

# THE WOMAN'S LEADER

## AND THE COMMON CAUSE

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### NOTES AND NEWS.

#### The Five Power Conference.

Thanks to the miracle of broadcasting, many of our readers, overseas as well as on this island, heard for themselves our sailor King's opening speech on Tuesday at the inaugural gathering of the Five Power Conference. Westminster was at the moment entirely enshrouded in the blackness of the first bad fog of the winter, so that listeners at the microphone had the best of this historic event. It is a great week in the history of the nations, and the hopes expressed by the King will be echoed by his subjects in every corner of the globe.

#### The "final act" at the Hague.

The "final act" of the Hague Conference was signed on 20th January. Practically every problem before the Conference was settled, and a very large number of agreements between nations have been arrived at. Mr. Snowden, in a fine farewell speech, claimed that the Conference had achieved the task which it had set out to accomplish, as these last agreements had brought to a conclusion the innumerable international discussions on the financial problems resulting from the war. As Mr. Snowden pointed out: "The financial problems have been, as we believe, permanently settled, and we shall no longer in this connection be allies and enemies, but we shall all be friends and comrades working together in what remains to be done to complete the pacification of Europe. One thing we have all learned, that the interests of one country are the interests of all countries. The prosperity of one country is the prosperity of all countries, wrong or injustice done to one is wrong or injustice done to all. We have made at this Conference many personal friendships. Although departing, we shall remain united in spirit and go back to our own spheres of action and our own countries determined more than ever to pursue the ways of peace, realizing that of all the great and priceless blessings of humanity the greatest of all is peace."

#### The New Housing Bill.

It is indeed pleasant to record an actual act of good citizenship done instead of harping on what ought to be done. Over forty thousand Birmingham citizens signed a petition to the Minister of Health urging that in the forthcoming Government Housing Bill, certain restrictions in connection with the letting of housing and rooms should be included. These restrictions cover landlords who charge excessive rents in houses or rooms and premiums (key money) to tenants. The petition was not

sent direct to the Ministry, but was brought before the Birmingham City Council on 14th January by Councillor Mary Wilson, an Independent member of the Council, and carried by acclamation. It therefore goes forward with the imprimatur of the ratepayers and residents endorsed without a dissentient voice by their representatives on the City Council. The signatures to the petition were obtained by a house to house canvass enthusiastically carried out by Councillor Wilson's Independent Ward Committee with help from the Tenants Federation. This canvass revealed widespread suffering caused by profiteering on the dire need for "homes". Key money (up to £15 and £20) is often demanded of an incoming tenant and as the result of de-control, rents are often practically doubled. The scale of rents for houses was found to have become quite chaotic. We understand that Manchester has already sent a resolution to the Ministry of Health on excessive rents. What are other large centres of population doing?

#### Traffic Mortality.

We suggested recently that the appalling toll of human lives exacted by motor traffic is a matter which might well occupy the attention of women citizens in their own localities. Next week we open the consideration of the subject by an article on the Road Traffic Bill, and hope that it may be followed by practical suggestions as to how women's organizations can help. Last week a conference of local authorities in the London area was convened by Mr. Herbert Morrison, Minister of Transport, when various solutions to the present situation were discussed. Why should not representative conferences on even wider lines be held throughout the country? If it be true that over half of the pedestrians who are killed are under the age of fifteen, this is clearly a question which concerns parents and teachers. No woman appears to have taken part in the London conference, though women are affected equally both as motorists and pedestrians and not least as mothers; both townswomen and country women should take the matter up. We believe that some bodies of women have already taken action, and it would be helpful to others to hear what form this has taken.

#### The Safeguarding of the Countryside.<sup>1</sup>

The conference at University College, Oxford, held last week is one of the most hopeful events of the young year. Every traveller knows that ugliness is spreading over the countryside like a horrible infectious disease. Hideous eruptions like "Peacehaven" so-called on the South Downs, sprawling and unsightly suburbs, gaudy and ill-conceived advertisements even more than the encroachments of industry and commerce are changing the face of rural Britain for Scotland and Wales do not escape. We owe a debt of gratitude to Sir Michael Sadler who called this conference. Though not a question of life and death or the mutilation of human bodies as in the case of road casualties, the wanton destruction of our birthright both in town and country of beauty is a matter which calls for constant vigilance. Fortunately there are several organizations which exist to protect our privileges; we understand that an "Amenity" Parliamentary group composed of Members of all parties has recently been formed and a Private Member's measure, "The Rural Amenities Bill," is to be introduced next month. But such efforts to be really effective must be backed by the general public, and local "Amenity" groups should exist everywhere.

#### An Inadequate Concession.

The leaders of the movement at the Conference referred to above discussed a wide range of allied questions. Among them, the activities of a firm to whose ruthless advertising activities we referred in these columns two weeks ago, in contrast to the

<sup>1</sup> See page 401.

self-denying ordinance of J. C. Eno, Ltd. Speaking in Oxford, Sir Lawrence Chubb carried the attack further than we had ventured to do; he actually named the offender: the Raleigh Cycle Co. This firm had, he assured his hearers, consented to eliminate yellow from its advertisements on the request of the Scapa Society. But is the Scapa Society content with this gracious concession? Are the Raleigh Company's vile tin hoardings (painted in whatever new colour may be substituted) to continue to deface our country roadsides, moors, and cross-roads? Well—as we said before, the remedy lies with the consuming public? To the question: "Do you ride a Raleigh cycle?" we ourselves, as part of that public, return the answer: "No, but we drink Eno's fruit-salts first thing in the morning!"

#### The Geneva Coal Conference.

The International Preparatory Technical Conference on conditions of work in the coal mines has reached points of agreement sufficient to justify the summoning of a convention next June by the International Labour Conference. The points to be studied will include hours. Although no agreement as to the definition of a working day has yet been reached, that most favoured appears to be a working day of 7½ hours bank to bank. The conference has succeeded in obtaining the views of the Governments, masters and men of the principal European countries on a number of social matters, such as holidays with pay, family allowances, employment of women, social insurance, and the prevention of accidents. We await further particulars with interest.

#### Women and Protective Legislation.

Last week three British delegates: Dr. Marion Phillips, M.P., Mrs. Adamson, and Miss Dorothy Jewson, returned from the meeting of the International Socialist Women's Committee at Zurich. Nine European countries were represented. Their chief preoccupation appears to have been with the question of protective legislation for women workers, and with the international activities of the Open Door Council in opposition to all regulations applying to women *qua* women. The Socialist women declared themselves emphatically in favour of such legislation and designated the work of the O.D.C. as "against the interests of industrial women workers". Certain qualms appear, however, to be implicit in the resolution successfully moved by the British delegation and containing the words: "At the same time we point out to women workers that they can only be adequately protected if, in addition to laws, they are organized industrially and that through their political organizations it is important that they should exercise constant vigilance in order to assure themselves that any legislation proposed which affects their industrial welfare is in accordance with their best interests, meets their needs, and helps them in the struggle for better conditions and against exploitation." "Constant vigilance"—yes indeed! Constant vigilance against the continued readiness of legislators to short-circuit the difficult situation of unhealthy or burdensome industrial conditions by cutting the women out and leaving the conditions unchanged.

#### The Nationality of Married Women.

On the question of the nationality of married women the International Socialist Women's Committee was in complete accord with the leading non-party women's organizations in Great Britain at any rate. A unanimous resolution was passed urging that every woman should have the opportunity of retaining her own nationality on marriage to an alien, and that a campaign in support of this demand should be carried on in each country represented. A further motion was passed urging the Socialist parties of France, Belgium, and Switzerland to use all their influence in support of women's enfranchisement. For what, after all, is the use of women passing unanimous resolutions if they have no political weight wherewith to give them effect?

#### Which Women?

The Zurich correspondent of the *Observer* writes strange things concerning the progress of the Swiss women's suffrage movement. The women of Switzerland cannot, he says, "make up their minds as to whether they want votes for women or not." Eighteen months ago they took a petition for suffrage in an imposing procession to the Bundespalast at Berne, and last Sunday they assembled in the same city to found a League against political suffrage for women. Strange caprice, it would seem! But has it not struck the writer that the women who presented

the petition and those who subsequently founded the league are perhaps different women?—two distinct groups, neither of them precisely co-extensive with the "women of Switzerland"? And, if so, does it not absolve the "women of Switzerland" from the charge of inability to know their own minds. It would indeed be a surprising thing—an unprecedented thing—if there were not a divergent minority view of this as of all other political, social, economic, religious, artistic, scientific, and personal questions. What we really want to know is: how many women of Switzerland combined in support of the petition, and how many met to form the League?

#### Public Meeting on Information on Methods of Birth Control.

On 20th March a meeting on Information on Methods of Birth Control is to be held at the Friends House, Euston Road. The meeting is being arranged by the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, the Society for the Provision of Birth Control Clinics, the Women's National Liberal Federation, and the Workers' Birth Control Group. A fine panel of speakers is being invited, and Miss Maude Royden, C.H., Lady Astor, Mrs. Adamson, and Mrs. J. L. Stooks have already accepted. The terms of reference of the meeting are "to ask the Minister of Health and Public Health Authorities to recognize the desirability of making available medical information on methods of birth control to married people who need it on medical grounds, or who ask for it." We are glad to hear of the plans for this meeting, as we agree with those calling it that the campaign for the provision by Local Authorities of facilities for giving information on methods of birth control is growing so much in strength that the time has come for a large, united effort on the part of all those interested to show the Government, Local Authorities and Members of Parliament the force of public opinion in its favour. The demand that Local Authorities should be allowed to decide for themselves whether they should give this information and, if so, to make their own arrangements, is of course a very moderate one, and the coming into force of the Local Government Act in April, with its accompanying freedom for Local Authorities, will give these Authorities their chance.

#### Morals and Hygiene.

We are asked by the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene to call the attention of our readers to some important questions (see page 402) which they hope that Members of Parliament will find opportunities of raising in the House at Question Time. Our readers are asked to bring them before their Members and ask for their support in securing further information. It is certainly time that public attention was recalled to the demoralizing effect of the routine provision of prophylactic packets in the Navy. Probably nine out of ten British mothers have no idea that such a revolting practice exists. As to Hong-Kong we have surely a right to expect that recommendations applicable to the Straits Settlements are equally applicable to the Crown Colony of Hong-Kong which has always been under the same legislation in regard to such subjects, their laws having always been amended or repealed simultaneously. The Colonial Office Committee on the Straits Settlements made excellent recommendations on this matter and it would enormously clear up the situation in Hong-Kong—which is very bad—if these were applied there also.

#### Mental Welfare.

The Board of Control has with the approval of the Minister of Health appointed a Committee to inquire into the requirements of a complete structural colony for mental defectives of all types. Two women, Mrs. F. Rose Davies, J.P., Alderman Glamorgan County Council, and Miss Clara Martineau, J.P., of the Birmingham City Council, are members. The terms of reference emphasize the considerations of economy in maintenance and initial expenditure. We hope this means that a speedy extension of colony accommodation for mental defectives for whom this is the only solution is likely to be provided in the near future.

*POLICY.*—The sole policy of THE WOMAN'S LEADER is to advocate a real equality of liberties, status and opportunities between men and women. So far as space permits, however, it will offer an impartial platform for topics not directly included in the objects of the woman's movement but of special interest to 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 SPRING SESSION.

Parliament has a very heavy programme between now and Easter. So many days during this time of the year are taken up by the financial business, which for the most part consists of estimates put forward by the different Government Departments, that if there is a heavy programme of other business, the session inevitably becomes very congested. Unfortunately the *Coal Bill* is only too certain to have a very long and protracted committee stage, even though the chances of its ultimate success have been immensely increased by the statement issued by Mr. William Graham before Christmas, which undertook that the Liberals' demands for enforced amalgamation in certain circumstances, and for adequate protection of the consumer from excessive increases in prices, would be incorporated in the form of amendments. Although these amendments have, we understand, now been drafted, they have not been made public, and we do not know at the time of writing what the attitude towards them of the Liberals, or indeed of the Labour Party itself, is likely to be.

A measure which will be of particular interest to the readers of this paper is the *Housing and Town Planning Bill*, the terms of which, though conveyed to Local Authorities, have also yet to be made public. We can only express the hope, therefore, that this Bill will, among other points, explicitly provide for the payment of children's rent rebates, as without such provision we entirely fail to see how the problem of moving the poorly paid worker with a large family from the slums can be overcome.

A Bill to amend the *Trades Disputes and Trade Union Act* has been promised, and in addition there is the long expected *Factories Bill*. This, it is thought, will be based on Mr. Henderson's Bill of 1924, the main points of which have had the support of successive Home Secretaries. It is likely, however, to be more comprehensive than any of the recent Bills, and will probably include a good many forms of protection for women which it does not propose to extend to men.

#### MATERNITY AND INFANT WELFARE.

At the recent Council meetings of the National Union of Societies of Equal Citizenship, no less than twenty resolutions have been passed dealing with matters of health. The Executive Committee therefore appointed a sub-committee to study these questions, many of which were concerned with Maternity and Infant Welfare.

The Health Committee has prepared and sent out to over 300 hospitals, a questionnaire asking for information as to the treatment available in cases of maternal miscarriages. A large number of replies have been received and are under consideration. The Minister of Health has been asked to conduct an inquiry into the incidence and treatment of, and the disabilities consequent on maternal miscarriages.

A memorandum has been prepared by two members of the Health Committee (Mrs. Anthony and Mrs. Hubback) and forwarded to the Registrar-General drawing attention to the fact that statistical information on occupational mortality and fertility is based only on figures referring to males. It is understood that the information is not officially published or obtained for females. The reply to this memorandum is now under consideration. The Medical Officer of Health of the L.C.C. in his annual report, emphasizes this need and says "In order to define and direct measures for the improvement of maternal health it is essential that greater attention should be given to records bearing upon maternal conditions".

The need for the provision of a complete and adequate national maternity service is obtaining recognition in official quarters. The views of the National Union on this subject were laid before Mr. Arthur Greenwood, M.P., the present Minister of Health, when he received a deputation of the Executive of the N.U.S.E.C. in July last. He was also urged to make compulsory certain provisions of the Maternity and Child Welfare Act of 1918. Three important official reports dealing with these subjects have just been published, and are now being studied by the Health Committee.

(1) Dame Janet Campbell's Report on Infant Mortality for the International Inquiry of the Health Organization of the League of Nations (H.M. Stationery Office, 1s.). This Report describes the result of investigations carried out in four selected districts in this country. Its primary object was to find out, as nearly as possible, the causes of death of infants in the period covered by the investigation. It stresses the importance of better housing conditions if infant life is to be saved, and the need for

Two Bills will be coming down from the House of Lords. Firstly the Government's *Mental Treatment Bill*, which consists of all that it has been found practicable at this juncture to incorporate from the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Lunacy and Mental Disorders, 1926. The chief clause, it will be remembered, is that which provides for early treatment without certification in the case of incipient mental disease. The Lords' amendments to the *Unemployment Insurance Bill* will also have to be considered.

So much for the more important Government measures. One subject which is going to receive a good deal of attention, and which will have the sympathy of every reader of this paper, is the preservation of the beauty of both town and countryside. On 21st February, Sir Hilton Young will introduce as a Private Member's measure the *Rural Amenities Bill*, to provide for the better preservation of rural amenities and objects of national interest, while the Government itself proposes to put forward a Bill for the preservation of London squares.

Fresh ballots will be taken for private Members' resolutions, and there is reason to hope that a considerable number of Members will have balloted for resolutions on Family Allowances, and on the Nationality of Married Women, at the request of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, and in the case of the former, of the Independent Labour Party.

Other subjects of vital importance will also be before the House. The results of the *Naval Disarmament Conference* will inevitably give rise to a great deal of discussion, and, we can only hope, to general satisfaction. The report of the *Simon Commission* is expected some time in February, but any discussion arising out of it cannot come before Parliament, according to the arrangements, until after the round table Conference which it is hoped to have with representatives of the Indian people.

the establishment of a well-organized Maternity Service available for every woman who cannot afford to provide adequate facilities for herself.

(2) The Report of the Departmental Committee on the Training and Employment of Midwives (H.M. Stationery Office, 1s.). This is a very important document because it is understood that the Government will shortly introduce legislation based on its recommendations. It urges the initiation of a comprehensive Maternity scheme related to the National Health Insurance whereby, whilst retaining the principle of a cash payment as at present administered by approved societies, the scope of maternity benefit would be expanded to include the provision of essential health services, organized on a local basis, and administered and co-ordinated with other services of a similar nature. Its list of essential Maternity Services is very similar to that put forward by Dame Janet Campbell. Briefly they are:—

(a) Effective pre-natal and post-natal care.  
(b) Adequate attendance at the time of childbirth be well-trained and competent doctors and midwives.

(c) Available hospital provision for abnormal cases.  
Acting upon a resolution from the Health Committee the Executive of the N.U.S.E.C. decided to support that section of the Report dealing with Maternity Service at the same time stressing the necessity for the provision of adequate fees for midwives. The further recommendations of this Report aim at improving the training and conditions of employment of midwives. It is very clearly brought out how arduous the work is and how very badly paid. The Report recommends that the responsibility for the inspection of training institutions and teachers, and for the laying down of the training curriculum for midwives shall be transferred from the Central Midwives Board to the Minister of Health. Two of the signatories add reservations disagreeing with these views, and their objections are very fully set out in the Report. The Health Sub-Committee is arranging to hear speakers on both sides of this question before making any recommendation to the Executive as to which proposal should be supported.

(3) The annual report of the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health for 1928 (H.M. Stationery Office, 3s.), has a particularly interesting section dealing with maternal mortality. In spite of the amount of attention that has lately been devoted to this subject, the maternal mortality rate in 1928, was the highest recorded, viz. 4.42 per 1,000 births, 2,920 mothers in

this country died in childbirth and "many others amounting to tens of thousands were seriously invalidated in the discharge of this physiological function". The Chief Medical Officer attributes the deaths to:—

(a) Abnormal pregnancy or medical complications at delivery.  
(b) Absence of the necessary skill and attention at childbirth.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Act of 1918 has already made it possible for Local Authorities to provide facilities for combating both these causes of maternal death. But Local Authorities do not in all cases make use of their powers. Public opinion has not always demanded that they should. The Health Committee would like to suggest that every Society in our Union should start an inquiry in their own district and find out which of the provisions of the Maternity and Child Welfare Act are available to the mothers in their locality. That they should form public opinion and demand the provision of such facilities as are not available. A brief summary of the Aids to Maternity Service that Local Authorities are empowered to provide can be supplied from the office of the N.U. The complete Maternity Service recommended in the first two Reports mentioned is more likely to be obtained if we can claim that full use has been made of the services already provided under the Maternity and Child Welfare Act.

The Health Committee would like to commend to our Societies the study of these three Reports and the investigation suggested as part of their winter's work.

N. CORBETT.

### A LIFE OF SONG.<sup>1</sup>

"Dreamers, singers, wanderers, they are still known, among the Gaelic-speaking Highlanders of Strath Tay, as the "Singing Kennedys." Thus Mrs. Kennedy-Fraser describes her father's clan. He also was a famous singer, and her mother "as romantic and dreamy as himself," and all the eleven children, in their degree and kind, had the gift of music. For nearly ten years they, or groups of them, toured the world as "concerted singers." Mrs. Kennedy-Fraser, herself a great artist, has made her most characteristic contribution to her art in the four volumes (with possibly more to come) of *Songs from the Hebrides*, prepared in collaboration with Kenneth Macleod.

Lovers of music will revel in this book. It is packed with phrases and turns of expression showing it to be the work of one born a musician. One, also, with a touch of humour, as appears in the following: "A critic in the *Boston Transcript* gave my first volume a most kindly review. But he found that with a woman's frailty I was given apparently to exaggeration, since I seemed to claim twelve different scales for the Island tonality. On that same day I received a letter from M. Duhamel, the French expert in Celtic (Breton) music, and he found that I, in his opinion, had understated the number, as he computed it at eighteen."

But Mrs. Fraser is not only musician, she is, like her father, a born venturer. All over the world she toured with this father in her youth, and met with many adventures, of which one specimen may suffice: "One day, unexpectedly, with the four horses in full tilt, we drove down the sloping side of a gorge to find that at a sharp turn we had to traverse an improvised bridge thrown across a deep river, the bridge (?) consisting merely of two great trees thrown loosely across the chasm—the track between consisting merely of smaller saplings loosely laid . . ." etc.

And in later life—the years of discretion, her search for her Hebridean songs led her again by sea if not by land into like adventure. Speaking of her return from Garra-na-Hine in 1920, she says: "Our boatman came hurriedly and said, 'We must leave at once.' So we tumbled on to the boat again—I cannot say *in*, for the inserted motor occupied all the interior and we had to cling on for dear life to the wooden awning or roof, railingless, above. As we rolled back again through the churning channel, we learned that our boatman in his long experience of crossing to the Isle had only once before risked going by that same route."

Somehow it does not surprise one to learn that those amazingly brainy and merry creatures, the seals, found in Mrs. Fraser their "affinity." This is the story in brief: "My friends said to me, 'Sing them [the great grey seals] the "Seal-woman's Sea-Joy".' I . . . sang to this strange far-away audience the first phrase of the song. Instantly there was a response from the seal rocks. Like a fusillade, single note after single

<sup>1</sup> *A Life of Song*. By Marjorie Kennedy-Fraser. (Oxford University Press. 7s. 6d.)

note came from each seal in succession. . . . Then, from out a few seconds of intense silence, came a beautiful solo voice which sang to us a phrase we had never heard before. . . . The voice of the seal was so beautiful (of a rich mezzo-soprano quality) and the cantabile so perfect, that I should almost have believed I had been dreaming but for the corroboration of my two musician fellow-hearers. What did it mean? Did they take me for another seal?" Perhaps Mrs. Fraser will add to our gratitude to her by further studies in this rich but unharvested field—the problem of the inner lives of those which we humans in our arrogance call wild animals.

A. H. W.

### FLORA ANNIE STEEL.

On the frontispiece of the late Mrs. Flora Annie Steel's recently published autobiography,<sup>1</sup> readers will find a portrait whose vivacity and character does great credit to the photographer of Mr. Swaine. It is that of an apple-faced, bonneted old lady, with twinkling eyes and decisively set mouth, pointing an imperious finger at the reader as though to say: "Do this, and do it thus." To one reader in particular it recalls the vivid memory of a day on which this same redoubtable old lady attended a meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Union for Equal Citizenship. Her purpose in so doing was to persuade that body to undertake the production of a cinema film—a pretty considerable film involving some delicate studio work, illustrative of the vicious circle of woman's industrial opportunity. For this film, she had already designed the scenario, captions and all—and a very excellent scenario it seemed to be as she described it, concise, interesting, and dramatic. At the end of the recital the imperious finger was raised: "Do this, and do it thus" was the burden of her message to our organization. But all to no avail. From that day to this the N.U.S.E.C. has held sternly aloof from film production.

But as a rule events shaped themselves otherwise. As a rule Mrs. Steel got her own way with people because her way was enterprising, sensible, benevolent, and eminently practicable. Also, perhaps, because she expounded it with a high degree of personal conviction. When, therefore, at a very early age she found herself (by a mental process which she is at a loss to explain) married to an Indian Civil Servant, in more or less sole charge of the administrative, legal, economic, medical, religious, and personal affairs of a considerable district populated by very ignorant people, it is clear that she was the right woman in the right place. Her powers of personal leadership and initiative, as well as her multifarious interests had full scope. She practised amateur medicine, adjudicated in personal relationships, produced plays, designed buildings, promoted schools, designed their curricula and wrote their textbooks. To the women of India she was a benevolent but stimulating mother—to the official class she could be on occasions a waspishly feminist maiden aunt. But their trust in her wisdom and ability was such that they took her unto themselves as a Government inspector of schools.

It was such experience, gathered during the most vigorous and formative years of her life, expanded, systematized, and digested by study, which provided the raw material for the book which made her reputation as an author: *On the Face of the Waters*. And it is the personal record of such experience, told with all the ability of a practised writer and vitalized by the not unpleasing egotism of a vivacious old lady with a keen sense of her own achievement, which constitutes the most fascinating as well as the largest section of her autobiography. Unless, perhaps, we except the two opening chapters in which she tells of her childhood as a member of a large family group first under the shadow of Harrow School, later in the more spacious atmosphere of the Scottish countryside. From these first two chapters the personality of Mrs. Steel's mother emerges with charm and force—the mother who rebuked an outburst of unseemly merriment in church with the quiet admonition that "to laugh loudly at other folk might be unavoidable, but was always rude."

It is interesting to note in conclusion that Mrs. Steel's verdict on Hindu civilization in its relation to women, delivered with less acrimony than that of Miss Mayo because, doubtless, of its wide background of active co-operation and affectionate personal contacts, is nevertheless substantially the same. It is, in her view as in Miss Mayo's, a civilization dominated and enervated by the sex preoccupation.

M. D. S.

<sup>1</sup> *The Garden of Fidelity*, by Flora Annie Steel. (Macmillan and Co. 12s. 6d.)

### INTERFERENCE.

In the word *Interference* Mrs. Francis Brown has chosen an ambiguous sub-title for her novel.<sup>1</sup> For it is after all a gross piece of interference to kidnap a minor character from *Sense and Sensibility*, together with her family circle and chronological background, and that done, to construct her later history after the literary manner of Jane Austen. It is a gross piece of interference to unravel the end of so perfectly finished a piece of work as any one of Jane Austen's six novels, in order as it were, to knit onto it an extra length of imperfectly matched wool! That the wool is imperfectly matched, nobody can deny. Those particular colours are the product of an age as well as of a supreme individual craftsman. They cannot be repeated. It is astonishing that anyone should attempt their repetition.

But it is also astonishing that anyone should succeed as well as Mrs. Brown has succeeded. At times, in her unemphatic irony, she comes very near to the work of her great-grand-aunt Jane. At other times she lets loose an emotion and short-circuits a situation in a way which diverges sharply from the genius of her model. Nevertheless she has written a novel which is not unconvincing, and which the reader does not willingly abandon until it has been read to the last page. It is interesting, too, to note that Mrs. Brown is not slavishly acquiescent to the assumptions of her original. She will not, for instance, accept the heritage of Elinor precisely as it has been handed down to us. Frankly she does not like Elinor, and her dislike is expressed in a certain emphasis upon the admonitory aspect of Elinor's domestic relationships which we have hitherto been allowed to take for granted as a simple reaction from the indiscretions of Mrs. Dashwood and Marianne.

It is possible that Mrs. Brown may have to stand a certain amount of racket from the more orthodox members of the Janeite sect. If so, we venture (speaking, ourselves, as devoted adherents of the Janeite faith) to suggest that those who have derived several hours of enjoyment from a skilful and very readable novel, owe its author a gesture of defence for her audacity.

M. D. S.

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEWS.

By BERTHA MASON.

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT. PART VI.—DATE OF NEW GRANTS.

Last month the County Accountants' Society wrote to the Minister of Health asking for information on the following points:

(1) If the notification to each Local Authority of the amount of the grant to be paid to it during 1930-1 would give sufficient information for the calculation of the total grant for 1930-1?

The Councils whose accounts are on the basis of income and expenditure wish to be in possession, not only of a notification of the amounts of the instalments estimated to be paid in 1930-1, but also a notification of the full Block Grant in respect of each year.

(2) If the notification referred to could be paid earlier than the beginning of February next?

It was pointed out that if the figures could not be furnished earlier than February, (the date fixed by the Minister) the dates at which the annual budget of many Councils was considered would require alteration.

In reply the Minister stated that: (1) It is the intention of the Department to include in the notification, particulars showing both the amount of the grant estimated to be payable in respect of the year, and the part of that amount which will be paid during the year.

For various reasons the amount of the grant which will be notified in February, 1930, as estimated to be payable in respect of the financial year 1930-1, will be subject to revision later on, when all the figures have been determined finally.

(2) Every endeavour will be made to inform Local Authorities as early as possible of the amounts of the new grants payable to them, but in view of the failure of some Local Authorities to supply essential information, of the greatness of the work involved in the calculation of the new grants, and the limited time into which that work has to be compressed, the Minister feels unable to notify the amounts earlier than the first week in February.

<sup>1</sup> *Margaret Dashwood*, or *Interference*, by Mrs. Francis Brown. (The Bodley Head. 6s.)

### CHILD WELFARE.

"One of the things we know for certain is, that one way to deal with the difficulty of maternal mortality is through the increased care of the expectant mother," said the Minister of Health in his address at the opening this month of the Ninth Winter School of Health Visitors and School Nurses at Bedford College, London.

Mr. Greenwood went on to say, "Just as we are *not* doing sufficient in our ante-natal work, so we are not doing sufficient in our maternity and child welfare work. Some centres are giving dental and orthopaedic treatment but there is not enough of either. By the expenditure of relatively small sums during the early years of life, years of suffering in the future might be prevented. He looked forward to the time when orthopaedic treatment would become so important a part of the health service that the crippled child would be unknown."

In reference to the gap in the public health service between the infancy of the child and the age at which it begins school-life, the Minister pointed out that the lack of supervision at this stage was probably the cause of the beginning of defects and diseases which ought not to have arisen. It was probably also responsible for the fact that when children did go to school and came under the school medical service, over a quarter of them were found to be suffering from one defect or another.

### AN AMENITY GROUP.

We note with great pleasure that Members of the House of Commons interested in the preservation of rural amenities have formed themselves into an "Amenity Group". The Chairman of the Group is Sir Maurice Conway, the Hon. Secretaries are Mr. Percy Hurd and Mr. Noel Baker. The Group, which includes many Members of all parties, will act in connection with the National Trust, the Scapa Society, the Commons, Open Spaces and Footpaths' Preservation Society, and similar bodies. It proposes to concentrate in the first place on Sir Hilton Young's "Rural Amenities" Bill, which is down for Second Reading on 21st February. It would be very helpful to the promoters of the Bill if readers of this article would write to their M.P.s urging them to be in their places to support and vote for the Second Reading of the Bill on 21st February.

### OBITUARY.

MISS ALICE GRUNER.

Miss Alice Gruner, who died on 29th December, 1929, did two great services to her adopted country, the one as a most inspiring teacher for some fifty years, and the other as an organizer of extraordinary power.

Her heritage was good. Her father, in his native Livonia, in 1819 enthusiastically supported the freeing of the serfs by Czar Alexander I. Her mother was a learned lady of the family Von Leutner. Born at Rewold in 1846, Alice Gruner was educated at Dorpat, and at eighteen left home to teach. Her courage in saving a young girl from a terrible fate made it necessary to leave Russia quickly. She came to London, and taught. "In later life, she said that the joy then of being "in free England" was rapture. Feeling thus, she saved to bring a sister over, and did so. As a teacher, she imparted her own enthusiasm to her pupils, and more remarkably to those of their mothers who knew her. She saved enough for two precious years at Newnham College. In 1887, with help from a friend, she started in Nelson Square the first of the Women's University Settlements, and for a time lived there as Warden.

In 1896 the way opened for her special service to the teaching profession and to education itself. Since 1890 the salaries of teachers had been diminishing, and noticeably women with University qualifications were leaving the profession or embarking in preference on other careers. The Association of University Women Teachers, which she had joined as an original member in 1883, was almost foundering. There was no money to pay a Secretary. Miss Gruner took hold, and in the next twenty years by her strong character and unremitting efforts made the Association a powerful instrument for what were indeed its proper objects. As Hon. Secretary, while supporting herself by teaching, she poured into the Association her own spirit and her own great powers: not until four years later did she accept a modest salary. The first thing was to get posts for members, suited to their qualifications, and (what was far harder in those days) with adequate salaries attached. Often did she reply to an application for a teacher that she could send some names but could send better ones if the salary were raised by £10. Anon she

had to encourage a young teacher to stand out for just terms and for the sake of others to conquer timidity. She would urge upon the teacher who was not dependent on her salary that she, who could afford to wait, ought to "become a very stronghold of defence against inadequate pay".

When in 1900 the Association had become able to afford a small salary for its Secretary, Miss Gruner's home remained the office for a while longer. From 1901 to 1905 she housed a devoted Assistant Secretary, Miss Gaymer, whose help she much esteemed: both did coaching—that was necessary.

After the Education Acts of 1901 and 1902, Chairmen and Secretaries of the new Education Committees sought advice about the staffing of the new Secondary Schools. Miss Gruner set herself to show the cost of equipment for the profession and the cost of living and maintaining efficiency—efficiency in body and mind. The judgment of the discerning Secretary came to be relied on, not only by Heads of Schools, but by Education Councils and Authorities. The work grew mightily; her annual reports showed it ever branching out.

In 1916 Miss Gruner, then seventy, resigned. She had far advanced her cause, and she left the Association with an assured future. The Address, presented to her on behalf of the Association by the President, Miss Alice Woods, included these words:—

"Your insight and foresight concerning public affairs, your inflexible adherence to high ideals, your unwearying courage, your generous expenditure of time and energy on every interest and need of the Society, services which for many years you rendered with no recompense beyond our admiration and gratitude and which always extended far beyond the limits of your official duties, have laid us and the University women of the future under a lasting debt to you . . ."

Beyond the above sketch, it can here only be added that Alice Gruner joined in Mrs. Josephine Butler's campaign, worked for woman suffrage by constitutional methods, did good service during the War and after (especially on the Professional Classes War Relief Council from 1914 onwards), and to the close of her life was helping others.

M. S. KILGOUR.

### Council for the Representation of Women in the League of Nations.

## A CONFERENCE

On certain forms of Slavery—Economic, Marital, and Domestic—affecting Women under British administration throughout the Empire

will be held in the

CAXTON HALL, WESTMINSTER, S.W. 1

on

Wednesday afternoon, 12th February, 1930

4 to 6 p.m.

Chairman:

MRS. OGILVIE GORDON, D.Sc., J.P.

Speakers:

THE DUCHESS OF ATHOLL, D.B.E., M.P.  
MISS ELEANOR RATHBONE, C.C., J.P., M.P.  
MISS NINA BOYLE.

Discussion open to Men and Women. All Interested are Invited.

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### MORALS AND HYGIENE.

The Association for Moral and Social Hygiene is arranging to have the following questions asked in Parliament, and hopes that readers of THE WOMAN'S LEADER will send them to their M.P.s with a request to support these questions and to press for further information.

#### PROPHYLACTIC PACKETS IN THE NAVY AND ARMY.

##### (1) To ask the First Lord of the Admiralty

If his attention has been drawn to the statements in the official Reports on the Health of the Navy which show that pocket anti-venereal outfits, or prophylactic packets for self-disinfection, are provided for the use of all ranks in the Navy and that definite and detailed instructions are given to the personnel as to the technique of self-disinfection at the time of exposure to venereal infection and subsequently in the ablution chamber;

And if it is proposed to continue these practices in the Navy having regard to the youth of many of the personnel, the repugnance of many people to the State provision of such facilities and the fact that the official statistics for the Army show that many men who have used the prophylactic outfit according to instructions have been infected.

##### (2) To ask the Secretary of State for War

If his attention has been called to the statements in the official Reports of the Health of the Army concerning the provision of prophylactic outfits for self-disinfection after exposure and in particular to the statement in the 1925 Health Report on this subject which shows that out of 968 cases of venereal infection 181 men endeavoured to use the prophylactic outfit but used it incorrectly; that 207 men used it correctly but were infected, and that 580 men although carefully instructed did not use the prophylactic.

And if, having regard to the youth of many of the personnel of the Army, the repugnance of many people to the State provision of such prophylactic packets and their doubtful medical value, he will order that such provision be discontinued.

#### RECOGNIZED BROTHELS IN HONG-KONG, ETC.

##### To ask the Secretary of State for the Colonies

(1) If he has any information as to what action, if any, has been taken by the Government of the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States to put into operation the recommendations made in March, 1929, by the Committee appointed by his predecessor to examine and report on certain new Ordinances and Enactments relating to brothel-keeping and the protection of women and girls.

(2) If it is the intention of the Secretary of State to request the Government of Hong-Kong to take action in that Colony on the lines of the recommendations of the two Committees which reported respectively in August, 1925, and March, 1929 (CMD 2501 and CMD 3294) on the subjects of brothel-keeping, procuration, and the protection of women and girls in the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States.

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27 Marsham Street, Westminster, S.W. 1.  
Telephone: Victoria 9542.

### NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

President: Mrs. CORBETT ASHBY.

Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. ALFRED HUGHES. Hon. Secretary: Mrs. RYLAND.

General and Parliamentary Secretary: Mrs. HORTON.

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

#### ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING—5TH-8TH MARCH, 1930.

The Preliminary Agenda for the Annual Council Meeting will be posted to Secretaries of Societies on Monday, 27th January. May we remind them that the latest date on which nominations for Officers of the Union, Members of the Executive Committee, and Vice-Presidents must reach Headquarters is 3rd February, and the latest date for amendments to the Preliminary Agenda and all applications for tickets 11th February.

#### HOSPITALITY.

Many of the delegates to our Annual Council Meeting come from a considerable distance, which entails heavy railway fares, and we are anxious to obtain hospitality for some of these, so that no Society should be prevented from being represented at this important Council Meeting on account of expense. We should be very grateful to receive at Headquarters offers of hospitality from members and friends, and should be glad if those who are able to help in this way would let us know as soon as possible whether they are able to offer bed and breakfast only, or late dinner as well. Such help on the part of those who live in London is very greatly appreciated and quite invaluable.

#### PROXY DELEGATES.

Where it is quite impossible for Societies to send a delegate or their full quota of delegates to the Council Meeting, Headquarters is anxious to arrange for proxy delegates, and would be glad to hear from any members willing to act in this capacity. The Society for which a proxy delegate is required supplies the delegate with tickets and full instructions with regard to voting, etc., and the proxy delegate is asked to send an account of the Council proceedings to the Society represented.

#### ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE CIVIL SERVICE.

The Executive Committee of the N.U.S.E.C. has prepared evidence for submission to the Royal Commission on the questions of equal pay for equal work, family allowances, removal of the marriage bar, and equality with regard to entry and promotion in all Government departments and in the Diplomatic Services. It is hoped that the Commission will ask for this evidence to be presented orally. We would particularly wish to draw the attention of members to the desirability of attending the meetings of the Royal Commission of the Civil Service which are to be held on 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th and 31st January, as on these days evidence will be heard from representatives of the Civil Service Clerical Association and the Association of Women Clerks and Secretaries. The meetings for the hearing of evidence will be held in the Conference Room of the Ministry of Health, Whitehall, at 10.30 a.m. each day.

#### REGISTRATION OF VOTERS.

According to announcements in the Press arrangements are now being made for the compilation of the Register of Voters which will come into force in October this year. We urge everyone who is qualified to make certain that they are included in this Register. The necessary qualifications required by voters are summarized in a pamphlet issued by the N.U.S.E.C. before the last General Election, copies of which may be obtained on application at Headquarters (price 1d. each, 5s. per hundred, or post free, 13d. and 5s. 6d.)

#### SUPPORT OUR SUPPORTERS.

We make a very emphatic appeal to our readers to support the firms and individuals who advertise in our columns. In so doing they will be assisting our financial fortunes as an advertising medium, and to judge from expressions of personal satisfaction which have from time to time reached our ears, they will be doing themselves good service at the same time.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### WOMEN AND THE FREE CHURCHES.

MADAM,—With reference to the letters prompted by my article on "Women and the Free Churches," I would point out that, as there are at least a score of women ministers at work in this country, a brief survey can only mention those who have taken up fresh work or otherwise been "in the news" during the particular year under review.

Moreover, "Free Churches" is an elastic term, and for reasons of space I have confined myself to those denominations which are embraced by the Free Church Council. But I am not unmindful of the work and worth of women whose spiritual service is being rendered in other spheres.

May I add my tribute to Miss Hatty Baker, the honoured pioneer of my own Congregational denomination? I speak under correction, but I think your correspondent of 17th January is mistaken in saying that Miss Baker has received ordination. Official recognition is something that she has helped to make possible for those women who have followed in her steps.

CONSTANCE M. COLTMAN.

Cowley Road Congregational Church, Oxford.

MADAM,—My thanks to Mrs. Popley, who remembers me after full twenty years. Allow me one correction. I have not been ordained in the modern sense. I came into the Church when a public recognition was more usual. I was before the days when women were admitted into the theological colleges and I recall the stir it made when my name was sent up asking for admission. The request was ignored; probably "received with laughter" as the answer it "shall remain on the table" came back. With other ministers unable to enter college, I took the theological course, and like them received a public recognition service. It is astonishing to remember the ostracism meted out to me. The pulpit was held then, if it still is not, as a vested interest. "We will never allow a woman in our pulpits" one minister wrote and I asked him who gave him authority to speak of "our pulpit." Another refused to sanction an invitation to me to attend some conference, not that he "objected to Miss Baker personally, but the presence of a woman on the platform would create a precedent!" One said to me he would as soon see a black man in the pulpit as a woman! A courteous remark to a woman only trying to make the best of any talent God had given her. Some of your readers may remember a Woman's Church being inaugurated at Wallasey near Liverpool, when I was asked to take the opening services, and the bitter manner in which the *Church Times* wrote of it. I still have the number which caused the Anglican Church to lose many of her best women workers.

There were in 1911 three women ministers who may be termed pioneers. Rev. Gertrud Von Petzold, in the Unitarian Church at Birmingham, Miss Smith, in the Congregational at Cardiff, and I in Sussex. We were before Maude Royden, an Anglican, and others well-known to-day. Probably we paved the way for them. It is a moot point now, how far women have advanced in the Church. Anglicans and Wesleyans still turn down women in the pulpit and they are barely admitted on suffrage in other denominations. Men ministers still take "all the plums" in churches and in any ministerial gathering a woman is rarely to be seen on the platform.

Plymouth.

HATTY BAKER.

#### THE PEOPLE'S POET.

MADAM,—It may be a surprise to your correspondent H. B. to learn that Wilhelmina Stitch has given pleasure to thousands of "middle class homes" which contain thousands of kindly thinking men and women into whose lives she has brought fresh hope and encouragement. Is it quite wise therefore for a woman's paper, anxious to further women's interests and presumably proud of any work that a woman has done to help her fellow beings, to allow such an ungenerous and curiously ungracious letter to appear in its columns. Browning and Bridges would hardly form practical or simple food for middle class children, but all can understand Wilhelmina Stitch and in understanding her, they love her.

(Lady) LAURA GALSWORTHY.

27 Maresfield Gardens, N.W. 3.

MADAM,—The "vague ideas" of your correspondent "H. B." published in your current issue are too funny for words. What is really an attack upon the work of the gifted Wilhelmina Stitch will deceive no one. Of a truth it "lays little strain on the intellect" to picture the "large school where the children are taught to proudly strut to their middle class homes repeating the daily lines of Wilhelmina Stitch." It read like a huge joke, but, if as a matter of fact, such teaching does occur, and the children are thus obtaining a sense of the value of faith, courage, sympathy, hope, fearlessness, and the other virtues Wilhelmina sets forth, then surely it is good to remember that "they will be the reading public of the future."

The proprietors of the newspaper assailed may be left to take care of themselves, but surely H. B. does poor service to the aggrieved and obviously envious M. D. S. when she belittles such aids as those afforded by the "Fragrant Minute" to character based on "doing justly, loving mercy and walking humbly."

Wilhelmina, who knows nothing of this letter and who the writer understands has received over ten thousand letters from all parts of the world thanking her for her daily incentives to noble living and high endeavour, will rightly be gratified, if and when she finds herself appraised as "The People's Poet."

"UNCLE FRED."

MADAM,—If "H. B." who writes in your columns this week were to ask any child which poetry it would rather learn—Robert Bridges' "Testament of Beauty," or one of Wilhelmina Stitch's simple verses, it is a certainty that any normal child would vote for Wilhelmina Stitch every time.

Browning and the other great poets may appeal to those who have time to study and appreciate them, but the average middle class man and woman have no time for studying. They want something they can understand easily, something human. With their simple kindly hearts they would rather read something which touches their own lives—something which comforts and helps them in their daily pilgrimage.

That is why Wilhelmina Stitch's beautiful verses conveying their helpful and inspiring messages reign supreme in their hearts.

Long may she reign!

"Newry," Hale, Cheshire.

VERA PARSONS.

## COMING EVENTS.

## B.B.C.

*Mondays.* 10.45-11 a.m. "The Future of Domestic Service." 27th January. Miss Lizzie Winsor: "How a General Servant sees it."

*Tuesdays.* 10.45-11 a.m. "The Countrywoman's Day." 4th February. Dr. Stella Churchill: "How Welfare Centres can help you."

*Wednesdays.* 10.45-11 a.m. "Current Events." 29th January. Mrs. Oliver Strachey.

*Fridays.* 10.45-11 a.m. "The Townswoman's Day" (in the Home). 7th February. Miss J. Williams: "Fruit and its place in Diet."

*Saturdays.* 10.45-11 a.m. "Saving the Countryside." 1st February. Lady Trevelyan: "A Problem for Everyone."

## BRITISH COMMONWEALTH LEAGUE.

*4th February.* 1 p.m. 17 Buckingham Street, Strand. Luncheon. Speaker: Mrs. Zangwill, "Women and Palestine."

## COUNCIL FOR THE REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN IN THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

*12th February.* 4-6 p.m. Caxton Hall, S.W. 1. Conference on certain forms of Slavery affecting Women under British Administration throughout the Empire. Speakers: The Duchess of Atholl, M.P., Miss Eleanor Rathbone, M.P., Miss Nina Boyle. Chair: Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon.

## GUILDHOUSE W.C.S.

*27th January.* 3 p.m. The Guildhouse. Captain MacCunn: "Friendship with Animals." (Children invited.)

## MORLEY COLLEGE FOR WORKING MEN AND WOMEN.

61 Westminster Bridge Road, S.E.  
*24th January.* 8 p.m. A. Rose, C.I.E., F.R.G.S.: "China." Chair: Sir Frederick Black.

*31st January.* 8 p.m. Dr. Stella Churchill: "Public Health."

## NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN (Birmingham Branch).

*29th January.* Kunzler's Café. Supper, 8. Club meeting. Councillor H. Barrow: "The Birmingham Corporation Bill."

## NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

*Acton W.C.A.—24th January.* 8 p.m. Committee Room, Municipal Offices, Winchester Street. Annual General Meeting (for members only).

*Barnsley W.C.A.—29th January.* 5.30 p.m. St. Mary's Parish Room. Mrs. E. M. White: "First Things First."

*Paddington Women's Municipal Party.—27th January.* 8 p.m. 59 Porchester Terrace, W. 2. Mrs. Reincke: "Housing."

*Petersfield S.E.C.—28th January.* 7.30 p.m. Tea Shop. Annual General Meeting.

*Preston W.C.A.—30th January.* 7.30 p.m. Reunion in St. John's Ambulance Hall.

*Rotherham.—30th January.* 2.30 p.m. Davies Tudor Café. Conference. Mrs. Corbett Ashby will speak on "The Influence of the Modern Woman". Convenor: Mrs. Freeth, 31 Broomfield Grove, Rotherham.

## ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE.

*3rd February.* 6 p.m. St. Patrick's Schools, Soho. Miss Pressley-Smith: "Women Pioneers in Labrador." (Lantern lecture.) Chair: Rt. Hon. Lord Morris.

## THE SUFFRAGETTE CLUB.

*6th February.* 6.30 for 7.15 p.m. Mack's Restaurant, 100 Oxford Street. Anniversary Dinner. Hostesses: Miss Nina Boyle, Mrs. Flora Drummond, Mrs. How-Martyn, Mrs. K. Marshall and others. Tickets 3s. 6d. from Ardsett, The Ridgeway, N.W. 7.

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**W**EST HAMPSTEAD.—To let unfurnished, one or two rooms and kitchenette; quiet private house; good locality.—Box 1,579, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Tufton Street, Westminster.

**R**ECOMMENDED by L. M. Thompson: Vegetarian Guest House; ¼ hour by tram from centre of Bath; central heating; large garden; fine views; boating and bathing in River Avon.—Misses Tollemache, Batheaston, Bath.

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**N**EAR VICTORIA, tiny top floor room to let (ladies only), unfurnished, £24 p.a.; furnished, £30; service charge, 3s. weekly; larger room, £34 unfurnished, £42 furnished, service 3s. 6d. weekly. The two rooms £56 unfurnished, £68 furnished, service 5s. 6d.; rents include electric light and use of bathroom; bathrooms every floor; meals very moderate tariff; telephone.—78 Belgrave Road, S.W. 1. (Tel. Victoria 2750).

## PROFESSIONAL.

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## POST VACANT.

**T**O THE ADVENTUROUS. English University Woman, married, British Columbia, wants educated girl (strong) to help with indoor and outdoor work.—Full particulars from Miss Taylor, Settrington, Bakeham Lane, Englefield Green.

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**R**ECOMMENDED by I. B. O'Malley, Evening Secretary with Portable Typewriter, knowledge French, Spanish; low terms. Mrs. R. D. Taylor, 12 Greville Place, N.W. 6.

**A**U PAIR. Russian lady (refugee) studying dentistry would be glad of house-keeping or similar post, with time off for studies. Highly recommended. Her friend (Russian) seeks post in family in order to improve English. Domesticated; fond of children; good languages; excellent references.—Write, Mrs. J. Brants, 32 Russell Square, W.C.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS.

**L**ONDON AND NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 35 Marsham Street, Westminster. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Expert advice on what to do with your girls. Addresses to schools and societies in London and Provinces by arrangement.

**E**DUCATED HOME HELPS BUREAU, 190 Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W. 1, requires and supplies educated women for all domestic work. Holiday engagements. Registration: Employers, 2s. 6d.; workers, 1s. Suiting fee: Employers, 10s. 6d.; workers, 2s. 6d. (Victoria 5940.)

**F**ELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 20th January, 6.30 p.m. Maude Royden.

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