

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

AND THE COMMON CAUSE

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NOTES AND NEWS.

Suspense.

With the representatives of seven Powers in session at No. 10 Downing Street, and the international situation changing from day to day, there is no comment which we can fling across the gap which separates the departure of this issue to Press and its reappearance among our readers. At the moment there appears to be good hope of an immediate joint guarantee of interim short-term credit to Germany. But who knows?

The Round Table Conference.

The long-expected additions to the Federal Structure Committee include the name of Mrs. Subbarayan, already a member of the Round-Table Conference. It is a small representation of the women of India, but Mrs. Subbarayan did admirably last year, and the experience she then acquired will help her to play her part even more effectively. Among the other new members is Sir Muhammad Shafi, the father of Begum Shah Nawaz, so it may be hoped that the Begum's influence may reach the Committee through that channel. There is still the possibility that additional women will be appointed as representatives on the Conference itself. But the Government have acted throughout in so niggardly a spirit where women are concerned that one can feel no surety of this. Unfortunately, the inexperience of the Indian women's organizations makes them an easy prey to the flatteries of their men and they have not yet learned, as women over here have done, how quickly the cry of "the women are splendid" in times of national emergency gives place to the cry "women, out you go" when the emergency is over and competition for place becomes fierce. Hence the women's societies in this country should lose no opportunity of applying the pressure which may otherwise be lacking.

Sterilization, Mental Defectives Bill.

Major Church's Bill to permit voluntary eugenic sterilization for mental defectives was defeated when introduced into the House of Commons under the ten minutes' rule on Tuesday, 21st July, by 167 to 89 votes. That this vote was due to the fear of antagonizing certain religious groups in their constituencies rather than to their individual conviction was clear from the derisive reception generally given to the fantastic arguments brought against the Bill by its opponent, Dr. Morgan. After all, for a Bill which could not proceed any further there was nothing to gain but a good deal for the individual Member to lose by voting in its favour. Before it is introduced again in the House of Commons far more spade work must be done to persuade the man and woman in the street to give the same support to this

Bill as do many eminent scientists and others, including Miss Maude Royden, the Bishop of Winchester, Sir Thomas Horder, Sir Farquhar Buzzard, and Professor Sir J. Arthur Thomson, M.A., who realize the imperative necessity of raising the quality of the race.

The Anomalies Bill.*

By the time this is in the hands of our readers the Unemployment No. 3 Bill will have passed through its Report stage, after debates rendered stormy by the opposition of the members in the House of Commons of the I.L.P. A fine fight to delete from the Bill the subsection which gives the Minister power to make regulations with regard to any sections she may select of married women who have not contributed whatever may be the required number of contributions since marriage, was put up by Miss Rathbone, Lady Cynthia Mosley, Miss Ellen Wilkinson, and Miss Lee. Miss Rathbone pleaded for the more stringent carrying out of existing regulations which apply to all workers, instead of the adoption of the device—new where Unemployment Insurance is concerned—of imposing special conditions for married women. She pointed out the ambiguities the probable ineffectiveness and the inherent injustices which lay in the provisions of the Bill, and was ably backed by the other women members mentioned. Miss Wilkinson's courage in speaking against her own Government's recommendations deserves a word of appreciation. It is perhaps of interest to note that the tellers for Miss Rathbone's amendment, which was taken at 4.30 in the morning, were two women, including, of course, Miss Rathbone herself and Lady Cynthia Mosley. Miss Bondfield refused to reconsider the point, though she appeared to base her defence of the Bill only on the general opinion that there was an evil to be remedied. She did not attempt to reply to Miss Rathbone's suggestion with regard to other methods of dealing with the Bill.

A New Register.

Now is the time for Local Government electors to make sure that their names appear on the lists which were published on the 15th of this month. The latest date for making a claim is 7th August, and those who have not yet qualified or whose names are omitted should secure a form from the Town Clerk and send it in as soon as possible. The qualifications for Local Government elections are too well known to need repetition here. Lodgers, except those occupying unfurnished rooms, are still disenfranchised. There is no inequality in this; men and women are in the same position, but here lies, we believe, a definite case for reform. Many unmarried men and women are debarred from the rights of citizenship for no fault of their own except residence in furnished rooms. Before the Parliamentary franchise was granted, on its present terms, we asked eloquently "What has furniture had to do with the vote?" This question may surely be asked with equal cogency with reference to Local Government elections.

Women and the Wesleyan Ministry.

The Wesleyan Methodist Conference at Birmingham last week discussed the recommendation of the Joint Committee of the three Methodist conferences that women might offer themselves as candidates for the ministry after the Conference of 1932. An amendment to a motion adopting this recommendation postponed the decision until after the union was carried, but a recount being demanded the decision was reversed by two votes; owing, however, to the lateness of the hour and the fact that many delegates had been obliged to leave, the question was reopened the following day, when a motion on which both sides had compromised was carried. This motion adopted the

* See Cross Bench for more recent news

report of the joint committee, but deleted the words "after the conference of 1932" and made the decision subject to confirmation by the Conference of 1933. It further remitted to the Joint Committee for further consideration questions relating to training, allowances, and marriage. We can understand that a breach in the traditions of a church needs careful handling, especially when three separate churches are on the point of uniting, and we are grateful to the members of those churches who are conducting the delicate negotiations on behalf of the removal of sex disqualification with such persistence and skill. The mover of the resolution pointed out that the undoubted difficulties in the way were difficulties of method, and they could not go back on their previous declaration that sex is no disqualification for the ministry whatever.

Labour Women and Compulsory Notification.

In the July number of *The Labour Woman* towards the close of an interesting report of the recent meeting at Blackpool, described in our columns in our issue of 19th June by the able Chairman (Miss Dorothy Elliot) herself, there is a brief paragraph announcing a fact new to us which gives us some anxiety. It states that the conference "with a very definite vote" agreed to a proposal that persons receiving treatment for venereal disease and discontinuing it should be made subject to compulsory notification. An amendment in favour of the present system of free treatment without any notification, moved by Mrs. Malone for the Fabian Society, was defeated. The paragraph goes on to state that the question is of such importance that Mrs. Alderman Lewcock, of Newport, who moved the resolution, will contribute a full statement on the subject in a later issue of *The Labour Woman*. We hope the delegates realized the full seriousness of their decision. Many even of those who favour experimental efforts in selected places to continue treatment by some form of compulsion would hesitate to give their support to a general measure of compulsion. Mrs. Lewcock's statement will be read with interest, but we hope that readers of *The Labour Woman* will have the opportunity of reading the case against compulsory notification. How much do they know of the attempt to secure compulsion in Edinburgh in 1928 and the rejection of the proposal by the House of Commons by 156 to 93 votes? How much do they know of the failure of compulsory notification in other countries? They have by their decision incurred a great responsibility, and we hope it was made advisedly.

The National Birth Control Association.

The National Birth Control Council has been strengthened by its amalgamation with the Birth Control Investigation Committee. This body, of which Sir Humphrey Rolleston is the Chairman, is an entirely scientific and medical committee whose purpose is to conduct a search into contraceptive methods, their efficacy, and their effect on individuals concerned. This amalgamation means that in the birth control movement the administrative and the medical aspects will be linked together for their mutual benefit. Sir Thomas Horder, the eminent physician, a doctor of H.M. the King, has consented to become President of the joint concern, which is to be known in future as the National Birth Control Association. There is still a long row to hoe before the giving of information on Birth Control becomes a recognized part of the public health movement in this country. The Ministry of Health has issued a circular emphasizing the many limitations in its circular of last July, by which information can be given on medical grounds only, and solely to mothers in attendance at the medical clinics, or to women who are already attending gynæcological centres. This clearly is not enough, and until such times as the public health authorities may be allowed to give this information on social and economic as well as medical grounds, voluntary birth control clinics will still hold an important place. We hope, however, that it will not be long before the pressure of public opinion will result in freedom being given to local authorities to supply information to whomever they consider it necessary.

Children and the Cinema.

In different parts of the country investigations into the influence of the Cinema have been carried on. One of the most interesting was undertaken in Birmingham last year by a committee of inquiry and its report has just been published. The investigators themselves visited the most popular cinemas regularly, sat with the children, talked with them, and watched the effects of the films and in addition circulated questions through schools and leaders of organizations for children or adolescents. The report is not, however, confined to young

people. Opinions were collected from adults, both men and women, including members of a women's adult school. Other similar committees have been formed in other towns. In Sheffield, the Juvenile Organizations Committee and the Sheffield Social Survey Committee recently made a survey of children's matinees described in the July *Social Service Review*, which is well worth study. The Birmingham report made no formal recommendations, but urged the Home Secretary to institute an impartial inquiry on the subject. This is a matter which concerns not only the Home Office but the Board of Education, or local education authorities. It is only second in importance to the wireless service and, though we have no editorial mandate for this view, we go so far as to say there is a good deal to be said for the same system of control.

Women's Questions at the Assembly.

The annual meeting between the women delegates to the League of Nations Assembly and representatives of women's organizations was held last Monday under the auspices of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship. This year the meeting was particularly fortunate in having both Miss Susan Lawrence, the first woman to be appointed full delegate, and Mrs. Mary Hamilton. Mrs. Franklin, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the N.U.S.E.C., presided, and conducted the meeting through a long agenda containing many questions which are likely to come up for discussion at Geneva. Miss Lawrence and Mrs. Hamilton both expressed themselves grateful for the opportunity of being put wise on current feminist questions by experts in the various subjects, and they were warmly thanked by the Chairman and those present for giving time for the meeting and entering into such a frank discussion of the problems. Their work at Geneva will be watched with the greatest interest by all those at Monday's meeting.

Civil Pensions.

Certain services to the State bring pensions—sometimes very liberal pensions—to those who perform them. For national services rendered in literature, science, arts, or social welfare there is, however, no provision beyond an annual handful of meagre Civil awards, sometimes granted to the dependents of deceased public servants and sometimes, though less frequently, to those public benefactors themselves in appreciation of their disinterested but unremunerative work. The list published last week for the year ending 31st March contains the names of some men and women whom the State does well to recognize. Among those who are selected for their personal achievements are Mrs. Katharine Tynan Hinkson, who, unfortunately, did not live long to enjoy her pension, and Miss Clotilde Graves, better known as Richard Dehan, both for their literary work; Miss Lorrain Smith, known to many of our readers as a feminist, less well known to them, perhaps, as a botanist of distinction; and Miss Rebecca Halley Cheetham, for many years the popular Warden of the Canning Town Women's Settlement. The last name is of special interest not only because of Miss Cheetham's own deserts, but because social services are, if anything, more commonly ignored than services in other fields of human effort. The institution of some more adequate recognition of services to the arts, sciences, and to human welfare surely calls for attention.

Holidays—for some people.

Most people, of the sort who read our paper at any rate, are now counting the days before the "holidays." The present rush to get things done before the general break-up will soon be over, and there will be for most of us a lull of a few weeks. But what of those, the vast majority, who have no period of rest and refreshment by the sea or among the mountains to look forward to. Like all other organizations dependent on the goodwill of the public, the various holiday funds are hard hit this year and may be obliged to send fewer people away. We print in our columns to-day an appeal from the Women's Holiday Fund; no emphasis of ours is required to recommend the special claim of the working class mother and we hope that the readers of *THE WOMAN'S LEADER*, who have a reputation for liberality and wisdom in giving, will make their customary response. Perhaps at the same time they will remember the needs of other holiday societies, especially those for children and women workers in factories and low-paid occupations. Gifts should be forwarded now to enable the greatest possible number to share in the benefits.

VOLUME TWO.¹

The rare person who reads Government reports must often be heartbroken at the indifference with which these monuments of industrious compilation and scrupulously balanced conclusion are received by the public. Few reports as courageous as that of the Indian Age of Consent Committee have ever been published. Here on the one side was a fiercely debated question, the nature and extent of early marriage in India. Here on the other was a body of Indians who could at last give an authoritative answer as to its prevalence and the results on national life. It took evidence from hundreds of Indians, orthodox and unorthodox, high and low, of all races and creeds, and published over 4,000 pages of evidence. Yet the report fell dead, still-born, like so many other valuable transcripts from life, sentenced to death by their blue wrappers.

Here is where Miss Mayo steps in. She reduces the 4,000 pages to 262, supplies red boards, and a convenient size of book, and under this treatment by artificial respiration the gallant report breathes again. It is of the utmost importance that the report should live. It has been said that nothing in recent years has done more to prove Indian fitness for self-government than the candour and courage of the Age of Consent Committee and of many of their witnesses. In all parts of India men and women were found brave enough to face up to this "hell upon earth" of early marriage, and to denounce the evils that had come under their personal knowledge.

Miss Mayo's *Volume Two* is scrupulously documented. In fact, it consists almost entirely of quotations with a running commentary, and every witness cited is a Hindu. That the commentary should be bitter was inevitable. The facts call for a "saeva indignatio," and it is not Miss Mayo's habit to temper the winds of her wrath. But even so, she makes no accusations and utters no complaint more whole-hearted than those of many of the witnesses and of the Committee's own findings; and the Committee's indictment is a terrible one.

They come to the conclusion "that the pace of improvement is exceedingly slow. Moreover, progress in one community is counterbalanced by retrogression elsewhere, and while castes and classes which are considered advanced may be getting over the practice of early marriage, others are adopting the older customs to an increasing extent. . . . Nor has the progress been so steady and continuous as to engender the hope that a time will come when, by voluntary effort, early marriage will be a thing of the past." They endorse the view that early marriage as it affects thirty million Indian girls to-day is a far worse evil than "suttee," which after all ended with cases of

individual suffering in small numbers, whereas early marriage is to-day "an evil so extensive as to affect the whole framework of society . . . so insidious that people have ceased to think of the shocking effect on the entire social fabric. In the case of 'suttee' the utter hideousness of the incident shocked the conscience; in this case the familiarity of the evil blinds us to its ghastly results."

Volume Two brings out facts and figures which in India's intense preoccupation with political changes were in danger of being submerged, but facts which are nevertheless infinitely more important for India's happiness and future status among the nations than any form of Government. As one witness said, "The fate of the child marriage reform movement will make or mar our case for Swaraj in India. It is hardly necessary to emphasize the fact that England, America, and the rest of the civilized world is watching us. Our fitness for Swaraj will be judged and decided by what we do, or dare not do, on this question." And the revered Congress leader, Pandit Motilal Nehru sweeps away the evidence of doctors and the authority of sacred books, with the words, "When I see what I can see by the use of my own eyes . . . do I need any further proof of the mischief that is being wrought by this wicked diabolical custom? . . . The practice is so obviously inhuman that anybody who calls himself a man would naturally be staggered by what he sees with his own eyes."

This second volume, like the earlier one, breaks down through Miss Mayo's inability to see any noble or fine thing in India. Even the quality and quantity of the evidence placed before the Age of Consent Committee have failed to impress her with the immense courage of the Committee's findings. Some men and women in the intensity of their desire to see this evil abolished, have signed their names to intimate stories of an extremely painful character. Others, not a few, have declared that if the custom is really based on religion, then religion must go. Miss Mayo also seems unaware of the solidarity shown among women from end to end of India in their determination to make the Child Marriage (Restraint) Bill into law. The new note in Indian women's voices has escaped her ear. Even in her chapter headed "Potential Saviours," she quotes only those who speak disparagingly of social reform movements in India. It is clear that Miss Mayo's pessimism invalidates her conclusions, because a race such as she depicts would simply have ceased to exist, and could never have produced the splendid men and women known to us all, or the martial races of Rajputana and Maharashtra.

H. GRAY.

NOTES FROM WESTMINSTER.

We have had a series of late sittings, and although, with one exception, they have not extended to the length of those which took place during the similar period of the last two sessions, they have tried the endurance of Members. The exception was a very unusual one—the all-night sitting prolonged till 10 a.m. over the Committee Stage of the Unemployment Insurance Anomalies Bill. The unusual feature was the fact that that night's struggle was almost wholly a family quarrel within the Labour Party. The Conservatives absented themselves entirely, except for four Front Bench Members, including (meritoriously) Major Elliott and Sir Arthur Steel-Maitland, who sat it out as amused spectators. The Opposition consisted of the I.L.P. and three out of the four members of the New Party, reinforced on the subject of the married women clause by Miss Rathbone, Miss Wilkinson, and Sir Robert Newman. The I.L.P. conducted their hopeless fight with vigour, fervour, and good temper, save that, at the very end, Mr. Maxton allowed himself an outburst of passion unusual to him. Perhaps it was a mistake that the Opposition throughout forced a division not merely on every amendment but on the closure of the discussion on every amendment—a course unusual even in battles between opposing parties and purely vexatious, since the result is always the same and merely keeps Members out of their beds for two or three additional hours.

An all-night sitting is a curious experience. On the whole it illustrates the natural good temper of the British race. The few who sit it out—on this occasion 170 of the total of 615 Members—treat its discomforts as rather a joke. The atmosphere becomes more and more that of a family party as the night advances. Every small enlivening incident, such as the entries

¹ *Volume II*, by Katherine Mayo. (Jonathan Cape. 7s. 6d.)

and re-entries of a Scottish Member in full Highland Court dress, complete with the lace tie which goes so oddly with kilts and bare knees, or Mr. Thomas's admission that he was nodding asleep and not nodding assent, is greeted with roars of laughter. The attendance in the Chamber, being composed of those really interested, was larger at its emptiest than the usual dinner-hour or even mid-afternoon sitting of a Committee Stage. The night being grey and rainy, we were deprived of the usual solace of the Terrace, always lovely under a clear night sky, at its gayest when crowded at the tea-hour with innumerable tea-parties of friends and constituents, but perhaps most weirdly beautiful shortly after sunset, when the passing trams on Westminster Bridge look like transparent fishes, gold and grey and scarlet, swimming through the waters of a gigantic aquarium. Towards morning on Thursday there was a change in the weather, and what first seemed a sudden brightening of the electric lights proved to be the flooding of the Chamber with the morning sun. But the net political result of that long vigil was, immediately, the securing of a Bill which accomplishes several changes specially desired by Conservatives without their having to incur the unpopularity of giving it any visible support, and ultimately the making inevitable of a final breach between the I.L.P. and the right wing of their party.

Monday's debate on the Conservative Vote of Censure on the Government's agricultural policy was marked by several good back-bench speeches from the younger Conservatives, that of Mr. Butler being specially effective. But its crowning incident was Mr. Lloyd George's contribution. Round about 7.30 he rose, like an old lion suddenly charging into a scrap between some of the lesser animals of the jungle, and launched one of the best policy speeches I have heard from him, the Labour Members listening as usual delighted and entranced.

In speech at least he sways them incomparably more than any half-dozen of their own orators. But "Uncle Arthur," who scarcely ever opens his mouth in Parliament for anything but a brief statement of fact, was greeted on his rising at question time with a long cheer, which shows the real pride taken in his international achievements by his followers. The interest of the House at present is really concentrated less on what happens within the Chamber than on the negotiations known to be going on in secret, first with regard to the international financial situation and secondly as concerns Indian affairs and the prospects of the forthcoming Round Table Conference.

P.S.—I find that I was premature in concluding that nothing practical had been gained by the I.L.P. fight last Wednesday night. It did in fact secure from the Minister a very important concession on the Report stage, which has the effect of excluding from the Bill one of the most widely advertised forms of "anomaly," namely, that of the short-time workers whose work is deliberately adjusted by the employers so as to secure them the full benefits of unemployment pay. The honours for this success, if it be one, undoubtedly fall to Mr. George Buchanan, who is quite the most effective fighter of the I.L.P. group on questions requiring practical grasp, as well as eloquence.

CROSS BENCH.

QUESTIONS IN PARLIAMENT.

Monday, 13th July.

INDIA (COMMISSION'S REPORT ON LABOUR CONDITIONS).

Mr. Day asked the Secretary of State for India what action is proposed for the purpose of dealing with the labour conditions as disclosed in the recent Royal Commission on Labour in India, and whether the conditions and recommendations will be matter for discussion at the forthcoming Round Table Conference.

Mr. Benn: Those portions of the Report which deal with constitutional questions will no doubt be taken into consideration at the resumed Round Table Conference. For the rest, the Government of India will no doubt take into early consideration the numerous recommendations of the Commission, and will inform me in due course of the action which they propose to take.

UNDERGROUND EMPLOYMENT (WOMEN).

Mr. Marcus asked the Secretary of State for India the latest figures showing the total number of women employed underground in coal, salt, and other mines in India; and what steps are being taken with a view to the elimination of female employment underground.

Mr. Benn: The daily average number of women employed underground in 1929 was 24,089. In 1929 women were totally excluded from underground workings in coal mines in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, and the Central Provinces and salt mines in the Punjab. The employment of women underground was reduced forthwith to 29 per cent of the total underground labour force in coal mines and 40 per cent in salt mines, and is being further reduced by 3 per cent and 4 per cent respectively each year, so that after 1st July, 1930, women will be entirely excluded from underground workings.

JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT.

Mr. Bracken asked the Secretary of State for India whether he will recommend to the Government of India that steps should be now taken to prohibit the employment of children under 14 in all Indian factories.

Mr. Benn: I propose to await an expression of the views of the Government of India on the relevant paragraphs of the report of the Royal Commission on Labour in India.

AGE OF CONSENT (JOSHI REPORT).

Miss Rathbone asked the Secretary of State for India whether the Report of the Age of Consent Committee (Joshi report) has been translated into any—and if so, which—of the languages of India, and if not if he will cause it to be so translated and widely circulated.

Mr. Benn: I have not this information, but will enquire.

BIRTHS AND MARRIAGES (NOTIFICATIONS).

Miss Rathbone asked the Secretary of State for India if he will state which provinces of India have made compulsory the notification of births, including sex and name of child; which

(Continued in next column.)

THE DOMESTIC SERVICE BILL.

By GEOFFREY MANDER, M.P.

A few weeks ago the House of Commons gave me permission by a large majority to introduce a Bill dealing with the subject of Domestic Service. I quite appreciate that this is a question that arouses a great deal of feeling, not to say prejudice, and I am anxious that the proposals of the Bill should be clearly understood because I think, if they are, they will commend themselves to most sensible persons as being reasonable.

I first took up this matter at the request of a number of my women constituents who, from the servants' point of view, feel that there is a great deal that might be done, but the object of the Bill is to render assistance to both mistress and servant by increasing the attractions of the occupation, raising the general standard of proficiency and making it easier for mutual satisfaction to be obtained in the home. When the subject is first mentioned all sorts of fantastic ideas, lending themselves readily to entertaining cartoons in the newspapers, arise and the thought of an army of inspectors daily visiting every household at once occurs to susceptible minds. The actual scheme of the Bill, however, is much more modest. In the vast majority of cases it will have no effect at all wherever conditions are fair and reasonable at the present time. It is proposed first of all to set up a Domestic Service Commission consisting of 5 members, of whom the chairman and at least 2 others shall be women. The duties of the Commission will be to review comprehensively the conditions of employment of female domestic servants and to promote measures to raise the status of the occupation.

There is to be established to assist the Commission a Consultative Joint Council with subsidiary District Councils throughout the country composed of persons representative of every aspect of the problem. The best methods of training domestic workers and, after training, giving them diplomas or certificates of proficiency, are to be studied. The question as to the machinery for the engagement of servants, whether through Employment Exchanges or private Registry Offices, would be thoroughly explored and the problem of bringing the occupation inside unemployment insurance would be investigated. This is all preliminary exploration work of a voluntary character.

The most important clause is the fourth which allows the Commission, in due course having weighed up every aspect of the situation, to submit to the Minister draft regulations forming a domestic service charter. This might include such questions as hours of work, remuneration, holidays, accommodation, recreation, uniform, engagement and dismissal, the object being to make general throughout the community the standards now existing among good employers. These regulations, if thought unreasonable, could be annulled by the action of either House of Parliament. I think it will be felt that any charter that gets through this long process and surmounts the many obstacles and safeguards proposed is not likely to be too extreme. It is not suggested that a staff of inspectors should be appointed. This is quite impracticable, but the fact that there did exist a known standard for the occupation would be of great moral value, I submit, to servants in those cases where harsh treatment may exist. On the other hand, it should be a real advantage to a mistress to be able to ascertain exactly which of the accepted standards of training the servant did pass through.

I should be pleased to send a copy of the Bill to anyone who may be interested in the subject and, if they happen to approve of it, I would ask them to be good enough to communicate with their Member of Parliament requesting him to give support to the Measure.

(Continued from previous column.)

provinces have made compulsory the notifications of marriages, including names and ages of parties; and which provinces issue birth and marriage certificates free of charge.

Mr. Benn: I have no detailed information regarding local rules on the subject, but there is no general compulsory notification of births or marriages in any province.

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REVIEW.

"ALL PASSION SPENT."¹

"Looking at her one could believe that it was easy for a woman to be beautiful and gracious as all works of genius persuade us that they were effortless of achievement." This sentence supplies two texts on which to review Miss Sackville-West's *All Passion Spent*. Of the truth of the first clause she convinces us by lovely pictures of her heroine, Lady Slane, from that early one of the year 1860 of a girl, flounced and ringleted, swinging her hat by the ribbons, walking meditatively beside the lake—"dewy, wavering, virginal, eager, blown by generous shy impulses, confiding as a young doe peeping between the tree trunks"—to the day, seventy years later, when an old friend visited her at Hampstead: "If one wanted beauty one had only to rest one's eyes on her, so fine, so old, so lovely, like an ivory carving, flowing down like water with her chair, so slight and supple were her limbs." Yes, and on to the day when the carpenter (who had done jobs about the house), measuring her for her coffin, could say "Lovely in Life, lovely in Death . . . it's astonishing the beauty Death brings out." Only a poet could have created Lady Slane; she takes her place among the ladies "pre-eminently dear" whom we all receive into our study of imagination. The second clause—"All works of genius persuade us that they were effortless of achievement." Absolutely true about the result achieved hardly describes the art that can fit high imaginations into a witty, incisive, convincing presentment of domestic stupidity and social convention; an art that can make an idyll out of the kind attentions of an eccentric landlord and a jobbing carpenter in a hired house at Hampstead. "Weary, enfeebled and ready to go, she could still amuse herself by playing a tiny game in miniature with Mr. Bucktrout and Mr. Gosheron, a sort of minuet stepped out to a fading music, yet symbolic of some reality she had never achieved with her own children"; finally of an art that could create Genoux—Genoux once the Vicereine's "own woman" at Calcutta, at Hampstead the *bonne à tout faire* who "clucked after Lady Slane, half scolding, half cherishing."

But the greatest of Miss Sackville-West's achievements is her answer to the question Matthew Arnold asked three generations ago: "What is it to grow old?"

Old age in our day need not complain of neglect either in fact or in fiction. Earlier fiction may represent old folk living pensively on their past; our age praises them for keeping so young—"so young in heart" they kindly put it. There is a finer art than keeping young and being in "touch with youth," there is the art of growing old and of being in touch with life as a whole. Age, like all the other stages, is an adventure in itself; only, because it is the last, it may be the most significant—at least, it was so with Lady Slane. All her long life she had passed in high places, places of authority, of opportunity, of wide culture. She had played her part graciously and with singular acceptability. But living in that world she had preserved solitude of spirit and a silent independence of outlook. She had never confused her own values with the values of the world about her.

They were, some of them, humble and simple, the gifts that old age offered to her in her new life. She had wittingly outraged her family by the serene decision to escape from their hold, later on she renounced a vast fortune with mischievous pleasure in the shock this would give them; for the rest she left all decisions to Genoux. Engagements she had none. "Having a fund of quiet in herself she could understand that other people also enjoyed being quiet." Possessions meant nothing to her. Why care to possess a Constable when she could look out on Constable's trees with Constable's eyes? For the secret of Lady Slane's life had been the longing to be a painter. She had learned to be content with the substance, being cut off from the art of interpretation.

And the best came at the very end. She was to find a descendant of her own holding the same faith in the "things that matter", but born in a freer age and having courage to realise it in action. "Yes," Lady Slane reassured her great-granddaughter, "but more people are really of the same mind than you would believe."

There is Dawn as well as Sunset in the last chapter.

FLORENCE MACCUNN.

¹ *All Passion Spent*, by V. Sackville-West. (The Hogarth Press.)

INTERNATIONAL DISARMAMENT CAMPAIGN.

The total of British signatures obtained to date is 1,094,041. Outstanding news received during the past week:—

Bristol: The local Disarmament Council held demonstrations in six public parks on 12th July.

Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland: The Social Service Committee is writing and sending Declaration forms to all their Churches.

Shropshire: Great success has been met with in this county, which is always considered the most difficult of all from the point of view of peace propaganda. In a large number of villages one or other of the following are helping actively in the collection of signatures: the Churches, the L.N.U., Toc H, the British Legion, Women's Institutes.

Carmarthen: 5,000 have signed out of a total population of 11,000.

Letchworth: The local Disarmament Council is shortly holding a "Declaration Fortnight" when a house-to-house canvass will be made.

Southport: The No More War Movement is arranging a canvass for signatures.

Kingsbridge (Devon): The local L.N.U. is organising a canvass for signatures.

Oldbury (Birmingham): 2,000 signatures were obtained in one week at the "Disarmament Shop".

On 11th July 3,000 signatures were collected in the Albert Hall and Hyde Park.

EMMELINE PANKHURST.

On 14th July last—the anniversary of her birthday—a simple yet beautiful service of remembrance for Mrs. Pankhurst was held in St. John's Church, Westminster. Among the large congregation was Miss Christabel Pankhurst. "General" Drummond, Miss Adeline Bourne, many members of the W.S.P.U., and representatives of other women's organizations. Following the service flowers were laid at the foot of Mrs. Pankhurst's statue in the Victoria Embankment Gardens.

LADY TATU.

We regret that an appreciation of the late Lady Tatu, together with an account of the Memorial Meeting at the Caxton Hall, was received too late for publication this week. It will appear in our next issue.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

AT HOME.

Miss Mary Goodger, Burton-on-Trent's only woman councillor, has accepted the unanimous invitation from the Mayoral Selection Committee to become the first woman Mayor of the borough next November.

Mrs. Muriel Lord, of Corley near Coventry, has been elected the first woman member of the Association of Pioneer Motor-cyclists, membership of which is confined to those who held licences before 1904. Mrs. Lord took out a licence in 1901, and during the early part of the century was often the only woman competing in the trial tests and races.

Mrs. K. F. Nicholson (Chairman and Managing Director of W. R. Nicholson, Ltd.) has accepted the position of President of the Lithographers' Auxiliary to the Printers' Pension Corporation, the first time a woman has held such an appointment.

ABROAD.

Mme. da Silva, a Portuguese woman doctor has received an appointment under the maritime sanitary service of Cabo Verde. It is her duty to board all boats entering the port of St. Vincent.

Miss Belle Baruch, an American, has carried off the coveted President of the Republic's Cup in this year's horse show. Miss Baruch, who runs a large training stable at Pau, was first among 119 entries, including cavalry officers and professional and amateur riders.

Dr. Julia B. Platt has been elected Mayor of Pacific Grove, California, defeating her opponent by a huge majority.

Mrs. Clara E. Grauert, aged seventy-two, has been elected Mayor of Weehawken, New Jersey, the second woman mayor in the State.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEWS.

By BERTHA MASON.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

We draw the attention of our readers to some interesting facts laid before the annual conference of the National Association for the Prevention of Infant Mortality, which met this month in Cardiff, by the Chairman (Mr. John Rowland, C.B.) of the Welsh Board of Health.

In the course of his presidential address at the opening session of the conference, Mr. Rowland said that for a quarter of a century the Association had met every year to consider one of the fundamental social problems of our time, the care of the mother and the child. Perhaps in no sphere had the triumphs in public health been more dramatic than in that which was concerned with the saving of infant life. "We are," he said, "rightly proud of the fact that during the last forty years, infant mortality has been more than halved, and what is more, that the decline continues. We have progressed far, but even to-day the number of children who reach school age with some physical impairment is tragically large, as Sir George Newman's reports regularly show. Great as the advance has been, we shall not rest content until we have made safe for every child the path of health from the cradle upwards through every stage of its career."

Maternal Mortality in Wales.—Turning to the subject of maternal mortality, Mr. Rowland said that statistics provided no evidence of advance in this direction, and, in fact, the position seemed to be getting worse rather than better. Every year Wales alone was losing directly or indirectly, from this cause, 400 women in their prime.

"The Welsh maternal death-rate," Mr. Rowland continued, "during the last forty years, had been about 40 per cent higher than in England. Circumstances were against them. The country, for the most part, was rugged and mountainous, communication was difficult, and the population sparse. In South Wales there was a higher industrialized population living under difficult conditions. In those parts of England where similar conditions prevailed, there was also a high maternal death-rate. It was in the rural districts, where midwifery facilities were inadequate, that the highest death-rates were recorded. Taking the last ten years, the mortality from accidents and diseases of childbirth has been more than twice as high in Wales as in London. In London there were better hospital facilities, and more doctors and midwives ready at hand for emergencies. These facts went a long way to explain the conditions. The situation however, though serious, was neither helpless nor hopeless, but great improvements could not be effected all at once.

Infant Welfare Service.—Mr. Rowland went on to point out that if they could halve their maternal death-rate, and bring their stillbirth-rate down to the rate in England, it would mean the saving of the lives of about 200 women every year, and would add something like 600 or 700 infant lives annually to the population. This fact considered only in the light of pounds, shillings, and pence, was surely a paying proposition.

It was most encouraging to note that in 1930 the infant mortality rate was 67 per 1,000 births, which was the lowest ever recorded for the Principality. It was something to be proud of that in spite of the severe economic depression, Wales had been able to maintain steady progress in infantile mortality decline.

"But," he added, "we must not be satisfied simply with gains to our infant population, we must look further and see whether we are carrying forward similar advance into the later years of child-life. Unless there is continuity in our scheme of health services, wastage of effort, with constant loss, is bound to arise. Thanks largely to the splendid work of our infant welfare centres, the health of the younger children in our more notorious areas has on the whole been fairly satisfactory." This is encouraging news.

The ENGLISH FOLK COOKERY ASSOCIATION will be glad to receive information respecting Scottish, English, Irish and Welsh food and cookery customs, ceremonial dishes, and cakes (local and traditional). 2s. 6d. weekly will be given for the best received written on a post card addressed Miss White, E.F.C.A., care of THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Great Smith St., Westminster, London, S.W.1.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

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Hon. Treasurer: MRS. VAN GRUISEN. Hon. Secretary: MRS. RYLAND.
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Offices: 4 Great Smith Street, S.W. 1. Telephone: Victoria 6188.

MRS. JAMES TODD.

To Mrs. James Todd we extend our very sincere sympathy on the loss of her husband. Mrs. Todd is President of the Preston W.C.A., and is well known to our Societies in the North-West Federation. At the last annual Council Meeting she was elected to the Executive Committee. Her many friends throughout the National Union will wish to join with us in expressing our deep sympathy to her and her family.

MISS ELEANOR RATHBONE, M.P.

Among an interesting group of people on whom Honorary Degrees are to be conferred by Liverpool University is our own ex-President, Miss Rathbone. In December she is to be given the degree of LL.D. Miss Rathbone and her family have had long and close association with this university, which, with the other English universities, she now represents in Parliament.

CORRESPONDENCE.

HOLIDAYS FOR WORKING WOMEN.

MADAM,—May we again appeal on behalf of the working women of London for the generous help of those of your readers who are now enjoying or about to enjoy their own holidays.

Of all who toil hardest year in year out, the working class mother holds the foremost place. Her labours are never done and in her self-sacrificing life there is little room for any sort of recreation. A holiday means to her not only respite from work but often restoration to health, and it is in consequence a necessity rather than a luxury.

Last year the Women's Holiday Fund (founded in 1895) sent away 1,154 women and 640 children. Whether or no the same number can be helped this year depends largely on the result of this appeal. The women pay as much as they can afford towards the cost of the fortnight's holiday, many of them putting by a few pence in order to do so.

Donations, large or small, will be most gratefully received by the Secretary, Women's Holiday Fund, 76 Denison House, Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W. 1.

(Sgd.) MAUD CARNEGIE.
A. E. LONDON.
FRANCIS C. DEVAS, S.J.
J. SCOTT LIDGETT.
GEORGE BLACKER.
HELEN A. POWNALL (Chairman
of Executive Committee).

76 Denison House,
296 Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W. 1.

THE DOUGLAS-PENNANT CASE.

MADAM,—Your correspondent in her letter *re* the Douglas-Pennant case published on 10th July, shows plainly that under cover of the fact that there is as she names it "a mountain of injustice" piled up in war time, it would be quite simple for the present Government to publicly acknowledge that a grave mistake was made by a former Government, and to offer Miss Douglas-Pennant sincere apologies, and, if she would accept it, an honourable post where her great capabilities would be used to serve the nation. It is well known that she is above considering the *personal* side of the question, and has been fighting this case as a protest against underhand dismissals of public servants on account of their determination to put their departments into proper order.

Can a person who has suffered injustice do a greater service to their country than by getting that great injustice acknowledged and put right for the sake of others and to show that our countrymen can act up to the old British standards of Justice and Fair Play.

MARIE V. C. BRACKENBURY.
2 Campden Hill Square,
W. 8.

MADAM,—During a lifetime of social work amongst girls I have in two different continents come across two conspicuous instances of "secret" slander that resulted as in Miss Douglas-Pennant's case in loss of work to those slandered. But the social positions of the victims were very different; and the effect in one instance which extended over years and affected the lives of a number of orphan girls was so serious that many would undoubtedly have become prostitutes. Some most certainly did. Others were saved by the unselfish energy of a Hospital Sister, a Nightingale nurse trained at

St. Thomas's Hospital. Finally by the unselfish action of a man in authority (now dead) the "secret" slanderer was removed and the Augean stable cleared quietly and unobtrusively, but there is no doubt the consequences of this particular secret sin are being felt socially to-day and affect us nationally. Although the cancerous sore was cleared up about thirty years ago.

The second instance merely affected the happiness of one girl. She was refused justice and told to "live it down". She has done so, but it has taken her life. She never knows when a blow will fall—a "secret" blow!—that will shatter any work she may have built up laboriously. Death alone can give her rest.

Therefore I cannot feel that Miss Violet Douglas-Pennant could have done more towards "the impersonal reconstruction of a secure and ordered society in which monstrous injustices do not occur," than by her patient and courageous fight against this terrible crime of secret slander. It should be punished by life-long imprisonment as it is the moral equivalent to murder.

Shakespeare knew his world when he wrote:—
"Who steals my purse steals trash, but he who robs me of my good name takes life itself."

Both the instances to which I refer are pre-war stories, and although many of the principal actors are dead every word I have written can be well authenticated by written documents and people still living.

I therefore urge every man and woman to support Miss Violet Douglas-Pennant, whose action is worthy of all honour, and I hope something will be done to make this "secret" sin of slander illegal. People shield themselves by refusing to give the name of the slanderer; it should be made illegal to withhold this information, and the slanderer should be compelled to account for his or her words, and at least give the poor victim a chance of clearing her character.

My friend Dr. Elsie Inglis once said to me: "When women have the vote we shall have a higher moral standard in the business world." Have we?

ANN POPE.

1A Nevern Road,
S.W. 5.

MADAM,—I have just read your correspondent's note on the "recrudescence of the Douglas-Pennant case". From the form in which you publish it I suppose that it does not represent the full official editorial view. But the attitude of your correspondent is so strange and, to me, so shocking, that one regrets that it should receive half or three-quarters or whatever fraction of your paper's support is implied by the manner of its expression. Is it a tenable position that, because there is so much injustice in the world therefore any given instance of injustice should be suffered and passed by in silence? The merits of this case are not in dispute. Your correspondent disapproves the action of Miss Douglas-Pennant and her friends because the injustice under which she suffers is a personal injustice. What injustice is not, in its elements, personal injustice? She sets against this personal grievance a long list of vague unsubstantiated though not improbable grievances. Does she know one so flagrant as this? She lectures Miss Douglas-Pennant on her hypothetical happiness had she behaved otherwise, and regrets that she has not spent her life in such "impersonal reconstruction" as should eliminate injustice from the earth. As to the happiness, on that rather impertinent question your correspondent may have means of judging that I have not, but as to the results of Miss Douglas-Pennant's action during the last thirteen years, I cannot but believe it has done more for the cause of justice than any other thing she could have done.

GEOFFREY TAYLOR.

The Poulk,
Tytherington,
Heytesbury,
Wilts.

MADAM,—In your issue of 10th July there is published a letter by an unknown correspondent. The anonymity, the lack of knowledge of the truth, and the sentiments expressed therein are unworthy of that expected from THE WOMAN'S LEADER and all that it is supposed to represent.

Women who worked for the Vote hoped that when it was won they would help to raise the standard in public affairs by demanding cleanness and straight-dealing in public life, a high level of morality for men and women and by just dealing in all things. This hope, alas, received a blow when certain women played a mean and petty game in bringing about the disgraceful dismissal of Miss Douglas-Pennant from her post in the W.R.A.F. A blow which has harmed the whole cause of women.

Your correspondent dismisses in a few words the abominable charge of immorality brought against her. She states that "the charge was never publicly formulated, and if it had been we are well assured that it would never have been believed." The charge was never publicly formulated—well for those who made it that it was so—but though it was a lying charge it resulted in her being brutally and shamefully thrown out of her post at a moment's notice. As for its not being believed, how can she say that in face of the result? And, sorry as I am to disillusion your correspondent, there are only too many who are ready to believe and repeat evil.

The case is not being fought out on any petty personal grounds but on principle—the principle that any individual in the public service must be protected from the petty intrigues and grossly improper interference of place-seekers. Also that regulations cannot be set aside at the whim of one official.

If your correspondent could face and come through all the years of loss of employment, insults, lies and slander heaped upon her as happily and unembittered as Violet Douglas-Pennant has she would indeed be an example to the readers of your paper, but her anonymity and the whole tone of her letter go to prove that she is not cast in that great mould.

GERALDINE LENNOX.

12 St. George's Mansions,
Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W. 1.

MADAM,—I hope that in all fairness that you will publish this letter in answer to the one that appeared in your issue of the 10th inst., headed "The Douglas-Pennant Case."

The whole tone of that letter reveals that the vision of your correspondent has been "obscured by the exuberance of her own animosity," to parody a famous phrase. How else can we explain her contradictions.

She says that "Miss Douglas-Pennant was dismissed from the Women's Royal Air Force by Lord Weir because he was informed that she was guilty of immorality," and adds "... the charge was never publicly formulated, and had it been it would not have been believed, ... nor is it believed now by any responsible or reasonable person. ..."

Your correspondent therefore states that Lord Weir must have been an irresponsible and unreasonable person, for the fact remains that the laying of that information before Lord Weir resulted in the dismissal of Miss Douglas-Pennant from the W.R.A.F.

It should be a truism that a "responsible and reasonable person" does not dismiss a well known public servant because he does not believe damning information about that person! The conclusion is inevitable ... that Miss Douglas-Pennant was dismissed from her post by Lord Weir on unbelievable evidence which he believed. We cannot credit him with irresponsibility and unreasonableness to the point of dismissing her on information which he did not believe.

The charge was never publicly formulated, says your correspondent. No! because the maker of so vile a charge must have known full well that the risk run was far too great. The penalty of accusing a fellow citizen of Lesbianism when that accusation is proved false brings lasting discredit and anathema on the accuser. No doubt fear of this fate has possessed the minds of the cowards whose methods (that of the whisper drive and insinuations) were appropriate to their back-stair mentality.

But the mills of God grind slowly. ...

Your correspondent evidently suffers from the common obsession that there is virtue in numbers, for she practically says that because the lie about Miss Douglas-Pennant is one of many war lies and injustices it should therefore be allowed forthwith an unfettered career and live in peace! But as Mr. Brown, the plucky M.P. who in fighting for the vindication of Miss Douglas-Pennant is fighting for the vindication of justice and right in the general public life of the country, said very truly at the meeting of 2nd July, a lie is no less a lie because it is an old lie, and age does not bestow on it respectability.

"What a much happier woman she would have been," goes on your correspondent, "if she had spoken little and forgotten much." Now happiness is a matter of temperament. Your correspondent evidently thinks that state is compatible with a compounding with evil, and the "fait accompli" whatever its nature. But that would not spell happiness for one of Miss Douglas-Pennant's temperament, and it will be a sorry day for England when it spells it for the majority of her people!

We venture to think that Miss Douglas-Pennant has done more towards the building up of that "ordered state," considered so desirable an object by your correspondent, by her long and plucky fight for right and justice (which includes those elements for others too) than has done any defeatist advocate of the policy of making friends with the mammon of unrighteousness because it is so much more comfortable for the unrighteous!

Let me just resume the judgment which must result from a consideration of the above argument.

Miss Douglas-Pennant has now been publicly admitted to have been a moral, efficient and popular lady. It has been publicly admitted that she was not dismissed from the W.R.A.F. on the plea that she was immoral, inefficient, or unpopular with the decent members of her staff (she received a testimonial from them), and she had an immense ovation on the 2nd.

What is the obvious inference? That she was dismissed because of her virtues, the practice of which interfered with other practices of other people. Let there be a truce to this quibbling and wriggling.

E. BLOOMFIELD.

New Century Club,
Hay Hill, W. 1.

[This correspondence must now cease.—Ed.]

COMING EVENTS.

B.B.C.

Monday, 27th July. 7 p.m. Miss V. Sackville-West, "New Books."

Wednesdays. 29th July. 10.45 a.m. Miss Picton-Turbervill, M.P., "The Week in Westminster."

BRITISH SOCIAL HYGIENE COUNCIL.

29th July-5th August. Summer School, St. Hugh's College, Oxford. Speakers: Professor T. Arthur Thompson, Professor Cyril Burt, Professor Winifred Cullis, and others. Particulars from Carteret House, Carteret Street, S.W. 1.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

To 15th August. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Exhibition of Official publications of the League, historical documents, maps, latest books, etc., at The Old Court House, 350 Oxford Street, W. 1 (by courtesy of Messrs. Bumpus, Ltd.). On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays throughout the Exhibition short lectures will be delivered at 3.30 p.m.

31st July. Mr. John H. Harris, "Slavery."

OPEN DOOR COUNCIL.

24th-29th August. Summer School, Sigtuna, Sweden.

SIX POINT GROUP.

30th July. 6 p.m. 92 Victoria Street, S.W. 1. "What the Equal Rights Treaty Means—to Civil Servants." Miss D. Smyth.

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KENSINGTON.—Attractive Furnished Flat to Let; suit two or three professional women; kitchen, bath; electric light, telephone; 3 minutes tube, bus; rent 2½ guineas.—Write, 3 Sinclair Gardens.

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LADBROKE GROVE.—Attractively furnished bed-sittingrooms, with partial board; good cooking; moderate terms; Phone, Park 9829 or write, Box 1,645, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Great Smith Street, S.W. 1.

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HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION.

COTSWOLDS.—Tudor Guest House; Picturesque village; good walking centre. beautiful wooded country.—The Croft, Sheepscombe, near Stroud, Glos.

CHATEAU near Limoges.—English girls anxious to improve their French during the holidays received by French lady in her country house; eight bedrooms available; large park and farm with own produce.—For personal references apply to Mrs. Rathbone, Greenbank, Liverpool, or Mrs. Godfrey Warr, 26 Edwardes Square, Kensington, W. 8.

WENSLEYDALE.—Board - Residence, comfortable Georgian house; near Aysgarth Falls; centre unspoilt scenery; sunny garden, own vegetables; garage; annexe to let as bed-sittingroom; motor-coach or rail to Aysgarth.—Smith, Warnford, Thoraby, Aysgarth, Yorks.

LAKE DISTRICT.—Comfortable; good cooking; inside sanitation; electric light; very moderate terms; highly recommended; excellent centre.—Davies, Priory Boarding House, Cartmel, Grange-over-Sands.

CORNISH COAST.—To let, Furnished Bungalow; 8 minutes sandy bay, lovely views; 4 bedrooms, sitting-room, kitchen, bathroom; 6 gns. weekly.—Write, Hawke, Kosikot, St. Merryn, N. Cornwall.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

RETIRE D Schoolmistress; diplomée, Esperantist, book-lover, child-lover, desires temporary or permanent part-time educational work or companionship in or near London.—Box 1,647, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Great Smith Street, S.W. 1.

LADY Companion-Help or Housekeeper (R.C.) wants post at once; would take domestic duties; 7 years last reference.—Box 1,648, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Great Smith Street, S.W. 1.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

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

PROFESSIONAL.

INCOME TAX RECOVERED AND ADJUSTED. Consult Miss H. M. Baker, 275 High Holborn, W.C. 1. Income Tax Returns, Super Tax Returns, Repayment Claims of all descriptions. Telephone: Holborn 0377.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON AND NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 27 Marsham Street, Westminster. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Members' Library, books on Suffrage, Sociology, and Economics, Hansard, latest Government Publications, Periodicals, Newscuttings. Information given to non-members 10-8 (except Saturdays).

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 26th July, 6.30: Maude Royden, C.H., D.D.

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