WOMAN'S LEADER AND THE COMMON CAUSE

PAGE

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CONTENTS.

THE 10TH BIRTHDAY OF VOTES FOR WOMEN	3		
INDIAN WOMEN AND ADMINISTRATIVE BODIES.			
By Renuka Ray, B.Sc	3		
REVIEWS:			
THE MYSTERY OF JANE AUSTEN: By I. B. O'Malley			
HARRIET MARTINEAU. By Mary Stocks			
COUNTY COUNCILS AND COUNTY POLICE.			

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NOTES AND NEWS.

Opening of Parliament: The Franchise Proposals and the Bill.

The King's Speech on 7th February brought few surprises, and, as has been pointed out on every side, was characterized more by its omissions than by its contents. First among the legislative proposals comes, as was expected, the amendment "of the law relating to the Parliamentary and local government franchise." We confess we should like to have seen Equal Franchise between men and women specifically mentioned, as, though there is no doubt whatsoever as to the Government's intentions, its phraseology leaves the possibility of including in the bill matters other than that of women's suffrage. The inclusion of the pauper disqualification is apparently still undecided. The Bill itself was introduced the same day by the Home Secretary amidst cheers, under the title of a "Bill to amend the law relating to the Parliamentary and local Government franchise."

King's Speech-Other Proposals.

By Bertha Mason

Of the other proposals, the reform of the rating system, if and when this is brought about, should have an immense effect for good, both on the social conditions and industry of the country. Our hopes rose when we saw included the intention of embodying in legislation certain recommendations of the Report on National Health Insurance, but fell again on reading the Prime Minister's remarks, in which he said that such legislation would deal purely with machinery, and would apparently leave out the bulk of the important suggestions, including the partial pooling of the surpluses of approved societies, and additional benefits, such as a specialist consultant service, dependent's allowances, and improved maternity service, which this pooling would have gone some way to provide. Most of the comment with regard to the speech has been directed against the absence of any reference to provision for the unemployed, particularly in the coal industry, and against the Government's intention not to proceed further with the Washington Hours Convention, which decision we, in common with progressive people of all parties, deplore. The Prime Minister explained the paucity of the Government's legislative programme by his wish to terminate the session at the end of July, in order that next year's session might begin early in November. He suggested that some of the more controversial bills, such as the Factories and Poor Law Bills, might be dealt with then.

REGISTERED AS Friday, February 10, 1928.

Equal Franchise and the Press.

Times have indeed changed. That section of the Press that only a few months ago was predicting violent ruin and destruction if Equal Franchise became law, is now accepting it without further protest, and has obviously come to the conclusion that at any rate it can do no harm. The Evening Standard is of the opinion that although it is too early to judge of the results of the franchise measure of 1918, "after we had," in their words, "taken this enormous leap in the dark we became to all appearances more Conservative than ever." "The voting woman has shown herself," so they tell us, " not to be an innovating influence, and there is not yet any sign that she is likely to grow more revolutionary." The *Sunday Times*, while considering that women's suffrage has had little or no effect on the trend of public affairs, feels that an interest in such affairs has been of considerable use in political education for women themselves. Only the Daily Mail remains implacable, and there are no doubt reasons for this other than the particular question and Equal Franchise is merely being used as a stick with which to beat the Government. When the idea that Equal Franchise is bound to come is one which is so generally accepted, as their contemporaries have pointed out, the offensive against the Government has certainly failed.

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The Birthday Celebrations.

Celebrations of the tenth anniversary of the granting of the vote to some women have been the order of the day. Anniversary dinners were held in Edinburgh and Glasgow at which old and new suffragists gathered together to recall past struggles. In London the "militants" of a past generation held a reunion dinner and public meeting, at which all the speakers were ex-prisoners. On Wednesday of this week the anniversary was celebrated by a King's Speech meeting in the Caxton Hall, organized by the Equal Political Rights Campaign Committee, and on Friday there will be a King's Speech Dinner, given by the Freedom League at the Minerva Club. The celebration of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship will be reserved for the Council meeting in March, when delegates from all over the country will be present in the Queen's Hall. A very special interest has been given to all these celebrations from the expectation of the immediate introduction of a Bill to round off and complete the compromise of 1918.

The Suffragette Reunion.

At a dinner on Saturday over a hundred of the "militants" of pre-war fame met together and exchanged memories of the days when they faced imprisonment and bodily danger for the suffrage cause. At the public meeting at the Essex Hall on Monday night, Mrs. How Martyn presided, and there was a long list of speakers, who kept admirably to the allotted time. The names of Sylvia Pankhurst, Mr. and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Mrs. Billington Greig, Mrs. Matters Porter, Miss Evelyn Sharp, and those of many others present in the flesh on Monday carry one's memory back over the intervening years and it was good to see and hear them. One missed Mrs. Pankhurst and her daughter Christabel, and the veteran Mrs. Despard, but it was a fine gathering, and it was a moving moment when the chairman asked those present to stand as she read the names of those who were no longer living.

South Africa and Votes for Women.

A Women's Suffrage Bill, appearing for the nineteenth time in the South African Parliament, passed its second reading by 53 votes to 50 on Friday of last week. *The Times* describes the debate as "dull and desultory," and points out that on previous

THE WOMAN'S LEADER.

FEBRUARY 10, 1928.

THE 10th BIRTHDAY OF VOTES FOR WOMEN.

The leading note in the Common Cause of Friday, 8th February, 1918, almost exactly ten years from the day this paper reaches our readers, records in a few words, no doubt inserted just as the paper was about to go to press, that "Parliament has been prorogued and the Representation of the People Bill received the Royal Assent." The following week the splash-line on the front page is taken from the title of the leading article, written by Dame Millicent Fawcett, "Sing, Rejoice, and give thanks! Mrs. Fawcett, as she was then, even in the first heat of victory, refers with dislike to the sex discrimination which still remains, but, as she says, it was a great victory, and Mrs. Oliver Strachey's vivid description of the final stages of the debates in the same issue revives the memory of those days of tense excitement.

Ten years have passed and we, too, this week, shall have to insert a stop-press piece of news. At the time of writing the King's Speech is still a matter of conjecture, but we know to a certainty that it will contain as part of the main business of the new session the announcement of a Bill to enfranchise all women on the same terms as men. We fervently hope that this elementary piece of justice which is merely the logical if belated extension of the Representation of the People Act, 1918, will not be entangled with any contentious electoral question. But even so it will be some months before we can sing our final Te Deum though we can this week celebrate the tenth anniversary of the first great measure of the enfranchisement of women with joyful and expectant hearts.

The ten years have brought many changes, but Dame Millicent in 1928 as in 1918 is with us still to encourage and inspire. When once again we hear the magic words " Le roi le veult " and know that a struggle which has lasted over sixty years is finished for ever, we shall ask Dame Millicent to give us a second leading article, " Sing, Rejoice, and give thanks !

THE REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN ON INDIAN ADMINISTRATIVE EDUCATIONAL BODIES.

It is a very hopeful sign of the age that greater interest is being shown by educated women in the reformation of the educational system-at least so far as it relates to women. Although conferences and women's journals can do much to influence public opinion, yet they have no power behind them to give effect to their resolutions. These can only influence, but the actual power is in other hands, and the work too is done by other brains. It is absolutely necessary that women should have administrative control over educational affairs. Only in this way can they really make their opinions felt. How is it and why is it that women have to-day so very little administrative control?

In the first place, women's education has hitherto been thoroughly neglected ; and it is only now that we are beginning to appreciate the great value of education. Both lack of opportunity and of education, except amongst a mere handful, have contributed towards this. Now these barriers are breaking down, and although much remains to be done, there are quite a number of educational bodies on which women's right of representation has come to be recognized. Education in this country is largely in the hands of Government, as most educational institutions are either wholly or partly aided by public funds There is a sad lack of private enterprise in this direction. After the introduction of the Montagu-Chelmsford reforms, the education of each province has been wholly given over to provincial administration and control. Education is now a transferred" subject; and the Legislative Council has a certain amount of control over educational policy through the Minister in charge. However imperfect the power of control be, it is a latent power full of potentiality; and as far as Bengal is concerned no woman has yet been yested with the authority of wielding this power. In Madras and elsewhere, the Councils have recently recognized the right of women to be elected members of the provincial legislatures.

The actual administration of education is carried out in the provinces by an authority of dual nature. There is the Govern-ment department under the Director of Public Instruction who is helped by the members of the educational services.

In respect of primary education, the recognized policy is to leave the actual administration, as far as possible, in the hands of local bodies such as municipalities and rural councils and

occasions second readings have been surmounted only to end in disaster at committee stage. The Labour members who supported the second reading on this occasion have announced their intention of moving an amendment in committee to restrict the franchise to European women. As the Bill stands at present it would enfranchise women on the same terms as men, and thus in the Cape Province, include native and Asiatic women. But this amendment must, it appears, be regarded as in the nature of a wrecking amendment, since if it is carried, a number of supporters who are pledged to oppose discriminatory legislation against colour, will be unable to vote for the third reading. The committee stage is expected to be taken on 17th February.

Hours of Work.

Altogether regrettable from every point of view, except that of the inefficient employer, is the Government's attempt at Geneva last week to secure a revision of the 48 hour week Washington Convention, and meanwhile to justify its continuous refusal to ratify the Convention by reference to such approaching revision. Political commitments vary in the degree of their elasticity, but here, in our Government's reiterated undertaking to ratify the 48 hour week Convention, we seem to have an obligation which should be difficult to evade with any pretence of honour or consistency. That so deliberate an attempt at evasion should now be made is deplorable from the point of view of British standing at Geneva. Such action on the part of a country whose industrial standards are admittedly high, which has therefore everything to gain and nothing to lose as a world competitor by the establishment of a high international minimum of labour conditions, is in addition peculiarly short-sighted from an economic point of view. And from our own feminist point of view it is deplorable too. We have always looked forward to the imposition of a common rule applicable to the working hours of men and women alike, and transcending in its scope the particular regulations which have in the past been regarded as suitable for women alone. We sincerely hope that in this matter public opinion at Geneva may impose an impenetrable barrier to British ambitions!

Testamentary Provision for Wives and Children.

Considerable dissatisfaction has been felt for some time in many quarters among feminists in England and Wales at the plight in which, under our present laws, a rich man can, and sometimes does, leave his wife and children, if he decides to will away all his money to others. It is not claimed that this often occurs, but the fact remains that a wife, who has greatly lessened her value in the labour market owing to the years she has been looking after husband and children, may be left penniless, in defiance of the feminist conception of marriage as a partnership and the promise of the husband to endow his wife with this world's goods. Fair play and marriage vows are thus all sacrificed under the English law at the altar of testamentary freedom. Not so in countries under the Roman law, such as Scotland, where each spouse is bound to leave a certain proportion of his or her property to the other spouse and another portion to the children of whatever age. Even in many of our Dominions, such as Australia, New Zealand, etc., the law has been modified to enable a wife and dependent children if left without maintenance to claim a share in the estate. Lord Astor at the request of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, will shortly be moving a resolution in the House of Lords asking for an inquiry into the whole subject.

Devon and Women Police.

The women of Devon are showing a stout determination to secure the services of women police for its principal towns and for the county. At an influential meeting of the Devon Council of Women and other leading women's organizations held last week, with Sir Robert Newman in the chair, a resolution was unanimously carried in favour of the appointment of women police with the powers and status of constables in the County Boroughs of Exeter and Plymouth, as well as in the administrative County of Devon. Further meetings will be held at Honiton, Torquay, and Bideford. In our issue last week Miss Peto told us that Lancashire at present heads the very short list of counties employing women (excluding the London Metropolitan Police Area) with twenty-three attested women and Gloucestershire follows with eight. Bolton has pride of place among the boroughs with four attested women and Sheffield comes next with three.

The Right to Marry.

We hear from a ontemporary that leading medical men have issued a questionnaire to members of their profession all over the country, asking for information on the prevalence of birth control and its effect on health, and the desirability of prohibiting the marriage of those suffering from hereditary disease or imbecility. The journalistic heading runs : "Doctors' Right to ban Marriages," though the form of the question (which we have not seen) probably refers to segregation or sterilization of the unfit. A questionnaire is o ne of the less reliable baits for drawing Truth up from her well, but on questions such as these more information is urgently needed, and the trained observation of medical men should make their opinions very valuable. The journalistic heading is as so often on matters of sex, an emotional red herring, but as usual there is fundamental wisdom in it too. The opinion of the doctor is not the only one to be considered in matters of parriage and parenthood. Ultimately it is for the man and woman in the home (or street) to decide such questions, whether indvidually or collectively, and the medical practitioner who underakes perhaps the finest form of service

The Indian Women's Reform Programme.

So much interest has secently been focussed on India that we are glad to publish the atticles of which the first appears to-day on the position of Indian women on administrative bodies. The writer, Mrs. Renuka Ray, is a young married woman, who with her husband is devoting herself to educational work in Bengal, especially the education of women in purdah. Mrs. Ray is a B.Sc. of the London School of Economics, and is from every point of view well qualified to write on the subject she has selected. We have ourselves never loubted that there are in India many women capable of taking he lead in both social and educational reform in their own country. The programme of the progressive women of India, with the xception of the reforms dealing with the abolition of the purdal system and the introduction of compulsory education, bears a remarkable similarity to our own programme for immediate reform. According to the Madras Correspondent last week in The Times, at a recent conference it included equal pay for equal work, an equal moral standard of sex purity and sex moralty, the reform of inheritance and succession rights, and the rasing of the marriage age for girlsalmost the identical points which are under discussion in our own country at the present ime.

The Ministry of Women and Sick Nursing.

Some righteous indignation has been aroused among women in Wesleyan circles by the suggetion of a prominent Minister " that women should develop a maistry of their own, one which a mere man cannot undertake. He therefore urges all women called to the service of the hurch to become fully qualified hospital nurses. Sister Dora Hale points out in the Methodist Recorder that pastoral work n the Church does not demand skilled medical training, and hat women may find themselves equally with men called to a pastoral ministry. "The world has grown weary of trying to lefine what work shall be undertaken by a woman and what by a man," she writes. " The world is now throwing its doors open to women. Shall the world be wiser than the Church?

Ourselves.

Our move has been accomplished and we are now settled in the new office, 4 Tufton Street. The move has involved us in some unavoidable expenses, and it ocurs to us that perhaps one of our readers may feel moved to snd us a cheque of f_{20} to cover everything, or donations towards that amount. We hope this move will mark a new beginning in our history. We propose at once to embark on a determine effort to get new subscribers, and we suggest to our readers that they might tell their friends that until Equal Franchise is finally attained they will find in THE WOMAN'S LEADER an accurate account of progress from week to week. A postal order for is. 3d. will secure for them one paper every Friday from the issue of 10th February to 10th August, a period which will a most wholly cover that which will elapse before the end is reached.

POLICY .- The sole policy of THE WOMAN'S LEADER is to advocate a real equality of liberties, status and opportunities between men and women. So far as space permits, however, it will offer an impartial platform for topics not directly included in the objects of the woman's movement but of special interest to womer. Articles on these subjects will always be signed, at least by initials or a pseudonym, and for the opinions expressed in them the Editor accepts no responsibility.

open to man can only be subservient to that decision.

It is too soon to assess the difference that the granting of the vote in 1918 has made. History is not made in ten years. That certain tangible results have accrued there can be no doubt. Lord Banbury was right when, as Sir Frederick Banbury, he predicted in the House of Commons in 1918 that the granting of the vote to women would be followed by such calamities as women in Parliament and in other public positions. The series of equality measures which succeeded the Representation of the People Act is too well known to call for enumeration here. But readers of this paper, at least, need no reminder that much remains to be accomplished before a real equality of liberties, status and opportunities can be attained. Only last week we discussed the unwarrantable interference with the liberty of a married woman to engage in teaching without the indignity of an inquiry into her private affairs. This week we allude to the masculine suggestion that women called to the service of the Churches should be trained hospital nurses. A few weeks ago a woman councillor wrote to us to say that her defeat at the polls was due to old fashioned anti-woman prejudices.

But for the moment it is too soon to discuss the future of the woman's movement" after the final victory of the vote is won. The coming months must be devoted to a vigilant watch over the Bill which is about to be introduced. The astonishing turnover of opinion on the subject both inside and outside Parliament must not tempt us to any folding of the hands or a little slumber. The wary suffragist knows there can be no relaxation until the measure has actually become law. Our work for the coming months is therefore clearly marked out. Incidentally the enormous publicity which the expected extension of the vote has secured has done much towards the education of the new voters, and the campaign of the spring and summer should include a systematic effort to draw them into the ranks of women's organizations.

By MRS. RENUKA RAY, B.Sc. (Econ.) Lond.

even smaller local boards. These bodies do a good deal of useful work, but their tendency is to neglect primary schools, and divert their attention to secondary schools, with which they are more remotely connected. These bodies can hardly be said to be very sympathetic to the education of girls. Even zenana education in districts which is carried out by employing a woman teacher who visits the different centres, where ladies from the neighbourhood congregate to be taught, is in the hands of committees consisting almost wholly of men. These committees have women on them only when the wives of officials, Christian missionary ladies, and others who come out of the purdah happen to be there. Very often the secretaries of these committees are men, with the result that there is no supervision at all. Where secondary schools for girls exist outside cities, efforts have been made again and again to form women's committees, but such efforts have not been crowned with success. At present, it is next to impossible for women to be represented on administrative educational bodies in the districts. Even if the purdah system was not there to make matters worse, it would yet be impossible for women who needed education themselves, to administer the education of girls and of other women.

It is only by means of inspectresses of schools and their staff, that any control by women is exercised at all. Local bodies almost always employ the District Inspector of schools to look after the administration of primary schools under them or aided by them. It would be a very good plan if the number of Assistant Inspectresses was multiplied and District Inspectresses appointed to look after the primary girls' schools in the same way. Although the Inspectress of schools in Bengal has been given great administrative powers, her staff is too limited for it to supply a sufficient number of District Inspectresses, to look after the administration of both secondary and primary schools in the smaller areas, in anything but a superficial manner. It is the duty of Government to improve their prospects, instead of applying the retrenchment axe to the women's branch of the provincial educational service.

Even if there was not an inherent prejudice on the part of the majority of our men, they would still be unable to look after women's education in districts, as they could never penetrate the purdah nor understand our true needs.

There has been a great increase in the number of Corporation

THE WOMAN'S LEADER.

HARRIET MARTINEAU.

Miss Theodora Bosanquet describes her recent biography¹ of Harriet Martineau as "An Essay in Comprehension." It is an unwise sub-title, for though it is in one respect an excellent biography, it is peculiarly deficient in comprehension. defence of the first verdict it must be admitted that Miss Bosanquet is an exceedingly skilful and graceful writer with delightfully keen wit. The art of biography inclines to heaviness, but Miss Bosanquet holds this tendency at bay with an effortless play of caustic comment and an adept selection of incident and movement. Her book is light and lively reading from start to finish—the kind of book, in fact, that one is tempted to read at a sitting. But for this virtue she has paid her price.

That brings us to our second verdict. Her book is not an essay, or rather it is not a successful essay " in comprehension. In making Harriet Martineau amusing she has made her trivial and absurd. Those who owe their introduction to Miss Martineau to this biography, will probably not desire to read her books-will have gained no conception of the vigour and skill of her stories. Could the Victorian megalomaniac of Miss Bosanquet's creation have written "Feats on the Fiord," or The Settlers at Home," or the "Crofton Boys"? No. There is a great deal of Harriet Martineau that Miss Bosanquet has failed to comprehend, and we suspect that this failure begins with a deficient comprehension of her historical background. We would commend her to the study of a contemporary biography which succeeds precisely where she has failed: Mr. and Mrs. Hammond's "Shaftesbury." Lord Shaftesbury was, in relation to modern ideas, absurd. Even in his own generation, his narrow Evangelicism and portentous gravity stand out, vulnerable to the castigation of contemporary wit. But Mr. and Mrs. Hammond, in seeing his absurdity have seen also his greatness and have managed somehow to put that greatness " over the footlights "-at the expense perhaps of a certain elegant airiness.

We have accused Miss Bosanquet of a primary failure to comprehend Harriet Martineau's historical background. This is peculiarly marked in her references to Adam Smith, Malthus, Ricardo, and the Utilitarians. She visualizes these thinkers simply as an earlier generation of Ernest Benns or Harold Coxs, opposing their doctrinaire and inhuman economic individualism to modern conceptions of communal responsibility grounded in a century's experience of administrative experiment and capitalist evolution. In so doing she has failed to visualize these thinkers as the great destructors of eighteenth century economic privilege, or as the reconstructive rationalizers of eighteenth century maladministration. Many a great reformer will cut a poor enough figure when he is looked at in relation to later generations of those who built their achievements on his work or his thought. If that work and thought is to be justly appraised it must be seen in relation to the living past of his own generation. Adam Smith, Ricardo, Malthus, Chadwick, and their vigorous handmaid Harriet Martineau may shrink beside the longer experience and more developed wisdom of Mrs. Webb, J. M. Keynes, or R. H. Tawney. But they tower grandly enough above the inconsequent philosophy of Mercantilism, the insanitary muddle of parish government, or the irrational traditions of a privileged governing class. And to Harriet's Martineau's individual stature must be added several cubits by reason of her sex.

Not that Miss Bosanquet, by the letter of her judgment, denies greatness to her subject. Her very recital of concrete achievements is a tribute of respect. The sudden emergence of the little deaf spinster from Norwich, unassisted by social influence or personal charm, as a political and journalistic force in early nineteenth century London-the rush of reform thinkers to her " salon "-the world fame of the political economy talesthe long career of travel and literary achievement ending with twenty years or so of active and topical journalistic effort conducted from the remote seclusion of Ambleside-all these feats and many besides, Miss Bosanquet, by the seductive attraction of her style, impels her readers to retrace. Nor does she fail to emphasize the astonishing diversity of Harriet's interests and qualities. Therefore we advise our readers to get this book and read it, not merely because we know that it will amuse them, however low their brows may be, but because we are convinced that it will tell them the truth and nothing but the truth about a great pioneer of the woman's movement. Only, they must believe that it is not the whole truth. However, (Continued at foot of next column.)

¹ Harriet Martineau, "An Essay in Comprehension," by Theodora Bosanquet. (Etchells and Macdonald. 15s.)

primary schools for girls in Calcutta. In big cities it is far more possible for women to play a greater part in the administration of schools. Secondary schools in towns have more women on their managing Committees, but these should be increased.

The University has control over secondary schools because it gives the power to appear at University examinations. It has a very great deal of power in its own hands over higher education. In Calcutta, the Senate of the University is composed of ex-officio fellows and of fellows elected by registered graduates and the faculties. The elective element has gone up a good deal. The Government retains the power of withholding consent to the affiliation of Colleges, but it is much influenced by the University. So that, although the University wields all the administrative power by means of its Senate, yet there is hardly any women to represent the interests of women's education anywhere. In Calcutta we find that there is only one woman member on the body of the Senate, and she is a Government nominee. Not even one Indian woman is found anywhere, either on the Senate, the Syndicate or the faculties.

If we are anxious to administer and control the educational policy-even so far as women only are concerned-how can we possibly do so without representation on the body of the University itself? Yet there is no disqualification to women becoming members of the Senate. Registered graduates who are women, not only have the right to vote on the same conditions as the men, but also have the right to contest elections to fellowships. True that these rights exist, but as things are now, if women did avail themselves of these rights, their path might not be easy, and prejudices which have barred women from their just rights in Cambridge would also operate in our country. But until our womenfolk rise above social prejudice, shake off their natural tendency to inactivity, and contest University elections, nothing can be done.

(To be continued.)

(Continued from next column.)

continents. But she did see the beginnings of Jane's fame. And then a terrible fear came to her. Perhaps the Public, that vulgar public, which the Austen's dreaded and despised, like the typical old-fashioned, refined, reserved English family that they were, would begin to want to know a lot of things about the author of Pride and Prejudice. Perhaps they would want to pry into her private life, perhaps impious outsiders would even try to penetrate into the secret garden of Jane's deeper emotions, of which Cassandra held the key. With what feelings one can but guess, she determined to sacrifice her most sacred relics rather than risk their profanation. She burned all the letters that were most precious to her. The rest she left. She hardly thought even that prying Public would be interested in knowing how Jane did up her velvet cap, or how she ordered haricot mutton. If she had thought that a later generation would poke their noses into those records, no doubt she would have destroyed them too. But she did not; so she contented herself with watching the pages on which Jane had written of sad things, or dear desired things, and which were perhaps blotted with her tears, crumble into white ash.

That is why there are long gaps in Jane's correspondence with Cassandra, even when we know they were apart and must have written to each other. That is why there is no reference in the letters to tragic things that we know did happen in the Austen environment. That is why we are left to guess about the "Captain Wentworth" episode. Aunt Cassandra did once let slip something about *that* in her talk with her nephews and nieces; but that is another story. It is another story, too, to consider why Jane did not let out more of inner self in her novels, probably for the same kind of reason as that which made Cassandra burn the letters. But all this we shall never know till another life, when we may hope if we are very good and very lucky to meet the Miss Austens walking hand in hand.

I. B. O'MALLEY.



THE MYSTERY OF JANE AUSTEN.¹

The Oxford University Press has done well to republish the memoir of Jane Austen by her nephew, which is one of the chief authorities for her life. The notes and index are useful, the illustrations well chosen, and the whole appearance of the little book is, as Jane herself might have said, just what it ought to be.

Jane Austen's life, which seems at a first glance to be as pellucid as her style, is really one of the mysteries of literary history. It is one which will never be solved. Several memorials of her have been published by her relations; this memoir by J. E. Austen Leigh first issued in 1870, her letters edited by Lord Brabourne in 1884, and her Life and Letters by William Austen Leigh and R. A. Austen Leigh in 1913. Year by year those who love Jane collect more scraps of information about things pertaining to her. We have the opportunity of reading her unfinished scraps of writing and her childish literary exercises. We know all about the ships her naval brothers served on, and the letters written to them, or about them, by their superior officers. We have long been intimately acquainted with more interesting details about the sprigged and spotted muslins worn by the Miss Austens, the vicissitudes of their caps, and the dishes served for dinner at Steventon parsonage. But the real Jane we shall never know (unless we have the joy of meeting her in paradise), because the nearest relation, the person who loved her better than anybody else ever did, or can, the only person perhaps who really knew her on earth, has taken very good care that as far as this life is concerned we shall all remain in the outer darkness.

How very angry Aunt Cassandra would have been," said one of the nices, "if she had thought of us turning over these letters and commenting on them." This was true, but Aunt Cassandra had taken very good care that the worst sacrilege should not happen. She was, I think, the only person that understood Jane's secret mind. It is plain that Jane was very much attached to her parents and still more perhaps to some of her brothers. There was clearly a good deal of family affection going on in the Austen household. But the tie between Jane and Cassandra, the only two girls, was a thing apart. Cassandra was nearly three years older than Jane, but when she was sent to school at Reading, Jane went too; not because she was old enough to profit by instruction, she was not, but because, as their mother wrote, "if Cassandra were going to have her head cut off. Jane would insist on sharing her fate." And all through life it was the same. Like other sisters of their period they shared a room and probably a bed, and were dressed alike, even when what suited one disfigured the other. Unlike some sisters, they rejoiced in this, and felt themselves really one.

I am tolerably glad to hear that Edward's income is a good one," wrote Jane to Cassandra in 1798, "-as glad as I can be at anybody's being rich except you and me-and I am thoroughly rejoiced to hear of his present to you." The remark, like most of those that have come down to us from Jane, is ironical in tone; but the proportion it presents between her feelings about her brother's good fortune and that of her sister is the true one. She had a warm affection for Edward, but Cassandra was her other self. It was her great happiness that she and her sister were hardly ever separated. When they were she wrote to Cassandra constantly about all the details of daily life-and who can doubt it ?- about the feelings of her heart. Perhaps she did not need to write much about those ; Cassandra understood without being told; just as she understood the kind of meaning and degree of seriousness which was to be attributed to all that Jane did say. "The nonsense I have been writing ... seems out of place", Jane wrote to her once when she was attending a death bed " but I will not mind it, it will do you no harm and nobody else will be attacked by it.'

When Jane died at only a little over 40 Cassandra was left to a widowed existence of many long years. She was a good sensible woman and lived her life, but it seems evident from what her younger relations tell us of her, that all her comfort was in brooding on the memory of her adorable, exquisite, incomparable Jane. Though she had a long life she did not live to see her Jane regarded as adorable, exquisite, and incomparable by men and women of all kinds and ages, and in two

(Continued in previous column.)

¹ Memoir of Jane Austen, by her Nephew, James Edward Austen Leigh. With introduction, notes, and index by R. W. Chapman. (Clarendon Press, Oxford, 7s. 6d. net.)

THE WOMAN'S LEADER.

COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS, 1928.

5

We print below the promised preliminary list of women candidates in the provinces at the County Council election, 1928. Since the list of London candidates was published in our issue of 28th January, two Labour candidates have withdrawn-Mrs. Malone (Greenwich) and Mrs. Tawney (South-West Pancras). The following additional women Liberal candidates have since been adopted : Mrs. Ida Swinburne (Bermondsey West), Mrs. Nathan (Bethnal Green North-East), Mrs. M. E. Martin (Fulham East), Mrs. Morgan Gibbon (Islington South) Miss Joseph (Marylehone

(Istington Sout	11), M		epir (maryiebone).
			ROVINCES.
I	RELI	MINAR	Y LIST OF WOMEN.
	*	Stand	ing for re-election.
County.			Candidates.
Berks		13.44	*Lady Mount, O.B.E.
			*Mrs. Bramwell Davis.
Brecknockshire			*Mrs. C. S. Richards.
Cambridgeshire			*Miss Jane Bristow.
0			*Miss Lilian Clark.
			*Mrs. Anderson Scott.
Cardiganshire			*Miss Audrey Jones.
curuigunomio	1	ST.	*Mrs. Jones.
Carmarthenshir	e.		*Miss G. T. Troubshaw.
Cornwall .	-	E. P	*Mrs. Blackwood.
Essex	A COL	•	*Mrs. C. C. Chisholm.
Gloucestershire			*Mrs. Allen.
Herefordshire			*Mrs. Dymond.
Tiererereres	1.9	. Ante	*Miss Armitage.
Herts .			*Mrs. Attenborough.
		·	*Miss M. B. Blount.
			*Miss E. E. R. Bradford.
			*Mrs. P. Fordham.
Hunts .			*Mrs. P. A. Allen.
		19/100	*Mrs. J. R. Coote.
Kent	1		*Miss E. J. Wigan.
Lancashire .		12.15	*Miss Whitehead.
	-	al and	*Lady Worsley-Taylor.
Middlesex .		MP 2 PH	*Mrs. Barnes, J.P.
	1.34		*Mrs. Tudor Rhys, J.P.
Northants .	- Lor		*Miss H. A. Cartwright, J.P.
Oxon		1 1 1 A	*Mrs. Gillell.
		1000	*Mrs. Kettlewell.
Northumberlan	d .		*Mrs. Millar, J.P.
Somerset .		42 - AV	*Miss E. M. J. Barstow.
Surrey .	47.113		*Miss E. M. Hoole, J.P.
			*Mrs. Skeats, J.P.
Wilts		The state	*Miss M. F. Audry.
Worcester .			*Miss Catherine F. S. Burrow
Yorks, East Rie	ding		*Mrs. Holby.
Bedfordshire		-	*Mrs. B. Davies.
Durham .	THE REAL		*Mrs. E. Royston.
Essex		125	Miss Lester.
Yorks, East Rid	ling	1.	*Mrs. Southcott.
	0		Mrs. Wright.
			0

A NOVEL BURNS SUPPER.

One instance of the widening range of the Burns cult in recent years is the fact that there now exist a number of Burns Clubs, whose membership is confined to women and which hold the traditional dinner on the 25th January. This year in addition to these functions, the Glasgow branch of the Women's Educational Union held a Burns supper for the double purpose of com-memorating the poet and honouring certain members of the branch who recently have had distinctions conferred upon them. Miss A. C. M. Larty, F.E.I.S., President of the Educational Institute of Scotland, was in the chair, and gave an address on Women in Politics." The guests of the evening included Miss M. A. Hannan Watson, head mistress of Laurel Bank School Miss Margaret Kennedy, M.A., the first woman to be appointed head of Hutcheson's Girls' Grammar School, and Miss Helen Rutherfurd, M.A., who last autumn was one of the candidates for the vacant assessorship of Glasgow University-the first occasion on which a woman has stood for membership of the University Court.

(Continued from previous column.)

they may gather that fact for themselves, since Miss Bosanquet failed to endow her subject with the qualities necessary to account for the achievements which she chronicles. There is clearly a deficiency somewhere in the credit account. M. D. S.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEWS. By BERTHA MASON.

COUNTY COUNCILS AND COUNTY POLICE.

The majority of our readers are, we believe, aware that in cities and boroughs which maintain their own police forces, police control and administration is in the hands of a "Watch' (viz. a Police) Committee, which appoints the Chief Constable and also the other members of the force. The Watch Committee is composed of not less than one-third of the Municipal Council, the Mayor, during his term of office, being an ex-officio member of the Committee. Once appointed the "Watch" Committee has power to act very independently. There are now about 128 cities and boroughs in England and Wales which maintain their own police forces.

Apparently it is not well known that police organization in counties differs in many important points from that of boroughs.

Each of the county police forces in England and Wales (58 in number) is under the control of the Chief Constable who appoints, promotes, and dismisses members of the force, and has the general management of them, subject to the authority and approval of a committee known as the Standing Joint Committee. This committee is composed half of representatives of justices of the peace of Quarter Sessions and half of representatives of the County Council. The Secretary of State for Home Affairs has more power to make rules for the county police than for the borough police.

It is interesting in passing to note that the difference in the law relating to county and borough police is due to historical causes (we quote from the report of the Committee on the Police Service, 1920), the constitution of the borough police having been settled in 1835, when municipal corporations were reformed and put on a uniform statutory basis, while the county police were an entirely new creation made possible in 1839 and obligatory in 1856 for all parts of England and Wales which were not "watched" by the already existing borough forces or the Metropolitan Police.

The funds for the maintenance of county police forces are derived from the *County Fund*. The Joint Committee decides upon the amounts required, and the County Council must provide the amount.

In view of these facts, not only does the connection between County Councils and the county police force become at once obvious, but also the importance of asking all candidates for seats on the County Councils which will be elected between 1st and 8th of March, whether, if elected, they will undertake to support :--

(1) The appointment of women police within the county area. (2) The election of women as members of the Standing Joint Committees.

The need for putting these questions now is increased by the fact that the elections for County Councils are triennial only, and that County Councillors elected next March will serve for good or for ill for three years. Yet another urgent reason for questioning all candidates on these matters is this : (1) At present only in five counties are women police employed, viz. Gloucester, Lancashire, Oxfordshire, Shropshire, and West Sussex. In other words, five only of the fifty-eight county police forces have women members. (2) The Standing Joint Committees are composed, so far as we have ascertained, solely of men.

This is a matter which, in view of the approaching County Council elections, should receive the consideration of all electors, and also of all men and women who believe these reforms are urgently needed. There is yet time, if it has not already been done, before the first week in March to visit by deputation all candidates, for the purpose of ascertaining their views on the need for women members of Standing Joint Committees, and women members of county police forces.

It has been said, and with truth, that no Government will legislate in advance of public opinion. This applies with equal force to local as well as to national matters. The door is open for the appointment of women members on Standing Joint Committees of counties and for women members of county police forces if public opinion and local government electors on polling day, demand that such appointments shall be made. We hope to return to this subject in our next article.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EOUAL CITIZENSHIP.

FEBRUARY 10, 1928.

President : Miss ELEANOR RATHBONE, C.C., J.P. Hon. Treasurer : Miss MACADAM. Parliamentary Scoretary : Miss. Horton. General Scoretary : Miss HANCOCK.

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

ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING, 1928.

7th. 8th. 9th. and 10th March.

AT KING GEORGE'S HALL, CENTRAL Y.M.C.A.

Times of Sessions .- Wednesday, 7th March, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, 8th March, 10 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Friday, 9th March, 10 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, 10th March, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

All Sessions will be open to the public, and the gallery of the Hall will be reserved for visitors, who can obtain tickets, price 6d. per session or 2s. 6d. for the six sessions.

Preliminary Agenda.-The Preliminary Agenda of Resolutions for the Council is now ready, and can be obtained on application to Headquarters, price 4d. per copy. Officers and Members' Conference.—It is hoped that it will

be possible to allot more time than usual to this Conference at which questions of organization will be discussed. We hope that officers and members from the Societies will be prepared to give reports on what has been done by their Societies and to make suggestions for the future.

Public Luncheon.—One of the most popular events in connection with the Council has always been the Luncheon, which will be held at the Criterion Restaurant on Friday, 9th March, at 1.15 p.m. The speakers this year will be Mr. Walter Layton (Editor of the Economist), Sir Robert Newman, M.P., and Mrs. Philip Snowden. Some of our Societies have signified their intention of asking as their guests at the Luncheon their Member or Members of Parliament. We hope that this action will be largely adopted by the Societies, and are allowing tickets for Members of Parliament at the ordinary rate for members of the N.U.S.E.C., i.e. 5s. each instead of 7s. 6d., which is the rate for non-members.

Reception.-The Reception will again this year be held at the Household and Science Department of King's College for Women, Campden Hill (by kind permission of the House Committee), on Wednesday, 7th March, at 8.45 p.m. Miss Margaret Layton, F.R.C.O., L.R.A.M., has kindly promised to come and sing, and we anticipate a very enjoyable evening. Tickets for the reception are free to delegates to the Annual Council Meeting, and 2s. 6d. to visitors.

All further particulars with regard to the Annual Council and tickets can be obtained on application to Headquarters.

EDINBURGH CORPORATION BILL.

Although the date of the second reading of this Bill, which, as stated in another column last week, is to come before the House of Commons, is not yet known, the small committee of representatives of Societies, called by the N.U.S.E.C. to oppose the Bill, met again on Tuesday, 31st January, and decided that a letter should be sent to Members of Parliament signed by representatives of the organizations concerned, directly the date for its second reading has been decided. Arrangements are also being made for a similar letter to be sent to The Times. Certain Members of Parliament are being approached asking them to call a conference of Members of the House of Commons, at which the case against the Bill will be explained by Dr. Graham Little, M.P., and probably Miss Neilans. Further particulars will be given next week.

LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

We append the new questionnaire specially drawn up for these elections. It will be noted that several new questions have been added to the old Local Government questionnaire. We should be glad to hear from any of our members or others willing to put these questions to the candidates in their own constituencies, either at meetings or through a letter, the answer to which could be published in the local Press.

QUESTIONS FOR CANDIDATES FOR THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS. 1. Will you-

(a) Support the application of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, 1919, so that a woman shall not be disqualified on account of her sex from any post or office under the Council, including the higher responsible posts—medical, educational, and administrative?

(b) Oppose the compulsory retirement on marriage of women employees of the Council ?

2. Will you endeavour to secure the appointment of an adequate repre-sentation of women on all Committees and Sub-Committees of your Council, either as election or co-opted members ? 3. Will you support equal pay for equal work and equal opportunities of training, entry and promotion for all men and women employed by the Council

4. Will you endeavour to secure the provision of equal facilities for girl^s and boys in general, technica and industrial education, and in particular in connection with day trade schools?

5. Will you endeavour to secure the appointment of uniformed women as Park Keepers, and will you urge the Council to request the Metropolitan Police to provide more women police for patrolling the parks

6. Will you, with respect to houses built by the Council, endeavour to

- (a) The appointment of qualified women property managers ?(b) Rent Abatement for tenants with children ?
- (a) The transformed for tenants with control of an array accommodation raised in common lodging houses for women?
 (b) To initiate a further inquiry into the need for the provision of lodging house accommodation for working girls in regular employment? 8. Will you endeavour to secure the strict application of the regulations with regard to Smoke Abatement ?

Copies of this questionnaire and of the questionnaire for County Councils other than London can be obtained gratis from Headquarters.

URGENT AND IMPORTANT.

A pamphlet on the Union's policy on Protective Legislation, entitled "Protective Legislation should be based on Need not on Sex," has been written by Miss Rathbone on behalf of the Executive Committee. In view of the possibility of resolutions on this subject being moved at the Council Meeting, every member of every Society is urged to read this statement of the Union's policy. Copies can be obtained from Headquarters at the following prices : 1d. each, 1s. for 25 copies, or 3s. 9d. per 100.

BY-ELECTIONS.

Lancaster By-election. Although the Parliamentary questionnaire has been sent to

all the candidates, at the time of writing no answers have been received.

Ilford By-election. The questionnaire has been sent to all the candidates at this

by-election, and it is hoped that a lively campaign on behalf of the N.U.S.E.C. will be arranged.

NO CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

There seems to have been some misunderstanding due to the fact that the offices of THE WOMAN'S LEADER have been moved to 4 Tufton Street, S.W. 1. The N.U.S.E.C. Headquarters have not been moved-we are still to be found at 15 Dean's Yard, and we do not anticipate any necessity for a removal.

STREET OFFENCES COMMITTEE.

The N.U.S.E.C. has asked Miss Neilans to give evidence on behalf of the Union at the same time as she gives it on behalf of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, before the above Committee. Miss Neilans has sent in a memorandum on behalf of both Societies, on which she will be cross-questioned on 17th February, at both sessions of the Committee, i.e. from 10.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2.30 p.m. to 4 p.m. We hope that as many of our members as possible will be present on this occasion to testify the support given to her evidence among organized women. Miss Neilans' memorandum will be published by the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene immediately after.

Thursday, 8th March, 1928.

QUEEN'S HALL EQUAL FRANCHISE DEMONSTRATION. In addition to the Prime Minister, the speakers will include Sir Oliver Lodge, Miss Margaret Ashton, Miss Nancy Stewart Parnell, Miss Margaret Rippe (Working Women's College), and Miss Rebecca West. Chairman : Miss Eleanor Rathbone, C.C., J.P. An overflow meeting will take place in the Mortimer Hall, Mortimer Street, W. 1 (2 minutes' walk from Oueen's Hall). Chairman: Mrs. Corbett Ashby; most of the above speakers (except the Prime Minister) will, we hope, speak. Some tickets at 5s. and 2s. 6d. can still be obtained for the Queen's Hall. When these are sold applicants will be allotted seats in the Mortimer Hall. All particulars from Miss Auld, 15 Dean's Yard, S.W. 1.

6

THE WOMAN'S LEADER.

A DOUBTFUL EDUCATIONAL EXPERIMENT.

The governors of the new school for girls at Westonbirt announce that the course of education there " will to some extent break away from the conventional lines of high school teaching." which has been "too closely modelled on the curriculum of boys' schools, and too academic in its outlook." They suppose that "for the average girl, the æsthetic and the domestic. practical and outdoor subjects offer a field of training which has been unduly neglected through the pressure of languages, mathematics and science." The founder, the Rev. P. E. Warrington, speaks of this as "a new departure"; to us it seems rather a return to the attitude of a bygone age. That the present curriculum in public and high schools is ideal, we should not wish to suggest. Throughout the country opinion and criticism are stirring, and there is more freedom of thought and more experiment in matters of education nowadays, perhaps, than at any time since the New Learning broke over mediaeval Europe. But we do not believe that the Westonbirt experiment can provide us with much valuable material, for our modern faith holds that boys and girls must be educated first and foremost as human beings to a full and equal citizenship in human society, which is "not a partnership in things subservient only to the gross animal existence of a temporary and perishable nature, but a partnership in all science ; a partnership in all art a partnership in every virtue and in all perfection." Not by devoting their time and attention chiefly to housewifery and elegant accomplishments," or, as Mr. Warrington puts it, the æsthetic and domestic subjects," will our girls or boys educate themselves to enter into their inheritance of citizenship in modern society.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE POLICY OF RESTRICTIVE LEGISLATION.

MADAM,—I did not know when I wrote last week asking for a clear restatement of the policy of the N.U.S.E.C. on Protective Legislation that a leaflet was even then being prepared which will make plain to all who read it what that policy is

swritten by Miss Rathbone and is now obtainable from the E.C., price Id. It will be interesting to see what Mrs. Abbott will produce in reply. -Liverpool.

L. M. MOTT.

THE EMPLOYMENT OF THE MARRIED WOMAN TEACHER

MADAM,—After reading the article on the employment of married teachers, I feel encouraged to defend the local authorities whom you

It has always seemed to me that a rule that women should vacate their positions as teachers or civil servants on marriage is quite a reasonable one though it is usually defended most unreasonably. When a young woman though it is usually detended most unreasonably. When a young woman marries she, normally by the usual custom of the country, undertakes a great many duties. She is supposed to look after her husband's house and clothes and food, and to take care of the children. In addition to this maternity brings very serious risks to health. It is clear, therefore, that she is not such a desirable servant to the public as an unmarried woman. And it is from that point of view that local authorities, whose duty is to the public, are quite justified in demanding that women should resign their

public, are quite justified in demanding that women should resign their employment when they marry. On the other hand, the reasons usually given are very bad ones—that her husband can support her, that she should make way for women who have no other means of support, etc. This is really not the local authorities business. They would never think of getting rid of a teacher or clerk who had received a legacy which rendered him or her independent of their wages, if the said employé wished to continue working. At the same time, I think the rigid rule that no married women should be employed is inconvenient. There are expectional employments in which

be employed, is inconvenient. There are exceptional employments in which it is possible and advantageous to employ them. Also older women who have been married for some years can often so arrange their lives that they can do justice to their work. Many local authorities give the teachers who are married employment "on supply"; which, I believe, works

Very well. After all, local authorities do represent the public. They are elected by women as well as men, and if they generally take the view I have been defending, it is because most people hold that marriage is a profession for women, which it is not for men. If we ask whether it is an adequately remunerated profession, the answer must be that legally speaking, it is not.

The upper classes for many years have insisted on marriage settle-ments, but these are very rare in the professional classes. So that a woman earning f300 or so a year is asked to give this up on marriage, which only secures her the absolute necessities of life. The real way to remedy the sectors her the absolute necessities of life. The real way to remedy the grievance that women feel in this matter is to recognize that the husband is bound to pay for her services. It should be customary for men to settle half their salary on their wives. What is really happening now is that men are getting service from their wives for which they are not paying market

MAUD SELBORNE.

THE WOMAN'S LEADER.

FEBRUARY 10, 1928.

COMING EVENTS.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP. Barnsley 8.E.C. FEB. 15. 5 p.m. St. Mary's Parish Rooms. Mrs. Corbett Ashby, "Some International Suffrage Experiences." Chair: Mrs. Wakefield.

East Croydon W.C.A. FEB. 29: 3 p.m. Eldon House, Wellesley Road. Mrs. Abbott, "The Responsibility of the Vote."

Edinburgh W.C.A. FEB. 14. 5.15. 27 Rutland Street. Study Circle Lecture. W. M'Kerrow, Esq., "Young Offenders."

EEB, 15, 8 p.m. Gartshore Hall, 116 George Street. Miss Eleanor Stewart, "The Welfare of the Shop Assistant."

likley S.E.C. FEB. 14. 3 p.m. Mrs. Corbett Ashby, "Some Contentious Points on the N.U.S.E.C. Agenda."

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8

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ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON AND NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 35 Marsham Street, Westmin-ster. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Members' Library, Books on Suffrage, Sociology and Economics, Hansard, latest Government Publications, Periodicals, Newscuttings. 10-8 (except Saturdays).

EDUCATED HOME HELPS BUREAU, 190 Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W. 1 (new address), requires and supplies educated women for all domestic work. Registration: Employers, as. 6d.; workers, 1s. Suiting fee: Employers, 7s. 6d.; workers, as. (Victoria 5940.)

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. T. Sunday, 12th February. 3.30, Brig.-Gen. C. Bruce, "The Ascent of Mount Everest" (lantern slides). 6.30, Dr. Percy Dearmer.

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NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

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Name Address

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Preston W.C.A. FEB, 14. 7.30. Orient Cafe, Friargate. J. H. Harris, Esq. (League of Nations Union), "Our Responsibility to Backward Races." Southall W.C.A. FEB. 14. 3 p.m. Public Library. Mrs. Bell, "Mother India." SIX POINT GROUP. FEB. 14, 5 p.m. 92 Victoria Street. The Viscountess Rhondda, "Women in Business." FEB. 14. 5 p.m. Chair: Lady Cory.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE. DDD as a see Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C. King's Speech Dinner.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE. FEB. 21. 3-6 p.m. Gate Theatre, 16a Villiers Street, W.C. Conference on War Films. Speakers include Col. Day, M.P., Mrs. Ewer, Major Hague (Legless Ex.Service Men), Rev. T. Tiplady (S.W. London Mission), and Miss W. Holtby. Chair: Mrs. Swanwick. Tickets from 55 Gower Street.

East Lewisham W.C.A. FEB. 17. 3 p.m., Courthill Road Hall. Mrs. Cecil Chesterton, "Cecil Houses and how they are made."