

THE  
**WOMAN'S LEADER**

IN POLITICS                      IN INDUSTRY                      IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
IN THE HOME                      IN LITERATURE AND ART                      IN THE PROFESSIONS

AND

**THE COMMON CAUSE**

THE COMMON CAUSE PUBLISHING CO. LTD., 62 OXFORD STREET, LONDON, W. 1.

VOL. XIV. No. 12.

FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 1922.

PRICE 3D.  
Registered as a Newspaper.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION AT HOME AND ABROAD, 17s. 4d. POST FREE.

Contents :

	PAGE		PAGE
MINE AND THINE . . . . .	91	THE FIGHT AGAINST DISEASE IN EASTERN EUROPE . . . . .	93
NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER . . . . .	91	WOMEN'S INSTITUTES . . . . .	94
THE WORK OF THE TELEPHONIST . . . . .	92	CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS . . . . .	95

**NOTES AND NEWS**

**The Women's Victory in Germany.**

News has reached us from Berlin that the Government has accepted the Reichstag's proposal that women should be allowed to become Judges, Prosecuting Attorneys, and Clerks of the Court, and that they should be liable to serve on juries. This is a great victory, and we congratulate German women on the result of their very strenuous work in this direction. Another Bill which is still before a Committee proposes that a woman shall be attached to every German Embassy to protect the interests of women travelling abroad. It is an excellent suggestion, and we hope the Bill will become law. The emancipation of German women has proceeded extraordinarily rapidly since the war, and, on the whole, there has not been much opposition to the emergence of women into public life.

**Child Marriages.**

In the House last week Sir Robert Clough asked the Home Secretary whether his attention had been called to the death of a fourteen-year-old girl in Wales who was married at twelve, and whether if such a marriage is legal he could see his way to amend the law. Mr. Shortt said: "I have seen a newspaper report of the case referred to. According to the law of England 12 is the age at which a girl becomes capable of marriage, and I think there would be general agreement that the age is much too low, and ought to be raised. The question will be considered in the event of any revision of the law of marriage; but I do not think I can undertake to introduce special legislation for the purpose of dealing with this point alone." It is to be hoped that public opinion will press hard for the revision of the law of marriage.

**Bill of Health Marriages.**

A Bill has been promoted in New Jersey which, if it becomes law, will force all persons living there to produce medical

certificates of good health before they can procure a marriage licence. The object of the measure is to check the spread of disease, which has gained rapidly in New Jersey of recent years. The chances of the Bill are said to be good, and it has the support of several women's organizations in the State.

**Married Women's Debts.**

In consequence of the decision recently given in the Cathcart case, the Drapers' Chamber of Trade has had prepared a Married Women's Property (Amendment) Bill, which, if passed, will enable a trader having business transactions with a married woman to know with whom he is contracting, and to secure that a married woman making a contract on which her husband is, in fact, liable, without stating that she is pledging her husband's credit, shall be subject to the rule of the common law under which an agent making a contract for an undisclosed principal may, at the option of the other party, be held liable on the contract. Unless a wife, without means or with inadequate means of her own, is given by law a right to a certain proportion of her husband's income it is ridiculous to talk of responsibility for debts or damages of any kind. The economic dependence of married women is at the root of this as of so many other matrimonial troubles.

**Men and Women.**

The Council of Somerville College, Oxford, has created a new post, that of full-time Secretary and Treasurer. It has been decided to concentrate in one office the work hitherto undertaken by an honorary secretary and an honorary treasurer, together with some financial work hitherto dealt with by the Principal or the Bursar. The duties to be undertaken are of great importance, and we congratulate the Council of Somerville on their decision to throw the post open to men and women. We only wish public bodies would follow our advice more frequently!

### Summer Schools.

Already the particulars of three series of summer schools have reached us. The League of Nations Union has undertaken an ambitious programme of summer schools and continental tours. The first is a tour of Germany, Czecho-Slovakia, Belgium, and Holland, timed to be in Prague during the Conference of League of Nations Societies, and at the Hague for the ceremonial opening of the Permanent Court of International Justice. It is provisionally arranged that those who form this party will leave Harwich on 31st May, and will return to England on 16th June. The summer school at Verona will take place during the first week of June, and there will be excursions to Venice and Padua. A varied and interesting syllabus has been arranged for the Oxford Summer School, which will be held at Balliol in the last week of July. Viscount Grey, Viscount Burnham, Professor Gilbert Murray, Dr. Maxwell Garnett, Mr. G. Delisle Burns, Mr. W. Layton, and Mr. Ormsby Gore are among the speakers. The annual summer school at Geneva, in co-operation with the International Labour Office and the Trade Union Movement, will be held early in August. The organization of these schools is quite democratic, and it is aimed to give as many people as possible the opportunity of examining conditions on the Continent and of hearing addresses by the ablest exponents of international affairs. The charges are the lowest obtainable, and no profit is made. Another summer school of great interest is a summer school for working women at Newnham College from Saturday, 29th July, to Saturday, 12th August, 1922. It is hoped to arrange accommodation for 25 students. Courses of study will be conducted by members of the College in English Literature, History, and Social Questions, adapted to the requirements of students. It may be possible to arrange courses in other subjects if desired. The only charge made will be for board and residence in College, £2 2s. per week. A small fund has been subscribed from which bursaries will be available for those students who are unable to provide the full cost of the course. Applications should reach Miss Chrystal, Newnham College, Cambridge, not later than 15th May. The Proportional Representation Society is another organization holding a summer school, this year at Wadham College, Oxford, from 27th July to 3rd August. The cost will be 10s. a day, and the school will enable people to obtain a complete knowledge of the different methods of election, of the various problems associated with them, and their influence upon the working of government. Practical instruction will be given in the counting of votes according to the different types of regulations adopted in English-speaking countries.

### A Maternity Ward.

Two years ago the Ministry of Health allowed Barking to use the upper ward of the Infectious Disease Hospital for a Maternity Home, and paid half the cost of providing additional accommodation for infectious illness. The scheme worked well, and no bad results have arisen from the close proximity to the infectious disease wards. Nearly 400 maternity cases have been dealt with, and over 200 women came from wretchedly poor homes. Barking now wants more accommodation both for its maternity cases and for its infectious disease cases, but the Ministry of Health replies that the maternity home must be closed if more room is wanted for the other diseases. Anyone who knows the district will realize that the conditions in the overcrowded one-room tenements are impossibly bad, and no one will wonder if deaths among mothers at childbirth increase. This is wicked economy.

### Barking's Special School.

Another fight which Barking is waging is with the Board of Education. A special school is needed for the mentally and physically deficient children of the neighbourhood, who need special care and attention. Consent to borrow money to build the school was given, and Barking is paying interest on the full amount of £26,000, but the Board of Education has only allowed one-half of the school to be opened. There are 200 children on the waiting list who could be taken in. Questions in the House receive unsatisfactory replies, and meanwhile the children are neglected. This so-called economy which brings in its wake pain and suffering is cruel and unnecessary, and we hope Councillor Mrs. Clarke, who is chairman of the Education Committee, will win her hard struggle to put these things right.

### Switzerland and the International Labour Office.

The International Labour Office announces that the Swiss Federal Assembly has decided that Switzerland shall adhere to four of the Conventions adopted by the First International Labour Conference held at Washington in 1919. These Conventions provide for: (1) The prohibition of the employment of children under 14 in industry; (2) the prohibition of the employment of young persons (under 18) in industrial work at night; (3) the prohibition of the employment of women in industry at night; and (4) the establishment of free public employment agencies under national control. Legislation has already been passed in Switzerland to adapt the existing law to these requirements, and the Conventions will be formally ratified in due course by the Federal Council. They have already been ratified by Great Britain, the necessary legislation to give effect to the first three Conventions having been passed by the British Parliament, in the "Women, Young Persons and Children (Employment) Act, 1920". India, Greece, Roumania, and Czecho-Slovakia are among the other countries which have bound themselves by formal ratification to observe these Conventions as treaty obligations.

### English Dancing Girls in Paris.

One of the leading dailies gives an interesting account of the life of English dancing girls in Paris. In 1913 an Act for Employment of Children Abroad was passed which permitted no child under 14 to be employed abroad. The contracts of girls under 16 must be countersigned by the Bow Street Magistrate, and the French Consul must make sure that all the requirements of the English law have been satisfied before he signs their passports. The girls are well paid, earning from 500 to 900 francs a month, but they must remember that no girl can live in Paris at present under 500 francs a month. There is a very comfortable home, known as the Capel Home for Theatre Girls, at 15 Rue Duperré, which was founded in 1917 by Mr. Cardew, the Chaplain of St. George's Church, in Paris, who is a great friend of the dancing girls. The two houses which form it are given rent free by Mrs. Arthur Capel, and the running expenses are met by the girls, who pay 10 francs a day for board and lodging. There is accommodation for forty girls, and there is a resident trained nurse, who also visits non-resident girls if they are ill. There is a great deal of freedom so that the girls feel as much at home as if they were in England.

### Women Inventors.

A women's branch of the Institute of Patentees is to be opened shortly, which points to the increasing activity of women inventors. Women are also allowed by the Board of Trade to qualify as patent agents.

### Miss Maude Royden.

Miss Maude Royden is to address the first National Convention of the American Y.W.C.A. at Hot Springs, Arkansas, and has left England for America. She intends to preach daily while there, as she believes that the American women's movement could approach the problem of world peace with a clearer mind than could similar movements in Europe. Is this a challenge to British women?

### The Y.W.C.A. in Jamaica.

Miss Edith Picton-Turbervill, O.B.E., who has been hard at work for some weeks past establishing the Y.W.C.A. in Jamaica, has just returned to England.

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

## MINE AND THINE

Last week we described and abused the existing order of society in so far as it relates to the legal position of married women. We said that money troubles were one of the most fruitful causes of matrimonial disputes, as, indeed, they are of other kinds of disputes also. The theory that husband and wife have one purse and that one in the husband's pocket, has caused untold sufferings, and we feel convinced that it is one of the fundamental fallacies which have led to the "subjection of women". In our opinion marriage is a partnership. A man and woman, when they take up life together and make themselves responsible for a family, are each of them undertaking a serious business. It is, to our way of thinking, utterly false to suppose that it is the man alone who is taking on the responsibilities, while the woman is throwing off all the burden on to him. It is false in theory and false in fact, and although it seems to be still true in law, we do not believe that even there it can last much longer. It is a poisonous and pernicious idea, and its effects are as demoralizing for men in one way as they are degrading for women in another. "He for God only, she for God in him" is not our doctrine, and we distrust it, in every manifestation, from the very bottom of our hearts.

Nevertheless, it is undoubted that in matters of property and of money, the position is rather complicated. In normal circumstances the family money is earned by the husband's exertions and is legally his private property. Any attempt to restrain his discretion in the use of it is resented with all that passion which society puts into the defence of the rights of property. It is almost universally assumed that the wage-earner shall be the one to determine whether the money is wasted, saved, or spent, and, in short, that the money is his to do as he likes with. Public opinion expects him to look after his wife and family with part of it, and the law even requires him to feed and clothe them out of it, but substantially, and for all practical purposes, the family income is his own.

Now this is all very well, and there is much to be said for it; but it has this unfortunate corollary that if public opinion does not weigh with any particular individual, there is nothing for his wife or family to do but to suffer. The law, in reality, is concerned with keeping the family off the rates; it is not in the least interested in their sharing in any prosperity the man may attain, and we see in consequence many and many and many a case of a most unfair distribution of family wealth as between husband and wife. We have, indeed, become so inured to this that we are surprised if a woman has any spending money of her own, and even the very porters at railway stations know that tips from females are less generous than tips from males.

Now, what is to be done? The world is as it is, with private property governed by the sanctions in which most people believe. Human nature is what it is, and men are what they have been brought up to be. What are we to do about it?

There are several possible courses of action, two of which are being discussed at present in more or less detail. The first of them is to give a wife a legal claim upon a part of her husband's income, be it large or small, and to give to her the absolute control of that part in return for her services to him as his wife. This plan would give to one woman £1,000 and to another £50 in respect of the same job of home-making. It raises a host of objections, into which we will not enter. But it would, at any rate, settle the matter of liability for debt.

The second plan is the State endowment of families, which has been often discussed in these columns. This plan would tax all men according to their means, and redistribute the money to their wives according to the size of their families. This also, as we know, raises a storm of objections. But it also would ease the problem of the liability for debt.

We do not know that either of these proposals will come within the terms of reference of the expert Committee which is to be set up by the Lord Chancellor. But we know that they ought to do so. The present legal and financial position of married women is neither just nor sensible, and it is time that the matter was fully exposed for public consideration and decision.

## NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER.

By OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT.

Parliament rose on Wednesday, 12th April. The session that has just closed has perhaps not been remarkable; its only outstanding piece of legislation is the Irish Treaty Act; but yet the course of events has not been devoid of interest. Anyone who casts his mind back to last February will note that the balance of forces has altered greatly. In that month, Mr. Lloyd George, defeated in his attempt to hold a February election, was faced with a Tory revolt; Sir George Younger was the most popular man in the party, and he had skilfully thrown down the glove at a time when he must have known that it was impossible for the Prime Minister to pick it up. For Sir George had made certain of such a body of support that, had the Prime Minister insisted and held his election, a split was certain. Nor was it easy for Mr. Lloyd George, accepting this temporary rebuff, to settle matters with Sir George Younger by saying that one of the two had to go; for this, again, either meant a party split or his isolation. There only remained the method of resignation. This had certain obvious advantages. He could have politely told the Conservatives that since they believed that they could get on without him, he would not stand in their way; he would take a holiday and leave them unhampered. He would let them make good their claim that they were capable of governing the country.

This was a course Mr. Lloyd George was perfectly entitled to take. A large section of his followers had rebelled; they had told him that they and the country were weary of him. They had told him that they were strong enough to stand alone. For him to resign under such circumstances was not only a defensible, but a right and proper course. And it had the advantage that it threw all the difficulties on to the revolters. Not only had they to govern at a time of amazing difficulty and complexity, but they had to recast a Government. If all Mr. Lloyd George's Liberal colleagues left with him there would have been at least nine Ministerial vacancies in the Commons. New appointments must be made, and new appointments mean by-elections. Looking at the temper of the country last February it is a moderate estimate to say that in four such by-elections the new ministers would have been defeated. Could any Government stand such a blow at the outset of its career? Of course it could not, least of all a Government faced already with such acute difficulties. It is safe to guess that in the last resort Mr. Lloyd George would have adopted this course, for its advantages are so obvious. It must have led to his success, immediate or ultimate. Why did he not?

Probably because of one fact, and one fact only. Success depended on all Mr. Lloyd George's important Liberal colleagues leaving with him. If they did not, two consequences of immense importance ensued. First, the Government that remained was strengthened mightily. Second, the leadership of the Coalition Liberals in the House passed away from Mr. Lloyd George. For, if he retired leaving, say, Mr. Churchill behind, the Coalition Liberal members, who must follow someone, would follow him, and a cleavage be set up, the results of which would be incalculable.

What actually happened is known only to the participants, and will not be disclosed to the world until history is written. But it is no extravagant guess that the reason why Mr. Lloyd George did not retire was that his most powerful colleague refused to follow him.

Be that as it may, he did not retire. But the crisis had a profound effect on his personal influence and on the fortunes of the Coalition. It imposed on him obligations from which hitherto he had regarded himself free. And, coupled with the fall of Mr. Montagu, it threw much more power into the hands of Mr. Chamberlain. Thereby, by one of the ironies of politics, the Coalition was solidified, and that very crisis which looked like shattering it, in reality renewed its vigour by readjusting its balance and proportion. What the consequences will be in the future must be discussed in a later article. It only remains to be added that Mr. Lloyd George's behaviour during the storm will be judged by each according to his estimate of that complex and subtle character. To some he will be a defeated intriguer, clinging distractedly to office; whilst to others his patience, tolerance, and resourcefulness will bear the stamp of real greatness.

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

## THE WORK OF THE TELEPHONIST.

By EDITH H. HOWSE.

The applause and appreciation with which sarcastic references to the indifference of the telephonist to her work, are received, whether made on the Stage or in the Press, is clear proof that few people have any knowledge of the trying work of the telephonist. The most prevalent idea is that the telephonist spends a good deal of her time reading novels or chatting with her colleagues.

The Press of this country is largely responsible for this state of affairs. The slightest error on the part of an operator, or a fault in the Service, even those brought about by a gale or a storm, are seized upon by the Press and used in an attack on State ownership of the telephone service. This, of course, is accounted for by the attitude of the Federation of British Industries, which is opposed to State ownership and has been endeavouring to secure the transfer of the telephone service to private enterprise.

References to the indifference of the telephonist are by no means confined to this country. Telephonists all over the world suffer the same abuse and misrepresentation. Quite recently a paragraph appeared in an American paper which was attacking the telephone system to the effect that it was no wonder that telephone users could not secure prompt service in view of the fact that telephonists were permitted to smoke whilst on duty.

To the person with some knowledge of telephone work, it was fairly easy to understand what had given rise to the assumption that the girls were permitted to smoke whilst at the switch-boards.

The subscribers' circuit is represented on the switch-board by a tiny opal lamp, which lights up when the subscriber lifts his receiver to ask for a call, and goes out when the connexion is made. Each telephonist has a certain number of subscribers' circuits to attend to. The precise number varies according to the amount of traffic carried by each subscriber's line, but the number is usually between seventy and eighty. Just above the seventy or eighty subscribers' circuits on the telephonist's position there is what is termed the multiple. The multiple is that part of the switch-board upon which the subscribers' circuits on the particular exchange are duplicated. This is done so that when a subscriber calls for a number on his own exchange it is within reach of the telephonist answering his signal, and he can be connected without delay.

The multiple comprises eight panels, each panel containing several hundreds of junctions made up of strips of twenty with an index number on the panel indicating the particular "hundred".

To take as an illustration an exchange with between six and seven thousand subscribers, it will readily be recognized that a good deal of skill is necessary for the telephonist to pick out the panel, the hundred, the particular junction, and then to test and make the connexion in the fraction of a second allowed for this transaction, particularly when it is realized that a slip of less than half an inch means a wrong number.

An exchange carrying a large number of subscribers involves a good deal of stretching, which is, of course, very fatiguing, but I am glad to say that the policy of the department is towards transferring the multiple work to the "B" or junction side, and working by order-wire, a method involving less strain.

The operators work in teams of eight or ten, which means that the telephonist is called upon to render assistance on other positions if necessary. There is not the slightest doubt that the subscriber (possibly a man, and a smoker) heard the telephonist asking another operator for a light, meaning a subscriber's calling light, which shows that there is a good deal of truth in the old proverb: "A little knowledge is a dangerous thing."

The news that there is a possibility in the near future of a telephone exchange showing the girls at work being filmed, is a matter for satisfaction, as it will no doubt alter the attitude of the public towards the work of a telephonist.

The load, or number of calls, which the telephonist is called upon to deal with, is arrived at by a very minute study of each movement made in connecting a simple local call, and the amount of time each movement takes, the calculations being in seconds. For instance, when a subscriber lifts his receiver to ask for a number, the operator places one of the cords into what is called a "jack", which is just above the subscriber's lamp. She then pushes forward a speaking-key, and says: "Number, please?" The average time calculated for this movement is one second. The average call, which takes into consideration "No reply" and "Number engaged" calls which involve the entry of the particulars on a ticket, is valued at 12 seconds. This is called the "Unit local call".

There are many various types of calls, but it is upon this basis figure of the "unit call" that the telephonist's load is built, and she is expected to deal with what is equal to 200 unit calls per hour. It will be seen, therefore, that there is no time for her to read or gossip.

Telephone work falls off at certain periods of the day. In the business districts the work follows commercial hours, and falls off during the luncheon period, 12 to 2.30 p.m., and again early in the evening; whereas in residential districts the evening is one of the busiest periods of the day. Whatever the cause of a lull in the traffic it must not be assumed that the telephonist gets the benefit. When the work falls off the staff is reduced and the standard load of 200 unit calls is maintained by the telephonist looking after more than one switch-board.

The work is very trying and involves a great deal of strain on the nerves, and consequently great care is taken in selecting candidates. A severe medical examination is imposed before training, and during the first two years of service each telephonist is under strict medical supervision.

Several years ago a medical commission was set up to inquire into the effects of telephone work upon the operator, and some very valuable recommendations were made. The commission pointed out that the contributory causes which accentuate the nerve and physical strain are as follows:—

(a) The telephonist is constantly using three special senses—sight, hearing, and speech.

(b) There is constant demand on her attention, accuracy is essential, she must often act on her own initiative, and she may have many calls in operation at the same moment.

(c) The telephonist deals directly with the public whose knowledge of the method of working is limited, and whose methods, manner, and temper are always diverse and sometimes unpleasant. She is constantly smoothing out difficulties, and is often the subject of abuse or reproach, whilst it is necessary for her to be businesslike, tactful, and courteous under all conditions.

(d) The continual wearing of the head- and breast-gear.

(e) The perpetual jumping up and down and reaching necessary, especially in junction working, which tend to cause physical weariness.

Despite the very stringent medical test, numerous cases of breakdown in health occur, and it is with this phase of telephone work that the Union of Post Office Workers has a very serious complaint against the conditions imposed upon the girls by the "standard" load of 200 unit calls. The payment of a few pounds as bonus cannot be regarded as ending the employers' (the public) responsibility in the case of a telephonist—certified medically fit upon entry into the service—who is subsequently dismissed broken in health.

The Union claims that conditions of service, *i.e.* the reduction of the 200 standard load per operator and a shorter working day, would go far to ameliorate this state of affairs.

The medical commission referred to above recommended a maximum day of 7½ hours on five days of the week and 5½ hours on the sixth, but the Department maintains the forty-eight hour standard. It has often been said in this and other countries that few people understand the immense power of the telephone, the tremendous part it plays in the affairs of the nation, and how essential it is to the business of the country. How true this is was amply demonstrated by the service rendered during the war. The Press, which is now so quick to abuse the telephonist, often during the war years published accounts of the wonderful way in which the girls remained at their switch-boards connecting important calls during air-raids, and how they volunteered for duty, frequently walking through the streets to their different exchanges whilst bombs were dropping.

O.B.E.s were doled out to telephonists for this wonderful work. The Postmaster-General issued medals, and endorsements of commendation were made in "blue ink" upon the conduct records of individuals. But how quickly these things are forgotten! Girls who rendered this service and who served in France are now being dismissed on account of their sick records! Little, if any, consideration is given to the effect that this valuable service to the nation may have had upon the health of these telephonists. The O.B.E., the medal, and "blue ink" endorsements are of little use when thrown out of employment. But there is little doubt that if the telephonists, who in the main are under thirty, had the vote, different treatment would result.

## THE FIGHT AGAINST DISEASE IN EASTERN EUROPE.

From a CORRESPONDENT.

The delegates to the League Health Conference have inspected several of the quarantine stations and hospitals that form Poland's first line of sanitary defence in the East. The first point visited, and one that may be taken as typical, was Baranowicze, a former great Russian military dépôt, and now a quarantine station and hospitalization centre, where the refugee trains from Russia are disembarked and their refugees cared for. Baranowicze is twelve hours' run by train to the east of Warsaw, through country that at least at this season of the year appears peculiarly savage and desolate—flat plain to the horizon on all sides, not a house or a road or a cultivated field, an occasional leafless birch, and a strip of dark pines, sometimes a slow and winding river, thick with ice, over which the train crawls on a temporary wooden bridge, with the ruins of the former bridge depending on either side; sandy wastes covered with coarse grass and pines, alternating with marshes, endless melancholy marshes; and over all a grey sky and a bitter wind—such were the Eastern marches of Poland as we saw them, and anything more forlorn as the long twilight of late March darkened into night could scarcely be imagined.

Baranowicze is in the middle of this great plain, still frost-bound and snow-covered, and swept by a wind that cut through all clothes and stung our bare faces into numbness. It is here that the refugees arrive from Kolosowo on the Polish-Russian frontier. The state they arrive in may be gathered by the following quotations from the answers to the usual official questionnaire of the local administrative and medical authorities, returned by a refugee train-arriving at Kolosowo on 14th March, 1922: *Place of departure of train?* Kazan (on the Volga). *Duration of Voyage?* Three months. *Number of persons in the convoy?* 1,948 persons left Kazan; 649 arrived at Kolosowo. *How many persons remained on the way (in Russia)?* 1,299. *How many persons were left in hospitals and railway stations in Russia?* None. *How many persons died on the way?* 1,299. *What was done with the dead?* They were thrown out at the stations. *How was the convoy fed during the journey?* With bread only. *How often?* Once every two days (more or less). *How much?* ¼ lb. to ½ lb. of bread per person. *Was medical aid given?* None. *Number of cases of epidemic diseases?* Sixteen. *Number of cases of other diseases?* Fifty-six. *General conditions of convoy?* All thin and exhausted to the last degree.

To get at the reality behind this bare recital of question and answer it must be borne in mind that the refugee trains are trains of cattle-cars, with a rude stove in the centre; that the refugees, men, women, and children, sick and whole, and their voluminous belongings are heaped together pell-mell in the darkness of these cars until there is hardly room to lie down; that the bread, of which they receive a quarter to a half-pound each about every other day, washed down with hot water, is largely made of grass, smells like rye-bread, looks like horse-dung, and is stuff that only the strongest stomachs can stand; and that the refugees, even before they start on their endless journey, are clad in rags, half-starving and mostly crawling with vermin.

On arrival they are unloaded on the "dirty" side of the quarantine station, given something to eat and drink and asked if they wish to add to, or can give any information about, any of the names on the long lists of lost husbands, wives, parents, children, and friends that hang on the walls, and of which a record is kept at the station; any information received is sent to the person who put down the name and many dramatic reunions have been effected by this means. After these and passport formalities, they are taken to the undressing rooms, where their hand-baggage and clothes are taken from them and put for an hour into a so-called "disinsector", *i.e.* a chamber which is then filled either with dry heat at 150 degrees C., or live steam; the people are then taken into the baths, where plenty of hot water and soap is vigorously applied; after this the washed

and naked crowd move on to the dressing-room, where they receive clean clothes, and are then taken to the "clean" side of the barracks. Heavy baggage is disinfected and disinfected in a cyanide chamber. The sick are meanwhile unloaded, diagnosed, cleaned, and put into hospital. The well are detained for five days, and then allowed to depart to their homes, but only after being detained at secondary quarantine stations within the country.

This chain of quarantine stations, for sifting, cleaning, and caring for the hordes of refugees that drift out of Russia, stretches from the Baltic to the Black Sea, through Finland, Esthonia, Latvia, Poland, and Roumania. The epidemic diseases against which these precautions are chiefly directed are typhus and relapsing fever and cholera. The first two are transmitted solely by the bites of infected insects (lice), and the danger of an epidemic is therefore much smaller once the destruction of insects ("disinsection") has been effected; cholera, on the other hand, is a highly infectious food- and water-borne disease, and a cholera epidemic once started is difficult to put down. This is why the Polish Government detains re-emigrants at the frontier stations for five days after disinsection, a period long enough for any cholera-infected persons to develop the symptoms of the disease, but not for the whole 14-21 days necessary for all persons infected with typhus or relapsing fever to show infection.

The people making up the convoys that keep crawling into the frontier stations all along the western borders of Soviet Russia are (1) partly still returning war-prisoners; (2) chiefly re-emigrants, *i.e.* natives of the then western marches of Russia that were evacuated *en masse* and by force by the Russian Commander-in-Chief, Grand Duke Nicholas, in 1915 and 1916, and sent to Central Russia or even Siberia; (3) in increasing degree peasants, driven westward in search of food by the waves of immigration inundating Central and South-Western Russia from the famine areas in the South and South-East. The movement of war-prisoners will soon cease, and is of small importance. The movement of re-emigrants is in full swing, and may increase. It affects chiefly the Baltic States and Poland, from which most of the present re-emigrants were evacuated. The third class—peasants fleeing from epidemics and hunger—represents the incalculable element that is the alarming factor in the present situation, both as regards the numbers of persons concerned and the proportion and virulence of epidemic diseases they may bring with them. No one knows what hordes of panic stricken and starving refugees will be trying to force their way into Poland and the other border States during the coming summer, or how much cholera, typhus, relapsing fever, dysentery, enteritis, and smallpox they will bring with them. But the most cautious calculations lead to very disquieting estimates.

The finding of work and homes for these masses of people is proving an extremely onerous task for the governments of the small States that have the misfortune at the present day to be Russia's neighbours. The fortified trenches and cement-lined dug-outs of the Hindenburg line are still inhabited from near the mouth of the Dvina in Northern Latvia to the Carpathians, in Southern Poland; families of refugees are packed into every available hole and dug-out. If epidemics break out in these unbelievably crowded, dark, and dirty communities, they will be almost impossible to stop. The same applies to the devastated towns, such as Daugaspils (or Dvinsk), in South Latvia, where the inhabitants live packed in wooden shacks or in the cellars of their ruined houses. All this part of the world has been swept by the war as thoroughly as the French devastated region, but over vastly greater areas; the values destroyed were not so great, but the governments that have to cope with the task of reconstruction are feeble and new, and the situation is complicated by the fearful problems of repatriation and keeping out diseases from Russia.

## WOMEN'S INSTITUTES.

## A NEW FIELD FOR POLITICAL EDUCATION.

Originally Women's Institutes were non-political. To understand their present position and the spirit which animates them, it is worth while to look back to their beginnings and mark the spontaneity of their growth.

In the year of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, a few farmers' wives of Stoneycreek, in Ontario, became feminist enough to discover that their interests were inadequately catered for in the open meetings of the local farmers' institute. They decided to form a little group of their own, and to meet monthly in one another's houses for mutual education and amusement. Neighbouring groups copied this example. By degrees the idea reached other parts of Canada. It developed. All sorts of co-operative work was undertaken; club-rooms and trading branches were established; home-industries fostered; book-boxes circulated; child-welfare schemes planned, and pushed through, and so forth.

Only as the need arose did customs harden into regulations. There was no squirearchy to dictate to these colonial women in their scattered homesteads; no Church sought to draw them under its wing; to affairs of State they were indifferent. A very simple form of self-government was evolved, with annual election by ballot of officers and committees, and equal subscriptions for all members; "controversy" was banned and the movement declared to be non-sectarian and non-political. From the outset agricultural and technical colleges were eager to supply lecturers and demonstrators. Soon Provincial Governments granted help. But the principles of self-determination and mutual improvement remained as the blood and marrow of institute life. Within certain broad limits each group was free to develop in its own way. Every member was expected to offer to the common stock whatever she had of household or garden lore, "accomplishment," or wisdom born of experience.

Such were the Canadian Women's Institutes when, in 1914, the model was brought to this country by Mrs. Alfred Watt, M.A. (later M.B.E.). Able and influential English men and women soon came to her aid, but the strongest factor making for success in those difficult, early days was—in my opinion—the fortunate personality of the stalwart colonial. Her passionate loyalty to the King and the Royal Family was not more popular than the blunt courtesy with which she treated countess and kitchen-maid alike. More disarming than the most ingenious tact was the innocent effrontery of her approach to English and Welsh rural magnates on the assumption of their enthusiasm for democratic ideals and the breaking-down of sectarian and class barriers. Great ladies were jumped into the belief that patronage is less pleasant than friendliness on equal terms; the helpmeets of vicars and ministers found that they could meet as women if not as wives; greatest stroke of all—charwomen of independent character were lured into "trying" an organization that

demanding the same fee from rich and poor and offered every member the gracious privilege of hostess-ship.

The war was a hindrance at first, then a help. During the food-shortage Mr. Prothero recognized the potential value of women's institutes in his "Grow-more-eat-less-and-waste-nothing" campaign. In the autumn of 1917 the 137 institutes, founded "under the auspices" of the Agricultural Organization Society, were formed into the National Federation of Women's Institutes, "in conjunction with" the Women's Branch of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. Connexion with the Civil Service was meant to be temporary, and will soon cease.

At the beginning of February, 1922, there were 2,282 institutes, with an estimated membership of 150,000. Our monthly organ *Home and Country* has a circulation of 19,500. An analysis of the space-distribution in the February issue of the magazine gives a good idea of our aims and interests. Seventeen columns are devoted to news from County Federations, including notes on remarkable doings of individual institutes; one column summarizes "Current Events"; two are devoted to "Handicrafts" and "Embroidery"; rather less than one to "Music, Dancing, and Acting"; rather more than one to "How can Unhealthy Houses be improved?"; two to "Relations with Canada"; two to a serial story; and nearly six to different aspects of "Local Government Elections".

The step of deleting the word "non-political" from the constitution and substituting "non-party" was taken by the second annual business meeting of the National Federation almost *nem. con.*, but it was probably in advance of the views of the majority. In many minds the terms are interchangeable, and dread of "controversy" is a ruling motive among kindly people who have never undergone the discipline of debate or studied the springs of action. "Let us have subjects we can't quarrel about!" is a frequent exclamation on committee. Experience has not yet taught some of us that if the will-to-quarrel be present it will burst forth as readily over "The best way of making a bed" as over the League of Nations. Recently, in sifting essays on institute life for a county competition, I came upon a delightful one by the wife of a labourer with a large family. She had a fair acquaintance with the work of institutes in her neighbourhood and a warm appreciation of the joys of social give-and-take, but she could write in perfect good faith, "Politics are forbidden; creed is forgotten; which is as it should be."

Readers of the *WOMAN'S LEADER* who have not yet come into contact with this movement are urged to seek further information from the National Federation of Women's Institutes, 26 Eccleston Street, London, S.W. 1. We are growing fast, but we need the active sympathy of every clear-thinking, large-hearted woman we can enlist.

MARGARET MACNAMARA.

## NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

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

Telephone: Museum 6910.

## MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND THE EASTER VACATION.

No opportunity should be lost when Members are in their constituencies to approach them to ask their support on the many urgent points in our programme such as the Equal Franchise Memorial, which should shortly be presented; the Separation and Maintenance Orders Bill, and Guardianship of Infants Bill, which will come up on 26th May, the granting of credits to Russia and the postponement of the abandonment of the Metropolitan Women Police Patrols referred to in last week's Headquarters' Notes.

## LEGITIMATION OF ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.

The Home Secretary has announced his intention of introducing after Easter a Bill on the legitimation of an illegitimate child after the marriage of its parents. Members of Parliament should be asked to support this Bill also.

## CANVASSERS' CLASSES.

In view of the approach of the General Election a series of three classes is being organized at Headquarters, to meet on

Mondays at 5.30 p.m., commencing on Monday, 15th May. The charge for the course of three will be 2s. 6d., single meetings 1s. Further particulars will be announced later, but names of those anxious to join can be sent in at once.

## SPECIAL ELECTION BOOKSTALL.

A special election literature bookstall for the various Party or non-Party organizations will be ready at the beginning of May. Members are invited to come and inspect it, and a list of publications kept will be issued.

## GUARDIANS' ELECTIONS.

We congratulate the Ilkley Society for Equal Citizenship on the return of two of their members, Mrs. G. E. Foster, the Honorary Secretary, and Mrs. Colbert, unopposed, to the Wharfedale Board of Guardians. Mrs. Davidson, of the Ilkley W.C.A., has also been returned to the same Board.

## CROYDON W.C.A.

On Wednesday, 29th March, a very interesting address was given to the Croydon Women Citizens' Association and National Council of Women by Mrs. Hubback on the Passing of a Bill through Parliament and Procedure in the House of Commons. Time only allowed the speaker to deal with the first half of her subject, and for a brief description of the more important officials of the Commons. The many questions testified to the interest of the audience, who hope Mrs. Hubback may be able to come to Croydon later to speak on Procedure.

## MAIDENHEAD W.C.A.

A public meeting was held at the Wesleyan Hall, Maidenhead, on 24th March, when Miss Macadam gave an address on "How

Women can prepare for a General Election". The chair was taken by Mrs. Ernest Gardner, wife of the M.P. for the constituency. There was a good attendance and six new Members were added to the Association.

## RYDE W.C.A.

We have had many money-raising endeavours on the part of our Associations in aid of our funds. Ryde is organizing a whist drive, and other Associations are arranging sales of work. Summer is a time when fewer meetings are held than in the winter months, and we hope, therefore, that many of our Societies will do what they can to organize some means by which many substantial sums can be raised.

## CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS.

## CHILD ASSAULT PROTEST COMMITTEE.

MADAM,—A slight misunderstanding seems to have arisen in your paper over the issue of a leaflet called "A Guide to the usual method of procedure for Juries in Scotland", and I shall be very glad if you will allow me space to correct it.

The leaflet was compiled by the Child Assault Protest Committee, and published at the beginning of March. You very kindly printed it in full in your issue of 24th March, but omitted to give the name and address of the organization from which the leaflet could be obtained. In this week's issue, however, you kindly draw the attention of your readers to the address where the leaflet may be bought, but the notice states that it is copies of the article printed in your issue of the 24th March which are on sale, whereas it is the pamphlet compiled by the Child Assault Protest Committee.

LILIAS MITCHELL,  
Hon. Secretary.

## THE BRITISH LEGION AND THE CIVIL SERVICE.

MADAM,—In considering the attitude of the British Legion to the employment of women we wish to offer the following criticisms.

In a circular, entitled "Ex-Service Men and the Civil Service", it is stated that "where women have acceded to positions entirely owing to the absence of men on war service, these positions should be vacated by them in consequence of the men's return. The true proportion might be obtained by reference to statistics quoting the relative number of men and women employed in Government service before the outbreak of war."

We wish to point out that a proportion obtained in this manner would be no guide to the number of posts which might have been filled by ex-Service men, seeing that the employment of Writing Assistants, which before the war was restricted to a few hundred, has now reached thousands, and the Lytton Committee has expressly reported against the employment of men on this class of work. The increase in the number of Writing Assistants is just as marked in those departments of the public service which have always been staffed by women, and is due to the reorganization of the work by which a department finds it an economy to split off the simpler processes and hand them over to a lower paid staff, even if a larger number are required.

In a list to Departments showing extra work owing to the war we find Ministry of Health, Housing, and Insurance. The estimates for 1922-3 for Housing show a staff of fifteen men including architects, and a comparison of the 1922 staff of the Insurance Department will show a decrease over the staff in 1914. Nor can we agree that the work of the Trade Board section of the Ministry of Labour is extra work due to the war to which women have acceded owing to the absence of men on war service. Owing to the fact that the majority of sweated trades are women's, the investigation under the Trade Board Acts have always been peculiarly appropriate to women Civil Servants.

D. SMYTH,  
Hon. Secretary, Federation of Women Civil Servants.

## OXFORD WOMEN'S COLLEGES.

MADAM,—The recently published report of the Royal Commission on Oxford and Cambridge Universities draws special attention to the needs of the women's colleges at Oxford for funds to pay off the heavy debts with which they are burdened, and to provide a permanent endowment equivalent to those which are enjoyed by the men's colleges.

The Commissioners state that "in order to place the women's colleges on a secure financial basis for the future, it is essential that large benefactions should be forthcoming", and while recommending a temporary grant from public money for a limited period of ten years, they do so "subject to the understanding that the women's colleges will meanwhile make every effort to increase their endowments".

Already, at the beginning of 1921, a public appeal was made on behalf of the Oxford women's colleges, which received the support of her Majesty the Queen in her reply on the occasion of the presentation of the degree of D.C.L. to her in the Sheldonian Theatre in March, 1921.

The sum hitherto collected, as the report points out, "falls very far short of the needs of the colleges", but the fund is still open, and it is hoped that

the emphatic statement of the Commissioners will bring it to the notice of many who have not hitherto subscribed. Donations should be sent in to the hon. treasurer, Viscountess Rhondda, 92 Victoria Street, S.W. 1, and may either be given to the joint fund or be earmarked for any one of the five societies—Lady Margaret Hall, Somerville College, St. Hugh's College, St. Hilda's Hall, and the Society of Oxford Home Students.

RHONDDA,  
Hon. Treasurer.  
CYRIL BAILEY,  
Chairman of the Joint Committee for the  
Oxford Women's Colleges Fund.

92 Victoria Street, S.W. 1.

## OPEN LETTER TO MISS ALISON NEILANS.

MADAM,—Pressure of business has prevented me replying to your open letter of 24th ulto. to the *WOMAN'S LEADER*, wherein you repeat the accusation of proposing an amendment to C.L.A. Bill with intent to wreck same. I submit that you do not advance your cause in any way by your letter. For it is perfectly apparent by the letter which you sent to a small number of peers that you were prepared to wreck your own Bill rather than accept the new clause. And you did so wreck it. For well you know that the Commons who had accepted the clause by an overwhelming majority would not tolerate its excision by the Lords. It is no use your disclaiming Doctor Farquharson, your own promoter. He is a medical man, and as such he supported me. He knew what the cocaine evil in London arises from. That my amendment was moved at the Report stage is quite irrelevant. It was competently moved and carried after a keen debate. It was to have been moved by a Lanarkshire Member some years ago in consequence of a very tragic case wherein he and I were instructed, since when I have had two others brought to my notice professionally. I, however, observe from your journal, page 203, under the heading, "A Note on the Wrecking Clause," that you appear to advocate the abolition of the section of the Act of 1885, even in regard to men, which I sought to have extended to women. Your reason is blackmail, and forsooth "modern scientific opinion!" We entirely part company here in regard to both sexes, and I frankly don't understand your position as a moralist. Your proposal to abolish the defence of reasonable cause in cases which are tried by juries largely composed of women is unsound, and of course I voted against it. Raise the age and be logical, but don't set traps. The position, therefore, is this, that rather than accept a clause which would protect many homes and prevent the moral ruin of many women and children, you sacrificed a Bill which you say you intended to protect young persons apparently sixteen years of age. You then turn and blame another and suggest craft and strategy against him whose code of morals has a wider and more national scope, and you do this as a result of your own ineptitude and more limited knowledge and moral outlook.

F. A. MACQUISTEN.

## DAVIS &amp; SON, DYERS LONDON LTD.

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED

## GEO. WEBBS DYEWORKS.

BY APPOINTMENT TO

HER MAJESTY QUEEN ALEXANDRA.

EVERY DESCRIPTION OF LADIES & GENTLEMEN'S CLOTHES CLEANED OR DYED.	254 BRIXTON HILL S.W. PHONE: BRIXTON 1832.	OTHER BRANCHES IN ALL PARTS OF LONDON AND AT CARDIFF.
EXCEPTIONAL FACILITIES FOR CLEANING FURNITURE, Etc. CARPETS.	181a HIGH ROAD STREATHAM PHONE: STREATHAM 2736.	
	13 CENTRAL HILL UPPER NORWOOD S.E. PHONE: SYDENHAM 2019.	

## COMING EVENTS.

## LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION.

APRIL 23. Exchange Cinema, Northampton, 8 p.m. Rt. Hon. G. N. Barnes, M.P.  
 APRIL 24. Parish Room, Weylesley, Uxbridge, 8 p.m. J. H. Clynes, Esq.  
 APRIL 26. Town Hall, Deptford, 8 p.m. Rt. Hon. Lord Hugh Cecil, M.P.  
 APRIL 28. Medical Theatre, Birmingham University, 5.30 p.m. Professor Gilbert Murray.

## WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

APRIL 29. Caxton Hall, Westminster, S.W., 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Annual Conference.

## CIVIC EDUCATION LEAGUE.

"The Study and Teaching of Modern Civics." A course of six lectures, to be given by Miss E. M. White (Lecturer in Civics to the London County Council) on Wednesday evenings at 6.30 p.m. at the London Day Training College, Southampton Row, W.C.1. Commencing 26th April. Fee for full course 7s. 6d.

## THEOSOPHICAL ORDER OF SERVICE.

APRIL 23. 3 Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1, 8.30 p.m. Conference, presided over by H. Baillie-Weaver, L.L.B.

APRIL 27. SPECIAL MATINEE in aid of the SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND, 2.30 p.m., at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith. The following artists have kindly consented to appear: Megan Foster, Mostyn Thomas, Daisy Kennedy, M. Moiseiwitsch, Christine Silver. A film depicting a Famine Area will be shown.

## MEDICAL, Etc.

ISLINGTON DENTAL SURGERY, 69 Upper Street, N.

MR. CHODWICK BROWN, Surgeon Dentist.

FREDK. C. BOUCHER, Asst. Dental Surgeon. Estd. 35 Years.

Gas Administered Daily by Qualified Medical Man. Nurse in Attendance. Mechanical Work in all its Branches. Send Post Card for Pamphlet.

N.B.—No show case at door.  
 CONSULTATION FREE. Telephone: North 3795.

SUPERFLUOUS HAIR successfully treated by Electrolysis; medical references; strict privacy; consultation free.—Miss Marion Lindsay, 12a London Street, Paddington. Telephone: Padd. 3307.

SUCCESSFUL SHAMPOOS secured by Welch's Emulsified Coco-nut Oil Shampoo; in bottles only, 1s. 8d. post free.—High Street, Ware, Herts.

## TYPEWRITING AND PRINTING.

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

TEMPLAR PRINTING WORKS, BIRMINGHAM.

SPECIALISTS IN WORK FOR NATIONAL SOCIETIES.

ENQUIRIES SOLICITED.

THE MISSES NEAL and TUCKER undertake every description of Typewriting and Secretarial work; reporting meetings, etc.; first-class training for ladies as secretaries.—Walter House, 52 Bedford Street, Strand, W.C.2 (Gerrard 1472).

TYPEWRITING: Every description undertaken privately; perfect work, moderate charges, prompt execution.—Miss Povey, Petersham Road, Ham, Surrey. Telephone: Kingston 1663.

## FOR REST AND HOLIDAYS.

DEAN FOREST, Severn-Wye Valleys. A Beautiful Holiday Home (600 ft. up). Sixty Rooms. Five acres, pretty grounds. Tennis, Croquet, Bowls, Billiards. Motor excursions. Garage. Golf within 1/2 mile. Board residence 47s. 6d. to 63s. Prospectus.—Hallam, Littledean House, Littledean, Glos.

CONVALESCENTS AND TIRED WORKERS.—Come and be nursed back to health and usefulness at Northernhay Convalescent Home, Southwold.—Write Sister.

## WHERE TO LIVE.

NEW TOWN TRUST, LIMITED, WELWYN GARDEN CITY, HERTS.—Open 1st May, Hostel for workers and students. Warden: Mrs. Ralph Crowley, J.P.; in beautiful country, adjacent to farm and model dairy; easy walk to station, frequent trains to London; season ticket £5 6s. 6d. for three months; inclusive charge for board and lodging, including use of common rooms, library, etc., 30s. a week.—Apply, 3 Gray's Inn Place, W.C.1, or write direct to Warden, New Town Hostel, Welwyn Garden City, Herts.

HOSTEL FOR VISITORS AND WORKERS; terms from 4s. 6d. per night, or 18s. 6d. per week, room and breakfast.—Mrs. K. Wilkinson, 59 Albany Street, Regent's Park, N.W.1.

ROOMS and breakfast (Gentlewomen only); temporary or permanent; gas stoves.—Miss Kemp, 10 Endsleigh Street, W.C.1.

15 TREBOVIR ROAD.—Attractive Residential Club for professional women workers; two minutes from Earl's Court Tube Station; cheerful sitting-rooms, unlimited hot water; including partial board, single rooms from 34s. weekly; double rooms from 30s. weekly; two references required; holiday and weekend vacancies.—Apply, Miss Day, 15 Trebovir Road, Earl's Court.

## TO LET AND WANTED.

TWO FURNISHED ROOMS to let, top floor; well-appointed house near Victoria; one lady only; gas ring; electric light; service.—Box 902, WOMAN'S LEADER, 62 Oxford Street, W.1.

WESTMINSTER EMBANKMENT, on third floor, overlooking river and garden, TO LET, FURNISHED, sitting-room (sofa-bed), small bedroom (single bed), and kitchen; use of bathroom and telephone; no attendance; £2 10s. a week.—Apply, Mrs. McArthur, 48 Grosvenor Road, London, S.W.1.

TO LET.—Unfurnished first floor consisting of large front, smaller back room; gas ring; cupboard with water and sink; between Holland Park and Shepherds Bush Tube, overlooking square; £1 weekly to lady engaged during day.—Box 901, WOMAN'S LEADER, 62 Oxford Street, W.1.

## PROFESSIONAL.

LEARN SHORT CUTS to housework from Miss Gwynne Howell, household engineer and labour-saving specialist; consultations, personal or written.—88 Beaufort Mansions, Chelsea, S.W.3.

SECRETARIAL TRAINING combined with practical office work; fees according to subjects taken.—Miss Trotman, 36 Victoria Street, S.W.1.

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

SECRETARIAL TRAINING.—University students and girls of good education are prepared in the training department of the Central Bureau for Secretarial Appointments; prospectus on application; one free scholarship is given.—Apply Secretary, Central Bureau for the Employment of Women, 5 and 6 Princes Street, Cavendish Square, W.1.

AUTHOR AND PUBLISHER.—Authors should forward novels, poems, stories, plays, essays, music, and songs to Mr. Arthur Stockwell, Publisher, 29 Ludgate Hill, London. No reading fees. New writers welcome. Typewriting not necessary. Prompt business.

## HOUSING, GARDENING, Etc.

GARDENING FOR WOMEN at Ileden College, Kingstone, near Canterbury. 300 ft. up. Practical comprehensive training, individual consideration. Gardening year begins mid-September.—For illustrated prospectus apply Secretary.

TO GENTLEWOMEN.—Courses in practical Gardening, Dairywork, and Poultry Management under expert teachers; beautiful old manor house and grounds in North Devon; present vacancies.—Apply, Principal, Lee House, Marwood, Barnstaple.

## FOR SALE AND WANTED.

HOME-MADE CHOCOLATES AND SWEETS.—Large quantities at reduced prices for Bazaars. Lessons given; price list sent.—Miss Martin, 93 Chelsea Gardens, Chelsea Bridge Road, S.W.1.

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

UNCrushable DRESS LINEN.—Uncrushable Dress Linen for Spring and Summer wear, all pure linen, dyed fast colours, in 32 shades: Sky, Light, and Dark Sage, Navy, Shell Pink, Pink, Strawberry, Helio, Mauve, White, Ivory, Cream, Champagne, Tussore, Tan, Primrose, Myrtle, Sea Green, Slate, Brown, and Black; patterns free; 36 in. wide, 4s. per yard (worth 6s. 6d. per yard); add 9d. for postage on all orders under £1.—Hutton's, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ireland.

COTTON SHEETS.—Special offer for this month only; an odd lot of plain linen-finished cotton sheets, very superior quality, single-bed size, 54 in. by 88 in., 13s. 5d. per pair; 63 in. by 98 in., 19s. 6d. per pair; 70 in. by 106 in., 23s. 9d. per pair; double-bed size, 78 in. by 108 in., 27s. 9d. per pair.—Hutton's, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ireland.

GRAMOPHONE, new; lovely large inlaid Sheraton cabinet grand, 4 ft. high; all completely enclosed with domed lid and record cupboard; fitted with all the latest improvements; good neck tone-arm, double spring motor, needle cups; soft, perfect tone; nickel-plated fittings throughout; artistic piece of furniture; will be sent carefully packed on receipt of £10 10s.; worth much more; photo sent if desired.—F. Millership, 67 Victoria Street, Windsor.

## N.U.S.E.C.

APRIL 27. London School of Economics Students' Union, 1 p.m. Mrs. Hubback: Equal Franchise.

APRIL 28. Reading S.E.C., 8 p.m. Miss Beaumont: Separation and Maintenance Orders; Criminal Law Amendment; Equal Guardianship; Custody, Maintenance, and Marriage of Infants; and Children of Unmarried Parents Bills.

APRIL 28. Joint Parliamentary Advisory Committee, 7 Hobart Place, S.W.1, 2.30 p.m. Mrs. Hubback: Separation and Maintenance Orders Bill.

## SUTTON COLDFIELD WOMEN CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION.

MAY 4. Church House, Sutton Coldfield, 3 p.m. Councillor Miss Bartlett (Birmingham): "Our Mental Hospitals and how they deal with Mental Deficiency."

## WOMEN'S NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO SECURE STATE PURCHASE AND CONTROL OF THE LIQUOR TRADE.

APRIL 24. At Ealing W.C.A., St. Saviour's Parish Hall, 8 p.m. Subject: Licensing Reform: Some Practical Suggestions. Speaker: Miss M. Cotterell, O.B.E.

APRIL 25. At Wandsworth Women Liberals' Association, 8 p.m. Debate on Licensing Reform. For State Purchase: Miss M. Cotterell, O.B.E.

APRIL 26. At Cheshunt Women's Co-operative Guild, 3 p.m. Subject: State Purchase of the Liquor Trade. Speaker: Miss M. Cotterell, O.B.E.

APRIL 27. At Peckham Labour Party Women's Section, 3 p.m. Subject: Public Ownership of Liquor Trade. Speaker: Miss M. Cotterell, O.B.E.

## DRESS.

CORSETS made to order. Shetland Underclothing and Jumpers from 25s.—Emile Wiggins, 63 Elizabeth Street, Eaton Square, S.W.1.

COSTUMES, coats, furs, underwear, gentlemen's and children's clothing, house furnishings wanted. Specially good prices given.—Hélène, 361 New King's Road, Fulham, S.W.6.

THE HAT DOCTOR, 3a Little Sussex Place, Hyde Park Square, W.2. Re-blocks and makes hats, toques; own materials used if required; re-covers shoes, satin, thin kid, or canvas; own material if preferred. Furs altered and re-made at lowest possible price. Shoes toecapped, providing satin.

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

REAL SHETLAND HOSIERY.—Jumpers in white, grey, dark brown, fawn, and moorit, 17s. 6d. to 30s.; skirts, 25s. 6d.; jackets, 23s. 6d. to 30s.; shawls, 17s. 6d. to 35s.; Spencers, 5s. 6d.; Yarn, per head in two-ply, white, 7s.; grey, 7s.; dark brown, 7s.; fawn, 8s.; moorit, 8s.; real Shetland Fair Isle Jumpers, 35s. to 50s.; postage extra.—A. A. Faircloth, Stromness, Orkney.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS.

THE FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Eccleston Guild House, Eccleston Square, S.W.1; Sunday, 23rd April, 3.15 and 6.30; Dr. Hector Munro: "New Ways to Health."

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY, 55 Berners Street, London, W.1. Telephone, Museum 4181. Minimum subscription, 1s.; Organ: "Catholic Citizen," 2d. monthly.

ANTI-SLAVERY AND ABORIGINES PROTECTION SOCIETY.—Will you help to abolish slavery by joining this Society? Subscription 10s. 6d.—Denison House, 296 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London, S.W.1.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 58 Victoria Street, S.W.1. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Expert advice and information on training and openings given. Letter or interview.

THE PIONEER CLUB has re-opened at 12 Cavendish Place. Town Members, £5 5s.; Country and Professional Members £4 4s. Entrance fee in abeyance (pro. tem.).

A NEW CAMPAIGN urgently needed to proclaim the strong social, as well as moral reasons for self-control and good citizenship.—Apply for particulars to the Secretary, Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, Orchard House, Great Smith Street, S.W.1.

CAFETERIA INTERNATIONAL HOUSE.—Come to the Cafeteria, INTERNATIONAL HOUSE, 55 Gower Street, W.C., for dainty, light luncheons, teas, and suppers, 12-7.45; Foreign and British journals in the reading room; nominal membership fees; write for prospectus.

## PUBLIC SPEAKING.

PUBLIC SPEAKING.—MARION MCCARTHY. Specially graduated course indispensable to those engaged in Public Work.—Apply, 16 Hallam Street, Portland Place, W.1. Laugham 2530.

## POSTS VACANT OR WANTED.

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER, Department for the Training of Teachers of the Deaf, Ellis Llwyd Jones Lecturer in the Teaching of Deaf.—Irene R. Goldsack.—For particulars of courses for intending teachers of the Deaf, application should be made to the Registrar.

ORGANIZING SECRETARY.—Experienced woman seeks post; good speaker (if required); highest references.—Box 900, WOMAN'S LEADER, 62 Oxford Street, W.1.

£2 WEEKLY.—Genuine spare time pleasant home employment; either sex; copyright instructive sample on approval.—Send 1s. 6d. returnable (Dept. 14), 59 Morecambe Street, London, S.E.17.

PREPAID CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS 1d. a WORD, 6d. EXTRA FOR BOX NUMBER.