

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

AND THE COMMON CAUSE

Vol. XVIII. No. 2. One Penny.

REGISTERED AS
A NEWSPAPER.

Friday, February 5, 1926

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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 King's Speech.

The King's Speech, impeccable as were most of its sentiments, seemed as flat as last night's champagne and as dull as haricot mutton. The blame for this, however, must be attached more to the facts of the present situation than to a lack of imagination and enterprise on the part of the Government. For one thing, there seemed this year to have been no attempt at secrecy, and many of the forecasts published several days before in the press had taken the bloom off the peach. Secondly, it seems generally agreed that the time available for new legislation will be inevitably strictly limited; so many of the days before Easter will necessarily be given to estimates and financial considerations and much of the time after will be required for the discussion of problems connected with the Coal situation. The appeal for a spirit of conciliation and fellowship in the solution of this problem, however desirable, does not at the moment indicate along what lines the solution is likely to come. The situation as regards Foreign Affairs, the proposals with regard to the development of electricity, are already familiar to the country. The postponement of the Disarmament Conference, though no fault of this country, and though unlikely ultimately to have any evil result, came as a cold douche later in the evening. Problems of Local Government will apparently loom large, both with respect to the reform of the Poor Law, rating problems, housing, and other matters. We are glad, moreover, that insurance in several aspects is to be tackled. Perhaps the most interesting of the measures outlined in the Speech, and amplified in a White Paper during the evening, is the indication of the lines of the Government's agricultural policy. We were glad to see the references not only to better housing, better education, better facilities for credit for the farming community, but also the tribute paid to the work of women's institutes as an important factor in rural life. One point of outstanding interest is the announcement with respect to the International Conference which is being called by the Minister of Labour to consider the international application of the 48 hours week. It is by this method, and, for all workers, that we feel the question of working hours should be solved.

The King's Speech and Women's Legislation.

Although the King's Speech foreshadows a fairly interesting, if unexciting, legislative programme, it is a matter of acute disappointment that no indication is made of the Government's intention to deal with any of the problems in which this paper is especially interested. We were particularly disappointed that no reference at all is made to the consideration of Equal Franchise, not even to the setting up of the Conference, which the Government, though not ourselves, considers a necessary preliminary. Not a word was said about any of the bills, such as Employment of Married Women, Women Police; not a word about carrying out any of the recommendations of the Report on Sexual Offences against Young Persons; and not even a word about Legitimacy, in spite of its having appeared in the King's Speech last year, and the bill having failed to reach the Statute Book merely through lack of time. We have reason to hope that the Government will be introducing a Legitimacy Bill shortly in the House of Lords, but consider it unfortunate that this was not indicated in the Speech.

Conference on Maternal Mortality.

The two days conference on Maternal Mortality, held in Manchester by the National Council of Women (many other women's societies co-operating), was very well attended. Many well-known workers, among whom were Dame Janet Campbell, M.D., M.S. (Senior Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare, Ministry of Health), Professor Louise McLroy, M.D., D.Sc., and Miss Ivens, M.S., were on the official speakers' list, and the chief facts that emerged were these: that women are getting restive and are no longer going to allow 3,000 British mothers to die annually in childbirth, and that as such good results have been obtained by the publicity given to Infant Welfare work, similar methods might be applied to improving the hitherto shockingly neglected health of the mother. Other points were that bad housing conditions are a handicap, but that in spite of this, surprisingly good results can be obtained by a skilled attendant; that factory work in itself is not harmful to the expectant mother, but that in the towns that employ many women there is a very high maternal death-rate; that a far higher standard of education in obstetrics should be required for the doctor—the midwife's training has just been extended to twelve months—that more ante-natal supervision *must* be given. Other subjects officially dealt with were Maternity Insurance, Home Conditions, and the necessity of Municipal Maternity Homes, and the discussions that followed the addresses were sometimes lively. We should like to express our surprise that such a vitally important subject as Birth Control was not specifically provided for. However, as might have been expected, it arose several times in the discussions, and judging from the space accorded to it in the Press reports—especially in the *Manchester Guardian*—public opinion is at last conscious of its urgency.

Women and the Factory.

Meanwhile Dame Janet Campbell's utterances on the subject of women in factories give us pause. There is not, she believes, any adverse effect from the work itself. Women work under very good conditions nowadays, and their work is not, as a rule, unduly heavy. What is hurtful, is the combination of factory employment with heavy household work like washing and the

'Keep fit on
cocoa'

BOURNVILLE
SEE THE "Cadbury" ON EVERY PIECE
NAME OF CHOCOLATE

Write
Cadbury, Bournville
about Gift Scheme

lifting of tubs. We commend this passage to the attention of those persons who are solicitous concerning the further regulation of women's work in industry, for it would seem that hitherto there has been a tendency to neglect the deficiencies of their working standards in the home. It is true that one cannot approach the regulation of such standards along the broad and familiar road of factory legislation—that should not, however, mean that its approach is beyond economic, legislative, or administrative ingenuity. We have in mind a brief experiment initiated some five years ago by the Fulham Borough Council: the establishment of a municipal "bag wash," whereby the bulk of heavy domestic washing was removed from the ill-equipped home to the well-equipped municipal laundry. From the point of view of the woman in the home, as well as of the Fulham ratepayers, the experiment was a complete success. It should, and doubtless would have spread from borough to borough. It was, however, brought to an untimely end because it was held to threaten the pecuniary interests of the federated laundresses. It is doubtless easier to impose further protective legislation in the factory than to reconstruct the organization of the home. Dr. Janet Campbell's remarks suggest, however, that such simple and obvious action fails to hit its mark. And why, we are tempted to ask, is this double burden of home-making and factory-working so habitually found in combination? Is it because it is only in the factory that the overpressed mother can find the shadow of economic independence and financial security? That question, too, suggests that all is not well with the organization of the home.

Lord and Lady Astor under Fire.

We have observed that various sections of the Press have been, of late, very busily engaged in a defence of the drink trade against certain cruel, malignant, and sinister influences set on foot by Lord and Lady Astor. This week the *New Statesman* joins in the hue and cry with an attack upon U.S.A. prohibition and upon those who are thought to favour its application in this country. It complains, among other things, that the *Observer* which "is owned by naturalized Americans," publishes week by week "some more or less factious and bitter attack" on "the trade" suggesting that its editor can have nothing to do with this, that it is the work of Lord and Lady Astor. Meanwhile, the *Morning Advertiser* of 26th January suggests at length and under the title "Another Astor Move," that the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship and other women's organizations have been marked down by these two Machiavelli's for "capture" on behalf of the late Bishop of Oxford's Liquor (Popular Control) Bill. That the *New Statesman* should lend its voice to the defence of a privately owned industry which wields a disproportionate political influence and which has continued (as cause and effect) to reap a harvest of inflated profit during a period of prolonged and bitter economic depression, causes us some surprise. That the *Morning Advertiser* should fail to see why women, as women and as the natural guardians of child welfare, should have a peculiar interest in any measure calculated to diminish the disproportionate share of the national income spent annually in drink, causes us still more surprise. We will, however, content ourselves with the reminder that the virulence of such attacks is the measure of the influence which Lord and Lady Astor have come to wield in British politics. And seeing that such influence is bound up with all the causes, social and political, for which the *WOMAN'S LEADER* stands, we are inclined to greet these attacks with a cheer—tempered with an element of regret at the defection of the *New Statesman*.

Equal Pay in the Civil Service.

The Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Women in the Civil Service, Major Clifton Brown has arranged for a meeting of Members of Parliament in the House of Commons at 5 p.m. on 9th February, when the case for the appointment of a Select Committee to report on the best means of putting into application the agreed principle of Equal Pay for men and women in the Civil Service will be explained by Dame Millicent Fawcett, on behalf of outside organizations representing women voters, Miss D. Smyth (Federation of Women Civil Servants), and Mr. W. G. Boys (Association of Executive Officers). The principle of Equal Pay for men and women in the Service is now actively supported by the men's organizations in the Civil Service, as it has long been by the women's organizations within and without the Service, and persons interested in the question would do well to call the attention of their Parliamentary representatives to the invaluable opportunity they will have on 9th February of discussing the case for the reform.

Family Allowances and Equal Pay for Equal Work.

In another part of this paper we describe what we believe to be the first serious experiment in this country of family allowances since the system was introduced in the payment of the Wesleyan Ministry. In the interesting report of the Council for the Representation of Women in the League of Nations we read that the salaries of the staff of the recently appointed International Committee for Intellectual Co-operation are based on the principle of family allowances, a married man receiving an increase in respect of his wife, and of each child under age; otherwise salaries for men and women are equal.

The Principal of Somerville.

Miss Emily Penrose has announced her intention to resign the office of Principal of Somerville College, Oxford. The Council has appointed Miss Sara Margery Fry, J.P., M.A., Birmingham, as her successor. Miss Penrose has been Principal since 1907, and took a prominent part in the proceedings which have brought the Women Colleges to their present position in the University. Miss Penrose was herself a Somerville student, and took a First in Lit. Hum. in 1892. She was for some years Principal of Bedford College, and later of the Royal Holloway College. Miss Penrose has taken an active part in University affairs. She became a member of the University Grants Committee in 1911, and was appointed on the Royal Commission on University Education in Wales in 1916, and on the recent Royal Commission on the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, and is now a member of the Statutory Commission for Oxford. Both in Oxford and elsewhere she has done much for the education of women, and we hope that her unique experience will not fail to find expression in some form after her retirement from the responsibilities of administration.

Miss Marjory Fry.

The news that Miss Margery Fry is to succeed Miss Penrose as Principal of Somerville College will delight everyone who knows her. So obvious are her qualifications for the post, that some of her fellow students at Somerville in the middle nineties had even then made up their minds that she would make an admirable future Principal. Whether it was her brilliancy as a hockey player, or as a speaker, or as a mathematician, or her popularity in the College, or her organizing talents, that led them to this conclusion, it is impossible to say. Her later career, as Librarian at Somerville, as head of the Students' Hostel at Birmingham, as organizer during the war of the Friends' Relief work in France, and finally as Hon. Secretary and moving spirit of the Howard League, has borne out its early promise. Congratulations are due to the Governing Body of the College. Not all academic governing bodies would have the courage to make so notable an appointment. For Miss Margery Fry is very unlike the same, sober, safe, mediocre guide of youth that would have seemed desirable to the academic bodies of the past.

A Distinguished Civil Servant.

A correspondent writes: "Many people—Her Majesty the Queen at their head—combined last Monday evening to do honour to Miss Rose E. Squire, O.B.E., who has just retired from the Home Office after thirty years of strenuous work. The Queen sent a special message of congratulation to Miss Squire on her "distinguished official career," which was read by Lady Amptill at a dinner given at the Criterion Restaurant at which over 160 of Miss Squire's friends and colleagues past and present were gathered together. Sir Malcolm Delevingne, Under Secretary of State, who presided, voiced the pleasure it gave all those present to be able to honour Miss Squire, and the toast of "Our Guest" proposed by him was supported by the Hon. Maude Lawrence and Miss Margaret Bondfield, J.P., and drunk with musical honours. Miss Squire replied in a delightful speech, in which she recalled various amusing episodes in the early days before she became a Factory Inspector, when she was one of the first two women appointed as Inspectors of Workshops in Kensington. In the course of her official career at the Home Office Miss Squire has served on many important committees; the most widely remembered is perhaps the Health of Munition Workers' Committee, which was appointed during the war, but she had earlier done important work with Mr. (now Sir Arthur) Steel Maitland under the Royal Commission on the Poor Laws.

THE COMING SESSION.

BY OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT.

Parliament meets this week under conditions of exceptional interest. The coal trouble, economy, the future of the Liberal Party, and the silent but none the less active struggle going on within the Labour Party, to decide whether its progress shall be to right or to left, all combine to make the situation extremely uncertain and fluid. Anything may happen. Politics, always a matter of leadership, will be more than ever influenced by the actions of its big men. Will Mr. Baldwin enforce economy and settle coal? Will Mr. Lloyd George break or make Liberalism? Will Mr. Ramsay MacDonald convert the Labour Party into one of a mildly reformist type? These are questions which only the future can answer.

Tactically, the Conservatives have undoubtedly the best of it. Locarno, the Irish boundary, and the Italian debt are popular settlements. Their policy on the large issues of the day meets with general acceptance, they have an unshaken majority in Parliament, and the by-elections show no material setback. Their difficulties are external, always the easiest to solve: in other words, if they fail it will not be because of domestic quarrels, but because the problems set them are either too hard, or not amenable to Conservative principles. Economy and coal, coal and economy, the changes will be rung on these two issues: for the moment other matters are overshadowed.

The danger of economy is that you do not see the pitfall until you tumble into it. Lord Eustace Percy will bear this out. You win ecstatic applause as long as you assert general principles, but when you apply them you are cursed by those whom your reform affects, and get mighty poor help from those who are untouched. The only way is that of Mr. Churchill, to economize all round at once. Then one dog will bite another, and moreover you will win a surprising amount of support from the quiet, silent elector, who will welcome anyone who saves money. But, make no mistake, the Government's road will be a stony one. Particular interests are up in arms already, and the Press is full of articles whose *provenance* is easy to guess. But there is much more than that. Useless expenditure has been lopped off long ago. Useful expenditure has now to be pruned.

NEW TREATMENT FOR FIRST OFFENDERS IN WORMWOOD SCRUBS PRISON.

During the last ten months a new scheme has been successfully tried for the treatment of first offenders in Wormwood Scrubs Prison. Restoration, rather than reformation, is the basis of it—the restoration of the prisoner to his former status previous to his fall. The criminals dealt with are not loafers of the street, but many of them are highly skilled men.

Colonel Borden Turner, Deputy-Governor of the prison, gave an interesting account of the working of the scheme at the meeting held in the Fishmongers' Hall on Wednesday, 20th January, organized by the Howard League for Penal Reform, to commemorate the bi-centenary of John Howard.

The first day after the prisoner's arrival he is interviewed by the Deputy-Governor, who discusses with him as to which of the prison workshops will be the most helpful for him to work in with regard to his future career. His crime is not referred to. He is then seen by the Chaplain in his cell, who goes into the circumstances of his family while he is in confinement. Then the Visitor for the Prisoners' Aid Society talks over with him avenues of employment open to him on his release. The next morning he comes before the Governor of the Prison and the Board, who have these considerations laid before them, and he is assigned to one of the workshops and his prison visitor is allotted to him in his cell.

There are three principal influences that are brought to bear upon the criminal under this plan.

The first is *Hard Work*. He gets up just before dawn and has thirty minutes household work which would take an ordinary housemaid one-and-a-half hours to get through. Then he goes through a course of manual exercises to improve his physique. He has half an hour for his breakfast, and then follows eight hours' labour in one of the workshops, broken by one hour for dinner. At 5 o'clock he has tea, and after that he may choose either to read in his cell or to go to one of the evening classes. At nine he is perfectly ready for his night's rest.

After two months have passed, if he is satisfactory, he is granted

We shall all be hurt. But the fact remains that, whatever other governments may do, a Conservative Government must economize or perish.

About coal, nothing useful can be said, except that the situation under the surface is probably better than appears on the top. But the danger remains acute.

The opposition parties will find plenty of openings for attack. The Labour Party will almost certainly oppose all economy, except for the fighting forces. Their record is entirely consistent, and will no doubt be supported by forcible arguments. The main fight looks like being on the Navy, Road Fund, Education, and Air Force: but as was said a moment ago, it may be that something invisible at present will give them their strongest attack. On coal, the Party will probably wait on events. Nationalization seems less popular than it was.

So much for the two chief Parties: what of the Liberals? Before these lines are in print the first battle will have been fought, and Mr. Lloyd George will either lead the Party in the House of Commons—or he will not.¹ Whatever happens, Sir Alfred Mond is a man no Party can afford to lose. He has won his way to the top by merit. He has the instincts of a leader. He has followed Mr. Lloyd George until he can follow him no longer. It is difficult to believe that a man of his stamp will not influence others in the same direction. Moreover, there is the doubt whether Mr. Lloyd George is not tending to an alliance with the Labour Party. These reasons are severely exercising Liberals, and yet he remains their only democratic leader. No one can foretell what will happen. But those who think that Mr. Lloyd George is a spent force are mistaken.

Such is the immediate situation. The great strength of the Conservatives lies in Mr. Baldwin's personality, and the attraction which he has for youth, and youth for him. And the Conservatives also are united and coherent, with a record of success behind them. Though it is the unexpected that happens in politics, there is nothing on the horizon at the moment which seems likely to shake them, unless it be coal: and on this it has yet to be shown that the country would prefer the solution of another Party. But, as has been said, the political chart is full of uncertain elements.

certain privileges, undertaking personally to keep the rules. He is now allowed to have his meals out of his cell and in the company of other prisoners. Each table of eleven is headed by a long sentence man, who has been chosen for his powers of leadership. Talk is fully indulged in during meals. In no instance has a prisoner abused the privilege, and no one has refused to associate with the others. Here we have the second influence that bears upon the prisoner, and this is perhaps the most beneficial of the three: it is association with his fellow prisoners. If he can make himself respected among his fellows here he will certainly be able to do so among his fellows outside on his release, and he will have recovered his self-respect. One might wonder what the common meeting ground would be in a community drawn from such different sources. In many prisons the common ground is a feeling of hatred and revenge, and a banding of the prisoners against those in authority. Here they know that twenty or thirty of them could easily wreck the whole scheme, but they are convinced that it is up to each man to make it a success—they look upon the authorities as friends. An ex-prisoner a few days ago described the Governor of Wormwood Scrubs Prison in a letter as the Governor with the loving heart.

The third influence is the knowledge that there is work waiting for him when he is released. Immediately a prisoner is received, the matter of obtaining work for him is put in hand—old employers are conferred with, and even in these difficult times of unemployment work is found for the discharged prisoner.

Although Colonel Borden Turner does not expect never to have a failure, so far the scheme has had a wonderful restoring power, and in no instance has a prisoner been re-convicted. He believes that it will be the final cure for recidivism.

F. E. MATHEWS.

¹ Since the above was written Mr. Lloyd George has been elected Chairman of the Liberal Parliamentary Party.

FAMILY ALLOWANCES IN PRACTICE.

We are informed that the London School of Economics, which is a constituent college of the London University, has drafted the text of a scheme, approved by the Governors, for the payment of educational allowances as an addition to the salaries of members of its teaching and administrative staff. It has been decided to establish an *Educational Allowance Fund* into which shall be paid an annual sum to be determined from year to year by the Governors of the School. From this sum payments will be made to all members of the regular staff admitted to the Federated University Superannuation Scheme, in respect of each of their children in full-time attendance at an approved place of education. The ages during which such provision shall be made and the actual amount to be paid per child are, we understand, still subject to amendment—as are the conditions relating to the children of part-time members of the staff and members who are married women whose husbands are living. We are therefore not at liberty as yet to quote them in detail. But we note that the amounts foreshadowed represent a substantial contribution to the burden of elementary, secondary and University education, and that their existence is calculated to make a very material difference to the economic position of the professional man or woman with a dependent family. When we remind ourselves that it is in just such classes of the community that the high educational standards of the parents are exercising the greatest motive to family limitation, the potential far-reaching benefits of such a scheme become apparent.

Meanwhile the last provision outlined in the draft scheme gives some hint regarding the wider hopes of its promoters. The School undertakes to give free tuition to any child of a member of the staff falling within the scope of the scheme, and to give (subject to certain reservations) similar concessions to members of other University institutions offering reciprocal privileges. This, taken in conjunction with the fact that the scheme has been circulated to other London Colleges, suggests that its promoters look forward to its more general adoption as a basis for the payment of University salaries. Indeed, the obvious and logical result of the example set by the London School of Economics should be, in our opinion, the inclusion in one large Family Allowance, or *Family Income Insurance* scheme, of all the University institutions up and down the country which already require their staffs to participate in the Federated Universities Superannuation Scheme. Thus a standard of family security would be set which could hardly fail to excite the envy of the teaching profession generally—and of the Church—and of the State and municipal civil services, and of the whole community.

Therefore we offer our very hearty congratulations to the London School of Economics for the lead which it has given. Nor shall we conceal our satisfaction that it is a School of Economics rather than of any other subject which has given prompt and concrete recognition to the implications of that new turn of economic thought developed by the advocates of Family Endowment.

WOMEN IN THE MINISTRY.

A Scottish correspondent has sent us interesting particulars of a notice of motion for consideration at the next meeting of the Ayr United Free Church Presbytery, submitted by the Rev. J. Gibson, Prestwick, which proposes that legislation should be enacted declaring that women should be eligible for admission to the colleges of the Church as regular theological students, and on completion of a full course of study might be licensed to preach and be ordained to the Ministry on the same terms as men. This resolution implies that a woman after taking her degree at a University, would be eligible to enter for the three year course at a theological college. If this motion be carried, the matter will come before the General Assembly. Opinion on this matter is moving rapidly in Scotland, though perhaps it is too much to expect that the Scottish Ecclesiastical diehards will allow it to go through without strenuous opposition. In Scotland, however, the emphasis has always been placed on the need for an educated Ministry as is evident from the prolonged education required, and we imagine that the Scot churchgoer will not be concerned with the sex of the minister of religion if the spiritual and intellectual quality of his teaching reach the high standard to which he is accustomed.

MR. KEYNES ON RUSSIA.

The Hogarth Press has published in pamphlet form, Mr. J. M. Keynes' impressions of his recent visit to Soviet Russia in the capacity of University representative at the recent bicentenary of the Petersburg Academy of Sciences. In this the Hogarth Press has performed a valuable service to the cause of objective truth, for Mr. Keynes approaches the institutions of Russia as a born sceptic, with no political or social axe to grind, beyond a rooted adherence to the principle of intellectual freedom, and consequently a critical spirit towards any political régime in which that principle is accorded no place.

In the first of his three chapters Mr. Keynes asks "What is the Communist faith?" He finds the answer in "a combination of two things which Europeans have kept for some centuries in different compartments of the soul—religion and business. We are shocked because the religion is new, and contemptuous because the business, being subordinated to the religion instead of the other way round, is highly inefficient." If we want to frighten ourselves, we can, says Mr. Keynes, "picture the Communists of Russia as though the early Christians, led by Attila, were using the equipment of the Holy Inquisition and the Jesuit missions to enforce the literal economics of the New Testament; but when we want to comfort ourselves . . . can we hopefully repeat that these economies are fortunately so contrary to human nature that they cannot finance either missionaries or armies and will surely end in defeat?"

Of the answer to this question he is not altogether certain. To begin with he finds in Red Russia "too much which is detestable." Like Bertrand Russell before him, he is revolted by the propaganda, the spy system, the absurd exaltation of the proletariat, the tense and disproportionate seriousness of the revolution. And how, he asks, can he "accept a doctrine which sets up as its bible, above and beyond criticism, an obsolete economic text book (he refers, of course, to Marx's 'Capital') which I know to be not only scientifically erroneous, but without interest or application for the modern world?" Then, again, there are some significant economic considerations which give one pause. Communism has already compromised the pure milk of its creed. It has compromised with the peasantry, six-sevenths of the population, by guaranteeing to them the individual ownership of their land. And it has compromised with the capitalist by its new toleration of private trading. There is, again, a certain concrete economic defect to which certain disastrous results may be traced. Soviet Russia is deliberately exploiting its peasantry for the benefit of its politically dominant urban minority. By the mechanism of export and import monopoly the Government is able to "cook" the relation between agricultural and industrial prices. The peasant is getting too little for his wares. The town proletariat too much. This acts as a proportionate deterrent to agricultural output, and as a proportionate incentive to the migration of labour to the towns. It is in this connection a significant fact that for two years industrial unemployment has been on the increase and is now estimated by Mr. Keynes at from 20-25 per cent.

So much for the disruptive forces. On the other hand, Mr. Keynes reminds us that the Soviet régime has survived five very difficult years, and appears to possess elements of permanence. For all its seriousness and cruelty, there is a sort of station about it. "Here—one feels at moments—in spite of poverty, stupidity, and oppression, is the Laboratory of Life. Here the chemicals are being mixed in new combinations, and stink and explode. Something—there is just a chance—might come out." The question is, what? And from earlier passages it is clear that what Mr. Keynes has in mind is the emergence of an *unacquisitive society*. It is true that the private trader or profit-maker is tolerated—as the Jews who escaped the prescripts of the Canon Law against usury were tolerated for awhile in Mediaeval England. He is tolerated—but he is an outlaw, without security or political status. The business of money-making is rendered precarious by law and disreputable by public opinion. "People in Russia, if only because of their poverty, are very greedy for money—at least, as greedy as elsewhere. But money-making and money accumulating cannot enter into the life-calculations of a rational man who accepts the Soviet rule in the way in which they enter into ours." And the result has already been, in Mr. Keynes' view, "a real change in the predominant attitude towards money," which will probably be intensified when a new generation has grown up in such an environment. All of which, says Mr. Keynes, may be Utopian or destructive of true welfare, "but is it appropriate to assume, as most of us have assumed hitherto, that it is insincere or wicked?"

¹ *A Short View of Russia*, by J. M. Keynes. (Hogarth Press, 2s.)

NOTES FROM IRELAND.

By DORA MELLONE.

THE MEMORIAL TO MR. AND MRS. HASLAM.

In the centre of Dublin City, five minutes' walk from the most densely crowded slum areas, is the little park St. Stephen's Green. Here every day come crowds of the children of the poor, often half a dozen little ones led by one little mother, escaping from the crowded tenement homes to the open spaces of the Green. Here are wonders—clear flowing water, with all manner of gaily plumaged waterfowl, and bright flowers, and sometimes the play of the fountains to delight the eyes of the children, who ever love bright colour. It is good that Lord Ardilaun gave this park to the city as a possession for ever. One thinks of the woman who died a few weeks ago, the Lady Ardilaun who was ever ready to prompt acts of generosity. Alexandra College, well-known even outside Ireland, owes much to her, and indeed there were few good causes which did not receive help from these two generous givers. Another memory is now connected with the Green. In the centre near the fountains stands a handsome seat of dark Kilkenny stone. An inscription on the back records the fact it has been erected in memory of "Anna Maria, 1829 to 1922, and Thomas Haslam, 1825 to 1917. This seat is erected in commemoration of their long years of public service, chiefly devoted to the enfranchisement of women." Two months ago the ceremony of handing over this seat to the Board of Works was performed. Senator Mrs. Wyse Power spoke of the life-long work of the two in whose memory the seat was erected, and Professor Mary Hayden spoke for the many present who had known those earnest workers as personal friends. It is fitting that such a memorial should stand here. About it the children for whose sake she laboured, play all day long. The tired mothers, of whom she thought without ceasing, can sit here when they escape for a few minutes from the unremitting toil which is their lot. The young women coming from the National University, or returning from Trinity College, hurry across the Green. Perhaps they may think sometimes for a moment of the woman who worked all her life long to help in the struggle to win for them the "equal citizenship" which is now the boast of the Irish Free State, and to which they owe that "equal opportunity" which now seems so natural and is received so unthinkingly. Recently the Association which Mrs. Haslam founded in 1874, has led the agitation which has resulted in the temporary defeat of the Civil Service Regulation (Amendment) Bill. How the heart of the founder would have rejoiced had she seen that there were women lawyers to advise the course of action taken, and that the success was due to the equal voting power possessed by the women. It was well that a woman Senator should unveil the memorial and that women should be found to come from the barristers' seat, from the solicitors' table, from the University class room, from the doctors' consulting room, to do her honour.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF IRELAND.

Women are ever pioneers. The women's organizations in Northern Ireland and in the Irish Free State did not wait for the London Agreement, but in 1924 formed the National Council as a help in co-operation and to further joint action where such is possible. This body was represented at the I.C.W. Conference in Washington last year and a strong delegation is being formed to attend the Paris Conference of the I.W.S.A. The delegation will include experts on Labour questions, health policy, and rural organization. The United Irishwomen, who are now able to resume their beneficent social activities, and are the latest recruit to the N.C.W. for Ireland, render that body really representative, not only of the centres, Belfast and Dublin, but of the rural area which after all constitute four-fifths of Ireland, North and South. The existence of the N.C.W. with the recently formed Federation of University women graduates, shows that for many women, even in Ireland, it is possible to have "in things essential, unity."

ELECTRICITY IN THE HOME.

In view of the present interest in electricity the Electrical Association for Women has done a wise thing in announcing a course of lectures on the use of electricity in the home, at 15 Savoy Street, W.C. 2, beginning Tuesday, 9th February, at 7 o'clock. The lectures deal with electric lighting, heating, cooking, labour saving, with a final one on the electrification of the home, of cities, and community life, with lantern slides. Full particulars may be had from the office of the Association, 26 George Street, Hanover Square.

CLOSING HOURS AND THE BREWSTER SESSIONS.¹

The necessity for continuing the fight for the early closing hour at Brewster Sessions this month with renewed vigour is emphasized by the increasing demand put forward by the Trade during the past year for uniformity of the later hour in London and the surrounding districts. With some speciousness they have urged that, since in many cases the outlying districts have the later week-day closing hour, while the greater part of London is under the early closing régime, it is only reasonable that London should come into line with its suburbs and share the advantage of the latest possible closing hour. It is the task of the churches and temperance workers to prove to the Justices the great advantages which have accrued from the earlier closing hour. Last year the Churches, greatly assisted and encouraged by the Temperance Council of the Christian Churches, did splendid work in maintaining the early closing hour in all Metropolitan districts (with the exception of Finsbury) where it had been previously enjoined. This year it is hoped that the fight may be carried further, and the early closing hour on Sunday (9 p.m.) made uniform for London.

GRADUATE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIPS FOR RESEARCH IN AUSTRALIA.

The International Federation of University Women will award two research fellowships to be held in Australia for the year 1927. These fellowships, the gift of a member of the Australian Federation of University Women, will each be of the value of £500 and are to be used for a year's research in Biology, Geology, Anthropology, Economics, or Colonial History. At least six months of the year must be spent in work carried out on the continent of Australia, but the latter part of the year may be spent in Tasmania or New Zealand. One of the Fellowships will be awarded to a British graduate (excluding graduates of Australian, Tasmanian, and New Zealand Universities), and the other to a non-British graduate. Further particulars of these interesting fellowships, which offer remarkable opportunities for research in several different fields, may be obtained from the Secretary, the British Federation of University Women, 92 Victoria Street, London, S.W. 1.

WOMEN MEMBERS IN PARLIAMENT.

We are glad to hear that Miss Ellen Wilkinson's indisposition is only temporary. It is, indeed, not to be wondered at that she has suffered to some extent from the astonishing amount of work which she has accomplished. One of the strongest reasons for more women in Parliament is the undoubted fact that the strain is far too heavy for four women. They are obliged to be in their seats with a regularity less necessary for men members, who can depute others to represent them in their absence. They are compelled to serve on more Parliamentary Committees than their men colleagues, because of the fact that all Committee work must be divided by four. Last but not least there is the heavy demand from outside for their presence as speakers at public gatherings of all kinds all over the country. Surely the time has come when a determined effort should be made to secure the election of more women. We hope to return to this subject shortly in a forthcoming issue.

FATHERS AND DAUGHTERS.

The Times recently reported a most praiseworthy effort to enable fathers to see something of the actual work of education. At a Balham L.C.C. Central School, the 350 girls and their teachers assembled from 6.30 to 9.30 and went through the ordinary daily school routine.

¹ As we go to press we are glad to learn that the Kensington Licensing Justices refused an application for later closing hours for licensed premises.

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEWS.

By BERTHA MASON.

LONDON BOROUGH COUNCILS ELECTIONS, 1925.

The London County Council has recently published a report which shows, in respect of each Metropolitan borough and ward (1) The number of candidates elected at the Borough Council elections which took place on 2nd November, 1925. (2) The number of local government electors on the current register. (3) The number of electors who were given an opportunity of voting at the election. (4) The percentage voting at the 1925 election compared with the percentage voting at the last election in 1922. Taking these points in order, we note (1) that the number of candidates elected was 1,366, an increase of 4 over the number elected in 1922. This increase is due to an increase in the number of councillors on the Fulham Metropolitan Borough Council. Since the 1925 election an order has been made providing for the election of two more councillors on the Fulham Council. This further increase brings the total number of councillors now serving to 1,368. The number of men returned was 1,225, and of women 141. Of these 104 men and 19 women were returned unopposed.

(2) The number of local government electors on the register on which the 1925 election was fought was 1,913,828, as against 1,825,869 at the previous election of 1922, an increase of 87,959, or 4.8 per cent. The total comprised 944,095 (49.3 per cent.) men and 969,733 (50.7 per cent.) women, showing a preponderance of women voters to the extent of 25,638.

(3) Of the total local government electorate, 1,826,998, or 95.5 per cent., were given an opportunity of voting. No borough, as a whole, was uncontested, and in 18 boroughs there were contests in every ward, the aggregate number of wards contested being 255 out of 280.

(4) Of the 1,826,998 electors who were given an opportunity of voting, only 776,304, or 42.5 per cent., actually voted. A lower percentage than this at a Metropolitan Borough Council election has only been twice recorded, viz., 36.4 per cent. in 1922, and 27.9 per cent. in 1919.

Here it may be of interest to compare the result with those of the other elections which took place in London in 1925.

March County Council Elections:—Percentage of electors voting, 30.6; 1922, 36.8 per cent.

April, Poor Law Guardians Elections:—1925, 19.8 per cent.; 1922, 22.8 per cent.

November, Metropolitan Borough Council Elections:—1925, 42.5 per cent.; 1922, 36.4 per cent.

The highest proportion of electors voting in any Metropolitan Borough in the election of 1925 was at Woolwich (58.5 per cent.) and the lowest at Shoreditch (32.5 per cent.). For the seventh time Woolwich headed the list of the 28 Metropolitan boroughs, by sending over 58 per cent. of its voting strength to the poll at the Borough Council election. Since 1903 its electors have set an example to the rest of London by their keen interest in civic matters and their sense of duty in regard to electoral responsibility. Greenwich was a good second, 52.4, Deptford coming third with 50 per cent., Poplar, Camberwell, Fulham, and Chelsea cantering close behind. The highest percentage voting in any individual ward was 65.5 in Burrage Ward, Woolwich, and the lowest, 26.1, in Kingsland Ward, Shoreditch. An explanation as to the reason for municipal activity in Woolwich and slackness in Shoreditch would be interesting and valuable. Woolwich, it is said, has always regarded itself as a town separate from London. Herein may be found the reason.

The report from which these figures are taken may be obtained from any bookseller, or from Messrs. King & Son, 2 Great Smith Street, S.W. 1, price 2d. We hope that many of our readers will not only send for a copy, but carefully study it. It gives pause for thought in that it clearly shows the apathy which prevailed in London at the triennial Borough Council election in 1925, and the need which exists for a great revival amongst Londoners of the true civic spirit, and a higher and wider conception of electoral duty and responsibility.

WOMEN JOURNALISTS.

More than half of the students reading for the diploma in journalism in the University of London were women, and of fifteen successful candidates who sat for the diploma, ten were women.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

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

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

COUNCIL MEETING, 24th to 27th FEBRUARY, Central Y.M.C.A., King George's Hall, Tottenham Court Road, W.C. 1. (Entrance, Caroline St., Gt. Russell St.)

OFFICERS' CONFERENCE.

The officers' conference, which is usually found of great use to officers and others, will be held on Saturday, 27th February, at 11.30 a.m. It is very much hoped that all officers will make an effort to attend.

LUNCHEON—THURSDAY, 25TH FEBRUARY. HOLBORN RESTAURANT, 1 p.m.

The speakers at the Luncheon will be: Capt. Walter Elliot, M.P. (Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Health, Scotland), Sir Martin Conway, M.P. (English Universities), Miss Gray, J.P. (High Mistress, St. Paul's School for Girls), Lady Keeble (Miss Lillah McCarthy), and Dr. Jane Walker. Seats will be allotted in order of application. Tickets, price 5s. for members, 7s. 6d. for non-members, may be obtained either through Societies or directly from the Secretary, 15 Dean's Yard, S.W. 1.

MASS MEETING ON EQUAL FRANCHISE. FRIDAY, 26TH FEBRUARY. AT 8 p.m. CENTRAL HALL, WESTMINSTER, S.W. 1.

Speakers.—Dame Millicent Fawcett, G.B.E., LL.D., Miss Maude Royden, Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P., and Madame Malaterre-Sellier (President of the Paris Branch of the Union Française pour le Suffrage des Femmes).

A great many applications are being received for this meeting, and those wishing to attend should send in their request as soon as possible.

Lady Astor's plans have been changed owing to the illness of her son, and there is every reason to hope that she will also be one of our speakers. Lady Astor was asked to speak when the first arrangements for the meeting were being made, but as she had arranged to go abroad on that day, she was obliged to refuse.

Tickets, price 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d., may be obtained from the Secretary, 15 Dean's Yard, S.W. 1. Blocks of 2s. 6d. tickets for Societies sending over six members may be reserved at 1s. each.

CONFERENCE ON RESTRICTIVE LEGISLATION FOR WOMEN WORKERS.

Dr. Rhoda Adamson, who is well known to many of our members as having been the medical supervisor of many factories in Leeds, has kindly consented to be one of the speakers at the Conference on Restrictive Legislation for Women Workers to be held on Wednesday, 24th February, at 4.45 p.m.

HOSPITALITY.

We are still receiving requests for hospitality, and will be most grateful if any of our members in or near London will offer hospitality to a delegate.

I.W.S.A. CONGRESS, PARIS, 30th May to 6th June.

Societies are reminded that there is still time to send in nominations for delegates, or substitute delegates, for the I.W.S.A. Congress. Nominations must be in by 10th February.

NEWS FROM SOCIETIES.

BARNESLEY S.E.C.

A very interesting meeting was held in St. Mary's Parish Room on 22nd January, when Miss Helen Ward gave a stirring address on Equal Franchise. Representatives from many women's organizations were present, and there was considerable discussion. A resolution in favour of Equal Franchise was passed unanimously. The Rev. H. E. Hove, M.A., was a most sympathetic chairman. Miss Ward also kindly addressed the local branch of the League of Nations Union. Members are reminded that the February meeting has been cancelled.

WOMEN BARRISTERS.

We congratulate Mrs. C. A. Morrison and Lady Clifton on their calls to the Bar last week, wishing them all success in the career which they are undertaking.

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OF WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS.

The King's Speech always provides an opportunity for those interested in special reforms to press for legislation during the coming Session. At its first meeting of the year held on 28th January, the Consultative Committee took advantage of this opportunity to urge the Government to include in its programme Equal Franchise for Men and Women, a Legitimacy Bill, and a Bill to prevent Women Civil Servants and Local Government Employees from being forced to resign their posts on marriage. The Committee also considered the compulsory appointment of Women Police and after some discussion it was agreed to try and get this promoted either by a Private Member's Bill or by a resolution of the House.

STATEMENT OF WORK OF WOMEN POLICE TO BE SENT TO THE HOME SECRETARY.

At the Conference of Women's Organizations called by the N.U.S.E.C. on the 26th January to consider the above statement, the following organizations were represented:—Association of Assistant Mistresses, Association of Post Office Women Clerks, Association for Social and Moral Hygiene, Association of Teachers of Domestic Subjects, Bristol Women Patrols, British Commonwealth League, British Federation of University Women, British Social Hygiene Council, Conservative Women's Reform Association, Devon Council of Women, Federation of Women Civil Servants, Joint Parliamentary Advisory Committee, Liverpool Women Police Patrols, London Society for Women's Service, National Council for Unmarried Mother and her Child, National Council of Women of Great Britain, National Federation of Women's Institutes, National Society of Day Nurseries, National Union of Women Teachers, National Women's Citizens' Association, Professional Union of Trained Nurses, Six Point Group, St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance, Tunbridge Wells S.E.C., Women's Auxiliary Service, Women's Co-operative Guild, Women's Election Committee, Women's International League, National Women's Liberal Federation, Women Sanitary Inspectors' and Health Visitors' Association, Young Women's Christian Association. The statement was amended, accepted, and will be published next week after it has been sent to the Home Secretary.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MARRIED WOMEN AND INCOME TAX.

MADAM,—Why do you assume that a married woman has not "the option" of separate assessment and allowances? Is it because individual women acting singly find so much difficulty in piercing through the wooden indifference of officialdom that they get the impression that the door is shut against them; or is it that they never try to open the door, but assume that it is deliberately locked, and that only making a grievance and agitation will be effectual?

It is true that application for separate assessment must be made each year before a certain date in May, and that the application must be followed by persistence and vigilance all the year through as necessity arises, but even men suffer from "Red Tape" annoyances, and if women want equality they should not expect preferential treatment in this particular way any more than in other ways.

I am a married woman and the owner of a business, by means of which I earn an income. As a business woman I employ a firm of accountants for audit purposes, and amongst their duties are those of attending to my income tax affairs, which I admit is lucky for me in the saving of tiresome personal dealings with officials, but it does not alter the fact that separate assessment is as available to other women as to myself. Separate assessment and allowance make no difference to Revenue receipts, but they do make a difference to married women—and, incidentally, to married men. A man is always liable for his wife's tax, and even if she is assessed separately and does not pay, his goods may be distrained upon. If he pays the tax, he very rightly gets all the allowance. But a woman who has an income, earned or otherwise, and claims it as her own, naturally assumes all its responsibilities, and her being married is not relevant. If separate tax is paid a married woman will of course get her proportionate allowance, otherwise her husband would have an advantage. This, however, is a matter of arrangement with Revenue officials.

I am under the impression that few married women claim separate assessment. An Inland Revenue official of my acquaintance had no experience, though he agreed that there would of course be no difficulty; and my accountant (an old established firm) confessed that mine was his "first case." I cannot help wondering what other women with separate incomes do? Do they allow their husbands to pay their tax for them—they handing over the requisite amount, less allowance due? It is, it seems to me, a "Mare's Nest"—one presumably does the right thing, being fair with a man even though married to him. Surely women do not want to "eat their cake and have it too" as in your paragraph? It should, in my opinion, be a point of economic honour for women to shoulder the responsibilities of economic freedom, whether married or single.

ADA NIELD CHEW.

Manchester.

THE TRUTH ABOUT STEEL WALLS.

MADAM,—Since my letter of last week I visited a steel house which an enterprising Leith shipbuilding firm have erected for demonstration purposes. My main object was to try to ascertain the truth about the assertion that the inner walls of a steel house would require to be cleaned and repainted at intervals just as those of a ship. The firm's representative at once freely confirmed the statement and said he saw no reason why the house should not be so treated. He made very light of my objection from the housewife's point of view. The inner walls could be easily arranged in detachable panels, he said, and these could be removed, say, every three or four years, the interior treated with the special non-corrosive dressing which ship's walls get, the panels replaced, and "you'd never know the workmen had been in"! No mess of plaster or mortar, no noise, the whole thing done expeditiously and cleanly. And then, he added, there are only one or two sides of the room affected in any case, as there is no need to touch the partition walls.

This reassuring statement, however, only concerned the firm's own construction, which is of solid steel plates, flanged and fitted precisely the same as ship's deck houses, and there can be no doubt concerning the stability of this particular type of house, I am informed. Whether the lighter form of construction of steel and wood would be suitable for a triennial internal "spring clean", I do not know, but, in any case, the cost of the upkeep of steel houses in paint, externally and internally if they are to be maintained in a stable healthy condition, will be very considerable; and whether this is undertaken by the Government, or done by the Local Authorities, it comes out of the pockets of the public. This is surely an aspect that demands the attention of practical women.

I would also like to ask the women's organisations to give some consideration to the aesthetic point of view in the housing of the people. "No frills" is the Government's dictum, but as these "temporary" houses are given a lifetime of from fifty to seventy years, I think that from the standpoint of public amenity as well as for the sake of the people who may have to dwell for fifty years in the dreary monotony of an "unfrilled" steel house in a garden suburb some consideration should be given to appearance. In the Atholl houses which I have seen the rows of ugly eruptions arising from the bosses of the rivets were camouflaged by strappings or the surface was roughcast. Straps placed lattice-wise would also give a pleasing variety. In a Government contract, however, these would probably be dispensed with. Nevertheless, I am convinced that a simple, artistic, serviceable and durable house could be evolved at a suitable cost for a subsidy house by women if they put their minds to it, and I wish the women's organisations would contribute toward the solution of the rehousing of the slum populations by the erection of a few demonstration houses on these lines.

I notice that an English firm which has erected many houses in different parts of England is making the Government an offer for Scotland, can any reader give details of these houses?

M. S. BERTRAM.

AN OXFORD SCHOLAR.

MADAM,—May I be allowed to correct a statement headed "An Oxford Scholar," which appeared in your issue of 29th January?

Miss Yardley was in residence as a Scholar of this College from 1922-25, and was placed in the First Class in the Honour School of English Language and Literature last summer.

She is by no means the first woman to hold a University Scholarship here. Five other students of this College have won such scholarships during the last two years, and others have been won by members of the other Women's Colleges.

C. ANSON,
Secretary.

Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford.

CORRECTION.

We have been asked to state that Miss M. E. Moore is an Incorporated Accountant not a Chartered Accountant, as was stated in our article on Women in Business in the issue of 1st January. For the benefit of the uninitiated we should explain that the Institute of Chartered Accountants and the Society of Incorporated Accountants are quite different organizations. There are at present two women members of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Miss M. Harris Smith, Fellow, and Miss Ethel Watts, B.A., Associate. There are four women members of the Society of Incorporated Accountants: Miss Claridge, Associate, Miss M. E. Moore, Math. Tripos, Cambridge, Associate, Miss M. M. Homersham, M.A. Oxon, Fellow, and Miss M. Harris Smith, Hon. Member. For further information on the subject we refer our readers to an article in this paper by Miss Harris Smith on 23rd January, 1925.

FELLOWSHIPS FOR RESEARCH IN AUSTRALIA FOR WOMEN GRADUATES.

The Australian Federation of University Women offers two research fellowships, each of the value of £500 (1) open to women graduates of British Universities (excluding those of Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand), (2) open to women graduates of non-British Universities. The Fellowships will be tenable from March, 1927, and are to be used for research in Biology, Anthropology, Geology, Economics or Colonial History. Applications must be received by 15th March, 1926, by the Secretary, British Federation of University Women, 92 Victoria Street, London, S.W. 1, from whom regulations may be obtained.

COMING EVENTS.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE.

FEB. 16. 5.30 p.m. 35 Marsham Street, S.W. 1. Mrs. Oliver Strachey on "The Work of the London Society for Women's Service."

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

FEB. 26. 8 p.m. Central Hall, Westminster. Mass Meeting on Equal Franchise. Speakers: Dame Millicent Fawcett, G.B.E., Miss Maude Royden, and Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P. Chairman: Miss Eleanor Rathbone, J.P.

Chelsea S.E.C. FEB. 8. 5 p.m. Miss McLeod on "How Women Citizens can get what they want."

City of London S.E.C. FEB. 18. 6.30 p.m. Meeting at Langbourne Club, 107/108 Upper Thames Street. Speaker: Mrs. Corbett Ashby. (Tea for members and friends, 5.45 to 6.15 p.m.)

Croydon W.C.A. (North). FEB. 19. Miss F. M. Beaumont on the New Insurance Acts. Dumbarton W.C.A. FEB. 4. 3 p.m. U.F. Church Halls. Speaker: Mrs. Corbett Ashby. Chairman: Mrs. Langlands.

Edinburgh W.C.A. FEB. 9. 5.15 p.m. Study Circle at 27 Rutland Street. Subject: "Women in Industry; for and against Protective Legislation." Miss Whalley, M.A., and Miss H. MacLachlan, M.A.

FEB. 11. 8 p.m. Gartshore Hall, 116 George Street. Dr. B. P. Watson, F.R.C.S.E., on "The Problem of our High Maternal and Infantile Mortality and Morbidity." Chairman: Lady Findlay.

Englefield Green S.E.C. FEB. 11. Miss Monica Whately on "The Parliamentary Work of the N.U.S.E.C."

Glasgow S.E.C. and W.C.A. FEB. 6. 7.15 p.m. Grand Hotel. Dinner to commemorate the Passing of the Representation of the People Act (1918).

Hornsey S.E.C. FEB. 18. Miss Picton-Turbervill on "Equal Franchise."

Horsham W.C.A. FEB. 12. 3.15 p.m. Miss Bertha Mason on "Reform of the Poor Law."

Kensington and Paddington S.E.C. FEB. 5. 3 p.m. Annual Meeting at South Villa, 76 Campden Hill Road, W. 8. 3.30 p.m. Open Meeting, when Miss Helen Ward will speak on "Equal Franchise." Chair: The Lady Balfour of Burleigh.

Petersfield S.E.C. FEB. 16. 7 p.m. Miss Monica Whately on "Equal Guardianship."

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN TEACHERS.

FEB. 5. 7.30 p.m. Public Meeting at Central Hall, Westminster, to demand the entire withdrawal of Circular 1371 and Memorandum 44, and to protest against false economy in Education. Speakers: Members of Parliament and Members of the N.U.W.T. Chair: Miss A. M. Jackson.

SIX POINT GROUP.

FEB. 15. 5 p.m. 92 Victoria Street, S.W. 1. Mrs. Muriel Matters-Porter on "Has Woman Creative and Constructive Ability?"

SOCIETY FOR CONSTRUCTIVE BIRTH CONTROL AND RACIAL PROGRESS.

FEB. 17. 8 p.m. Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. Mr. R. B. Kerr on "What Malthus said and what Malthusianism is to-day." Chair: Dr. Marie Stopes.

THE WOMEN'S ENGINEERING SOCIETY.

FEB. 12. 6.30 p.m. 26 George Street, Hanover Square, W. 1. Miss E. M. Kennedy on "Some Problems of the Machinery Market."

THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

FEB. 5. 5 p.m. 70 Victoria Street, S.W. 1. Mrs. H. A. Tipping on "The Furnishing of Hampton Court for William III." Chairman: Lady Schuster.

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TO LET AND WANTED.

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

LAKE OF GENEVA.—PAYING GUESTS, moderate terms. Vegetarian. Close to Fellowship School.—Mrs. Collier, La Falaise, Gland, Vaud.

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

CHELSEA.—FLAT to let (sittingroom, bedroom, kitchen, use of bathroom), furnished, from March.—Apply, Box 1,213, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

HERTFORD HOUSE, 65 Albert Bridge Road, Battersea Park.—Single and double BED-SITTINGROOMS, with breakfast and bath, for professional women or students; central heating; other meals by arrangement; £2.

COUNTRY COTTAGE wanted from about the middle of March for several months. Three or four bedrooms, garden; attractive country; garage near; convenient distance from London, preferably north or north-west.—Apply, Box 1,222, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

SMALL HOUSE in central part London to let, furnished, for spring and summer. Two sittingrooms, four bedrooms, telephone, wireless; easy to run; good housekeeper if desired.—Apply, Box 1,221, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

W. SUSSEX.—Beautiful manor house to let, furnished, six months, 8 guineas week, or for sale £5,000; two large reception, six bedrooms, massive oak staircase.—Box 1,123, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, S.W. 1.

UNFURNISHED, large ROOM to let in March, Bloomsbury district; top floor, 3 windows, overlooking public gardens; use of kitchen and bathroom (geyser); £1 weekly; attendance by arrangement.—Apply, Box 1,124, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

W.C. 1.—TWO ROOMS, beautifully furnished, in professional woman's flat. Lift, every convenience; 37s. 6d.—9 Woburn Mansions, Francis Street.

BED-SITTINGROOM, south aspect, every convenience, without board or attendance; very moderate terms; lady's quiet homely house, large garden; good road, near Brixton Station.—Box 1,219, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

MAISONETTE to let, Fulham Road, Chelsea; furnished, 2-3 months, immediate possession; 2 bed, 2 recep., kitchen, bath, telephone, etc.—Box 1,228, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

UNFURNISHED, tiny ROOM, cleaning and electric light, ros. 6d.; charming position, St. John's Wood; own meter; furnished if desired.—Write, Bulan, 8 Clifford's Inn, E.C. 4.

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.

ZITA'S KITCHEN, LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICE, Earl's Court. Mistresses and Maids can learn housekeeping, catering, and cooking here at hours to suit themselves, or by correspondence. Study circles arranged. Economic diets planned. Terms by arrangement.—Address, Ann Pope, c/o THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

PUBLIC SPEAKING.—Learn to become a useful speaker and Chairman.—Box 1,216, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

BOOK-KEEPING.—Classes and Private Tuition.—Courses to suit individual requirements.—Miss A. E. Cowley, 31 Westminster Palace Gardens, S.W. 1. Telephone Victoria 763.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

BARGAINS IN COLOURED ART LINEN.—Remnant bundles of coloured art linen for cushion covers and fancy needlework, 8s. 6d. per bundle, postage 6d. Write for Complete Bargain List To-day.—HUTTON'S, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ulster.

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

POST WANTED.

SWISS Lady, experienced SUPERINTENDENT of Hostel for Girls, now closing, seeks similar post. Reference, Miss Sharpe, Gilbaven, Highgate, N. 6.—Box, 1,125, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, S.W. 1.

DRESS.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

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, 7th February; 3.30, Music, Miss Eleanor Rathbone, J.P., on "Family Allowances." 6.30, Miss Maude Royden, "The Hymns we sing."

C.B.C. Society for Constructive Birth Control and Racial Progress, and the Free Clinic originally founded by Dr. Marie Stopes and Mr. H. V. Roe in Holloway. New central address: 108 Whitfield Street, Tottenham Court Road, London, W. 1. Social workers anxious for local instruction, but without funds for independent Clinics, can obtain the services of a C.B.C. certificated Nurse for one day weekly or monthly from above.

EDUCATED HOME HELPS BUREAU, Philbeach Hall, Philbeach Gardens, Earl's Court, requires and supplies educated women for all branches of domestic work. Registration: Employers 2s. 6d., Workers 1s. Suiting, 7s. 6d. and 2s. Telephone, Western 6323.

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