

THE CATHOLIC CITIZEN

Organ of the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society, 55, Berners Street, London, W.1.

VOL. V., No. 8.

August 15th, 1919.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

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.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION.

BY ISABEL WILLIS.

The Peace so long discussed has become an established fact; but it rests with the League of Nations to ensure its continuance and the continued existence of the League itself depends on the goodwill of the peoples of the world. As President Wilson said: "We are starting out upon uncharted seas and therefore we must have, I will not say the audacity, but the steadiness of purpose which is necessary in such novel circumstances." This steadiness of purpose it is the aim of the League of Nations Union which has been started in this country to secure by educating public opinion, and making it clear to all men that if the horrors of war are to be avoided for the future, the work of the League must have the support of the whole community. At a great meeting held at the Albert Hall in June last, this point was the one enforced by all the speakers. Lord Grey said: "The same causes are operating already that have brought about wars in the past. You can see them in the papers every day: they are all at work again." At this critical time, when the moral forces on both sides are being arrayed against each other, the natural thing would seem to be for Catholics to throw all their strength into the support of this Union which has been formed to prevent the Peace from being treated as another scrap of paper. But certain causes have led to their holding back—causes which have been stated very clearly and forcibly in an article in *The Universe* of June 20th, entitled "The Exclusion of Catholics." It tells us what we are all feeling, that we have now "come to an issue as vital as any that has ever confronted the civilised world," that our Holy Father has "set forth the principles upon which alone a new and better order of national and international peace and justice may be

attained," but that he is ignored and not wanted, and "the millions of Catholics throughout the world, who could have been enlisted as a solid force under their spiritual head, are not wanted either—as such." And that the League of Nations Union in our own country has also deliberately and intentionally boycotted the Catholic Church and its members in England—as such.

Now I do not for a moment question the accuracy of these statements of *The Universe*—we may take them as facts, or the statements would not have been made; but the conclusion I would draw, and urge all other Catholics to draw, is not that they should hold aloof from the Union in consequence of these facts, but that on the contrary they should join it and support it with all the zeal and energy they possess. That is, they should do this as individuals, and I am grievously disappointed with the *Universe* article in that it fails to enforce this duty, or if it does, it is in such a vague half-hearted way as not to be calculated to arouse Catholics to a sense of public duty. This is all the *Universe* has to say on the point. "As for the action of Catholics in the matter, they are used to rebuffs, and these do not deter them from doing all the same what they conceive to be their duty. If they cannot bring their corporate force into play, they will, we imagine, do all the more zealously whatever they can as individuals to forward the principles and the concrete proposals to which the Holy Father has directed the attention of the world. *They will fix on the good wherever they find it, and support the efforts of all men of good will who are working towards the same end, whoever they may be.*"

Now does this last sentence, which I have italicised, mean that Catholics should join the

League of Nations Union, or does it not? If it does, I think it should say so in clear words. It is, at any rate, what seems to me the most obvious and simple way in which we can "forward the principles and concrete proposals" of the Holy Father. If the Union is so foolish as to ignore Catholics as a body, then, I take it, there is all the more reason for individual Catholics to join it, and to do so in such numbers as to force our point of view on the other members and influence their deliberations in the right direction. If the League of Nations is to be a co-operation of peoples rather than of Governments, if its object is to be the establishment of justice and right dealing between peoples, how can Catholics hold aloof from this Union, whose object is the same as ours? Surely there can be no better practical method of carrying out our object than joining a Union already existing and in working order, rather than trying to form a separate one of our own. It may be said that Catholics will be at a disadvantage in not being at present represented on the Executive Committee of the Union; but this to me seems rather an additional reason why we should come into it as ordinary members in such numbers and with such zeal as to be able to force our views on the Executive. Anyone who has had much to do with committees of various kinds of Societies will be inclined to agree with me that ordinary members are far too much in the habit of leaving everything to the Executive, scarcely even, in some cases, taking the trouble by attending the annual meetings, to keep themselves informed of what the Executive Committee are doing.

Catholic women especially should make it their duty to join the League of Nations Union and throw themselves into its work. Only the other day we were told by Lady Aberdeen that General Smuts had said to her in Paris that if the world was to be rebuilt the women would have to build it, and what a glorious chance for Catholic women is offered now through this Union of influencing the work of the League in preserving the blessings of Peace to the world! We must not think that the work is done, once for all; as M. Poincaré recently said "A real peace will only be achieved by continuous creative work and this ought above all to be a collective work of allied and associated peoples." And President Wilson expressed the same thought when he

said, "We have not established a formula for peace, but have drafted a plan for co-operation which will extend and strengthen in years to come."

Is it not unthinkable that Catholic women should not take their part in this magnificent creative work?

THE PRESENT DAY QUESTION.

We are glad to read the protest on profiteering in the July number of the "Month," coupled with an earnest appeal to the laws of the land to intervene, but one could wish that some attempt had been made at a diagnosis of conditions, of which profiteering is merely a symptom.

It has been said that genius does not consist in saying anything new, but in bringing out a truth that we are already aware of, and showing its practical application. Bearing this in mind, it is well to reflect on these pregnant words of Sir Leo Chiozza Money:—

"Let us produce for use and not for profit."

These words sum up the whole situation, but it will require a genius to apply them, in our present state of civilization, even though the Christian principle involved is self-evident.

In order to understand this new economic situation it is well to scan the past.

Before the era of science, when man worked with his hands, when locomotion was difficult and roads were bad, and means of communication hardly existed, the economic problem was fairly simple. Population up to 1715 in the British Isles never rose above 3 millions and it often fell to 2 millions. If there was a famine people died. Even if it had been possible for those possessing food to have been informed, the difficulties of transport would have prevented any means of help arriving. Even in those simple days the profiteer was going about his business, as when the wool industry superseded agriculture, and large tracts of land were turned over to grazing, and the wool exports to Flanders raised up a newly enriched class, at the expense of miserable peasants, who were turned adrift to die of want. Taking the difficulties to be surmounted, however, it is clear anything like organization on general lines was impossible.

Turning to our own day, what has happened?

Science, by which is meant machinery, for

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

By bringing in a Bill of their own purporting to remove sex disqualification the Government succeeded in defeating the Women's Emancipation Bill in the House of Lords, which is no doubt what they intended to do. We say purporting, because though it may really be the Government's idea of equality between the sexes it is not ours, nor do we consider that the Bill fulfills the pledge given by the Premier and Mr. Bonar Law.

Upon reading the article "Women and the Priesthood," by Father Sydney Smith, S.J., in the "Month" for July, one realises that there still exists a class of persons who believe that the world is a place where the great God Man rules with supreme and unquestioned authority over all his subject race of women. And yet the learned Jesuit lived many years, comfortably and happily we hope, under the rule of a woman, and we feel confident that he was a loyal subject of her late Majesty Queen Victoria. But Father Sydney Smith appears to live in a little world of his own, and the gentle Catholic ladies who gather round him are seemingly of the patient Griselda type—"they feel their physical weakness and rejoice to know that, if wives, they have all the strength of body of their husbands to protect and guide them." Very touching, but if Father Sydney Smith cares to leave his privileged seclusion, we will undertake to introduce him to a gallant army of Catholic women, married and unmarried, who are by no means of the type so dear to his heart. They would, we fear, give him a rude shock, but it is always useful to know the world as it really is.

By the death of the Revd. Dr. Anna Shaw feminism has lost a great champion and pioneer. An eloquent and powerful orator she resigned her parish and medical work in order to devote herself to the suffrage movement. She succeeded Susan B. Anthony as President of the National American Women's Suffrage Association in 1905, and became its Honorary President in 1915. Shortly before her death she received the Distinguished Service Medal, for her valuable work as Chairman of the Women's Defence Committee. All suffragists will join with their

American colleagues in mourning her loss, for all have lost a friend.

The following list shows how Catholic M.P.'s voted on the Women's Emancipation Bill:—*For*, J. Delvin, N. Grattan Doyle, Major G. Hennessy, T. P. O'Connor, James O'Grady, James Sexton. *Against*, Lt.-Col. Archer-Shee, J. F. Hope. Lord Edmund Talbot was teller for the Noes.

In reply to Mr. G. Murray's question in the House Dr. Addison said that the number of men electors registered in the first register under the Representation of the People Act was 12,913,166. And the women electors: 8,479,156. He could not say for certain, but according to the best information available another five million women would be added to the Register if the Women's Emancipation Bill became law.

(Continued from page 60).

production, locomotion and communication have conquered the output. That there is in reality more than enough, more than enough of everything.

Being well aware of the danger of swamping the market and creating a slump, also to prevent suicidal undercutting and competition, manufacturers combine, it is an economic necessity, and is in fact *automatic*.

Beginning at raw material and working through every branch of an industry the manufacturer regulates the output and keeps back supplies in order to force up prices, the workman in his turn limits the output in order to make more work for his mates.

The object of the Trusts and Combines is merely profit. The food of the community never enters into the calculation. over and above all this is the sheer gambling carried in every Stock Exchange in the world.

The question confronting us is, do we intend to be governed by Trusts and Combines, or is the State, which in the last analysis, is each one of us, to have the last word?

It is not individuals but a system we must attack. There is a great deal of talk about private ownership, but it has ceased to exist already. The vital question is, "Are we to produce for use or for profit?" V. J. HEAD.

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.

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THE FUTURE EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN.

Within the last few months various reports of Government Committees have been issued, dealing, directly or indirectly with the employment of women. All of them—with the exception of the Gladstone Report on Women in the Civil Service—have been more satisfactory than even in these days one had dared to hope. In the first place there was the Haldane Machinery of Government Report, with which we dealt some months ago. This last Committee did not hesitate to urge the Government in the interest of the nation, to extend the range and variety of duties entrusted to women in the Civil Service, and to appoint women to administrative posts. Then followed the report of the War Cabinet Committee on Women in Industry, giving a detailed survey of women's work before and during the war. This Committee lays down the principle of equal pay for equal work, a principle for which feminists have fought so long, earning thereby some harsh and totally undeserved criticism. In connection with this principle we note with much interest the recommendation that "where equal pay will not attract the same grade of men as of women, it may be necessary to counteract this difference of attractiveness by the payment to married men of children's allowance, and that the subject should receive the careful consideration from His Majesty's Government in connection with the payment of teachers to which the government contribute. This in fairness should apply to women with dependents as well as to men, but of this the Report says nothing. The Committee

again, in clause (4) urge the Government, that arch offender in differentiating between men and women in its service, to set its own house in order: "That the Government should support the application to industry of the principle of 'equal pay for equal work' by applying it with the least possible delay to their own establishments, and that as soon as relation between the wages of men and women in any occupation or job has been agreed upon between employers and Trade Unions, acting through the recognised channels of negotiation, the maintenance of that relation should be a condition of any Government contract involving the employment of workpeople in that occupation or job." The Report likewise urges the abolition of the separate grades and separate examinations for women clerks in the Civil Service. It was to this Report, it will be remembered that Mrs. Sidney Webb's uncompromising Minority Report was appended. Mrs. Webb's Report embodies all the hopes and aims of feminists. She rejects absolutely the comfortable theory that the low payment of women is based upon natural causes, she maintains, as we do, that the existing relation between the conditions of employment of men and women, whether in manual labour or in brain work is detrimental to the personal character and professional efficiency of both sexes, and inimical alike to the maximum productivity of the nation and to the advancement of the several crafts and professions. Mrs. Webb concludes her report by a damaging indictment of the Government as regards the

pledges given that women should receive the same pay as the men they replaced.

The Report of the Women's Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Reconstruction also urges that women be admitted to the same examinations as men in the Civil Service, and receive equal opportunities of promotion with men, and equal rates of pay. But the Government favours the Gladstone Report, which does not favour women. When these apostles of equality come before the country once more with election hooks baited with fair promises to women, we shall know precisely what value to attach to their promises.

What, then, is the Government's record in its treatment of women? It has queered the pitch in the House of Lords for the Women's Emancipation Bill, by bringing in a bill of its own, which leaves the unequal franchise where it is. It gives support to the Gladstone Report, which women reject. It has found time to pass the Pre-War Practices Bill, which in spite of the declaration made, may yet prove a menace to women in new industries, but can find no time to grant facilities for the Bill which opens the legal profession to women. And yet it is not in Governments or committees that our hope for women lies, it is in the spirit of women themselves, and the quality of that spirit was manifest in the great meeting held recently at Westminster, which repudiated the Gladstone Report. It is manifest in the revolt of the teachers; it is the spirit which makes for victory.

Meanwhile, in meditating upon the hampering restrictions which men have placed upon women in almost every walk in life, one is forced to the conclusion that though they have preached their superiority from pulpit and from rostrum, and from the housetops, they are by no means convinced of it, but do, in fact, fear the competition of women. It is an unworthy fear, there is room for all. Indeed the world in its agony has need of all the brain, all the ability, all the energy of every man or woman who is willing to work and to serve. To refuse the help of women was always wrong, was always foolish, to refuse it now is madness.

L. DE ALBERTI.

THE SHIELD.

In the February-March issue of the "Shield" it was announced that the future of this valuable review was uncertain. In the current issue we are glad to see that the "Shield" will appear regularly, quarterly, oftener if events calls for more frequent publications. To those who take an interest in problems connected with sexual morality, the "Shield" is invaluable, one can depend upon it for clear thinking, and sound morals. It is to the Association of Social and Moral Hygiene, of which the "Shield" is the organ, that one looks to sound the warning when united action is necessary to check the forces of reaction, ever anxious to re-establish in this country, or under the British Flag, old discredited methods for combating diseases, methods which are not only immoral and unjust, but have also been proved to be a failure in stamping out disease. The current issue, as a warning to social workers in all parts of the world, gives some appalling details of measures adopted in some of the American States in the name of morality and hygiene, and quotes the following passage from a California paper: "An outrage and an infamy upon twenty-one innocent women, and a probable breach of an American citizen's constitutional rights, was the recent arrest by the police 'Moral Squad' of the twenty-one suspects seized indiscriminately in lodging houses and hotels and on the streets of this city. But one of the twenty-one was found to have a social disease, the eradication of which is given as the reason for the raids of the Moral Squad upon orders by the Commissioner of Public Health and Safety. Sixteen of these women were held incommunicado all day at the City Isolation Hospital. They were compelled to submit to a humiliating test by the hospital physician. The other six were kept in jail over night. They also were deprived of their constitutional rights to establish their characters at once by communication with their friends. . . ." The same paper tells of another perfectly respectable woman seized by the so-called Moral Squad on her way to market, and hauled off to the isolation hospital and examined, on no other grounds than that her sister kept a boarding house in an unfashionable quarter of the town.

(Continued on page 65).

THE CHILDREN OF EUROPE.

It is evident from Reports from official and other sources that the ravages of famine, destitution and disease will have to be fought in Europe by a combined world effort. It does not follow that because war has ceased peace dwells on earth. The cry of the children rings across Europe, and the aftermath of war is to be found in the figures of ill-nourished and deformed babes to whom God's gift of joy has been denied. Hunger for babes is what war brings; suffering for mothers who, unable to still that ceaseless cry, can only watch in hopeless misery, their children dying before their eyes.

There is no means of estimating the total number of underfed and ailing children to-day in Europe. Mr. Hoover says in the *Times* of July 14th that 1,000,000 children in Poland alone are being given one meal a day out of the American Charitable Scheme for feeding 3,500,000. Dr. von Pirquay, of Vienna, gives the figures of children up to 14 years of age who are being fed under this Relief Scheme in Vienna as 340,000, in addition to some 3,000 students who are given breakfast and who 'never had a proper meal before.'

In Serbia there are 240,000 destitute orphans. In Petrograd 300,000 children are in the care of the Red Cross. In the Caucasus there are half a million fatherless children in need of relief, with whom the American Mission in Armenia and Syria is attempting to cope. "Children who were a year ago healthy little people are now unable to support the weight of their bodies, and are forced to remain lying on the ground. The American Committee is rushing food in as fast as they can—two trainloads a week, but it is not sufficient."

The Czecho-Slovaks suffer perhaps most of all. At Prague in April 50,000 out of 1,250,000 children under 14 were so prostrated by malnutrition and hunger that the future of the race was threatened. 85 per cent. of them were suffering from rickets, anaemia, tuberculosis and other terrible diseases. Their growth has been stunted by privation.

In Silesia famished children crowded round the barracks in May at meal times. "80 per cent. of them without shirts." The White Paper issued by the War Office in June states that in Breslau (Silesia) babies of three weeks

old were "sucking spinach soup instead of milk," and that "the average weight of a normal new born child was four lb."

American Jewry is to become responsible for the education and care of the hundreds and thousands of Jewish children in war zones.

In Austria and Bohemia the American Child Feeding Scheme is doing what it can, but as Mr. Hoover points out it is not enough. This work is for the people of the world to do and it brooks of no delay.

One meal a day for 3,500,000 children for three months works out at about £3,500,000, and Poland alone has 1,000,000 children to be fed. Nor is this all. Remember there are its invalid and emaciated, unable to walk to public feeding schools. Those suffering from tuberculosis and bone-softening are obliged to lie in bed. Children of three and four in Vienna are unable to walk because of this bone disease, and must be carried. It is incurable, inasmuch as it leaves them crippled for life. It requires a special diet of cod-liver oil and milk, and if it is not so treated the children die.

"Almost all Vienna's child population is stunted and all will be handicapped." Hospitals and clinics urgently require cod-liver oil, margarine, baby foods, flour, soap and linen.

In Hungary, hospitals are in desperate straits; for lack of all the necessities and comforts which enable mothers to bring children into the world. The appeal of the International Red Cross was repeated again in June that matters had not improved. "In the name of the Mothers of Hungary we invoke your help. We lack everything. . . . Babies die of *decubitus* because there is no clothing to protect their tender bodies in the cradles. . . . Linen sheets, blankets for women, wrappers, diapers, baby clothes and baby linen are all lacking."

Mr. Hoover in a letter to America has stated that the area to-day where there is the most acute suffering, that is receiving no assistance from any foreign quarter, is probably industrial Germany, more particularly in Saxony."

A Relief Mission passing through German Bohemia reports that the children were such little wizened creatures and the old people such heart-breaking sights of misery that the onlookers wept.

This work of reconstructing Europe lies

before the people of England and of America. Europe still asks for bread. For lack of clothes babies lie ill and die. For lack of soap and disinfectants their bodies become diseased, and for lack of human sympathy and care their parents are losing hope.

Bela Kun claims that parts of his country suffer from moral, physical and spiritual decay. It is not to be wondered at. Peace cannot come to England while children wait for milk which under-nourished mothers are unable to give them. The facts stare us in the face. They do not need to be imagined. It is true that unlike America, our press, pulpits and platforms have not yet combined to preach anew in England the ancient gospel of love and service, but in spite of that we know what conditions exist, from appeals that have constantly appeared from Relief Mission sources. It is a pity that no attempt has been made to explain to the public just how the £12,500,000 voted for relief purposes by the House of Commons was spent and where.

General Smuts has said the spectacle of reconstruction confronting Europe to-day is one which no man of heart can contemplate without the deepest emotion. He says "Europe is and will be, for this generation, the greatest mission field in which the energies of the great-hearted peoples of this country and America could be spent." Human comradeship "beyond the limits of nations, fellow-feeling and common service in great human causes."

The greatest of all human causes at present which demands service, is the re-creating into some semblance of fitness the bodies and souls of those children of Europe who for three years and more have been destroyed and maimed by the needless conflicts of men. We have had no vision. The principles of life have been ignored. Therefore the task of reconstruction grows heavier as we hesitate. In this moment of victory a vista of work undone spreads out before our eyes, and tasks, upon the fulfilment of which depends the future of civilisation, await us. Unless we go forward to meet this work, together, united and inspired by this spirit of common service, the foundations of the future will creak as they did yesterday, and the building will be as unstable as the ancient houses that were built on sand.

To rejoice, while the grim shadows of

disease stalk through Poland, Armenia and Russia is impossible. To talk of peace while men still fight in foreign lands is hypocrisy. The veil has been wrent from our eyes. War does not leave a nation untouched in its truth-seeking capacities. What then is the spot on the sun that follows the eye wherever it goes?

Communicated by the "Save the Children Fund" (room 341), 329, High Holborn, London, W.C.1. B.G.

HON. TREASURER'S APPEAL.

Money received from 4th July to 4th August, 1919:

	£	s.	d.
Barry, Miss F.	1	0	0
Barry, Miss F., Per. Jumble Goods Sold	3	6	2
Bodley, Miss D. E.	0	2	6
Cotton, Miss C.	0	1	0
Liverpool and District C.W.S.S.	2	0	0
McCarron, Miss K.	0	1	0
McManus, Miss	0	1	0
Wall, Miss M.	0	8	6
Weale, Miss M. M.	0	1	0
Wheeler, Miss	0	1	0
Whitehead, Miss L.	0	1	0

Moore, Mrs. Maxwell, for "Catholic Citizen"

£8 4 2

The above sum is little more than half our last month's total of £15 18s. 6d. I earnestly ask members and friends to bear in mind that £12 per month is the very lowest amount required, in order to keep the office open, and to help me to make up the deficit this month.

JUMBLE GOODS.

All can help at least by collecting as many jumble goods as possible of their own and from their friends. Men's, women's and children's clothes, and household articles, can be sent to our Hon. Secretary, at 55, Berners Street, W., who will sell them to the best advantage for the funds.

Kindly note, however, that these should not be forwarded before September 1st, owing to the office being closed for the holidays. GABRIELLE JEFFERY.

(Continued from page 63).

We do not think that the authorities would dare to adopt such methods in England, women are too wide awake, and they are feared, but one wonders that American suffragists should allow such things to happen.

SOME VERSES. By M. C. Fordham (Heffer & Sons, Ltd.)

Miss Fordham's verses show a love of nature and a love of children, two loves which are closely akin. The poem which appeals to us most in her book is "The Lantern." We imagine that the writing of verse comes easily to Miss Fordham, and that it is a joy to her. There is a danger in this facility, and we think she will do better things, when she gives more time to polishing her work.

PRE-WAR PRACTISES BILL.

On the Report Stage of this Bill the Government definitely stated that the Bill did not apply to new industries or new parts of old industries, the amendments to safeguard women were therefore ruled out of order. Mr. Jack Jones, speaking for the unskilled and general workers declared that Labour would look after the interests of women in industry. We shall see.

London Office: 55, Berners Street. Tel.: Museum 4181. Office closed during August. Correspondence attended to as usual. Members will be pleased to hear that Mrs. V. M. Crawford has kindly consented to serve on the Committee.

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