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CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE  
OF GIRLS AND WOMEN IN LONDON  
53, VICTORIA STREET  
*Telephone: VICTORIA 6397*

ANNUAL REPORT  
1936-1937

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Pamphlet

CENTRAL COUNCIL  
FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE OF GIRLS  
AND WOMEN IN LONDON

*President :*  
THE LADY EMMOTT.

*Deputy President :*  
SIR OSCAR WARBURG, O.B.E., L.C.C.

*Vice-Presidents :*  
THE COUNTESS OF IVEAGH. THE VISCOUNT ASTOR.  
MRS. C. R. ATTLEE

*Chairman :*  
DAME MERIEL TALBOT, D.B.E.

*Vice-Chairman :*  
THE REV. PREBENDARY AUSTIN THOMPSON, M.A.

*Hon. Treasurer :*  
F. W. CAPE, ESQ.

*Secretary :*  
MISS BROOKE.

53, VICTORIA STREET, LONDON, S.W.1  
*Tel. : Victoria 6397*

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### **What is the Central Council for the Social Welfare of Girls and Women in London ?**

It is a Council consisting of representatives of all public authorities and all voluntary societies concerned with the welfare of girls in London. It includes members of Government Departments, of the London County Council, and members of all the great voluntary societies of the Church of England, the Roman Catholic Church, the Free Churches, the Jewish Community, and interdenominational societies such as the Y.W.C.A.

### **What are its Aims ?**

To bring about helpful co-operation amongst all those concerned with work for women and girls, in order to ensure the fullest and most effective use of the moral, social and spiritual forces available.

### **What is its Special Work ?**

To provide a Central Information Bureau to which any girl coming to London can apply personally or by letter, for information regarding residential hostels, social clubs, travelling arrangements, employment agencies and other matters connected with establishing herself happily in London ; and to keep the various organisations existing for the welfare of girls in touch with one another.

Every effort is made to encourage enquiry before a girl actually leaves home, or accepts employment in London.

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### **Why is such an Information Centre Needed ?**

Because at present very many girls come to London and live and work there for months without knowing of the clubs and societies ready to welcome them.

Because unless they know of such clubs and organisations they must spend their leisure in the streets and depend for friendship on casual encounters.

Because the dangers of loneliness are revealed almost every day by tragic happenings which should be preventable.

Because employers who wish to ensure that their employees have pleasant and healthy provision for their off duty hours are often at a loss how to obtain information about facilities in a particular neighbourhood.

### **What does it do ?**

It enables the splendid work done by the various societies in providing clubs, etc., to be fully known and fully used.

It enables any girl who works in London to learn where she can go in her leisure time for companionship and healthy recreation.

It enables any girl making arrangements to come to London to know where to write for information before she comes.

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## What can the Public do?

Support the Bureau—

By making its work known to girls and employers and social workers  
and

By giving a subscription to the funds of the Council.

### PUBLICATIONS.

The following publications may be obtained from THE SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE OF GIRLS AND WOMEN IN LONDON, 53, VICTORIA STREET, S.W.1. (Tel. : Victoria 6397) :—

#### GENERAL.

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Annual Report of the Council .. ..   | Free |
| Handbook of Residential Hostels in London for Professional and Working Girls and Women .. .. . | 1s.  |
| Survey of Social Facilities for Girls and Women in London .. .. .                              | 1s.  |
| Enquiry into Lodging Accommodation for Girls and Women in London .. ..                         | 1s.  |

#### INFORMATION BUREAU.

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Leaflet for Girls .. .. .  | Free |
| Leaflet for Workers .. .. .  | „    |
| Notices for display (small and large) ..                           | „    |
| List of Picnic Lunch Rooms for Girls ..                            | „    |
| “Advice in Emergency” card for display in London (10 in. × 15 in.) | „    |

*L. T. A. Robinson Limited, The Botolph Printing Works, London, S.W.9*

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## CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE OF GIRLS AND WOMEN IN LONDON 53, VICTORIA STREET

Telephone: VICTORIA 6397

### AIMS OF THE COUNCIL.

To bring together in helpful co-operation the various statutory and voluntary agencies concerned with the welfare of girls in the metropolitan area.

To keep themselves acquainted with the current provision in London for women and girls in moral danger, to consider the sufficiency of such provision, and to take steps to promote its extension where the need is manifest.

To ensure that the girls of London have the fullest opportunities of developing their spiritual, mental and physical capacities under healthy conditions, so that the influences which work for evil may be effectively defeated.

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**Present Constitution of the Central Council for the Social Welfare of Girls and Women in London.**

REPRESENTATIVES OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS  
AND OTHER PUBLIC AUTHORITIES.

|                                   |     |     |     |  |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|--|
| Ministry of Health                | ... | ... | ... | Colonel Harrison, D.S.O.<br>Miss Wamsley, O.B.E.   |
| Home Office                       | ... | ... | ... | Mr. S. W. Harris, C.B., C.V.O.   |
| Board of Education                | ... | ... | ... | Miss Bastable, H.M.I.  |
| Ministry of Labour                | ... | ... | ... | Miss K. M. Walls.  |
| Charity Commission                | ... | ... | ... | Mr. W. F. Fox.   |
| London County Council             | ... | ... | ... | Dr. F. Barrie Lambert, C.B.E.<br>The Rev. J. Scott Lidgett, D.D.<br>Mrs. A. M. Mathew, J.P.<br>Sir Oscar Warburg, O.B.E. |
| Corporation of the City of London | ... | ... | ... | Mr. C. Stanley Crosse.   |

ASSOCIATIONS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICERS.

|   |     |     |     |                       |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----------------------|
| Society of Medical Officers of Health<br>(Metropolitan Branch)      | ... | ... | ... | Dr. Porter.           |
| National Association of Probation<br>Officers (Metropolitan Branch) | ... | ... | ... | Miss Hamilton Hunter. |

VOLUNTARY AGENCIES.

|  |     |     |     |                     |
|--|-----|-----|-----|---------------------|
| Association for Jewish Youth                               | ... | ... | ... | Miss M. Moses, J.P. |
| British Association of Residential<br>Settlements          | ... | ... | ... | Miss H. C. Escreet. |
| Catholic Girls' Society                                    | ... | ... | ... | Miss Gilbert.       |
| Catholic Women's League                                    | ... | ... | ... | Miss Butt.          |
| Central Association for Mental Welfare                     | ... | ... | ... | Miss Evelyn Fox.    |
| Chelmsford Diocesan Association for<br>Girls' Aid          | ... | ... | ... |                     |
| Church Army  | ... | ... | ... | Sister Thorpe.      |
| Church of England Advisory Board<br>for Moral Welfare Work | ... | ... | ... | Miss Retallack.     |
| Dr. Barnardo's Homes                                       | ... | ... | ... | Miss Davies Colley. |
| Girls' Friendly Society                                    | ... | ... | ... | Mrs. Edwin Orde.    |
| Girl Guides  | ... | ... | ... | Mrs. Mark Kerr.     |
| Girls' Guildry   | ... | ... | ... | Miss G. M. Atkins.  |
| Girls' Life Brigade  | ... | ... | ... | Mrs. Mary S. Cant.  |
| Institute of Hospital Almoners                             | ..  | ..  | ..  | Miss C. Morris.     |

|  |     |     |     |   |
|--|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Jewish Association for the Protection<br>of Girls, Women and Children          | ... | ... | ... | Mr. S. Cohen.                             |
| Joint Council of Juvenile Organisations<br>Committees                          | ... | ... | ... | Miss M. de M. Leathes.                    |
| London Diocesan Council for Rescue<br>Work...                                  | ... | ... | ... | Miss Mylne.                               |
| London Diocesan Council for Youth  | ... | ... | ... | Miss Barton.                              |
| London Female Preventive and Re-<br>formatory Institution                      | ... | ... | ... | Mr. W. W. Thompson.                       |
| London Welsh Friendly Aid Society<br>for Girls                                 | ... | ... | ... | Mrs. Wilfred Rowlands.                    |
| Mabys  | ... | ... | ... | Miss Easton.                              |
| Mothers' Union   | ... | ... | ... | Mrs. Elliott Clarkson.                    |
| National Council for the Unmarried<br>Mother and her Child                     | ... | ... | ... | Miss S. Musson.                           |
| National Vigilance Association   | ... | ... | ... | Mr. F. Sempkins.                          |
| National Council of Girls' Clubs   | ... | ... | ... | Lady Eleanor Keane.                       |
| Police Court Mission   | ... | ... | ... | The Rev. Harry Pearson.                   |
| Reformatory and Refuge Union   | ... | ... | ... | Mr. Herbert H. Glanfield                  |
| St. Alban's Diocesan Association for<br>Girls' Aid                             | ... | ... | ... | Miss Hilda Caldecott.                     |
| St. Anne's Catholic Settlement...  | ... | ... | ... | The Right Rev. the Bishop of<br>Pella.    |
| Salvation Army   | ... | ... | ... | Colonel Winifrede Case.                   |
| Society of Hope  | ... | ... | ... | Miss Thorpe.                              |
| Sodality of the Children of Mary   | ... | ... | ... | Miss Chapman.                             |
| Southwark Diocesan Association for<br>Moral Welfare                            | ... | ... | ... | The Right Rev. the Bishop of<br>Kingston. |
| Travellers' Aid Society  | ... | ... | ... | The Rt. Hon. Countess Amherst.            |
| Wayfarers' Sunday Association  | ... | ... | ... | Mrs. Maurice Bear.                        |
| Women's Council of the National<br>Council of the Evangelical Free<br>Churches | ... | ... | ... | Mrs. Barson.                              |
| West London Mission  | ... | ... | ... | The Rev. W. R. Rice.                      |
| Young Women's Christian Association  | ... | ... | ... | Miss Scott Moncrieff.                     |

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS.

Mr. F. W. Cape.  
Mr. Cecil Chapman, J.P.  
Commissioner Adelaide Cox, C.B.E.  
Mrs. Owen Hugh Smith.  
Sir Frederick Menzies, K.B.E., M.D.  
Mrs. Starey.  
The Rev. Prebendary Austin Thompson, M.A.  
Dame Meriel Talbot, D.B.E.

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*Hon. Treasurer :*

Mr. F. W. CAPE.

*Executive Committee :*

the Hon. Officers *ex-officio* :

Dr. F. BARRIE LAMBERT, C.B.E., L.C.C., D.P.H.

The Right Rev. MONSIGNOR PROVOST BROWN,  
Bishop of Pella.

Colonel WINIFREDE CASE.

Mr. S. COHEN.

Miss EASTON.

Mr. S. W. HARRIS, C.B., C.V.O.

Colonel HARRISON, D.S.O., M.B.

Mrs. OWEN HUGH SMITH.

Lady ELEANOR KEANE.

Mrs. MARK KERR.

Miss ~~WILSON~~ HEARN.

Mrs. EDWIN ORDE.

Miss SCOTT MONCRIEFF.

Sister THORPE.

Miss WAMSLEY, O.B.E.

*Secretary :*

to whom all communications should be addressed :

Miss BROOKE.

*Hon. Auditors :*

Messrs. BARTON, MAYHEW & Co.

*Bankers :*

MIDLAND BANK,  
22, Victoria Street, S.W.1.

## CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE OF GIRLS AND WOMEN IN LONDON

### ORIGIN, PURPOSE AND CONSTITUTION.

The Central Council for the Social Welfare of Girls and Women in London was first established (under the name of Central Council for Rescue and Preventive Work in London) as the result of a Conference held at the Ministry of Health in 1922, its aim being to bring together in helpful co-operation the various statutory and voluntary agencies concerned with rescue and preventive work in the Metropolitan area.

### EARLY WORK.

As a first step the Council made and published a comprehensive 50-page Report on all rescue and preventive work carried on in London.

Following up the information thus collected, Conferences were held which drew together all workers in this field. By thus making known the aims and methods of the most progressive and successful organisations, the Council was able to assist materially in the improvement in methods of rescue work, which has been so marked in the last few years.

### ENQUIRIES AND RESEARCH.

Special Enquiries were undertaken into the accommodation available for medical cases, and also into the arrangements for after-care and training when the infectious stage of the illness is past. In co-operation with the London County Council, a scheme has been inaugurated for securing extended care when necessary.

Again, in co-operation with the London County Council,

and the Medical Research Council, an Enquiry was undertaken into the mental status of girls in Rescue Homes.

The data collected shows the need for further research which will be undertaken when funds are available.

#### **PUBLICATIONS.**

A Handbook of Residential Clubs and Hostels for professional and working girls was prepared and issued.

The book is in great demand and is now in its seventh edition.

A Survey of Facilities for the Social Welfare of Girls in London was made and printed in 1928. It contained notes of the aims and activities of all Societies which provide such facilities for normal girls.

An Enquiry into Lodging Accommodation for girls and women in London, printed in 1932, comments on Common Lodging Houses and Shelters, Emergency Accommodation, Temporary Accommodation, Hostels, and Flats and Flatlets.

#### **ENLARGEMENT OF SCOPE AND CHANGE OF NAME.**

The ideal which the Central Council has always pursued is to obtain for the girls of London the fullest opportunities of developing their spiritual, mental, and physical capacities under healthy conditions, so that the influences which work for evil should be defeated.

In accordance with this policy the Central Council decided in 1928 to enlarge its scope and to change its name to that which it now bears, and which expresses more accurately its full aims. The Public Authorities and the Societies concerned with the general social welfare of girls were invited to join the Council, which is now fully representative. A list of the constituent bodies is given at the beginning of this report.

The first problem considered by the new Council was the difficulty, familiar to all social workers, of ensuring that girls coming to London as strangers should get the help and advice they so often need.

The Central Council requested the Home Secretary to convene a Conference in order to consider this matter.

#### **HOME OFFICE CONFERENCE AND COMMITTEE.**

The Conference met in July, 1928, and as a result the Home Secretary, appointed a Committee (the Girls' Social Welfare Committee) to carry into effect the resolutions passed at the Conference. This Committee made a survey of the existing arrangements for befriending girls coming to work in London, and submitted a report to the Home Secretary, which was approved by him.

The Report recommended that a Central Information Bureau for girls should be established. The Central Council was invited to undertake this work, and the London County Council was asked to co-operate, and consented to do so.

#### **CENTRAL INFORMATION BUREAU.**

The Central Council gladly acceded to the request of the Home Secretary, and in the summer of 1929 the Central Information Bureau was established. The work being done has abundantly justified the experiment. Local Authorities and Voluntary Societies in the provinces have been most willing to co-operate in the work by displaying notices of the Bureau in public libraries and other suitable places.

As a result the Bureau has had a steady stream of enquiries, and has been able to direct hundreds of girls to hostels and clubs. Since the Bureau does not represent any one society or Church, but is in touch with all their organisations, no girl need hesitate to come to the Bureau on the ground that it is meant for another class or another creed than her own. Thus the Bureau can, and does, help those girls who, having no link with any society, are most likely to fall into difficulty and danger.

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1936-37.

The Council has pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for 1936-37. It records a year of steady work, carried on and developed on lines which have proved their value in the past.

The Central Information Bureau is the chief point of contact with the general public, and necessarily takes an important place in the Report of work done. But the consultative work of the Council though less prominent, is of great value and must not be forgotten in assessing what has been accomplished during the year.

### CONFERENCES.

The Central Council, representing as it does all societies concerned with the social welfare of girls is particularly concerned to secure full co-operation between these bodies. To this end a conference was arranged in April to consider Modern Aims and Methods in Moral Welfare Work, particularly in relation to other forms of social service. The Conference was attended by a large number of workers, drawn from all Churches and engaged in all forms of work.

Miss Higson (Church of England Advisory Board for Moral Welfare Work) opened the Conference, and spoke of the changed outlook and methods of work which characterised the last twenty years. This change was largely due to the increased study of the causes of moral failure. Without in any way ignoring personal responsibility, recognition is now given to the effects of circumstances and surroundings on girls, and it is realised how essential it is to know the facts of early history before effective help can be given. Miss Higson touched on the legislation which affected the question, such as the Maternity and Child Welfare Act, the Children's Act, the Probation of Offenders Act, and spoke of the assistance which the Moral Welfare Worker could thus enlist for the girls and boys she was seeking to help, and of the increasing co-operation between the State and voluntary organizations.

Miss Retallack (Church of England Advisory Board for Moral Welfare Work) described how the work was organized and carried on. In every district there is a Diocesan Moral Welfare Worker, ready to help and advise any girl or boy, parent or friend, who may want to consult her. Miss Retallack went on to explain the different forms of help which could be given and dispelled the idea that the only method was to send a girl to a "Home" for a long period. Only a small proportion of the cases needed this particular form of help. Miss Retallack also pointed out that in the special cases where training was offered to, and accepted by a particular girl it was available at Homes where the methods are very different from former days. More and more they approximate to those of a good school. Miss Retallack spoke of the close co-operation which exists between the Diocesan workers and those of the Roman Catholic Church, the Free Churches and the Jewish Community. She also said how ready Moral Welfare Workers were to consult with club leaders, or other social workers both on general questions and on particular cases.

Miss Armstrong (Archbishop of Westminster's Social Service Committee) described the methods of work in the Roman Catholic Church and the developments now taking place. She paid a warm tribute to the help and co-operation of the Anglican Workers, who constantly put Roman Catholic girls in touch with Roman Catholic Workers and Homes.

Miss Scott Moncrieff (Young Women's Christian Association) and Miss Mainprice (Girls Friendly Society) both spoke of the difficulty felt by Club Leaders and others about some of their members who were passing through a difficult stage in their development, and with whom all was not going really well: to refer such girls to a Moral Welfare Worker, would suggest they were in some ways immoral.

Miss Retallack explained that the Diocesan Workers lived in ordinary houses or rooms and had no "label" attached. Any girl could consult them, and they need



never be called Moral Welfare Workers. The approach could often be made through giving advice about finding a job, or lodgings, or in other ways. Moreover, workers were always ready to talk over difficulties with Club Leaders and others, without being in touch with any individual.

Discussion followed on these lines, and the Conference served a useful purpose in clearing up misconceptions and bringing many people into personal touch who had not previously known or fully understood the work done by others.

To follow up this conference two "tea-discussions" were arranged to give those working among girls in the same district though in different ways, the opportunity of meeting informally and exchanging views.

The first discussion was opened by Miss Hall, sometime superintendent of the Regent's Park Hostel, who spoke on "What girls need." Her answer was friendship. She said that girls after they left school were not amenable to authority, they were not ready to listen to warnings or to take advice, but they had a longing, sometimes unconscious, for friendship, and to this appeal they would respond.

The second discussion was opened by Miss Penley, Secretary of St. Margaret's House, Bethnal Green, who gave an interesting account of a recent investigation into what happens to boys and girls when they leave school. Although Care Committees and other agencies put them in touch with Evening Institutes and Clubs, a very small proportion really attach themselves to either. Among various reasons given, the most important seemed to be the long hours of work for juveniles.

## **LODGINGS FOR GIRLS WORKING IN LONDON.**

This question has been urgent during the past year. It falls into three main divisions:

1. Lodgings for the girl who is working late at night, or whose hours are irregular.
2. Lodgings for the young girl, beginning work on a learner's wage.
3. Lodgings for older girls whose wages are still low.

### **For those working late at night.**

The difficulties of this group were described in last year's Report. Since that time, though no special Residential Club House has been started, the Central Council has been able to hear of some private lodgings which have been very useful to these girls. The Council is still of opinion however, that a Residential Club House would be valuable.

There has been great pressure on the existing accommodation for young girls on a learner's wage, and on low priced accommodation for all ages. The Central Council held two small conferences to consider the matter.

### **Girls on a Learner's Wage.**

At the first conference where the needs of apprentices and girls on a learner's wage were considered, it was agreed that such girls could not pay an economic rent, and that a Hostel partly supported by subscriptions or grants was necessary. The Hostels providing for these girls are very full: they are partly filled by older girls who should normally pass on to other lodgings, but who can not do so because there is no other accommodation available at a price they can afford. The problem of the girl on a learner's wage is therefore bound up with that of the older girl on low wages.

### **Older Girls whose Wages are still low.**

At the second conference the general question of cheap accommodation in or near central London was discussed, and the possibility of providing the same at an economic rent.

It was agreed that the great difficulty lies in securing buildings or sites at a possible rent. At the root of the

difficulty lies the abnormal increase in land values in the centre of London.

Some interesting figures were given by one Committee showing the cost of running a small hostel, where the girls payments cover all expenses and no outside help is needed. Anyone who is specially interested in this matter can obtain further information from the office of the Central Council.

At the conclusion of the Conference, the following resolution was passed:—

“That this conference recognises the urgent need for more lodging accommodation for girls and young women working in London.

The Conference therefore asks the Central Council to bring the matter to the notice of the London County Council as well as of other Housing Authorities, Housing Associations and Housing Trusts, so that when housing areas are being planned or re-planned suitable sites may be made available for hostels or accommodation to meet a similar need, particularly in the centre of London.”

It was agreed that the resolution should be sent to Housing Authorities, Housing Trusts, Housing Associations and any other body likely to be interested.

The attendance at these several Conferences numbered 171 persons, representing 59 organizations.

## CENTRAL INFORMATION BUREAU.

### Its Functions.

**The function of the Central Information Bureau is to provide a link between the girl coming to London as a stranger and the social facilities which exist for her benefit.**

The machinery provided for this purpose is as follows:—

#### 1. *Advertisement in the Provinces and in the Press.*

Attractive notices, with the address of the Bureau and setting out the help it can give, are distributed to all parts of the country, particularly to those districts in the north and in Wales, from which numbers of girls are coming to London. The notices are displayed in public libraries, in registry offices and in employment exchanges; numbers of “blue leaflets” giving the same information are supplied to Councils of Social Service, Girls Clubs, Social Workers, and any responsible person able to use them.

The help of the press is most valuable; any notice of the Bureau published brings many letters of enquiry. Thus, in various ways, many girls hear of the Bureau and write for advice before they leave home.

#### 2. *Travelling.*

Girls travelling to London are told of the National Vigilance Association, whose workers are to be found at the Railway and Coach Stations and who are ready to help girls and put them on their way to their destination. If a girl is in a position to pay a small fee the Travellers’ Aid Society is able to send a special worker to meet her and give her further help.

#### 3. *Settling in London.*

The Bureau is in close touch with all social facilities for girls, and can introduce them to friends in their district, tell them where to get lodging accommodation within their means and how to find recreation and occupation for their leisure.

So much for machinery. In what way has it been used during the past year?

Enquiries have been received from 3,381 people. As time passes, it is natural for the number of second and third enquiries from the same persons to increase; these are not counted in the numbers quoted, but they represent a very useful side of the work. Letters which say "you told me of a very nice club three years ago, I am moving to another part can you tell me of another club there?" or, "Thank you very much for telling me about this Hostel—can you tell me of a Rambling Club I could join?" show that in the minds of these girls at any rate, the Bureau is firmly established as the place where advice can be had.

Towards the end of the year, the demand for lodgings became insistent, and in some cases very difficult to meet. This question is referred to above in more detail: see pp. 11 and 12.

The Bureau has collected the addresses of a certain number of respectable private lodgings of a simple kind and asking a low rent: these have been valuable in special cases, but as they are naturally in suburban districts the expense of travelling has to be considered.

By every post comes the demand for clubs—and the proportion of those who ask for mixed clubs does not diminish. The Bureau answers to the best of its ability, but it cannot create clubs overnight where none exist. More, and still more clubs—open mixed clubs—are needed.

A number of letters came from parents in the provinces concerned to find safe lodgings for a young daughter about to begin work in London or anxious about a girl already there who is "so lonely in her off-duty time."

#### From Our Post Bag.

"Do you know a girls club, a Christian Association where I could make friends? I dislike the idea of roaming the streets alone."

"I do not want to join a club in my district, but not too far away, and I might add, I should like a mixed club if possible, where they do all kinds of sport (not too expensive but nice please). Anyway I leave it all to you."

"I am a nurse at the above hospital, and as my

friends are either on night duty or on different times to myself I feel I should like to join a club."

"I have heard of the W.E.A., but have no idea what this is, could you tell me?"

"I am sending my daughter, aged 16, to work in London. Can you tell me of a Hostel for girls near her work. I do not know of any and I do not think a lonely bedsitting room life is good for a girl of her age."

"I work in a City office all the week and at the week-ends I just love to be in the air, so I am just longing to join some clubs, but as I am not sure where to write, could you give me the addresses?"

"I work all the week. It is week-ends and holiday time I feel lonely."

"We live in a Girls Hostel, but have very little to do in our spare time. Can you help us?"

"I should like to join a jolly club where they knit."

"Many thanks for your kind letter and address of the Club. I have become a member and find it very friendly, they have some very nice evenings. It makes you feel as though you are not altogether alone in a big city."

It is difficult in print to give any idea of the human contacts effected or of their varying nature. In an Annual Report it is impossible. But the story is attempted in a small pamphlet—"The Central Information Bureau—What it is and How it is Used," copies of which can be had, post free, from the office.

A pleasant feature of the work of the Central Information Bureau has been the close co-operation with the Editors of those papers having a special appeal to girls, and with those who are responsible for the girl's and women's pages of the daily and evening papers. It is often a whole time job to answer the queries sent to these papers. Many of the enquirers are referred to the Central Information Bureau, or there is a telephone conversation between the Editors

and the Bureau about information urgently needed or to clear up some difficult point. The Council greatly appreciates this co-operation.

The Information Bureau is now constantly used by those who advise girls about employment or who help them to regain and retain health of body and mind. Officers of the Ministry of Labour and Committees dealing with employment: Hospital Almoners, Psychiatric Social Workers and many others find the information the Bureau can give saves much time and labour. The importance of this side of the work must not be overlooked.

#### FINANCE.

The financial position of the Council cannot be considered satisfactory and it gives cause for much anxiety. The Annual subscriptions provide only for a very small part of the expenditure, most of which is met either by special donations or by extraordinary expedients such as the Broadcast Appeal in 1934: **much needed developments are held up for want of money.** Some valued new subscriptions have been received, but inevitably some former subscriptions have ceased through the death of old supporters. The money so generously forthcoming in response to the Broadcast Appeal in 1934 will be exhausted by the end of this financial year. It is therefore most important not only that the gaps in the subscription list should be filled but that the number of subscriptions should be increased.

The minimum income needed each year is £800, a modest sum when considered in relation to the extent and character of the work accomplished.

The Committee can only put the situation before the friends of the Council and ask most earnestly for their help in securing further support, especially in the way of annual subscriptions, both large and small.

During the past year the Trustees of the London Parochial Charities again made a grant of £300, and special donations were received from the Executors of the late Mrs. Eliza Butler and from the Fishmongers' Company.

#### THANKS.

##### For Financial Help.

The Committee desire to offer their warm thanks to the Trustees of the London Parochial Charities for the grant of £300, without which the work could not be carried on. The Committee also wish to express their gratitude to the Executors of the late Mrs. Butler and to the Fishmongers' Company for most welcome help. The Committee extend their special thanks to all subscribers and donors who have given valued support for many years, as well as to those who have given help for the first time during the past year and have promised to continue it for the future.

##### For Personal Help.

While offering their thanks to all members of the Council and many others who help the Information Bureau, the Committee must once again express special gratitude to the National Vigilance Association for almost daily help, and to the Moral Welfare Workers of all Churches, the Church Army and the Mabys Association and individual friends for constant assistance in visiting girls and caring for special cases.

Mrs. Leslie Joseph, Mrs. Henderson and Miss B. Henderson have given regular and valuable help in the office, for which help the Committee are very grateful.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE OF GIRLS AND WOMEN IN LONDON.

Dr.

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ending 31st March, 1937.

Cr.

| RECEIPTS.  |       |    |    |       |    |    |
|--|-------|----|----|-------|----|----|
|  | £     | s. | d. | £     | s. | d. |
| To Subscriptions and Donations :—                |       |    |    |       |    |    |
| London Parochial Charities ...                   | 300   | 0  | 0  |       |    |    |
| Executors of the late Mrs. E. Butler ...         | 50    | 0  | 0  |       |    |    |
| General ...                                      | 202   | 9  | 6  |       |    |    |
|  | <hr/> |    |    | 552   | 9  | 6  |
| „ Sale of Hostel Handbook ...                    |       |    |    | 9     | 10 | 4  |
| „ Interest on Post Office Deposit ...            |       |    |    | 11    | 16 | 9  |
|  |       |    |    | <hr/> |    |    |
|  |       |    |    | 573   | 16 | 7  |
| „ Cash at Bankers and in Hand 1st April, 1936 :— |       |    |    |       |    |    |
| At Bankers—                                      |       |    |    |       |    |    |
| On Current Account ...                           | 34    | 18 | 5  |       |    |    |
| Post Office Savings Bank ...                     | 511   | 9  | 2  |       |    |    |
| In Hand ...                                      |       | 3  | 2  |       |    |    |
|  | <hr/> |    |    | 546   | 10 | 9  |

F. W. CAPE (*Hon. Treasurer*).

£1,120 7 4

Alderman's House, Bishopsgate,  
London, E.C.2.  
4th May, 1937.

| PAYMENTS.  |       |    |    |       |    |    |
|--|-------|----|----|-------|----|----|
|  | £     | s. | d. | £     | s. | d. |
| By Salaries and National Insurance ...   | 545   | 13 | 2  |       |    |    |
| „ Rent, including Heating and Cleaning (to 24th June, 1937) ...  | 95    | 0  | 0  |       |    |    |
| „ Printing, Stationery and Office Requisites ...   | 62    | 14 | 6  |       |    |    |
| „ Postage ...  | 26    | 1  | 6  |       |    |    |
| „ Telephone ...  | 16    | 19 | 9  |       |    |    |
| „ General Expenses, including Lighting, Travelling, Press-cuttings, Hire of Room for Conferences, Insurances, Cheque Books, etc. |       |    |    | 19    | 17 | 3  |
|  |       |    |    | <hr/> |    |    |
|  | 766   | 6  | 2  |       |    | 18 |
| „ Cash at Bankers and in Hand 31st March, 1937 :—  |       |    |    |       |    |    |
| At Bankers—  |       |    |    |       |    |    |
| On Current Account ...   | 65    | 15 | 3  |       |    |    |
| Post Office Savings Bank ...   | 273   | 5  | 11 |       |    |    |
| In Hand ...  | 15    | 0  | 0  |       |    |    |
|  | <hr/> |    |    | 354   | 1  | 2  |

£1,120 7 4

Audited and found correct,  
BARTON, MAYHEW & CO.,  
Chartered Accountants, *Hon. Auditors*.

TO THE SECRETARY,  
CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE OF GIRLS  
AND WOMEN IN LONDON,  
53, Victoria Street, S.W.1.

I enclose ..... as

(a) Annual Subscription.

(b) Donation.

Name .....

Address.....

.....

## PUBLICATIONS.

### GENERAL.

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Annual Report of the Council .. .. .   | Free |
| Handbook of Residential Hostels in London for<br>Professional and Working Girls and Women .. | 1s.  |
| Survey of Social Facilities for Girls and Women in<br>London .. .. .                         | 1s.  |
| Enquiry into Lodging Accommodation for Girls and<br>Women in London .. .. .                  | 1s.  |

### INFORMATION BUREAU.

|   |      |
|---|------|
| Leaflet for Girls .. .. .   | Free |
| Descriptive double leaflet .. .. .  | ”    |
| Notices for display (small and large) .. .. .                                   | ”    |
| Central Information Bureau. “ What it is and how it is<br>used ” .. .. .        | ”    |
| List of Picnic Lunch Rooms .. .. .  | ”    |
| “ Advice in Emergency ” card for display in London<br>(10 in. x 15 in.) .. .. . | ”    |

*May be obtained from the Office of the Central Council:*

**53, VICTORIA STREET, LONDON, S.W. 1.**

*Telephone: VICTORIA 6397.*

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