

THE REASSEMBLING OF PARLIAMENT.

THE
WOMAN'S LEADER

AND
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NOTES AND NEWS

The Reassembling of Parliament.

The next few weeks in Parliament will be followed with much interest by the women of the country. The introduction of the Budget next Monday is an occasion of concern, not only to the taxpayer and housekeeper, but also to all those who have at heart urgent social reforms which involve expenditure of money. Not only should the one hundred and one odd million pounds surplus on this year's revenue be followed by a reduction of taxation, whether in the income tax or sugar duties, but it should no longer be regarded as a patriotic duty to starve public services, such as education, housing, public health. We are far from advocating needless expenditure in times when National duty is a pressing need, but a parsimonious policy in the social services we regard as waste of National resources rather than true economy. The Education Estimates come before the House on Thursday, and we sincerely hope that the Government will reconsider its cheeseparing attempts to cut down expenditure. We welcome indications that considerable opposition will be raised to the housing proposals of the Government by which subsidies will be limited to the non-parlour type of house, and we look forward to an immediate and drastic attempt to deal with the Housing problem in a more generous spirit.

Good Prospects for Women's Bills.

We are glad to note that the political correspondent of the *Times* is of the opinion that the Government may itself adopt the Matrimonial Causes and Legitimacy Bills. Even if these are not actually adopted as Government Bills, days have already been allotted for their report stages and third reading, and there is every reason to expect that both these Bills will find a place on the Statute Book this Session. The Bastardy Bill will come up for its Committee stage next Tuesday, and in view of its non-contentious character should also have a smooth passage. The Separation and Maintenance Orders Bill, 1923, which will shortly be introduced after 11 o'clock by Sir Robert Newman, will, we hope, meet with similar good fortune. Equal Franchise for men and women will be discussed under the ten minutes' rule in order to extract an expression of opinion from the House. The somewhat less stringent financial situation, referred to in our previous paragraphs, should render more favourable the prospects

for Widows' Pensions. The N.U.S.E.C. and the Labour Party are both working at schemes which, while adequate, amount to less than twenty million pounds. Fuller particulars on all these Bills will be given from week to week.

Christian Refugees in Greece.

On 6th April the *Times* reported a terrible accusation against the Turkish Government which had been received by the Greek Government from Constantinople. It is said that the Turkish authorities have ordered the discontinuance of the rationing carried on by the American Near East Relief organization until full Customs Duties have been paid on the relief supplied. As the duties amount to approximately 100 per cent. of the value of the foodstuff, the order makes further relief work impossible. The number of Christian refugees in Constantinople to whom this applies is from 23,000 to 30,000, and it will also probably affect the thousands of refugees gathered at other Anatolian ports. Reports from the Near East must be treated with a certain reserve, and there is some hope that this news will prove to be unfounded. Unhappily, however, one cannot regard it as impossible, for the Turkish treatment of Christians in Asia Minor—now refugees in Greece—certainly suggests that they do not shrink from inflicting wholesale death by starvation upon those who have escaped massacre. Greece is already overwhelmed with more than a million of these fugitives, and has had to refuse to admit more, lest all should die from the epidemics due to overcrowding and under-nourishment. An account of the position of the refugees, by Miss K. D. Courtney, who has recently visited Greece, will appear in a later issue.

Training of Teachers.

A departmental committee consisting of the following members has been appointed by the President of the Board of Education to review the arrangements for the training of teachers in Public Elementary Schools: Lord Burnham, C.H. (chairman), Alderman F. Askew, J.P., Dr. Ernest Barker, Miss E. R. Conway, Miss Grace Fanner, Sir John Gilbert, K.B.E., Miss Freda Hawtrey, Mr. Spurley Hey, Mr. R. Holland, Alderman P. R. Jackson, J.P., Dame Margaret Lloyd George, D.B.E., Mr. Frank Roscoe, Mr. E. J. Sainsbury, O.B.E., and Professor Helen

Wodehouse, with Mr. E. K. Chambers, C.B., Mr. H. Ward, and Miss A. E. Wark, of the Board of Education, and Mr. A. W. Hurst, of the Treasury. The Secretary is Mr. E. H. Mann.

Self-Government at Girls' Borstal.

The appointment of Miss Lilian Barker as Governor of the Borstal Institution for Girls, Aylesbury, is one of the most hopeful pieces of news that we have heard for some time. Miss Barker, who was asked by the Home Secretary to give up her present post as Executive Officer of the Central Committee on Women's Employment to undertake this important piece of work, will have a very free hand, and her experiments will be watched with great interest and sympathy. She is the right person in the right place; her experience, first as a teacher under the L.C.C., later during the war at Woolwich Arsenal, as well as recently in connection with training schemes for unemployed women, has given her exceptional opportunities of understanding girls. The sympathetic attitude of the Home Office with regard to reform in prison administration has been shown on more than one occasion recently, and the appointment of a woman governor of the calibre of Miss Barker is only another evidence of a policy of reform. We hope this step may before long be followed by the appointment of a Woman Prison Commissioner, notwithstanding the Home Secretary's discouraging reply to a question asked recently in the House by Mr. Briant.

Holiday Conferences.

The most important of the debates at the Conference of the Independent Labour Party, held last week at Queen's Hall, dealt with the policy of the Executive on the Ruhr crisis, and a resolution demanding the withdrawal of the British troops was carried after a long discussion, during which a delegate from Germany stated that unless all troops were withdrawn German Socialists were unanimous in desiring the retention of British troops. A dramatic incident took place when, amid loud applause

from the audience, including a French football team at present in London, delegates from France and Germany stood with hands clasped on the platform. The Conference of the National Union of Teachers which met at Brighton was rather a depressing occasion, mainly concerned with the paralyzing effects of a false economy in education. At a meeting addressed by Professor Gilbert Murray on "The League of Nations," a message from Lord Robert Cecil from America was read, saying it was for the teachers of the world to lay well and truly the foundations of a new international order.

"Lady Astor's Bill."

An amendment to limit the scope of the Bill to spirits and wine was defeated in Standing Committee yesterday, but a further amendment opposed by Lady Astor to omit the word "apparently" was accepted by twenty-five votes to twenty-two. The next meeting of the Committee takes place on Thursday, when it is hoped that the Bill will be ready to return to the House for its final stages. A summary of the history of the Bill with names of its leading friends and foes will be given later in this paper.

Next Week.

The Burning Question on "The Capital Levy" announced for this week has been unavoidably held over until the next issue. Miss M. P. Willcocks, the well-known novelist, will write on "Infanticide and Illegitimacy" under The Law at Work, and Miss Eleanor Rathbone will contribute an article.

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

"THE BLACK SMOKE TAX."

A recent article in the *Times* on "Nature the Healer" refers to a book entitled *Heliotherapy*, in which Dr. Rollier describes experiments, extending over a period of twenty years, in the treatment of surgical tuberculosis by sunlight in Switzerland. This book makes an even greater appeal because it has been proved that similar cures can be effected even in our own smoke and fog-laden country. Sir Henry Gauvain assures us from his experience at the Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital, at Alton, that "there is abundant sunshine in these islands; it is up to us to use that sun when it is shining." We remember seeing in the north of England, in the most cheerful and unconventional hospital we have ever visited, a merry company of children, innocent of garments of any kind, looking like jolly little Red Indians before civilization overtook them, regaining health and strength from constant exposure to the sun. But it is not only for the treatment of tuberculosis that we crave for more sunshine. A pioneer of public health reform, writing more than half a century ago, referred in an official report to "the seclusion from what is beautiful and animating" as one of the causes of a low standard of health in our great cities. To-day we are only beginning to understand the magic of sunshine, colour and beauty, not only on physical health, but on human energy and conduct.

There is, perhaps, nothing which will help to restore brightness and beauty to our large towns than the discovery of some method of getting rid of the pall of smoke with which they are enveloped. Other countries are far in advance of us in this respect. German cities, for instance, like Cologne and Düsseldorf, are clean and smokeless. It is not easy to account for our indifference as a nation to this subject, unless there is some truth in the suggestion in the final report of the Departmental Committee on Smoke Abatement, "that the presence of smoke implies prosperity, and that the blacker and grimmer a district is the more flourishing are its circumstances."

Existing legislation on the subject appears to be useless, and

the Government intends to bring forward a Bill which will to some extent embody the recommendations of the Departmental Committee with regard to industrial smoke. It is not unnatural that the average manufacturer should resent the idea of fresh legislation; the British Federation of British Industries are said to oppose the Bill and to favour voluntary methods of reform on the part of manufacturers, but experience in other countries, as related in the appendix to the report quoted above, shows that nothing short of drastic Government action can adequately deal with the nuisance. But it is not only industrial smoke that must be dealt with, it is estimated that domestic smoke is responsible for about three-quarters of the total air pollution. A good housekeeper instinctively looks for a house on the sunny side of the street, though she has no scientific knowledge of the healing qualities of sunshine. She knows to her cost that smoke adds enormously to her labours in keeping the house clean, but she does not know that it is her own kitchen range, in conjunction with innumerable others, which is responsible for much of the mischief. But whether the smoke comes belching out of the factory chimney, or from thousands of household chimneys, the matter is clearly one which touches very closely the health and well-being of the community; as such, we confidently recommend it for discussion by women citizens, and we are glad to see that at a forthcoming conference of women citizens, to be held in Manchester, this subject is to be fully discussed. There is plenty of material available, and there can be no doubt that it will produce interesting and useful discussions. It is strange, indeed, how patient we are with preventable ills, but when our eyes are fully opened to the tragedy of unnecessary suffering, dirt, disease, depression, and unhappiness that lies behind our smoke-ridden cities, we will not be content until science and modern inventions show us the way to utilize, instead of wantonly waste, the measure of sunshine which the British climate permits us.

NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER.

By OUR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT.

The House of Commons met on Monday, after the Easter adjournment. The House of Lords will meet a week later.

The attendance in the Commons was not striking, but it was not unduly small having regard to the unpretentious and to some extent non-contentious nature of the first day's business, which consisted in the third reading of the Dangerous Drugs and Poisons (Amendment) Bill, and in the second readings of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries, the Special Constables, and the Army and Air Force Annual Bills. The Dangerous Drugs Bill, which is aimed at checking illicit dope traffic, is agreed to in principle by every member of the House, and the points raised in the brief debate yesterday were of a more or less academic nature and called for no reply.

The debate on the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Bill for the most part centred upon Clause 55, which, in the opinion of many members, cast the liability on public authorities to dispose of their sewage in a manner not only innocuous from the point of view of public health, but also from the point of view of affecting the fish in the rivers into which the sewage is often discharged. Sir Robert Sanders, however, who in a moment of inspiration described his Bill as "a step in the direction of democracy among fish," was able to satisfy his interrogators upon this and other subjects, and the second reading was agreed to without a division.

The Special Constables Bill, however, aroused determined opposition from the Labour Party and from the back benches of the Independent Liberals. The purpose of this Bill is in effect to re-enact the Special Constables Act of 1914, a war emergency measure brought in by Mr. Asquith's Government to create a Special Constabulary and give the Home Secretary power to organize and regulate it. Mr. Bridgeman explained that it had been originally intended by the Coalition, when the 1914 Act lapsed in August last, to maintain it in force under the Expiring Laws Continuance Act, but, owing to technical difficulties, this was not found practicable. He added that the last Government had intended to bring in the Bill, and that the present Government was therefore only carrying out the policy of its predecessor.

The debate which followed showed, however, a remarkable change of opinion in the House. The Labour Party, for whom Mr. Hayes, the Member for Edge Hill, leader of the Police Strike in 1918, opened the debate, roundly denounced the measure as an attempt to create a Fascisti organization in this country, and alternatively as an attempt to organize a force of blacklegs

WHY SUPERFLUOUS WOMEN DON'T EMIGRATE.

Much is written about the two million superfluous women. Many schemes are devised for lessening their number; but still they remain. They are fast becoming a national problem.

What is a superfluous woman, who is she, and how is she to be defined? Few will be so futile as to acknowledge themselves so, for each woman clings to the hope that she is of some use in the world to someone.

To class a woman as superfluous because she happens to be unmarried or out of employment is an obvious injustice.

The one solution to the difficulty seems to be emigration. It is urged upon the superfluous by those who do not consider themselves so.

All women are not adapted for emigration. She who is so is just as likely to make a success of her life at home as abroad, because she possesses those qualities which make for success anywhere.

The kind of woman who is wanted for the Colonies is wanted all over the world. She is required for domestic work and nothing else. Any woman who is thoroughly efficient in cooking, housewifery, sewing, nursing, and the care of children, is certain to find immediate and remunerative employment. Adaptability, good temper, strength, and resourcefulness are equally necessary. Unless she has these qualities she is of very little use to the Colonies.

But the woman who possesses all these invaluable attributes can find not the slightest difficulty in maintaining herself in her native land. So she need not emigrate, even if she is not married.

The great unemployment lies among the more finely educated type of woman. Artists, journalists, musicians, teachers, secretaries, clerks, etc.; each in herself well trained and talented, perhaps, yet lacking some necessary trait which would enable her to make a success of life.

Possibly super-sensitiveness is their one drawback. The very quality which prompts them to seek their particular form of

and strike-breakers for use by capitalists against trade unions. A certain section of the Conservatives, on the other hand, made it quite plain that, in Mr. Hopkinson's words, they feared a situation "when desperate men might attempt to gain their ends by riots and violence." Mr. Pringle made a useful contribution to the debate by lifting the question to the higher plane of constitutional propriety, and arguing that if such a force were necessary then the regulations governing it ought surely to be embodied in the Act and settled by the House clause by clause, and not be made the subject of legislation by reference to an obsolete war measure, adopted at a time when the country was naturally apprehensive about the activities of alien agents of the enemy. The Home Secretary devoted his reply to attempting to score debating points off his critics, and at 11 p.m. the House divided, 218 voting in favour of the Bill and 122 against it.

The House then considered the Army and Air Force Annual Bill. By a ruling of Mr. Speaker Lowther in 1914, hardly any debate is possible at this stage—the proper time being in Committee of the whole House. It is only possible to debate questions arising directly out of the amendments proposed by the annual Bill and the general question whether or not the Army should be a disciplined force. Mr. Lansbury was, therefore, ruled out of order in attempting to make a speech on the abolition of the Armies and Air Force; and after the question of extending the provisions of the Act to mandated territories had been raised by Commander Kenworthy and Captain Berkeley, and had been briefly replied to by Sir Samuel Hoare, the second reading was given.

An interesting question arises on Wednesday night, with regard to the motion on the Liquor Trade in the Carlisle District. Sir Arthur Holbrook moves to discontinue the system. Sir Aylmer Hunter Weston, however, is bringing forward an amendment to the motion declaring in substance that the Carlisle system, though successful in that area, is not suitable for general application, and urging the Government to encourage the conversion of public-houses of the "drinking bar" type into proper places of refreshment and recreation.

[The views expressed in this column are those of our Parliamentary correspondent, and are not our editorial opinion. Like so many other things in this paper they are expressly controversial, and comment upon them will be welcomed.—ED.]

self-expression debars them from success. Most employment resolves itself into self-expression in the long run.

If this is so, they are the very people who are less likely to think of emigration. Those who seek to express themselves mentally very rarely have any adaptability for manual labour.

The performing of housework, the care of children and nursing, is a dignified and noble profession; but there is no getting away from the fact that it is very often monotonous and dirty work, executed more by the hands than the brain. The trained mental worker, incapacitated to a certain extent by nature and education, turns from it in weariness and disgust. However deplorable this attitude may be, and there are two sides to every question, it must be reckoned with.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle once said that he would rather earn a hundred pounds by literature than a thousand in any other way. This is the gist of the whole matter. Most women would rather struggle on and half starve in a profession they love than find affluence in one abhorrent to them.

Even the most advanced woman has a conservative mind. She clings to home and old associations more than a man does. Emigration for the single woman means separation from all she holds most dear—mother, home, relations, and friends, above all the land of her birth. She goes out an exile into an indifferent and strange world.

Among the superfluous two million, this class of woman is more common than the adventurous type, who is ready for anything. Even the latter finds it is one thing to travel at leisure in comfort, or under some government appointment, where every step is made smooth and easy in first-class carriages and saloons; but quite another to rough it in the steerage, to start the world afresh with limited means, little or no social standing, and no definite employment in the offing.

The superfluous ones cannot be pitchforked into an emigration scheme for which they are not fitted by nature and education.

M. E. LAKE.

THE LAW AT WORK.

THE APPOINTMENT OF JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

Justices of the Peace are unpaid magistrates appointed by the Crown. The King acts upon the advice of the Lord Chancellor; he in his turn is guided by the recommendations of the Lord Lieutenant of the county, or in towns he may adopt the recommendation of the Town Council, but he is not bound to act on such advice, and he may appoint in opposition to the wishes of the Lord Lieutenant. Every county and every borough which has its own Bench has a separate Commission of the Peace. This is a formal document which contains the names of the Justices. It is in the keeping of the Lord Lieutenant of each county; in boroughs which have a separate Bench it is usually entrusted to the Town Clerk. Whenever it is required for the addition of new names, it is transmitted to the Lord Chancellor for that purpose.

In the year 1909 great dissatisfaction was shown at the methods pursued by Lord Lieutenants in recommending appointments to the Bench; it was said that Justices were almost entirely of one class and of one political party, and a Royal Commission was therefore appointed to inquire into the whole subject. As a result of its recommendations, the then Lord Chancellor, Lord Loreburn, in 1911 appointed advisory committees both in counties and boroughs, consisting of magistrates with special local knowledge, to assist the Lord Lieutenant and the Lord Chancellor in the selection of suitable persons to serve as magistrates. These committees often consult the Chairman of the Bench concerned before recommending any names to be added to the Commission. In boroughs, the Mayor acts as Chairman of the Bench during his period of office.

There is now no property qualification for Justices of the Peace, and any man or woman is eligible for the office provided that he or she resides in the county or borough or within seven miles of it. The result of the action of advisory committees and of the abolition of property and sex qualifications, has been

that Benches are now much more representative than they used to be, though there is still a good deal more to be done in this direction.

It will be within the memory of the readers of this column that the first small group of women magistrates was appointed in 1920 by the Lord Chancellor, and that this group acted as a Committee to recommend a list of about 200 women who were added to the Commission later in the year. The Committee was dissolved after it had done its work, and women magistrates have since then been appointed in the same way as men. Any woman's society which wishes to put forward the claim of women to be made magistrates can approach the advisory committee through the Chairman of the Bench, or they can, if preferred, make their request to the Lord Lieutenant, or in the last resort to the Lord Chancellor himself.

There are about 22,000 magistrates in the country, of whom about 1,000 are women. It is obvious, therefore, that more women magistrates are greatly needed. Not only is the total number small compared with that of men, but they are very unevenly distributed; some Benches have a fair number, say six or seven, while others are still entirely without. It is highly desirable that women should be appointed on to advisory committees, especially in counties, so that they may try to ensure that women are at least represented on every Bench in the country, and that the number is increased as suitable women are forthcoming for the work. It is unnecessary to point out what are the qualities that make men and women suitable to administer justice; it is enough to say that not these qualities but social position or political importance have too often been considered qualifications in the past.

At present a judge is disqualified from remaining in office if he is made a bankrupt or is found guilty of corrupt practices at an election. And the Lord Chancellor has power to remove the name of any justice from the Commission; such power is only exercised in very grave cases, and the removal would be considered a great disgrace. It has been suggested that a Justice should be disqualified if he fails to attend the Bench a minimum number of times in a year; there are, however, two sides to this question; if a magistrate does not take sufficient interest to attend of his own accord it is better he should stay away.

THE PRESENT AND FUTURE POSITION OF THE WOMEN POLICE MOVEMENT.

Much was expected as the outcome of the Royal Commission which met in 1920 to inquire into the employment of women on police duties, but very little of practical value has come of it. It is not, in fact, too much to assert that, at the present moment, the whole movement has drifted into a backwater. For this regrettable state of affairs, the descent of the "Geddes Axe" is, no doubt, partly to blame, but the deeply rooted prejudice of officials against the inclusion of women as an integral part of the police force, added to the ignorance and indifference of the public regarding the importance of this great reform, has probably much more to do with it.

Much has been said and written for and against the employment of women as street patrols, but very little comparatively, with regard to what is still more important, namely the establishment of women as qualified, sworn-in police, to fulfil all duties concerning their own sex to such an extent that in future a woman in custody shall not come in contact with male police at all during her detention at a police office, but shall be dealt with from beginning to end by policewomen.

The position, as far as we can judge of it at present, is as follows. If a Chief Constable, with the permission of his town council, desires the services of a woman in his force, he is at liberty to obtain one of his own choice, and to allot to her any duties that he shall consider useful. Hence, it is a fact that in certain towns where such women are employed, they are frequently given work to do which has nothing to do with women. They are used as detectives, and, as such, are put on to cases of burglary by men, and other crimes, while the women in the town are dealt with at the same time by male constables. The object of this short article is to show how unsatisfactory this is, and to point out the only way in which the coming of policewomen can be the useful and desirable reform which is necessary.

It would be impossible in the short space allotted to me to enter into all duties which should be undertaken by policewomen, but of these the following are perhaps the most important:—

1. The entire charge of women during their detention within a police office, with all duties appertaining to their condition (i.e. arresting, charging, searching, etc.).
2. The taking of all evidence from women and from children.
3. Travelling with female and juvenile offenders, and escorting them to prisons, borstals, and other places of detention.
4. Making the intimate investigations necessary in such cases as concealment of birth, induced abortion, deaths arising from the latter or from suicide of females, etc.
5. Patrolling public parks, gardens, esplanades, and outside schools for the protection of children, and outside barracks, inside docks, etc., for the protection or cautioning of women and girls.
6. Charge of attempted suicides during detention in hospital.

In addition to the above, there are certain duties which should be undertaken by women police in conjunction with their male colleagues, such as, for example, the raiding of houses of ill-fame.

It will be easily seen, by perusal of the above summary, that the women who are to undertake such difficult and delicate work must be very highly specialized, and of a particular type. The greatest amount of tact, self-restraint, patience, and sound judgment are required by those who have to carry through disagreeable work of the character suggested, or grave scandals calculated to disgust the public and to let down the whole movement are liable to occur. It is for this reason that the women recruited for the police profession should be carefully chosen and tested, preferably (in the first instance, at least), by members of their own sex.

In places where the policewomen have been an acknowledged failure, the cause has most probably been that the wrong type of woman was chosen, or else that the wrong kind of work was allotted to her. When a Chief Constable is left to choose his own policewomen, he is apt to select women for their physical proportions, quite overlooking, or oblivious of, the fact that the

quality to look for is *moral force*, and that the height or breadth of shoulder in a prospective policewoman is of the least importance among the numerous other essential qualifications to fit her for such a profession.

It is clear to those who have had experience in work done by women police, that the only remedy against the enrolment of a wrong type of woman, and against the mistake of allotting to her the wrong kind of work, will be the formation, by Act of Parliament, of a Women Police Service, from which the whole country would be served. This Service, or *depôt*, must be under the charge of a woman at the Home Office (the same system, of course, to be observed by the Scottish Office for Scotland, where, owing to the difference of Scottish law and procedure, Scottish women should be employed), with a suitable staff of women officers under her, whose duty would be the selection and preliminary training and testing of a number of educated and suitable women. These women, after passing a certain time at the *depôt*, should then be sent out, as required, to those chief constables who desire women in their force, taking with them a definite list of the duties they are prepared to discharge, to the exclusion of all others. While these policewomen must become, of course, the servants of the chief constable under whom they work, they should be regularly visited by a woman inspector from the official *depôt* (or headquarters of the Women Police Service), who shall satisfy herself that they are being called upon to do the work which they have pledged themselves to do, and that they are not being unsuitably used as mere clerks, or telephonists, or engaged upon police work having to do with the male sex only. This visiting inspector should be authorized to hear complaints, and, by the constitution of this Women Police Service, should be empowered to withdraw a policewoman from any area without being obliged to publish the reason.

Such an innovation as this cannot be arrived at without an immense amount of propaganda, hard work, and undaunted persistency, and those people who believe that the establishment of women police would be a real benefit to the community will have to concentrate upon framing and passing the necessary legislation to turn what is now a Utopian dream into a reality.

It is better to have no policewomen than to have the wrong ones, or to have them used in a wrong way, and the first person to admit this truth would probably be the ordinary police constable himself, who knows so much better than any layman, or even social worker, the innumerable hidden moral problems dealt with in police cases, and how acutely the laws and their administration affect the well-being of the women and children of this country. Do not let us shrug our shoulder and condemn such a proposal as the one I have briefly outlined as "impossible." Rather let us, one and all, put our shoulders to the wheel, and resolve that, whether or not our own generation shall live to see the rewards of our labours, the generations to come shall reap what we have sown.

IVEIGH MORE-NISBETT.

NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN AT THE ROME CONGRESS.

By CHRYSTAL MACMILLAN,

Chairman of the Committee on the Nationality of Married Women of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance.

At the meeting of the Congress of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance to be held in Rome from 12th to 19th May this year, a number of subjects concerning the position of women will be specially considered. And the Alliance will outline its policy on the different questions. From the International point of view perhaps the most interesting of them is the Nationality of Married Women. On this question women's societies all over the world had begun to take an interest even before the great war. Their experience then, however, intensified their belief that a woman should not be treated merely as an appendage of her husband, but that she should be given the same right to retain or to change her nationality as a man.

Although in the majority of countries to-day the law considers a woman to be of the same nationality as her husband; this has by no means always been true. For example, it was not till 1870 that the law was passed which causes a British woman to lose her nationality on marriage with a foreigner. And in the

United States the law making this rule universal was not adopted till the beginning of the present century. Then, too, in many countries this general rule has exceptions. For example, in France, Bulgaria, Italy, and China, a woman belonging to one of these countries does not lose her nationality if she marries a foreigner, unless by the laws of his country she acquires his. Another type of exception is incorporated in the laws of Germany and Great Britain. Legislation adopted in these countries in 1913 and 1914 respectively provided that where a German or a British husband changed his nationality during the marriage, his wife, if she should so desire, should have the right to remain German or British as the case might be. One point sometimes overlooked is that it is not in every country that a child follows the nationality of its father. For example, a child of German parents born in Britain is considered British under British law and German under German law.

The great international women's societies are asking for a reform of the laws on the question. The International Council of Women, so long ago as 1905, made a special investigation of the nationality position of married women in different countries. The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom and the International Woman Suffrage Alliance at recent Congresses both demanded that a married woman should be given the same right to retain or to change her nationality as a man. And the National Auxiliaries of these international bodies are themselves working for the reform in their own countries. In the French Parliament a Bill has been introduced. In the German Reichstag questions have been asked. In 1922 in the British Parliament a measure seeking to change the law in this direction passed its second reading without a division, and a Select Committee of the Lords and the Commons is now taking evidence on the subject. One country, the United States of America, has already reformed its law on these lines. There, on 22nd September last year, President Harding signed what is known as the Cable Act. This Act gives to a woman the right to retain her own nationality on marriage. It also gives to a married woman the independent right to naturalize. In future an American woman who marries a foreigner will remain American unless she chooses to renounce her American citizenship. A foreign woman who marries an American will not *ipso facto* take her husband's nationality. She is, however, given special facilities to acquire American citizenship. In her case the term of residence in the country before naturalization is reduced from five years to one. There is a curious exception to the general rule in this American law. The woman who marries a man of a nationality ineligible for American citizenship is not to be allowed to be considered American. This would exclude the wife of a man belonging to any race other than the white or the African negro. Apparently no such limitation is placed on the rights of an American man who marries a woman of one of these races. The passing of this Act has brought out clearly what the women's international societies had already recognized, namely that this question can only be satisfactorily dealt with internationally. Under the new American Act a British woman who marries an American will not be considered British by British law nor American by American law. She will be without nationality. The American woman, on the other hand, who marries a British subject will be American by American law and British by British law. She has two nationalities.

On the first day of the Rome Congress a Special Conference will discuss this question of the nationality of married women. It is hoped that from the Conference will emerge proposals outlining the type of legislation which it is desirable to promote in the different countries separately. Such proposals would aim at obviating the difficulties which arise from each country legislating on this question without consideration of the laws in other countries. One difficult point which requires special consideration is the method of adjusting any proposals to suit both the countries which make their personal law dependent on domicile and those which base it on nationality.

A further proposal is that a draft International Convention should be drawn up, which might be submitted to the League of Nations or other international bodies with a view to its adoption by all the countries of the world.

As the trend of legislation, especially in those countries where women are already enfranchised, is towards placing the sexes in a position of equality in marriage, as in other connections, it is well to be prepared to direct the legislation on the nationality of married women on a co-ordinated plan. By proceeding in this way, many of the difficulties which might otherwise arise would be obviated from the first.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

Offices : Evelyn House, 62 Oxford Street, London, W. 1.

Telephone : Museum 6910.

MEMORIAL ON EQUAL FRANCHISE.

We should like to remind our Societies that it is important for them to obtain a list of signatures of their members of Parliament to this Memorial as soon as possible. Signed copies of the Memorial should, of course, be returned to Headquarters. All Members should be approached asking for their signatures, even if it is known that they are unlikely to sign, as they must not be given an opportunity of saying that there is no demand for this reform from their constituencies.

GUARDIANSHIP, MAINTENANCE, AND CUSTODY OF INFANTS' BILL, 1923.

The House of Commons has agreed, in answer to a message from the House of Lords, to appoint members to form a Joint Select Committee of both Houses of Parliament. The names of those appointed have not as yet been announced. In order to supplement evidence we already have, we are most anxious to obtain some more examples of hard cases under the present law. In particular we wish to have more examples of cases in which :—

- (1) The father has removed children from the custody of the mother in spite of her being a fit person to retain the custody.
- (2) The father has used the threat of removing the children

from the guardianship of the mother as a means of exercising undue pressure on her.

(3) The father (or mother) has not maintained the children according to his or her means.

A new leaflet is in preparation, and will shortly be ready, dealing with the 1923 Guardianship of Infants Bill.

SEPARATION AND MAINTENANCE ORDERS BILL, 1923.

This Bill is in process of being redrafted, and will include Clauses from the last Government's Summary Jurisdiction (Separation and Maintenance) Bill, and in addition certain non-contentious clauses, which the Home Office will not oppose at the second reading.

LIBRARY.

The following book should have been included in last week's list :—

Birth Control, H. G. Sutherland, M.D. Edin.

PERSONAL.

Miss Beaumont has kindly promised to be acting Hon. Secretary at Headquarters during April and May, and Miss Verrall has kindly undertaken all the arrangements for delegates to the Rome Congress.

CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS.

CAPITALISM.

MADAM,—I have always found great difficulty in reconciling the various senses in which the word "capitalism" is used, and am, therefore, relieved to see that you and Sir Alfred Mond evidently differ in the interpretation thereof. Your definition is that a capitalist system must be one in which "the ownership of capital is vested in private individuals, and carries with it the control and general direction of production."

This definition would obviously include the Wholesale Co-operative Society. But most of the members of that Society would deny that they were part owners of a capitalistic enterprise.

I hope some more of your correspondents will enlighten us on what capitalism really means to them. I am sure people have very hazy ideas on the subject.

I demur to your statement that it is "a newcomer among the economic systems of the world."

The Roman large landed estates, worked by slaves, seem a particularly odious example of your own definition of the word, and the traders of Tyre and Sidon, "whose merchants were princes," must have carried on their business very much as a modern trader does. The chaos which resulted from the break-up of the Roman Empire, destroyed trade and commerce. The only property was land and livestock, but very soon the merchant reappeared, and he does not seem to have differed from the modern trader in essentials. Among the holders of land, only the freeholders would properly be described as owners, but there were always some of them, and they were certainly capitalists. Feudal tenants owned cattle and sheep, and in that capacity were capitalists. I cannot see that there is any real change, although of course the great facilities of communication now, enable people to use any property they may happen to possess to much greater advantage than was possible to our ancestors.

MAUD SELBORNE.

"PUMP MORE OXYGEN INTO THE LEAGUE."

MADAM,—May I have a little space to reply to Mrs. Fawcett's criticism of the article called "Pump More Oxygen into the League," and may I say how deeply I regret that any words of mine should meet with her disapproval. Possibly, owing to some clumsiness on my part, she has not understood the point of the article in question.

Mrs. Fawcett suggests that I do not know the Covenant. I know it well, or I should have refrained from writing about the League. I knew also the draft published for public criticism in the spring before the present Covenant was signed, and I have closely followed the history of each amendment, or proposed amendment, of the text. The main argument of my article is based upon that provision of the League constitution of which Mrs. Fawcett supposes me to be ignorant, namely that the consent of every member of the Council is necessary before the Council can take action; also that France is a member of the Council and will not consent to refer the Ruhr dispute to the League. Therefore the League is paralysed for the time being in face of the Ruhr situation. And being thus paralysed, it fails of its high purpose. To deny and to ignore this seems to me no friendly act, but the act of one who is cynically incredulous of the League's power ever to succeed in great things. It is no betrayal of the League to admit that again and again it fails; the betrayal is to affirm, as many do affirm, that its failure is final and is

inherent in its nature. If the failure is not final we must seek for a remedy, and that my article sought to do. One remedy I suggested—and our great Lord Robert Cecil has suggested it himself—it is that each League nation should foster within its borders a living driving force of organized opinion, by League of Nations Union, or its equivalent, to compel its Government to direct all foreign policy in a League spirit; and, further, that British women should informally, and with tact and judgment, urge upon friends they may meet in League countries to see to it that this happens. Mrs. Fawcett calls me a bull in a china shop. But I have not broken the china. China once broken cannot be satisfactorily mended. I would rather liken the League in its present state to a living, growing organism, suffering temporarily from anaemia due to an insufficiency of pure air in its lungs, and I should say let us Britishers pump in air, and let the French and the Japanese and all the others pump too.

THE WRITER OF THE ARTICLE.

BURNING QUESTIONS.

MADAM,—It is curious to read in so live a paper as the *WOMAN'S LEADER* any "againsts" to Women in the Ministry. It is a re-echo of questions discussed years ago. In 1911 my lecture on the subject given at the King's Weigh, London, received such attention that C. W. Daniel, publisher, issued it in book form, and it sold rapidly. Before Maude Royden came over from the Anglicans to preach in Nonconformist churches, I was called to a village church where I not only preached and visited, presided at the Communion Table, but also conducted funeral services, baptisms, and similar offices. I also took the Inauguration Services at the Woman's Church at Wallasey, which made some stir in the early days of the war—since my retirement I have lost sight of these advanced women; should any see this I send veteran's greeting.

I base woman's right to the Ministry (1) on the spirit of Old and New Testament; (2) on the practice of the early Christian Church; (3) on the needs of the present day. From the commencement of the Bible to its close are indications (1) of the feminine element (side by side with the masculine) in Deity (note the Hebrew feminine termination, coeval, with the masculine, in the name Jehovah); (2) accounts of the ministry of women as of men, i.e. Deborah, the daughters of Zelophehad, Huldah, and others, too numerous to mention. "The Lord giveth the word; the women that publish (preach) the tidings are a great host." The New Testament and the Early Christian Church show the same practice. "In the early Christian Church there was a recognized order of women clergy," wrote a Roman Catholic chronicler. Tertullian notes that women appear in early reference to ecclesiastical orders. In the Catacombs are found representations of women clergy and they are shown presiding at the Christian feast, i.e. the Sacrament. Did space permit one could tell of scores of early women preachers. Women were regularly ordained. The first Ecumenical Council provided for such ordination and in the *Ordo Romanus* the rite is found. "The ordination of men and women is identical, both by the imposition of hands." Probably one of the "two" with whom Christ walked on the way to Emmaus was a woman. It is likely that husband and wife walked that way, and Jesus walked with them to their home. Some modern scholars believe that the Epistle to the Hebrews was written by a woman, and it is interesting to remember that the *Common Cause* years ago published this assumption.

I have dealt with the authority of ancient history because it is upon this

aspect that Helen Stocks bases her "against." It is of small value at the present day when so many indications point to the vital necessity of women taking their place side by side with men in the preaching of the word. It appears as if the pulpit is the last stronghold of man, and he will hold to it most tenaciously and to the detriment of the Church. Vested interest in no wise makes for progress. And unhappily there are still women who are the greatest opponents of their sex and the most narrow in prejudice. It was a man who wrote: "The subjection of women is complete in the Church of England, and the struggle for equality will be most relentless when women claim to be preachers, priests, bishops—women who have looked to religion for consolation and strength, are being slowly driven to recognize that the last strongholds of injustice and unfairness they will have to contend against will be the churches."

Alas that such indictment be still true!

HATTY BAKER.

"THE COMMON CAUSE."

MADAM,—May I say that I heartily endorse your correspondent's letter re the title of our weekly paper.

The Common Cause was a good name, and I wish it could have been retained.

If it is possible to have it back as the chief title, at any rate I, for one, should vote for it.

M. E. KNIGHT.

N.W. FEDERATION OF THE N.U.S.E.C.

BIRKENHEAD AND DISTRICT W.C.A.

A special meeting of the Society was held to receive the report of the delegates who attended the Annual Conference, and much interest was shown in the various items of the Agenda. At a meeting on "Proportional Representation" a Model Election took place, which was much appreciated by the members. The Junior Branch continues to hold well-attended meetings, and an address on the "Judicial System of England" called forth many questions and provoked a good discussion.

Representation having been made to the Association that there was great need for further provision for recreation for girls over school age, a small Committee of Inquiry was appointed. As a result, the Committee of the W.C.A. have decided to issue a public appeal for subscriptions with a view to starting a Girls' Club in a central district of the town.

CHESTER W.C.A.

Two meetings of special interest to women magistrates have been held—the first, addressed by Mrs. Stead (Probation Officer for South Lambeth), on "Probation Work," and the second by Miss Margery Fry, J.P., on "Penal Reform"; both meetings were presided over by Mrs. Paget, J.P., and were well attended. A discussion on "Municipal Improvements," opened by Miss Beatrice Clay, B.A., resulted in the drafting of resolutions to be sent to the City Council. It will be interesting to hear the result. "How to help the Rising Generation" was the stimulating title of an address given by Miss Patterson, B.A., who dealt with the special difficulties of a post-war generation and the need for encouraging the cult of simple pleasures and beautiful manners. The address provoked a lively and interesting discussion.

LIVERPOOL W.C.A.

Weekly expeditions have been arranged to Schools, Factories, and Institutions, which will afford excellent opportunities to women citizens to acquaint themselves with the commercial and municipal and philanthropic activities of the City. The series of lectures on "Current Topics" by Mr. Collin Brooks has proved of so much interest that a further course of five lectures has been arranged, and the informal discussion which follows the address is found very helpful in the study of both Home and Foreign Affairs.

In connection with the Conference of the N.W. Group recently held at Port Sunlight, special mention should be made of the excellent arrangements made by the Bebington W.C.A. for the entertainment of the delegates, and of the kindness and courtesy shown by Messrs. Lever Bros. in entertaining the members of the Conference to tea in the Lady Lever Art Gallery and in allowing them to inspect the Works. In addition to dealing with the Agenda for the Annual Council, a keen debate took place on the question of Married Women Employees under Public Authorities, and the need for the formation of Ward Committees in W.C.A. for Early Educational Work. The Conference was attended by delegates from seven different W.C.A.s, and was as interesting and successful as on previous occasions.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

In the early days of the Great War the Women's International League came into being. It was formed by a few women who even then realized that the world is one, and that the only forces capable of co-ordinating and harmonizing the claims of the various nations comprising it were spiritual and intellectual, and not merely material. One of its aims was the creating and developing of an enlightened public opinion on Foreign Affairs in order that the repetition of the horror through which we were passing might be avoided in future. Never has such an enlightened public opinion been more needed than now. With the deadlock between France and Germany persisting, and the British Government either unwilling or unable to act, the only thing which could end the conflict would be the existence of such an overwhelming opinion in favour of an impartial consideration of the whole question at issue as would convince France that, for her own sake no less than for that of Europe, she must submit to such a tribunal. Our work is to form that opinion.



The Order of the Bath

TO Lord John Russell is attributed the great achievement of the invention of the bath tub. He was believed, in 1830, to be the only Englishman addicted to the luxury of a daily bath; and certainly it is since his day that the appreciation of hot water has become anything like general. The ancients knew its value, but in modern times the warm bath won men's hearts but slowly; and even in 1845 we find that in Boston, U.S.A., bathing was made illegal save upon medical advice.

To-day the hot bath ranks no longer as an indulgent luxury in which eccentrics, if they will, may wallow. A plentiful supply of good hot water is rightly regarded as essential, alike for comfort and for health, in every British home. Yet there are many homes from which the essential still is absent; where the supply is limited and it is sadly true to say: he who baths last baths least. Nor do the bathers only suffer; there is never enough hot water in these old-fashioned households for domestic purposes, while the first want in case of illness can never be instantaneously supplied.

This need not be. There is a gas water-heater for every household need and every class of home. There is a means of obtaining plentiful hot water exactly in such quantities and at such times as it may be required. There is a way of coupling comfort with economy.

Expert advice on hot water systems for all and sundry purposes is offered by the undermentioned body

 THE BRITISH COMMERCIAL GAS ASSOCIATION
30 GROSVENOR GARDENS, WESTMINSTER, S.W.1.

COMING EVENTS.

ASSOCIATION FOR MORAL AND SOCIAL HYGIENE.

APRIL 26. 5.30 p.m. Annual (Public) Meeting, Central Y.M.C.A., Tottenham Court Road. Speakers: Dr. Mary Gordon, Commander and Mrs. Haslewood, Dr. Helen Wilson, J.P. Chairman: Mrs. Winttingham, M.P.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB.

APRIL 15. 8.15 p.m. Debate "The Dominant Sex." Dr. Josiah Oldfield and Miss Nina Boyle. Chairman: Miss Mary Grant.

HILLINGDON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

APRIL 18. Miss Beaumont on "Legislation Affecting Women." Parish Room Hillingdon Heath. 7.15 p.m.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION.

APRIL 13. 13 Alleyne Park, West Dulwich. 8 p.m. Speakers: Dame Katherine Furse, H. Graham Green, Esq., J.P.

APRIL 14. 13 Marchmont Road, Richmond. 5 p.m. Speaker: Lady Victor Horsley.

APRIL 15. College Street Baptist Church, Northampton. 8 p.m. Lt.-Col. Borden Turner, O.B.E., M.A.

APRIL 17. Stepney, Lambeth, and Bracknell.

APRIL 18. Great Bookham and Islington.

APRIL 20. Grimsby, Southampton, and Honiton.

APRIL 22. Congregational Lecture Hall, Finchley. 8.15 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. H. F. Wood.

INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE (11 Adam Street, Adelphi, W.C.2).

APRIL 16. Bosworth Hall, Bosworth Road, Kensal Road, W. 10. A Rummage Sale to raise funds for the Rome Congress. Please send parcels, if possible, to the Caretaker at the above address, between April 6th and 14th, marked clearly "For the I.W.S.A. Sale," or before that date to Miss Hoc, 75 Hereford Road, W. 2. (Hon. Organiser). Further information from I.S.W.A., 11 Adam Street, Adelphi, W.C. 2.

WOMEN'S LOCAL GOVERNMENT SOCIETY.

APRIL 25 and 26. Lord Mayor's Parlour at the Town Hall, Manchester. 10.30-1 and 2.30-5. A Conference of Women Councillors, Guardians, and Magistrates.

APRIL 27. Visits to Local Institutions. All information from the W.L.G.S., 19 Tothill Street, Westminster, or the Manchester W.C.A., 7 Brasenose Street, Manchester.

GUILDHOUSE WOMEN CITIZENS SOCIETY.

APRIL 16. Guildhouse (entrance, Berwick Street, Victoria). 3 p.m. Mr. Richard Sudell (Sec. London Gardens Guild) on "How to Grow Flowers in London without a Garden." Chair: Miss Helen Ward. Music. Tea 2d. Admission 6d.

LEAGUE OF THE CHURCH MILITANT.

APRIL 17. 62 Victoria Street, S.W. 1 (Third floor). 6 p.m. Lecture "London through the Centuries" by W. Marston Acres, Esq. (author of "London and Westminster in History and Literature"). Songs, readings, dances. Admission 1s. 3d. Reserved and numbered seats, 2s. 4d.

TYPEWRITING AND PRINTING.

M. McLACHLAN and N. WHITWHAM—TYPISTS.—4 Chapel Walks, Manchester. Tel.: 3402 City.

EXPERT TYPEWRITING and Visiting Secretarial Work; meetings reported verbatim; Stencilling, etc.; Ladies trained as Secretaries, Journalists, and Short Story Writers.—The Misses Neal & Tucker, 52 Bedford St., Strand, W.C. 2.

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WHERE TO LIVE.

THE GREEN CROSS CLUB FOR BUSINESS GIRLS, 68 and 69 Guildford Street, Russell Square, W.C. 1.—Spacious accommodation for resident and non-resident members; large dining, common, library, and smoking-rooms; excellent meals at moderate prices; hockey, gymnastic classes, dancing, tennis, etc.; annual subscription 4s.

FOR LADIES.—BED-SITTING-ROOMS, with gas fires; lounge and dining room; partial or full board.—Apply, Miss Farrant, 19 Endsleigh Street, Gordon Square, W.C. 1.

FURNISHED or UNFURNISHED ROOMS for Women Workers, in large, airy house with shady garden and tennis court. Five minutes from Golders Green tram and eight from Woodside Park, G.N.—Box 979, WOMAN'S LEADER, 62 Oxford Street, W. 1.

HOMELY Country Cottage BOARD-RESIDENCE; terms, 6s. daily. South Downs and quaint villages; artists' locality; near station and buses.—Miss Wheadon, Berwick, Sussex.

TO LET AND WANTED.

WANTED, PREMISES for teashop, by gentlewoman; part of shop considered; town or country.—Box 933, WOMAN'S LEADER, 62 Oxford Street, W. 1.

FURNISHED FLAT to let for six months. Bright, airy, quiet. Sitting-room, 2 bedrooms, kitchen, bath. Electric light, telephone, gas cooker. Tradesman's lift. Service by arrangement.—Mrs. Edmund Garrett, 13 Crescent Mansions, Elgin Crescent, London, W. 11.

TO LET.—Furnished BED-SITTING-ROOM; cleaning done; suitable for lady out during the day.—Seeley, 5 St. Mark's Grove, West Brompton, S.W. 10.

GOOD OFFICE, Oxford Street; telephone, etc.; ladies preferred.—Box 980, WOMAN'S LEADER, 62 Oxford Street, W. 1.

FOR REST AND HOLIDAYS.

FREE leaflet descriptive of HUT DWELLINGS and delightful mixed camp life in the Weald of Sussex for artistic and literary adults and children.—Nicholls, Ballinger Grange, Great Missenden, Bucks.

HOUSING, GARDENING, Etc.

PRACTICAL TRAINING FOR LADIES in Gardening (all branches), Dairy and Poultry Management. Expert Teachers. Lovely old manor house and grounds. Home life. Hockey.—Apply, Principals, Lee House, Marwood, Barnstaple, N. DEVON.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

WELDING.—Hoggett-Young Generator and Accessories (working order) for sale to women engineers, garage owners or others; suggestions welcomed.—Box 982, WOMAN'S LEADER, 62 Oxford Street, W. 1.

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.

LINEN HUCKABACK TOWELS.—White Irish linen hemstitched huckaback towels, real good quality which we can recommend. Large size, 24 x 40, 4 towels for 21s. 6d. Special cheap lot of fine quality linen huckaback hemstitched guest towels, size 15 x 22, 4 towels for 3s. 11d., or 11s. 6d. per dozen. Write for Bargain List—TO-DAY.—HUTTON'S, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ireland.

UNCRUNSHABLE DRESS LINEN for Spring and Summer wear, all pure linen dyed perfectly fast colours in White, Ivory, Sky, Pink, Cerise, Old Rose, Brown, Navy, Peacock, Putty, Lemon, Grey, Saxe, Fuchsia, Brick, Cardinal, Purple, Emerald, Orange, Mauve, Black, Nigger, and Mole. 36 inches wide, 3s. 6d. per yard. To-day's value, 5s. 6d. per yard. These lovely dress linens will be very largely worn this year. Patterns Free. For all orders under 20s. add 9d. for postage.—Hutton's 41 Main Street, Larne, Ireland.

DRESS.

KNITTED CORSETS.—Avoid chills, no pressure. List free.—Knitted Corset Co., Nottingham.

LACE.—All kinds mended, transferred, and cleaned; embroidery undertaken; many testimonials.—Beatrice, Box 1000, WOMAN'S LEADER, 62 Oxford Street, W. 1.

THE HAT DOCTOR, 3a Little Sussex Place, Hyde Park Square, W. 2, cleans, reblocks and copies hats at lowest possible price. Renovates furs. Covers satin or canvas shoes or thimble with brocade or velvet. Materials and post, 13s. 6d.; toe-caps, 8s. 6d.; your own materials, work and post, 8s. 6d., in three days.

PROFESSIONAL.

"MORE MONEY TO SPEND" (Income Tax Recovery and Adjustment).—Send postcard for particulars and scale of charges to the Women Taxpayers' Agency, Hampden House, 84 Kingsway, W.C. 2. Phone, Central 6049. Estab'd 1908.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

ANN POPE will be at the office of THE WOMAN'S LEADER on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays from 2 to 5, and will be pleased to give advice or information on household matters free to subscribers, beginning 16th April. An Employment Agency for "House Assistants" is also being organized, and all letters should in future be addressed: Miss Ann Pope, "House Assistants' Centre," THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 62 Oxford Street, W. 1. The fees for letters by post are still 1s. (2 questions); recipes from 2d. each. The Employment fees will be 1s. registration in every case; 2s. to be paid by assistants on engagement, and 5s. by employers. All letters must be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope and the proper fees.

HELP OTHERS TO HELP THEMSELVES HONESTLY.—Central Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society: D.P.A.S.'s at all H.M. Prisons, assisting over 20,000 annually, irrespective sex, creed, age, nationality. Wives and children aided.—W. W. Jemmett, F.I.S.A., Secretary, Victory House, Leicester Square, W.C. 2.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 58 Victoria Street, S.W. 1.—Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Information Department for advice about Women's Work and Training, by letter or interview.

THE PIONEER CLUB has reopened at 12 Cavendish Place. Town Members 65 5s.; Country and Professional Members 64 4s. Entrance fee in abeyance (pro. tem.).

THE FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Eccleston Guild House, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1: Sunday, 15th April, 3.15, Music, Poetry, Lecture, Dr. Dearmer. 6.30, Maude Royden.

ALLEVIATE LONELINESS by forming Congenial Friendships, home or abroad.—For particulars write, Secretary, U.C.C., 16 L, Cambridge Street, S.W. 1.

JOIN INTERNATIONAL HOUSE CLUB, 55 Gower Street, W.C. 1. Subscription, 7s. 6d. per annum. Dainty Luncheons and Teas in the Cafeteria. Club discussions will in future be held on Thursdays at 8.15, beginning 19th April.

MISS FRIDA HARTLEY has left England for South Africa, and will be unable to attend to correspondence for the present.

POSTS VACANT.

WANTED immediately, two experienced, educated women as COOK-GENERAL and single-handed NURSE (girl 5 years). Two ladies in family. Small house in country 20 miles from London summer, town flat in winter. Good salary and off-duty.—Box 931, WOMAN'S LEADER, 62 Oxford Street, W. 1.

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THE WOMAN'S LEADER can be supplied direct from this Office for 1½d. including postage. Send 66 to the Manager, WOMAN'S LEADER, 62 Oxford Street, W. 1, and the paper will be sent to you at any address for a whole year. Persuade your friends to do the same.

Please send THE WOMAN'S LEADER to me for twelve months. I enclose 6/6.

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