

WOMEN'S SERVICE
FILE COPY

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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 Thompson.

Lilian Baylis

By CHRISTOPHER ST. JOHN

The solicitude of Lilian Baylis for the interests of her two beloved theatres, the Old Vic. and Sadler's Wells, was touchingly manifested in two wishes she asked her staff to remember and make public at her death. The first was that the work of the theatres should not be interrupted even for a single performance, and the second that donations to the Vic-Wells Completion Fund should be sent by her friends instead of flowers. It was like Lilian Baylis to be anxious that no tribute, involving any pecuniary loss to her theatres, should be paid to her memory on the day she died. It was like her too to suggest a tribute that might profit them. Her love for them was as remarkable for its altruism as for its passionate intensity. True, she was pleased with the honours conferred on her, yet I believe she would willingly have forfeited her much prized C.H., her honorary M.A., her honorary LL.D. had she been offered as an alternative a sum large enough to make the future of her theatres safe. She had laid in them the foundations of a national theatre, a national ballet, and a national opera, but she knew very well that the building could not be completed and given stability and permanence without more money than she was able, with all her pertinacity and ingenuity in appealing for it, to raise. I cannot blame her for showing some exacerbation when she was rather tactlessly asked what she thought of a rival scheme for a National Theatre. "I don't care a toss for it," she replied with her usual uncompromising directness. "We are the national theatre." And indeed, as "we," mother and children, have for some time been performing many of the functions of a national theatre, the boast was justifiable.

What was the secret of her success in doing what other people have never got further than talking of doing for a quarter of a century? She was neither exceptionally gifted, nor exceptionally cultured. Her personality was not one to exert a magical influence. She was very homely in appearance, and her manners were uncouth. She was not the sort of woman, in fact, who can allure a millionaire into writing a five-figure cheque to help a cause she has at heart. She was certainly a "character," which is equivalent to saying that she was original, not like anyone else either in her virtues or her defects. She had funny little foibles which made her a great joke to many who worked with her. Yet while they laughed and told one irreverent story about her, one felt that their affection and admiration and respect were not to be questioned. They would have endorsed the tribute paid to Lilian Baylis by the preacher at the Memorial Service at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields. "A woman of great faith . . . an indomitable, beautiful, persevering fighting faith." It was this faith which generated the "driving force" everyone noticed. "Her enterprises were impossible, and often insolvent, but when she was in difficulties she just went into her office, got down on to her knees and prayed. Everything then came out all right." That is how Mr. Bernard Shaw put it. After a meeting of the Governors of the Old Vic. and Sadler's Wells, at which a question of vital importance to their future had to be settled, Lilian Baylis was asked how things had gone. "Splendidly," she replied. "I had the Almighty in my pocket." That was how she put it. The import of all the three remarks I have quoted is the same. Lilian Baylis, like St. Theresa to whom the preacher

compared her, like St. Joan of Arc, like many another saint charged with a humanly impossible mission, did not trust in her own strength. In that lies the secret of her strength, of her power to move mountains. And also the secret of another power. Cicely Hamilton, who knew her well, speaks of her mastery of the "first and hardest principle of Christian ethics; that we must hate the sin, while yet thinking kindly of the sinner."

It would be a mistake to think, as one very easily might, after reading the obituary notices, that Lilian Baylis had no interests at all outside her theatres. She remained faithful to the end of her life to a humanitarian interest—the cause of British subjects stricken with leprosy. The St. Giles' Mission had a good friend in Lilian Baylis. Only last year her ardent and active support of the cause of "Votes for Women" was recalled when she spoke at Mrs. Despard's birthday-party, referring to the help a word of encouragement from that grand old fighter had been to her in her fight against difficulties in the early days of the Old Vic. A fight that was so far successful that in a few years a dreary, sordid and ill-equipped theatre, where rough and ready performances of Shakespeare were much in need of the plea that "never anything can come amiss when simpleness and duty tender it," had been transformed into an excellent, well-equipped theatre on modern lines, where the performances reached a high standard.

We are assured that Lilian Baylis had lit a candle which will not be put out. I have no doubt that her work will go on. But at the same time I think it improbable that her theatres will ever be loved again as she loved them.

THE BACH CHOIR

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Women in the Civil Service

The first woman barrister to be appointed to the Public Trustee Office has been installed at a lower salary than a male barrister in the same position. In a number of professions, medical, legal, architecture, acting, it has been taken for granted that a woman shall receive as much pay as a man ever since women were first admitted to them. It is shameful that the Government should inaugurate the injustice of paying unequal salaries in these professions. The Law Association will no doubt bring pressure to bear, just as the B.M.A. did in like case over women doctors, and we may hope that the injustice will be removed without delay.

At a special Conference called by the National Association of Women Civil Servants to consider the proposal of the Civil Service Clerical Association that the two Associations should negotiate with a view to amalgamation the following resolution was carried by a large majority:

"That this Conference is of the opinion that, since the position of women in the Civil Service has not yet been established on a firm and equal footing with men, it is necessary to retain in being the National Association of Women Civil Servants as a separate entity in order that there may be a body of women with complete freedom to voice their opinions and to safeguard their interests in the Service."

St. Joan's Alliance was represented by Miss Nancy Stewart Parnell at a public meeting on "Equal Pay for Equal Work" held at Hammer-smith on November 30th. The meeting was organised by the local Branch of the National Association of Women Civil Servants and Miss Parnell was one of the speakers. The following resolution was carried unanimously:

That this meeting is of the opinion that the continued undercutting of men by women is a constant menace to the standard of living of the community, and asserts that the only sound basis of payment is payment for the work done irrespective of the sex of the worker, and demands that the Government and local authorities should give a lead to private employers by introducing equal pay for equal work without further delay.

LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT BRANCH

Hon. Secretary: Miss Bowden, 22, Fern Grove, Liverpool, 8.

Mass has been offered at the request of the Branch, at St. Joan's Church, Bootle, to thank God and Our Lady and St. Joan for our continuance during 25 years.

On December 7th members went in a body, wearing their badges, to the women's meeting of the Catholic Action Conference, at St. George's Hall.

We hope to hold our Annual Meeting early in January.

Notes and Comments

We respectfully offer our heartfelt congratulations to His Grace the Archbishop of Westminster on His Grace's appointment to the Sacred College of Cardinals. We feel assured that the people of England regard the appointment with great pride and pleasure.

We hope many of our members will be present at the International Eucharistic Congress to be held in Budapest from May 23rd to the 30th, 1938. We ask those who are unable to go to make a note of Monday, May 23rd, as on that date there will be a great Catholic Women's Rally at the Albert Hall. Details of this will be given later.

The Alliance was represented by Mrs. Aylward at the celebration of the Fifth Anniversary of the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament by the Laity in the Church of the Sacred Heart, Horseferry Road. Members are reminded that every day the Blessed Sacrament is exposed in this church, and that on the first Thursday of each month St. Joan's Alliance undertakes to watch from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Those who are willing to take half-an-hour or an hour's watch and to pray for the intentions of the Alliance should send in their names to Miss Barry (55, Berners Street) who will give them all particulars.

We ask the prayers of our readers for the repose of the soul Mme J. Aubey, a devoted member of *l'Alliance Ste Jeane d'Arc* who supported *l'Alliance* in every way and acted as its President at a very difficult time.—R.I.P. We offer our deepest sympathy to her sister, Mlle Lenoël.

Recently a man at Paisley was to have been tried on a charge of alleged indecency against a girl of 15. Each of the women called to serve on the jury exercised her right of refusing to serve in such a case, and as there were insufficient men to form a jury the trial had to be postponed. The Sheriff upbraided the women for refusing to perform the duties of citizenship. We feel that these women not only showed themselves bad citizens but cruel and callous besides. The child in question was left in suspense but this is not all. As was pointed out by a woman magistrate in the *Daily Telegraph* women jurors can often give great moral support in these cases; (their judgment is valuable, also). On the other hand, in spite of the Sheriff's complaint *afterwards*, these women were asked beforehand if they wished to retire.

It does not seem to have occurred to the Sheriff that this request (customary in cases of this kind) is tantamount to implying that it would be more seemly if the women *did* retire. It is quite time that this woman's "privilege" to refuse to serve on a jury was removed.

It seems probable that the Inheritance Bill will pass into law since the Government, although declaring that it would still remain a private members Bill, recognised in Committee stage that the House of Commons had voted for such a scheme three times. Mr. Stanley Holmes, the promoter of the Bill accepted the Government's suggestion that the Bill should be limited to the maintenance of a widow during widowhood out of income not capital, and to the maintenance of children under age, or, in the case of children over age, spinsters or disabled sons.

Surely the Government is behind the times in its outlook? There are cases where all the money is on the woman's side and where the husband would be severely handicapped if it were left away, not to speak of his need in unemployment or disablement. The inclusion of *all* spinsters with those unable to fend for themselves is an anachronism.

We hope very much, for the sake of fair play, that the Bill will not be passed with these short-sighted amendments.

Those who read our article on Russian Women Refugees in the Far East (December 1935) will be glad to hear that the Appeal Committee organised to collect money to assist these unfortunate women, recently decided to send the money collected to Shanghai for the direct relief of Russian women there. The sum of £266 11s. 11d. was duly sent to the Nansen Fund and will be used by them for this object, through the International Relief Committee in Shanghai. It will be remembered that St. Joan's Alliance was one of the original Societies forming the Appeal Committee.

Miss Frances Melville, M.A., B.D., LL.D., J.P., is standing as Independent Parliamentary candidate for the Scottish Universities owing to the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Ramsay Macdonald. She has recently retired from the position of Mistress of Queen Margaret College, University of Glasgow, which she held for 25 years. Scottish Graduates will not need to be told of her magnificent record, both academic and as a worker for women's emancipation.

ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE,

AND

Editorial Office of "Catholic Citizen":

55 BERNERS STREET, LONDON, W.1. Tel. Museum 4181

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

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Slavery

The fourth session of the Advisory Committee of Experts on Slavery was held in Geneva, April 5th—10th. Its report (C.188. M. 173 1937 VI) to the League of Nations has now come to hand and we will indicate briefly the main points concerning women.

In the main body of the Report, that part of the French Government's Communication dealing with the pledging of individuals as security for debt, is considered:

"In parts of French West Africa, the economic crisis encouraged the revival of old customs relating to the 'mise en gage' of individuals as security for debt. The . . . communication from the French Government contains most interesting information regarding an enquiry into the subject. The Government . . . decided to oppose the practices energetically. At the opening of the session of the Council of Government, the Governor-General declared that this custom would disappear, and that, in any case, it would by 1938 be classified as an act of slave-trading and be punished as such."

In this connection we hope the Slavery Commission will bear in mind cases such as that of a native in the French Cameroons who gave his wife to a creditor in payment of a large debt. The woman was not merely the pledge or loan she was the final payment of the debt, agreed to and signed by the creditor. We hope the Commission will not forget, either, that polygamous chiefs in Africa have been known to pay their debts with their wives, and that in Gaboon a little girl may be promised in marriage in payment of a debt.

The communications received from Governments (Annexes: p. 19 and following) include that of the French Government in full, part of which deals with "the circumstances of native marriage in certain colonies of French West Africa":

"The French Government has already put the main elements of the problem before the Advisory Committee of experts: women while not being fully

freed from paternal authority must be given greater liberty, and native customs must be reconciled with the canon law as observed by Christians in the matter of consent to marriage . . .

Certainly, it is yet too early to impose upon the natives laws based upon our principles of civilisation. To attempt an over-rapid moral reform of family customs would involve the risk of undermining the foundations of native social life without replacing them by new institutions.

The immediate promulgation of unduly strict regulations therefore appears to be undesirable. But that does not mean that the local Administration has resigned itself to a policy of waiting and inaction. The Governor-General holds that the problem is one of primary importance and has informed the Council of Government that certain backward and reprehensible marriage customs are to be altered . . .

An enquiry undertaken by the administrative authorities (of the Labé district, French Guinea) revealed the survival of customs which . . . approximate to a disguised form of slavery. It appears that in order to raise funds, a Diallonbe chief ordered several villages in his area to supply a number of marriageable girls, whom he collected in a caravanserai where were gathered heads of Fullah families provided with money, cattle and cloth . . . These girls were given in marriage to the young chiefs (or handed over, or pawned) in the presence of the parents."

We are glad that the French Government has supplied this information on "the circumstances of native marriage" in spite of the Slavery Committee's decision (1936) "that the various systems based on the giving of 'Dowry' such as 'Lobolo,' etc., have no features entitling them to be regarded as forms of slavery within the meaning of the 1926 Convention."

On page 51 in the Communication from the Spanish Government, it is stated:

"No slavery in any of the forms mentioned by the Committee of Experts exists in the territories on the Gulf of Guinea, the Committee having decided that the so-called sale of women, the usual form of contracting marriage, does not constitute slavery."

Another Communication contains among

proclamations by the High Commissioner for Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland (1936), the following:

"No employment of a native labourer shall give the employer a right to the service of the wife of such labourer without the consent of both husband and wife."

The main body of the Report deals carefully with the question of Mui Tsai. We summarise as follows:

China. The Committee draws attention to the important measures taken last year by the Chinese Government (see CATHOLIC CITIZEN, November, 1936) and expresses the hope that the latter will be good enough to furnish information as to the practical results of these measures.

The International Settlements. (a) Kulangsu. The Committee observes that measures are being taken to ensure a complete registration of all registrable girls; that the appointment of an Inspector of Pi-Nu (Mui Tsai) is proposed; and that it is the policy of the Municipal Council to work for the gradual but effective abolition of the system.

(b) Shanghai. There is mention of the difficulties connected with the issue, or the enforcement of regulations, but the Committee trust that they can be overcome. An important step has been taken by the appointment of a lady as "Supervisor of Mui Tsai" who has under her a staff of competent workers well acquainted with the problems of child labour.

Mention of the "Report of the Commission on Mui Tsai in Hong Kong and Malaya" is made and:

"The Committee hopes that it will learn in due course what action the Governments of Hong Kong and Malaya propose to take on these two (majority and minority) reports."

CHRISTINE SPENDER.

Traffic in Women

This year's Report (A.65. 1937. IV) of the League of Nations (5th) Committee on Social Questions has come to hand. In the section dealing with "Traffic in Women and Children" it is reported that last year a draft Convention "for the suppression of the exploitation of prostitution . . . designed to fill the gap left by existing Conventions" was sent to Governments for their observations, and replies were received from 37 Governments.

"When these replies were considered by the Advisory Committee on Social Questions . . . it became evident that the Convention, which was framed on abolitionist lines could not be accepted by regulationist countries . . .

" . . . It was decided to appoint a Sub-Committee to consider the best way of meeting this difficulty . . . The Sub-Committee recommended that instead of making reservations the regulationist countries should . . . make a declaration that they are in agreement with the principles of the Convention and will endeavour to change their legislation within the next few years."

The Fifth Committee considered the recommendation of the Conference of Eastern

Countries convened by the League at Bandoeng in February: viz:

"the creation of a Bureau of the League in the East to receive and circulate information relating to the traffic in women and generally to promote collaboration between Eastern Countries in this field."

The Committee asked, "the Council of the League of Nations to appoint an expert adviser to discuss the matter as soon as possible on the spot with the competent authorities of the Governments interested."

Among other recommendations by the Committee was one that "the publication of a review of social questions should be undertaken" by the Social Questions section of the League.

* * * * *

L'Alliance Ste Jeanne d'Arc was represented at the International Congress for the Suppression of Traffic in Women, held recently in Paris, by Mme Pesson Depret, President of *L'Alliance*, and Mlle. Delaval. Among resolutions passed at the Congress were those recommending: the suppression of third party exploitation of prostitutes; the spreading of knowledge in eastern countries of the advantages of the abolition of houses of ill-fame; the passing of measures for the protection of minors of both sexes and the appointment of women police. During the discussions, M. Relfis, Secretary of the International Abolitionist Federation, made a plea for justice for prostitutes maintaining that they must not be put outside the pale as they were human beings each with an individual soul. The important thing was to fight against licensed houses and the *police des mœurs*. Prostitutes should be helped—not hindered—to lead a new life.

Oldham

The first meeting of the Oldham members of the Alliance was held on December 1st. Miss Parnell, B.A., presided and welcomed all present. Her speech told of the foundation and work, both past and present, and future aims of the society. This very instructive talk was enjoyed immensely, and all felt that Oldham must do its part in the work which has yet to be achieved. Everyone was very grateful to Miss Parnell for coming to Oldham, and for making all proud to have joined such a wonderful society. Miss Stella Mannion had organised the meeting which was held, by kind permission, at her home in Clarksfield.

* * * * *

We congratulate our member, Miss Annie Mannion, on her election to the Central Council of the National Union of Women Teachers.

In The Limelight

By D. WHITTLES

It was high time that the spotlight should be turned on those "native" women of the world who are still oppressed, enslaved and dehumanised. And who should undertake the task if not we women of the Alliance, who make bold to call St. Joan our patron?

It does not require much imagination to fancy how St. Joan might voice her indignation that women could be in such bondage five hundred years after her own death. Nor how she would bid us not to rest until our efforts in the cause of the "native" woman had produced some tangible result.

We have, at any rate, made a good beginning. The statement on the status of the women of native races which we presented to XVIII Assembly of the League of Nations, represents spade work. It took months to compile, and involved a vast amount of correspondence with those persons best qualified to give first hand information on the subject.

A Bishop in Africa wrote to us recently: "I acknowledge gratefully your very interesting League of Nations Statement, and congratulate you all on the noble, courageous, and successful work you are doing for the relief and uplift of 'native' women."

The report, price ninepence, cries aloud to be read. Were its contents universally known it would not be in existence. Public opinion would long ago have brought about the abolition of the state of things therein described.

The thought that negroes yearly celebrate "Emancipation" contains a certain bitter irony as one reads this candid statement of the position of many "native" women.

A bare recital of the "Recommendations" drawn up in the report might well galvanise into activity any members of the Alliance who may be uninterested in the subject; for they embody human needs so simple, so fundamental that it is hardly possible to believe that there exist in the world thousands of women for whom they are demanded. They are as follows:

We recommend that:

Education.—(1) Grants be supplied by Governments so that free education for boys and girls, equally, may exist wherever possible;

(2) Education be made compulsory for both sexes wherever possible;

(3) Adult education be subsidised and native women encouraged to make use of it.

Paid Work.—(1) Girls be given the opportunity of training for, and exercising, a profession;

(2) Native teachers, nurses and midwives be

trained and employed in the greatest possible numbers; be well-paid, surrounded by marks of approval (uniform, certificates, appreciation of European officials).

Age of Majority.—The woman be given her majority at the age of 21 or before.

Marriage.—(1) No marriage contract be made for a girl under 14;

(2) Consent of the two parties be a condition of valid marriage;

(3) Appeal against coercion be made generally known and as easily accessible as possible.

(4) There be a Christian marriage ordinance in each territory, under which Christian rights and obligations be always recognised.

Bride-price be discouraged and registered monogamous marriage be encouraged.

Polygamy.—(1) Monogamous marriage have Government approval and encouragement;

(2) There be Government preference for native officials and employees who are monogamous.

Widows.—A widow be free to dispose of herself and her children as she thinks fit (remain with her husband's family, go back to her own, be independent, re-marry).

Traffic in Women.—(1) All State regulation of prostitution be abolished;

(2) Third party exploitation of prostitution be severely punished;

(3) Adultery price (fine for committing adultery) be abolished.

Family Life.—Facilities for decent family life be provided in connection with labour recruitment and in urban areas.

There is, no doubt, apathy on the part of many women on the subject of the "native" races. Do they hope that the problem will work itself out? Then these unhappy women may well be left indefinitely in their state of slavery. For the cause of their uplifting has two potent enemies, ancient tribal custom, against which all European authorities are loth to act, and the attitude of the women themselves, so degraded, so crushed, that the desire for human freedom is not in them. Christian education alone can enlighten them, but Christian education they are often denied.

The women of St. Joan's Alliance, some of whom have been inspired to embrace the cause of these poor "natives," must keep this cause in mind. For, with apologies to Kipling, not only the Colonel's lady and Judy O'Grady, but that poor African slavey, "are sisters under their skin."

Copies of *The Mission Calendar* may be obtained at 3d. each (single copies 4d. each, post free) from—The Association for the Propagation of the Faith, 23 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1. This attractive calendar should help to "point" interest in the Missions.

International Notes

Mother Michael Dufay, Superior General of the Holy Ghost Sisters has, at the demand of the French Colonial Minister, been given a free air-travel ticket so that she can visit the Congregation's Houses, dispersed all over **Africa**. This gift is in recognition of the valuable work accomplished in the Colonies by the Congregation. Mother Michael Dufay, starting from Paris, will have visited Madagascar, Mozambique, Elizabethville, Stanleyville, Bangui, Fort Lamy, Niamey, Gao El-Goléa. *Centre d'Information Catholique (Paris)*.

For the first time in **Australian** history the aborigines have petitioned the King asking his Majesty, through Australian Governments, to prevent their extinction, and to empower them to propose one of their own people, or a sympathetic white, to represent them in the Federal Parliament. The petition which was signed by 1,814 aborigines in all parts of Australia, chiefly Mission stations, has been sent by the Prime Minister to the Governor General, for submission to the King, and Mr. Lyons has promised to consider the request. It declares that the injunction given to the first settlers in Australia that the aborigines should be adequately cared for has not been obeyed, since aborigines lands have been expropriated and legal status denied them.—*Times*.

The International Women's News gives the text of the new electoral law in **Bulgaria**:

"Are electors under this Law all Bulgarian subjects who have completed their twenty-first year, both men and women, but the latter only if they are married, divorced or widows."

Early in the year the mothers of children born in wedlock had obtained the right to vote in municipal elections.

A decree has been passed in **French India** which forbids marriage under the age of 16 for men and 14 for women. Any breach of this law entails the annulment of the "marriage" and imprisonment for six days together with a fine of 500 to 5,000 francs for the guilty party and accomplices. The law fills a gap caused by the fact that the "Sarda Act" forbidding child marriages did not of course apply in French India, so that Hindus would go into this territory in order to celebrate the marriages of young children.

The news that Mrs. Parker, the only woman member of the Parliament of Northern Ireland, is to be appointed Parliamentary Secretary to

the Minister of Education in Ulster has been received with strong approval by the women in the **Irish Free State**. Mrs. Gaffney writes in the *Irish Daily Independent*:

"The Northern Government is giving a headline to some of our people here. It is very curious that our Ministers frequently choose women as their private secretaries because they find them good at the work, but pass them over when the better positions are going. Both President de Valera and the Minister for Local Government in the Irish Free State have women secretaries."

Mrs. Parker sat for Londonderry from 1921 to 1929 and has sat for South Londonderry since 1933.

We learn from the I.L.O. Year Book (1936-1937) that in **Hungary** the Ministerial Council has adopted regulations for the profession of barrister which exclude women.

From the same source we note that in **Germany**, an Order which provided for the superseding of workers in favour of fathers of families has been replaced by an Order which, while it contains provisions favourable to the engagement of fathers of families of 40 years of age and over, does not provide for the replacement of the younger workers of either sex. The Women's Office of the Labour Front has pointed out that the same provisions ought to be applied to elderly women workers with dependants. The committee responsible for admitting doctors to employment under the social insurance scheme laid down that insured men have no more right to demand treatment by male doctors than have insured women to demand treatment by female doctors; in consequence the sex of a doctor should not prevent his or her admission to service with the social insurance fund of a given locality, married women doctors being excepted.

We congratulate Mrs. Cummings-John, first Hon. Secretary of the West African Branch of the League of Coloured Peoples, on her appointment as principal of the A.M.E. Industrial and Literary School for Girls, Free Town, **Sierra Leone**. As Miss Constance Horton she spent over two years in England studying, and passed the Associate of the College of Preceptors in 1935; she obtained a 2nd Class Diploma in English and Membership of the Institute of Hygiene last year. After her recent marriage she now "goes home" with her husband Mr. Cummings-John who, a Barrister at Law, acted for a time as General Secretary of the League of Coloured Peoples from whose organ *The Keys* we take this information.

S. A. B.

Reviews

St. Elizabeth of Portugal. By Fr. Vincent McNabb, O.P. (Sheed & Ward, 2s. 6d.)

This short life of St. Elizabeth of Portugal should be widely read. It is fitting, in this year of wars and preparation for war that such a work should be given to us. "It seemed almost a necessity" writes Fr. Vincent in his introduction, "to let this patroness of Peace again ride on her little mule between the armies in a last effort to keep brethren from mutual slaughter."

Messrs. Sheed & Ward have generously presented several copies of the book for our Christmas Sale and Fr. McNabb has kindly autographed them for us. S. H.

Pamphlets

Women's Work in 1936 is published by the International Labour Office (Geneva) and is a reprint of Chapter II from the I.L.O. Year Book 1936-37. The pamphlet deals with the conditions of work in a number of countries, including Germany and Japan which are no longer States members of the League of Nations. We are glad to note that the principle of equal pay is gradually gaining adherence; Venezuela has provided "for the payment of equal wage for equal work without distinction of sex," (Labour Act, 1936), France Germany and Sweden have all moved slightly in the right direction and Mexico is looking to it that the principle, already laid down by its Labour Act, is respected.

The Political and Civil Status of Women, published by the International Council of Women is the statement submitted this year to the League of Nations by the I.C.W. Clearly printed in English and French with helpful sub-headings, this pamphlet should be of the greatest use to all Women's Societies.

The Australian Natives, by Sir John Harris (Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Protection Society, 6d.) has as its main purpose "to show that the remnant of this cruelly misrepresented and ill-treated race, is well worth rescuing and uplifting." Those who still consider the "moral and intellectual abilities of the Aborigines" as inferior to those of white people, should undoubtedly be presented with this well got up pamphlet.

The Industrialization of the African, also published by the Anti-Slavery Society (price 6d.) "has been prepared by an African Conference composed of 30 men and women representing, varying, and even diverse, political and religious views, but all of them animated by a

single desire to assist the African," and all with "actual experience of the African races." It recommends the British Government to ratify the Geneva (native labour) Recruiting Convention of 1936, and to appoint a Royal Commission "to enquire into every aspect of industry in the special circumstances of African life and society."

"... The abandonment by individuals of tribal ideas and habits is a process normal in all human societies. Those who do in fact abandon tribal ways must be provided for, and their numbers in Africa already large, are rapidly increasing."

C. S.

HON. TREASURER'S NOTE

We are most grateful to all those who have given contributions, either in money or kind, to our Christmas Sale.

We offer our thanks to the following firms who sent us gifts for the stall: Messrs. Cow and Gate Ltd; Genatosan Ltd.; A. Wander Ltd. (Ovaltine); The Parazone Co., Ltd.; The Marmite Food Extract Co., Ltd. and Messrs. Sheed and Ward.

May we make a final appeal to those who have not yet paid their subscriptions to the Alliance and CATHOLIC CITIZEN (minimum 3s. 6d.) to send these before Christmas. C. J. GARRARD.

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