

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

AND THE COMMON CAUSE

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NOTES AND NEWS.

Is it Peace?

While the ink is still wet upon the Pact to outlaw war, the electors of this country become aware of a "secret" understanding with France which, if endorsed by public opinion, may go far to destroy the foundations upon which the League of Nations is built. Enough has become known of the details of the "understanding" for it to appear that nothing short of an unholy miracle could win America's concurrence. And in fact America has lost no time in making known her objections.

Idealists are seemingly placed at a bad discount by such events. The ordinary man and woman is inclined to be intimidated by the technicalities of the situation: they are inclined to doubt the good faith of those who have signed the Kellogg Pact, and, almost, they doubt the validity even of any idealism when all seems to melt away so quickly as the hot sun of real politics beats upon it. It is, however, just at such a moment as this that those who love peace can show whether they know how to fight in her defence. To despair is to be defeated. To keep calm and to be resolute, that is the duty of public opinion now. Faults on various sides have led to the present situation. It is worse than useless to create an atmosphere in which peace becomes impossible, by indulging in vituperation, whether of our own Government, of France, or of America. What is useful is to build on the foundation of those facts which have elements of hope in them. The American Note is in moderate, even conciliatory terms. It is for our Government, impelled thereto by a great wave of popular feeling for peace, to reply in like terms. The French agreement as originally drafted must be recognized as a betrayal of the Pact spirit, and America must be prepared to understand the difficulties of Europeans. No doubt many technicalities will again befo the air, but all the time the duty of the ordinary man and woman must be kept clear. That duty is to refuse to recognize a new crop of entangling alliances, to maintain that our present problems can be solved by League methods, and to say they shall be so solved.

Family Allowances.

Miss Jewson, that indefatigable fighter for family allowances, raised the question at the Labour Party Conference on Monday as to what the Executive Committee intended to recommend on the point. Mr. Henderson recapitulated the position of the Labour Party, already familiar to our readers, and pointed out that the majority of the joint commission set up by the Trade

Union Congress and the Labour Party to consider the question were in favour of the principle, but that some of the trade unionists were afraid that its acceptance might impinge on industrial negotiations. Thus it had been agreed to consult the trade unionists. Few replies had been received, but those that had tended to be opposed. He suggested that the Conference should agree that there was "something in" the principle of children's allowances, but that the hands of their trade union colleagues should not be forced. He hoped that if it were possible to reach an agreement before the General Election the principle would be included in the Party Programme, and that "it would be applied as circumstances permitted." We cannot congratulate Mr. Henderson on the warmth of his advocacy of the principle, nor on the amount of passion in his appeal. The movement in favour of family allowances is certainly growing, but there are still too many, as has been shown by recent official utterances both of the Liberal and Labour Parties, who, while giving lip service to the principle, shy from advocating any definite application of it.

Women in Industry.

The summary of the preliminary report of the 1924 Census of Production, published recently, contains some interesting comparative figures and conclusions bearing on the proportion of women to men in the group of industries under review. It appears that during the period 1907-24, no significant displacement of men by women has taken place. The censuses of both those dates show a proportion of roughly one woman to three men. It is chiefly in the administrative and clerical sections that the relative increase of employed women has been greatest. In the manufacturing trades the proportion of women has moved from 28.2 per cent in 1907 to 29.4 per cent in 1924.

An Experiment at St. Thomas' Hospital.

The United States and Canada are ahead of us in the matter of scientific diet and the hospital. In this country the London Hospital has been something of a pioneer in that it has paid special attention to dieting based on expert knowledge, but it has fallen to St. Thomas' to take the bold step of establishing a University Chair in Dietetics and appointing Professor S. S. Cowell to it. He is to have as his assistants two women, namely, Miss E. M. Marshall and Miss M. A. Abrahams. Miss Marshall has her B.Sc. from Kings College for Women, and Miss Abraham, an Oxford M.A., has studied dietetics in the United States. We wish all success to this scheme, and we are convinced that the women will make good. We hope to hear of their appointment to similar professorships in other universities within a few years. The food crank is always with us, as are also those who say of all food, as the hymn said of religion, " 'Twas good enough for Enoch (—for Moses) and 'tis good enough for us." Though this creed may have some validity for the healthy, it is without doubt a heresy in regard to the sick. But neither should the sick be the easy prey of the ignorant and fanatical crank.

The Food Council Makes a Move.

The Food Council is now moving with slow and stately discretion into the battle area of the milk dispute. On Thursday of last week a private session was held, from which a statement was issued dealing with a number of matters among which the following pronouncement concerning milk finds a place:— "The Council also considered the agreement recently made between the farmers and the milk distributors, in respect of milk contracts for the year ending September, 1929, in its relation to retail milk prices, and decided to ask their executive to prepare at an early date a draft report on the subject in the light of information received from milk distributing firms as to trading profits."

Increase and Multiply.

Sig. Mussolini has produced, in the current issue of *Gerachia*, a summary of his beliefs concerning the population problem. The Malthusian theory, he says, must be false; for if it were true the earth would have had no inhabitants at the time of the Roman Empire. Concerning the world problem, he refers to the rapid increase of the black and yellow races, who are, he says, "at our doors," and would swamp us were it not for the reproductive achievements of Italians, Irish, and Jews. The moral of it all is that Italian, and more particularly, Fascist families, must breed more heartily in order that the present decline in the birth-rate may be checked. "Sixty million Italians alone," he says, "will make their force felt in the history of the world." Meanwhile, as a piece of practical policy, the tax on bachelors is to be doubled. It is, we feel, altogether deplorable that concrete decisions of national policy should be dictatorially determined by a man so wholly lacking in education and elementary knowledge concerning the facts of population as Sig. Mussolini appears to be. There is, however, some comfort in the thought that in the last resort it is not Sig. Mussolini and the intimidated bachelors who will determine the future of Italy in this matter, but the women of Italy, who cannot in the long run fail to question the purpose for which the product of their labours is required.

A Victim of Saintliness.

The *Observer* of Sunday last contains some extraordinarily interesting extracts, a foretaste of Countess Tolstoy's diary 1860-91, which has just been published in Moscow. It casts new light upon the domestic dissensions which complicated the last years of Tolstoy's life, and which arose inevitably from the clash of emotion and inclination between two partners, irrevocably linked, one of whom had reacted violently against a traditional and economic environment to which the other still chose to adhere. There is much to be said for Tolstoy; the friction of his developing genius against the "Martheism" of a well-to-do conventional household and the emotional demands of a possessive wife must have put an intolerable strain upon his altruism. But that much has been said—and now, it must be confessed that there is much also to be said for Sophie Tolstoy. Tolstoy, as we know, had a profound and brutal contempt for women. He saw them, en masse, as the incarnate symbol of his own unmanageable and shameful physical passions. That aspect of him alone, though it may appear as a minor aspect of his public life and work, must have played a significant part in poisoning his domestic relationships. Then again, Sophie Tolstoy bore him thirteen children—not without stress and strain. The material conditions which Tolstoy deplored, and which lent no assistance to the development of his literary work and expanding thought, made a very potent difference to the daily burdens of his wife. We are inclined to think that the most significant clause in her apologia is a sentence, taken not from these newly published documents quoted by the *Observer*, but from an earlier published version of her autobiography: "If I had given away all my fortune at my husband's desire . . . If I had been left in poverty with nine children I should have had to work for the family—to feed, do the sewing for, wash, bring up my children without education. Leo Nicolae-vich, by vocation, and inclination, could have done nothing else but write."

An Extra-marital Relationship.

The solemn and romantic ceremony by which the Lord Mayor of Liverpool wedded her city to the sea during a recent Civic Week, has had a curious sequel. The sea has returned the wedding ring formally bestowed upon it on the bride's behalf. Frankly we cannot refrain from sympathizing with its action—ungracious as this must at first sight appear. For many years Liverpool and the sea have lived together in a harmonious extra-marital relationship. The world is the richer for their progeny. It is gratifying that a woman Lord Mayor should have desired to legalize the union, but it is at the same time understandable that the sea should have resented the publicity conferred upon its somewhat dubious position by the act—more especially as it is already known to have "a wife in every port." Fortunately, however, the return of the ring can hardly be said to invalidate the ceremony, and Liverpool may now be regarded as an "honest city."

Straws in the Wind.

We learn from the *Sunday Times* of a small concession to Japanese feminism. The Government has decided to extend to all officials in the service of the Imperial Railways, women as well as men, the right to vote for the election of members of the railway committee on improvement and the treatment of employees. There are no less than 10,000 women employees on the railways who will be affected by this concession. Hitherto this particular franchise has been confined to men only. We understand that Japanese feminists regard it as a step in the direction of wider voting rights for women.

Welsh Quilt Wives.

Miss Rose Squire, writing to *The Times* as Chairman of the Women's Advisory Committee of the Rural Industries Bureau, 27 Bedford Square, W.C.1, warmly commends the proposal made recently in an article in *The Times* to revive the craft of quilt making as a means of providing remunerative employment for women and girls in the distressed areas of South Wales. Miss Squire writes that for generations Welsh women have designed and sewn for their own use quilted coverlets similar to those of the Tudor period which may be seen in museums. The coverlets are of beautiful design and fine stitchery and Miss Squire believes they would meet a ready sale. The Rural Industries Bureau is arranging for specimens to be on view in London and orders are earnestly solicited. We have asked for more information about this admirable suggestion. It may only help to an infinitesimal extent, but we cannot afford to pass by any constructive scheme of helping without fully investigating its possibilities.

The Way the Money is Paid.

In our issue of 14th September we published an article by Mrs. Simon opposing the substitution of block grants for the present percentage system, which forms part of the Government scheme of local government reform. This is a matter which very closely concerns women's organizations, as the grants in question relate to such services as Maternity and Child Welfare, treatment of tuberculosis, and of venereal disease. We understand that the National Council of Women is holding a Conference on the Government proposals at the Caxton Hall on Tuesday, 13th November, at 11 o'clock, when we hope the pros and cons of the proposed changes will be thoroughly threshed out. In order that our readers should hear both sides we publish this week an article in defence of the proposals by a leading Conservative woman.

The Josephine Butler Memorial.

A joint committee, with Lord Astor as President and the Baroness Ravensdale as Chairman, has been set up to appeal for funds for a national memorial to Josephine Butler. We printed on 21st September a letter signed by Baroness Ravensdale asking for £40,000 which will be used as an endowment for the two existing societies which are carrying on her work. One of these, the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, is well known to readers of this paper. It was founded by Josephine Butler in 1869, and until the beginning of this century she herself inspired its work. As the appeal states, this Association has two difficult tasks in front of it, this Centenary Year—the entire abolition of licensed or tolerated houses throughout the British Empire and the complete acceptance of an equal moral standard in public opinion in our own country. The proposed endowment would provide for workers overseas, for research work and for a lease for a library and central headquarters. The Josephine Butler Memorial House, Liverpool, is less well known to our readers. It was founded in 1920 to provide training in the principles and practice of moral welfare work and provides training which according to the Trust Deeds of the Home must be according to the principles laid down by Mrs. Butler. We warmly endorse this appeal. This centenary year happens to coincide with certain public events which have thrown the evils which still remain to be combated into the glare of publicity—the publication of the Report on the Traffic in Women, the inquiries into solicitation laws, and into police methods, efforts overseas to re-introduce regulations of vice under a new name. To celebrate the centenary of this noble woman in the knowledge of these events, is surely impossible without some effort to strengthen the forces of attack. We believe this well-timed appeal for the two organizations which stand for Josephine Butler's principles will find that the celebrations of the summer have prepared the way for a generous response.

PROTECTION AND TRAINING.

By CLARA D. RACKHAM, J.P.

This is the title of the recent Report of the Departmental Committee appointed for Scotland on the treatment of Juvenile Offenders. The Report follows in many respects the same lines as that for England and Wales, but some of the proposals involve more drastic changes.

Women justices in Scotland will welcome the recommendation that charges against children and young persons should be transferred to the Justice of the Peace Courts, especially constituted for this purpose. These have at present very little scope for their activities, and there is no doubt that among the Scottish women justices will be found admirable members of the Juvenile Court panel. It is also urged that the Juvenile Court should sit in the evening so that the children's fathers might be able to attend. This is a novel proposal and would be unpopular in many quarters. A bold recommendation is that all industrial schools and reformatories should be transferred from the Scottish Education Department to the education authorities within whose district the schools are situated. The advantages of this would be that the ordinary school medical inspection would be available in the Certified Schools, and also that teachers could be readily transferred by the authority from one type of school to another. The local authorities would also be responsible for pensions for the heads of the schools, and for improvements and repairs to the buildings.

As in England the numbers of children committed to the schools have fallen very greatly, from 487 in 1913 to 271 in 1926. The Committee think the children are detained in the schools too long: a number are committed for seven years, and though early licensing was urged by a Departmental Committee in 1896 it is "not at all common to-day." As a superintendent puts it "being kept so long in an institution blunts the mentality of girls." The Committee think that three years should be the maximum period and that cases should be periodically reviewed within that time.

The Committee follow the strange precedent of the English Report in first bringing forward some excellent arguments to show that whipping, as ordered by a court of law, is not an effective punishment, and then extending the powers of the court to order its infliction. Apparently the intention is that there should be power to order whipping to any lads under 17 (except the mentally defective) for any offences. The so-called "reservations" asking that full particulars should be before the court and that the victim should be medically examined go very little way to counteract the extension of powers to inflict a punishment which has been discredited both by statistics and also the most competent authorities.

The use of probation in Scotland has been disappointingly small: in many places there are no probation officers at all. The Committee urge that legislation should be introduced in Scotland to correspond with what has already been done in England so as to establish a probation system with officers

THE IDEALS OF THE LABOUR PARTY.¹ TO THE NEW VOTERS.

By F. W. PETHICK-LAWRENCE, M.P.

I am profoundly happy to meet you to-day. You typify the spirit of the future. Some of us laboured in the past that that spirit should be born. We shall continue to labour to remove the shackles that would bind that future to the past. We want your choice to be free and unfettered; because it is your world you are making.

You may choose my way or others' way; well, or, in the light of history, ill. But I am profoundly glad you should have this choice. I desire free choice, but it is the business of this school that the choice be made in possession of all the facts. But though I wish you to choose freely, I would like you to go a long way with me, and I believe you will. Because my appeal, the appeal of the Labour Party whose spokesman I am to-day, is an appeal to the future from the past—an appeal from the dead hand of tradition to posterity. This does not mean that we despise our forbears who with the light they saw met their own problems. Our problems are different and further we have their experience to guide us. Nor does it mean a cataclysmic break with the past. But it does mean that the wine of to-day and to-morrow cannot be put into the bottles of yesterday already breaking with the ferment of new forces and new ideas.

Even the most reactionary Conservative realizes to-day that

¹ Notes from Mr. Pethick-Lawrence's Speech at the N.U.S.E.C. Summer School, 6th September, 1928.

attached to all the Courts, efficient and properly paid (and not policemen as is the case in Glasgow to-day).

We pass to the difficult problem of young offenders between 16 and 21. There are two proposals to which attention must at once be drawn. The first is that every person who has served a term of imprisonment of as much as two months should be under the supervision of the Prison Commissioners for six months after his release, and that, if during this time his conduct is "quite unsatisfactory" the Court can send him back to prison again for another two months. Apparently it is not to be necessary for the young person to break the law, but only that a charge of "being unsatisfactory" is to be proved. This procedure is too suggestive of "cat and mouse" to be tolerated, and is quite inconsistent with all that the Report has to say about the harmfulness of prison life for young people.

Another recommendation (and more dangerous) is that Courts should have power to send to a Home for two years a young woman under 21 who is convicted of an offence against common law or of "solicitation and kindred offences," and we are even told that the extension of the age to 25 demands serious consideration. To inflict a penalty of two years' detention for an offence against street order would be a gross injustice, and the attempts which the Committee make to gild the pill by saying that the Homes should be small and enlarging upon the wisdom, patience, and "utter compassion" of the Superintendent are entirely beside the point. It is a travesty of the word "home" to use it for a place in which a young woman is to be forcibly detained for two years as a penalty for breaking the law.

The Committee condemn the sending of young persons under 21 to prison, and this condemnation will be welcomed by all penal reformers, but the problem remains unsolved as to how to deal with the offender who has broken down on probation and yet has done nothing to justify his being sentenced to three years' Borstal detention. Supervision while paying a fine may help in some cases; residence in a hostel as a condition of the probation order would be useful if a hostel were available but it usually is not. It is often a useful plan to get a lad or girl away from the local surroundings in which he or she has gone astray for a few months to a training home and make such residence a condition of the probation order, but the Committee disapprove this method. They look for an increase in the number of lads committed to Borstal, but, in spite of all the good work that has been done, the figures given are not very satisfactory. Out of the 1,000 lads liberated on licence from Borstal between 1912 and 1925, 37 per cent are known to have been re-convicted. Of the girls only 32 per cent had been re-convicted but a larger number had had their licences revoked for misconduct.

The Report contains much of interest on such subjects as mental defect, and the boarding out of neglected children, on which there is no space to comment here.

the existing order, once taken for granted, is to-day on its defence, and many of them realize that the defence becomes more and more difficult. The fact is that the existing order not only violates our sense of justice, but it is proving wasteful and uneconomic and doesn't deliver the goods.

Take first the present maldistribution of wealth. I will not weary you with statistics as to how a tiny fraction own half the wealth and one-third the income. Broadly, while many go short of nearly all the things necessary for material well-being, while there is not proper and adequate care of mothers and babies in childbirth, while insufficient attention is given to the health of the people, and particularly of their teeth, others have money to burn and our papers are full of their extravagances.

Two attempts at justification are made. First, it is suggested that the differentiation is due to merit. This is quite obviously untrue. Secondly, it is said that it is necessary to select, more or less arbitrarily, a section of the people in order to secure men of greater leisure and the fruits of leisure, and to enable savings to be effected. This was possibly a real excuse once. To-day it is quite false. We can produce enough for all. Moreover, we know from school the able children. We could pick them out, but we waste them. Instead we often put poor men of ability and character under rich nincompoops. Further, we know that saving to-day can be effected by comparatively poor people or if desirable by the State. The existing order not only fails from a

human point of view, but fails also from an economic point of view. It doesn't deliver the goods. In the nineteenth century, when people complained of injustice it was said: "But see how marvellously efficient the system is as a wealth producer." They cannot say that to-day, with over a million and a quarter people out of work, with capital lying idle, and with men and women and children huddled together for want of house-room and builders and workmen unemployed.

In this situation there has come into being a new party with new ideals—the Labour Party. This does not mean that the man with the lathe or hoe is wiser and therefore should rule the man at the desk, or office, the employer and the banker. (Democracy has already given choice of rulers to the common people.) But it *does mean* that the main claim of a man or woman to draw on the world's great store of material, mental and spiritual life, is that he or she puts into the common stock all his or her labour of body, mind and spirit. The true gentleman is not he who wears a frock coat and top hat or whose grandfather made a successful patent medicine, but he who honestly tries to put into the world more than he takes out. It *does mean* the creation of a new nobility, the nobility of the common people. We used to have the Divine Right of Kings and later that of the Aristocracy. To-day we have the divine right of Plutocracy. What we are out to secure is the divine right of the Common People. This is the background of the mentality of the Labour Party and because of its composition it must always remain true to its ideal.

I have no intention here of going into details, still less of formulating a full Labour programme—but you are entitled to an outline of our policy. (1) We put health before wealth; therefore we shall undo Churchill's depredations under the Economy Act, and restore money which may be used for mothers in childbirth and health services generally. (2) We recognize that the greatest asset of the nation is well informed men and women, therefore we shall encourage nursery schools, raise the school age with maintenance, and build a wide stairway to the University. (3) We shall grapple with house shortage. (4) We shall spend money on roads and capital development. (5) We propose to place the burden of meeting debt interest on the right shoulders, i.e. on those of great vested wealth. (6) We shall overhaul our financial system which, in my opinion, has been largely responsible for the stagnation and unemployment of to-day.

Labour is an international party. It refuses to accept the hostility of the interest of nations. It knows that the interests of the common people are one. There are two outcomes. With equal nations it would deal with frankness and give and take. This MacDonald illustrated during his term at the Foreign Office. As to subordinate nations, it is opposed to exploitation, and will work towards self-government.

Lastly we are a Socialist Party. This does not mean a catastrophic revolution. Socialism is a *process* of substituting public control and public ownership for private enterprise. I was amazed to hear a Liberal speaking here of competition as an alternative to Socialism. Competition is dead or dying. Keynes knows it—if you doubt it, read *Laissez Faire*. Examples that occur to the mind at once are the control of the traffic of London, electricity, steel, chemicals, and wireless. The precise form of ownership may be a matter of question. But in some form or other the community must control the Trust or the Trust will control the community. Conservatives stand for order, that is the old order. The Liberal Party is fundamentally for *laissez faire*, but dallies between two opinions. The Labour Party asks for a new order and a new concept of civilization.

I support the Labour Party because (1) I stand for the ennoblement of the common people. (2) The world is one indivisible whole of which the nations are component parts. (3) A man is a social animal whose life must be lived in harmony, not in conflict, and who must therefore control his own destiny and control industry in the interests of the whole people.

The Labour Party is the party of the underdog for obvious reasons. Still more should it be the party of the man of possessions because *noblesse oblige*, and joy in the material, mental, and spiritual world must be shared or it turns to dead sea fruit. But, above all, the Labour Party must be the party of women and particularly of the young woman. Woman is by nature the guardian of human life. She pays the main price for it, and those who pay the price know the value. The Labour Party is the Party which sets life and health above property and vested interest. Woman is the guardian of the race that is to be, and the Labour Party is the Party which would disencumber the future generation from the thralldom of the past. Its ideal is to build up a new civilization which will free the spirit of man to rise to those sublime heights which have been the vision of the seer and the inspiration of the reformers of all ages.

THE RATING REFORM SCHEME.

AN ANSWER TO MRS. SIMON.

By E. M. COSTELLO.

In a recent article Mrs. Simon attempted to condemn the Rating Reform scheme mainly on the ground that the substitution of a block grant system for the present percentage grants would handicap the development of Health Services throughout the country. Her arguments appeared to be based on certain fallacies and misconceptions and an attempt is being made in this article to present the situation in its true light.

Before dealing with Mrs. Simon's objections in detail, let us briefly examine the essential features of the Reform Scheme in order to see why it is necessary and what objects it will achieve.

Under the Government scheme, agricultural land and buildings are to be completely de-rated, while productive industry is to be relieved of rates to the extent of three-quarters. As a result much of the property which is now rateable will be taken out of assessment and local authorities will find their field of assessment considerably narrowed. There are cases where a local authority will find the rateable value in its area diminished by no less than 60 per cent. Thus, although the local authority will be fully compensated by the State for any loss of rates due to the de-rating of agriculture and industry, it would, in the absence of any reform, suffer from the fact that any subsequent increase in expenditure caused, perhaps, by the reconstruction of a road, would have to be met by increased rates on the remaining 40 per cent. In such a case the burden would be intolerable, as a single item of increased expenditure might involve an increase of several shillings in the £ on the local rates. Obviously it would be impossible to contemplate such a contingency, and for this reason alone the Rating Relief scheme must be accompanied by a system of Rating Reform.

How are these difficulties being met? Firstly, by a widening of the areas of administration, so that the burden of rates can be spread more evenly than at present; secondly, by an increase in the total amount of the grants paid by the State to Local Authorities; and thirdly, by the substitution of a block grant system for the present percentage grants in respect of Poor Law and Highway expenditure.

Let us examine each of these proposals in turn. The areas are to be widened by the transference of Poor Law administration and road maintenance to the County Councils, who will appoint local committees and sub-committees similar to the present Boards of Guardians to carry out the administrative work in connection with the Poor Law. By this means any increase in the rates caused by new expenditure will be prevented from falling with undue severity on small areas and will be spread more evenly and fairly over all the areas of the county. For instance, as the Minister of Health has pointed out, in a single county last year the extra highway charges involved local increases of rates in individual rural areas ranging from 4d. in the £ in one case to 1s. 1½d. in another. If that expenditure had been spread over the whole county, the increased burden on the ratepayer would have been only ¾d. in the pound. Moreover, in consequence of this reform, the towns will be called upon to bear a fair share of the expenditure on roads which at present falls with undue severity on the rural areas while rural areas will make a more adequate contribution to the cost of Poor Law administration, which weighs most heavily on urban districts.

If, however, this reform were carried out on the basis of existing Government grants, it might result in increased rates in certain areas. In order to obviate this possibility the Government has promised to increase the total of Exchequer grants by approximately £8,000,000 and has guaranteed that, in every county as a whole, and in every county borough there will actually be a gain equivalent to 1s. per head of the population. If the cost of the Rating Relief scheme is taken into account, it will be seen that the Exchequer grants will be increased by more than £30,000,000 in all.

There is, however, a further defect in the present Rating system which must be abolished if the existing inequalities are to be removed, namely, the present percentage grants relating to Poor Law and Highway expenditure. At the present time a Local Authority receives help from the State in proportion to what it can afford to spend. Thus a poor area which can afford to spend least, but which is most in need of help, receives the smallest measure of assistance from the State, while the rich area receives a larger Exchequer grant simply because it

QUEEN ELIZABETH.¹

By DAME MILLICENT FAWCETT, G.B.E.

(Continued.)

On her accession to the throne, Elizabeth at once showed her great qualities: she discouraged all conduct based on personal vindictiveness. "I have borne, and must continue to bear the burden," she said, and again, "I will not charge the dead." She resisted her people when they very naturally wished her to marry. Of course, they wanted to secure heirs to the throne. But her advisers on this subject did not know the risks as well as the Queen herself did. Her answer was: "They would marry me to a War," and she knew, as probably no one else did, that the first condition of welfare for her kingdom was peace. "Still in her right hand carry gentle peace," is a line that might very fitly have been applied to her.

In her deep almost maternal love for her people she reminds us of Queen Victoria. In an address to the assembled Judges, Elizabeth said: "Have a care over my people. Do you that which I ought to do. They are my people. They cannot avenge their quarrels nor help themselves . . . see to them for they are my people. I charge you even as God hath charged me" (pp. 334). No monarch was ever more careful than Elizabeth in her selection of personal advisers, nor more easy in her intercourse with them. She would chaff Cecil and "his brothers in Christ", but he took it all in good part because he knew how much he had her confidence and real support. It is especially interesting to us Suffragists to know how much she relied on the council and wisdom of the Cecils, and that the leading qualities of the family have remained through centuries. Robert and William Cecil were her faithful friends and admirers as long as their joint lives lasted. Very near the end of his life Burghley (William Cecil) wrote to Robert how in his sickness the Queen visited him constantly and "fed him with her own princely hand" because his own was incapacitated by rheumatism. "She is so tender a nurse," he wrote, "though she would not be a mother."

In the early years of her reign Elizabeth's first thought being for the restoration of peace, the wars with France and Scotland were severally brought to an honourable end, much to the benefit of the three countries concerned. Although it was obvious how great was the need for national economy, Elizabeth took it upon herself to discharge the debts of her father. Her half-sister, Mary Tudor had also left debts which Elizabeth likewise undertook to pay. The debts of Henry VIII were much more serious. He was by disposition a very magnificent person. He tried his best to get chosen as Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire, and probably his great expenditure at the Field of the Cloth of Gold was in a measure a bit of electioneering, and was embarked upon to influence the choice of the electors in his favour: these were very grand schemes but he did not provide the cash needed to pay for them. This was left to his young daughter Elizabeth. It should not be forgotten that he had twice attempted unsuccessfully to "bastardize" her. She, when she was on the throne, may perhaps have had an ambition to be even with him: but if so, it was in a way all her own: for she set herself to work to defray the heavy load of debt he had left behind him. This was no easy task, and it occupied her for twenty-three years before it was accomplished. It seems to me that there was something heroic in this persistency: so there was in the way in which she deliberately planned the union of Scotland with England by peaceful natural inheritance rather than by war. Nevertheless for one historian who puts this interpretation on her celibacy there are a dozen who record as evidence of petty feminine jealousy Elizabeth's exclamation on hearing of the birth of a son to Mary and Darnley: "The Queen of Scots hath a fair son, but I am but a barren stock." Where did petty feminine jealousy come in when Elizabeth sent her truly royal gift of a golden font for the baptism of the little prince, who had just been born at Holyrood? Quite the greatest of Elizabeth's achievements was the awakening throughout the realm of the deep loyalty and devotion of all the greatest men and women in her dominions: whatever their views on religion or on politics they hailed her as their incomparable chief, their Gloriana as they called her; so that when the great stress and strain of the Spanish Armada came the whole of England was loyal and Elizabeth was able in perfect confidence to put Lord Howard of Effingham, a Catholic

(Continued at foot of preceding column.)

¹ Queen Elizabeth, by Gwen John. (Heffer & Son, Cambridge.)

has more means at its disposal. How can such a system be defended? Let us take an illustration. Merthyr Tydvil is notoriously a very poor borough and has a high proportion of young children among its population—8,400 out of some 80,000. In 1926-7 it only received about £4,500 from the Exchequer for all its grant-aided Health Services. Contrast with this the case of Southport, a prosperous watering place with a slightly lower population (78,000) but much fewer young children (4,700 according to the 1921 census); yet in 1926-7 Southport received nearly £8,000 from the State for its Health Services. Again, let us take the Maternity and Child Welfare Service alone. Gateshead with 14,000 children, and South Shields with 13,500 each received grants of approximately £1,600. Eastbourne, on the other hand, with only 2,976 children, received over £2,200!

In order to remedy this anomalous state of affairs the Government has decided to institute a system of block grants which will ultimately be fixed by reference to the needs of the area. For this purpose a formula has been devised which will take into account not only the degree of unemployment in any area, but also such factors as poverty, or sparsely or density of population. In other words, in place of the present system, which rewards the rich and penalizes the poor area, and which sometimes acts as an incentive to extravagance, we shall have a new system under which increased Exchequer grants will be distributed fairly according to the actual needs of the areas, while at the same time, the burden of the rates will also be re-distributed on a more equitable basis. By this means much will have been done to solve the problem of the necessitous areas, and Local Authorities, instead of being subjected to more rigorous State control, will enjoy even greater autonomy in local government than they possess to-day.

Now what of Mrs. Simon's main objections to the scheme? She states that "under the percentage system those who spend wisely from the rates receive an equivalent amount from the taxes; those who are niggardly, get nothing. Under the proposed scheme all will be treated alike", but as has been shown, it is under the present system that all are treated alike, irrespective of their wealth or poverty. Rich or poor, half a town's expenditure on Maternity, Child Welfare, Tuberculosis, etc., is found by the Government, and the poor local authority which can afford least suffers in the process.

Again, Mrs. Simon states that the Health Services will be crippled in their development by the introduction of a fixed grant. In this connection Mrs. Simon forgets that, owing to the increase in the Exchequer grants, the majority of areas in this country will be much better off under the new scheme, and that their aggregate gain ought to give them a wide margin for development. She also ignores the fundamental fact that no amount of encouragement on the present basis will enable a poor area to provide a proper standard of health services when it is face to face with the fact that it cannot afford its own share.

Finally, Mrs. Simon complains that the control of Local Authorities by the Ministry of Health will be diminished. Surely this is a reactionary proposition. During the last century, the tendency has been in the direction of increasing the functions and responsibilities of Local Authorities in order to relieve the pressure upon the Central Government and Parliament. Mrs. Simon apparently wishes to arrest this democratic development. If, however, Local Authorities and local electors are to be severely restricted in their responsibilities and subjected to increasing bureaucratic control, the system of local government will suffer untold damage through inaction and apathy.

(Continued from next column.)

both by birth and conviction, in command of her fleet. It is generally conceded that no monarch has ever been more successful than Elizabeth in welding the whole nation into a band of enthusiastic loyalists: all sections of the population supported her with ardent devotion, in this connection such names as those of Drake, Raleigh, Sir Philip Sidney, the Earl of Leicester, Shakespeare and Spencer crowd in upon our remembrance.

In one of the curiously modern lines of thought which Elizabeth occasionally showed, we find that in 1588 immediately before the expected attack of the Armada she knighted a Cheshire lady, the wife of Sir Hugh Cholmondeley, for her exceptional activities in promoting the defences of her own part of the country against the Spanish invaders.

(To be continued.)

THE PEACEMAKERS.¹

"You try to trip me up by being clever," Mrs. Whibley was saying angrily, "but there is right and wrong just the same." "Oh, why doesn't the gong go?" breathed Mr. Culpepper. The present writer must admit that she has considerable sympathy both with Mrs. Whibley and with Mr. Culpepper, the creatures of Miss Ritchie's pen, who find themselves unhappy among all those others whom she has created. It is only to be expected that a novel published by Mr. and Mrs. Woolf should be a clever novel, with at least a touch of inwardness about it. But *The Peacemakers* is terribly inward and simply oozes cleverness.

Dear old Geneva is familiar to most who are aware of the League of Nations. It, and the Secretariat buildings have hitherto seemed to shine with innocence and obviousness. But read Miss Ritchie and that seeming has gone for ever. The seemingly so obvious secretariat buildings and the little pensions dotted about the town, shelter, she makes it appear, a race of beings half human, half machines, but, with the possible exception of Miss Chisholm (from Beckenham) and Captain Creighton-Downes, wholly undesirable as the bourgeois count desirableness. We read how they amused themselves: "Torture to listen, without dancing, to that tune. Heaving, throbbing, almost breaking with emotion, it recovered in a brazen laugh and heaved and throbbed and almost broke again; under the green light, eyes gleamed out of pools of darkness, lips were black, and heavy, joined to the shadow they cast on the chin, and the arms of the women looked unearthly against the black sleeves of the men." All this is quite surprising, associated as it is with the staff of the League. Yet, as is shown, perhaps Geneva, innocent as she looks, is herself responsible for some aberrations among those who are not expected to aberrate. Miss Ritchie puts a matter usually only hinted at, quite plainly: "A white fog had hung over the place, about a hundred feet up, for the last fortnight. Water and houses and citizens were reduced to a grey monotone," or, worse, "as a shell holds the sea, or a handful of sawdust the circus, the Place held the hint of a wider life than it ever contained, steamers setting off for far places, engineers buildings bridges over newly discovered rivers. . . ."

Yet it is difficult to feel any emotion, whether of affection or hate or pity, for our author's creations, the Bailey, the Whibley or the Whibley wife, the Quadex, the Wood, even the Hume and the Radzichenko, or their mistresses, dead or alive. But, now and again, a few phrases arrest the imagination. Of Hume, for example, "He went to the war; in fact, one might say he fought in the war. I don't somehow see him grinning behind a bayonet, but he was there, and no one, on either side, put a bullet into him. But it smashed him just the same, smashed his little soul. When it was over, there was nothing left. . . . Then, in the very nick, the politicians made this place, and he sprang to it, and pulled it round him, warm and comfortable, clerks and typewriters and committees and minutes and resolutions, and lifted up his shaking voice and cried, 'There shall be no more war.'" Miss Ritchie uses the figure of cynicism almost to excess. "The Chief Secretary . . . remained urbane. It was all natural; the big people eating the little people, the little people appealing to the Office. Humphrey wanting the Office to intervene and the Governments who supported the Office wanting to be left in peace—all quite natural, and he drew his salary for preventing their conflicting naturalness from wrecking the organization."

As we have observed, this book is a novel, and, as becomes a novel, it has a love interest. Faint and nebulous, it appears on one of the first half-dozen pages, and reappears, more faint and nebulous on the last. Miss Caroline Bailey's young man's name does not appear, but he had a "fixed smile" and "his English overcoat stuck out stiffly on either side of his knees, his hair was newly cut, he wore a white silk muffler." Neither he, nor his appearance was pleasing to Miss Bailey, but "pity ran down her body like warm milk" and she decided to have him, for "love was nothing, youth was nothing."

Certainly her visit to Geneva had not been wholly a success. "When I go home," she observed, "and they say, 'Well, what was it like there? What did you do?' the right answer will be, 'Slowly, with great pain, I gathered courage and sense enough to come home.'"

(Continued at foot of next column.)

¹ Alice Ritchie. (Published by Leonard and Virginia Woolf at the Hogarth Press.)

BROOK EVANS.¹

We have all learnt from Malvolio that greatness may be inborn, achieved, or thrust upon us, but no one has given a corresponding account of why we fall short of it. Yet to this question Miss Glaspell's work, exquisite and penetrating as it is, always leads the critic, for she constantly borders on greatness, without quite convincing us that she reaches it. *Brook Evans*, perhaps her best work, is a notable achievement, but, for all its beauty and wisdom, it lacks some grasp of fact which comes easily to the man of affairs, easily to many an ordinary popular writer, yet often eludes an artist of power and distinction. The quality deficient in Miss Glaspell's work is perhaps indicated in a sentence thrown out somewhere by Hardy—that a certain character was mature because his emotional and intellectual judgments were distinct. Miss Glaspell tends to let her emotional verdicts predominate, and the result is a certain lack of firmness and decision in her work.

Still, *Brook Evans* is a book of exquisite craftsmanship where every touch tells and characters major and subsidiary are deftly handled. Plot and character are used to express the varying intensities of thought and feeling which make up experience, and from first to last the design is firm and symmetrical without being artificial. From her youth Naomi Kellogg felt a kind of mysterious significance in the brook flowing through her father's land. By it she met her lover Joe Copeland, and it was when she was dreaming, over a book, of Italy as a land of romance, playing idly with "the water of the brook—waters of Venice, Ardent whispers through the centuries," that news came of Joe's death through an accident to a reaping machine. For the rest of her life, a life dreary and deadened, the brook remained inalienably associated with an experience whose perfection, though seemingly irreconcilable with ordinary affairs, continued to "burn in tragic beauty." It was not even obliterated by the wretched months before the birth of Joe's child, when his mother called "You—trollop" after her, and her own family were saved from rage and shame only by Caleb Evans offering to marry her:—

"So this was what had come of that beauty. It was here she could not understand. Remembering the summer nights when she had been, not only happy, but as if let in where all goodness and beauty were hers, remembering, not alone mad love, but moments of gentle goodness—moments clear and pure as the sound of the brook, remembering the star in the water, the trees overhead, smell of the hay her father had cut. . . . 'I must be stupid,' she told herself, 'I am not seeing things the way other people see them.'"

Her child she called Brook, lavishing on her the oppressive devotion of self-renunciation, receiving little in return. But years afterwards, when Naomi was long dead and Brook nearly forty, she too experienced love of the intensity which suddenly pitches life on a higher key, which swept aside plans and projects, making the *wheel come full cycle* and her mother's life a reality as it had never been before.

In this, a type of experience hard to propound, Miss Glaspell does some fine work, both in suggesting its remoteness from everyday facts and values, and also in using natural imagery and the development of Brook to indicate unity and order behind Naomi's baffled life. She touches tragedy with the gentlest of fingers—yet there is something inconclusive and hesitating at the back of her work. She has here, as in her previous works, the sense of atmosphere, of radiant moments, which make Mr. C. E. Montague's work so attractive, yet so limited. For she never wholly welds those moments into anything more than themselves. Faced with experiences which quicken and stimulate her to the core, all she can find to say is "A rhythm, an undiscovered country. Secrets that could sing. Iceland." Or again (Erik, Brook's lover, is speaking):—

"I love you . . . It is—a leap. Together we will know glory! Come, darling—come—for such years as God gives us! Madness and miracles there will be—a dizzy beauty that will bite like frost. Hardships. Perhaps at the last we will walk barefoot in China! But now—oh, now—"

To quote thus does not give an adequate idea of Miss Glaspell's real powers, but it shows the point at which, again and again, she shows her weakness, her failure to see life steadily and see it whole as the great artist must do. E. C. E.

(Continued from preceding column.)

Slowly and with great pain, we have read this book, but, unlike Miss Caroline Bailey, we are possessed of a pleasurable assurance warm at our hearts that it was worth the pain, and we can honestly recommend others to do likewise. A. H. W.

¹ *Brook Evans*, by Susan Glaspell. (7s. 6d., Victor Gollancz.)

NATIONAL UNION OF CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST ASSOCIATIONS.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE AT GREAT YARMOUTH, SEPTEMBER, 1928.

BY F. M. GRAVES.

Just as 1928 will go down in history as the year which witnessed the fulfilment of the principle of enfranchisement inaugurated in 1832, so the Conservative Conference of 1928 will be memorable for the recognition of the position of women in the Party organization and for the unanimity of the message sent to Mr. Baldwin on the eve of one of the most important General Elections ever held in this country.

Possibly the most interesting event from the woman's point of view was the incorporation of the existing Central Women's Advisory Committee as an official part of the Conservative organization. This Committee is to act in an advisory capacity to the Party Executive, and thus is now *de jure* as well as *de facto*. In moving this amendment, which was unanimously approved, Dame Caroline Bridgeman gave a short account of the increasing part played by women in the Party organization during the past ten years. The tentative stage had been so successful that to-day women were represented in every section of the organization. None of the resolutions dealt primarily with women's questions, nor were there more than two or three short contributions from women speakers out of an audience of which over 1,200 were women. Knowing the valuable and constructive work done by Conservative women locally and nationally, it is a little disappointing that they were not more forthcoming at the Conference with the results of their experience.

A resolution which was listened to with great attention by the Conference stood in the name of Mr. J. E. Green (Cirencester and Tewkesbury), who urged Constituency Associations to consider placing themselves on a financial basis that would allow of the selection of a wage-earning candidate. Councillor Gwilym Rowlands seconded this resolution, saying that while Conservative Associations were ready to pay lip service to the principle upheld at the Central Office in respect of working men candidates, in most cases they left the matter at that stage.

Sir Frank Meyer, M.P., in proposing his resolution on Rating Reform, made it clear that it was not the habit of the Conservative Party to adopt a measure on grounds of expediency. Mr. Harrison (Leicester Central) in moving an amendment regretting that the question of de-rating should be mixed up with Poor Law Reform, was cheered for his confession that he had turned Tory after twenty-four years' membership of the Labour Party. His amendment, which was lost, provided Mr. Neville Chamberlain with the theme of a magnificent speech. Deliberately leaving on one side the de-rating section of the scheme, he dealt with Poor Law Reform and said that the fact that nothing had been done in the way of far-reaching reform of local government for the last forty years, that conditions had changed, as well as the ideals of what were reasonable and proper standards of human life, was alone a clear case for making a change. He showed convincingly that Rating Reform is inseparable from Poor Law Reform, and he added his wish that in the future the County Councils should set up local sub-committees, with power to co-opt members, and he hoped women might form a large proportion of these bodies. This statement was warmly received by the women members of the audience, many of whom are themselves Guardians, and Mr. Chamberlain sat down to such applause as is not often heard at a Conference session, and the singing of "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow" was followed by three deafening cheers.

Sir Henry Page Croft, M.P., introducing his motion on the Safeguarding of Industries, which the Conference acclaimed, emphasized the unity of the Conservative Party under the leadership of a great Englishman, and said that if in the past difficulties had arisen on this subject, these had been only about the pace of the march forward. He killed dead the rumour put about by the Liberals and Socialists that his resolution was framed in opposition to the Ministry. Mr. Story Deans, M.P., pleading that special consideration of the iron and steel industries was a matter of life and death to Sheffield, carried this amendment by a majority after a somewhat one-sided discussion. The Conference then adjourned to give Mr. Baldwin a rousing welcome at the mass meeting held later in the evening.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

President: Miss ELEANOR RATHBONE, C.C., J.P. Hon. Treasurer: Miss MACADAM. Parliamentary Secretary: Miss HORTON. General Secretary: Miss HANCOCK. Offices: 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1. Telephone: Victoria 6188.

AUTUMN SCHOOL AT EDINBURGH.

A very successful school was held last week-end under the auspices of the Edinburgh Equal Citizenship Society, in co-operation with the Glasgow S.E.C. and W.C.A. The subject of the Conference was "The Equalities still to be won by Women" and the lectures included "Equal Moral Standard", "Equal Opportunity and Pay," "Women and the Church," but of these a fuller report will be given next week. The School was very well attended, there being many representatives from the Societies in each of the following places: Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dunfermline, Falkirk, St. Andrews, Belfast, Dumbarton, and Forfar.

ROTA OF SPEAKERS.

Now that Equal Franchise has been won, there is a very great demand for speakers to address, in particular, meetings of new voters with a view to their preparation for the forthcoming General Election. We should be very grateful indeed if any willing to speak on one or more aspects of the work of the National Union will be good enough to send in their names and addresses to Headquarters. As we have requests from all over the country it will be a great help to include on our rota of speakers an additional number living in the Provinces.

FUTURE STAFF ARRANGEMENTS.

The Executive Committee has now appointed Mrs. Horton General as well as Parliamentary Secretary. Mrs. Horton has had the advantage of working closely with Mrs. Hubback and Miss Hancock for nearly a year, and has very rapidly mastered the different branches of work.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MISS VIOLET MARKHAM AND THE CUTLERS.

MADAM,—Your paragraph is not altogether accurate. The Cutlers' Feast is a men's dinner, on a large scale; there is no women's dinner, but the custom is for the Mistress Cutler to hold a reception at the same time, to which the official ladies are invited, and as many of her private friends as the Ladies' Gallery will hold. When the serious business of the feast is over, the women are admitted to the gallery, where the fumes of the bygone meal and of innumerable cigars can be conveniently assimilated while listening to the eloquence of distinguished visitors. The guest of the evening this year is Mr. Baldwin!

It is usual (but not compulsory) for local mayors to be invited to the feast and mayoresses to the reception. Miss Markham, being a married woman, the correct procedure obviously is to invite her to the feast, and her husband to "join the ladies."

PRESS SECRETARY, N.U.S.E.C., SHEFFIELD.

(Continued from preceding column.)

The third and final session of the Conference, during which its members succumbed affectionately to the appeal and promise of youth from Oxford University, was held on Friday morning, the 28th September, and was brought to its close by Mr. Amery's speech on Government Contracts. He was able to state authoritatively that 98½ per cent of Admiralty contracts were placed in respect of Home and Empire products; and he went on to tell an appreciative audience of the gradual penetration of Empire goods into the daily life of this country, a fact largely due to the insistence of the individual woman purchaser.

The women's mass meeting held on Friday afternoon, the 28th September, provided a foot-note to the history of the 1928 Conference. Long before the hour fixed, the hall was filled from floor to ceiling with representatives of the 90,000 women members of the Eastern Provincial Division, who warmly welcomed Dame Caroline Bridgeman. Her speech carried this enthusiasm to an even higher pitch, and her appeal for workers in the forthcoming General Election will inevitably be answered.

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

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COMING EVENTS.

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH LEAGUE.

9th OCTOBER. Jumble Sale at The Quest, 92 Clarendon Road, W. 11.

EQUAL POLITICAL RIGHTS CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE.

24th OCTOBER. 1.15 p.m. Hotel Cecil. Victory Day Luncheon. Speakers: Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Alison Neilans, Mrs. Abbott, Miss Doris Stevens. Chair: The Viscountess Rhonda.

MORLEY COLLEGE FOR WORKING MEN AND WOMEN.

11th OCTOBER. 8 p.m. 61 Westminster Bridge Road, S.E. Public Meeting: Captain Eckersley, "Broadcasting."

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

Barnsley S.E.C. 10th OCTOBER. 5.30. Girls' High School. Lady Balfour of Burleigh. "Restrictive Legislation for Women and the New Voter."

Couldson W.C.A. 17th OCTOBER. 3 p.m. Mrs. Blanco White. "The Equal Vote: What it Means."

St. Pancras S.E.C. 10th OCTOBER. 8 p.m. Miss Barry. "Local Government Work."

Sutton and District W.C.A. 8th OCTOBER. 3 p.m. Miss Rathbone, J.P., and Mrs. Abbott. Debate "Restrictive Legislation."

SIX POINT GROUP.

9th-10th OCTOBER. 2-7. 92 Victoria Street, S.W. 1. White Elephant Jumble Sale. Admission free.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

10th OCTOBER. 4 p.m. Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C. Mrs. Mayne. "Russia in 1928."

TYPEWRITING.

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

TO LET AND WANTED.

OFFICE, Women's Society, Victoria Street, available mornings, 12s. 6d. per week, cleaning and electric light included, coal and telephone extra.—Box 1,505, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Tufton Street, S.W. 1.

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BETWEEN WESTMINSTER and CHELSEA.—To let, unfurnished (ladies only), second floor on Embankment, S.W. 1. Two front rooms, £78 per annum, one room £35. Unfurnished flat, three rooms and bathroom, £112. Rents include electric light, bathrooms every floor, telephone, restaurant in house, very moderate tariff, service charges, 4s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. per week.—98 Grosvenor Road, London, S.W. 1. (Tel. Victoria 7336.)

UNFURNISHED FLAT. Top floor. Newly decorated, 3 rooms and kitchen, every convenience, use bathroom, quiet house. Suit professional ladies. 35s. weekly.—Phone: Park 1078, 7 Kildare Gardens, Westbourne Grove, W.

POSTS VACANT.

JOSEPHINE BUTLER NATIONAL MEMORIAL.—VOLUNTARY WORKERS urgently needed to address, stamp and fold circulars.—Adeline Bourne, 6a Blomfield Road, Maida Vale, W. 9. Tel.: Paddington 8470.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP requires temporary Organizer to work outside London.—Apply Sec., 15 Dean's Yard, S.W. 1, for further particulars. Applications to be made in writing, stating experience.

POSTS WANTED.

MARRIED COUPLE as caretakers or lodge-keepers. Permanent or temporary, town or country, experienced. Good references, personally recommended.—Bohling, 1F Peabody Buildings, Herbrand Street, W.C. 1.

LADY (35), desires responsible post. Ten years experience secretarial and organizing work. Well educated, capable, energetic; accustomed public speaking.—Box 1,507, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Tufton Street, Westminster, London, 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 0377.

PUBLIC SPEAKING.—Classes, Lectures, Private Lessons Speech Club.—Miss Lucy Bell, Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C. 1.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

HUTTON'S "NEVER-FADE" IRISH LINENS are ideal for Dresses, Curtains, etc.; Guaranteed absolutely fadeless, 2s. 10d. per yard (36 in. wide); 71 artistic colours including 7 newest shades. 71 patterns FREE.—HUTTON'S, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ulster.

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

WANTED.—WOMAN'S LEADER bound volume XI, or complete numbers for 1919. Also the following odd numbers: Vol. XII, Nos. 37, 38 and 44. Vol. XIII, Nos. 27 to 32 inclusive.—I. B. O'Malley, 6 Steeles Road, London, N.W. 3.

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LONDON AND NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 35 Marsham Street, Westminster. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Expert advice on what to do with your girls. Addresses to schools and societies in London and Provinces by arrangement.

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

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 7th October, 6.30, Rev. Major Scott, "The Concealed God."

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