

# THE WOMAN'S LEADER

## AND THE COMMON CAUSE

Vol. XVIII. No. 43. One Penny.

REGISTERED AS  
A NEWSPAPER.

Friday, November 19, 1926

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Annual Subscription for Postal Subscribers: British Isles and  
Abroad, 6/6.

Common Cause Publishing Co., 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1

### NOTES AND NEWS.

#### The Equal Franchise Campaign.

The winter campaign is now in full swing. We describe elsewhere the young suffragists' poster parades outside the Houses of Parliament which recalls pre-war history. Three by-elections give a favourable opportunity for educational publicity on this subject; the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship is already at work in Hull and Howdenshire and expects shortly to make a beginning at Chelmsford. The National Council of Women in Birmingham recently decided to invite the twelve Birmingham members to receive a deputation on the subject. Many meetings will take place within the next few months. The Six Point Group has organized a meeting at the Chelsea Town Hall on 1st December, and next week at the Town Hall, Camberwell, at a meeting organized by the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship a strong platform presided over by the Mayor, supported by two Members of Parliament, will pronounce in favour of immediate reform. The subject is beginning to attract greater interest in the Press; it is indeed a hopeful sign when an article "Votes for Brides" by Dame Millicent Fawcett appears in *John Bull*, with its immense circulation. As we propose to devote a great deal of space to the subject, we invite our readers to send us reports of meetings and deputations for publication.

#### Dilly Dally.

The Chief Whip's reply to Miss Wilkinson's question on Thursday last as to whether, in view of the fact that the present Government is entering upon its third year of office, the Prime Minister can now make any statement as to when he proposes to take steps to extend the franchise to women under thirty years of age, still has the familiar ring, viz., that the Prime Minister regrets that he is not yet in a position to make any statement. We confess that for some time past such an answer can be viewed only with the greatest indignation. We admit that the Prime Minister has, with the Imperial Conference and the Coal Dispute, been very closely occupied during the last few weeks, but he himself invited questions on Equal Franchise such as this from women's organizations later in the autumn. Further efforts will be made to elicit a response directly his engagements appear not to be so desperately pressing.

#### Women and the Lead Paint Bill.

The Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Bill came up for its second reading in the House of Lords on 11th November. Its committee stage will have been taken by the time this is in the hands of our readers. The most interesting feature of the

debate on the second reading was a speech by Lord Haldane, calling on the Government to produce the evidence on which it bases the statement that women are more susceptible to lead poisoning than men. He said: "I confess that I am sceptical on the subject, and I would like to know the scientific grounds by which the statements to that effect have been supported. . . . I think they really ought to refer a question of this kind to the body that there is to undertake such investigation, I mean the Committee of Civil Research. It is a crying question on the part of women why they should be treated differentially on any occasion, and you have to justify it on every occasion that you do it. It has not been justified on this occasion except by vague statements, I know not on what foundation." This request was backed up by Lord Balfour of Burleigh, who is moving the deletion of the provision for the exclusion of women, on Thursday, 18th. According to the figures in our possession, we feel that the Government will have a very difficult task in justifying the exclusion of women on the above grounds. We shall, of course, be returning to this when their answer is known.

#### Heads I Win, Tails You Lose!

On 12th November the Nationality Committee of the Imperial Conference framed the terms of its report on the nationality of married women and on passports. The need for a change in the present law in this country is with us all the time. An interesting case was heard on the 15th instant at Bow Street, when a certain Mrs. Parr was summoned for being found in this country after a deportation order had been enforced against her. It appears that Mrs. Parr had believed herself to be a German subject before marriage (though she subsequently discovered she was Dutch), and had been deported during the war. She recently married an Englishman and returned to England. The case for the prosecution was that for the purpose of evading the consequences of the deportation order she could not change her nationality by marriage or by any other means. She had therefore been deprived of her British nationality by an order made by the Home Secretary. It appears that a married woman may or may not be deemed to have assumed the nationality of her husband, according to the views of the Home Secretary. It is clearly intolerable that the law should remain as it is.

#### Smoke and the Private House.

The Public Health (Smoke Abatement) Bill will have come up for its committee stage on Thursday, 18th. Amendments are down providing for the points which this paper has always advocated, notably the inclusion within the bill of power to Local Authorities to insist on proper smokeless arrangements in dwelling houses, as well as in other buildings, the inclusion of steamers in ports or rivers, and the restriction of the powers of the Ministry to exempt any process after five years. Our readers will know whether these amendments have been successful by the time the paper is in their hands. We ourselves do not feel very hopeful.

#### Women and Cambridge University.

The new statutes of Cambridge University, drawn up by the Cambridge University Commission, came into force on 1st October. It was, of course, open to the Commission, if it wished, to provide for the admission of women as members of the University. Lord Ullswater, however, in his letter to *The Times*, says: "We have not disturbed the adjustment of the position of women students, which the University made in 1923 by admitting them to the titles of all degrees. We have declared women to be eligible to University teaching posts and therefore to membership of Boards of Faculties. It will be for the

University itself to determine in the future whether it shall take any further steps to open its doors still wider. In the meanwhile, trusts are being so altered as to enable the University to throw open to the candidature of women scholarships and prizes, unless the founder of the same has expressly excluded women." In spite of the advantages referred to by Lord Ullswater, there is no doubt whatsoever that women students at Cambridge will never be content until they have full membership and the limitation of numbers is done away with.

#### Distinguished Women and Crosby Hall.

By the time this paper is in our readers' hands, the interesting function at Crosby Hall, which we will report next week, will be over. The commemorative tablet will have been unveiled by the Duchess of York, and we hope a considerable portion of the £17,000 required will have been received. In our issue last week Mrs. Alys Russell described the plans of collecting committees for endowing rooms named after certain distinguished women. She pointed out that students from abroad will begin to come into residence about the time of Dame Millicent Fawcett's eightieth birthday next spring, and that it had been suggested that there should be a Dame Millicent Fawcett room to perpetuate her memory for future generations of students. The sum of £1,000 is required for this and already a good start has been made. It is hardly necessary to commend this scheme to our readers. No better birthday present could be given to Dame Millicent than a contribution to a project which has her complete sympathy and for this reason alone our cheque books and our purses open readily. But there are other reasons. Those who love their own country and at the same time have a strong desire for close and warm international relationship can find few better ways of helping than the establishment of a centre for educated women of all nations in our own capital city. Crosby Hall, with its beauty of situation and design, its historic associations, makes its own appeal to our sympathies; now the happy thought of a Dame Millicent Fawcett room in this beautiful international building heightens the interest of that appeal and we have not the slightest doubt that the £1,000 will be immediately forthcoming. We only hope it will not be reached in large sums before our smaller offerings arrive.

#### Unmarried Women Jurors and "Distressing Facts."

In the Divorce Court last week it was suggested by Sir Patrick Hastings, Counsel for one of the parties, that any unmarried women on the jury might prefer not to serve in view of the distressing facts which would be brought before them, and they were given permission to retire if they wished to do so. We are glad to learn that no woman, married or unmarried, left the witness box. Public opinion—always a vague and uncertain quantity—has advanced greatly in its attitude towards the duty of women as magistrates and jury women during the hearing of unpleasant cases. Almost without exception the Press last week supported Mrs. Green, the woman magistrate, in the incident to which we referred last week, and the headline "remain to do their duty" is significant of public approval of the action of the women jurors.

#### Misalliance.

Our War Office has apparently for the last ten years considered itself *in loco parentis* to those of its army school mistresses sufficiently foolish (in its eyes) as to wish to marry any soldier below the rank of sergeant. As Sir L. Worthington Evans explained in answer to a question in the House of Commons last week, an army school mistress who marries is liable to be compulsorily retired, but it has been customary not to enforce retirement if she marries a soldier of the rank of sergeant or over. Here is a regulation we venture to commend to Local Authorities who have found it very difficult to find adequate reasons for insisting on the resignation of teachers in their service on marriage. The Army does not bother about "the welfare of education" or whether its teachers when married can or cannot be supported by their husbands—what it apparently wishes to prevent is misalliance!

#### Civic Honours.

Comparatively few women have been honoured by the gift of the Freedom of a City and we congratulate Peterborough on its good sense in its appreciation of the lifelong services of Miss Margaret Gilson, Principal of one of its Schools. Though the honour coincided with Miss Gilson's ninetieth birthday, she was able herself to reply at the presentation of the document on

which the resolution granting the freedom was engrossed. Edith Cavell was at one time a pupil at Miss Gilson's school. Such outward marks of distinction all too rarely come to those whose work has not made them conspicuous in the public eye. There are many who faithfully serve their day and generation in comparative obscurity and we should like more frequently to see their names honoured by the localities to which they have devoted their life work.

#### Municipal Elections.

We have to add the following women councillors to our lists printed in our last two numbers:—

Eastbourne: Miss M. H. Rammell, re-elected; Mrs. E. M. Thornton, re-elected.

Macclesfield: Mrs. Laird, first woman member. A correspondent writes that Mrs. Laird's victory at the top of the poll was due to her record of public work as a Poor Law Guardian, and on Public Health and Child Welfare committees.

Southampton: Mrs. Lucia Welch, J.P., re-elected; Mrs. Eleanor Norris, re-elected; Miss Edith Hillman.

Stoke-on-Trent: Miss Farmer; Mrs. Barratt.

We are endeavouring to compile a complete and accurate list of women councillors, with the parties to which they belong, and we once again ask our readers scattered throughout the country to help us. We would also be glad to have information as to the committees on which women councillors serve.

#### The Scottish Elections.

A correspondent has pointed out that our figures last week excluded Greenock where three women candidates were nominated and two returned, who defeated their male opponents by large majorities. There are now four women on the Greenock Town Council, three of whom are Councillors, and one a Bailie. In the neighbouring Burgh, Gourock, following the election the woman member was promoted from the rank of Councillor to that of a Bailie.

#### Women in the Spanish National Assembly.

The Madrid correspondent of *The Times* states that it is probable that women will be eligible for membership of the Spanish National Assembly in conformity with the Marquis de Estella's general policy of granting extensive rights to women. This surely means that the vote cannot be long postponed. Perhaps, after all, Spain will be the first Latin country to enfranchise its women.

#### Our Parliamentary News.

We welcome our Parliamentary Correspondent back to our columns this week. On our first two pages we will as usual deal with current events in Parliament of special concern to women, including questions of special importance. So far as space permits other questions in Parliament dealing with subjects of interest to women will appear each week. We suggest to those who do not see the *WOMAN'S LEADER* regularly that now is the time to subscribe. Those who wish to know week by week what is happening with regard to the Bills supported by women's organizations cannot afford to be without the *WOMAN'S LEADER* during the Parliamentary Session.

#### NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER.

(Continued from page 367.)

mentary situation only, are not a fit place to discuss the merits of the quarrel, but, as far as opinion in the House is concerned, two currents of thought can be noticed; first, that there is no one, from Die-hard to Socialist, who does not really rejoice at a settlement, and second, that there has hardly ever been an industrial dispute in which so many mistakes have been made on both sides. Assuredly, the second sentiment is strongly held and freely expressed.

The Government announced that no Trade Union legislation would be taken this year, and rumour is busy, but contradictory. Possibly no decision has yet been reached. It looks as though 1927 would be occupied in this, the Factories Bill, and Mr. Neville Chamberlain's measure for the reform of the Poor Law, and a pretty ample programme it will be. 1927 is the third year of the Government's existence—a critical time always, and much will depend upon leadership. Opinion in the country is somewhat difficult to gauge.

#### AN IMPARTIAL STOCK-TAKING.

As we go to press the miners are making up their minds, in the manner prescribed by their district machinery, whether or no to accept the Government's last offer. That it is a last offer we must all recognize, for in the long series of offers which have appeared to be within their grasp, each one a little worse than the last, this particular offer stands on the lowest rung. Shorn of its one reluctant concession of a temporary statutory tribunal with power to revise district agreements which depart in certain respects from a standard pattern, it would be no offer at all but a charter of unconditional surrender.

But even its rejection can have little effect upon the prolongation of the dispute; for already, with a third of its men back at work on the owner's terms, the power of the Miners' Federation has been broken. Not only the terms of this humiliating last offer, but the whole course of the dispute have combined to discredit its efficiency. We are sometimes thankful that our position as a non-party organ exonerates us from the reticences imposed by political loyalty. We can therefore speak freely of a trade union whose political influence will doubtless survive its economic collapse. From start to finish the leaders of the Miners' Federation have been stubborn and inconsiderate in negotiation. They have called upon their fellow unions for sacrifices unparalleled in the history of trade unionism, and have abused them for "desertion" when their own actions have rendered those sacrifices unavailing. When quick decisions have been needed, they have divested themselves of responsibility. Where deliberative thought was needed they have produced hasty slogans. The very office work of their Federation has become a byword for bewildered inefficiency. In fine, they have led an industrial "charge of the Light Brigade" with a million men and more than a million women and children, and if their effort goes down to history with a halo of heroic obstinacy, it will go down also with a shadow of unpardonable stupidity. Miners are for the most part very simple, loyal people, who live in isolated places. Their day-to-day experiences plus the elementary education which the State provides for them, do not carry them very far on the road to an understanding of broad economic realities. One expects them to be obsessed with the economic reality which most immediately touches them: the length of the working day and the insufficiency of the weekly wage. But from their leaders, who move in a wider orbit and achieve freer contacts, one expects something more than an exaggerated reflection of qualities which are endearing in an individual but a danger to the public when embodied in the policy of a social group.

As regards the part played by the Government, we have

#### NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER.

BY OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT.

The House met on 9th November, in a somewhat chastened mood. The coal stoppage was still unsettled, and though the Labour party had won many victories in the local elections, they were not as jubilant as might be imagined. The Liberals had even less cause for self-congratulation, whilst Conservatives were undoubtedly uneasy at the continuance of the stoppage. The business of the week calls for little remark, for the whole time was occupied upon the Government's Electricity Bill. This measure has the assent of a considerable majority of the Conservative party, the Labour party are not actively hostile, though, of course, they would have liked a more drastic reform, and the real opposition comes from a band of Conservatives who have fought the Bill bitterly at all stages. When it was in Committee, in the seclusion of a Committee Room, they made some way, but in the larger air of the House itself they were not particularly effective. Occasionally they divided against the Bill, their numbers at one time falling as low as twenty-three, but there was not much punch behind their attack, and finally, on Friday, 12th November, the Bill passed its Second Reading, the Labour party dividing against it.

It is designed to co-ordinate and cheapen the supply of electrical power. In this matter Great Britain is lamentably behind other industrial countries, and the Government are stepping in to do what private enterprise has failed to accomplish. The attack on the Bill comes from Conservatives who plead for individual initiative and condemn the measure as socialistic. The general opinion of the party, however, is distinctly against them, for it is recognized that electrical energy, both from its importance and from the

already expressed ourselves on several occasions. There may be some among our readers, whose party loyalty enables them to see in these ultimate terms of settlement the "even deal between man and man," which the Prime Minister believed himself capable of securing for those who were prepared to trust his honest intentions. The honesty of those intentions we have never doubted. We do, however, impugn the will-power and consistency of a Government which rolls restlessly from side to side, between an expressed belief in non-interference with industrial disputes, and sporadic negotiations involving at times the exasperated abuse of both parties, at other times a humble subservience to the demands of one party. Nor can it be forgotten that its first big relapse from a policy of *laissez faire* involved the country in the most expensive form of interference known to the history of industrial conciliation: the payment of a subsidy on conditions which gave the taxpayer no return whatever, either in the form of peace or of social settlement.

There remains the third party—the coal owners. Two successive Royal Commissions with varying emphasis have indicted the efficiency of their industrial management. Mr. Baldwin himself has indicted their capacity for peaceful settlement of internal disputes. He has also on several occasions indicted their manners. With these indictments we have no quarrel. Nevertheless, in the conduct of this particular dispute they have shown from start to finish a most masterly inactivity, drawing from its turbulent ups and downs a legislative extension of hours (which the Royal Commission condemned), the termination of a national agreement (which the Royal Commission upheld) and freedom from compulsory amalgamation (which the Royal Commission advised). Now, at last, they face the future, happily relieved for a long time to come from the potent challenge of the Miners' Federation, and in a position to recoup their business losses from a period of abnormally high prices in a denuded market. They are, perhaps, the only class in the community which can congratulate itself upon having handled the present dispute with political consistency and business acumen. And they have achieved an unequivocal result which could be most fittingly celebrated by a Victory Ball at the Ritz Hotel.

But political consistency and business acumen are not the only qualities which go to the making of good citizenship and ultimate happiness. And were we given a choice of rôles, we should hesitate to accept the victorious heritage of the coal owner, preferring rather that of a disillusioned debt-encumbered miner—or even, perhaps, that of a Government candidate faced with a by-election in an industrial constituency.

fact that it may become a monopoly, is an apt subject for Government control. It is rumoured that the House of Lords will deal with the Bill in somewhat severe fashion, but that remains to be seen.

The Report stage occupied the first three days and the Third Reading was taken on Friday. Most of the ground covered was familiar, for the merits and faults of the Bill have been debated pretty freely. Sir Douglas Hogg, the Attorney-General, and Mr. Wilfred Ashley, the Minister of Transport, were in charge, and Sir Douglas in particular showed debating powers of a rare order. He is rapidly taking his place in the great succession of lawyer statesmen. The best speeches against the Bill were undoubtedly those of Sir J. Nall.

In the lobbies, coal was talked of more than electricity. For several days a settlement hung in the balance. It was well known that the Trades Union Congress and, in fact, all the leaders of the Labour party, were in favour of coming to terms, but it was not until Thursday, Armistice Day, that the delegate conference of the Miners' Federation gave their executive freedom to negotiate. When that was done, the end was in sight, though the final terms were not agreed until the early hours of the following morning. The Prime Minister himself took charge of the negotiations, and to him must honour be given. At the moment of writing, it is uncertain whether the miners' executive have signed finally, or whether the agreement must be referred to the districts, but in any event it is believed that a settlement has been arrived at. These notes, which deal with the parlia-

(Continued on page 366.)

## QUESTIONS IN PARLIAMENT.

Thursday, 11th November.

**SEXUAL OFFENCES AGAINST YOUNG PERSONS.**—Viscountess Astor asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether he will consider supplementing the Circular issued to Justices' clerks, embodying some of the recommendations of the Departmental Committee on Sexual Offences against Young Persons by a further Circular urging the importance of other recommendations of the Committee, particularly with regard to the hearing of children's evidence on oath, to the clearing of Courts, and to the presence of a woman Magistrate on the Bench when cases of assault are heard? The Secretary of State for the Home Department (Sir William Joynson-Hicks): The Circular was issued after very careful consideration, and I do not think that the objects which my Noble Friend has at heart would be advanced if I were to attempt to supplement it at the present time. Viscountess Astor: Will the Right Hon. Gentleman bear in mind that a good many people throughout the country, including women, feel that unless something further is done upon the points to which I have drawn attention they may slip over? Sir W. Joynson-Hicks: My Noble Friend must not think that my attention wanders. I have issued this preliminary Circular, which is a very important one, as a first instalment, so as to get certain very important points before the Justices. The question is being considered and I shall not overlook it.

**WOMEN FRANCHISE.**—(See Note.)

**WASHINGTON HOURS CONVENTION.**—Mr. B. Smith asked the Minister of Labour if he is aware that the Senate in France has been recommended by the Commercial Committee to ratify the Washington Hours Convention, and that in Germany a ratifying Bill is to be introduced into the Reichstag this month; and what steps he proposes to take in order to give effect to the ratification of the Hours Convention, which was originated by representatives of the British Government, and was further endorsed by the recent London Conference? Mr. Betterton replied: . . . With regard to the last part of the question, my right hon. friend explained, in reply to a previous question on this subject on the 30th June, that the examination of the results of the London Conference had necessarily to be postponed owing to the pre-occupation of the Government with the industrial situation. I regret to say that the course of events since that date has not so far made it possible to carry the matter any further.

Friday, 12th November.

**ADOPTION OF CHILDREN ACT (RULES).**—Mr. G. Hurst asked the Home Secretary whether rules of procedure made pursuant to Section 8 of the Adoption of Children Act, 1926, have yet been published; and if not whether they will be issued as soon as possible in order to make the benefits of this Act available to the public? Sir W. Joynson-Hicks replied: I understand that the rules which the Lord Chancellor is required to make under Section 8 of the Adoption of Children Act, 1926, are being drafted, and that they will be issued as soon as possible.

Monday, 15th November.

**NURSING HOMES.**—Mr. Gerald Hurst asked the Minister of Health whether he has considered the report of the Select Committee on Nursing Homes; and if he intends to initiate legislation next session; with a view to adopting its recommendations? Mr. N. Chamberlain: The report is now under consideration, but I am not yet in a position to make any statement in regard to legislation to give effect to the Select Committee's recommendations.

**LUNACY.**—Sir W. Davison asked the Prime Minister whether the Government propose to introduce legislation to give effect to the findings of the recent report of the Royal Commission on Lunacy? Mr. Neville Chamberlain: The report of the Royal Commission is receiving careful consideration; and until the recommendations have been examined in all their bearings, it is not possible to indicate the nature and extent of any legislation which the Government may be able to introduce.

**HUMANE SLAUGHTER.**—Viscount Sandon asked the Minister of Health whether he will take any administrative or legislative action to compel the use of the humane killer? Mr. Neville Chamberlain: As I informed the hon. member for Lichfield on the 12th March last, I cannot see my way to introduce legislation.

## NOTES FROM IRELAND.

By DORA MELLONE.

WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT.

Under the Constitution of the Irish Free State, there must be a General Election next year. Ministers are already displaying great activity—the Finance Minister, criticising P.R. in a manner which would have done credit to Sir James Craig. "In things essential, unity"—and for both Governments the essential element in electoral methods would appear to be the reduction of the chances afforded to independent candidates. It is well that the coming election in the Free State must under the Constitution be conducted under P.R., for a very serious effort is to be made to secure the return of at least one independent woman. There may be others, and there certainly will be women put forward by the various party agencies, but women should be especially interested in the candidate supported by the Irish Women Citizens' Association. This Association, convinced that its object, "to watch legislation affecting women and children, and to promote fresh legislation when necessary," will not be fulfilled until there is at least one woman sitting in Dail Eireann, free from party pledges, is throwing all its energies into the effort to secure the return of Mrs. Noel Guinness. Mrs. Guinness was for many years a member of the Board of Guardians, dissolved by the Free State Government, mainly for proceedings against which the little band of women P.L.G.'s had fought in vain. She has also done long service on the Howth Rural District Council. The Association is raising funds to meet the heavy cost of election work in such an area as County Dublin. Under the present electoral organization, this includes Dublin City. It will be a fair test of the value of P.R., in helping the return of minority candidates. Mrs. Guinness has given only one pledge—to support and press for the reforms included in the legislative programme of the Association. No need to enumerate them; in one form or another, they are familiar to all readers of this paper. Apart from this programme, Mrs. Guinness will be free to vote according to her own convictions. It is the first time that a non-party woman's organization in Ireland has definitely pledged itself to support any one candidate in a Parliamentary election. It is very hard to raise funds in Dublin now, with rising prices, empty grates, and hungry mouths calling for help. Only the earnest conviction that this thing must be done could have led women familiar with the everyday need of relief through the ordinary channels to set aside money and time for this work.

"ME TOO, PLEASE"?

Meanwhile in Northern Ireland, the Women Citizens' Union is fretting under the extraordinary delay in introducing legislation on the lines of the British Guardianship and Separation and Maintenance Orders Acts. These have been pressed on the Government for eighteen months and still no result. Query, are conditions in Northern Ireland so idyllic that neither measure is required? Or does it mean that with unemployment, fuel scarcity, high prices, it is more difficult to rouse the interest of that very practically-minded person, the working woman of Belfast? "Sure, most times it's her own fault. She has him as she reared him, and if there's trouble between her and her man, it's her own doing." That sums up the attitude of many women, too pressed by household anxieties to think about those other women. So Members of Parliament escape that "worrying" which like other chastening, is not pleasant, but grievous, and yet is so good for their souls.

"FAMILY ALLOWANCES—JUST HER TALK."

The work must still go on, however hard times are, and so this winter lectures are being given on Family Allowances, in preparation for a visit from Miss K. D. Courtney in the spring. One comment may be interesting. "When Miss — came round telling us about Mothers' Pensions, I thought it was just a bit of her talk, but you see we got them after all. Perhaps it will be the same with her Family Allowances." The subject is fairly new to Belfast audiences, and so far the main objections have come from that rather neglected but in my opinion at least very deserving woman, the unmarried working woman who is no longer young. Mothers' Pensions under its present form has meant an increase of insurance costs for her and she fears the same in the case of Family Allowances, however carefully it is explained that no one method is so far recommended. These women have often dependents—how familiar we were with this fact in the old suffrage days, when pleading for Equal Pay! Their opposition counts and it is for students of schemes to bear this fact in mind.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF IRELAND.

Under this high-sounding title an organization formed in 1923, has recently been holding its Annual Meeting in Belfast, by invitation of the Belfast Women Citizens' Union. The existence of the Council, representing as it does Belfast and Dublin, is evidence of the unity among the non-party women's organizations. The very successful annual meeting was another evidence of this fact. Chatting with a delegate from one of the new countries during a reception given in connection with the I.W.S.A. Congress last May I asked after conditions at home: "Alas, times are bad. The money is pressed out of us by taxes, we cannot sell our goods as we wish, and there is so much unemployment." So it is in Northern Ireland and in the Irish Free State. So women meet together to hearten each other in the struggle against hard conditions and strengthen each other in the conviction that the "welfare of women and children, on which the welfare of the community depends" must be sought before party issues.

## A MODERN CRITIC.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. Lucas begins his admirable volume of criticism by a depreciation of the critic's trade. He asks questions which every reviewer, every journalist, almost every writer worth his salt, must have asked himself at times! Why encourage people to read *about* things, when they might be spending the time in studying or enjoying the things themselves? Why write more books when life is not long enough to read the great books of the world? These questions he proceeds to answer in the same essay; but those who are not satisfied will find a further answer in the remaining pages of his enchanting book.

Man cannot live alone, neither can he think alone or enjoy alone. We need criticism of life and of books as we need the countenance of our friends. Through books our minds come into direct contact with other minds, through great literature they come into contact with the noblest minds that have been on earth. But we are, many of us, perhaps most of us, incapable of establishing that contact without the help of other minds, more equal to our own in calibre, more similar in training and outlook. Shakespeare and Dante have the music of the spheres, but how many of us would have perceived it if we had been left entirely to ourselves? Dante himself needed a Virgil to guide him, and we too need guides. Even among those to whom reading seems at least as important as any other form of human intercourse, there are many who can spend only a small portion of their time among books, and many who are worn and blunted by the other contacts of life. They need guides who are more sensitive by nature and more tuned by habit than they are themselves. Otherwise they will not find or will quickly lose the eternal beauty that they seek.

After reading through this volume for the second or third time I feel that it is a delightful experience to have Mr. Lucas as a guide. He combines the quick and delicate perceptions of youth, with wide and often profound reading. For a "Modern" he has Catholic sympathies, and though perceptibly a "High-brow" he is free from the Highbrow sneer. Browning is the only Victorian at whom he can hardly forbear to gibe. He does this, I think, because he pictures Browning as continually in an all's-right-with-the-world attitude, and such an attitude is of all others the most antagonistic to his own. He thinks Browning insensitive, and he himself might be called over sensitive, if it were really possible to be so. He belongs to the generation nurtured in the negations of nineteenth-century science, stricken by the war, and what followed the war, tuned to the melancholy of Hardy and A. E. Houseman. He believes, if I understand him rightly, that none but the cruel and the stupid can be happy in a world so fraught with misery as ours; and that the only consolation for life is the beauty that lies in the open-eyed acceptance of pain. That belief seems to me to have a good deal implicit in it which its holders do not admit. But to argue about it would lead me too far for the place and the hour. I will content myself with suggesting that although a good deal of our so-called happiness comes from insensitiveness to pain, some of it comes from sensitiveness to a joy which is also in the Universe, and which Mr. Lucas and his fellows seem to *try* to ignore. "We have piped unto you, and ye have not danced," say the children in the market-place. But Mr. Lucas does not always succeed in not dancing and at any rate he leads us to places where we can hear the pipes.  
I. B. O'MALLEY.

<sup>1</sup> Authors, *Dead and Living*, by F. L. Lucas. (Chatto & Windus, 7s. 6d. net.)

## MISS MARY BEARD.

Miss Mary Beard, who died in Manchester on 3rd November was a strenuous worker for education. She was the first woman appointed by a University to its staff, when she was assistant secretary in the University Extension office at Oxford. Later, at the Board of Education, she helped in the selection of teachers for South Africa. After her retirement, she gave valuable assistance to various local authorities in inquiries into the condition of secondary education, and in other ways. From 1907 to 1915 she was head mistress of Ladybarn School, Withington, where her affection for and interest in young children found most effective expression. During the war she gave efficient and sympathetic help to the Friends' War Victims' Relief Committee in France, where she made many new friends, both French and English. During her last years she was one of the most energetic social workers in Manchester, her chief interest being in the Nursery Schools. Of the recently founded Nursery Schools' Association, she was one of the keenest members. Although towards the end her health was not at all good, she nevertheless gave the last ounce of her energy to the work she had at heart, and the loss to her personal friends and to the children who use—and have need of—the Nursery Schools is irreparable.  
C. U. F.

## THE YOUNG SUFFRAGISTS' POSTER PARADE.

The Poster Parade, organized by the Young Suffragists outside the House of Commons on the day Parliament reassembled, was in many ways reminiscent of older suffrage days. Sixteen voteless women were marching in line, bearing their posters, when the procession was stopped by the police, considerably to the interest of onlookers. No organized procession, it was said, was allowed within a mile of the House of Commons. The opposition, however, was overcome when the suffragists undertook to march at a distance of thirty yards from one another, which they did until four o'clock in spite of pouring rain. At half-past five a new contingent assembled, and the banners were raised again, only to be followed by more trouble with Scotland Yard. Now it was discovered that the posters were an inch or two over regulation size each way. For some time the issue was in doubt, and the supplication of one constable that the poster-bearers should go home and get on with their needlework was of no avail. At length, however, the forces of the law prevailed and the procession adjourned to the lobby of the House of Commons to attack members, and remind them of the burning question.  
H. S. A.

## WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

### GREEN, WHITE, & GOLD FAIR.

TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, 23rd and 24th November.

THE CAXTON HALL, WESTMINSTER,  
From 3 to 9 p.m.

To be formally opened each day at 3 p.m.—  
On Tuesday by PROFESSOR WINIFRED CULLIS, O.B.E., D.Sc.,  
on Wednesday by THE LADY AMHERST OF HACKNEY.

Dramatic and Musical Entertainment 6 p.m. each Day.  
Display by Camp Fire Girls, 23rd November, 7.15.

TICKETS (including tax).—1s. 10d. the First Day until 5 o'clock, after 5 p.m. and on Wednesday, 1s. 2d. (including tax). On sale at 144 High Holborn, W.C.1, or at the Doors.

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

### THE ANNUAL MEETING

will be held at

Women's Service House, 35 Marsham Street, Westminster,

on

MONDAY, 29th NOVEMBER, 1926.

Business Session 3.30 p.m., followed by a

MEETING ON THE WORK OF THE SEVENTH ASSEMBLY OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS, 4.30 p.m.

Chairman: Mrs. OGILVIE GORDON, J.P., D.Sc.

Speakers:

Dame EDITH LYTTTELTON

(British Substitute Delegate to the Seventh Assembly)

Mrs. HOSTER

on "Women in the Secretariat of the League and International Labour Office".

ADMISSION FREE. COLLECTION.  
Both Meetings open to the Public. Tea may be obtained after the meeting.  
Hon. Sec.: Miss L. de ALBERTI, 306 Scott Ellis Gardens, N.W. 8.

## THE SLAVERY CONVENTION, 1926.<sup>1</sup>

By W. MCGREGOR ROSS.

The seventh ordinary session of the Assembly of the League of Nations was marked by a step, taken on 24th September of this year, which will have a pronounced effect upon the lives and fortunes of millions of Africans, in particular, and of submerged peoples in other parts of the world. The Assembly formally approved the final text of a Convention for the abolition of slavery and for the amelioration of labour conditions, falling short of actual slavery, such as prevail in the colonial dependencies of more than one of the Imperial Powers. The representatives of twenty-five States there and then stated their intention to sign the Convention. Others which are signing later will bring the total number of Powers pledged to observe and enforce the terms of this Convention to close upon fifty. It is to remain open for signature by other States until 1st April, 1927. A notable incident is the signature of the delegate from Abyssinia—the last Christian country in which slavery is still tolerated by the law of the land.

Slave-trading is to be suppressed and prevented. It was not found possible to secure agreement that slave-running at sea should be treated as piracy, but negotiations are continuing towards a further agreement which will make the practice more hazardous, for those who indulge in it, than is at present the case. In those states where slavery has persisted up till now it is to be completely abolished "progressively and as soon as possible."

### FORCED LABOUR.

There is general disappointment in this country that this Convention does not prohibit forced labour for private employers. The British delegate was not as successful in urging this reform as was Sir Frederick Lugard, our representative on the Temporary Slavery Commission at Geneva in September, 1925. A note of reaction appears in the fact that a suggestion for an annual report from all States as to progress in applying the intentions of the Convention, was defeated. As publicity is the only way of focussing a world public opinion upon States which tolerate methods of exploitation which just fail to amount to slavery, the absence of a provision for an annual progress-report from each State is much to be deplored. Article 9 of the Convention is a "contracting-out clause," allowing any State to sign the Convention subject to stated disagreement with one or more of its clauses. British public opinion would probably have been better pleased if stronger pressure had been advanced, on behalf of the British Empire, for a prohibition of forced labour for private profit and for publicity as to the activities of States in the suppression both of slavery and forced labour—leaving such States as were unwilling to agree upon these points to "contract out" with regard to them.

### A CHANCE FOR THE I.L.O.

A happier feature of the work of this Assembly was its adoption of the proposal, advanced by Dr. Nansen representing Norway last year, that the Assembly should request the International Labour Office at Geneva to study means for the control of forced or compulsory labour. This is all the more desirable inasmuch as some of the States are not intending to prohibit forced labour for private employers and are only under obligation to reduce it "progressively" to extinction, and as rapidly "as possible." As Viscount Cecil pointed out, it is something of an achievement that the question of forced labour now figures, for the first time, in an international agreement, and that it has been stipulated that forced labour for private purposes shall be "adequately remunerated," and shall not involve the employment of labourers at a distance from their homes. It is interesting to note that at the instance of the German delegation it was unanimously resolved that forced labour should in general not be resorted to "unless it is impossible to obtain voluntary labour."

### FORCED LABOUR OF WOMEN.

Article 5 of the Convention, dealing with forced labour, runs to 172 words in length. It is lamentable that it was not extended to another five words by the inclusion of those printed in italics below:—

"So long as such forced or compulsory labour (for private purposes) exists, this labour shall invariably consist of adult males only . . . shall always receive adequate remuneration," etc., etc.

Abuses with female and child labour will continue to flourish as long as private employers are permitted to "work" it, not in the form of volunteer wage-earners, but as "forced labour."

<sup>1</sup>Reference: Paper A. 104, 1926, VI, dated Geneva, 24th September, 1926.

## NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

President: Miss ELEANOR RATHBONE, C.C., J.P. Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. SODDY.  
Hon. Secretary: The Lady BALFOUR OF BURLEIGH. Parliamentary Secretary: Mrs. HURBACE.  
Offices: 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.  
Telephone: Victoria 6188.

### CONFERENCE ON "WHAT IS THE REAL PROTECTION OF THE WOMAN WORKER," Friday, 26th November, 1926, 11 a.m.—1.15 p.m. and 2.30 p.m.—4.30 p.m., at the Assembly Hall, The Mary Sumner House, 24 Tufton Street, S.W. 1.

Delegates tickets (free of charge) and visitors tickets (for members of N.U.S.E.C. free) and for others 1s. each, may be obtained on application to headquarters. Miss Macmillan will be in the chair, and the following resolutions will be proposed:—

#### General Principles.

This Conference, while believing that protection should be afforded to workers, declares that restrictions imposed on the work of women not at the same time applicable to that of men, result in their being treated as permanent non-adults and lowers their status as workers.

This Conference believes that the only policy which both permits of the fullest development of the welfare of all workers and safeguards their individual liberty and responsibility, is that of basing all labour regulations and restrictions upon the nature of the work and not upon the sex of the worker.

PROPOSED BY DR. JANE WALKER.

#### Factories Bill.

This Conference calls upon the Government so to amend the Factories Bill as to secure for all adult workers, male and female, the same conditions of employment as regards hours of labour, including night work, overtime, and holidays; and to apply those provisions of the Bill concerning general safety (including protection from machinery and the institution of fire drill) lead processes carried on in places other than factories, and special provisions and regulations for health, safety, and welfare to all workers irrespective of sex.

PROPOSED BY MRS. ABBOTT.

#### Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Bill.

This Conference calls attention to the fact that lead poisoning affects disastrously both sexes and may cause abortion or stillbirth whether the male or female parent be the poisoned person.

Since Clause II of the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Bill, which has passed its third reading in the House of Commons, has the effect of closing the painting trade to women under the guise of protecting them, while the other Clauses of the Bill protect the male worker by regulating the industry, this Conference calls upon the House of Lords to oppose Clause II of the Bill in so far as it applies to adult women, so that the precautionary regulations of the Bill shall apply irrespective of sex.

PROPOSED BY MRS. ABBOTT.

#### The International Labour Organization.

This Conference deplores the fact that at its first meeting in Washington in 1919 the International Labour Organization adopted a Convention prohibiting night work for adults, only in the case of women, and that every Convention and Recommendation dealing specifically with the work of the adult woman wage-earner adopted by the International Labour Organization, has taken the form of restricting on the grounds of sex the work of adult women, and therefore denying their liberty and responsibility.

This Conference notes with satisfaction that the Nine General Principles set out in Section 2 of Part 13 of the Treaty of Versailles, as those upon which International Legislation should be based, give recognition to the occupational and not to the sex method for workers' protection, and the Conference urges upon men and women interested in the welfare of the workers to give wide publicity to this Section 2 and to bring pressure upon the International Labour Organization to base its future legislative proposals upon it.

PROPOSED BY MISS HELEN WARD.

### HULL AND HOWDENSHERE BY-ELECTIONS.

Miss Bury has gone to work in both constituencies, and is organizing deputations to the candidates.

### CHELMSFORD BY-ELECTION.

Both the Newport (Essex) and the Saffron Waldon S.E.C. are considering sending members to help organize the Chelmsford women. Major Moller, the Labour candidate, has answered all our questions in the affirmative with the following exceptions: On the question of Women Police he says it is a question of administration; on Family Allowances he says, "I should like to be better informed of the proposals"; with regard to Information on Methods of Birth Control, he answers that although in favour, he is against making the question a political one. He has not answered the question on the separate taxation of incomes of married persons.

### GIFT OF PAPERS RELATING TO WAR CABINET COMMITTEE ON WOMEN IN INDUSTRY.

The Executive Committee wishes to express its gratitude to Sir Matthew Nathan, who was secretary of the above committee, for his fine gift to the N.U.S.E.C. of all documents relating to evidence, etc., in connection with the committee.

## NEWS FROM SOCIETIES.

### MME RIEDER'S TOUR IN SCOTLAND.

Mme Rieder has just completed a successful tour in Scotland during which she addressed meetings arranged by the Glasgow L.N.U. and Societies within the Scottish Federation of the S.E.C., at Dunfermline, St. Andrew's, and Alton. She also spoke to the Edinburgh Women Luncheon Club, a gathering of women engaged in all forms of public work, whether social or political. The subjects dealt with included the Women's Movement in the Near East, Turkey, and Beirut, and the work of Dr. Schweitzer's Hospital at Lambarene. The lectures were illustrated by slides mostly from Mme Rieder's own photographs, and these and the speaker's strong sense of international feminism contributed to the interest aroused by her tour.

### HIGHGATE, ISLINGTON, AND ST. PANCRAS S.E.C.

On Tuesday, 2nd November, Mrs. Abbott spoke on Equal Franchise and Equal Opportunities in Industry for women, at a meeting arranged by the above Societies. After the meeting there was an interesting discussion, during which Mrs. Abbott answered a large number of questions. At the close of the meeting three resolutions dealing with the points she had raised were carried unanimously.

### READING S.E.C.

At the end of last month, the Reading S.E.C. arranged a meeting on Equal Franchise at which Mrs. Tamplin gave an interesting address, after which it was decided by a unanimous vote to forward copies of the resolution on Equal Franchise to the local Member of Parliament, the Home Secretary, and the Prime Minister.

### GLASGOW S.E.C. AND W.C.A.

On 3rd November, Major Walter Elliot spoke at a meeting arranged by the above Societies on the Seventh Report of the Scottish Board of Health, which he described as "more fascinating than most realistic and romantic novels." Councillor Miss Robertson presided at the meeting.

### NEWPORT (ESSEX) GROUP FOR S.E.

On 27th October, Mrs. Corbett Ashby gave a very interesting address entitled "Women's Work for International Peace" at a well-attended meeting of the above Society.

### EXETER S.E.C.

At a meeting organized by the Exeter S.E.C. at the end of last month, Miss Dalglish, of the London Society for Women's Service, gave an address which was described as "a wealth of information about the progress and otherwise being made by women in the business and professional worlds."

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT SURVEY.

MADAM.—At the Council meeting last February a resolution was passed urging affiliated societies of the N.U.S.E.C. to undertake a survey of the various departments of Local Government in their own areas; the object of the survey being to compare results in the various localities, and to consider in what way effective and progressive administrations could best be promoted.

Since that time material (more or less complete) has been collected in Birmingham, Bradford, Cardiff, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, and Shrewsbury on the following subjects:—

1. *Status of Women.*
  - (a) Whether equal pay and opportunity under Local Authority.
  - (b) Opportunities and position of professional women (Medical and Teachers) under L.A.
  - (c) Local movement for Women Police.
  - (d) Women in public service, number of Councillors (and whether chairman of Committees), J.P.s, Guardians.
2. *General Statistics.*
  - (a) Population and area.
  - (b) Vital Statistics.
  - (c) Number unemployed.
  - (d) Number in receipt Poor Law.
  - (e) Criminal Statistics.
  - (f) Rates.
3. *Housing.*
  - (a) Clearing insanitary areas pre- and post-war.
  - (b) Building of dwelling-houses by Corporation, pre- and post-war.
  - (c) Present shortage.
  - (d) Types of houses built (methods internal equipment, layouts, rents, etc.).
4. *Sanitation.*
  - (a) Refuse and street scavenging.
  - (b) Smoke abatement.
  - (c) Local milk supply and methods inspection.
  - (d) Abattoirs arrangements, and staff of Sanitary inspectors, methods of slaughter.
5. *Maternity and Child Welfare.*
  - (a) Provision of clinics and what arrangements as to Birth Control.
  - (b) Lying-in arrangements (including provision Maternity Hospitals and Midwives).
  - (c) School Meals.
  - (d) Inspection of School children and provision of Special Schools.
6. *Recreational Facilities.*
  - (a) Provision Baths (add washhouses if any).
  - (b) Provision Libraries.
  - (c) Provision Parks and playing grounds.

It is proposed to collect material for a report under these headings from a further number of towns of varied sizes. The co-operation and help of those interested either in the towns already mentioned or in others would be invaluable. Would any who are willing to take part in this investigation (or any portion of it) kindly communicate with me before the beginning, or after the end of December, as I expect to be out of England during that month.

A. R. CATON.

10 Palace Mansions,  
Addison Bridge, W. 14.

### WOMEN AND THE LEAD PAINT BILL.

MADAM.—The Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Bill is about to come before the House of Lords, and even at the eleventh hour we feel that the attention of the public should once more be called to Clause II, both on account of its practical effects and of the far-reaching principle which it embodies.

The Second and Third Readings of the Bill in the House of Commons were both taken at short notice. Women have thus been given practically no opportunity for organized protest against a clause which will have the effect of throwing out of work those women at present engaged in certain sections of the painting trade, and of completely closing these sections to all women after November, 1927. The principle of barring a well-paid industry to women, and of doing so moreover without giving all opportunity for full and open-minded discussion, is dangerous not only in its immediate effects but as a precedent for the future.

We trust that in the House of Lords there may be an unbiased reconsideration of the Clause in the light of modern knowledge and modern conditions. The ostensible reason for excluding women, in so far as it has ever been publicly stated, is their alleged special susceptibility to lead-poisoning. The argument is a traditional one, and it has been allowed to pass unchallenged in the House of Commons. Yet the experience of the war and a more enlightened reading of the facts have led to a modern and wholly different interpretation of the statistics on which the earlier view was based. Furthermore, it was openly admitted in the House of Commons debate that the evil effects of lead-poisoning are transmitted through the poisoned father no less than through the mother. But the logical conclusion was never pressed home, namely that, in so far as the question of racial poison is concerned, the case for setting up differential conditions as between men and women, completely falls to the ground.

A Bill which treats women as non-adults, which denies them the right to judge for themselves, is in essence a retrograde measure and we are convinced that women have nothing to gain from a false humanitarianism supported by doubtful facts.

ELIZABETH ABBOTT.	CICELY HAMILTON.
LEONORA DE ALBERTI.	VERENA HOLMES.
HELEN A. ARCHDALE.	CHRISTAL MACMILLAN.
MARGERIE CORBETT ASHBY.	LOUISA MARTINDALE.
DOROTHY BALFOUR OF BURLEIGH.	WINIFRED MAYO.
FLORENCE E. BARRETT.	F. DE G. MERRIFIELD.
FLORENCE A. BARRY.	CHRISTINE M. MURRELL.
FLORENCE M. BEAUMONT.	RHONDDA.
SARAH CLEGG.	E. RODGERS.
VIRGINIA M. CRAWFORD.	MAUD SELBORNE.
WINIFRED C. CULLIS.	ROSAMOND SMITH.
CRYSTAL EASTMAN.	FLORENCE UNDERWOOD.
MILlicENT G. FAWCETT.	JANE WALKER.
MARY FIELDEN.	M. WINTRINGHAM.
MAY OGILVIE GORDON.	M. WYNNE-NEVINSON.
ALMYRA GRAY.	

12th November.

### THE COAL DISPUTE.

MADAM.—May I be allowed to express very vigorous dissent from some of the views expressed in the article on the Coal Report in your issue of 5th November? It is easy for those who are "above the battle" to write about "blind obstinacy" and "incompetent leadership," but some of us are not convinced by such phrases, and require further evidence on the subject. The coal industry, or any other, which is proved to be incapable, under present conditions, of paying a decent wage to those who virtually create its wealth, should either be abandoned or reorganized—the latter being the more reasonable course. Furthermore, inquiry should be made into the reasons for the depression in the coal trade. Is it because the miners (when in work) are too highly paid? As an amateur in economics, my opinion may be worth very little, nevertheless, I am inclined to think that the opinion expressed by Mr. Maynard Keynes fifteen months ago, is still true. "On grounds of social justice, no case can be made out for reducing the wages of the miners. . . . They are the 'moderate sacrifice' still necessary to ensure the stability of the Gold Standard." The plight of the miners is the first, but not the last of the economic consequences of our Churchill.

MINERA.

### OUR NEXT ISSUE: ORDER AT OCEAN.

We recommend to the notice of all who view with some alarm the results of the recent Municipal Elections so far as women are concerned, the article on the Municipal Elections, by Mr. J. H. Humphreys in our next issue, in which he discusses the application of Proportional Representation to local elections. An article will also be contributed by Captain Reiss on the Progress of Town Planning. The lighter side will be represented by as many book reviews as space permits, with a view to Christmas shopping.

COMING EVENTS.

ELIZABETH GARRETT ANDERSON HOSPITAL.

NOVEMBER 28 to DECEMBER 4. "Our Week" in aid of Extension Fund, including three days' Christmas Market at Spring Gardens, Admiralty Arch, S.W. For further particulars apply Lady Acworth, Extension Appeal Fund, 144 Euston Road, N.W. 1.

GUILDHOUSE WOMEN CITIZENS' SOCIETY.

NOVEMBER 20. 3 p.m. The Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. Mrs. Janet Binns on "The Meaning of Service." Lesson in Folk Dancing by Miss Elizabeth Wood.

LEAGUE OF THE CHURCH MILITANT.

NOVEMBER 26. 5.30 p.m. Caxton Hall, Westminster. Lecture by Dr. Kathleen Vaughan on "Life in Kashmir."

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE.

DECEMBER 2. 5 p.m. 35 Marsham Street, S.W. Committee At Home. Topics of the Day.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

NOVEMBER 22. 4.30 p.m. Y.M.C.A. Buildings, Wellington. Social Gathering to meet Miss Picton-Turbervill, O.B.E., and Mrs. Hubback. Speeches on Citizenship. Apply Miss Auld, Shrubbery House, Leegomery Road, Wellington, Salop.

NOVEMBER 23. 8 p.m. Town Hall, Camberwell. Public Meeting on Equal Franchise. Speaker: Mrs. Le Sueur. Chair: His Worship the Mayor of Camberwell.

NOVEMBER 25. 3 p.m. Alford House, Lambeth Walk, S.E. 11. Miss Caton on "Family Allowances."

NOVEMBER 26. 11 a.m.-1.15 p.m. and 2.30 p.m.-4.30 p.m. Assembly Hall, the Mary Summer House, 24 Tufton Street, S.W. 1. Conference on "What is the real protection of the woman worker?" Speakers: Mrs. Abbott, Dr. Jane Walker, and Miss Helen Ward. Chair: Miss Chrystal Macmillan.

Cardiff W.C.A. NOVEMBER 22. 7.30 p.m. High School for Girls, The Parade. Miss Froud, Hon. Sec. N.U.W.T. on Equal Franchise."

Glasgow S.E.C. and W.C.A. NOVEMBER 22. 8 p.m. Public Meeting at McLellan Galleries. Dr. Archibald A. Bowman on "Personality and Citizenship."

Plymouth Citizens' Association. NOVEMBER 25. 8 p.m. Public Meeting at The Abbey Hall (Catherine Street). Miss Helen Ward on "Equal Franchise for Women." Chair: Councillor Miss Mary Bayly.

PADDINGTON WOMEN CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION (and other Societies)

NOVEMBER 25. 8.30 p.m. Town Hall, Paddington. Public Meeting on "Various Aspects of Local Option." Speakers: Mrs. Walter Runciman, J.P., Mrs. W. T. Layton Councillor L. T. Snell (Mayor of Paddington). Chair: Lady Calway.

Women's Engineering Society. NOVEMBER 20. 2.30 p.m. Visit to Science Museum, South Kensington. For particulars apply Secretary, Women's Engineering Society, 26 George Street, Hanover Square, W. 1.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

NOVEMBER 23 and 24. 3 p.m. Caxton Hall, Westminster. Green, White, and Gold Fair.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE (Kensington Branch).

NOVEMBER 22. 8.15 p.m. 76 Campden Hill Road, W. 8. Miss Catherine Marshall on "The Seventh Assembly of the League of Nations," and Mr. John H. Harris on "The League of Nations and the Weaker Races." Chair: Miss Sheepshanks.

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ENQUIRIES SOLICITED.

TO LET AND WANTED.

WORKERS LIMITED.—A Women's Society for the benefit of Women Workers. BUNGALOW FLATS at MALVERN, Worcestershire, for Women Workers and others, from 8s. to 14s. 6d. a week rent. These Flats are built in two groups, charmingly situated and most convenient in every way.—Applications for Tenancies, or for Loan Stock and Shares in the Society, to The Secretary, Workers Limited, 3 Moorlands Road, Malvern. See Article on page 360, November 12th issue.

FLORENCE, ITALY.—Miss Muirhead, 11 Viale Mazzini, receives PAYING GUESTS: summer terms.

SOUTHERN FRANCE.—Ladies received in private family; summer by sea, references exchanged.—Box 1286, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

UNFURNISHED, charming ROOM to let on yearly tenancy; room service, board; lady's house, centre of W. 1 district; stamp for appointment.—Box 1,295, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

BEDROOM, with breakfast or partial board, for working gentlewoman; gas-fire; in private house near Harley Street (middle).—Box 1,294, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

W.10. LARGE furnished front BED-SITTING-ROOM; gas-fire, bath; lady worker preferred.—Box 1,296, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

TO LET, FURNISHED ROOM, partial board; Ladies Residential Club.—Misses FitzSimon and Scott, 15 Kensington Park Gardens, W. 11.

S. KENSINGTON: in Bramham Gardens. Charming bed-sittingrooms, furnished and unfurnished; gas fires; constant hot water; laundry room. Terms from 30s. to 3½ gns., including breakfast served to each room. Supper extra, according to order. Phone Kensington 2624 for address.—Box 1,297, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, S.W. 1.

POST WANTED.

MAKERS and MENDERS.—Gentlewoman will be pleased to undertake making and mending of Household Linen, Adult's Underclothing, Children's Clothes.—Apply, F. K. M., Neals, Bodiain, Sussex.

PROFESSIONAL.

INCOME TAX RECOVERED AND ADJUSTED. Consult Miss H. M. Baker, 275 High Holborn, W.C. 1. Income Tax Returns, Super Tax Returns, Repayment Claims of all descriptions. Telephone: Holborn 0377.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

NEVER FADE LINENS.—For all those purposes for which coloured linens are now so popular, Hutton's Never-Fade genuine Irish Linens are ideal. Guaranteed absolutely fadeless by sun or washing and costing only 3s. per yard (56 in. wide), they are increasingly in demand for curtains, bedspreads, table-runners, etc., as well as for dresses and children's frocks. There are 64 artistic colours to select from, including ten of the newest shades. Every yard stamped "Hutton's Never-Fade Linen". Send for full range of patterns, FREE.—HUTTON'S, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ulster.

KITCHEN TOWELS.—100 dozen Heavy Irish Linen Kitchen or Pantry Towels, made from very strong Irish Linen yarn, guaranteed all linen. Will wear for many years. Size 22 x 27 ins., 9s. 6d. per doz. Real Bargains. Write for Complete Bargain List To-day.—HUTTON'S, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ulster.

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. (Stamp addressed envelope for reply.)

DRESS.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

QUIET ROOM FOR LUNCH AND TEA at "Blenheim," 8 Blenheim Street, New Bond St. (close to Oxford Street).

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 35 Marsham Street, Westminster. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Information Bureau. Interviews, 10 to 1, except Saturdays. Members' Centre open daily. Restaurant open to 7.30. (Not Saturdays.)

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 21st November; 3.30 p.m. Dr. G. C. Simpson on "Meteorology in the Service of Man." 6.30, Maude Royden, "Human Nature and Industrial Disputes."

EDUCATED HOME HELPS BUREAU, Philbeach Hall, Philbeach Gardens, Earl's Court, requires and supplies educated women for all branches of domestic work. Registration: Employers 2s. 6d., Workers 1s. Suits, 7s. 6d. and 2s. Telephone, Western 6323.

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