times so black and apparently so fortuitous that one is tempted to suspend application of the profound and general truth that "peoples get the Governments they deserve." Such historical incidents of Louvain, Amritsar, and Corfu leap to mind in the same disastrous category. Each has its own degree of cruelty, panic, and irresponsibility; its own degree of provocation. But each serves in its degree to discredit the civilization of a Western democracy. There is little room to-day in the European comity of nations for national self-righteousness; there is only room for a profound humility and a stern resolution that such crimes must cease.

The League Functions.

The League of Nations appears to have intervened promptly and effectively in the Græco-Bulgarian dispute and, as we go to press, representatives of the offending parties are stating their respective cases before the League Council in Paris. We read that Mr. Chamberlain somewhat disconcerted the Greek delegate by asking how it was that the Greek forces in order to defend a strip of territory only 50 yards deep had found it necessary to invade Bulgaria to a distance of five miles? It is pleasing to watch the operations of M. Briand and Mr. Chamberlain, with the corporate authority of Europe behind them, at work on the disentanglement and castigation of two naughty European children. The only painful element in the situation is the memory of what Greece herself recently suffered at the hands of a refractory and self-absorbed Great Power acting in defiance of the League.

A Labour View of a Conservative Accomplishment.

We venture to quote verbatim a comment by our friend, Mr. H. N. Brailsford, on the nature of the Pact which was signed a fortnight ago at Locarno. It is, he points out, only human that members of the Labour Party should regret the setting aside of their own Government's work at Geneva. "And yet," he adds—(we quote from the *New Leader* of 23rd October)—"when we look at the prospect, not as partisans but as Europeans, there are grounds for rejoicing that we could not have discovered a year ago. The salient fact about this settlement is that it is the work mainly of two Conservative Governments. The whole initiative and some of the best features of the treaties were due to Germany. They are Dr. Stresemann's work, and they bind his country, with President Hindenburg in control

and the Nationalists as consenting parties. . . . In the second place it is a Conservative Foreign Secretary, a Minister who belongs, moreover, to the less advanced wing of his party, who bears the responsibility for shouldering new and heavy obligations. If we take a long view of the future there is reason for peculiar satisfaction that it is a Tory England and a Nationalist Germany which will set their seals to these treaties of peace." Mr. Brailsford writes in an optimistic vein which subsequent events in Germany have not wholly justified. It now appears doubtful whether or no the Pact will emerge from Berlin with the Nationalists "as consenting parties." We hope, however, that it may eventually do so, and that the present Nationalist manœuvre to evade responsibility may be frustrated. For absurd and pernicious as is the political programme of this particular group, official participation in such an agreement would broaden the basis of European peace in a necessary direction.

Monday, November 2nd.

Next Monday we cast our votes for our representatives on municipal bodies. The significance of the elections on Monday have been fully dealt with in our local government column. The trouble is that on such occasions those of us who are interested wake up too late from our apathy. But even after this paper reaches the hands of our readers there will still be time to do something more than record our own vote. We congratulate the Birkenhead Women Citizens' Association on a meeting of women candidates, at which the Mayor of the city, Mrs. Mercer, was able to take part owing to the fact that the meeting was on strictly non-party lines. We sincerely hope that a decided increase in the representation of women will be reported and that men and women committed to the views for which we stand will find seats throughout the whole country.

A Guide to Action.

The list of resolutions passed recently by the National Council of Women in Birmingham may be had on application to the office at Parliament Mansions, Victoria Street. Those dealing with subjects relating to equality between men and women have already been referred to in these columns. Two touch on temperance reform, and it is worthy of note that such a representative body of opinion has come out in favour of a Local Option Bill, which includes disinterested management of the liquor trade on the lines of the "Carlisle Experiment" as one of its options. The second asks for legislation dealing with clubs where alcoholic liquor is supplied. We congratulate the National Council on the stand taken with regard to the Judicial Proceedings Bill; it has always appeared to us that women are too apathetic on this subject. A resolution urging the development of a comprehensive electrical scheme for the whole country will have the sympathy of every housekeeper. Another asks that humane slaughter be made compulsory. It is significant that seven out of fifteen resolutions passed at a Council which has the power to range over all subjects affecting human welfare, are concerned with the position of women in the law, in public, or professional life. So there is still work to be done for equal citizenship, and societies which exist for this object are amply justified.

It Works.

One of the first applications of the Guardianship of Infants Act, which came into operation less than a month ago, is reported from Stalybridge. The applicant, whose husband lives apart from her, asked for the custody of her child, aged 3, and 10s. a

week for his maintenance; she herself was at work, and was able and willing to keep herself. Her representative in court explained that previous to the passing of the Act such an appeal could not have been made. His client was willing to live with her husband if he would agree to provide her with a home. The husband's solicitor did not oppose the order for custody and maintenance; it was the old story, he said, of husband, wife, and mother-in-law, but he asked for postponement in the hope that "proper family relations" might be restored. The magistrate granted the mother's application. We agree with the solicitor of the defendant that the restoration of happy relations between the young married couple is the end to be worked for. We do not, of course, know the circumstances beyond the bald statement of a Press report, and judgment without knowledge is impossible. But if we read correctly between the lines we imagine that such relations are more, rather than less, likely to be restored if the status of the mother as the fitting person to take care of her child, unless she has forfeited her rights, is maintained.

Women and Cambridge University.

The proposed new statutes for the university and colleges have now been published, and are to be discussed next week. They embody many revolutionary proposals in the administration of the university and its boards, henceforward to be called "faculties" of studies. The powers of non-resident votes are to be drastically reduced. The position of women is little changed: they are to retain the right to "titular degrees," and are still to be deprived of membership of the university or of the Senate. They are to be eligible for all university teaching, but will not have the right to membership of the new Regent House, to which the main government of the university passes. As the real distinctions made between men and women in the university pass one by one, the illogical set of prejudices by which women are still denied real membership stands out in even clearer relief.

A Whitley Council for Domestic Service?

On Friday of last week the Central Committee for Women's Training and Employment, meeting under the presidency of Miss Margaret Bondfield, received a deputation consisting of Manchester women councillors who wished to present a scheme for the further popularizing of domestic service as an outlet for unemployed women. The deputation consisted of Miss Kingsmill Jones, Mrs. E. D. Simon, Mrs. Welch, Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P., and Mrs. Zimmern. Unfortunately no report of the deputation was issued to the Press, but we understand that the keynote of the Manchester scheme is that the Ministry of Labour should be persuaded to lend its support to the organization of a joint council representing mistresses and unemployed women, whose business should be to draw up standardized conditions for resident and daily domestic service. Those mistresses who undertake to adopt such standardized conditions would then be formed into an association whose members would receive priority in the placing of domestic servants trained under the auspices of the Central Committee. It will be remembered that for some years past the Central Committee, in co-operation with local authorities, has been organizing admirable courses of training for unemployed women desirous of becoming domestic servants, and that hitherto there has been a relative scarcity of applicants. We shall follow with keen interest the further development of the Manchester scheme.

Hospital Social Services.

A committee has recently been set up to consider the best form of training for social work almoners in hospitals and kindred institutions. The Committee is composed partly of representatives of the Joint University Council for Social Studies and partly of representatives of the Hospital Almoners, and includes members of the Medical profession, and the Central Association for Mental Welfare. We hope that the report of this Committee when it is published will have the indirect result of giving the movement for hospital social services greater publicity in this country than it has hitherto secured. Sir George Newman, Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health, in his remarkable report "Recent advances in Medical Education in England" has given the movement his blessing in a striking passage which emphasizes the co-relation between social circumstance and medical diagnosis and treatment. If the study of environment and circumstance is essential as an auxiliary to physical healing it is even more necessary as the accompaniment of mental healing, and we

hope that the findings of this Committee may exert some influence on the staffing of Mental Clinics which will in all probability be established in larger numbers in the future, as the result of the present investigations of the Royal Commission on Lunacy Reform.

A Suggestion for the Church of England.

We understand that the Autumn Session of the House of Assembly, which opens on 16th November, will have under consideration, among other matters, the question of church patronage, democratic control by congregations, and the diversion from outstandingly rich benefices of part of their income. We can conceive of no more economic and equitable destination for any sums which can be acquired by the equalization of Church incomes than the initiation of a system of family allowances in connexion with clerical incomes. The children of the clergy constitute a peculiarly stable element in the population and a very fertile recruiting ground for the liberal professions. They are, on the average, born and bred under peculiarly healthy moral and physical surroundings, free from the damage of want, and the danger of luxury. Their parents have as a rule an unusually high standard of educational achievement and at the same time, as things are, an unusually small measure of financial elasticity. We believe that the coming discussions on Church finance should offer Churchmen a valuable opportunity of embodying in a concrete piece of economic and administrative machinery that veneration for family life which has long been traditional among them.

Women head the Lists.

At the London Dairy Show held last week the milking championship, open to men and women alike, was carried off by Miss E. Bebbington, of Nantwich, who scored three points above the next competitor on the lists, Mr. T. M. Kent, of Stoke-on-Trent. It is reported that she gave a most admirable demonstration of the art of milking. In a similar contest for young people under 18, a girl was again successful, Miss D. Lloyd, of Tarporley, the second, third, and fourth prizes falling to boys.

"Monsieur" S. Garcin.

We read in the Paris diary of the *Morning Post* that at a recent international congress of engineers and technical experts a certain "Monsieur" S. Garcin was called upon to read his report on costings in forges and stamping mills. Great was the surprise when a pretty young girl went to the platform and presented a report which was greeted by a torrent of applause. Mademoiselle Suzanne Garcin began her career as a shorthand-typist. On hearing that the profits of the forge and stamping firm in which she was employed were inadequate, she turned her attention to the methods in vogue and discovered that 40 per cent of the orders resulted in a loss. She was ultimately placed in charge of the costings department and within six months the proprietors found their profits had risen from 3½ to 14 per cent. We wonder in how many British firms young women employees, however capable and original, would have the chance of such experimental work. Nevertheless, we believe that women are by instinct labour-saving and economical and that their entry into business life in larger numbers will prove this to be the case.

Our Who's Who.

Miss Tancred, who contributes an article on Women Police in Canada, is already well known to many of our readers. She has taken a prominent part in the national effort to obtain women police and was for two years director of the Scottish School for the training of policewomen. In 1920 and 1924 she gave evidence before the Home Office Committees on the Employment of Women Police. This year she attended the Conference of the International Council of Women at Washington and in the course of her travels paid the visits which she now describes. Miss Chick is the Honorary National Secretary of the Woman's International League and is well known as a student of international affairs. Miss O'Malley, the former editor of this paper, is an old friend.

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.

1926 AND WOMEN'S LEGISLATION.

Women's organizations are usually engaged during the autumn in making plans for the following year, and sufficient is already known of the probable points of attack to enable us to give a list of the topics which it is hoped will come before the 1926 Parliament. For the moment we set international questions, which we cannot be accused of neglecting, aside and concentrate on home politics of special concern to women. By far the most fundamental of these is Equal Franchise. In our last week's issue we published a note explaining the Parliamentary situation with regard to this reform, and drawing attention to the campaign which was being undertaken by the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, which has as its aim the bringing of pressure to bear on Parliament and on the Conference of Members of all Parties in order that they may produce a serious scheme which can be supported by all Parties.

Many of the other projected measures or motions relate to the position of the married woman. This is not surprising for it is with respect to the married woman that the old restrictions die most hardly, and it is their need for economic and personal freedom which is still sadly lacking. Thus we find a bunch of Bills being drafted by the N.U.S.E.C. One provides for the abolition of the disabilities which arise from the position of a woman under the Law of Coverture. (We shall shortly be publishing a full description of this rather complicated measure.) A second—the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, 1919, Amendment Bill—seeks to prevent Local Authorities and the State from dismissing their women employees on marriage. A third will stipulate that a married woman should be given a share of her husband's income and will attempt to terminate the power a man has now in England and Wales of leaving his property away from his wife and children.

The question of the nationality of married women will once more be raised, and pressure brought to bear on the Government at least to carry out those reforms in law concerning which it professed itself in favour early this year.

In addition to this the N.U.S.E.C. proposes to press for a motion in the House on the desirability of the removal of the Ministry of Health ban on information on methods of Birth Control at Infant Welfare Centres in receipt of Government grants. The connexion between freedom for all women to acquire such knowledge in the best possible way and the feminist movement was worked out in a leading article in our issue of 2nd October. In view of the fact that two successive Ministers of Health have declared that no step in this direction can be taken unless it has the support of Parliament, it is clear from the votes on the subject taken at meetings such as the Annual Council Meetings of the N.U.S.E.C. and the Labour Women's Congress, and the interest shown in the matter at present by the women of the Liberal Party, that such attempts will meet with considerable support from the women of the country.

An attempt to promote equality of opportunity for men and women will be made through clauses in the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Amendment Bill referred to above, which provide for the opening of the doors of the Diplomatic Service and the

Civil Service overseas to women on equal terms with men, for the eligibility of Peeresses to sit in the House of Lords, and for certain reforms with respect to Women Jurors.

The Six Point Group has in preparation a Bill to force Local Authorities to appoint Women Police, which Miss Ellen Wilkinson has promised to introduce. Women's organizations are united in pressing for a Joint Select Committee of both Houses of Parliament on Lady Astor's Street (Order) Bill, which would involve an inquiry into the whole question of the maintenance of law relating to solicitation and to order and decency in the streets.

The Royal Commission on the Reform of the Lunacy Laws will be reporting early in the year, and we much hope that the report will contain at least certain of the recommendations outlined by Mr. Smith in our article of 16th October, including the appointment of women doctors where women patients are received, and the appointment of a large number of women on the Board of Control, and on the Visiting Committees of all the Public Asylums.

The reform of the Poor Law long announced as promised for next year will bring with it many problems on which women's organizations will have to concentrate. There is a danger lest if the duties of the present Poor Law Guardians are taken over by other Local Authorities women will play a far smaller part in the administration of the Poor Law than they have in the past.

Finally, we come to the question of women and Health Insurance. The Royal Commission on Health Insurance will be reporting shortly, and it will be important to ensure that certain at least of the changes referred to by Mr. J. L. Cohen in his articles, which we are publishing, should be contained in any amending legislation. The N.U.S.E.C. has organized a campaign to press for (1) provision for giving allowances on behalf of the wives and children when the husband or father is unable to carry on his employment owing to ill-health; (2) provision for the giving of medical benefits to the wives and children of insured persons; (3) improved maternity benefit; (4) married women to be allowed to become voluntary contributors.

This brief outline, and it is only an outline, will show that there is still plenty of work to be done—work which demands knowledge and experience. There are many other legislative measures which claim the careful study of women citizens more or less closely identified with the immediate policy of this paper. Examples of these are the Bills relating to the illegitimate child, the proposed Money-lending Bill, the Liquor Control Bill, and the Judicial Procedure Bill which we refer to elsewhere in this issue.

Many of those who read these words have positions of influence in different types of women's organizations, party and non-party societies, women's institutes, guilds. Some of the winter programmes which have reached us show a very inadequate realization of the need for solid study and solid work. What is your society doing to help on the reforms for which women have a special responsibility?

THE SECURITY PACT: ARBITRATION TREATIES OF LOCARNO.

By M. CHICK.

While intelligent anticipation suggested the general lines of the group of documents initiated at Locarno on 16th October, the actual text now published enables us to make a fair estimate of the advantages and promise they offer and also of their shortcomings and dangers. During the time intervening between now and their final signature early in December, their detailed provision will be weighed and discussed by the people and legislatures of the nations concerned. In spite of defects and certain serious commitments to which this country is pledged, on the balance it will probably be held that the general optimism with which the Treaties have been received and the generous congratulation offered to the statesmen who met at Locarno are justified.

The first asset to be noted is that the Treaties are the outcome of agreements reached after negotiations conducted on terms of equality. It will be remembered that the first advance was made nine months ago, when the German Government offered to recognize the *status quo* on her western frontiers, as set forth in the Treaty of Versailles, and declared that she would not attempt to alter the eastern frontiers by violent means. These proposals

have been maintained, although there has been somewhat discourteous delay on the part of the other nations interested and pressure against them exerted by certain sections of the German people.

The group of documents we are considering are the Security Pact between Germany, Belgium, France, Great Britain, and Italy, and four Arbitration Treaties to be concluded between Germany on the one hand and Belgium and France, Poland and Czecho-Slovakia on the other, together with an introduction and "Final Protocol" and an "Allied Collective Note" giving the Allies' interpretation of Article 16 of the Covenant of the League of Nations. This latter is of importance, since it is an attempt to meet the difficulty of Germany's entrance to the League, for by this Article she might be held to have agreed to allow armed forces to traverse her territory should France desire to bring military aid to Poland.

The terms of the Arbitration Treaties between Germany and her western neighbours differ from those concluded with Poland and Czecho-Slovakia. Germany's recognition of the *status quo* in the first case is embodied in the text, while in regard to the

eastern frontiers her proposal that these should be subject to arbitration was not accepted by Poland. Instead we have a compromise, which appears in the Preamble, where in effect Germany recognizes existing treaty "rights" which may be unjust and likely to lead to disputes, and Poland and Czechoslovakia agree to procedure under Article XIX of the League Covenant, which provides for reconsideration of Treaties that are a menace to peace.

By these Treaties war is not ruled out, but it is made more unlikely. It is an advance to find that preparations are made to encircle Germany—not with a ring of antagonistic states linked together by military treaties to secure her subjection, but now she will be in Treaty herself with her neighbours, and the protection on which all rely is the protection of law, not armaments. The development of arbitration, of which we have heard so much during the past year, is recognized in these dangerous parts of Europe as the best guarantee of security. The Treaties provide for a new form of machinery for the settlement of difficulties; Permanent Conciliation Commissions are to be set up for the investigation, if necessary on the spot, of any dispute that may arise and should they fail to bring the parties to agreement the dispute may be taken to the Permanent Court of International Justice, or to the Council of the League of Nations (under Article XV of the Covenant). It will be remembered that should the Council fail to reach a unanimous decision the disputants "may take such action as they consider necessary for the maintenance of right and justice," although such action might be war. It is clear that even if the Treaties are signed and in operation much remains to be done, for with such reservations it will not be easy for Governments to carry through the drastic disarmament that must be accomplished if real security is to be attained.

And in view of our commitments under the Security Pact, it is clear that general disarmament is a first necessity of Great Britain. We must remember that we are undertaking to come to the aid of Germany, France, or Belgium should either be attacked, and though it would be easier to aid a fully armed Belgium or France against a practically disarmed Germany, our task in the other eventuality would be practically impossible.

Under the Covenant of the League of Nations the members are pledged to disarmament, and in the Final Protocol attached to the Pact and Treaties the declaration is made that these should contribute to bring about that "moral relaxation of tension between nations" and will hasten on disarmament. We must see to it that this is so.

A further point is brought out very clearly. Great Britain is not taking part in the general move towards acceptance of obligatory arbitration. In the whole series of documents we make no contribution in this matter. We guarantee the arbitration treaties of other nations, but conclude none on our own account. Are we to stand aside while other nations are endeavouring to establish law instead of war as the means of settlement of international disputes?

And yet, with all these limitations, we welcome the advance made. Germany's entrance to the League of Nations brings us nearer to that all-inclusive League for which the Women's International League has always stood, and every addition to the League makes it more difficult for the remaining non-members to stay out; and when the League is complete, and its authority generally recognized, it will be found that such partial treaties have outlived their need, and they will be absorbed in the provisions of the League itself.

WOMEN AND SOCIAL INSURANCE.¹

By JOSEPH L. COHEN.

II.

FAMILY ALLOWANCES.

Family Income Insurance is now regarded as a branch of social insurance abroad. In the practical consideration of the problems raised this has been common for some time. Now we find the International Labour Office actually referring to it in their Social Insurance publications. Recent discussions on this subject have centred on the question, when should a scheme of family income insurance be introduced?

The chief objection to the introduction of a system of family endowment at this time, it has been said, is a purely tactical one. Is it desirable to propose it and to introduce it during a period of falling wages? Is it not likely that the obvious objections to, and unpopularity of, falling wages will attach to any scheme of family endowment which accompanies it? These are doubts

¹ Part II of an address given at the N.U.S.E.C. Summer School, Oxford, 1925.

which assail the mind of those who are convinced that the principle of recognizing family needs in settling family incomes is just, practicable and desirable.

Let it be conceded at once that it would have been preferable if we had introduced the device during a time of rising wages. But it is clear that during such a period neither workmen nor employers are likely to listen to this proposal with any eagerness. Advocates of family endowment must carry on this propaganda when they can.

And they will recall that many useful reforms have been put into operation during the worst possible time. Unemployment Insurance was not introduced at a time which was tactically worse; it was introduced on the eve of a slump. It has prevented a revolution, kept our people in good health, enabling our statesmen to look round for a way out of the post-war troubles in which we find ourselves. Pensions for Widows has not been introduced at the best time. New heavy burdens on employers and workpeople at a time like this are not to be lightly enforced nor undertaken. But a reform which answers our sense of justice, which will lessen human suffering and provide for the needs of widows and orphans, had to be introduced as soon as the time was ripe.

This is our opportunity for having the principle of family endowment adopted. The time to introduce family endowment is when wages are fluid, when change must take place or when change is being considered.

It matters less whether there is likelihood of a rise or fall of wages than whether the new idea can be introduced in the new wages agreement. Now substantial changes are being considered, fundamental changes are being advocated on the side of the men, subsidies are being advocated by the employers. The whole organization of the industry is in the melting pot. We advocate the embodiment of this idea in any new wages agreement.

MATERNITY INSURANCE.

Perhaps the most urgent problem in the whole field of social insurance to-day and certainly the one which most concerns women is that of Maternity Insurance. The British Health Insurance scheme provides no insurance benefits for the wives of insured workmen who are not themselves insured as employees, excepting that of maternity benefit. The proposed revision of the whole Health Insurance scheme repeatedly urged before the Royal Commission on Health Insurance which is now sitting and the attitude of the Government towards the Washington Maternity Convention affords an opportunity for re-examining the evils which maternity insurance aims at overcoming, and for outlining a sound policy on the subject.

Of the million children born every year in this country, some eight hundred thousand are born under conditions of poverty. The lack of proper pre-natal, natal, and post-natal care, is reflected in a ghastly and costly series of evils to mothers and children. Thousands of women, and tens of thousands of children die annually in child-birth. Perhaps ten times as many suffer for the rest of their lives as invalids or cripples. The total infantile mortality of the children for the United Kingdom is nearly 100,000. In 1920 some 47.9 per cent. of two and a half million children were suffering from defects. Most of these were due to pre-natal and natal causes.

Failing any substantial increase in the national wealth and the abolition of poverty, the question has been raised, can we not at least provide that during the few weeks before and after child-birth the mother and child shall be assured of a sufficient income to give them both a proper chance of good health?

Whether the woman is herself engaged in gainful employment or running a household for her husband and family does not alter the fundamental problems raised by maternity in poverty. In both cases there are the same facts; a very small income, as a rule little or no savings, extra cost for medical attention, and special food, and the urgent need for a period of rest and recuperation. These needs have been recognized by our scheme of Maternity Insurance; the wives of insured workmen receive a lump sum of £2, women who are themselves at work and insured, married to insured men, receive £4.

Now the Washington Convention adopted in 1919 by the International Labour Organization provided that the period of rest for women employed in industrial or commercial undertakings before child-birth should be six weeks, this being optional for those affected, and six weeks after child-birth, this being compulsory, together with a full and healthy maintenance grant throughout the period. With respect to the six weeks' rest before child-birth a doctor must certify that it is desirable. This Con-

vention does not apply to the problem of the poor mother who is not employed in a factory or workshop, but spends her time taking care of her home, her husband and children. But there is nothing to prevent the countries ready for it to urge the passage of a supplementary Convention to apply to these women. If this country adopted the existing Convention it would cost about one and a quarter millions. If, in addition, it supported the supplementary Convention suggested, it would cost ten to fourteen millions per annum.

We hear much of the necessity of preventing emergencies, of preventing ill health rather than of curing it later. And yet government after government refuse to make adequate provision for maternity insurance. How blind is our policy of spending millions on institutions designed to care for defectives, for their education and cure, when similar sums devoted to improving the conditions of their birth would have prevented these evils.

OPFERGANG (SACRIFICE).¹

The experiences of some members of a relief corps at Verdun are vividly described in terse, nervous German in this book. Herr Fritz von Unruh was formerly a Junker cavalry officer. Quite early in the war he became a pacifist, and this terrible picture bears the stamp of truth. Much of it is obviously painted from first hand knowledge. Five days are covered: it begins with the journey to the front in a troop train and ends with the bitterness of disillusionment of men who found that the war was treated as a joke, or an excuse for theft or licence. The book is valuable in so far as pictures of the horrors of war can ever be a deterrent. It has been compared to "Le Feu" by Henri Barbusse, and a French translation, under the title of "Verdun," has been very favourably received in Paris. W. G. R.

THE ACID TEST.

The proper test by which to judge the merits of a book is the appeal which it makes to those for whose consumption it is intended. Thus on receiving for review the unaccustomed favour of a children's book,² illustrated by Arthur Rackham (very much himself, yet not at his best and painfully unobservant of his text), we called up two of our children, aged 10 and 7 respectively, and conscientiously proceeded to apply the test. As the work proceeded from its first to its hundred and seventy-fifth page, our boredom increased progressively. It increased coincidentally with the joy and enthusiasm of our two hearers. They pronounced the book excellent—wholly delightful. They have commandeered our review copy and borne it rejoicing to their lair. In return we present its author and publisher with their unequivocal verdict, though we confess that it is a verdict which we do not wholly comprehend. M. D. S.

"ADDRESS TO WOMEN ON THE PREVENTION OF VENEREAL DISEASE."³

This anonymous booklet is issued with the approval of the Women's Committee of the Society for the Prevention of Venereal Disease. It is a straightforward plea for the open adoption of self-disinfection after exposure and for the knowledge of the means and methods to be made known through the agency of certified chemists and municipal bodies. We think the writer lays far too much stress on the certain efficiency of prompt application of approved disinfectants after exposure. There is plenty of evidence that there is a possibility of five per cent. infections even after prompt and efficient application. It is also a fact that some very experienced surgeons altogether doubt its efficacy in regard to gonorrhoeal infection, and the recent Army Health Reports seem to support this view. We see no special reason why chemists should not be allowed to sell such medically approved disinfectants on request, but we should object to their public advertisement. Meantime, no medical body seems anxious to take the risk of guaranteeing any specific disinfectant preparation as a reliable preventive of venereal infection.

We appreciate the obvious sincerity and the good intention behind this booklet, but we have no faith in the ultimate efficacy of this way of reducing venereal diseases and we cannot see how any State or Local Authority can disseminate the information without giving the effect of a social expectation of promiscuous immorality. This would be disastrous just as public opinion is showing a decided improvement on this very point. A. N.

¹ *Opfergang*. By Fritz von Unruh.
² "Poor Cecco," by Margery Williams Bianco. Chatto & Windus, 7s. 6d. net.
³ Pamphlet issued by the Society for the Prevention of Venereal Disease, 143 Harley Street, W. 1. Price 3d.

SOME IMPRESSIONS OF CANADA: COURTS AND POLICEWOMEN.

I.

During a recent visit to Canada and the United States opportunities were given me to visit some of the Courts. Experience of Court procedure in England and Scotland enabled me to draw some comparisons and arrive at some conclusions that may be of interest to readers of the WOMAN'S LEADER. The constitution of the Courts in Canada and the U.S.A. are more like those in England than in Scotland, but we have nothing exactly like certain Courts I visited in Toronto, Vancouver, and Calgary, and in New York and Washington, where you find men and women judges and magistrates in charge of morality or women's courts. These courts deal with offences connected with prostitution, V.D., drug-taking, illegitimate children, and domestic relations requiring adjustment by a Court of Law. Offences against the prohibition law are dealt with in the ordinary courts.

The law in Canada and U.S.A. allows of infinite variety; so far as I could discover, every Province in Canada and each of the forty-eight States can legislate on social matters as they think fit. All through Canada they have laws providing for compulsory notification, medical examination of suspected persons, treatment and detention for men and women suffering from V.D. There is a Federal Act—called a "blanket" Act, laying down the principle of compulsory treatment, etc., of V.D., with a provincial Act adapting it to the needs of the particular province. The same thing applies to the Federal Acts dealing with Probation and the Protection of Children. The needs of the populated eastern towns, the prairie towns, and the towns on the Pacific are very different.

Toronto has the advantage of having Dr. Margaret Paterson sitting in the Adult Morals Court—her position is equivalent to that of a Stipendiary Magistrate in this country—she has power to inflict penal servitude but not to impose the death sentence. From her Court the public are excluded; policewomen are present in charge of women prisoners, with other officers of the Court—also the Press. I sat beside her while a coloured girl was charged with soliciting. The coloured population of Canada, with an entirely different and lower moral standard than the white races, present a problem of great difficulty. This girl was a finished actress—an extraordinary change took place when the soft-voiced, weeping maiden before conviction became the cursing virago who rushed out of the Court on being sentenced to return to the Labour Colony on an indeterminate sentence.

The five policewomen in Toronto work in connexion with the Morality Court under the Chief Officer of the Morality Department. This department is akin to the C.I.D. in Great Britain, but deals only with cases coming before the Morality Court. I saw something of their work which is somewhat hampered by their Chief's view that "women prefer to give evidence to men." One of the policewomen dealt with affiliation orders, all were used for investigations, as searchers in drug cases—it is an offence in the Province of Ontario to be a drug-addict—and in detective work generally. All women arrested in Toronto are taken to one police station where three women matrons of "good class" are employed—they and the policewomen have entire charge of all female prisoners from the time they are brought in until they are sentenced or discharged by the Court—the policewomen and matrons also escort all women prisoners to places of detention, reformatories, etc. If called upon, the policewomen undertake cases under the Federal West Mounted Police.

The Juvenile Court in Toronto, presided over by Judge Mott, is in a separate building from the Adult Courts. In both Courts I was struck with the completeness of the records. The most exhaustive investigation is made of practically every case, and records dealing with mental and physical condition, home circumstances, and previous history are in the hands of the magistrate dealing with the case. The proceedings in the Juvenile Court appeared to be quite informal. The Judge sat at a table and talked across it to the boy brought before him; there was no paraphernalia of dock or witness box and no incomprehensible legal phraseology to fluster the child. The parents and probation officers were available but not present in the Court while the child was being examined. The case I heard was a boy who played truant, and Judge Mott narrowed it down to a point where the boy confessed it was the dread of one particular lesson that made him stay away from school. The other boys laughed at him because he could not understand the teacher. Very skilfully the Judge discussed the particular difficulty and extracted a solemn promise from the boy "as a scout" that he would give school another trial.

In Vancouver City I was taken into the Morality Court by the head policewoman, appointed in 1912 through the efforts of the local National Council of Women. I felt quite at home in the Court, as the Morality Officer came from Glasgow and the police sergeant in the charge office from Aberdeen. One case before the Court was a young girl charged with brothel-keeping. I remarked on her youth and the Morality Officer told me that very many girls who adopted brothel-keeping as a means of livelihood married when they were about 30 and settled down as respectable members of society. Much of the immorality in Vancouver is due to the Chinese element in the population. Unlike Great Britain, immorality itself is a penal offence in most of the Canadian provinces, and men or women charged with such offences are liable to compulsory medical examination for V.D.

In Calgary I met Mrs. Alice J. Jamieson, appointed Judge of the Juvenile Court in 1913, and Police Magistrate to the Adult Court in 1916. The provincial Act for the Province of Alberta dealing with the protection of children deals with young people up to 18 years of age, and it is being asked that the age be raised to 21 years. Calgary has its own laws controlling V.D., the legal adoption of illegitimate children, with a system of inspection of such children, a shelter to which all juvenile delinquents are taken and a matron in charge of the police cells. All through Canada the idea of male police officers having anything to do with female prisoners appeared to be unknown. EDITH TANCRED.

(To be continued.)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEWS.

By BERTHA MASON.

REMEMBER MONDAY, 2ND NOVEMBER.

Nominations took place on 21st October for the election of Councillors to fill the 1,362 seats on the twenty-eight London Borough Councils. Polling will take place on Monday, 2nd November, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

With the party issues involved in these elections we are not concerned. As a matter of fact we are of opinion that it is a great misfortune that local government elections in London and in many other parts of the country are fought on party lines. Be this as it may, our business to-day is to remind the electors, more especially the women electors who in London, number nearly 1,000,000, that (1) it is only once in three years that electors have the opportunity of electing Borough Councillors in London, (2) the Councillors who are elected on Monday next will remain, humanly speaking, in office for three years. During that period they will be responsible in no small measure for the housing, the health, the recreation, and the morality of the people whom they represent. Further the good which an efficient Council achieves endures far beyond its three years of office, whereas irreparable mischief may be wrought by a Council not equal to its task.

The Councils elected on Monday will be called upon not only to deal with housing which at the moment is one of the burning questions of the day, but, as already stated, with important matters connected with public health, including the establishment and supervision of maternity and child welfare centres, tuberculosis centres, the removal of dust and rubbish, and the enforcement of the law in respect to the adulteration of food, etc. These are all matters which vitally affect the well-being of the home and the community. It is just these common, everyday subjects which the newly elected councillors will have to face. The thought of these matters should drive every woman who has the welfare not only of her own, but of the other homes in the district at heart, to record her vote on Monday next. The use of a vote is a grave concern, so also is its non-use. No elector can escape responsibility whether by voting, or neglecting to vote. Women have the same responsibility as men. If they do not make use of the privileges and powers they possess, they cannot complain if the work of the councils is done badly and extravagantly.

Not all women can offer themselves for election to these Councils, but the majority of women electors can go to the polling station next Monday and use their votes to secure the return of men and women of pure motives and high ideals, men and women who, if elected, will serve their constituents and the State with common sense, intelligence, devotion, and disinterested enthusiasm.

Again we say to all women electors: Remember Monday, 2nd November, and Vote, Vote, Vote!

P.S.—Those in doubt whether they have a vote should consult the list of electors which can be found at the Town Hall, or inquire at one of the party Committee Rooms which are generally to be found in most wards.

WOMEN CANDIDATES.

At the time of writing we have not before us the official list of nominations. We learn, however, that for the London Borough Councils about 300 women have been nominated.

In Bermondsey there are, we understand, twenty women among the 107 candidates for fifty-four seats.

UNOPPOSED RETURNS IN LONDON.

Up to the time of writing 100 candidates have been returned unopposed for the London Borough Councils. The number may be increased by withdrawals, the last day for which is Monday, 28th October.

THE PROVINCES.

On Saturday, 24th October, nominations were made for about 3,350 seats on City and Town Councils in the provinces. The elections in the provinces as well as in London will take place on 2nd November.

Elections for Town and City Councils take place every year, one-third of the Council, retiring each year.

WOMEN COUNCILLORS.

"There is room, I think, for a few more women to help the men on the City Council," said Councillor Mrs. Swainston to the meeting, which unanimously adopted her on 13th October as independent candidate for the Belgrave Ward of Leicester. The chairman of the meeting in his opening remarks said that "right well" had Mrs. Swainston carried out her duty to the electors during her three years' service on the City Council. In her they had a truly independent member, who represented not one section of the electors, but the whole of them. Conservatives, Liberals, and Labour had all appreciated her conscientiousness, her sincerity, and her level-headed whole-hearted work on the Council.

Mrs. Swainston in her speech said that the past three years which she regarded as years of apprenticeship, had been years of hard work but she had loved it.

NEWPORT, SOUTH WALES.

On 13th October Councillor Mrs. Austin Jones, J.P., took her seat on the Newport Town Council. She is the first woman Councillor for Newport, being returned unopposed to fill the vacancy caused by the death of her husband. A warm welcome was accorded to Mrs. Austin Jones by the Mayor on behalf of the Council.

THE SOCIETY OF WOMEN JOURNALISTS.

PRESIDENT: VISCONTRESS BURNHAM.

Founded for the Association of Women engaged in Journalism in the British Empire and abroad, *The Woman Journalist*, the organ of the Society, is published every alternate month. Supplied free to members, it is an invaluable guide to current journalism. Members of the Society are privileged to receive free medical advice, free legal advice, and the Honorary Ophthalmic Surgeon is always available by appointment. A Benevolent Fund, administered without publicity, is another advantage to members.

The Subscription for membership is One Guinea for London and Half a Guinea for Country.

Application for membership should be made to Sentinel House, W.C. 1.

The Woman Engineer

SPECIAL ISSUE

Full Report of Wembley Conference on Women in Science, Industry and Commerce

This issue contains Speeches by H.R.H. the Duchess of York, the Viscountess Astor, M.P., the Viscountess Rhondda, Miss Ellen Wilkinson, Miss Margaret Bondfield, Dame Millicent Fawcett, Miss V. Hazlitt, M.A., and other prominent women in these fields of activities.

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THE WOMEN'S ENGINEERING SOCIETY,
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Telephone: Victoria 6188.

RECEPTION TO THE DUCHESS OF ATHOLL, M.P.

We should like to remind our members that the Reception to the Duchess of Atholl, M.P. will be held at the Lyceum Club on Tuesday, 17th November, when the Duchess of Atholl, M.P. and Miss K. D. Courtney will speak on the work of the Sixth Assembly of the League of Nations. Miss Eleanor Rathbone, J.P. will be in the chair. Tea will be provided at 4.15, and the speeches will take place at 5 p.m. Tickets, price 2s. 6d. may be had from the Secretary, 15 Dean's Yard, S.W. 1. It is hoped that Dame Rachel Crowdy will also be present.

SALE OF WORK.

Members are also reminded of the Sale of Work which is to take place on 3rd December, at the Church House, Westminster, S.W. 1. Particulars as to where contributions are to be sent will be given later.

NEW LEAFLET.

A new edition of the leaflet on the Coverture Disabilities (Abolition) Bill is now ready, price 2d., and may be had on application to the Secretary, 15 Dean's Yard, S.W. 1.

BOROUGH COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

Societies are asked to send in particulars of successful women candidates whom they have been supporting for the Borough Council Elections.

NEWS FROM SOCIETIES.

GLACKMANNANSHIRE S.E.C.

The inaugural meeting of the Clackmannanshire Society for Equal Citizenship was held in the Town Hall, Alloa, on Tuesday, 6th October, and was very well attended both by men and women. Lord Balfour of Burleigh was in the chair, and in his opening remarks indicated some of the spheres of usefulness in which the Society hoped to work. Lord Haldane, who informed the meeting that he had introduced a Private Members' Bill for Woman Suffrage in the eighties, and had worked for the cause of women ever since, drew attention to the work still requiring to be done, and appealed to the audience to have faith. Mrs. Hubback gave a most interesting and greatly appreciated account of the methods of working and the aims of the N.U.S.E.C.

EXETER AND DISTRICT S.E.C.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, 21st October, at the Y.W.C.A., Exeter, by kind invitation of Mrs. Frank Fletcher, at which Mrs. Corbett Ashby, President of the International Women's Suffrage Alliance, gave a highly interesting address on "Women in many lands," pointing out the strides made in the enfranchisement of women since the Alliance was founded in 1902, and still how much remained to be done.

Mrs. Fletcher, who presided, warmly welcomed the presence of the two women candidates who are seeking election to the Exeter City Council.

EYAM EQUAL CITIZENSHIP GROUP.

A meeting was held in Eyam School on Friday, 23rd October. The Rector presided, and after an address by Miss Bury on the aims and work of the N.U.S.E.C., it was decided to form an Equal Citizenship group of members belonging to the local branch of the L.N.U. Thanks are due to the Sheffield S.E.C. for the assistance given to Miss Bury during her visit to Yorkshire, and especially to Mrs. Hardy, joint hon. secretary, for most generous hospitality and constant help.

GRINDLEFORD S.E.C.

A meeting was held at Miss Crawshaw's Café on Wednesday, 21st November. Mrs. Rose-Innes, of Leam Hall, presided, and an address was given by Miss Bury on the aims and work of the N.U.S.E.C. It was decided to form a local branch: seventeen members joined, and Miss Pashley was appointed hon. secretary. Mrs. Naylor kindly offered her house for meetings, and the new society is looking forward with interest to taking its part in the work of the N.U. and especially in supporting and soliciting the support of the local M.P. Thanks are due to Dr. Helen Wilson and Mrs. Bailes for great assistance.

KENSINGTON S.E.C.

The Kensington and Paddington S.E.C., in co-operation with the Kensington W.C.A. and Local Government Association, held a crowded meeting in the Kensington Town Hall on Thursday, 22nd October. The candidates for the Borough Council election, of all parties, who were present all prefaced their remarks by declaring their whole-hearted sympathy with the objects of the N.U.S.E.C. A resolution was passed pressing candidates to support the reforms for which the societies stand. A letter to the Chairman from Miss Helen Fraser (a former Chairman of the Kensington S.E.C.) was read to the meeting. Miss Fraser, whose name appeared in the list of speakers, felt herself unable to speak at the meeting.

MEXBORO.

After a small meeting addressed by Miss Bury, at Mexboro, on the work of the N.U.S.E.C., Mrs. Cook, wife of the minister of the Primitive Methodist Church, undertook to be Local Correspondent.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

(BRITISH SECTION, 55 GOWER STREET, W.C. 1.)

The British Section of the Women's International League has been increasing its work in many directions throughout the year. It has extended the scope of its activities both at home and abroad especially in regard to the arbitration campaign in this country, the study of immediate international problems in Geneva, and of conditions in foreign countries. Funds are necessary to meet the demands which further development entails. On Friday, 6th November, a Christmas Fair will be held at International House, 55 Gower Street, which all members of the League and those who are interested in its work generally are invited to attend. The fair affords an excellent opportunity for buying attractive Christmas presents, and a special feature of the sales will be the gifts—glass, baskets, bags, etc.—sent by Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, India, and Canada, etc., which are valuable on their own account, but still more so tokens of friendship. The Fair will be opened at 3 p.m. and there is a varied programme of entertainments, including music, readings, and recitals. Miss Evelyn Sharp, Miss E. Vipont, and Miss Jean Henderson are amongst those who are giving their services. Further gifts for the sale will be warmly welcomed. Tickets for admission to the Fair are 1s., and tea will be provided by the Kensington Branch.

CORRESPONDENCE.

BIRTH CONTROL.

MADAM,—May I associate myself very warmly with the position of my fellow-Catholic, Miss de Alberti? As a member of the Church of England, I believe I utter the sentiments of a good many thousands of my countrywomen on the subject of artificial birth-control. As a Church, we are very inarticulate, and as individual members we are most terribly afraid of "mixing up religion and politics"; but when the subject of equal standards for men and women is raised we are in rather a strong position. May I appeal to our formularies in proof of this? I know each generation has its own pet omissions. Nevertheless, the words are always there. "The only method of birth control which is ethically sound" is undoubtedly practised among us. It adjusts the weight of self-denial pretty equally on the shoulders of each pair of married folk. But that is just what they both had clear (and equal) warning about. I doubt if the ritual of any religious body in the world is quite so insistent beforehand on the hardships of married life. Adversity, poverty, sickness, the "worse" of life. The bridegroom is left off none of it. And to crown all, he is taught to say (and to daily mean), "With my body I thee worship." Before the self-conquering reverence implied by that word, obedience from the bride is a mere nothing! Yes, that method is compatible with bringing up children "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord," and I think if the writer of the leading article to which Miss de Alberti takes exception could be outside, say, 500 of our Parish Churches at once (perhaps on Christmas morning, between 7 and 9) she would be astonished at the number of the fathers of families that she would see. Of course they may do things we don't dream of, but we know their ways pretty well, the ways of a very very dumb, but very real Christianity. As the wife of one naïvely expressed it to me, "Of course, Robert never would do anything but just what I wanted him to." There were five children there. The fact is sex-life is only part of life. A man who is selfish in other things is selfish in this. We must teach the men *unselfishness*. And to do that we must begin young. Let us take the Catechism and teach them that. It seems to put the equality of obligation admirably. Thus: "What is thy duty to thy neighbour?" "To love him" (or her) "as myself." "To order myself lowly and reverently to all my betters" (male or female). "To hurt nobody" (not even my nearest and dearest), "to keep my body" (N.B. boy's body the same as girl's body) "in temperance, soberness and chastity." Finally, "to get mine own living," whether I am a rich little girl or a poor little boy.

The standard of the Church of England is absolutely the same for men and for women, and I do feel that this supports those of us who feel keenly on the subject, when we say that we regard artificial birth-control as wrong. We know well that it would open the way to demands from men that would amount to a new tyranny. We do not want more tyrannies, but more practical love.

MARGERY SMITH.

[We are not aware that any writer in this paper, Editorial or otherwise, has ever challenged the demand for an equal moral standard as between men and women. But to demand identity of standard is not necessarily to presuppose identity of impulse, and we notice that Mrs. Smith's letter, especially the last paragraph, does presuppose considerable divergence of impulse. It is as well to get these things clear.—Ed.]

A NEGLECTED CALLING.

MADAM.—I have recently been asked by one of the directors of a seaside hotel in N. Wales how it is that more educated women do not specialize in high-class cookery and go in for posts as hotel chefs.

The salary paid at the hotel in question (quite a moderate-sized one), is £150 resident, all found. The chef's work is entirely limited to skilled cookery and supervision; to use an expressive phrase, "he need not soil his hands." His own meals are served privately, and his working hours are strictly defined by the hotel meal-times. He has no living expenses, and can count on a regular holiday in the off season.

Men chefs are often difficult for the managers to supervise, and women not of the educated type seem usually to have violent tempers in direct proportion to their culinary skill.

When so many girls go in for Domestic Science courses with a view to obtaining posts in schools, and the supply of trained teachers rather exceeds the demand, I suggest that a further short course of high-class cookery would open up to some this new and not unpromising alternative career.

L. PHYLLIS BROWN.

COMING EVENTS.

GUILDHOUSE WOMEN CITIZENS' SOCIETY.

NOV. 2. 3 p.m. The Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Mrs. Corbett Ashby, President International Woman Suffrage Alliance, on "Women Overseas."

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

NOV. 17. 4-15 p.m. At Lyceum Club, 138 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.

West Houghton S.E.C. NOV. 3. 3 p.m. Meeting at the Hawthorns, Hindley (by kind permission of Mrs. Ainslow). Speaker: Mrs. Agnew, J.P., "Why Women Should Take an Interest in Public Affairs."

St. Andrews W.C.A. NOV. 3. Evening Meeting. Speaker: Miss Macadam, M.A.

Dunfermline S.E.C. NOV. 4. 7.45 p.m. Damside Street Hall. Miss Macadam on "Women's Bills in Parliament." Chairman: Mrs. Beck, J.P.

Falkirk W.C.A. NOV. 5. 7.30 p.m. Burgh Court Room. Miss Macadam on "The Widows' Pensions Act." Chairman: Mrs. A. B. Robb.

Sutton Coldfield W.C.A. NOV. 4. 3 p.m. Mrs. F. W. Hubback on "Recent Legislation."

Ilkley S.E.C. NOV. 5. 3 p.m. Mrs. Hubback on "The Parliamentary Work of the N. U. S. E. C."

Sheffield S.E.C. NOV. 5. 8 p.m. Mrs. Hubback on "Recent Legislation concerning Women and Children."

Rotherham W.C.A. NOV. 6. 3 p.m. Mrs. Hubback on "Recent Legislation concerning Women and Children."

Penstone S.E.C. NOV. 6. 7.30 p.m. Mrs. Hubback on "The Care of the Children."

SIX POINT GROUP.

NOV. 2. 5 p.m. 92 Victoria Street, S.W. Dr. Scharlieb, C.B.E., on "The Spiritual Obligation of Citizenship." Chair: Miss Eva Moore.

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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. Stephen, 50 Gordon Square, W.C. 1.

DEVON, near Barnstaple.—Furnished Detached COTTAGE to let; outside sanitation, ½ acre garden, stone out-buildings; station, main road, bus; suitable ladies; rabbit, dog breeding, to be taken over end of time.—Box 1,191, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

BED-SITTINGROOM in Maida Vale to let; lady only; tel., electric, gas; use bath and kitchen; 25s.—Fuller, 99 New Bond Street, W. 1.

LADY has well furnished, recently re-decorated BED-SITTINGROOM to let in her flat; very central, between Marble Arch and Paddington. Gas, electric light, and every convenience; would suit business or professional lady; view by appointment.—M. C., 29 Southwick Street, W. 2.

EARL'S COURT.—To Let (three to six months), lady's furnished BED-SITTINGROOM; gas, use of bath.—Apply, Box 1,193, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

GENTLEWOMAN living in South Down village desires PAYING GUEST for the winter; suit writer or artist; terms moderate.—(Miss) M. Cochrane, Graffham, Petworth, Sussex.

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.

ST. JOHN'S WOOD.—Unfurnished, large ROOM; own meter, safe, cleaning, light, 18s.; small one, 10s. 6d.; together, 27s. 6d.; meals optional; suit lady workers; bath.—Write, Bryan, 8 Clifford's Inn, E. C. 4.

BED-SITTINGROOM in professional woman's flat near Baker Street; furnished or unfurnished; bathroom, telephone; terms moderate.—Apply, Miss Terry, 29 Manchester Street, 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.

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.

IRISH LINEN PILLOW-CASES.—Plain linen pillow-cases made from real good quality Irish linen. Highly recommended. Four plain cases, size 20 x 30 ins., for 14s. Hemstitched linen pillow-cases, real good quality, size 20 x 30 ins., 2 cases for 13s. 9d. Write for Complete Bargain List To-day.—HUTTON'S, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ulster.

SECOND-HAND CLOTHING wanted to buy for cash; costumes, skirts, hoots, 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.

WANTED, in January, Fully Certificated Mistress as HEAD-TEACHER of small school on Nobleman's estate, 4 miles from Cathedral. Excellent assistant, good school buildings, poor but roomy house, nice small garden, 80 feet over Ordnance datum, sheltered south aspect; some kind neighbours; 3 buses daily and return. The Vicar being non-resident, a lady is required; one whose heart is in the religious welfare of her pupils, and can play organ and train small choir.—Rev. H. W. Hall, Spring Hill, Lincoln.

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 Elbury Street (5 min. Victoria Station). Tel., Ken. 3047. 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.

THE HAT DOCTOR, removed to 52 James Street, Oxford Street, W. 1, cleans, reblocks and copies hats at lowest possible price. Also Gentlemen's hats. Renovates furs. Covers satin or canvas shoes or thin kid with brocade or velvet. Materials and post, 13s. 6d.; toe-caps, 8s. 6d.; your own materials, work and post, 8s. 6d., in three days.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.—A CHRISTMAS FAIR will be held at International House, 55 Gower Street, W.C. 1, on Friday, 6th November. Opening Ceremony, 3 p.m. Admission 1s. Household and Fancy Stalls. Half-hour Entertainments. Tickets 1s. each. Palmistry by Madame Malmberg (Finland). Competitions. Refreshments.

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 to 7.30. (Not Saturdays.)

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 1st November: 3.30. Music; Lecture: Sir Josiah Stamp on "How far can Economic Law be Modified by Ethical Ideals?" 6.30. The Rev. Percy Dearmer, D.D.

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 Whitefield Street, off Tottenham Court Road.

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