

# The Common Cause

## OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

LAW-ABIDING.]

*Societies and Branches in the Union 561.*

[NON-PARTY

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### Elsie Maud Inglis, M.B., C.M.

Chief Medical Officer, London Units, Scottish Women's Hospitals (National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies).

The days that have gone by since the death of Doctor Inglis have served to make us realise our loss more acutely, and have at the same time gladdened us with the knowledge of how deeply she was beloved and revered by many different kinds of people and in many lands.

We are glad to be able to publish this week a leading article about her work by Mrs. Fawcett, and a few, though only a very few, of the expressions of sorrow that have reached us.

As we go to press, the arrangements are being completed for a Memorial Service

at St. Margaret's, Westminster, on Thursday, December 6th, | but to the suffering people of many lands.



at 12.15. The Bishop of Oxford will give the address, and Dr. Fleming, of St. Columba's, Church of Scotland, will read the lessons.

Father Nicolai Velimirovic will be present. This Service will be a fitting complement to the Burial Service in St. Giles's, Edinburgh, last week, of which we print an account on page 409.

Serbia, to whom Doctor Inglis was a "friend of friends," will be well represented, as well as England and Scotland.

We all think of her as "Our Doctor Inglis," for she was one of those who belong not to their own city or nation only,



DR. ELSIE INGLIS AND SOME OF HER UNIT-AT ZURICH, ON THE WAY HOME AFTER THEIR CAPTURE.

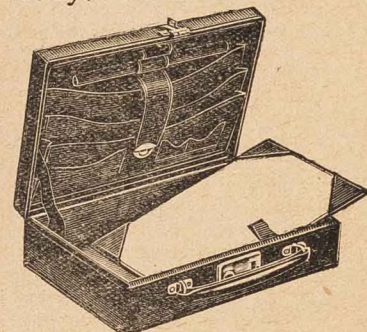


# Bring the Children to "CINDERELLA" Peter Robinson's Grand Xmas Bazaar

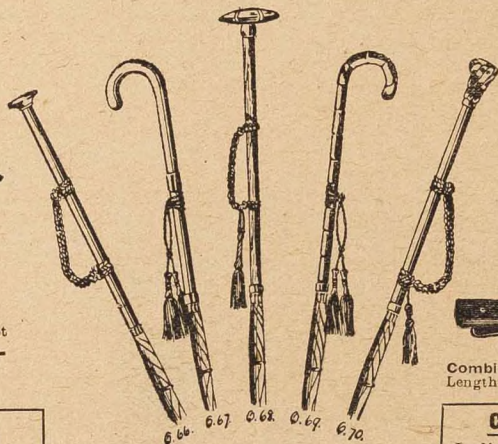


—the one Christmas Treat they must not miss. Cinderella, in her wonderful Coach, will captivate the Little Folks, and the thousands of splendid British Toys will bring joy to the heart of every youngster. In the Gift Goods Sections we have provided unrivalled assortments of Useful Presents

for friends at home and overseas—at prices to suit the spending inclinations of everybody. Here are some examples:—



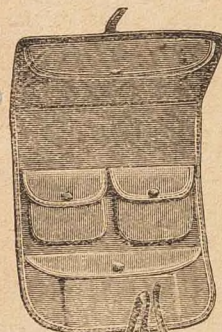
Leather Writing Attaché Cases. In Green, Violet and Blue. 10-in. 17/11 12-in. 21/- 14-in. 25/-



Elegant Evening Bags, with Mirror and Base and Trimmed Lace and Ribbon Work. In dainty Colours 8/11



Combination Knife, Fork and Spoon Length 8 1/2 inches ... 2/11



### Gloves

Ladies' Super Mocha Gloves with elastic wrists. In grey, mole and black 7/11

Ladies' 2 dome Tan prizm Cape Gloves—for durable wear 6/8

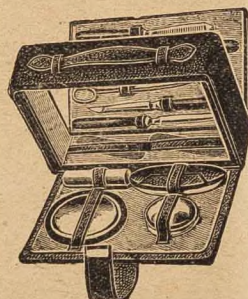
A FEW examples of our very special line of LADIES' UMBRELLAS, with pure Silk Covers on Fox's frames; specially selected handles of malacca, partridge, hazel, and other woods. 14/9 To-day's value, 16/9 to 18/9.

We regret that the continual and rapid advance in the price of wood and all packing materials compels us to charge 1/- extra for packing when Umbrellas are sent by post or rail.

### Gloves

Ladies' 2-button Washable Doekin Gloves. In white, natural and champagne 4/11

Ladies' 3-button best French Chevrete Suede Gloves—Reyner's make. In all fashionable colours. 5/11



Choice Manicure Attaché Cases, in Velvet Case, with Gilt fittings, size 7 ins. by 4 1/2 ins. In Real Morocco, with Ebony fittings ... 30/- 22/6

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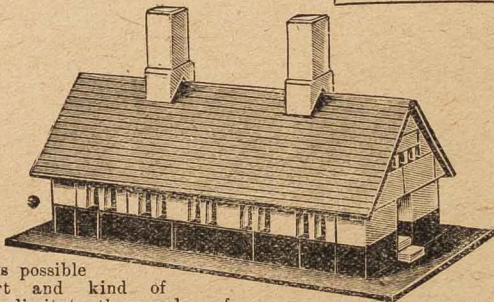


Dainty Voile Handkerchief Sachet, trimmed with Pink or Sky Ribbon 3/6

## Lott's Building Bricks

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Double Cigarette Case in Velvet Case in Velvet Case. To hold 32 8/11

# Peter Robinson L<sup>d</sup> Oxford Street W 1

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## Notes and News.

### Representation of the People Bill.

Last Tuesday, on the motion of Sir George Cave, the Bill was recommitted to the whole House, in order that the amendment to Clause 8, dealing with conscientious objectors, and the proposals for Irish redistribution might be included.

Lord Hugh Cecil tried to obtain a fresh discussion of the whole question of the disfranchisement of conscientious objectors. This was, however, refused by a 231 to 176.

Mr. Redmond then moved that Irish redistribution should be excluded from the recomittal proposal. A lively debate followed, which was still going on when the House adjourned on Tuesday.

### A Simple Measure of Plain Justice.

On November 29th, Mr. Brunner (Northwich), seconded by Mr. Holt (Hexham), boldly proposed to the House of Commons that the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge should only be allowed to have one member each, instead of two, until they grant degrees to women. He pointed out that every other University in the kingdom gives degrees to women, and that in every other constituency in the kingdom they will have votes, and said pressure ought to be brought to bear on Oxford and Cambridge. In his reply, Sir George Cave admitted that he thought such pressure might be efficacious, but did not think it was to the purpose of the Bill, nor would he give any assurance that an amendment in the Lords would give the vote to Oxford and Cambridge women, who, though they had not got degrees, had passed the qualifying examinations. In supporting the amendment, Mr. Sherwell (Huddersfield) said that, as the Oxford and Cambridge vote was an additional one, given in respect of an educational qualification, it seemed extraordinarily unjust that those who had the qualification, but had been refused the outward and visible sign of it because of their sex, should also be deprived of the vote. He hoped that if the Government did not see their way to accept the amendment, they would see that further consideration was given to the whole question in the House of Lords. He thought that the enfranchising of Oxford and Cambridge women would be "a simple measure of plain justice."

He was undoubtedly right, and it is greatly to be hoped that the ancient Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, which have done so much for their daughters, but still disown them, will speedily and of their own free will cast away what is becoming a historic shame. It ought not to need the "pressure" of this House of Commons, nor the severer pressure likely to be applied by a House of Commons partly elected by women, to make them grant degrees, and so do a simple act of plain justice.

### Mr. Walter Long and Women's Suffrage.

In an interview with the Representative of *The Observer* last Saturday, Mr. Long described his conversion to Women's Suffrage.

"Personally," he said, "I have always been in the past opposed to Women's Suffrage, not because I thought women lacked the qualifications of intelligence, but because it seemed to me that the violent controversies of political life might tend to harden womanhood and rob the world of much which it most highly values. But I have been converted by the splendid service which women have rendered to the nation since the war began. I have seen women doing what used to be considered exclusively man's work in dozens of different and difficult lines, and doing it as well and as cheerfully as men ever did it. I do not find that they have been made less womanlike thereby."

### The Endowment of Motherhood in France.

France is not a victim to the falsified patriotism that finds in the war an excuse for neglect of all legislation. It is just now active in the cause of Motherhood. The Academy of Medicine is demanding a Parliamentary grant of premiums for Motherhood. Professor Henri Doizy is to plead for the measure before the Legislature. The proposal is to grant Frenchwomen a daily allowance of from 2s. 6d. to 4s. for four months preceding child-birth and one month after, provided they relinquish all paid industrial, commercial, or agricultural work during that time.

A small maternity allowance is already payable to women habitually in receipt of wages, who can receive during a maximum period of eight weeks an allowance varying in rate according to locality.

## The Insurance of Married Women.

We have received the following communication from Miss Margaret Bondfield, of the Women's Trade Union League and National Federation of Women Workers:—

"I hope the invitation extended by Miss Ruth Young to the readers of *THE COMMON CAUSE* to grapple with the Insurance Bill will be accepted with enthusiasm. The history of State Insurance as regards women is already a story of lost opportunities. It is to be regretted that progressive women have so long neglected a measure which touches the lives of the working women throughout the land.

"The administration of benefits has been entrusted to Approved Societies; the democratic safeguards which were inserted in the Bill of 1911 are so much eye-wash; Section 23 is impracticable, and experience has shown that State Insurance is not susceptible of democratic control except, possibly, in a small group of societies of the 'friendly' type, with a trained and intelligent membership. The tendency is for small societies to be swallowed up in large, and it is the huge society of the 'industrial' type which now predominates. Considerably more than half of the insured population are enrolled in the great industrial insurance concerns whose real business is private life insurance. The State Insurance is with them a side line, useful in so far as they can use it to extend their own business. The agent who brings maternity benefit, if he knows his business, gets the baby insured; the sick benefit affords an opportunity to get arrears paid on his 'private side' book; but care for the national health is remote from these affairs. The society itself is concerned with the huckstering side of insurance, and is responsible to no one. The right of appeal to the Commission is, in most cases, a solemn farce, and disputes rules vary according to the society. They are carefully devised to prevent appeals, and they generally succeed.

"The right of transfer has been virtually taken away to oblige societies, and to do away with what is called the 'transfer evil.' The only consolation here is that, so far as women are concerned—outside the small friendly groups referred to—one society is about as bad as another; but given good women's societies and free transfer, something could have been done.

"It was obviously contemplated that women's insurance would be administered by women for women when the insurance scheme was first discussed—*vide* proposals for the separation of women's from men's funds. Why did not women lay hold, form women's societies, and keep the insurance business out of the hands of men who knew nothing of the conditions of working-women's life, and the incidence of sickness, and who care nothing for the prevention and cure of sickness?

"Treasury grants to augment sickness funds for women would then have been controlled by women for women. We should have been spared the spectacle of a pregnancy sickness grant payable only when a society was disposed to recognise pregnancy as a disability! Why, under the Davidson Judgment, have thousands of women been deprived of maternity benefit which it was surely the intention of the Act to provide?

"The new Bill attempts to remedy the Davidson Judgment interpretation, which is intolerably unjust. It meets the difficulty in a characteristic manner. The situation is viewed entirely from the point of view of convenience to approved societies. For smooth working it is essential that societies should have early notice of marriage. To ensure this, a 'marriage benefit' has been invented. It has not even a remote connection with Maternity or Infant Welfare. It is a bribe to induce women to notify insurance societies within a month of marriage of the change of civil state, and this will cost the community in round figures £400,000 a year. Could administrative ineptitude go further? At a time like this, when money for the alleviation of social conditions is so hard to obtain, £400,000—money that has been paid as contributions towards a scheme for the prevention of sickness—is to be frittered away."

### NO ADVANCE FOR WOMEN MUNITION MAKERS.

Mr. Kellaway, Parliamentary Secretary to the Munitions Ministry, stated in the House of Commons yesterday that it is not intended to extend the 12½ per cent. bonus to women munition workers. Colonel Hall asked whether the women's work was as good in quantity and quality as the men's.

"It is impossible to make a general statement to that effect," replied Mr. Kellaway.

## Women's National Service.

### OFFICERING THE W.A.A.C.

Recruiting for the W.A.A.C. goes steadily forward. Already there are many camps, both at home and abroad, full of busy khaki-clad girls, and others are being got ready as rapidly as possible.

Thousands of recruits are required by the War Office every month, and well-educated women with the necessary qualities and experience are needed as officers. Their duties are varied, and require both judgment and initiative. They are responsible for the discipline of the girls, and also for their comfort and general well-being, and they must be able to fill in Army forms, and to approach the military authorities with a mixture of firmness and tact when there is anything they need for the camp or hostel of which they are in charge.

Though the status of the women who are placed in authority over the W.A.A.C. is that of officer, they are not given military titles, and do not actually hold commissions, though their appointments are gazetted in the ordinary way. The officer in charge of a Unit is called an Administrator, and under her are deputy-administrators and assistant-administrators. The feminine equivalent to a non-commissioned officer is called a "forewoman," and there are quartermistresses in charge of stores, and so on. Each area is under an Area Controller, the head of the whole organisation being the Chief Controller, Mrs. Chalmers Watson, M.D., C.B.E.

Application for appointments must be made to the headquarters of the W.A.A.C., at Devonshire House, Piccadilly, W., and a form has to be filled in giving full particulars and qualifications. If these are satisfactory, an interview is arranged, and every candidate has to pass a medical examination, just as the rank and file do, before being accepted for training. At the present time some fifty administrators are being trained in London alone. They go through a brief course in drilling, filling up Army forms, making out pay-sheets, requisitions for rations, and so on, catering, generally running a hostel. During this time they also attend practical lectures on hygiene and sanitation. After this they go to a camp for a fortnight's further training under an administrator who is in actual charge of a Unit, so that they may get some idea of how to put their knowledge into actual practice. If at the end of this training they have not made good, they are not appointed.

On appointment an administrator receives a £20 grant for uniform, and she is then paid at the rate of from £120 a year, rising to £150 or £175 when she is put in charge of a Unit of her own. Quarters are provided, but about £40 is deducted from pay for food and service. When travelling on duty, she is entitled, like an officer, to free first-class accommodation. Generally speaking, there is one officer to every fifty of the rank and file. There are good opportunities of promotion from the ranks.

One of the administrator's duties is to drill her girls, with the object of making them more readily mobile. It would be a most difficult task to take a large party of girls over to France under war conditions if they were unaccustomed to act together and obey the word of command promptly. Indeed, even with a well-disciplined contingent, situations arise that are by no means easy for an inexperienced young officer to cope with.

A newly appointed administrator taking a draft down to port discovered, when she arrived there, that no boat was sailing till the next morning. So she had a talk with the embarkation officer, and with his advice and assistance found billets for the whole of her unit, and got them well fed and into safe quarters for the night without the slightest hitch. On her return the embarkation officer was looking out for her. He wanted to thank her for the splendid way in which she had handled her girls. When he had first seen them pouring out of the train, he had been in despair, thinking they would be all over the place, and not knowing how he would deal with them.

The W.A.A.C. is proud of its discipline and tone. Its officers make every effort to arouse *esprit de corps*—to make the girls feel that much will be expected of them because of the uniform they wear—and the rank and file have made a fine response. There are few rules, and as little restraint as possible, the girls being put on their honour with regard to behaviour when not under supervision. The administrator has considerable power to enforce discipline, but punishment is very seldom necessary, a mild reproof being generally quite

sufficient to awaken the offender to a sense of her own delinquency.

Indeed, it is not in the rôle of disciplinarian that the good administrator is best known to her girls, as the following little story shows. An administrator returning to her unit after some days' absence was met at the station by one of the rank and file, who had come to carry her bag. "I am glad to see you, Ma'am," was the greeting. The administrator enquired the reason of this joy rather nervously, fearing that something had gone wrong during her absence. "Seems as if mother had been away, Ma'am," explained the girl.

This sums up the duties of the administrator very well. In all sorts of ways she has to mother the girls under her care. Some have never been away from home before; they are quite unused to discipline, and find many things in their new life very hard. The right kind of administrator makes a tremendous difference in the atmosphere of a hostel or camp. Accessible to her girls at all times, she hears their complaints and puts things right, if possible, or she talks to them and helps them to put up with the little difficulties of camp life in a better spirit. She can make things brighter and more comfortable for the Corps in all sorts of ways. Huts can be made pretty and cheerful. Entertainments can be organised, and she can use her discretion about allowing the girls to invite their men friends.

Another way in which an administrator can make things more comfortable is by putting friends together, and by sorting the girls out more or less according to class in allotting sleeping accommodation, yet without appearing to make any distinction. The Corps is, of course, very mixed, and to put rough girls side by side with those from a refined home is to cause both unnecessary discomfort. At work, and throughout the day, they must mix as equals and friends, and usually very good terms prevail; but it makes a great deal of difference to a girl if at the end of a day she can be among those with whom she really feels at home.

But it is not only in handling those of her own sex that an official of the W.A.A.C. must be an adept. A clever administrator gets very skilful in her dealings with commanding officers and quartermasters. She has a persuasive tongue, and a general air of alertness and capability that at the same time avoids being too masculine or aggressive.

Thoroughly businesslike, the Army form is without terrors for her; but she has no intention of modelling herself too closely on the Army officer, correct pattern, and shows distinct individuality in striking out a line of her own.

How well the administrators have succeeded in their task—and how well the rank and file have played their part as well—is shown by the high compliment paid to the Corps by a commanding officer who owned that he had looked forward with dread to the arrival in his district of some hundreds of girls to work side by side with men, but who was so pleased with the result that he is now asking for more to be sent. M. M.

### A WOMEN'S ROYAL NAVAL SERVICE.

The "Waacs" have made their place as an auxiliary to the British Army. Now it is the turn of the naval authorities to call in women's help.

The Admiralty have approved of the employment of women on various duties on shore hitherto performed by naval ratings, and have decided to establish a Women's Royal Naval Service for this purpose. The members of this service will wear a distinctive uniform, and the service will be confined to women employed on definite duties directly connected with the Royal Navy. It is not intended for the present to include those serving in the Admiralty departments, or the Royal Dockyards, or other civil establishments under the Admiralty.

At the request of the Board, Dame Katharine Furse, G.B.E. (until recently Commandant-in-Chief of the V.A.D.), has accepted the position of Director of the Women's Royal Naval Service, and will be responsible, under the Second Sea Lord, for its administration and organisation, including the control of the members when off duty, and the care of their general welfare. Dame Katharine Furse, as our readers will remember, was one of the first women to receive the new Order of the British Empire.

## Some New Occupations for Women.

### VIII.—MECHANICAL WORK AND ENGINEERING.

"Do you mean a mechanic or engineer, and if the latter, which branch of engineering?"

These are questions which should always prefix any answer given to that vague question which women so frequently ask—namely, "How can I become an engineer?" This vagueness and inability to grasp the fact that a profession cannot be learnt in a few months' course is one of the worst aspects of women's entry into new work. The necessities of war have given many a false impression on this point. The way in which women have been obliged to be pushed through a few months' course of training for the various kinds of work they have taken up, has encouraged them in the idea that all occupations can be learnt in the same manner.

For those who wish to take up work connected with engineering, and yet cannot devote many years to training, we will first consider the sub-branches, or, more properly, mechanics' work. The following list is chiefly for repetition work, and can therefore be learnt in the much-desired short courses:—

Acetylene welding.  
Carpentry in aeroplane shops.  
Assembling in engine shops.  
Erecting in aeroplane shops.  
Fitters' bench work.  
Work on milling machines.  
Work on automatic machines.  
Simple turning.  
Various branches of instrument making.  
Armature winding.

Tool-setting is another opening in machine shops which has been successfully undertaken, but this requires longer training and good experience.

Passing on to the opportunities for women as civil or mechanical engineers, I do not consider post-war prospects good. The old motto, "The game is not worth the candle," puts the matter in a nutshell. The training is long and sometimes wearisome. To save space I will not give the details here, as they can be read in any University Syllabus, with the fees for the respective College. Added to this there must be at least three years in good engineering works, with experience in each department.

All women who contemplate this profession must be most extraordinarily keen, and endowed with faculties of persistence and stubbornness to overcome the difficulties that will be put in their way. Equal to the Hidden Hand in Government affairs, so is there the same attempt to undermine women's success in certain professions. As a rule, nothing but kindness and helpfulness will be met with from those high up in the engineering profession. It is the small men clinging to the lower rungs of the ladder, and not sure of their own knowledge, who are always trying to oust women who have any sort of ability. Members of this particular clique are to be found everywhere, and, unfortunately, in large works, often have more power over the advancement of their fellow-workers than those higher in authority. It must also be remembered that men's mediocre work is placed on a level with good work done by women. If this prejudice can be overcome, and the full time of training taken, there should be plenty of scope for women in what we hope will be the peace of the future. In either the civil, mechanical, or electrical branches, women engineers should look for good openings in connection with municipal, sanitary, and household questions; they should, too, be prepared to work in close co-operation with lady architects. As I believe I mentioned in a previous article, there should also be good chances as managers to lady farmers, manageresses of steam and electrical laundries, printing works, &c., with salaries possibly up to £500 per annum.

Regarding the manufacturing side, I entirely disagree with the views expressed in a recent article in a contemporary, that there will be chances of women becoming managers of large works and earning £1,500 a year. Few men have got posts of this description. The exception may be in those works run entirely by women, if such concerns succeed; but from impressions gained by intimate knowledge of, and experience with, engineering firms throughout the whole manufacturing district of England, I do not feel they will be monetarily successful after the war. There are too many big questions of finance and commercialism mixed up with future engineering problems, and it is not likely that women will become big capitalists quickly enough to equalise the men's power.

Surely, therefore, women will be wise to direct their efforts for once in the line of least resistance. This is the advice of

the writer, who, as a pioneer of women in engineering shops of fourteen years, has drawn the above conclusions from her work amidst all sorts and conditions of engineers.

Detailed description of the special work and training for the particular posts mentioned would require a separate article for each one, but information respecting wages and salaries can be obtained from the Women's Service Department, 58, Victoria Street, S.W. C. G.

[Articles in this series appeared on September 14th (Draughtsmanship for Women), September 21st (Dental Mechanics), September 28th (Industrial Chemistry), October 5th (Analytical Chemistry), October 20th (Optical Lens Making), November 2nd (Advertising), November 9th (Work as Opticians).]

### "THE COMMON CAUSE" HUT IN FRANCE.

Our Hut is having a "succès fou"! The canteen is in full swing, and there is a great run on tea and biscuits, chocolate and toffee. We have also just had a "Quiet Room" built on as an annexe for those who wish to read and write in peace. It is furnished with small tables and easy-chairs, with Chinese matting on the floor, while pretty curtains and cushions sent out from home by kind friends, gay pictures, and vases of flowers, make it delightful, and not the least of its charms is an English open fireplace. It has made a profound impression. "When I saw that 'Quiet Room,'" remarked one girl, "do you know what I did? I just went over to my hut and had a good cry. It reminded me so of home." It must not be imagined, however, that homesickness is at all a chronic malady. The girls are far too busy and happy for that, and more than one has observed to me on her return from a fortnight's leave in England, that she was quite glad to be back and at work again.

To-night as I sit and listen to the driving rain and wind outside, I wonder how they got on before we came; and a censor tells me that every single letter from this camp is full of the joys and comfort of the Hut. I wish your readers could see it at this moment. At one end there is dancing, at the other a girl is working a sewing-machine—at least, she adjusts the stuff, while a "naval man," aged about fifteen, holds the other end, and a Tommy turns the handle! The rest are in groups round the stores, or playing games at little tables. In the Quiet Room a French lesson is being given to a large and intelligent class (entirely in French) by one of our workers. The place is crammed, and nearly every girl has brought in a soldier friend, while the dancing is varied by occasional songs and music. Some of the men are ex-professionals, and there is always lots of talent available. Concerts, lectures, and even small plays take place at frequent intervals, and next week we are having a whist drive for a change.

Three of us are living in the Hut, with a French woman to cook and clean for us. It is a cheery life, and we have a very attractive sitting-room and a little bedroom each, just big enough to contain our camp-beds, besides a dressing-table, washstand, and cupboard made out of packing-cases by our handy orderly. A hot bath by the sitting-room stove after the others have gone to bed is a luxury which we take it in turns to enjoy!

May I send our most heartfelt thanks for the delightful presents of curtains, cushions, music, books, &c., which have arrived from England. Some I have been unable to acknowledge, as no name or address was given. We should also be most grateful for magazines and periodicals and for posters, coloured pictures, &c., for the walls of the Hut.

W. H. MOBERLY.

### Our Fund for a Second Hut.

We gratefully acknowledge the following donations towards a second Hut in France:—

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged ...	67	17	10
Miss Rhoda D. Power ...	1	0	0
Weirfield School, Taunton, per Miss Bidder ...	1	0	0
Camberley and District W.S.S., per Miss Skinner ...	6	6	0
Burton W.S.S., per Miss McGregor, Hon. Treas. ...	2	4	0
Wellingborough W.S.S. (proceeds of Whist Drive), per Miss			
Raves, Hon. Treas. ...	14	4	6
Mrs. Muller ...	10	0	0
Miss C. A. Clough ...	5	0	0
From Fisher Grant to Teachers ...	1	0	0
Miss Cleban ...	1	1	0
Proceeds of Concert arranged by Members of Coventry Hut, in aid of Common Cause Huts in France ...	9	4	0
	£118	7	4

Further donations should be sent to The Editor, THE COMMON CAUSE, 14, Great Smith Street, S.W.1.

Extract from the Hague Peace Conference held in 1907, to which Germany was a Signatory Power:—

### "Prisoners of War . . . must be humanely treated."

GERMANY has utterly failed to keep her part of the compact, and the testimony of our men who have been repatriated is that—

"But for the parcels sent from home we would have starved."

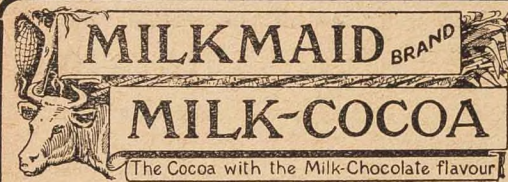
DO not forget our brave men who are Prisoners of War, and who, during the trying months we are now entering into, will more than ever need our help.

Over 50,000 parcels have already been sent out by this Society, but more money is urgently required to meet the growing needs of our men.

Kindly send a donation at once to the  
Rev. HUGH B. CHAPMAN  
7, Savoy Hill, London, W.C. 2



THE ROYAL SAVOY ASSOCIATION for the RELIEF of BRITISH PRISONERS of WAR  
Registered under the War Charities Act  
Authorized by the Central Prisoners of War Committee



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No Milk or Sugar Required.

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### "Subjection and its Results."\*

"Women and the Sovereign State" may come to rank with Mill's "Subjection of Women" as a text-book of liberty. It is written with the same clarity, logic, and wit which have so often held Miss Royden's audiences at Suffrage meetings spellbound, and those who once take it up will find it difficult to lay it down till they have reached the last page. Some, indeed, will be repelled by its thesis, which is that, up till now, women have been an exploited class, and their servile state has been disastrous for the community; some may also resent the author's free speech (or perhaps we should rather say free mind), and the irony with which she treats existing complacencies; but few will deny that she argues her case well, and that she writes without bitterness if not without passion. Her case is, we believe, also our case, and her passion is the passion for justice, in which we all desire to share, so we make no apology for giving a long review to the book.

In the introductory chapter Miss Royden writes of the object of the State. It is formed in obedience to an imperious instinct: "All men, however, desire not only to live, but to live well, and they have sought in their different States to ensure that the difficulties of living together shall be clearly and certainly worth while." But when he has achieved some sort of "good life" for the State, man finds himself faced with another difficulty:—

"It takes the unique lucidity of Greek genius to distinguish here. Aristotle unhesitatingly excludes from his State slaves, women, and men engaged in degrading occupations. Such, he says—and his argument is, from his premises, unimpeachable—cannot be complete and perfect citizens, for they cannot be absolutely good. A slave may be a good slave, a woman a good woman, but they cannot be 'good' in the absolute sense, as a man can. And since the State exists to promote 'the good life,' those who are in any case incapable of it can never be regarded as fully citizens."

"It is nevertheless on a vast mass of such imperfect persons that the State finds itself dependent, and with their aid alone that 'the good life' becomes possible to the citizen. Aristotle only stated with relentless sincerity of his 'polis' what has been the truth about all States even the most democratic hitherto. The State cannot do without its slave-class, though the conscience of those who depend upon it grows increasingly uneasy at the necessity. They throw a veil over the business by describing it as 'specialisation,' 'division of labour,' or 'co-operation,' but the principle remains essentially the same."

Up till now women have not been admitted to full citizenship; and though the State has depended on them for certain important functions, it is goodness in those functions rather than absolute goodness that has been expected from them.

Motherhood is women's most important function with regard to the State. "Broadly speaking, States have generally wanted population and a high birth-rate; and a high birth-rate has seemed to be simply a question of having many babies, and having them as fast as possible." Accordingly, the maternal function of women has been emphasised, but, unfortunately, chiefly in its physical aspect. This is so even in nations over which Christianity has passed (for the Christian ideal is too contrary to the instincts of "the natural man" to be easily understood); it is far worse in the others. "To be totally excluded from all human interests but one is a fate tragic enough for many-sided human nature. . . . This is the lot which has been cast for the women of the East, but it is a fate from which many women of the West have not completely escaped."

The second function for which women have been specialised is a far more tragic one than even the tragic thing into which motherhood has too often been turned. Civilised writers have argued, and civilised statesmen have inferred, that prostitution is "a necessary evil." It has been supposed that men could not live without the prostitute, and that her existence is a protection to the pure woman; yet the prostitute herself is banned. "Prostitution is necessary, and is a sin." The horrible injustice of the exploitation to which a whole class of women have been subjected is only equalled in magnitude by the unreasonableness of the proposition on which it is based. We must cast away this injustice and this unreason, or we cannot hope to achieve good life for the State.

As individuals, the State has only recently begun to recognise women. In the past, they have tacitly or openly been regarded as property, and in this respect we have still a long way to go. Moreover, the whole of life has been arranged on the assumption that man is the normal human being, and that woman, so far as she differs from him, is a mistake.

In the latter part of her book, Miss Royden shows what have been the practical and the moral results of the subjection

\* "Women and the Sovereign State." By A. Maudé Royden. (Headley Bros., 2s.)

of women. She shows that "the assumption of the State that women exist only as a sex has worked badly." Women have been forced to specialise on their maternal function, but an appalling number of the babies born have died, and the labour of their mothers has been in vain. Prostitution has been carefully preserved, and it has proved to be the breeding-place of horrible diseases which have brought misery and destruction into the respectable home. People have believed that women's "honour" was merely a physical thing, and vices of the heart and mind have corrupted the nobility and purity of life. Respectable women have been "sheltered" from reality and taught to prefer ignorance to knowledge, and many of them have so stultified their minds that they have become incapable of caring for truth. And there is not a vice which is fostered in women by the false conditions in which they have been kept that has not in a measure infected men too; for humanity is one, and a part of it cannot suffer or be degraded without injuring all the rest.

Where does the remedy for all this lie? Miss Royden finds it in the acknowledgment of the Absolute Good as the standard for men and women alike.

"The exigencies of war have changed something, at least, of this. Women have been asked for a free service which is more than one of sex—for a human loyalty and co-operation to which they have magnificently responded. Let politicians learn from this that it is not service, but servility that women will endure no longer. Let it be recognised that the State is only sovereign when she aims at 'the good life' for all her citizens. Let it be admitted that even her sovereignty is based upon the absolute right towards which we are still painfully groping our way. Such a State would not have to complain of the disloyalty or disorder of her women, for it would be 'good' with that goodness which shows itself in seeking the benefit of humanity, and not of a sex or a class."

This little book will, we believe, give fresh inspiration to many of those who are striving for the good life of the State.

### PROSPECTS OF A FEDERAL AMENDMENT FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN AMERICA.

Dr. Anna Shaw, the distinguished American Suffrage leader, now Chairman of the Women's Committee of the Council of National Defence at Washington, writes to Mrs. Fawcett expressing her pleasure that Miss Helen Fraser, of the N.U.W.S.S. Executive, will arrive in the States in time for the National Suffrage Convention in December. Dr. Shaw says:—

"What a wonderful victory we had in carrying New York by such an overwhelming majority! We are hoping it will prove an impetus to the British House of Lords to push your Bill. The winning of New York will be the greatest possible help to us in this country, and practically enables us to see the end of things, because that State has four more members of Congress than all the other Suffrage States together, which will give us a tremendous force toward carrying through our national constitutional amendment, and this we are hoping to secure from the present Congress."

"The campaign in New York was a perfectly wonderful one, and the women during the past four years, by thousands and tens of thousands, have devoted themselves, body and soul and purse, to carrying the measure through. It is too great a strain to keep on in this way, State by State, and now that we have such a splendid support in the State of New York, we feel quite confident that the passage of the Federal Amendment for Woman Suffrage is only a question of the exigencies of the war. I should like to have it done right away, so as to release the whole thought and energy of the country for war-work."

She goes on to describe how the Women's Committee of the Council of National Defence was appointed by the President and the members of the Cabinet composing the Council, and the work it is doing to make American women realise the need of co-operative work. She says: "The splendid response of the women is beginning to make men realise their value, and to recognise the wonderful work which women are doing, and always have done, which is so much more important now than it used to be. Altogether, it is bringing our men and women into a better understanding of each other, and is bringing to men a higher respect for the ability and service of women."

"I am sure you are rejoicing with us because of our New York victory, which makes both Mrs. Catt and myself voters, as our legal residence is in that State. I shall vote there, if I live, at the very first election, which will come within the next few months."

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2. To create a stronger civic feeling among women, and to increase their sense of responsibility with regard to the exercise of the Municipal vote.
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**A Hallelujah Chorus.**

Additional details reach us from day to day concerning the work of our dear friend and colleague Dr. Elsie Inglis, of her voyage in November from Archangel, through the Arctic Circle, to the British port for which her ship was making, of her last days and last words to those who surrounded her. One close friend writes: "You will have felt this keen blow to all our affections. She had accomplished much. . . . I hear she was worn to a skeleton. . . . But it was a triumphant, conscious death almost up to the last. As the ship came into the port in that raging storm, someone said a vessel had cut her moorings; she replied, 'Mine are being cut too, but I go to a higher service. One or two things I should have liked to do.' They told her she had done wonderful things. She at once rejoined: 'Not I, but my Unit.'

This was the woman we all knew and loved, thinking last of herself and first and chiefly of others; especially of the good work others could and did do, and of the places and people for whom these services were most needed.

Nearly all the memorial notices of her have recorded the fact that at the beginning of her work in 1914, the War Office refused her official recognition. She could not therefore place her Hospital, staffed entirely by women, under the British Red Cross. The recognition so stupidly refused by her own country was joyfully and gratefully given by the French, and later by the Serbian Army Medical Service and Red Cross. Her first work was the establishment, in December, 1914, of the Scottish Women's Hospital at Royaumont, in France, a Hospital which stands, and has always stood from its beginning, in the very first rank for efficiency. A leading French expert, Chief of the Pasteur Laboratory in Paris, speaking of this Hospital, said he had inspected hundreds of military hospitals, but not one which commanded his admiration so completely as this. Her next great work began in April, 1915, when, by the wonderful system she organised, she coped successfully with the terrible epidemic of typhus which seemed likely to threaten the very extinction of the Serbian Army, if not of the Serbian people. She organised four great Hospital Units, initiated every kind of needful sanitary precaution, looked into every detail regardless of her own safety and comfort, hesitating at no task however loathsome.

The typhus epidemic had at the time of her arrival carried off one-third of the Serbian Army Medical Corps. Her constant word at the Serbian Medical Headquarters Staff was: "Tell me where your need is the greatest, without respect to difficulties, and we will do our best to help Serbia and her brave soldiers." No wonder the Serbians worshipped her, and that already poems and legends are gathering round her honoured name. Twice she may be said to have saved the Serbian nation from despair: the first time it was by her successful stamping-out of the typhus epidemic in 1915; the second time it was in the following year, when Serbia was overrun by the Austrian and German armies. Over and over again she and her colleagues worked all night; they were constantly under fire; her hospital was overcrowded, wounded men were lying in the streets, and the beds and rugs intended for herself and her staff were at once given up to the suffering men. At Kraljevo she refused to leave her Serbian wounded, and was captured with her staff, and endured the discomforts and indignities which fall to the lot of prisoners of war. On being released, she at once strongly urged the War Office to send her and her Unit to Mesopotamia, whence already rumours had reached England of the terrible state of things which was only fully revealed later by the Mesopotamian Commission. She was not only refused, but refused with contumely and insult. So once more she returned to her work for Serbia, and in this she continued as long as breath was in her body. Every honour and every token of gratitude which the Serbian Government and people could render her were hers. Many months before the German armies had overrun Serbia, the people had put up a fountain in her honour at Mladenovatz, and the Court followed suit when, in 1916, the Serbian Crown Prince conferred on her the Order of the White Eagle. She

**Dr. Elsie Inglis.**

C.M.O. LONDON UNITS, SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITALS (N.U.W.S.S.).

BY ONE WHO WAS WITH HER.

It was a great triumphal "going forth." There was no hesitation, no fear. As soon as she knew she was going—that the call had come—with her wonted decision of character, she just readjusted her whole outlook. "For a long time, I meant to live," she said; "but now I know I am going." "It is so nice to think of beginning a new job over there! But I would have liked to have finished one or two jobs here first!"

She told us the story of the breaking of their moorings as they lay in the river in a great storm of wind and of how that breaking had saved them from colliding with another ship.



DR. ELSIE INGLIS AND STAFF IN THE OPERATING THEATRE.

"I asked," she said, "what had happened? Someone said, 'Our moorings broke.' I said, 'No, a Hand cut them!'" Then, after a moment's silence, with an expression in face and voice which it is utterly impossible to convey, she added: "That same Hand is cutting my moorings now, and I am going forth!" The picture rose before you of an unfettered ship going out to the wide sea, and of the great untrammelled, unhindered soul moving majestically onwards.

There was no fear, no death! How could there be? On Thursday, November 29th, in Edinburgh, St. Giles's Cathedral was full to overflowing with a great congregation, gathered to show their love and respect to that heroic spirit. And all the way from the door of the Cathedral to the gate of the Dean Cemetery the streets were packed with people. Old residents of the town say Edinburgh has never seen such a sight before.

All along the route, everywhere in that massed crowd, you saw women crying (women of all ranks). Hundreds of the poor were there, who had known and loved her as doctor and friend long before the war. A volume could be written of what the crowd said as she passed. "Why did they not give her the V.C.?" asked one. One woman who stood amongst them said afterwards, "How they loved her!" "At the grave," said another, "I stood in the midst of sobbing women"; women who had walked on foot all the way from the Cathedral to the grave.

"What a triumphal Home-coming she had!" wrote one friend. And another writes: "How glorious the service was yesterday. I don't know if you intended it, but one impression was uppermost in my mind, which became more distinct after I left, until by evening it stood out clear and strong. The note of Victory. I had a curious impression that her spirit was there, just before it passed on to larger spheres, and that it was glad. I felt I must tell you. I wonder if you felt it too. The note of Victory was bigger than the war. The Soul triumphant passing on. The Reveillé expressed it."

Just as she kept the object of their work always in the minds of her Unit, so one feels that the example of her life has been an object-lesson for the larger Units of women in life. Tragically sudden as her death is, yet it comes when her life's work seems so wonderfully complete. To have just landed her

is the only woman to whom this Order has ever been given. Needless to say, no official recognition of her services was ever given her by her own Government. But all that could be done unofficially by the people who knew and loved her was done.

Private letters, and the accounts in the Scottish papers, tell of the great memorial service held in her honour at St. Giles's Cathedral, Edinburgh, last week. Those who were there speak of it "not as a funeral, but as a triumph." The streets were thronged; all Edinburgh turned out to do her homage as she passed to her last resting-place. The Scottish Command was represented, and besides lending the Union Jack which covered the coffin, volunteered the offer, which was gratefully accepted, of the gun-carriage on which it was borne. Readers of THE COMMON CAUSE will be glad to know that the N.U.W.S.S. was there in the person of many of its leading members. Its Scottish Federation, of which Dr. Inglis had been the Hon. Secretary, was represented by its honoured President, Miss S. E. S. Mair. Lady Frances Balfour took a trophy of palm-branches with the inscription: "From the N.U.W.S.S. in happy memory of Dr. Elsie Inglis, a leader in the Common Cause, and the good physician to many kindreds and tongues in the Cause of the Allied Armies." Mrs. Oliver Strachey, Miss P. Strachey, Mrs. Flinders Petrie, Miss Chrystal Macmillan, Miss Melville, Lady Stormont Darling, and the Hon. Mrs. Haverfield, were among those who represented various sections of Suffrage activity.

In the Cathedral, the note struck in the address from the pulpit given by the Rev. Dr. Wallace Williamson, Dean of the Order of the Thistle was one of thankfulness and triumph. He said: "We are assembled this day with sad but proud and grateful hearts to remember before God a very dear and noble lady, our beloved sister, Elsie Inglis, who has been called to her rest. We mourn only for ourselves, not for her. She has died as she lived, in the clear light of faith and self-forgetfulness, and now her name is linked for ever with the great souls who have led the van of womanly service for God and man. A wondrous union of strength and tenderness, of courage and sweetness, she remains for us a bright and noble memory of high devotion and stainless honour. . . . Especially to-day, in the presence of representatives of the land for which she died, we think of her as an immortal link between Serbia and Scotland, and as a symbol of that high courage which will sustain us, please God, till that stricken land is once again restored, and till the tragedy of war is eradicated and crowded with God's great gifts of peace and of righteousness."

After the Last Post had been sounded by the Royal Scots buglers, the morning greeting of the Reveillé followed, and the organ pealed forth the glorious strains of Handel's Hallelujah Chorus.

MILLICENT GARRETT FAWCETT.



DR. INGLIS AND CHAUFFEURS IN THE DOBRUDJA RETREAT.

POLICIES FOR BUSINESS WOMEN. British Equitable Assn. Co., 1-3, Queen St. Place, E.C.

Unit in safety seems to be one of the outward and visible signs of this."

"You did magnificently!" was said to her within an hour of her going.

With all her wonted assurance, and with a touch of pride, she answered, "My Unit did magnificently!"

### "One whose spirit no reverse could quell."

The privilege of taking part in the triumphant service at St. Giles's, in happy memory of Dr. Elsie Inglis, was given to several members of her Committee on Thursday, November 29th. The Cathedral was filled full of her fellow-townsmen and townswomen, and the representatives of many societies in sympathy with her work were also present.

When we entered the Cathedral, the flag-covered coffin stood before the Communion-table. The chancel was occupied by the nearest of Dr. Inglis's friends—her relatives, her Suffrage colleagues, the officials of the Hospitals which she founded, the Units whom she led, and—not least—the Serbians, representing the nation she served so well. The Serbian Minister and members of Legation, some Serbian boys, many friends of Serbia, also the Chief of the Scottish Command, and many Scottish dignitaries, were here. The service was one of praise rather than of sadness; all gloom was kept away. The hope-inspired prayers and triumphant hymns ended with the Last Post and the Reveille, and as we filed out, after the Benediction, the splendour of the Hallelujah Chorus sounded round the gun-carriage without. The pavements and spare roadsides through the City of Edinburgh, and out into the suburbs, were thronged with people all the way; in some places they were densely packed, and in others there were long continuous lines, several persons deep. Near St. Giles's, there were crowds of friends and former patients of her city and hospital doctoring, met together in grief, and everyone in Edinburgh seemed to have come out to wait on guard in respectful silence. Groups of girls in uniform stood at attention. The citizens lined the way, as if for a royal procession. It was an impressive spectacle.

The Serbians who were present had begged to be allowed to carry the body out of the Cathedral, but as only those familiar with the ground could do so, this request was reluctantly refused. As we drove down to the Dean Cemetery, and one realised their disappointment, I managed to obtain orders to slip out of the carriage, and ask for leave, forward, that the Serbs might render their service on our arrival, then to take this permission back to the Serbian Colonel, and the order forward to the gun-carriage. It was pathetic to see the joy of the Serbians when their request was granted. Scottish Hospital uniforms were many in the graveyard, and we are all proud, in the realisation of what her work has been, to wear our Doctor's tartan.

After the last prayers, we dispersed. It was my privilege to spend the remainder of that memorable day in Edinburgh with those who had last seen her and conversed with her. In some ways, her vigour that day was unimpaired. Her physical and mental grasp remained strong, and affectionate liveliness, and gratitude, and interest in things, marked her hours. Her thoughts were for others, never for herself.

Those who have worked under her will recall the frequency of quiet praise she bestowed, which struck one as a quality distinctive of the Doctoritza. There were many other generousities, subtle, and not easily enumerated.

That last day, it was only as the hours drew on, it is said, that she realised her discharge was being given, and that her present labours were finished. It does not seem given to many, before death, to perceive the new tasks awaiting them, but the Doctor was able to talk confidently of the next work she was about to undertake. With her, the vision was clear, and she several times pronounced it wonderful. We are not told more than this, but the hopes and beliefs of those who can hope and believe seem substantiated in these lively utterances of one who was severely truthful in her nature.

Those who work for the Hospitals she founded, and for the Units she commanded, and all who witnessed her labours, feel inspired by her dauntless example. The character of the Happy Warrior was in some measure her character. We reverence her calm fearlessness and forceful energies, her genius for overcoming obstacles, her common-sense, her largeness of mind and purpose, and we rejoice in the splendour of her achievements.

Mors janua vite.

H. FLINDERS PETRIE,  
Hon. Sec. London Units.

### Some Tributes to Dr. Elsie Inglis.

Many tributes to the work and personality of Dr. Elsie Inglis have been received.

Her Majesty the Queen has sent the following message of sympathy to Mrs. Shaw McLaren, Dr. Inglis's sister:—

"DEAR MADAM,—The Queen desires me to convey to your sister and you an expression of her heartfelt sympathy with you in the great loss you have sustained by the untimely death of Doctor Elsie Inglis.

"Her Majesty fully realises the useful work performed by your late sister in connection with the Scottish Women's Hospitals, while the splendid service rendered by her to Serbia can never be forgotten.

"The Queen feels for you both very much in your sad bereavement.—Yours truly,

"EDWARD WALLINGTON."

The Chief of the Medical Staff of the Southern Slav Volunteer Corps, which served in the Dobrudja, writes to the Serbian Press Bureau:—

"The arrival of Dr. Elsie Inglis in October, 1916, on the Dobrudja front was the signal for a great outburst of enthusiasm among our men, who remembered her grand work in Serbia during the typhus epidemic of the preceding year. Her hospital of 300 beds she brought up immediately behind our firing line. Her organising talent and expert knowledge soon attracted attention, not only on the Dobrudja front, but in South Russia generally, so that the Commander-in-Chief of the Southern Russian Armies, General Zaichovsky, gave orders that 'all gravely wounded soldiers must be brought to the hospital of Dr. E. Inglis, where they will get the very highest skill from her doctors and nurses.'

Dr. Inglis maintained a unique discipline, adds the Serbian Chief of Medical Staff, "during the regular fighting and during the terrible retreat when her hospitals were ceaselessly bombed by the enemy aeroplanes. From the time of her arrival till her departure for England she worked without a day's rest, not shrinking from even the most arduous and loathsome tasks. We shall never forget those days when we saw the Scottish women collecting our wounded from the firing line in their own automobiles at Babadag and Galatz. She devoted herself both to the wounded soldiers and also to the alleviation of the sufferings of the destitute Roumanian and Russian refugees. Her death will be lamented by the Roumanians and Russians among whom she moved. Then, how much more by us Serbians, who, before the Germans took Serbia two years ago, erected a modest fountain at Mladenovatz dedicated to this noble lady? We regarded Dr. Elsie Inglis not only as a guardian angel among our soldiers, but also as a sincere and understanding friend of the great cause of Serbia and her unification with the Croats and Slovenes."

In a letter published in *The Times* of November 27th, Colonel William Hunter, C.B., M.D., F.R.C.P., writes:—

"May I, as one intimately acquainted with Dr. Elsie Inglis's work in Serbia in 1915, and witness of the Scottish Women's Hospital which she organised in Serbia in 1915, both at that time, since, and then with the Serbian Army in Salonika, pay a simple tribute to her work and memory? It was my privilege and happiness to see much of her work in Serbia early in 1915, when I was officer in charge of the corps of R.A.M.C. officers sent out by the War Office to deal with the raging epidemic of typhus and famine fevers then devastating the land. I have never met with anyone who gave me so deep an impression of single-mindedness, gentle-heartedness, clear and purposeful vision, wise judgment, and absolutely fearless disposition. I regard her death as a grievous loss to noble philanthropic effort, and her memory as one to be proud of and treasured by the nation she so nobly represented, as it will for all time be treasured by the Serbian nation, whom she so nobly and successfully served. For no more lovable personality than hers, or more devoted and courageous body of women, ever set out to help effectively a people in dire distress than the Scottish Women's Hospital which she organised and sent out, and afterwards took personal charge of in Serbia, early in 1915. Amidst the most trying conditions she, or they, never faltered in courage or endurance. Under her wise and gentle leadership difficulties seemed only to stir to further endeavour more extended work, greater endurance of hardship—only now terminated in her case by her death.

"No tribute to her memory can be too high for one who so nobly aimed, so courageously suffered, so happily achieved, or who has left so great a record of beneficent work."

The following telegram was received at the Headquarters of the Scottish Women's Hospitals from the Serbian Legation:—

"This Legation, as well as the whole Serbian nation, mourns the loss of their best friend in this war together with Great Britain."

"Telegrams were also received from officers commanding the Serbian Division, also in the name of the Serbian Colony in London, as follows:—

"We deeply regret the death of Dr. Elsie Inglis. She was our friend of friends, sharing her friendship towards Serbian sufferers through sympathy and self-sacrifice. In her the Serbian people saw the noble soul of Scotland. No, she will never die among Serbs. Your daughter has been one of the noblest heroes of our time. Let this be your consolation in your sorrow."

M. Cúrcin writes from the Serbian Legation:—

"It is dreadful news, and I simply cannot believe that our Dr. Inglis is dead. What a great loss it is for Great Britain and for the Scottish Women's Hospitals, but what an immense loss for the Serbs and for our cause. I know, perhaps, better than anybody else what she has done for us, and especially what she was still going to do for us in the future. I am expressing my sympathy to you and your Committee, but I have no consolation for myself or for my country, who lost in Dr. Inglis the best and the most active friend they have had during this war."

Commander Reginald Gregory, R.N., late British Armoured-Car Division, Russian Army, sent the following telegram:—

"Beg to express deepest sympathy with relations and friends of late Doctor Inglis on their bereavement, and with the Scottish Women's Hospital Unit on their great loss, with whom I had the honour of working with in Dobrudja, Roumania, and South Russia."

Messages were also received from Sir Arthur Stanley, Chairman of the British Red Cross; Mr. Balfour; The Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association; and from many friends.

### DONATIONS TO N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

We regret that owing to pressure on our space we are obliged to hold over the weekly list of donations to the Scottish Women's Hospitals.

Subscriptions are still urgently needed, and should be sent to Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treasurer, Red House, Greenock. Cheques should be crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland." Subscriptions for the London Units to be sent to the Right Hon. Viscountess Cowdray, or the Hon. Mrs. B. M. Graves, Hon. Treasurers, 66, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W. 1.

### NEWS FROM INDIA.

Although Mrs. Abbott has been away from India for some time now, interest in the work of the S.W.H. so enthusiastically aroused while she was there, continues, as is evidenced by the communication just through from Rangoon, enclosing a cutting from the *Rangoon Gazette* advertising a Grand Scottish Concert to be held on St. Andrew's night, when part proceeds are to come to the Scottish Women's Hospitals.

### BETTER CONDITIONS FOR THE V.A.D.

Much dissatisfaction with the conditions of this work has been felt among members of the V.A.D. As the result of conferences with the Joint War Committee of the Red Cross Society and Order of St. John and the Women's Joint V.A.D. Department new regulations governing the General Service Section have now been issued. While women for hospitals at home will be appointed only by the matron, who will be responsible for their discipline, when off duty V.A.D. women, so far as their welfare and control are concerned, come under the V.A.D. Department. They must at all times conform to all V.A.D. rules and regulations, which will be made the same as those governing the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps. The service agreement is also to be the same as in the W.A.A.C.

All are entitled to a fortnight's leave with pay each year, over-seas members being granted free transport home and back.

If there are over fifty V.A.D. members the matron will be assisted by a General Service Superintendent.

Two of the thirty-nine members of the new Agricultural Wages Board are women. One, Mrs. L. Wilkins, O.B.E., is one of the seven appointed impartial members. The other, Mrs. M. J. Jenner, is an elected workers' representative.

To the Women of Britain—

# BURN LESS FUEL!

## We are short of all kinds of fuel

—not merely of coal but of oil  
and gas also.

This is a fact which you must  
take to heart.

The Government have asked you  
to economise in coal consumption  
and to use gas rather than coal—  
but they have also asked you to

## be economical in your use of gas

for lighting, heating, water-heating  
and cooking, in your offices and  
your homes.

The supply of gas is temporarily  
limited. It is not possible to enlarge  
gas works to any extent during  
the war, and the output of many  
existing works is restricted by  
shortage of labour and materials;  
while—on account of the increased  
demand for gas for munition works,  
and of the unprecedented growth  
in its use for industrial and domestic  
purposes (caused partly by the loyal  
response to the Government appeal  
to use gas instead of coal)—the  
supply of

## Gas will run short this winter

for War Needs—which must come before  
Private Needs—unless every one  
exercises the strictest economy in  
its use.

The British Commercial Gas Association,  
47, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W. 1.

W72

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when ordering goods.

## Correspondence.

## THE ENDOWMENT OF MOTHERHOOD.

MADAM.—The comments made in recent letters on the expected undesirable influence of the endowment of motherhood on the incidence of the birth-rate among the various classes of the community may best be assumed by a quotation from a recent article on "The Decline of the Birth Rate," by Sidney Webb. Advocating endowment of motherhood, he says: "Such a revolution in the economic incidence of the burden of child-bearing will, of course, be deprecated as calculated to encourage the idle and the thriftless, the drunken and the profligate to increase and multiply. The grave fact that we have to face is that, under our existing social arrangements, it is exactly these people, and practically these only, who at present make full use of their reproductive powers. Such a revolution in the economic incidence of the burden of child-bearing would, indeed, have exactly the opposite result. It would in no way increase the number of children born to those parents whose marriages are at present unregulated. But in the other section of every class of society, where the birth-rate is now regulated from motives of foresight and prudence, it would leave the way open to the play of the best instincts of human-kind. . . . Once set free from the overwhelming economic penalties with which among four-fifths of the population it is at present visited, the rearing of a family may gradually be rendered part of the code of the ordinary citizen's morality." M. G. THODAY.

MADAM.—I have been asked, in reference to my letter on this subject, to explain what and how the mother "is to learn whilst continuing to bear and rear children under the existing stress and strain of economic pressure."

My suggestion is that she should learn what her more well-to-do sisters already know of the hygienic means of preventing conception. That is the knowledge which I consider necessary to responsible parentage. How she is to learn this is a more difficult question to answer. Personally, I consider one of the best ways should be through the advice of her doctor; failing that, some such scheme of consultations for women as were at one time under royal patronage in Holland would meet the case. Under present circumstances, haphazard methods of instruction seem the only alternative.

The above statement, I think, sufficiently answers the further question, whether I consider it undesirable to give these mothers the chance of creating a proper environment. I think a very large number start married life under not unsuitable conditions, but that every baby after, say, the third or fourth, puts an impossible strain on the accommodation, food, clothing, and personal care available, as well as on the patience and health of the mother. JANET CHANCE.

## A NATIONAL UNIFORM.

MADAM.—May I venture to suggest in answer to the many complaints of women's extravagance in dress that the Government should issue an appeal for—or better still make compulsory during the war (and afterwards)—a national uniform, i.e., regulation dress for day and also one for evening wear?

This drastic change would entail some wasted outlay in the beginning but the State would, doubtless, in view of its ultimate gain, be disposed to grant some compensation to persons and firms who might suffer under the new regulation—and also some small advance to necessitous women towards the purchasing of their "national uniform." This Order would, with one fell swoop cut at the very root of the selfish indulgence of vain and thoughtless women, and would, moreover, protect those who are anxious, in spite of their love of beautiful and artistic clothes, to make a stand against what they know to be wrong, but who find it morally difficult, not to say socially an impediment (even in this time of national peril) to be less well-dressed than their "smart" friends and relations.

The reform would incidentally also help other and wider social problems of sex and morality by preventing women from flaunting their femininity, and though it would undoubtedly be a sacrifice to many to give up the varied alluring aids to physical charm and attractiveness, the consciousness of right doing would in most cases compensate for the sacrifice.

I should like finally to suggest as a practical means to enforce this "Utopian" condition as regards dress that all who agree with the scheme should send their names and addresses to THE COMMON CAUSE with a view to forming some league which might send a petition to the Government for such a mandate. "PRO PATRIA."

## CORY BROS. (Surgical Instrument Makers) LIMITED.

Surgical Dressings and Instruments.

British Made Hot-Water Bottles

Best Quality Rubber.

Size	Price	Covers
10 x 6	3/6	10d.
12 x 6	4/-	1/-
12 x 8	4/9	1/2

Water Beds, Air Cushions and Invalid Appliances on Hire, and sold on the Hire Purchase System.

54 & 56, MORTIMER STREET, LONDON, W. 1.

(Eight Doors from Gt. Portland Street.)

Telephone: Museum 1152-3.

Estd. 1909.

Telegrams: "Corybrosim," London.

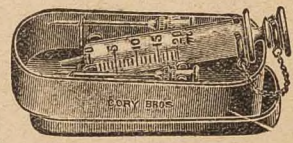


Fig. 1253—Special Hypodermic Syringe with Safety Chain, in N.P. Case, 2 needles. Complete All-glass or All-metal, 4/6 each.

Manufacturers of Hospital and Invalid Furniture, Trusses, Belts, Elastic Stockings, &c.

MATERNITY OUTFITS.

## Some Books about the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals.

WOMEN OF THE WAR. By the Hon. Mrs. Francis MacLaren. (Hodder & Stoughton. 3s. 6d.)

The object of this little volume is, by writing of the experiences of particular workers, to present a more vivid story of women's work in different spheres, than a merely general description could convey. It can be specially recommended as a suitable Christmas present for girls, who will be glad to have a record in such an interesting form of the many achievements of women during the war.

A chapter is devoted to Dr. Elsie Inglis, describing her work with the Scottish Women's Hospitals in Serbia and Roumania. At the time when it was written Dr. Inglis was still working at Rem. The author writes of her: "Dr. Elsie Inglis has that magnetic personality which can command efficiency, even with inadequate equipment and in hopeless environment. The inspiring work of this great woman doctor makes her indeed a worthy leader for those wonderful Scottish women who are putting their whole soul into the work they have undertaken, without any thought of recompense, without vainglory, and without any other motive than the desire to help and heal."

AT THE SERBIAN FRONT IN MACEDONIA. By E. P. Stebbing. (John Lane, 6s. net.)

Mr. Stebbing's account of his experiences as transport officer to the American Unit of the Scottish Women's Hospital in Macedonia is interesting reading even to those who have followed the adventures of the Hospitals closely, being written from a rather different point of view from the reports of the Units' work that have appeared from time to time in THE COMMON CAUSE. Throughout the book there are many tributes to the efficiency and zeal of the Unit—doctors, nurses, and orderlies alike—but what seems to have struck their transport officer most was the splendid way in which these sixty or more women pulled together—"the really extraordinary manner in which they fitted in together." "I would not," he writes, "wish to be understood to belittle the selection powers of Dr. Russell, mainly concerned with this business at Edinburgh headquarters, but sixty to seventy is a large unit. In this case, when a special post had to be filled—operating-theatre orderly, for instance—a member was found to fill the billet, and do well in it—it need scarcely be said that for this post a person with a certain temperament, plus nerve, would be required. Well, they found her all right, and yet she saw her first operation in the Ostrovo Camp operating-theatre. And so it was in other cases. I have seen a far smaller party of men go to pieces when a stress came. The Scottish women did not crack, and each pulled her weight."

The only criticism Mr. Stebbing has to make is that members of the Unit, when engaged in interesting work, or working under high pressure, were apt to go without a meal, or several meals, rather than knock-off to take them, and he attributes to this a certain amount of sickness among members that might not have occurred if zeal had not outrun discretion.

SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL WORK IN SERBIA. Diary of M. H. Munro-Kerr. (Alex. Macdougall, Glasgow, 6d.)

Miss Munro-Kerr was cook to Dr. Alice Hutchison's Unit, at Valiero, and it is from the domestic rather than the medical point of view that her description of the camp is given. The Unit, as our readers will remember, fell into the hands of the Austrians during the Serbian retreat, and suffered many hardships. These are related by Miss Kerr with much humour, Dr. Hutchison's party maintaining a wonderful power of seeing the funny side of things, and keeping up their spirits by means of charades, and other entertainments got up with the greatest ingenuity in their very narrow quarters.

Miss Kerr tells an amusing story of how the Unit saved their blankets, before they were actually taken prisoners. "We knew the Austrians were short of them, and would probably seize ours. So one morning ten of us went to the pavilion where our equipment was stored. Hiding behind a packing-case, each one in turn pulled out a blanket from the bale, wound it round her body under her coat, and walked back to the villa, dropped it there, and returned for another. The blankets were saved under the nose of the Austrians, the C.M.O. being interviewed by an officer before she had discarded her padding."

The way in which the Scottish women insisted on going for walks—to the consternation of their elderly guard, who complained that they "flew like geese over the mud"—and the way they insisted on washing, created quite a sensation in the town. "Buckets and water-jugs were refused us; fortunately, we had four among us brought from the camp, and these and three water-jugs were divided among the Unit. The guard accompanied us to the well, twenty feet deep, where we drew water for washing, and washing was the event of the day; it started every afternoon about 5 o'clock, and by bedtime the sixteenth inmate of 'Cell I' was clean. The arras (a rug) was hung across a corner of the room, and, one by one, we disappeared behind, each one heating some water in two tiny pots on the stove, and stoking for the next comer. Our clothes were washed in an equally sketchy manner."

Airing bed-clothes was even more difficult. "One day," says Miss Kerr, "I thought I would air my bed, so I dragged it out into the mead (back yard) to a sunny spot. My back was no sooner turned than the pig made a bee-line for it. I never aired my straw again."

The story of the Units' journey to Zurich, after some weeks of confinement, and so home, has already been told in THE COMMON CAUSE.

## INTERESTING TO PHILATELISTS.

A very interesting donation of Chinese stamps has been received by Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treasurer, S.W.H. They are the gift of a gentleman resident in China, who during a long convalescence has been collecting stamps, and selling them for the benefit of various War Charities.

Any of the readers of THE COMMON CAUSE interested in stamps, and who would like to help the S.W.H. by purchasing some of these stamps, might communicate with Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treasurer, S.W.H., Red House, Greenock, who will be pleased to forward a sample packet on a deposit of 5s. being sent.

## A National Duty to British Womanhood.

TENS of thousands of British girls and women are now enlisting for Auxiliary Army Service in France and at Home. They are volunteering, many at great personal sacrifice, to help the country in a critical hour. They are leaving home, friends, all that they hold near and dear, all that means so much to a woman. Dauntless and high-spirited, they are ready to face hardship and danger for their country's sake.

There is no need for sentimental charity in dealing with the problems affecting women. But we have got to face the fact that if we are to win the war we must see to it that these women are properly looked after. The efficiency of the Army now largely depends upon the efficiency of the women soldiers, and the lives of our men in the trenches depend on the women in the Munition shops.

# £100,000 wanted immediately.

The Government and employers are straining every nerve to overcome difficulties, but they have not sufficient time to remedy the conditions of the recreation hours. All that they have the time to insist upon is that the work shall be done, and the authorities—both Army and Munitions—have, by calling in the help of the Y.W.C.A., shown their appreciation of the emergency and of the one organisation capable of meeting it.

## Will you help the work of the Y.W.C.A.?

The Y.W.C.A. have been asked (in co-operation with the Y.M.C.A.) to do for the W.A.A.C. in France what the Red Triangle has done for the men. This means huts, centres, canteens, recreation for thousands of girl soldiers who will look to the Y.W.C.A. for everything beyond their bare sustenance. Will you help in this great National duty? We are appealing for the urgent need of those

battalions of girls, who, all over the Empire, are giving their all to help the men in the trenches. They cannot do more. Those at home cannot do less. We owe it to those whose lives are in peril. We owe it to the generations to come to see that the women warriors are not laid open to worse privations, worse risks, worse conditions, than are absolutely unavoidable. Please send your cheque to-day.

## What is needed.

25 Huts in France. Cost of each Hut £1,000.  
100 Huts in England. Cost of each Hut £700.  
10 Huts in Munition Areas. 25 Hostels.  
12 Clubs in London alone, and many more in other places.  
Please send a cheque for a complete Hut if possible.  
Smaller gifts will also be welcomed.  
Subscriptions or Donations should be sent to the Editor of "The Common Cause," 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W. 1.

## Y.W.C.A. Subscription Form.

Date

To the Editor of "The Common Cause," 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W. 1.

I enclose £ as my subscription to "THE COMMON CAUSE HUT, No. 3."

Name

Address

SUPPORT OUR APPEALS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when sending donations.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when ordering goods.

Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. President: Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D. Hon. Secretaries: Miss Violet Estace, Mrs. Oliver Strachey, Miss Evelyn Atkinson.

The 1917 Franchise Fund.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Lists donors such as Miss Annie Coppeck, Mrs. Curwen, Mrs. T. Dick, etc., with their respective contributions.

IN MEMORIAM.

By the death of Mrs. Belsey, at the age of eighty-three, the Accrington Suffrage Society has sustained a great loss. She was the President, and it was at her home the local Society had its origin.

had its origin. She promoted the first petition in Accrington in support of the Married Women's Property Act. Her sympathies with the Women's movement were fostered by an early association with Lydia Becker.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

A SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING of the London Society was held on November 21st, at 3 p.m., at Denison House (Miss Rosamond Smith in the Chair) to consider proposals regarding the future of the N.U.W.S.S.

(a) That the "equal" opportunity campaign would preserve the essential unity of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies; (b) That the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies alone was qualified by constitution effectively to preserve this purpose.

After these speeches one or more representatives from each Branch were called upon to express the opinion of their Branch upon the resolutions, and from their statements it appeared that they commanded a very large measure of support.

Mrs. Spencer Graves and Miss Ward referred to the special appeal now before the friends of the Society to raise immediately £500, as an anonymous donor has offered £100 on condition that £500 can be raised in four weeks from the date of her offer.

The three resolutions were then carried by an overwhelming majority, and will come up for further consideration at the Annual Meeting at Caxton Hall, on December 14th.

Forthcoming Meetings (N.U.W.S.S.)

DECEMBER 7. North Kensington—Members' Meeting at 34, Ladbrooke Square, W. (by kind permission of Mrs. Stephens Talents)—Chair: Mrs. Squire Sprigge.

DECEMBER 8. Barnes, Mortlake, and East Sheen—At the Day Nursery, High Street, Mortlake—Speakers: Mrs. Bertram, on "Women's Service"; Miss Robinson on "Scottish Women's Hospitals".

DECEMBER 9. Birmingham—Erdington Labour Church—Mrs. Ring. 6.30 p.m.

DECEMBER 10. Birmingham—Prory Rooms—Mrs. Ring. 7.30 p.m. St. Mole's Mission—Mrs. Attlee. 3 p.m.

Tunbridge Wells—Public Meeting, Town Hall—Speaker: Mrs. Barton—Subject: "The Women's Vote. Our New Opportunities."—Chair: Madame Sarah Grand. 3 p.m.

DECEMBER 12. Balham—Annual Meeting at the Gymnasium, 38, Balham High Road—Chair: Mrs. Barnard; Speaker: Miss Rosamond Smith; Subject: "Women in Industry" and "The Future of the N.U.W.S.S." 5 p.m.

Bristol—Working Party, at 40, Park Street 3-5 p.m. Harrow—Branch Drawing Room Meeting at Ellerslie, The Avenue, Hatch End (by kind permission of Mrs. Warren)—Speaker: Mrs. H. A. L. Fisher; Subject: "The Education Bill" and "Women's Suffrage." 5.30 p.m.

Waterloo—Wesleyan Chapel, Waterloo Road, S.E.—Speaker: Miss Helen Ward; Subject: "How Women can use the Vote to help the Nation." 5 p.m.

DECEMBER 14. Annual Meeting, London Society for Women's Suffrage—At the Caxton Hall, Westminster, S.W. 4.30 p.m.

Executive Committee "At Home" to Members to meet Lady Frances Balfour and Mrs. Fawcett. 5.30 p.m.

Sale of lavender bags and other useful things. Mrs. Spencer Graves at Home, at 20, Craven Terrace, Lancaster Gate, W., on Saturday, December 8th, 2-7. Tea 1s.

What Some of our Societies are Doing. The WELLINGBOROUGH Branch of the N.U. has elected Miss Mary L. Pendered (formerly President, Herne Bay S.W.S.) as President in place of Mrs. Hollis, resigned but still on Committee.

Mrs. England Smith has accepted the post of Hon. Secretary in place of Miss L. James, resigned, other officers were re-elected. The Society has been very active this summer in helping to form a Maternity Centre in the town (which is now in full swing) and it is now organising a series of whist drives for THE COMMON CAUSE HUTS.

The first was given on November 23rd, and a large number of tickets were sold. Nearly ninety persons were present. Prizes were given by members of the Committee and friends. The sum of £14 has been sent to the N.U. for the Y.W.C.A. huts. Miss Pendered gave a short address during the evening, pointing to the work done by the N.U. during the war, with special reference to the Scottish Women's Hospitals, and COMMON CAUSE HUTS. At the last meeting of the Society £1 was voted to the Franchise Fund. Several new members have joined.

Coming Events.

The Serbian Relief Fund and the Serbian Red Cross beg to announce an Exhibition of Serbo-Croatian Art, to be opened at the Grafton Galleries, on Saturday, December 1st. Important new works by Ivan Mestrovic and other well-known Serbian artists will be exhibited. Concerts of Slavonic music, and lectures on Serbian history, art, and literature will be given. Official photographs of the Great Retreat, peasant embroideries, hand-woven materials, and carpets will add to the interest of the exhibition. A feature will also be made of a Serbian coffee and tea room.

Items of Interest.

Mr. Hoover has enlisted an army of 2,000,000 women to help in his "Food will win the War" campaign, and in one week in October a house-to-house canvass was made, in which a total of 22,000,000 houses was visited. Sir Arthur Yapp might follow his example with advantage. A campaign is needed, not only against waste of food, but against extravagance of every sort—in clothing, smoking, service, and all sorts of things on which we could quite well cut down our expenditure.

We understand that the Board of Agriculture has a scheme for training forewomen to supervise tree planting operations and to organise gangs of women workers for landowners who wish to plant young trees. Some 10,000,000 forest trees now in nursery gardens must be planted out in the coming season if they are to be of any use. Enquiries should be made to the Secretary, Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, 4, Whitehall-place, S.W. 1.

THE WOMEN WRITERS' SUFFRAGE LEAGUE, President: Miss Elizabeth Robins; Chairman of Committee: Miss Peggy Webling, have moved to 42, West Cromwell Road, S.W. 5, and urgently ask all members to communicate at once with the Hon. Secretary at above address.

To tired workers and those with little time, Cadbury's Cocoa and Milk Powder Sweetened is a boon. It requires boiling water only, and a warm and stimulating beverage is instantly made. It is also economical, which in these times is a great advantage. Bournville cocoa is the favourite cocoa of many and the Food Controller urges the substitution of cocoa instead of tea.

URGENTLY WANTED.

Will any Reader kindly lend a Typewriter for a few months to an active Women's Union? Greatest care taken. The Society of Women Welders, 66, Victoria Street, S.W.

Advertisement for WICKS' V.A.D. and WAR WORKERS' CORSETS. Includes an illustration of a woman in a corset and text describing the product's benefits for hospital work, nursing, riding, etc.

ALL BRITISH. VALKASA THE TONIC NERVE FOOD.

An Invigorating Nutrient for BRAIN, F.A.G., DEPRESSION, LASSITUDE.

is, 3s., and 5s. 6d. of all Chemists. James Woolley, Sons & Co., Ltd. MANCHESTER.

DELICIOUS FRENCH COFFEE.

RED WHITE & BLUE

For Breakfast & after Dinner. In making, use LESS QUANTITY, it being so much stronger than ORDINARY COFFEE.

DISPLAYED ADVERTISEMENT RATES.

Table showing advertisement rates for one insertion and 13 or more insertions. Columns include Whole Page, Half Page, Quarter Page, Per Inch (wide col.), and Per Column (narrow col.) with rates in £ s. d.

PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS.

Table showing prepaid advertisement rates for different word counts (20, 30, 40 words) and frequencies (ONCE, THREE TIMES, SIX TIMES) with rates in £ s. d.

All advertisements should be addressed to The Manager, The Common Cause Publishing Co., Ltd., 14, Great Smith-st., Westminster, and must be received not later than first post Wednesday.

EDUCATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Advertisement for BEDFORD COLLEGE FOR WOMEN (UNIVERSITY OF LONDON) REGENT'S PARK, N.W. 1. Principal: Miss M. J. TUKE, M.A. FOR RESIDENT and DAY STUDENTS. DEGREE COURSES IN ARTS and SCIENCE. SECONDARY TRAINING DEPARTMENT. SCIENTIFIC INSTRUCTION IN HYGIENE. TRAINING IN SOCIAL WORK.

MARLBOROUGH SCHOOL OF MOTHERCRAFT.

Residential Training in Mothercraft with Resident Babies. New Term commences January 17th, 1918. Important developments taking place early in the New Year. For further particulars, apply Director, 29/31, Trebovir Road, S.W. 5.

(Continued on page 436)

FRIENDS OF ARMENIA

Office and Embroidery Dept.: 47, VICTORIA STREET, WESTMINSTER, LONDON, S.W. 1. Hours, 10-5; Saturdays, 10-1. Tel.: Vic. 1198.

President: LADY FREDERICK CAVENDISH. Chairman and Hon. Treasurer: E. W. BROOKS, Esq. Hon. Sec.: Mrs. MARY HICKSON. Office Sec.: Miss B. HICKSON.



"Homeless Refugees"

The Friends of Armenia plead for help to continue the work of housing, feeding, clothing and educating the orphan refugee children of Armenia.

Mr. Gracey, of the Armenian and Syrian Relief Committee, working among the refugees in the Caucasus, writes:

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Continued from page 435]

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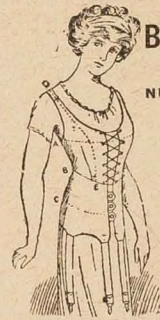
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