THE

Catholic Citizen

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

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15th DECEMBER, 1929.

Price Twopence.

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

Internationalism and the Rights of War.

By HELEN DOUGLAS IRVINE, M.A.

St. Joan's has two good reasons for taking a special interest in Don Sturzo's new book, The International Community and the Right of War.* In the first place, any book written by Don Sturzo, an associate member, and translated by Miss Barbara Barclay Carter, a full member of the Alliance, is for us a family matter. We not only congratulate the author and translator, but we also congratulate ourselves on their achievement, on this able, original and authoritative analysis of the most living problem of modern politics, in its English dress which is so excellent a fit that it seems to be part of the original form, and which is graceful enough to win the book a reception even from those indifferent to its theme.

Secondly, St. Joan's, the most international of the national feminist organizations, cannot but be interested in discussions of internationalism. The subject of this particular discussion, international society in its relation to the right of war, is moreover one which the Alliance has pledged itself to consider, having included in its programme a resolution to give "its moral support and sympathy to any movement likely in the judgment of the majority of the committee to promote a permanent world peace."

Don Sturzo's book is an historical review

* The International Community and the Right of War. By Luigi Sturzo. Translated by Barbara Barclay Carter, Lic-es-L. (Paris). With a foreword by G. P. Gooch, D.Litt., F.B.A. (Allen & Unwin. 10s.) of the international ideal, and has the object of discovering the degree, if any, to which this ideal is in conflict with the right of war.

The two conceptions seem, from one point of view, to be contradictory, since war is the ultimate expedient of nationalism. A nation can hardly be less international than when it levies war on other nations.

Nevertheless. Don Sturzo shows that the histories of war and of nationalism have not been parallel, for war has been the instrument of international as of national societies. Thus the Roman Empire, a great international society, was made by war and maintained by it, and war was one of the imperial institutions which was adopted by the greatest international society, the Church. Throughout the Middle Ages, the Church, in theory and in practice, admitted the conception of righteous war and approved particular wars as rightly waged for right ends. The most international enterprise of mediaeval Christendom, the Crusades, was also one of the most bellicose. From the Dark Ages to the time when Spain conquered the Americas, the Church sanctioned wars of conversion.

The wars waged by international societies were due to the circumstance that these societies, the Church as well as the Roman Empire, were conceived as having boundaries. Not only were Barbarians outside the Empire; pagans, infidels, heathens, Jews, heretics and, occasionally, lawbreakers, were outside the Church. The Church, like the

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Empire, made war to defend or enlarge its frontiers. But these frontiers were never considered eternal. In Catholic theory, the true Catholicism of the Church was never forgotten, and therefore the Church never regarded war as essential.

Don Sturzo makes its clear that it was the definition of nationalities in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries which revitalized the theory of the right of war. The modern states which then arose were ultimately based on force, the right of the government violently to compel order among its subjects and violently to maintain its independence of other governments or enforce its predominance over them. The age of isolated nationalities was, therefore, an age of war. And our hope that now we are entering upon an age of peace is the fact that frontiers have grown vaguer. Democracy has put an end to the rigorous regimenting of obedient peoples in national units, and economic boundaries are fading away, the economic unit tending increasingly to be not the country but the whole world.

Don Sturzo is well known to be an advocate of peace, yet in spite of this and of the undoubted strength which in recent years has accrued to the international ideal, his scientific, legal mind and his honesty save him from bias, as from facile optimism, in his final conclusion. He is aware that the danger of war still hovers over this illogical and erring world.

His book is one which all members of St. Joan's should read and ponder. There could be no better aid to two studies now incumbent on the British citizen, those of the British Empire and of the League of Nations.

Women Secretaries of State.

"Equal Rights" reports that a Convention was held in Boston recently of the National Association of Secretaries of State. Three women were among the delegates: Una Lee Roberts, Secretary of State of Oklahoma; Gladys Pyle, Secretary of State of South Dakota; and Grace A. Reavy, Deputy Secretary of State of New York.

Women Police.

Miss C. M. Gordon represented St. Joan's S.P.A. on the Deputation to the Home Secretary, and Secretary of State for Scotland, organized by the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, to place before the Government reasons for the employment of more women police. Seventeen societies in all were represented on the Deputation, which was introduced by Miss Picton-Turbervill, M.P.

The Deputation urged that (1) that the Police Acts should be applied universally to women; (2) that regulations should be made clearly defining the duties of police women and that regulations standardizing the conditions of their recruitment and training should be submitted to the Police Council; (3) that a woman inspector of constabulary should be appointed at the Home Office; (4) that a woman or women should be appointed on the Police Council; (5) that in the Metropolitan Police District there should be a considerable increase in the number of police women, and that the conditions relating to their employment should be restored to the position which obtained before the Geddes cut in 1921.

In reply, the Home Secretary said that the views put before him would be of great help to him. He sympathized with these views, and hoped, at any rate, to meet some of the claims. He agreed that the Police Council might very well be asked to consider the question of regulations as to conditions of service. Outside the Metropolitan Police District the local police authorities were responsible, and the question was whether they should be compelled to employ police women, he doubted that this was possible, but the views put before him would receive his sympathetic consideration, and he hoped he might be able to induce local authorities to consider the appointment of women police more favourably.

The Secretary of State for Scotland promised to examine carefully as regards Scotland, the whole question in the light of the information which had been given to him.

Notes and Comments.

The Memorial Service for Dame Millicent at the N.C.W. Conference at Manchester. Fawcett, which took place in the Abbey un Tuesday, November 19, was beautiful in its simplicity. The Abbey was crowded with distinguished men and women, eighty women societies, including St. Joan's S.P.A., sent representatives. We had gathered there not so much to mourn, but to render thanks for Dame Millicent's life of service. The note of thanksgiving and triumph was marked throughout the ceremony. The verses from Ecclesasticus "Let us now praise famous men," were an excellent choice, so also was Blake's Jerusalem, and Beethoven's funeral march, in which sadness is overcome again and again by chords of triumph, and promise of Resurrection. And so we passed out under the weeping skies, to resume interrupted labours, sad at the passing of a great woman leader, jubilant that her life work was crowned with triumph, and that she had left behind an inspiration which shall not die.

We are glad to note the Minister of Health's reply to Mr. Thurtle in the House of Commons, that the resolution passed by the N.C.W. at Manchester on the question of Birth Prevention, had been considered by by the Government, who do not propose to department from the policy of their predecessors. That is to say that the ban on the giving of this information at Government clinics is not to be removed.

We are delighted that the admission of women to the Diplomatic and Consular Services, on the same terms as men, is being given prominence in the investigations of the Royal Commission on the Civil Service. It is a question which is of deep interest to feminists, and we greatly regret that the resolution on the point, which stood in the name of St. Joan's S.P.A., was crowded out

It is of greater importance by far than some of the questions discussed.

*

The Illegitimate Children (Scotland) Bill. introduced by the Duchess of Atholl, passed its Second Reading without a division. It proposes to give to expectant mothers an opportunity to claim alimony and expenses for confinement before the birth of a child. We wish the Bill success.

> * *

A priest writes: "Mrs. Laughton Mathews ought to be thanked for rendering such a public service by her admirable speech which you did well to insert in full. She said very well what a priest would say, and then what a doctor would say, but it was surely better this should be said by a woman and a mother."

We trust that Mr. Thomas has found occasion to repent his foolish remarks about pin-money women workers (and pensioned soldiers etc.) keeping men out of jobs. It all sounds very old-fashioned, and quite out of keeping with these days, when so many women are compelled to earn a livelihood whether they like it or not; but as Mrs. Hoster says, it should be a question not of need, but of competency. If the question of "need" is taken into account, a number of men in high places would find themselves on the retired list. We presume that Mr. Thomas was drawing a red herring across the subject of unemployment. When at a loss to find excuses, blame women!

Christmas Holidays.

The office, 55 Berners Street, will be closed from Monday, 30th, to January 5th, 1930. Correspondence will be attended to as usual.

We offer our cordial good wishes to all our members and readers for Christmas and the New Year.

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THE CATHOLIC CITIZEN

ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE,

AND

Editorial Office of "Catholic Citizen":

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

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

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Alice Meynell.*

The publication of a Memoir of Alice Catholic Women's Suffrage Society was its subject, but also from its presentment. No one but a child of Alice Meynell could have given us this intimate likeness of a great and noble woman, who with all her wide experience, was ever aloof from the crowd.

The greatness of Alice Meynell's work was quickly recognised and she was acclaimed a pre-eminent poet and essayist by all the foremost writers of the nineties, and later. Coventry Patmore, Meredith, Stevenson, Francis Thompson, and a host of others, until Mr. Max Beerhohm intervened with a humorous protest complaining that "in a few years Mrs. Meynell will have become a sort of substitute for the English Sabbath." She held a unique place in literature, and but for the prejudice against women would probably have been made Poet Laureate.

Miss Meynell draws a charming picture of home life, with both parents editing and writing, and the children under the table composing a journal of their own, a picture of domestic happiness which should dispel, at once and forever, the belief that a wife and mother, to fulfil her varied duties, must not have interests outside her home. To Catholic feminists Alice Meynell's death was a personal and irreparable loss. When the

Meynell by her daughter, Viola Meynell, is founded in 1911, she gave personal advice an important literary event, not only from and the protection of her name to the pioneers, and remained a member of the Executive till her death. As we have said more than once in these columns, we have no doubt that the glamour of her name saved the fledgling society from many a crisis. Later when this paper was founded in 1915, under the title of "The Catholic Suffragist," Alice Meynell came again to our help, and launched us on our perilous adventure with an introductory article, which brought the paper instant recognition. No words can express the debt we owe to this great lady, whom we mourn with affection. We venture to hope that in any new edition her work for Catholic feminism may be recorded.

> There was a sadness about Alice Meynell which no genius can escape, and the slavery of women filled her with grief and indignation. At the age of eighteen she wrote: "Of all the crying evils in this depraved earth, ay, of all the sins of which the cry must surely come to Heaven, the greatest, judged by all the laws of God and humanity, is the miserable selfishness of men that keeps women from work . . . 'O my dream, my dream.' When will you be realised to

> * Alice Meynell. A Memoir by Viola Meynell. (Cape, 15s.)

gladden my soul to redeem my trampled and polluted sex"... The logical sequence in later Polonaise that the Congress of High School life was her work in the suffrage movement. Teachers held recently in Warsaw, has An ardent Christian she was drawn to decided against the introduction of a system Catholicism at an early age from the moral of education differentiated from that of boys hold it has on mankind. Shortly before her by substituting child psychology, pedagogy death, she wrote . . . 'I saw, when I was and domestic economy for mathematics, very young, that a guide in morals was even physics and chemistry, thereby making it more necessary than a guide in faith. It more difficult for them to enter the Univerwas for this I joined the Church. Other sity. The motion was defeated largely on Christian societies may legislate, but the the ground that a woman sufficiently intelli-Church administers legislation. Thus she is gent to take a university course can usually practically indispensable. I may say that I acquire without difficulty the necessary techhold the administration of morals to be of nical knowledge for her role of wife and such vital importance that for its sake I mother. accepted, and now accept, dogma in matters of faith, to the last latter . . .'

Alice Meynell has left-not only by her literary works, but by the nobility of her life -a fragrant and enduring memory.

L. de Alberti.

International Notes.

Mlle. Lenoël represented L'union Française pour le Suffrage des Femmes at the Memorial Service for Dame Millicent Fawcett, at Westminster Abbey, on November 19th.

* * *

We were delighted to receive from Ceylon a new feminist paper, official organ of the Women Franchise Union of Ceylon (nonparty). The paper is interesting and well edited, and is proof of the strength of the Franchise Union.

* * *

largely illiterate-and yet they have their our readers know, for we have written on movement towards progress. Five years ago a Club for the Elevation of Women was formed in Baghdad, and though it languised for a time, it is being revived, and the eight years of age, and of less value than women are trying to formulate a programme. £25, shall be exported. Horses destined They get no help from men and they are for slaughter will then be killed on this looking to the women of other countries to side, and only horses fit for work will be help them in their very difficult work. (News exported. Being intended for work they will Bulletin, I.A.W.S.E.C.).

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We are glad to learn from La Femme

In The Woman (Melbourne) a brief reference is made to Caroline Chisholm, that brave Scottish Catholic who is described as the "angel" of the darkest days of the infant nation, whose wise counsels more than aught else, preserved Victoria from the convict taint; and whose magnificent self-sacrifice and devotion made thousands of Australian homes happy and respectable."

An interesting account is also given of Mrs. John Furlonge, another Scotch woman, who was "the mother of Victoria's pastoral prosperity."

It is fascinating to read how this valiant woman worked to establish her sons as sheep farmers in the early part of last century, and in so doing "stimulated and largely helped to mould the prosperity of an entire state."

A. B. H. M.

Exportation of Horses.

A Bill has been introduced in the House of Commons, by Mr. F. A. Broad, (Labour, Edmonton), to prevent the exportation of Women in Iraq are still veiled, still horses to the Continent for slaughter. As this question more than once, great suffering is caused to horses by this traffic.

The Bill lays down that no horse over be cared for on their journey.

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Reviews.

Susan B. Antony. By Rheta Childe Dorr. Frederick A. Stokes Co., New York.

The sub-title of this biography is "The Woman who changed the mind of a Nation." It is not too wide a claim for Susan Anthony, the great American pioneer of the woman's movement, indeed, one might say that Miss Anthony helped to change the mind of more than one nation. Mrs. Dorr dedicates her book to her grand-daughter, that she may know something of her heritage. We wish that all young women enjoying a freedom won by much suffering, hardship and self-sacrifice, could study this book. Susan was born into a world where a man could give away his wife's children, even an unborn child; where married women had no right even to their own wages; where no woman, unaccompanied by a man, was admitted to a restaurant or hotel, (nor has this been done away with in England); no women could vote or hold office. Susan was born into this dark world to help to set it right. She did not live to see the enfranchisement of women, but she knew it would come. She won many a victory, and left as a heritage to American women, when she died in 1906, an open road to political freedom. * * * *

Messrs. Dent have issued in one volume (Everymans' Library, 2s. net) a reprint of 'The Rights of Women' by Mary Wollstoncraft, and 'The Subjection of Women' by John Stuart Mill. Both have now only an historical interest, they luckily belong to a past age. This is not said in disparagement, for history has a value all its own, and has lessons for 'the present. But on reading these books, which had a great influence on the Woman's Movement, we may indeed, rejoice that so many of the handicaps on women, both social and political, have been removed. The status of women is so different, that the humiliations and disabilities described read like the recital of a nightmare.

Professor G. E. G. Catlin provides an introduction.

St. Joan's S.P.A.

The dinner in honour of our members, Mme. de Fonseka, a member of the Committee of the Cevlon Woman Suffrage Society and Miss Lenoël Hon. Sec. of the Orleans Branch of L'Union pour le Suffrage des Femmes, was a very inter-

esting and pleasant function. Miss C. M. Gordon, M.A., presiding, said that St. Joan's S.P.A., which has members all over world, was always particularly pleased to meet members from overseas, and to hear how the feminist cause was progressing in other lands. Miss Lenoël said that it was indeed a pleasure to meet a group of Catholic feminists; when Miss Butler-Bowdon came to France for the celebrations in honour of St. Joan of Arc, and placed wreaths from Catholic suffragists of England on her statue, those flowers spoke more eloquently than the most brilliant discourse, and proclaimed to the French people the existence of a powerful society of Catholic feminists. Miss Lenoël gave particulars of the present position of feminism in France: she thought the position more hopeful; no one, not even the senators, dared declare themselves as opponents: the great problem in France was to defeat the idea of protection for women.

Mme. de Fonseka, of the Suffrage Society of Ceylon, gave a very interesting account of the position of women in Ceylon, where they have always been held in honour. Purdah has never existed in Ceylon. Women were now entering into professions, working in clinics for maternity child welfare, taking an interest in politics, and enjoying freedom in many ways. In 1931 they would have the suffrage on the same terms as men-a new era was opening in Ceylon.

Mrs. Laughton Mathews, in a charming speech, told the audience some of her experiences at the Conference of the National Council of Women at Manchester, and spoke of the regret felt by many that the resolution to be moved by her for St. Joan's, re the opening of the Diplomatic service for Women, was crowded out, and also the resolution touching "Street Offences," in which feminists were much interested.

The proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to Chairman and Speakers, moved by Miss Sheila Kerr.

LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

Hon. Secretary: Miss N. S. Parnell, B.A., 45 Falkner Street, Liverpool.

The Dance on October 31 realised £3 12s., after all expenses had been met. We owe this gratifying result, and also much of the evening's enjoyment, to Miss N. Noonan and her friends, to whom we tender our very best thanks.

The Committee have regretfully withdrawn the Branch from further participation in the social survey, partly because of the exacting nature of the work involved, and partly because they felt that there were other and more suitable agencies for the collection of the desired information. The Branch participated, as usual, in the Armistice Day procession of women, organized by

those societies forming the Peace Crusade. A wreath, bought out of the subscriptions of these societies and bearing the words: "They died to end war. Let us strive to prepare the world for peace," was, as in previous years, placed on the Cenotaph.

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Grant, The Hon. Mrs.				10		
*Heath, Dr. Isabel					0	
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McMahon, Mrs			1	5	0	
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Morson, Miss H. N.				5	0	
				2	4	
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Total £17 0 3

* Christmas Sale.

TREASURER'S NOTE.

Many grateful thanks to all those who sent gifts in money or kind for the Christmas Sale. The following are those who sent articles for the Stall: Misses L. de Alberti, F. Barry, Bearman, Brady, Brandt, Brettingham, E. Butler-Bowdon, Cholmeley, Dennis, Douglas Irvine, Fraser Duff, The Misses FitzGerald, Mrs. Broadley Green, Miss Gordon, Mrs. Groves, Misses Hargrove, Hynes, Mrs. A. J. Hughes, Miss Jeffery, Mrs. Kerr, Mile. Lenoël, Mrs. Liveing, Miss McManus, Mrs. Laughton Mathews, Misses Meredith, Merrifield, The Misses Molony, Misses Morice, A. J. Musson, The Misses Par-nell, Miss Perry, Mrs. and Miss Robson, M. l'Abbé Sébire, The Misses Sherwin, Misses Stack, A. Stafford & Co., Ltd., Mrs. Smiley, Misses Stammers, Tighe, Messrs. Francis Tucker & Co., Ltd., Mrs. Walsh, Miss Ward, The Misses Westlake, Mrs. Willis, and Miss Young. The Sale resulted in a profit of over f_{30} . Many thanks

to all who helped at the stall and who sold our goods with such success. There are still a few articles on sale at the office including calendars and Christmas cards.

VERA LAUGHTON MATTHEWS, Hon. Treasurer.

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