Catholic Citizen

Organ of St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance (formerly Catholic Women's Suffrage Society), 55, Berners Street, London, W.I.

Vol. XXVIII. No. 12.

15th DECEMBER, 1942.

Price Twopence.

Daughter of the ancient Eve, We know the gifts ye gave and give; Who knows the gifts which you shall give, Daughter of the Newer Eve?

Francis Thompson.

Regulation 33B.

LETTER TO ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE.

By FATHER VINCENT McNABB, O.P., S.T.M.

Dear Secretary,

You, as Secretary of an Alliance of Catholic Women for safeguarding the rights of women, have requested me, as a Catholic theologian, to give a considered opinion on the moral aspects of Regulation 33B recently issued by the Minister of Health.

Your request gives me at once the duty and right to offer my theological opinion; which is :-

Regulation 33B is not morally lawful because (1) It does injury to the rights of the citizen;

(2) it is sinful co-operation with sin.

Regulation 33B does injury to the rights of the citizen.

(A.) The primary right of the citizen is freedom, and especially freedom from compulsion. But compulsion is of the very essence of Regulation 33B.

The primary right of the citizen is freedom, and especially freedom from compulsion. But compulsion is of the very essence of Regulation

Moreover, it is compulsion to submit to what English law has hitherto considered "a criminal offence."

And to add to this breach of the citizen's liberty this "criminal offence" shall be ordered, not by a judge and jury in open court, but by an official, from whose judgment there seems to be no appeal.

The words of the Regulation may well be historic :-

... the Medical Officer of Health ... shall "serve on that" (suspected) "person a notice "... requiring that person to attend for and "submit to medical examination."

(B.) This breach of the liberty guaranteed by English custom and English law is all the more intolerable in morals because when, during the Great War, Regulation 40D conferred the same compulsory powers (over women alone!), it was found that between 40 per cent. and 50 per cent. of the women examined were free from venereal disease. And they had no redress at law.

(C.) Regulation 33B is thus a further extension of those Totalitarian designs which will make further encroachments on inalienable rights of the citizen. And indeed these designs have been acknowledged by some of those whose influence does not count for nothing in these medical matters.

Regulation 33B is sinful co-operation with sin.

(A.) The only allegable, and indeed alleged, motive for Regulation 33B is to prevent those who commit sexual sin from the bodily dangers of sexual sin.

In other words, Regulation 33B aims at making sin less harmful to the sinner.

Now it is arguable that it is lawful to make sin less harmful to the victim of the sinner. Thus we might persuade a man who intended murder, to forego murder and to be content with maiming. But all co-operation with a sinner which makes his sin less harmful or dangerous to him in sinful co-operation.

For example, a man might say to the Minister of Health:-" I intend to kill the King. Can "you recommend any poison which will lessen "the chances of my detection?" If the judge and jury trying this man for regicide found that

tain poison which was almost impossible to detect, would the Minister of Health be let off uncondemned?

tively increasing the prevalence of the sin; instead of decreasing its prevalence.

(C.) His Eminence Cardinal Hinsley and other members of the Episcopate here and in the United States have encouraged our young men to be brave; because the War is a Crusade.

But what are we to think when we Catholics are expected to be sympathetic towards a bureaucratic Regulation which aims at providing "clean women" for the Crusaders?

May I add that if St. Joan's Alliance did not resist this immoral Regulation to its utmost it would have fallen from the proud tradition of its past.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant in INRI, FR. VINCENT McNABB, O.P.

St. Dominic's Priory, N.W.5, 22nd November, 1942.

What is Regulation 33B? In brief, the Regulation states that any man or woman accused by two independent patients suffering from venereal disease of being the suspected source of infection, must submit to a medical examination and undergo any treatment prescribed by the Regulation failure to submit, carrying a penalty of three months' imprisonment or a fine of £100 or both.

St. Joan's Alliance opposes this Regulation first for the moral reasons given by Fr. Vincent McNabb, O.P., in this issue. In this connection we would stress the evil done to many young persons who, not being heroic, find on every side authority suggesting that continence is impossible.

Secondly, without entering fully into the medical objections, we would point out that the fear of compulsory treatment may hinder persons suffering from venereal disease from taking skilled and recognised treatment, especially in the early and most infectious stages of the disease. Further the Regulation suggests that "contacts" who have been under treatment are free from disease. In actual fact, this so-called safeguard is illusory since the "contacts" who have been rendered non-infective by treatment, may be re-

the Minister of Health had recommended a cer- infected within an hour of receiving the "clearance certificate." Therefore we believe that the Regulation will tend to increase, rather than diminish, the disease it sets out to check (B.) Again, by making promiscuous sexual Thirdly, the Regulation is repugnant to British intercourse practically harmless (if that were possense of justice. It employs informers who are sible) the framers of Regulation 33B are posi- not themselves under compulsion and imposes submission to physical examination for an accusation on suspicion that in ordinary law amounts to libel and for which the person denounced has no redress if the suspicion is unfounded.

St. Joan's Alliance has written to the Minister of Health calling for the annulment of Regulation 33B, believing that it will act as an incentive to vice, will tend to increase rather than diminish disease by giving a false sense of security; and is repugnant to British sense of justice.

While fully realising the gravity of the present position, largely owing to war conditions, we urge instead of the Regulation the following proposals:

- 1. A great increase in medical facilities with development of the free, voluntary and confidential system which has been our pride and has proved its value.* Every endeavour should be made not to segregate sufferers from venereal disease in special institutions but as far as possible allow them to attend general hospitals.
- 2. An adequate number of trained almoners of both sexes.
- 3. An adequate number of fully trained and attested policewomen who would act as friends and advisers of the women con-
- 4. Greater concern for recreational facilities offered to men and women, especially those in the Forces, under desirable conditions, as boredom is often the indirect cause of moral lapses.
- 5. Education of the adult population, pointing out that promiscuous intercourse must be and remain, a danger to health and that continence is the only safe prophylactic This we should like to see taught, preached and broadcast in words clear and suitable for the occasion.

Notes and Comments.

On 6th February, 1943, it will be twenty-five years since the Representation of the People Act which gave votes to women over thirty years old was passed. A committee has been formed of representatives of the old suffrage societies still existence to organise appropriate celebrations, ith Mrs. Archdale as hon, secretary,

eld on Saturday, February 6th, at 1.15 for 1.30 t Friends' House, Euston Road. Mr. and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence will preside and speakers will clude Lady Astor, Miss Nina Boyle, Lord Dicknson, Mrs. Key, Miss Laughton Mathews, Miss Eleanor Rathbone, M.P., Dr. Maude Royden. Irs. Tate, M.P.

Tickets, 3s. 6d., may be obtained from St. Joan's Alliance. Members and friends should oply at once for tickets as space is limited and there is a great demand for seating.

On November 18th, a deputation of twentywo women's organisations, including St. Joan's Alliance, introduced by Mrs. Tate, M.P., visited he Minister of Health to hear his reasons for introducing this Regulation. The women's rganisations represented, invited the Association f Moral and Social Hygiene to attend as the consultative expert society to put the case against the Regulation. Mrs. Elizabeth Abbott, Mr. H. Barrs Davies, Miss J. E. Higson and the Rev. G. L. Russell, M.B., Ch.B., represented the A.M.S.H. The Minister entirely failed to convince the deputation on general grounds, and his advisers were unable to meet the legal and medical objections put forward by the A.M.S.H. representatives.

The Minister gave no hope that this Regulation would be withdrawn. A "Prayer" has been tabled by Dr. Summerskill for its annulment, and this will be debated this week.

According to an agreement reached between the Engineering and Allied Employers' Federation, the Transport and General Workers' Union and the National Union of General and Municipal Workers, women over 18 who come under the women's national scheme of wages will receive 4s. a week increase in the present national bonus of 1s. and women over 21 who are on plain time rates will receive an additional 3s. a week bonus. Many others who are working on piece rates will also receive an additional bonus.

Women workers are now to be graded according to the nature of the work they are doing, and not to be regarded as a percentage of a man where wage rates are concerned.

A note by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, in the Bulletin of the Married Women's Association, comments on the procedure by which the husband receives the post-war credit note due jointly to himself and to his wife as part of the compulsory war tax on wages. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence asks what is to become of the married The first event is to be a Luncheon to be women whose war tax has been deducted from their earnings, leaving them nothing to show for it because their husbands are killed or missing? Apart from the principle of the thing, there will be endless complications and endless expense which will have to be borne by either the applicant or the taxpayer. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence stresses the fact that the joint assessment of married people's incomes, upon which this postwar credit procedure is founded, is a breach of the spirit of the Married Women's Property Act and hinders the woman's direct claim to her own property; she points out that the proviso that the man and wife must agree before the right thing can be done is a revival of a very old political excuse for delaying an act of justice.

> The Fabian Colonial Bureau held a Conference on November 15th, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Harold Moody, President of the League of Coloured Peoples, when the question of the Atlantic Charter's application to the Colonial Peoples was discussed. It was pointed out that a separate charter would not be satisfactory and speakers urged that the Atlantic Charters should be so shaped as to meet the aspirations of all.

> A resolution on these lines was passed. On the suggestion of St. Joan's Alliance the words "men and women" were substituted for "person" in the resolution. The amendment was applauded and accepted without demur.

We offer our warmest congratulations to Mr. Wilfrid Meynell on the occasion of his 90th birthday. We should like to thank him for the help he gave us in the early days of the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society when Alice Meynell was our staunch supporter.

Mr. Meynell was present at the Requiem for Leonora de Alberti, editor of The Catholic Citizen. In this connection we may remember that Alice Meynell wrote the first article in the first number of The Catholic Suffragist, and suggested the verse from Francis Thompson which has figured on our front page ever since.

We still have Wilfrid Meynell's "Aunt Sarah and the War" on the office bookshelf. We wish him many happy days of peace.

^{*} Only 17 new treatment centres have been set up in England and Wales since the beginning of the war and in all there are only 199 treatment centres in the whole of England and Wales. Approval has been given for the appointment of 98 trained genera practitioners to give treatment in their own sur geries in 68 different areas in nine counties.

ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE

Editorial Office of "Catholic Citizen"

55 BERNERS STREET, LONDON, W.I. Tel. Museum 4181

Signed articles do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Society.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

MISS P. C. CHALLONER, M.A., Chairman.

MISS BARRY, Hon. Secretary.

MISS PAULINE M. BRANDT.

MISS BARCLAY CARTER, Lic.-ès. L MISS HELEN DOUGLAS IRVINE, M.A.

MISS GRAHAM.

MRS. HAND

MISS JOAN MORRIS.

MISS NEILSON

MISS MONICA O'CONNOR MISS J. ORGAN, Hon. Treasurer.

MISS NANCY STEWART PARNELL, B.A.

MRS. SHATTOCK, M.B., B.S.

MISS CHRISTINE SPENDER, Hon. Editor.

Forward

M.P., for valiant action on behalf of equal compensation. On November 25th she moved an Amendment to the Address in reply to the King's Speech. This she did, though it is contrary to the tradition of the House since, as she said, all other methods of obtaining equal compensation circumstances only 14s.? Her need is infinitely for war injuries had failed. In spite of considerable pressure for the withdrawal of the Amendment, Mrs. Tate brought it to a Division, largest vote accorded against the present Government—95 to 229. The Amendment humbly regretted

"that no mention is made in the Gracious Speech of an intention on the part of the Government to compensate civilian women equally with civilian men for their war injuries."

Mrs. Tate and Dr. Summerskill, who seconded the motion, placed no faith in a Select Committee of Enquiry which the Government offered, and considered the proposal "almost as an insult."

In her fine speech Mrs. Tate deplored the fact that "after three years of war anyone should have to rise in this House to urge upon the Government the necessity for meting out justice to injured civilian women . . . on any public platform to-day one would get a vote of at least 99 per cent. of the public in favour of the view I am urging . . . It is not a fight for women, it is a fight for human justice. Rates of compensation are paid from taxation and women pay the same rates of taxation as men . . . the nongainfully-employed woman is the housewife, who washes, who sews, who cooks, who cleans, who rears your children, upon whom you have relied for billeting, for salvage, for serving in your British Restaurants, for making your rations scheme work, for economising in fuel, for keep-

Once again we are indebted to Mrs. Tate, ing up the morale of the country in days of difficulty. . . . Can anyone justify giving a man of independent means, or a pensioner, because he is not gainfully employed, 21s. a week for life if wholly disabled, and giving that housewife, who has worked and always will work, in similar greater."

Dr. Edith Summerskill, in seconding the Amendment, said "if the Government exploit the and she received for this non-party measure the women when they are needed, we cannot anticipate that the principles expressed in the Atlantic Charter will protect them when they are not needed. We are promised freedom from want, what a hollow mockery to those women who have been maimed and blinded. Are you implementing the promise that you made in the Atlantic Charter?

Rear-Admiral Beamish, who said he had received no letters on the matter, in an all-out speech opposed the Amendment.

Mr. William Brown believed that "every time a Member of Parliament puts first what he or she conceives to be right and subordinates the political expediencies of the moment, that Member does something to raise the prestige of this House in the eyes of the country.

Miss Lloyd George said that a Select Committee was a favourite device of procrastinating Governments when they got themselves into a nasty jam. The issue was not new, three years ago the scheme was brought in, the time had come when the Government should have the courage to come to a decision. "We are to have an enquiry not only into the question of compensation but into the repercussions and ramifications. One matter raised was the question of equal pay; this had nothing to do with the question of compensation, which is not based on wages. The Minister of Pensions made that clear in the first

speech he ever made on these Regulations when e said they were not in fact based upon earnngs or means. Therefore, in the words of Gilbert, this has nothing to do with the case. . . . to inquire into. . . . The compensation of which we are now speaking is a war measure related o war conditions, and how you can enquire into ther questions which have no relation to them, cannot really understand. It is obvious they re trying to side-track the whole issue.'

THE CATHOLIC CITIZEN

Mr. Reakes appealed to Members "to throw off party shackles, to put justice before party, nd to do something more than hand the women this country bouquets of dead flowers." He so mentioned that "there are even sections of ne trade unions which are dead against equal v for women."

Miss Irene Ward said that in voting for the Amendment the country would understand that hey were voting for a principle, which had very real support in the country, that the principle was being opposed by the Government, but that realistic vote on such an Amendment would, she assured the House, have a stimulating effect on the country. "We should be very ill advised, in the greatest Parliament in the world, to weaken he belief of people in the fight that can be ought for justice in the House of Commons."

Mr. Pethick Lawrence, as spokesman of the Labour Party, said that he was prepared "to accept the offer of the Government as a bona ide effort to thrash out this issue, to keep it within the purview of the House of Commons, and to enable us to come to an agreed decision." Though casting their votes against the Amendment, he said they would not hesitate on a later occasion to vote against the Government on this ssue. He asked the Government when next it came before the House after the publication of the Committee's Report, not to treat it as a matter of confidence.

Mr. Attlee stressed the complexity of the matter and the Minister of Pensions (Sir Walter Womersley) tried to find reasons for not granting equality, and said that he wanted to be "dead sure that he was not creating new anomalies by removing one anomaly." He said that the Select Committee would be asked to report as uickly as possible and he hoped it would be efore the Christmas Recess. The Report of he Committee would come before the House.

To questions as to whether payments would be retrospective and the matter be left to a free vote the House, evasive replies were given.

The Division list is in the office for the use of our members.

We call this article "Forward," because despite the defeat of the Amendment the votes given for it far exceeded the 30 votes given eighteen months ago when last the question was Therefore, I do not know what they are going raised in public debate in the House. Eppur si ELEANOR FITZGERALD. muove.

> The House of Commons has now appointed a Select Committee of 15 M.P.s "to examine and report upon the effect of the proposal that civilian women should be compensated equally with civilian men for war injuries on the general principles of compensation and levels of remuneration." The following Members will serve on the committee:-

> Mr. Hely Hutchinson, Mrs. Cazalet Keir, Sir Charles MacAndrew, Mr. R. Morgan, Mrs. Tate, Mr. Willink and Sir Lambert, Miss Lloyd George, Mr. Burgin, Mr. Grenfell, Mrs. Hardie, Mr. Ridley, Dr. Edith Summerskill, Mr. McGovern and Mr. V Bartlett.

MARION WALLACE DUNLOP.

In September there passed away a Suffragette whose name will be for ever remembered in the annals of Woman's Suffrage-Marion Wallace Dunlop-the first Hunger Striker. In June, 1909, Miss Wallace Dunlop went to the House of Commons alone-and stencilled on the wall of St. Stephen's Hall the following passage from the Bill of Rights: "It is the right of the Sub-ject to Petition the King and all such commitments and prosecutions for such petitioning are illegal." Miss Wallace Dunlop was arrested and sentenced to one month's imprisonment, second division, in Holloway Prison. On arriving at Holloway Prison she wrote to the Home Secretary demanding her right as a political offender to be treated as such, and given first division treatment, adding that as a matter of principle, and for the sake of others who might come after her, she would take no food. She was a brave woman for she took her life in her hands. In spite of threats of forcible feeding, she stood firm. Her month's imprisonment began on a Monday, and she was released on the following

An ingenious knitting sling for arm injuries has been invented by our member, Miss Marjorie Bate, of St. John's Ambulance Brigade. This sling can be used on ordinary fracture cases as well as other types of injury.

Congratulations to our Members-to Miss Stella Mannion, former Hon. Secretary of our Oldham Branch, on her marriage to Mr. Payer; to Miss Philpot on her marriage to Mr. Gilbert; to the Countess d'Hollosy on the birth of a little

International Notes.

The Liaison Committee of Women's Organisations, in the name of common humanity, wishes to record its protest against the crimes that are being committed during the present war, wheresoever and by whomsoever they are committed, against:-

(a) Individuals (through murder, internment in concentration camps, segregation in ghettos, break up of families, violation of women, debauchery of the young, forced labour); Spiritual values (through the destruction of

culture, the closing of schools, religious and

racial persecution);

(c) . Material values (through theft and pillage, and the seizure of corporate and private property); and in general through the establishment of a reign of terror over the civilian population.

We protest against the inhuman treatment of helpless populations, not only by individuals, but as the

organised policy of Governments.

We are convinced that only the most explicit and reiterated condemnation of such practices can prevent their blunting effect upon the universal human conscience from becoming permanent; and we affirm that the eventual peace settlement must include an endeavour to make such barbaric practices impossible in the future and to exact such restitution and reparation as may be most practicable in the circumstances which will then exist.

(Resolution published by Liaison Committee of Women's International Organisations).

In a message recently sent by Madame Chiang Kai-shek to British women war workers, the Generalissimo's wife said:

'You women of Britain have shared equally with the hardest and most onerous work of your men and you have won the unquestionable right to share equally in their success when the day of victory dawns. Britain with its comparatively small population would be in a perilous position had not her womenfolk so promptly and unhesitatingly stepped into the breach. .

In a reply which was sent by the Directors of the three Women's Services, they said:

. . In the cause of human freedom which unites us, women, in both countries, have successfully undertaken unaccustomed work, much of it of a technical and strenuous nature. We trust that the increased capacity of women for service may be of lasting benefit in the post-war world.

When the four members of the British Parliamentary Mission to China were welcomed at a reception by Madame Chiang Kai-shek, she

said:

"We hope that after meeting and knowing Chinese women, you will be able to tell your own country-women that you found in China a like spirit of service animating them in every walk of life. Since the birth of the Chinese Republic our women have begun to participate with our men in public

activities of every kind. We are not only found in political assemblages—we have peacefully penetrated into banking, professional and other preserves long regarded as men's monopoly. Our menfolk have shown no resentment."

With regret we learn of the death of Countess Albert Apponyi, of Hungary. She was a leading figure of the International Council of Women and several times represented her country at the League of Nations Assembly. Those of our members who attended the Eucharistic Congress in Budapest will remember the welcome she gave them at her home.—R.I.P.

IN MEMORIAM : MARY HAYDEN.

The Women's Social and Progressive League held in Dublin on October 8th a Mary Hayden Memorial Night, at which friends of that great woman spoke of her as they had known her. Mary Teresa Hayden inspired not only admiration for her work as a pioneer of feminism in Ireland and as a scholar, writer and teacher, but love also. She was loyal, brave and charitable as well as erudite, able and witty; she had the saintly simplicity and piety and the saintly lack of vanity and ambition. She wrote not only the "Short History of the Irish People," in which she collaborated with G. A. Mooney, and many learned and controversial articles for periodicals read by the cultured, but also plays on Saint Joan acted by members of the club which she founded for poor children and which she dedicated to our patroness. She taught these children their prayers and catechism and she made puddings and clothes for them. In a moving 'in memoriam" article in "Studies," Professor Mary M. Macken describes how on her deathbed her thoughts turned to this club, and how at her funeral in University Church, Dublin, the children of the club pressed about her coffin. We are proud that it was in honour of our Alliance that she dedicated this club, so near her heart to Saint Joan, and we echo the wish expressed by Miss Harnett on the Memorial Night that it may be a permanent monument to her.—R.I.P.

WANTED a copy of "First the Blade," by Clemence Dane.-Write Box 3, St. Joan' Alliance, 55, Berners Street, W.1, naming price. Organisations.

WANTED, to buy or on hire, any pieces of furniture; also china, linen and cutlery.-Box 20, St. Joan's Alliance.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO.

Leonora de Alberti in the "Catholic Suffragist." December 15th, 1917.

15th December, 1942.

"In this the fourth year of the war it is difficult to find appropriate words in which to convey to our readers our Christmas wishes. We cannot wish them a happy Christmas; it would be a mockery to wish them a peaceful one, perhaps the best we can do is to wish them a hopeful Christmas. Faith and hope that from the agony of these times a better world may be born. . . . Let us remember that this is the season of childhood; and that with the welfare of children is bound up the welfare of the world. It was with great regret that we read the report of a speech delivered by Miss Normanton at a conference of the National Union of Women Workers in which she stated that though a supporter of child welfare, she opposed the expenditure of large sums of money immediately after the war, because the cost would fall upon the men who had already given enough as soldiers. The cost would fall upon the nation, and the question is not whether the nation can afford to spend, but whether it can afford not to spend large sums on child welfare."-Notes and

REVIEW.

PREPARING OUR DAUGHTERS FOR LIFE. by a Catholic Mother. (C.T.S. 3d.).

This excellent little pamphlet written by a Catholic mother and a doctor will assist parents who wish o give their daughters the information that children may ask for and should receive. The language is simple and the facts are stated clearly without innecessary detail or circumlocution. As far as it goes it is excellent.

If, as the author says, it is undesirable to answer child's first question by a vague statement, such the child is looked after and sheltered by the other before birth," it is surely equally undesirble to counter further enquiry by the information hat the father supplies a seed. The child's vivid nagination is not likely to be guided along the right ath, because the word seed may mean something to the child, but probably not what the parent is ttempting to explain at all. The statement may avoid some wrong thinking, but it might lead to ther unforeseen phantasies.

If it is held that the child is not ready for an explanation, in that case, the statement that children are given by God to married people covers the ground adequately.

During the first 8 to 12 years of life, the child will e quite satisfied with the answer that children are ven to married people. In spite of the danger of child receiving instruction in greater detail from suitable companions, we may hold that fuller detail about human sexual relationship is not sought and therefore cannot suitably be given to most

children before that age. When it is given, it must be in such language as will convey the right meaning to the child.

LIVERPOOL & DISTRICT BRANCH.

Hon. Secretary: Miss A. McNeish, 61, Rosedale Avenue, Crosby, Liverpool 23.

The branch has forwarded a resolution to the local M.P.s asking them to vote for the annullment of Regulation 33B, believing that it will tend to increase rather than diminish venereal disease, is repugnant to British sense of justice, and will act as an incentive to vice.

The Women's Organisation Committee of the Liverpool Council of Social Service, who conducted a survey of 386 flats and 448 houses, nearly all Corporation property, reached the conclusion that 80.6 of every hundred prefer flats, 8.2 per cent. are not particular on the point. St. Joan's Alliance took part in the survey, and much work was done by our Committee member, Mrs.

A Committee meeting will be held at Sisson's Cafe, Castle Street, at 3.30 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month. Will Committee members please note time and place of meeting.

We offer our deep sympathy to Mrs. V. Fairclough on the death of her son on active service, and to Miss Crawford on the death of her mother and ask our members to pray for the repose of their souls.—R.I.P.

THE OXFORD BRANCH.

Hon Secretary: Mrs. Burrough, Women's Service Library, c/o St. Anne's Society, 56, Woodstock Road, Oxford

A meeting was held on December 6th when the subject of discussion was the necessity of Catholic women to come forward and realise their importance and responsibilities on social and political questions throughout the world.

The next meeting will take place on the second Sunday in January, when it is hoped to discuss the Beveridge Report.

CHRISTMAS SALE.

We wish to thank all the donors in cash or kind of gifts to our Annual Christmas Sale, and also those who assisted in the selling of goods, and especially the Misses Billing and Davis who, with the help of Mrs. Meaden and her little daughter Veronica, undertook entire responsibility for refreshments. The Sale was a great success and up to date £41 2s. 4d. has been cleared. Veronica Meadon danced for us with great charm.

We hope to make up the £50 required for office rent by sales at the Office, where there is still an abundance of Christmas presents to be had.

J. M. ORGAN.

The largest

CATHOLIC HOSPITAL

in the South of England

The Hospital was founded in 1856 by four Sisters of Mercy on their return with Florence Nightingale from the Crimean War.

The Hospital contains 158 beds, including 31 beds for Paying Patients. Private rooms are available from 8 gns. per week. Eight beds are set aside for Priests and Nuns from the Diocese of Westminster. Trained Nurses sent to patients' own homes. Apply to the Superintendent in charge of the Trained Nurses' Institute, 32 Circus Road, N.W.8.

THE HOSPITAL OF ST. JOHN | | | & ST. ELIZABETH

60 Grove End Road, St. John's Wood, N.W.8

A. FRANCE & SON

(Holborn) Ltd.

CATHOLIC FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Head Office: Holborn 4901

45 Lambs Conduit Street, W.C.1
PRIVATE CHAPELS OF REST

LARGE DEPT. FOR BOOKS ON RELIGION.

FOYLES

FINEST STOCK IN THE WORLD!

Nearly 3 million volumes (new and second hand) on EVERY subject.

CATALOGUES FREE. BOOKS BOUGHT.

JOIN THE CATHOLIC BOOK CLUB!

Members buy outstanding Catholic Books (published at 7/6, 10/6 & 12/6) for ONLY 2/6

113-125 CHARING CROSS RD., LONDON

Open 9—6 (including Saturday). Telephone: Gerrard 5660 (16 lines).

Character from Handwriting. Helpful, interesting, true. A priest writes: "certainly helpful." Send 1/3 and stamped envelope with specimen of writing. W-f., St. Joan's Alliance, 55 Berners St., London, W.1.

WRITING A STORY OR WAR EXPERIENCES?

Here is an infallible Guide to the Beginner's Success.

THE ART OF STORY WRITING

(C. 8vo, Superior Cloth, 5th Autographed Edition).

(By a Famous Author.) Writing the 5'- NET complete story in seven graduated stages, style, polish and professional Post Free. "touch," speedily acquired. Its presentation, negotiation and chances of "acceptance." Also includes "The Author's Guide" (1942), a complete and Classified list of every Newspaper, Magazine and Periodical, its respective minimum and maximum war-time Length for Article, Story and Serial "acceptable." The only published Guide of its kind. A veritable gold mine of essential facts that earns for you immediate profit from your writing. The previous publication had over 20,000 sold copies and this reprint is very strictly limited. Direct from the publishers:

STONE LITERARY AGENCY

(Publishing Dept. "O. & A."

Established 1928. REDCAR, YORKS.

WHAT THE PRESS SAYS-

School Government Chronicle—"Literary aspirants will find in this book valuable guidance"—"this successful story writer of long experience."

Library World.—"Never so many salient points from the pen of Les Preston."

The Librarian .- "A very Excellent book."

Blighty.—"Mr. Preston is to be congratulated upon writing a text book that reveals master penmanship.... this experienced national journalist."

Woman's Employment.—" An invaluable book that reveals the author's understanding of the editor's psychology."

Girls' Own Paper.—" If you have a 'flair' for writing here is the book."

Irish Observer.—"What he doesn't know about story
writing is not worth bothering about."

A.R.P. News.—" Here are all 'the tricks of the trade."

Fife Herald.—" Of inestimable value even to the experienced author."

Falkirk Herald.—" Could hardly have a better guide than Les Preston . . . Many a young author must have found this volume a money maker."

Peterboro' Advertiser. -" Briefly, clearly and in a direct and very practical manner."

Kent and Sussex Courier.—" Gives all the essential facts concerning the art."

Berwickshire News.—"It is the most authentic treatise ever written." By the writer of over 350 PUBLISHED STORIES—"over 18,000 copies sold."

Dunfermline Press .- " Most authentic ever published."