

wrong shoeing, were as pitiful as cripples on crutches. This, possibly, is going too far, but at the same time it would be interesting to know how much time is wasted, how much energy lost, how much health impaired, how much work inefficiently done because of painful or weak feet, which, with the exercise and freedom given to hands, would be as unobtrusive as hands commonly are. Women are carrying so much of the work of the world that they cannot afford the luxury of ill-health.

The study of feet in relation to health and efficiency is not confined to the West. News comes of a meeting in the Tokio Y.W.C.A. which was attended not only by women and girls, but by business men, manufacturers, and the head of the Army shoe department! Japan is wearing a larger number of shoes on Western models, in place of the sandal and clog, year by year, and Japanese women are anxious to preserve the perfect feet that are their enviable heritage. Standards are not yet set, and meetings such as this have a part to play in seeing that beauty and health in footwear shall be essentials, not accidentals.

Members of the Canadian Y.W.C.A., too, have a "Y.W.C.A. Shoe" at their disposal, for a manufacturer in Toronto stocks "a natural tread" shoe which it is a pleasure not only to wear but to see.

LUNCHEON FOR MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

It is a common thing to find a daughter out of touch with her mother, especially in countries where the mother's generation is of the old regime and the daughter's of the new. Affection and the tie of blood keep the two together in certain respects, but changes come so rapidly that there is always a danger that the daughter, in touch with new conditions, may view life from a different angle and may imagine that because her mother is not interested in or disapproves of this or that, she is not qualified to judge in other spheres where actually her mature experience would be invaluable to the younger woman. Such a division may be understandable, but it need not be inevitable. Youth cannot reform the world without the backing of age, any more than age can put the brake on youth without understanding where it can be applied.

An interesting experiment was tried in Constantinople this spring, when 377 mothers and daughters of all nationalities lunched together at the Hotel Tokatlian. Filial and maternal pride had full scope that day, and anyone seeing the spirit of spontaneity which prevailed, could hardly have guessed at the careful preparations that made the luncheon such a success. Four little committees with an international membership worked for weeks beforehand on the details which are so important in planning such a gathering: speakers, music, order of events, menu—nothing was forgotten. Possibly the two most striking features were the girls' speeches and the way in which the topical songs printed on the programme infected everyone with a desire to sing. The Y.W.C.A. members, Turkish, Greek, Armenian, French, English, American, etc., had two special songs of their own, but they were not the only people singing them; and if the mothers clapped the young speaker on "A Mother through a Daughter's Spectacles," the daughters were equally enthusiastic over "A Daughter through a Mother's Spectacles." Speeches on "Daughters To-day, Mothers To-morrow" expressed the feeling of fundamental solidarity that the luncheon brought out; while "Mothers of the World" and "Comrades" expressed the girls' point of view that mothers and daughters must stand together if the work that is waiting to be done in the world is to be accomplished. Conferences and lectures on things as they are, no doubt, accomplish much; but there is a magic which defies definition about an informal gathering such as this luncheon. To do a thing together and in sufficient numbers to get the infection of the group spirit and to lose consciousness of self, provides an impetus that carries the individual over many awkward stumbling-blocks to the firm ground of common interest. The

Y.W.C.A. of Constantinople is to be congratulated on its enterprise and imagination.

EIN FERIENLAGER FÜR JUNGE MÄDCHEN IN ÖSTERREICH.

IN der ganzen internationalführenden Welt ist es bekannt, welchen schweren Kampf das aus den Trümmern des alten, stolzen Kaiserreichs sich emporringende neue Österreich zu kämpfen hat, um sich aus der Nacht, die es immer noch umgibt, ein bescheidenes Plätzchen an der Sonne zu schaffen.

Nicht gering ist die Zahl der Menschen, die die Methoden der neuen Staatsregierung kritisieren. Eines jedoch wird wohl von Wenigen bestritten werden, nämlich das Faktum, dass in dem neuen Österreich sehr vieles im Dienste der Jugend getan wird. Das wurde mit grosser Dankbarkeit anerkannt von allen Teilnehmerinnen an dem Ferienlager, das während der Osterferien dieses Jahres für eine Gruppe junger Mädchen des Evangelischen Vereins für die weibliche Jugend Österreichs eingerichtet wurde. Mit grösster Zuverlässigkeit wurde diesen jungen Mädchen eine der dem Staate angehörigen Jugendherbergen zur freien Benutzung zur Verfügung gestellt, völlig möbliert und eingerichtet, sogar Freikarten zur Bahnfahrt waren bewilligt worden, und so brauchte man nur mit dem die persönlichen Effecten enthaltenden Rucksack anzukommen, um sich sofort für die schöne, leider nur allzu kurze Osterferienzeit „ferien-lagermässig“ niederzulassen. Hochwolkersdorf, im sogenannten „Buckligen Lande“ gelegen, mit dem im Sonnenlichte aus weiter Ferne wie ein wunderbares Wolkengebirge herüberglänzenden Schneeberge, schon dieser Name gibt einen Begriff von dem in luftiger Höhe gelegenen Örtchen, in welchem die frohe junge Schaar am Donnerstag vor Ostern bei schönstem Frühlingswetter einzog, um bis zum darauffolgenden Dienstag die Freuden des Lagerlebens zu geniessen. Besprechungen ersten Charakters wechselten mit Spielen, fröhlichen Volkstänzen und Reigen auf dem



Volkstanz von jungen Wienerinnen getanzt.

grünen mit Veilchen bewachsenen Rasen des grossen Gartens. Wanderungen in der reizvollen Umgebung wurden unternommen und Lieder, viele, viele Lieder wurden gesungen, denn die zwei Guitaren mussten immer mit dabei sein, und in Österreich kommt jedes Menschenkind mit Lust und Liebe zur Musik auf die Welt. Was die Harmonie des Zusammenlebens erhöhte kam gewiss auch dadurch, dass keine der Leiterinnen zu alt oder zu müde war, um an allen jugendlichen Freuden voll teilnehmen zu können. Ja, es ging sogar so weit, dass es nicht lange dauerte bis einer jeden von ihnen ein Tiername angehängt wurde, um ihre besonderen Charaktereigenschaften zu versinnbildlichen. Erfrischt, gebräunt und mit geröteten Wangen zog die junge Schar, fröhliche Marschlieder singend, in die Grosstadt zurück, und Hochwolkersdorf wird wohl lange noch als sonnige Erinnerung in ihren Alltag hinüberleuchten.

JVS SVFFRAGII.

THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWS



THE MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

Volume 16. No. 10.

PRICE 6d.
Annual Subscription, 6/-

JULY, 1922.

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WORLD'S Y.W.C.A. SUPPLEMENT

CENTRE PAGES.

PEERESSES AND THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

VISCOUNTESS RHONDDA, in commenting on her case, says:—

"The case has been a curious one. My claim was based on the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, passed by the present Government, which says: "A person shall not be disqualified by sex or marriage from the exercise of any public function," yet that claim was defeated owing to the action of a leading member of the Government which was responsible for the Act. Left to itself the Committee for Privileges appointed by the House of Lords on March 2 last agreed to the claim by a majority of 7 to 1. But at this point the Lord Chancellor (Mr. F. E. Smith, now Lord Birkenhead) intervened, and insisted that the claim be referred back to the Committee for further consideration. When the second Committee sat he guided it carefully but energetically into the path he desired it to follow. It is a case of the Government, through one of its leading members, having set itself to defeat the spirit of its own Act."

RHONDDA.

It is interesting to record the opinion of one of the Peers who supported Lady Rhondda's claim:—
"Lord Wrenbury said that Lady Rhondda was not disqualified from exercising any public function

which a holder of the peerage was entitled to exercise. To sit and vote in Parliament was such a public function. In his opinion she was entitled to succeed on this petition. The majority of their Lordships being of a contrary opinion, that view would not prevail. It remained, however, that in no court of justice, from the lowest to the highest, including their Lordships' House, could this case hereafter be cited as an authority upon the proper construction of the statute. The Committee was a mixed tribunal of laymen and of those generally styled "learned in the law." The former did not, before giving their vote, even wait to receive such assistance as their legal colleagues could give them in applying the law to that which was a purely legal question. The opinions which some of their Lordships had expressed would no doubt be read hereafter with the respect and consideration which was their due, but no judge would be bound to follow the present case as any authority upon the true construction of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, 1919. Belated as was the opportunity which he had had of learning the grounds upon which the Lord Chancellor based his opinion, he had considered with every care the arguments upon which the Lord Chancellor rested his conclusion, but he could not concur in the Lord Chancellor's view."

OBITUARY.

Madame Jules Siegfried.

IT is with the deepest regret that we announce to our readers the death, on May 28, of Madame Jules Siegfried, President of the Conseil National des Femmes Françaises. Madame Siegfried's life was devoted to bettering the position of women; she was an ardent suffragist—and the woman's movement in France has lost one of its most brilliant advocates. On another page we publish extracts from a biographical article by Madame Avril de Sainte-Croix.

WOMEN IN THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

TWO women, Madame Curie and Mlle. Kristine Bonnevie, Professor of Zoology at the University of Christiania, have been nominated to the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation. The committee consists of 12 members.

Dr. Paulina Luisi and Dr. Estrid Hein are the two women Government delegates on the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Women and Children, and among the assessors representing international organizations, four women have been appointed: Miss Baker (International Bureau for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women and Children); Mme. de Sainte-Croix (International Women's Organizations); Mme. Baronne de Montenach (Catholic Association for the Protection of Girls); Mme. Studer-Steinhauslin (Federation of National Unions for the Protection of Girls).

Dr. Josephine Baker, of the U.S. Department for Child Hygiene, has been nominated to the Health Committee of the League of Nations.

EQUAL MORAL STANDARD SECTION.

UGANDA VENEREAL DISEASE REGULATIONS.

THE methods adopted by the Colonial Office in Uganda for dealing with venereal diseases have already had so much publicity that we need not refer to the facts in detail. Whole villages of native men and women were driven up like cattle, examined in rows on a hillside by doctors at the rate of some 50 or 60 an hour, and that when the woman doctor who was compelled to examine the women protested, she was summarily dismissed, although she had not been given any intimation that she would be required to carry out regulations of this kind.

The whole subject was brought in great detail before the Colonial Office by the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society, the National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases, and the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, the C.W.S.S. and the A.M.S.H. standing for the abolition of the compulsory medical examination. The Colonial Office granted a private conference, and all the objections and recommendations were noted and an inquiry promised. Dr. Douglas White, speaking for the A.M.S.H., pointed out that examination conducted in so hasty and improvised a manner, without any possible means of sterilization, must actually increase infection, especially among a people as susceptible to these diseases as are the Ugandese. The authorities admitted great shortage of doctors and of proper facilities for treatment, and the A.M.S.H. urged that, instead of wasting time and personnel in dangerous and ineffective compulsory examinations the medical staff should concentrate on prevention and cure by means of itinerant clinics and increased educational efforts among the native population.

As we go to press we hear that the dismissed woman doctor has received the full two months' pay which she claimed, and which had previously been disallowed by the Colonial Office.

CHICAGO PURITY CONFERENCE AND NEO-REGULATION.

At the invitation of the World's Purity Federation, Mr. Maurice Gregory, an executive member of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene and Secretary of the Friends' Social Purity Association, attended the three days' conference convened at Chicago, December 27-29. This was a conference summoned primarily for the discussion of Neo-Regulation, and there were present delegates from England, Canada, Australia, the Philippines and many of the States of the Union.

The following resolutions were adopted by the conference:—

Resolution on "Neo-Regulation."

This Conference declares:—

1. That the State ought not to impose compulsory examination on any woman.

2. That "consent" given to such examinations in prisons or in any place of compulsory detention (or as an alternative to such imprisonment or detention) is, according to constitutional law, "consent given under duress," and is no consent at all.

3. That the wrong done by such examinations is greatly aggravated when they are made on suspicion, sometimes of quite innocent people.

4. That it is men and not women who are usually the carriers of vice maladies into family life, and the cause of suffering and injury to innocent wives and children.

5. That the quarantine of women for vice maladies for long and indeterminate periods (which amount in fact to imprisonment under indeterminate sentences) is (the men being left to go free) absolutely unjust from a social point of view.

6. That the quarantine of one-half of the infected persons, whilst leaving the other half to go free, is unknown in any other maladies, and is absolutely absurd and futile from a scientific point of view.

7. That the double standard of morals thus exhibited by the State to the younger generation is most injurious from an educational point of view.

Resolution on the Clinics.

Resolved, That we welcome with all our hearts the provision of well-equipped clinics for the free and skilful treatment of venereal maladies on a generous scale.

That the first attendance and continued treatment of such patients should be entirely without compulsion.

That such clinics attract far higher numbers than those in which the treatment begins by enforced attendance and continues by compulsory detention.

After the conference Mr. Gregory passed a busy four months in the States and in British North America, involving visits to New York, Indianapolis, Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal. Many interviews took place with leading opponents and friends.

June, 1922.

The Shield.

Shall there be Compulsory or Non-Compulsory Treatment of Venereal Disease?

[We print below a copy of the reply of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene to a Questionnaire sent out by the National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases re the Compulsory Treatment of Venereal Diseases, and we wish particularly to point out to our readers that though these two societies are British, the issue at stake is not British—it is world-wide. In practically every country there is a so-called Social Hygiene movement, which is advocating compulsory notification and compulsory treatment as the only means of eradicating venereal disease. And, similarly, there are those who believe that it is only by the voluntary method and a moral appeal that real and permanent progress can be made. Your Editor is of the unalterable opinion that it is by the second method alone, the method advocated by the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, that we can both effectively work for the elimination of venereal disease and at the same time maintain that "high and equal moral standard" which we urged in our Geneva Congress Resolution of 1920.]

The N.C.C.V.D. states that:—

"There are 191 clinics for the free treatment of Venereal Diseases in Great Britain.

"In 1920, 162,353 patients received treatment; we understand that about 40 per cent. discontinued treatment, many of them while infective."

1. N.C.C.V.D. Question.—Do you consider the Health Authorities should have power to compel infective persons to remain under treatment?

A.M. & S.H. Reply.—No.

CORRECTION.

Miss Nina Boyle asks that a statement may appear in this number to the effect that she regrets she omitted three words in her letter on Women Slaves. In the fourth line of the last paragraph on page 152, after "Feminist Societies," she meant to put "as well as" before naming the Aborigines Protection Society, etc.

AUSTRALIA. LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Australia's Representation. Deputation of Women to Prime Minister.

IT is a matter for congratulation that amidst the rush of engagements during his short stay in this State the Prime Minister was enabled to receive a deputation on behalf of the Women's Service Guilds of Western Australia and the Federation of Women's Societies of Australia.

The deputation, which was introduced by Mr. Prowse, M.H.R., and was cordially received by the Prime Minister, earnestly urged that Australia be fully represented at the next meeting of the League of Nations Assembly, and that one of the three delegates should be an Australian woman.

After apologizing for the absence of the State President (Mrs. Rischbieth) Miss Ada Bromham, State Vice-President W.S.G.'s, pointed out that it was very important to uphold the League and make it an effective body because world issues had become the leading issues. Australian men and women together were building up this great country, and there were many questions of vital interest to both men and women being dealt with by the League of Nations Assembly.

Miss Bromham went on to say that so far Australia had been represented by two delegates only at these Assemblies, whereas they had a right to three delegates and two alternatives.

She urged that Australia be fully represented at the next Assembly by—

- (1) Three delegates and two alternatives.
- (2) That at least one of the delegates be a woman.
- (3) That an Australian woman receive such appointment.

Mrs. Mary Driver, on behalf of the Australian Federation of Women's Societies, stressed the point that all women's societies were fully in accord with this request, and earnestly realized the necessity for those nations who are State members of the League of Nations Assembly to appoint more women delegates.

She pointed out the valuable services already rendered to the deliberations of the Assembly by Froken Forchhammer, expert adviser for Denmark, and by Mlle. Vacareso, Professor Bonnevie, and Fru Wicksell (alternative delegates for Norway, Roumania, and Sweden) in the debate on the proposed convention re "Traffic in Women and Children."

That such questions as this traffic and many other problems of human interest should be considered by men and women together if a true and just solution was eventually to be arrived at.

The Prime Minister Replies.

The Prime Minister, in reply, said that he was not aware that any of the nations had been represented by women. Mrs. Driver corrected him, and Miss Bromham pointed out that in any case Australia might well take the lead in such a matter.

Mr. Hughes congratulated the deputation on the case they had put forward, and assured them that he would bring the matter before the Cabinet and "that they would not lack an advocate in him when the matter was being considered." He was glad to know that the women of Australia were alive to the importance of our present status as a nation.

The deputation submitted the names of two suitable nominees to fill such positions, both of whom are experienced in social welfare work and have received endorsement by leading societies.

May 12, 1922.

The Dawn.

2. N.C.C.V.D. Question.—Are you of opinion that these powers should be obtained by fresh legislation?

A.M. & S.H. Reply.—No.

3. N.C.C.V.D. Question.—Is public opinion in your district ripe for such a demand?

A.M. & S.H. Reply.—The A.M. & S.H. cannot speak as to any definite district but believes that those who have studied the practical and administrative side of this proposal do not expect it to have any appreciable effect, if any effect at all, in reducing venereal disease. It would probably be easy to create a demand for such legislation as the great majority of ordinary people would be uninformed as to the practical difficulties and possible deterrent effects of carrying out such a policy.

4. N.C.C.V.D. Question.—If you are not of this opinion, what alternative method do you propose for the protection of the public?

A.M. & S.H. Reply.—This question seems somewhat irrelevant. We are not prepared to agree that compulsory continuation of treatment will necessarily protect the public. Unless all contagious persons are to be interned it may conceivably have quite the contrary effect.

We suggest, however, that the non-compulsory scheme should be gradually improved in every possible way that time and experience show to be desirable and that special attention should be given to the selection of the medical personnel who carry out the scheme.

In order to reassure infected persons and prevent concealment of disease we suggest a definite renunciation by the Ministry of Health of the principle of compulsory treatment and of notification for the purposes of applying compulsion.

Further we think there is a great need of a new moral appeal being made to the whole nation on reasoned lines appealing to men, women and young people as actual or potential parents, citizens and lovers. Definite moral teaching has hardly been attempted yet on any extensive scale and has had little or no chance to prove its efficiency. We think an intelligible restatement and fresh presentation of sex-ethics is urgently required and might be more effective in reducing sexual promiscuity—and therefore venereal disease—than any other method.

5. N.C.C.V.D. Question.—Do you attach importance to the proposal that legislation concerning the suppression of venereal disease should be a public health matter and should not be combined with legislation aiming at the suppressing of prostitution?

A.M. & S.H. Reply.—(Question not answered: see 1 and 2.)

6. N.C.C.V.D. Question.—Are you of opinion that the confidential treatment of persons willing to continue treatment until they are non-infective should be preserved and that those discontinuing treatment while infective should be notified to the health authorities?

A.M. & S.H. Reply.—"Yes" to first part of question, "No" to second part.

7. N.C.C.V.D. Question.—Do you see any reason why public health regulations requiring the compulsory continuous treatment of infective persons should not be impartially administered as between the sexes?

A.M. & S.H. Reply.—The presence of venereal disease in individuals unavoidably raises questions of moral character. Experience leads this Association to fear that compulsory measures for dealing with venereally diseased persons are not likely to be applied equally and impartially between the sexes.

If compulsion were rigorously applied with absolute impartiality between men and women and rich and poor, we think it would probably destroy the free treatment scheme as such compulsion, followed up by inquiries and possibly by a magistrate's summons, would be most unpopular and would induce infected persons to refrain from putting themselves under treatment in the earlier and more curable stages of their disease.

ALISON NEILANS, Secretary.

The Injustice of the Interstate Inheritance Laws. A Case in Point.

A decision given by Mr. Justice Cussen in Victoria lately has set many a mother thinking. It must be admitted that the Judge's decision was quite in accord with the law as it stands at present, and the question is how much longer are women going to allow such a law to prevail.

The case just decided was brought by Mrs. Johann August Emil Guthel, whose husband, Dr. Guthel, practised and died in Ballarat. The case is one in which a child under twenty-one was left £1,000 by his late father. The child died before reaching his majority. The mother, as "next of kin," claimed the money. But the Judge decided that the "next of kin" was not the boy's mother, but relatives on his father's side. These particular "next of kin" live in Germany. Even their whereabouts is unknown.

That a mother's relationship to her child should be so put aside is an indignity against which every woman should protest, for they have to-day an equal share in making the laws, and therefore an equal responsibility in allowing such an injustice to remain on the Statute Book.

There is no interest greater to a woman than that which binds her to the child she bore. Yet this Law does not admit that she is even next-of-kin to flesh of her flesh and bone of her bone.

Women must see to it that in future the law of their land should not sweep aside the most sacred relationship of life.

[E.D.—We are under the impression that this Law obtains in all the States of the Commonwealth.]

May 12, 1922.

The Dawn.

Position of Deserted Wives and Reciprocal Legislation throughout Great Britain and the Dominions.

According to a promise made to us while in Perth, Mr. Gregory, M.H.R., has forwarded a memo. from the Prime Minister's Department in answer to certain questions raised by the Guilds regarding the necessity for the Commonwealth Government taking action in providing reciprocal legislation to protect deserted wives throughout Great Britain and the Dominions.

We pointed out to Mr. Gregory that West Australia was in the happy position of having already passed an Act in December, 1921, to come into line with the Old Country, and if each State of the Commonwealth passed a similar Act it still remained necessary for the Commonwealth Government to make reciprocal provision for Federal territory, such as the Federal Capital (Canberra), the Northern Territory, etc., etc.

Mr. Gregory says: "I enclose herewith memo. from the Prime Minister's Department in answer to certain queries made by me at the request of your Guild.

"From the Secretary Prime Minister:—

"(a) The matter of matrimonial causes in Australia is still one within the province of the State Parliaments.

"(b) The Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement) Act, 1920, of the Imperial Parliament provides for reciprocal enforcement of Maintenance Orders only as between England and Ireland, and such British Dominions as pass appropriate legislation.

"(c) The Commonwealth Government is at the present time preparing necessary ordinances whereby reciprocal provision is being made in respect of the Northern Territory, Papua, and Norfolk Island.

"(d) It is understood that the State Governments who have been communicated with by the Secretary of State for the Colonies have expressed their willingness to introduce legislation to make the Imperial Act effective in their respective States."

The reply received from the Prime Minister is an answer to an important question (as far as Australia is concerned) asked in the English House of Commons by Viscount Elveden as to whether the Secretary of State for the Colonies had received any information

as to when the Canadian Government, or the Government of any other of His Majesty's Dominions, is likely to pass reciprocal legislation to the Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement) Act, 1920?

It is quite evident that those State Governments which have not already taken similar action to Western Australia have given their assurance to the Secretary of State for the Colonies that they are willing to introduce such legislation. Thus provision will be made for the law to follow a man for maintenance claim if he has deserted his wife in Australia and gone to live in the Old Country, or vice versa. This is a great forward step, and it now remains for the organized women in each State to take the matter up and urge their individual Governments to fulfil their promise by introducing legislation which will bring each State into line with the Imperial Act.

And, further, for each State to urge their Federal representatives to support similar action being taken regarding Commonwealth territory.

Thus the appeal made to women in the Overseas Dominions by the Headquarters' Secretary of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance to press for reciprocal legislation is well on the way to being complied with as far as Australia is concerned.

May 12, 1922.

The Dawn.

Précis of information re passing of Maintenance Orders Reciprocal Enforcement Legislation, taken from correspondence received up to May 31, 1922.

(1) Legislation already passed in Western Australia and New Zealand.

(2) Actually before Parliament as a Bill in South Africa.

(3) Not in contemplation in Newfoundland.

(4) As regards Canada, replies have been received from seven provinces, as follows:—

ALBERTA appears to confuse it with the Administration of Justice Act.

BRITISH COLUMBIA states that it is under consideration by the Conference of Commissioners on Uniformity of Legislation, who have passed a resolution that—

"It would be advisable . . . for the several Provinces of Canada to establish as between themselves a reciprocal enactment as to the enforcement of judgments before attempting to enter into such a relation with other parts of the Empire, or with respect to the subject of maintenance orders."

MANITOBA says that no legislation of this nature is contemplated.

NEW BRUNSWICK says the same.

NOVA SCOTIA says the same.

ONTARIO sends a copy of an Order in Council passed on July 13, 1921, recommending that a Bill be submitted to the Legislative Assembly.

SASKATCHEWAN corroborates the information given by British Columbia.

OESTERREICH.

Auflösung oder Gesundung.

WIEDER einmal durchleben wir atemraubende Tage voll schwerster Bedrängnis. Nach einer kurzen Erholungspause, die der Frühlingbeginn uns mit der etwas zuversichtlicher gewordenen Hoffnung auf die längst erwartete Hilfe brachte, befinden wir uns seit wenigen Wochen in einem Abwärtsgleiten, dessen rasendes Tempo und dessen niederschmetternde Wucht den Gedanken an die Möglichkeit eines Besserwerdens nicht mehr aufkommen liessen. Der rettende Kredit war wieder einmal nicht eingetroffen. Aus tausend Gründen, die durch eine einzige Geste des Wohlwollens und des Vertrauens beseitigt werden können, sind wir wieder getröstet worden. Das Unfassbare, das scheinbar Unabwendbare schien heranzukommen. Die unheimliche Schnelligkeit des Absterbens unserer Krone, die toll hinaufwirbelnden Preise, die einander überstürzenden Lohnkämpfe, kurzum die ganze

„Russifizierung“ unseres Elendes, schien uns ein Vorbote der Endkatastrophe zu sein.

In der Stunde der höchsten Verzweiflung, in der nur die Ruhe und Besonnenheit des Volkes den Ausbruch chaotischen Unglücks verhütete, leuchtet uns endlich ein Hoffnungsstrahl. Um den gänzlichen Zusammenbruch unserer Valuta, um die Auflösung der staatlichen Ordnung zu verhüten, haben die österreichischen Banken sich zusammengetan, um gemeinsam mit der Regierung eine neue Notenbank zu errichten, die ein wertbeständiges Geld schaffen soll. Noch sind wir über die Einzelheiten dieses letzten Rettungswerkes nicht unterrichtet. Aber alle Welt fühlt, dass nun eine Entspannung, eine Wendung bevorsteht. Und alle Welt findet, dass der Versuch einer Rettung aus eigener Kraft, im Volke neues Vertrauen zum Staat erwecken und das Volk selbst aus dem Taumel, den die Flucht vor der Krone verursachte, zur Überlegung, zu Wirtschaftlichkeit, zu einer neuen Betätigung aller Energien führen wird.

Im Wirbel dieser ereignisreichen Tage von anderen zum berichten, fällt fast schwer. Wir leben nur unter dem Druck der Frage: Kann uns noch Rettung gebracht werden? Von Tag zu Tag, von Stunde zu Stunde hat sich in den qualerfüllten letzten 14 Tagen das wirtschaftliche Bild des Staates verändert und unser Leben vollends aus den Geleisen der Überlieferung von einst gerissen. Alles, was sonst hier geschieht, scheint wesenlos gegenüber der Gewalt des Schicksals, dessen Brausen unser ganzes Sein erfüllt.

Ich berichte dennoch, denn es gibt selbst in der entscheidendsten Krise Erfruehliches vom Frauenfortschritt zu berichten.

Gründung eines Verbandes der akademischen Frauen in Oesterreich.

Kürzlich traten die akademischen Frauen Oesterreichs zusammen, um einen Verband zu gründen, der den Zweck hat alle Frauen, die an der Universität oder an einer anderen staatlichen, als gleichwertig anerkannten Hochschule ihre Prüfungen abgelegt haben, zu umschliessen. Auch Frauen, die in Lehrstellungen an höheren Schulen tätig sind, können diesem Verbands angehören. Durch die neue Organisation sollen die gemeinsamen geistigen und wirtschaftlichen Interessen gefördert werden. Der Verband hat die Absicht sich der International Federation of University Women anzuschliessen. In der konstituierenden Sitzung wurde der erste weibliche Universitätsprofessor, Frau Dr. Elise Richter, zur ersten Vorsitzenden gewählt.

Bei dieser Gelegenheit berichte ich auch, dass seit einiger Zeit an der Wiener Universität eine zweite Frau als Privatdozentin tätig ist. Es ist dies Frau Dr. Christine Touaillon, eine hervorragende literarische Kraft, die auf diesem Gebiet lehrfähig ist.

Der erste weibliche Anwalt vor Gericht.

Vor kurzer Zeit intervenierte bei einer Gerichtsverhandlung in Wien das erste Mal ein weiblicher Rechtsanwalt. Es ist dies Frau Dr. Marianne Beth, die das philosophische und das juristische Doktorat an der Wiener Universität erlangt hat. Sie ist gegenwärtig in der Kanzlei ihres Vaters, eines Advokaten, als Konzipientin tätig. Frau Dr. Beth hatte eine Frau zu vertreten, die Klage gegen einen Mann führte, der sie verletzt hatte. Der Mann leugnerte und berief sich darauf, dass die Klägerin hysterisch und nicht ernst zu nehmen sei. Dem sichern und energischen Auftreten von Frau Dr. Beth gelang es zu erreichen, dass die Verhandlung zur Vorladung einiger Tatzengen vertagt wurde.

Bundesstaatliche Fürsorgertinnen.

Das Ministerium für soziale Verwaltung hat auf Initiative des Ministers Dr. Franz Pauer eine Titelauszeichnung für solche Persönlichkeiten ausgearbeitet, die auf sozialem Gebiete verdienstlich wirken oder Beispielgebendes geschaffen haben. Es ist erfreulich berichten zu können, dass schon die ersten Ernennungen vier Frauennamen brachten. Es wurden durch Verleihung des neuen Titels „Bundesfürsorgerätin“ ausgezeichnet: Frau Ilse Arlt, die Begründerin und Leiterin der vereinigten Fachkurse für Volkspflege, eine Frau, die über alle Schwierigkeiten der Verhältnisse hinweg die Erziehung zur sozialen Arbeit sich zur Lebensaufgabe macht; Frau Grete Löhr, die als Geschäftsleiterin der Wiener Jugendgerichtshilfe vorbildliche Einrichtungen ins Leben rief und ganz in ihrer Arbeit aufgeht; Frau Olly Schwarz, auch in der österreichischen Frauenbewegung als Förderin aller Fortschrittsinteressen bestens bekannt, die Begründerin der Zentralstelle für weibliche Berufsberatung, gegenwärtig als Leiterin der weiblichen Abteilung der Berufsberatung der Stadt Wien tätig; Frau Ida Reicher, die in Graz als Konsulentin an der vom Lande Steiermark errichteten Kinderschutzstelle wirkt. Alle diese Frauen arbeiten auf dem Gebiet der Jugendfürsorge. Es ist zu hoffen, dass die nächsten Auszeichnungen Frauen berücksichtigen werden, die auf anderen sozialen Gebieten Hervorragendes leisten. Und solche Frauen haben wir gottlob viele.

GISELA URBAN.

Wien, 14. Juni 1922.

AUSTRIA.

The Founding of a League of University Women in Austria.

RECENTLY the academic women of Austria met together to start a League whose object should be to gather together all the women who had passed their examinations at a University or at similar recognized institutions. Also women who are certified teachers in High Schools may join the League, and it is hoped thereby to forward their common spiritual and professional interests. The Union intends to affiliate with the International Federation of University Women. The president elected at the first meeting was Frau Elise Richter, the first woman University Professor.

The First Woman Solicitor before the Courts.

Recently, in the course of a case in the Vienna courts, a woman made her first appearance as a solicitor, namely, Frau Marianne Beth, who took a degree as a Doctor of Philosophy and Law at the Vienna University. She represented a woman whose husband had deserted her, and she succeeded in getting the case postponed in order to call the necessary witnesses.

State Welfare Workers' Association.

The Ministry for Social Work has, at the instance of the Minister, Dr. Franz Paller, given a distinctive title to those who have done good work or set a good example in social activities. It is encouraging to see that the first list of these recognitions contains the names of four women.

June 14, 1922.

CANADA.

First Women Graduates in Medicine at McGill University.

ON June 4 the first women graduates in medicine received their degrees at the McGill University. The fight for the right of women to study in the Medical Faculty of McGill began twenty-five years ago.

Mrs. John Scott, of Montreal, writes:—
To those who love their sex and have been working for the advancement of "sister woman," it is gratifying—yes, even thrilling—to see in this morning's paper the names of the first women who have graduated in medicine from

McGill University, two out of five being prize-winners. It recalls the fact that five years ago women's missionary societies in this province petitioned McGill to open the doors of its medical school to women. The demand from the foreign field for women medical missionaries was urgent, and yet no young woman in Quebec who felt the call to such service could obtain the necessary training in her own province. To this appeal the McGill authorities sent a courteous reply stating that there was no objection on their part to provide medical education for women, but it would be impossible for them to do so unless the women would undertake to raise funds to build, equip and endow a separate medical college. Notwithstanding this ultimatum several women presented themselves the following autumn as students in medicine, and, wonderful to relate, the impossible was achieved: they were admitted, but until the third year, if I remember aright, no standing was given them. All honour to the brave pioneers who embarked on a long and expensive voyage, not knowing from day to day what might happen to them.

But, now that is settled, we would like to ask, What about the other faculties still closed to women, notably architecture? The alleged reason for excluding women is, I understand, lack of room. When crinolines flourished, this might have been a valid objection; but in these days of slim silhouettes, a girl really does not need much room. And, anyway, was not the recent campaign to provide funds for expansion?

Premier Taschereau explains the shortcomings of this province by claiming the Latin temperament for its inhabitants, but unless Quebec wishes to be behind all the other Latin-American countries it will have to speed up a bit. At the Pan-American Congress of Women, held recently in Baltimore, to which delegates were appointed by their respective Governments from every South American republic but one, from all the Central American States, from Mexico, the West Indian republics and the Philippines, the statement was made by every delegate that in her country women were free to enter any college or university, to choose any profession, and, after qualifying, to practise it. Women doctors, lawyers, consuls, inspectors, etc., were said to abound, and the delegate from Chile reported that in her country a woman civil engineer was employed by the Government. If we could imagine Premier Taschereau appointing a woman delegate (and defraying all expenses) to a convention in Valparaiso and she should describe conditions here, I wonder what these Latin-Americans would think of us. Then, O Governors of McGill, why not be generous and magnanimous, and once and for all let down the bars? If women make a mistake and choose the wrong profession, will they not themselves be the sufferers? The whole trend of modern thought is in the direction of considering women as reasonable, responsible beings, and wise are they who bow gracefully to the inevitable.

ISABELLA SCOTT.

June 6, 1922.

CHILE.

Miss Sheepshanks tells Chile about the I.W.S.A.

MISS SHEEPSHANKS, accompanied by Senora Villar de Castro, Vice-President of the Feminist Society, paid a visit to our office (*La Nacion*, Santiago de Chile, April 7). Miss Sheepshanks made the following statements:—

"The work of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance was not interrupted by the war to the extent of many other associations. It formed rather, with its twenty-eight affiliated auxiliaries, a connecting link between all the women in both neutral and belligerent countries.

"The journal issued by the Alliance, and edited by Miss Sheepshanks in London, published articles, letters and notices on the Woman's Movement, sent alike from Germany, Austria, France, Italy, the United States and other countries.

"There was no other international paper that maintained a neutrality so thorough throughout the war as that of the INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWS. The women were loyal to their respective countries, and at the same time maintained such friendly relations that they were able to continue their work until the end of the war.

"The important work done by women during the war caused for the most part any objection to their enfranchisement to disappear. Great Britain, Germany, the United States, as also Denmark and Sweden, have all given their women full political rights with eligibility to stand for Parliament.

"Women are entering public life largely with the view of improving conditions for women and children, their chief interest being in the housing problem, sanitation, education and other so-called domestic problems. The enfranchised women work for the good of the community. Every country needs citizens imbued with this spirit. Half the population is composed of women, and just as it is necessary for complete happiness in a home that there should be both the man's and the woman's point of view brought to bear on its management, so is it equally necessary that in the management of the State there should be brought to bear the joint point of view, and until this is so, it cannot be perfect."

La Nacion, April 7, 1922.

CZECHO-SLOVAKIA.

Equal Pay and Opportunities for Women Teachers.

THE *Woman's Leader*, of June 9, reports that the Czech Government has brought in a Bill which places women teachers on the same footing as men with regard to appointment and salaries, and permits them to teach in all classes of boys' schools.

DENMARK.

Dr. Estrid Hein appointed Member of the Advisory Committee to the League of Nations on the question of Traffic in Women and Children.

THIS committee, which is convened to a meeting in Geneva at the end of June, shall advise the Council of the League of Nations as to the general supervision over the execution of agreements with regard to the Traffic in Women and Children, and also as to all international questions relative to this matter, which may be submitted to the committee for its consideration. Five to six members of the committee are State representatives, whilst three to five assessors represent the great organizations interested in the matter.

Dr. Hein has been proposed to the committee by the Danish Government, and is appointed by the Council of the League of Nations. She will certainly be a very able representative of women's interests, well versed in legal committee work in co-operation with men, as she was for years a member of the Danish section of the official Scandinavian Committee on Legislation about Marriage Laws. Although by profession a physician (an oculist with a very large clientele), she has found time to study the many laws regarding women and children. Dr. Hein is a broad-minded, unselfish, but nevertheless warm-hearted woman, whom Danish women are proud to see in the committee.

LOUISE NEERGAARD,
Secretary of Dansk Kvindesamfund.

Copenhagen, June 16, 1922.

An Important Protest Against the Double Moral Standard.

As it is expected that the Ministry of Justice will shortly suggest proposals for the revision of the Law of March 30, 1906, on the countermining of public immorality and venereal contagion, the Dansk Kvindesamfund send this address to the Ministry:—

The attempts which have been made on the part of the magistrates to stop immorality have (with the exception of the Danish Law 6-13-30, which punishes both parties) always been directed against the woman.

The Law of March 30, 1906, which brought in such great progress as the abolition of State regulation and the introduction of the free treatment of persons suffering from venereal diseases, applies the punitive laws in all essentials also only to women; that is, paragraph 1 is brought into use, while paragraph 2—which theoretically treats the immoral man and the woman equally—is not brought into practice as regards the men.

Also, the proposal of a moral law, which is found in the Commission's plan of a new "general municipal punitive law," and Professor Torp's idea of a punitive law draft appears one-sided and to be directed against women.

FRANCE.

CONGRÈS NATIONAL FÉMINISTE.

Clermont-Ferrand, 4-5 Juin.

C'EST un très grand succès, succès qui paraissait inespéré en raison de la température caniculaire et des multiples occupations qui appelaient les Clermontois pendant les fêtes de la Pentecôte, que vient d'enregistrer la "cause féministe" en France et particulièrement en Auvergne.

Pour la première fois depuis la guerre, le Congrès National Féministe, qui se tient habituellement à Paris, eut lieu dans une ville de province et Clermont-Ferrand fut choisie en raison de l'importance de son groupe.

Le Congrès commença par un grand meeting, le dimanche 4 juin.

Devant une salle bondée d'un public chaleureusement sympathique où l'on remarquait Monsieur le Maire et la plupart des personnalités clermontoises, prient la parole les vaillantes "leaders" de ce grand parti des femmes.

Je commençai moi-même, étant présidente du groupe d'Auvergne et organisatrice du Congrès, et je présentai les oratrices, toutes mères de famille et créatrices d'œuvres sociales.

Je souhaitai la bienvenue à mes compagnes féministes et je les remerciai vivement de leur venue.

Mme de Witt-Schlumberger, présidente de l'Union Française pour le Suffrage des Femmes et vice-présidente de l'Alliance internationale pour le Suffrage, présida, avec sa haute autorité, la réunion et donna la parole à Mme Planeix, de la Rochelle, déléguée des Veuves de guerre au Congrès des Mutilés.

Mme Planeix émut l'assemblée en rappelant que les veuves de guerre et les orphelins qui ont perdu leur soutien dans la vie ne sont plus représentés au Parlement de leur pays pour lequel elles ont fait le plus immense sacrifice.

Mme de Witt-Schlumberger était particulièrement autorisée à demander l'union des femmes contre la guerre, elle qui a donné cinq fils à la guerre et dont l'un est mort pour la France. Mme de Witt assura que la paix serait établie depuis le jour où les femmes auraient le droit de vote et pourraient affirmer leur horreur de la guerre.

Le public enthousiasmé fit à la conférencière une chaleureuse ovation.

Et les applaudissements se renouvelèrent coupant fréquemment les discours, tous d'un puissant intérêt, présentés avec chaleur, éloquence et esprit par les oratrices suivantes:

Mmes Grinberg et Bach, avocates à la cour d'appel de Paris, qui traitèrent de la situation des femmes devant la loi et de leur accès dans les professions libérales.

Mme Jane Misme, directrice de *La Française*, détruisit avec humeur la pensée que le vote des femmes entraînerait des discussions dans les ménages.

Mme Valette, de Strasbourg, apporta l'appel des femmes d'Alsace-Lorraine qui demandent d'obtenir en France tout au moins les mêmes droits que les femmes qui vivent au delà du Rhin.

Mlle Gourd, présidente de l'Association Suisse, fit une énergique critique des pays de république et de démocratie qui sont les derniers à accorder le suffrage vraiment universel.

Enfin, Mme Simon présenta en termes humoristiques des projections fort curieuses de la campagne suffragiste en Amérique.

Le public manifesta chaleureusement sa sympathie pour le vote des femmes.

Banquet.

Le meeting fut suivi d'un dîner charmant dans les salons du Gastronomes, où étaient réunis en nombre les féministes étrangères et clermontoises. M. Izambard, adjoint, représentait la municipalité clermontoise, toujours bienveillante aux idées féministes.

Au champagne, des toasts pleins d'humeur furent portés et la plus aimable gaieté termina notre première journée.

Deuxième Journée.

La deuxième journée fut particulièrement intéressante en raison des questions sociales qui y furent traitées.

La matinée fut réservée aux rapports des déléguées des groupes de province de l'Union Française pour le suffrage des Femmes. Chacune des déléguées fit connaître au Congrès les moyens de propagande utilisés par son groupe et les résultats obtenus. Signalons comme groupes particulièrement florissants: ceux du Nord, de l'Hérault, de Belfort, de la Gironde, le groupe de Strasbourg si heureusement représenté par Mme Vallé-Genairon.

It appears to us unfortunate that "the double moral standard," caused by such one-sided decisions, is recognized and established by law to the greatest damage of a moral social standard and without regard to the general demand for justice.

Our opinion is, that all attempts to prevent public immorality and the spreading of venereal diseases will be ineffective and also unjust as long as, under certain circumstances, women are prevented from carrying on an immoral business as a living, while men are allowed to be the purchasers at such a business and thereby the supporters of the living.

It should be remembered that the prostitute women are not a greater danger to society than the men who voluntarily look for them and are willing to pay them; on the contrary, for these are much better off than they are, and it is the men who carry the infection into the homes.

We consider it desirable that, to obtain a livelihood by immorality should be declared to be illegal, not as in the law under discussion (paragraph 1), where such a means of livelihood can be hidden under another living, but in such a way that the balance shall be adjusted so that those who demand or take payment for immorality, as well as they who by offering or giving payment support the means of livelihood, come under the law. By this, men and women are treated on an equal basis, and the same mark is set upon the immoral man as hitherto society has placed only upon the woman.

As regards paragraph 2 of the law under discussion, we would like to point out the following:—

We consider it unfortunate and ineffective here to lay stress upon "modesty, etc.," as modesty is individual to a very great extent, and therefore scarcely suitable to be used as a standard in statutory provisions.

We consider that every act of immorality in a public place should be considered as a gross breach of street order, bringing down on the offender arrest and its resulting punishment. We would suggest a new paragraph 2 containing something like the following:—

"The man or woman who, by the use of general methods of communication in public places, buildings, streets, alleys or paths, by word or action addresses himself or herself to an unknown person in such a manner as to suggest the desire for sexual relationship, shall be arrested and punished."

Next we would beg that all kinds of "white slave traffic" should in the future be punished much more severely than is done by the law in question, and that the future legislators shall so arrange that all interpretations of "milder conditions" shall be excluded.

June 3, 1922.

Tidenskvinder.

FINLAND.

Rosina Heikel.

THE first woman doctor from Finland, or any of the Scandinavian countries, Rosina Heikel, celebrated her eightieth birthday on March 17.

Nowadays, when a young woman is determined to study medicine, it is looked on as a matter of course, and she is helped and encouraged in many ways if she is clever and energetic. Hence it is difficult for the people of the present day to understand the immense effort and stern determination required from the pioneer. The University was closed to her, and public opinion was like a brick wall across her path. We owe an everlasting debt of gratitude to Rosina Heikel for having set this aim before her when she was but 18 years old, and for having carried it through in spite of the almost insurmountable difficulties. Her conscientious work and solid character did much to conquer the prejudice which in those days was shown to the woman doctor. A pioneer is considered somewhat differently from other people. According to the standard she sets are her successors judged, and it was real good fortune that our first woman doctor had such a high character both as a doctor and an individual.

March 25, 1922.

Naisten Aani.

M. Desdevises du Désert, notre défenseur toujours infiniment dévoué, prit, avec son exquise éloquence, la parole sur la situation des femmes à l'égard de la justice. Notre doyen honoraire de la Faculté des Lettres de Clermont exprima, avec son esprit habituel et sa haute autorité, l'axiome de véritable justice que chaque être doit être jugé par ses pairs. Jusqu'à ce jour, les femmes furent jugées uniquement par les hommes. Que diraient les hommes d'être uniquement jugés par les femmes?

M. Desdevises du Désert émit ensuite le vœu que les programmes scolaires fussent élargis afin que jeunes filles et jeunes gens puissent conserver leur santé : qu'ils perdent dans d'excessives études.

L'assemblée termina sa matinée d'études par l'élection du Comité Central, où furent admises comme nouveaux membres, à l'unanimité : Mmes Justin Godart, Vallé-Genâiron et moi-même.

La séance de l'après-midi fut consacrée aux rapports de Mme Suzanne Grünberg, avocate à la cour de Paris, sur l'incapacité civile des femmes.

La charmante avocate rappela des exemples précis et émouvants où l'incapacité légale de la femme mariée entraîne le malheur de la famille tout entière.

J'étudiai ensuite la situation des femmes dans les jurys et je fis connaître que dans certaines nations, comme l'Angleterre, l'Autriche, la Norvège, etc. les femmes sont admises dans les jurys, alors que cette place leur est refusée en France.

Mme Bach et Mme Brunswick présentèrent des rapports sur la section féminine de la Société des Nations et sur les vœux nombreux présentés par les Conseils généraux des différents départements français en faveur du vote des femmes.

Au total, excellent travail, très beaux résultats qui présentent enfin le "féminisme" sous son véritable jour d'action saine et belle en faveur des femmes, des enfants et de la famille tout entière.

Notre Congrès aura, j'en suis certaine, de très sérieux résultats et déjà de nombreux adeptes se rallient à notre cause et nous aideront à vaincre la résistance de notre Sénat.

C. FLUHR-BALLOFF,

Avocate au Bureau de Clermont-Ferrand.

MADAME JULES SIEGFRIED.

Le féminisme français vient de faire une perte irréparable : Mme Jules Siegfried, notre chère et vénérée présidente, s'est endormie du grand sommeil, le dimanche 28 mai, à midi, après des mois de cruelles souffrances.

Par cette mort, qui met en deuil non seulement le Conseil National des Femmes Françaises, mais encore les œuvres si nombreuses auxquelles elle s'intéressait, qu'elle soutenait ou dirigeait, disparaît une belle et noble figure. Mme Jules Siegfried fut non seulement la personnification de la mère de famille dans ce que cette appellation comporte de plus élevé et de plus tendre, elle fut aussi celle de la femme consciente de son devoir social et du féminisme français dans ce qu'il a de plus digne.

Née en 1848, à Luneray (Seine-Inférieure) où son père était pasteur de l'Eglise réformée, Mlle Puaux, devenue plus tard Mme Jules Siegfried, fit de bonne heure l'apprentissage du dévouement à la chose publique et, lorsque, délicieuse jeune fille, elle fut choisie, en 1868 par celui qui devint le compagnon de sa vie on peut dire que le foyer idéal était fondé par l'union de ces deux êtres d'élite.

Après son mariage, qui eut lieu à Alais, dans le Gard, en 1869, elle quitta cette ville pour Le Havre, où elle se donna tout d'abord et de tout cœur aux œuvres philanthropiques qui la sollicitaient. Puis, progressivement, son activité s'élargit ; les œuvres sociales trouvèrent en elle une ouvrière aussi active que dévouée.

C'est ainsi que, grâce à elle, naquirent et prospérèrent ces œuvres admirables qu'elle présida jusqu'à sa mort : la Ligue d'Education Morale, l'Œuvre de la Chaussée du Maine, les Villégiatures du Travail Féminin, le Foyer Féminin, le Home des Amies de la Jeune Fille, les Maisons familiales de repos et enfin l'Ecole professionnelle d'Assistance aux Malades qu'elle présida après la mort de Mme Alphen-Salvador, sa fondatrice.

Nulle plus que Mme Jules Siegfried n'eut la préoccupation des travailleuses que leur labeur retient à l'atelier, à l'usine, au comptoir ou dans les bureaux ; nulle plus qu'elle ne sut apprécier leur vaillance, et nulle plus qu'elle n'essaya d'éclairer l'horizon de leur vie de travail.

Ce fut en constatant combien pénible est la vie de l'ouvrière, combien difficilement s'obtiennent des réformes, que Mme Jules Siegfried, faisant un pas de plus, en arriva au féminisme.

En 1880, elle fait déjà partie d'un Comité d'organisation du Congrès des Œuvres et Institutions féminines, qui se tient à Paris, sous la présidence de Jules Simon, congrès qui eut un immense succès. En 1900, nommée membre du Comité d'organisation du deuxième Congrès des Œuvres et Institutions féminines, elle prit part de façon active aux travaux de cette importante manifestation du vouloir féminin.

Quelques mois plus tard, de ce congrès et de celui de la Condition et des Droits de la Femme, tous deux officiels, naquit, sous l'impulsion de Mrs. May Wright Sewall, venue tout exprès à Paris à cet effet, le Conseil National des Femmes Françaises qui, l'année suivante, s'affiliait au Conseil International des Femmes. Mme Jules Siegfried fut une des six déléguées désignées par les deux congrès pour présider à sa fondation.

Inutile de rappeler ici ce que fut Mme Jules Siegfried, pour le Conseil National des Femmes Françaises, au service duquel elle mit dès le début toute son influence et sa générosité. Appelée en 1912 à succéder à son amie, Mlle Sarah Monod, à la présidence du Conseil National, Mme Jules Siegfried lui consacra le meilleur de son activité. Grâce à elle, grâce au respect dont elle était entourée, à la mesure, à la fermeté qu'elle apportait dans sa façon de présenter les revendications du féminisme, nos idées firent d'immenses progrès dans des milieux restés jusque-là réfractaires. Oratrice remarquable, sa parole, chaude et persuasive à la fois, consolait et reconfortait.

Partisan résolu des droits politiques pour les femmes, elle s'emploie de tout son pouvoir en faveur d'une réforme qu'elle juge essentielle. Très malade déjà le jour de notre grande manifestation à la Sorbonne, en faveur du suffrage féminin, elle ne voulut pas s'endormir avant de connaître, par M. Jules Siegfried qui la présidait avec M. Appell, le résultat de la soirée. Sa joie fut grande en apprenant le succès et, le lendemain, lorsque, le visage radieux, elle me dit : "Nous allons réussir !", je sentis plus que jamais l'absurdité qu'il y avait à accorder à des hommes parfois incapables de se conduire eux-mêmes, le droit d'intervenir dans la chose publique alors qu'on l'avait refusée à une femme de cette valeur.

"La vie est faite pour être montée," avait-elle coutume de dire. Elle l'a gravie joyeusement, élargissant chaque jour son rayon d'activité.

Si Mme Jules Siegfried a disparu, sa pensée ne nous a pas quittés. Nous sommes sûres qu'en voyant tomber le flambeau des mains de leurs aînées, les jeunes ne le laisseront pas s'éteindre et qu'elles s'efforceront de le porter avec la bonté, l'intelligence et la dignité qui caractérisaient le chef et l'amie qui vient de disparaître.

G. AVRIL DE SAINTE-CROIX.

Le 3 Juin.

La Française.

NOUVELLES FÉMINISTES.

FEMMES ADMISES DANS LA SOCIÉTÉ DES NATIONS. — Madame Curie et Mademoiselle Christine Bonnevie ont été nommées membres du Comité de Coopération Intellectuelle.

Le docteur Joséphine Baker (États-Unis) et le docteur Estrid Hein (Danemark) sont les deux femmes déléguées et nommées par leur gouvernement comme conseillères du comité engagé dans la question du trafic des femmes et des enfants, et parmi les experts représentant les

(La suite à la page 153.)

(Suite de la page 152.)

organisations internationales ont été nommées Mademoiselle Baker, Madame Avril de Sainte-Croix, Madame la baronne de Montenach, et Madame Studer-Steenhauslin.

Australie. — Le Ministre du Parlement Fédéral de l'Australie, Monsieur Hughes, a promis son concours pour faire nommer une femme comme membre de la prochaine Assemblée de la Société des Nations.

Canada. — Le 4 juin les premières femmes ayant été reçues comme docteur en médecine reçurent leur diplôme à l'Université "McGill" de Toronto.

Autriche. — Une société a été fondée en Autriche par les femmes membres de l'Université. Madame Mariane Beth est la première femme qui a paru comme notaire dans les tribunaux de Vienne.

Allemagne. — La nouvelle loi concernant le bien-être et la santé de l'enfant a été unanimement votée au Reichstag.

Hongrie. — Aux dernières élections de la Hongrie une femme a été élue membre du Parlement, et deux autres femmes furent élues comme membres remplaçants.

Les Indes. — La Municipalité de Bombay vient d'établir un système d'éducation obligatoire pour les filles ainsi que pour les garçons.

A Nellore (Madras) le Conseil Municipal et le Conseil d'Arrondissement, ainsi que le Conseil d'Éducation, ont chacun une femme comme membre.

Une femme à Madras, qui a été condamnée pour cause politique, a été placée sous un régime beaucoup plus rigoureux et sévère que les hommes condamnés pour la même offense. L'Association des Femmes Indiennes proteste avec énergie.

Burma. — La nouvelle constitution donne aux femmes et aux hommes les mêmes droits électoraux.

Italie. — Monsieur Modigliani a présenté à la Chambre des députés une loi en faveur du suffrage pour les femmes.

FRANCE.

The Senate Falls Again.

As we go to press we learn from Madame Schlumberger that the Senate debate on the Woman Suffrage Bill has again been postponed — this time till October. Small wonder if French Suffragists should, like the historic Miss Flite, take to murmuring: "We are expecting a judgment on the Day of Judgment." We think the repeated delays of the Senate, whatever be the excuse offered, disgraceful. They are responsible for a real waste of the energies of the most enlightened French women — energies which should be employed in active and helpful citizenship.

GERMANY.

Welfare of Infants Bill carried.

ON June 13 and 14 the Welfare of Infants Bill (already referred to in the issue of August, 1921) passed its second and third reading in the Reichstag, and — though different opinions on special points were brought — finally was carried unanimously, with the alterations it had undergone in Committee. As always will be the case, with questions of this kind, in our parliaments, women members of all parties except the Conservatives joined in the discussion and warmly and effectively supported the Bill which, notwithstanding the new institutions of the official local and State Juvenile Boards, will still leave ample opportunity

also for public and private social activity on this line. The leading principle of the Bill is put down in its first paragraph, saying that every German child has a right to education, to bodily, mental and social ability, the objects of the law being all those children for whom no such education is provided, i.e., orphans, illegitimate or neglected children, etc. As was emphasized by the Socialist speaker, the legitimate and illegitimate children are to be put on exactly the same footing in every respect.

As a matter of course, German women of nearly all parties welcome this new Law which will come into force in April, 1924, as an enormous progress on the line of social and family welfare. They especially look at it as a victory of the new "organized motherhood," the mother-spirit of the new women citizens that has become effective at last also in public life. Though — to meet the moral needs of the time and to unify the manifold existing public institutions for children's welfare — the Bill was drawn up and brought in by the Government, the direct and indirect influence of the women, in and outside of Parliament, is evident. So one may look forward confidently that also in the future application of the law, especially as members of the Juvenile Boards, the women and mothers will get their proper share.

A New Divorce Law.

When in the new German Constitution equal rights of husband and wife were established, it was obvious that this would involve the revision of the respective part of our civil code, which in the matter of marital and parental power, the married woman's property, etc., is in no way in harmony with this principle. In consequence the revision was undertaken and announced by the Government as ready for the present parliamentary session. It seems, however, as if the general amendment of this part of the code (Familienrecht) will still be postponed for some time. One section only containing the paragraphs on divorce is to be amended in the course of the next weeks, the Bill after its first reading being at present under consideration by the Committee.

Though our divorce law is already based on the said principle of equality, it means only equal injury for husband and wife, and though it is of comparatively recent date (it came into force in 1900) it was a fatal deterioration compared with the former state. As reasons for divorce it recognises adultery, desertion and cruelty (if the latter proves to be dangerous for life or health), the really fundamental moral reason of "mutual invincible antipathy," which may, of course, in many cases, mean nothing else than "mutual consent," of the former Prussian Code, having been abolished on behalf of the inviolability and sacredness of the matrimonial bond. The characteristic feature of the present law is therefore that, to get a divorce, wife or husband must be able to give evidence before the judge of the positive "guilt" of the other partner. It is obvious that this often must lead to most painful situations, especially for men and women of a delicate and refined nature, putting before them the alternative either of exposing their own and others' most intimate relations to the court, or even to arranging such "guilt" themselves for this purpose. The alternative is to maintain a bond which has become a heavy chain for them, and that bond being based on growing antipathy and hypocrisy, how can their relation be a source of sacredness and mental and moral well-being for their children?

It is superfluous under these circumstances to point out that the main purpose of the reform of the divorce law is to facilitate divorce and to do away with the conception of "guilt" in these relations, from a legal point of view. There is great sympathy with this tendency in all progressive circles and good reason to hope that the Bill will be carried with a great majority when next it comes before the Reichstag. Opposition is to be expected only from the Conservative and, of course, from the Catholic Party. A very important question from a woman's point of view is whether and how much the new Bill will influence the position of

the divorced mother in relation to her children, which as yet is a very unsatisfactory one.

I shall come back to this matter and refer also to the share our brave women parliamentarians have had in the deliberations.

Dresden, June 20.

MARIE STRITT.

GREAT BRITAIN.

National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship. British Women and the League of Nations Day.

THE National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship organized a contingent in the procession and a special women's platform in Hyde Park on the occasion of the demonstration in celebration of League of Nations Day. It is almost ten years since the last great procession and demonstration to demand the vote. The National Union welcomed the opportunity of walking behind the well-known banner under the leadership of Mrs. Fawcett, who walked all the way from the Embankment to Hyde Park as of old, and Miss Eleanor Rathbone, our president, in order to demonstrate to the public that enfranchised women believe that international peace is the essential foundation for all reform. A strong platform of speakers included Viscountess Astor, M.P., Mrs. Wintringham, M.P., Mrs. Henry Fawcett, J.P., Miss Eleanor Rathbone, J.P., Lord Robert Cecil, Mrs. Layton, Mrs. Rackham and Miss Helen Ward. The following resolution, moved by Lady Astor and seconded by Lord Robert Cecil, was carried unanimously: "This meeting affirms its belief that the future peace and safety of the world depend upon the adoption by all nations of the principles of the League of Nations. It recognizes that the admission of all European Nations, and especially Germany, to the League is a matter of immediate urgency, so as to prevent Europe falling back into a system of hostile groups. It believes that the League should be the foundation of British foreign policy, and affirms the determination of the people of Great Britain to uphold peace and justice and disarmament in Europe and in the whole world."

The National Union platform was only one of ten platforms, all of which attracted large crowds in spite of heavy rain, especially the platform at which there were speakers from over 20 different nations.

Prospects for Our Bills.

The Session drags on, and our hopes of some achievement in the shape of legislation respecting the reforms for which we stand recede. Even the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, which the Government have now adopted as a Government measure, is no further advanced. It was down for its second reading last Wednesday, but was not reached. The Separation and Maintenance Orders Bill, for which the National Union has special responsibility, has not yet been considered in Standing Committee, and when it is considered it is probable that the Government will insist on certain important parts being dropped.

The Guardianship of Infants Bill has been referred to a Select Committee of both Houses of Parliament. Unfortunately, this means that no report on it will be published in time for legislation to be proceeded with this Session, but this proposal, which was made by the Government at a Joint Conference consisting of the Home Secretary, the Minister of Health, the Attorney-General, etc., and representatives of the N.U.S.E.C., seemed, under the circumstances, to offer the best chances of ultimate success.

The British Nationality (Married Women) Bill has passed its second reading in the House of Commons without a debate, and will shortly be coming up before a committee. The Children of Unmarried Parents Bill was withdrawn as the Government intimated its intention of introducing one of its own, but so far nothing has been done.

No further steps have been taken to allow time for a Franchise Bill to give women votes on the same terms as men. This week Mr. Lloyd George is being asked

to receive a large deputation of Members of Parliament and of representatives of organizations of all kinds pledged to this reform.

Summer School, St. Hilda's College, Oxford, Aug. 19th-Sept. 2nd.

We are very glad that already some women from other countries have announced their intention of being with us at our Summer School. We wish to remind those who read these pages that in order to secure rooms in the College early application is desirable. Students may come for one week only if they desire. The special attraction of the first week, in addition to the programme of reforms of the National Union, will consist of lectures on the League of Nations and International Relations, and the chief feature of the last week will be the lectures on the Administration of Justice, to which women magistrates are specially invited.

Special care will be taken to provide for the needs of any foreigners who may be present. St. Hilda's is beautifully situated, with lovely gardens, and the river close to Magdalen College, in the most interesting part of Oxford. Tutorial fees from 30s., board and lodging from three guineas a week.

Further particulars may be had from the Summer School Secretary, N.U.S.E.C., Evelyn House, 62, Oxford Street, London, W.

ELIZABETH MACADAM,

Hon. Secretary.

"Coercion" of Wives.

On June 2 the report of the Committee set up to inquire into the legal doctrine of "coercion" of wives by husbands issued its report.

In this report the Committee state that they considered the following alternative proposals for the amendment of the Criminal Law on the subject:—

"(1) To abolish any presumption of coercion when a crime is committed by a wife in the presence of her husband, leaving the defence of coercion open to the wife and to be established in the ordinary way.

"(2) To abolish the whole doctrine of coercion by the husband as a defence by the wife, leaving her on the same footing as other people, free to establish any defence of that kind of compulsion—i.e., the fear of immediate death or grievous bodily harm, which affords a defence to any person, except in the case of certain specified crimes."

The Committee unanimously recommend the adoption of the second proposal. They do not recommend any alteration in the existing law under which a husband and wife are not liable to be indicted for conspiracy.

Women Eligible for all Judicial Offices.

The Attorney-General, in reply to a Parliamentary question, has announced that any woman who possesses the statutory qualifications for appointment to a judicial office is equally with any man eligible for appointment to that office. Such offices would include judgeships of the High Court and County Court judgeships.

Another Barrier Down.

The Royal Society of British Sculptors has decided to admit women as members.

HUNGARY.

A Woman M.P. and Two Alternates Elected.

OUR general meeting on April 5, which again rallied our members, was a demonstration of their attachment to the cause, of general solidarity in the strife and tactics, and of confidence in the activities of the board; and, before all, of their gratitude for the untiring and unselfish work of our dear President, Vilma Glücklich.

The meeting sent telegrams of greetings to our esteemed President of the I.W.S.A., Mrs. Chapman Catt, and to the beloved founder of our Society, Mme. Rosika Schwimmer; re-elected the board and charged it with the continuation of the work, which, considering the great defects of our last suffrage laws, is still of great importance. We had

a very good lecture on this marplotting suffrage law, which made clear to us all the disadvantage of it and of the violent methods of canvassing.

The general meeting passed a resolution in favour of passive resistance by the Society in the elections, so far as not to set up lists in the capital and candidates in the country places; and on the one hand to keep non-partisan, but also to warn our members of the danger of extremes in the elections. There were plans for non-party lists in other quarters, but they were all given up as impossible for the present. So our members were eventually recommended to vote on the side which, after their own judgment, gave the best guarantees for upholding our principles.

The Liberal-Democratic Block put one member of our board, Mrs. Szentirmay, on its list of candidates. Only the Social-Democratic Party has a woman candidate on the third place of one of their lists. Among the candidates is the widow of the early deceased and lamented founder and president of the Men's League for Women Suffrage, Dr. Dirmer. His successor, Dr. Georg Lukács, is one of the first elected members of this election. There is, we fear, little hope of having a woman member in this new Parliament.

In our last report we sent a short summary of our suffrage law. Since then there have been but a few Cabinet orders issued concerning the elections. There is an absolute prohibition of the sale and distribution of alcoholic drinks during the elections—which, according to some accounts, is not always respected by certain candidates. On the occasion of the late King Charles' death, for about three weeks, and a week before the elections, meetings were prohibited, but according to reports there were some members of the Government who did not obey this last order.

There were a great many protests concerning the registration of voters, and it is obvious that even with this very much restricted suffrage there are a great many deprived of the vote who, according to the law, ought to be registered as electors.

Of the results of the elections we shall report as soon as the returns are officially published.

For *Feministak Egyesulete*,

EUGENIE MISKOLEZY MELLER.

Later.—After having finished our letter we received the news of some returns of the elections. With great satisfaction and joy we may report, therefore, that a woman has been elected on the list of the Social-Democrats in the first district of Budapest. Her name is Anna Kéthly.

Two women have been elected substitutes for M.P.s, providing for eventual vacancy; one Social-Democrat, Vilma Schmidtmayer, and one Christian Socialist, Marie Spillenberg.

INDIA.

Compulsory Elementary Free Education in Bombay City.

BOMBAY is the premier large city in India to start its scheme of Compulsory Education on the right principle and right basis of girls and boys equally. It is a matter for congratulation that it has done so and is thus setting a splendid example to all other Municipal authorities.

Women's Council of Bombay Presidency.

The Women's Council of Bombay has published its third annual report. The Council is now well established as the clearing-house for all Women's work in the Presidency. It is constantly consulted by public bodies of all kinds, and its office is in the Town Hall by courtesy of the Collector of Bombay.

Here it receives a constant stream of inquiries, and puts different groups of women workers, philanthropic, social, educational, in touch with each other. Though it is emphatically against identifying itself with any political party, it necessarily takes the lead in mobilizing women's societies on such matters as the political and municipal franchise, the protection of children, the abolition of houses of ill-fame, excise questions, housing and so on. In order to watch the resolutions of the Municipal Council and Bills of the Legislative Council it has formed a Parliamentary Sub-Committee which keeps in touch with members of both bodies, ready to further the interests of women and children. The amount of work which falls to it under this head shows how important it is that women in all enfranchised communities or cities should be organized and ready for prompt action.

Women on Local Councils.

Nellore District in Madras Presidency has the advantage of two women on its local boards, Mrs. Nariamamma, who was nominated a member of the Municipal Council, and Miss Ballard, a member of the District Board. The latter says that she is still learning her work on the board as most of the subjects are technical, such as roads, repairs, sanitation, etc., but she adds, "when anything comes up that will affect our Indian women, then I shall have my say. I have already been able to advise a little on Scouting and Girl-Guiding and hope to do more as time goes on." There is an Indian lady on the Educational Council also in Nellore. What a progressive municipality Nellore is! When will Bombay and Madras and other larger Municipal Councils show the same wise and broad-minded spirit? There are some women in every town whose advice would be valuable in matters of public interest, and both by nomination and election they should be given opportunities for such service.

Women's Right to Insurance Money.

Mr. B. S. Kamat has introduced a Bill into the Legislative Assembly to amend the Married Women's Property Act of 1874. The present Act is so ambiguous as regards the Mohammedan and Hindu communities that though a man may take out an insurance policy as a beneficial trust for his wife or children, he may later change his mind about it and borrow money from the insurance company by pledging the policy, or his creditors might claim the policy monies and thus the wife will be deprived of the provision that had been intended for her. Mr. Kamat's Act declares that so long as the object of the trust (wife or child) survives, the policy monies "shall not be subject to the control of the husband, or to his creditors or form part of his estate." This is a wise provision and we trust the Act will become law.

The Passing Away of a Woman Pioneer.

India has lost one of her greatest woman workers by the death in April of the famous, learned and pious Pandita Ramabai at "Mukti Home" at Kedgaon, Poona District.

This home of hers, 30 years ago, represented the awakening of Indian womanhood, courageously voicing the demand of her sex for a wider life than the prejudices of the past permitted. Later, she chose to live in the midst of her home at Kedgaon, devoting her great gifts of brain and heart to the services of womankind and administering spiritual and moral training to her family of 1,500 women and children, among whom were the lowliest, the forsaken and the most despised.

Political Treatment for Political Prisoners.

The following letter was sent by the Women's Indian Association to the Minister for Law and Order in Madras, who replied that he would look into the matter:—

"The Women's Indian Association respectfully desires to draw your attention to the reported case of Srimati Duvvri Subhanna Garu, the Andhra lady Non-Cooperator, who has been sentenced by the Magistrate

of Cocanada to undergo *rigorous* imprisonment for one year, or until security is furnished. Her offence has been the making of seditious speeches and the rousing of disaffection against Government, exactly the same charge for which the men leaders of this movement have been given *simple imprisonment only*. As an Association which aims at equality of treatment for men and women in national affairs, we request the Government to look into this case of unfair, differential treatment and to order that the *rigorous* imprisonment be changed into *simple* imprisonment, both on the ground of equal treatment for the two sexes and on the ground of following the precedent set in Great Britain and other countries of giving political treatment to women political prisoners."

May, 1922. *Stri Dharma.*

**JUSTICE FOR INDIAN GIRLS!
Women Demand the Inclusion of Girls from the
Start in all Schemes for Compulsory and
Free Elementary Education.**

New Education Acts passed recently have put it into the power of Provincial Governments and Municipal and Local Government bodies to introduce new schemes of education in their individual localities. Various Provinces are now taking advantage of this power and are formulating ways and means by which the present deplorably low rate of education may be raised. Educated and awakened women throughout India are anxiously watching their proposals, as they know that the fate of the women of the next generation depends on whether the little girls of to-day are included or excluded from the schemes now being drawn up.

**There is the Greatest Danger that Girls will
be left out.**

Even such an educationally advanced city as Poona proposed in 1920 to apply compulsory and free elementary education to *boys only*, and we all remember the stirring and dramatic agitation that was carried on by the Poona women to bring about the inclusion of girls. Their action has since gained the desired end and has been of inestimable value in laying down the principle that the question of sex should not enter into schemes which apply only to children of between 5 and 10 years of age. Bombay City has learnt this truth and it has decided to begin its schemes of compulsory education with boys and girls at the same time. The Indian States of Baroda, Mysore and Kathiawar apply compulsion to *boys and girls equally*. These all prove that there is no reason why girls shall not be educated similarly everywhere.

The Government of the United Provinces has proposed a scheme for the compulsory and free education of *all boys* in the Province but makes no provision for the same, or for even the beginning of the same, for girls. The Corporation of Madras and several of the Municipalities in the Madras Presidency (Kumbakonam, Negapatam, Tanjore, Vellore) have drawn up their compulsory schemes for boys only, though it is the appallingly low percentage of women's education that is the present blot on India's fair name. No one dares to say that girls should not be educated, but the authorities excuse themselves from arranging for the girls on the ground of want of funds.

This is only fair dealing to the equal halves of the future Indian Nation now growing up around us, and is the continuation of the ancient tradition of India which gave learning freely to girls and which personified knowledge in the form of a goddess, Saraswati. We call on the public and on all political, municipal, and educational authorities to demand the application of compulsory schemes for *free elementary education to girls as well as boys* in gradually extended areas for the following reasons:—

According to statistics, only 2 per cent. of the women in India are literate in their own mother tongue. This ignorance must be removed and a start must be made *with the little girls now*.

The rates and taxes which are to pay for these schemes come from women as well as men, and the money should not be allocated to the progress of one

sex only. In Madras City alone there are over 5,000 women voters paying taxes.

Statistics show that already ten times as many boys are being educated as girls. Compulsion, therefore, is all the more necessary for girls, so that the nation in both its halves may go forward equally.

There is no Hindu custom to prevent little girls from attending school. There has been no expression of opinion from bodies of women who are mothers, protesting against the enforcement of free education for little girls, whereas there has been a strong demand for it from the Indian Women's Conference held in Senate House, Madras, on December 28, 1920; from representative meetings held in many towns in support of the Poona women's agitation on this subject; from the annual general meeting of the Women's Indian Association held on April 16, 1922, and from other women's Associations. *Stri Dharma.*

May, 1922.

A councillorship on the Madras Corporation has been offered to Mrs. Devados, the wife of a local judge, according to reports in the London Press. The offer is the first of the kind made to a woman in India.

EQUAL FRANCHISE FOR BURMESE WOMEN.

Burma is to have a new Constitution, which will apply to some eleven and a-half million people. Under this Constitution the suffrage will be exercised by all sane British subjects, male and female, over 18, subject to certain very wide qualifications. The draft rules for its application, as revised by the Joint Select Committee on Indian Affairs, are the result of discussions between the Local Government, the Government of India, and the Secretary of State in Council. Immediately after the Recess they will be submitted to both Houses of Parliament, and they should come into force on July 1, so that the necessary preliminary work may be done in time for the elections in October. In Upper Burma the rural franchise depends on the payment of household tax, and in Lower Burma payment of the married rate of capitation tax. The age limit for the franchise is to be 18 instead of 21, on the ground that this will greatly simplify the preparation of the electoral rolls, because at 18 a man's name first figures in the taxation rolls. In the eight towns in which the urban franchise will be exercised the existing easy standard of qualification for the municipal vote will be taken. There is to be no sex disqualification, and, consequently, wherever a woman is head of a household, and thus pays the household tax, she will be entitled to the vote. The Legislature can decide whether women are to sit as members, the minimum age for eligibility being 25. "This arrangement," says the report of the Standing Joint Committee on Indian Affairs, "is an advance on that provided for other Provinces, but, in view of the unanimity with which it is supported, and of the undoubted fact that the position of women in Burma differs materially from that in India, the Committee see no ground for dissenting from the proposals of the competent authorities on the subject." We send our warm congratulations to Burmese women on this victory. *The Vote.*

June 9, 1922.

ITALY.

THE Italian Federation Pro-Suffragio Femmine at its last Council Meeting elected a new Central Committee, of which the members are:—

Avv. Sra. Romelia Troise, Secretary for Italy.
Prof. Sra. Maria A. Loschi, Secretary for the Foreign Countries.
Avv. Sra. Ada Guerini, Vice-Secretary.
Dott. Sra. Prof. sa Luisa Rubini.
Dott. Sra. Bice Sacchi.

The address of the Committee is via Balbo 43—Roma 3.

A Suffrage Bill.

The Socialist Deputy, M. Modigliani, has introduced a Woman Suffrage Bill in the Chamber of Deputies. *June 2, 1922.*

LUXEMBOURG.

THE Grand Duchy of Luxembourg elections were held in June, and it is reported that the only woman Deputy, a Socialist, was not re-elected.

NORWAY.

Women on the Penal Law Commission.

THE members of the Punitive Law Commission have at last been appointed. It is to consist of nine members. Two women, Dr. Ingeborg Aas, Trondhjem, and Dr. Tove Mohr have been chosen as members of the Commission. *Nyalende.*

June 1, 1922.

ROUMANIE.

**Aperçu sur l'état de législation concernant les
Femmes Roumaines.**

DANS l'état présent de législation la femme roumaine ne jouit pas, qu'en certains cas, des droits civils (la veuve ou la célibataire); elle est totalement exclue de l'exercice des droits politiques.

Pourtant, la Constitution ne lui interdit pas d'une manière catégorique l'exercice des droits politiques, mais les dispositions la concernant dans le cas des "Droits des Romains, Art. . ." n'ont jamais été interprétées dans un sens qui leur fut favorable.

Dans le cadre de la législation civile, la famille dont l'organisation est basée sur l'autocratie romaine, considère la femme soumise à la puissance du mari, le régime dotal étant toujours celui de ses biens, l'autorisation du mari et le contrôle de la justice sont indispensables à la ratification des actes signés par la femme mariée qui, tout comme dans la législation française, est incorporée dans le rang des irresponsables.

La femme mariée à la tête d'un commerce voit en ce cas disparaître toutes les restrictions pour tout ce qui concerne son activité commerciale; de par ce fait, la femme libre et majeure jouit toujours de tous les droits civils.

Toutefois, en comparaison des législations qui lui sont antérieures le code civil réalise une grande progrès, car sous le régime des codes Calimah et Caragea les femmes étaient bannies du foyer paternel même, car elles n'étaient que trop habituellement reléguées dans les couvents où on les élevait en vue de prendre le voile. Comme la vocation n'y était pour rien, il y a quelques années à peine qu'une loi interdit de devenir religieuse avant 21 ans révolus.

Parallèlement à cette situation, vu les nécessités des services publics grâce au progrès des temps actuels et surtout sous l'influence étrangère, peu à peu les voies strictement réservées jusque là aux hommes se sont ouvertes aussi devant les femmes qui ont enfin pu occuper quelques fonctions publiques et exercer certaines professions libres. C'est ainsi que les femmes sont employées dans les postes, les télégraphes, les téléphones, dans les administrations de l'Etat, des districts et des communes, dans le service sanitaire de même que dans la police et la sûreté générale. En ce qui concerne l'enseignement son accès y est sur un pied d'égalité absolue avec les hommes, car nous les trouvons dans toutes les branches et les fonctions de l'enseignement: primaire, professionnel, secondaire, supérieur et même universitaire.

Jusqu'en 1919 les femmes étaient admises à professer la médecine et la pharmacie. Depuis, à la suite des dispositions prises par la barre et confirmées par les instances judiciaires, elles ont obtenu le droit d'être avocat, partout de faire partie du barre.

Si toutefois la femme roumaine n'est pas encore en possession de ses droits civils et politiques, son activité

sociale est immense malgré cela. Presque tout ce qui est philanthropique en tant qu'assistance publique, sociétés de bienfaisance, etc., ne doit son existence qu'à l'initiative ou à la collaboration de la femme. Tâchons d'en énumérer les multiples formes: Dispensaires pour nouveau-nés, ou "La Goutte de Lait"; écoles maternelles, hôpitaux pour enfants, dispensaires pour la prophylaxie et la tuberculose, asiles pour vieillards des deux sexes, assistance des mendiants et des pauvres qui ne tendent pas la main. A partir de la guerre les femmes ont assumé un rôle écrasant par la part presque entière qu'elles ont prise dans l'organisation et la direction des œuvres de la Croix-Rouge; les soins des blessés dans les hôpitaux qu'elles dirigeaient, l'assistance aux centaines de mille réfugiés des provinces envahies, l'aide aux invalides, aux orphelins de guerre que les millions obtenus par elles servent à élever, etc., etc. Toutes ces institutions sont l'œuvre des femmes, du moins elles y ont de la plus grande part.

Passant de la ville aux champs, nous constatons que le travail de la femme surpasse de beaucoup celui de l'homme. En effet, c'est elle qui travaille la terre toute la journée à côté de son mari, c'est elle qui, tandis que son mari se repose, vague aux soins du ménage, nourrit et soigne les enfants, fait la lessive, s'occupe du bétail et de la volaille, file et tisse les vêtements des siens et n'a pas une minute de repos. La tâche étant trop lourde, bien souvent elle perd courage, et voilà pourquoi l'Association pour l'Emancipation civile et politique de la Femme roumaine, alarmée par cette grave question, essaye de relever le plus tôt possible le niveau culturel et économique de la paysanne, complètement négligé jusqu'à la guerre, par la fondation dans tous les villages et même les faubourgs des villes de "Cercles de Mères de famille." Il serait trop long d'exposer ici le programme d'activité qui incombe à ces cercles des mères de famille auxquels le Gouvernement accorde sa haute protection effective.

Par conséquent, les femmes ont fait preuve de tant des qualités éclatantes, que leurs mérites ont déterminé l'ex-ministre de l'Intérieur, M. G.-G. Marzesco, d'accorder par le décret-loi du 22 mai 1919 le droit aux femmes de siéger dans les commissions intérimaires (Conseil municipal provisoire). C'est aujourd'hui la seule disposition marquée de caractère législatif qui élargisse les droits des femmes et déjà dans maintes communes du pays les femmes y tiennent leurs places avec discernement et dévouement.

Jusqu'à la déclaration de la guerre mondiale il n'existait en Roumanie qu'une seule organisation féministe siégeant à Bucarest, "La Ligue des droits de la Femme." Pendant la guerre une nouvelle organisation s'y est formée à Jassy, l'Association pour l'Emancipation civile et politique de la Femme roumaine, ayant de nombreuses filiales en province, et lors de la rentrée triomphale à Bucarest, une section dans la capitale. Cette association comprend toutes les forces laborieuses féminines faisant partie de tous les champs d'activité et les noms connus des femmes inscrites dans le livre d'or des arts et de la littérature roumaine y figurent en grand nombre. Et voilà comment la question des droits de la femme roumaine fut mise à l'ordre du jour et fait l'objet des préoccupations de tous nos partis politiques. Les uns ont admis en principe l'émancipation civile et politique complète, d'autres rien que l'émancipation civile avec les droits politiques restreints aux affaires municipales et des districts, mais pas un seul parti n'en est resté à l'idée du présent état des choses ou de l'actuelle législation.

Le fait que les provinces récemment ralliées à l'ancien royaume ont admis (par les décisions des assemblées nationales régionales) les droits complets, nous fait caresser l'espoir de voir bientôt la réalisation de nos revendications.

Jusqu'à l'union législative, les femmes ont eu en Bes-serabie l'électorat et l'éligibilité, car elles ont siégé au Conseil d'Etat.

Asociațiunea pentru emanciparea civilă și politică a Femeilor Române.

Mai 1922.

SWEDEN.

MRS. WICKSELL writes that the proposition on the right for duly-qualified women to enter the more important positions within the Civil Service and all other State functions was defeated Saturday, May 20, by a two votes majority in the Upper Chamber. The reason given was that the question ought to be solved only in connection with new salary regulations for women State functionaries.

June, 1922.

SUISSE.

Suffrage féminin restreint à Zurich.

Il y a longtemps que je n'ai pas donné de nos nouvelles à JUS SUFFRAGII. Mais nous n'avons eu cette année rien de particulier à annoncer au point de vue suffragiste. Le rejet par les électeurs du suffrage féminin à Genève, en octobre dernier, a en effet terminé une phase de notre activité, la question du vote des femmes ne se posant plus de façon immédiate quant à sa réalisation pratique dans aucun canton, et une certaine période devant s'écouler avant qu'elle puisse être reprise à nouveau.

Toutefois, une proposition vient d'être faite au Grand Conseil de Zurich, qui touche par un petit côté à notre revendication. En effet, le Grand Conseil de ce canton étant occupé à reviser la loi électorale, qui ne correspond plus aux besoins actuels, proposition a été faite à cette occasion de reconnaître aux femmes le droit d'électorat et d'éligibilité en matière scolaire, ecclésiastique et d'assistance publique, l'accès des femmes aux fonctions pastorales étant toutefois réservé. C'est fort peu, assurément, surtout quand nous comparons ces droits si restreints que l'on hésite encore à reconnaître aux femmes chez nous à tous ceux dont elles jouissent dans d'autres pays; mais c'est cependant un commencement. Seulement, comme toute loi constitutionnelle en Suisse, celle-ci devra être soumise aux électeurs, et leur verdict à ce sujet constitue encore un gros point d'interrogation. Pourtant, tant d'hommes ont déclaré, lorsqu'ils ont repoussé le suffrage féminin intégral à Zurich en 1920, qu'ils n'étaient nullement opposés aux droits de la femme si ceux-ci s'exerçaient en matière de bienfaisance, d'église et d'éducation, et c'est précisément là ce que l'on demande maintenant. En bonne logique, tous ces électeurs devraient donc voter oui. Mais la logique de la foule électorale n'est pas toujours impeccable, surtout lorsqu'il s'agit du suffrage des femmes!

Assemblée générale annuelle.

Que la période où nous nous trouvons ne soit nullement une période de découragement pour nous, mais plutôt une de celles où l'on recueille ses forces en vue de l'action à venir, c'est ce qu'a prouvé notre Assemblée générale annuelle, tenue dans la pittoresque petite ville de Neuchâtel, et qui a donné toute la mesure de la vitalité de notre mouvement suffragiste suisse. Plusieurs sujets importants figuraient à notre ordre du jour, dont je relève spécialement les suivants:

1. *Journée suffragiste.*—Depuis plus d'une année, on nous demande d'instituer une "journée suffragiste," la même dans tout le pays, et qui serait essentiellement consacrée à la propagande de nos idées. Les avis sont très partagés à ce sujet, les unes craignant que nous ne soyons pas encore assez nombreuses et fortement organisées pour que cette manifestation atteigne le résultat que l'on en attend, d'autres préférant à une "journée suffragiste" une "journée féminine," ce qui nous permettrait d'intéresser un plus grand nombre de femmes et d'obtenir le concours des grandes Associations féminines suisses, dont quelques-unes sont très sympathiques à cette idée. La question reste à l'étude.

2. *Code pénal.*—Depuis des années, l'élaboration d'un Code pénal fédéral pour toute la Suisse (nous sommes encore sous le régime des codes pénaux cantonaux, soit 25 pour l'ensemble du pays) se poursuit sans que la voix des femmes, pourtant si directement intéressées à la rédaction de certains chapitres concernant les mœurs, ait jamais été entendue autrement que dans d'innombrables pétitions. C'est contre quoi a protesté énergiquement notre rapporteur, Mme A. Leuch (Berne), attirant une fois de plus l'attention de notre Assemblée sur la contradiction qui existe en particulier entre le Code civil suisse, qui fixe à 18 ans l'âge légal du mariage pour la jeune fille, et le projet de Code pénal, tel qu'il sera présenté aux Chambres et ensuite à la votation populaire... masculine, qui, malgré toutes les démarches des Sociétés féminines, laisse encore à 16 ans l'âge de consentement.

3. *Les entraves que met au travail social des femmes leur incapacité politique.*—Sur ce sujet, Mme Jomini (Vaud)

a présenté un travail très documenté, riche d'expériences personnelles, prouvant comment, qu'il s'agisse de lutte contre l'antialcoolisme, la tuberculose, l'immoralité de protéger les femmes qui travaillent, les femmes en couches, etc., les efforts des femmes sont toujours bridés par le fait qu'elles ne sont pas électrices. Mme Jomini a cité à ce propos une parole très caractéristique d'un membre de notre gouvernement fédéral, M. Motta: "Mesdames, soyez électrices d'abord, et ensuite vous pourrez lutter contre l'alcoolisme."

4. *Réduction des armements par entente internationale.*—La Ligue américaine des femmes électrices nous avait demandé de voter une résolution prouvant notre sympathie pour les efforts qu'accomplissent dans ce domaine celles qui ne peuvent, comme nous, concentrer leurs efforts dans ce sens sur l'activité de la Société des Nations. Non seulement cette résolution a été votée, mais encore des démarches ont été entreprises, sur notre initiative et de concert avec plusieurs grandes Associations féminines suisses, pour obtenir de notre gouvernement qu'il demande à la prochaine Assemblée plénière de la Société des Nations d'augmenter le nombre des membres de la Commission du désarmement afin que puissent y entrer des femmes—une garantie en faveur du maintien de la paix.

Suffrage féminin et impôts.

Enfin, une importante question a été longuement discutée, qu'avait posée la Section de Genève de notre Association: quelle attitude doivent prendre, dans l'intérêt de la cause, les suffragistes quand le droit de vote leur a été refusé? Doivent-elles refuser de payer leurs impôts, de participer aux œuvres sociales et philanthropiques, et par cette sorte de "grève des femmes," obliger à compter avec elles? ou doivent-elles, au contraire, intensifier leur activité et leur participation pour en faire apprécier toute la valeur?

C'est ce second point de vue qui a prévalu. L'Assemblée a jugé que les suffragistes qui se retirent sous leur tente pour boudier nuisent à la cause beaucoup plus qu'elles ne la servent—à condition bien entendu qu'elles ne perdent pas une occasion de faire valoir leurs opinions suffragistes. Quant au paiement des impôts, il a été également décidé que, vu la mentalité de notre pays, un refus de paiement ne ferait pas avancer nos idées, mais qu'il convenait alors de protester, par des moyens divers, en effectuant ce paiement.

La Section de Genève a immédiatement réalisé cette décision de l'Assemblée générale suisse. Saisissant la coïncidence de son Assemblée générale avec des votations populaires sur une nouvelle loi d'impôt, et des remaniements constants de nos lois fiscales qui vont aboutir à de lourdes impositions pour chacun, elle a voté à l'unanimité la résolution suivante:

"L'Association genevoise pour le Suffrage féminin, réunie en Assemblée générale annuelle le 17 juin 1922, prenant acte du vote populaire des 15 et 16 octobre 1921, qui a refusé aux femmes l'exercice des droits politiques dans le canton,

constatant que tous les contribuables, sans distinction de sexe, sont actuellement lourdement imposés par l'application de lois fiscales élaborées et votées par des hommes seuls,

relève que, de ce fait, une atteinte flagrante est portée au principe démocratique qui veut que tous ceux qui participent aux dépenses de la chose publique soient admis à voter et à contrôler ces dépenses, soit directement, soit par l'intermédiaire de représentants élus par eux,

et proteste contre le déni de justice que subissent ainsi les femmes contribuables dans le canton de Genève."

Cette résolution a été envoyée à notre gouvernement cantonal, au Président du Département des Finances, et à la grande presse qui l'a largement publiée. Puisse-t-elle avoir fait faire des réflexions salutaires à plus d'un électeur, et à plus d'une femme qui ne comprend pas encore pourquoi nous demandons le droit de vote.

EMILIE GOURD,

Présidente de l'Association suisse pour le Suffrage féminin.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

American Women at Work.

DURING the month that has elapsed since the Pan-American Conference and the Annual Convention, the National League of Women Voters and

the State Leagues have had time to note some of the far-reaching effects of those momentous events. These are very noticeable. The great publicity given the Conventions in the newspapers, the cordial relations established with the National Administration in Washington, the deep interest evoked by the Convention deliberations, now showing itself in the magazines, have won for the National League widespread respect and approbation. Undoubtedly the Conference did more for the League in a few months than it could have done for itself in the ordinary course of events in a few years. For some time to come the ripples of thought started by the Convention will continue to spread throughout the country as the many Bulletins of the Leagues report, from issue to issue, the details of reports and recommendations and as these are presented to County Conventions now being held in rural sections of the various States.

One impression that does not fade is that made by Lady Astor. Progressive and thoughtful women throughout the United States are agreed that she did a great deal in a most effective way to stimulate thought about the Woman Movement, to present to men in an attractive and arresting way the woman's point of view, to arouse women themselves to take a real interest in politics by presenting the latter in its human aspects, and to hold high before the world the ideals that the best women of all countries love to foster. While her vivacity and delightful audacity made her a dashing figure that attracted and even thrilled the public, her ability to get down to the bedrock principles underneath an argument, her excellent common sense, her sane outlook, her cheery optimism and her shrewd and logical conclusions won and kept the respect of her audiences. As an outstanding figure in the feminist world, Lady Astor has more than justified herself, and the National League feels that her visit was the most notable made by any prominent woman for many years.

Most of the City Leagues throughout the country are busy winding up the season's courses of lectures and meetings and preparing for the slowness of early summer, when the Leagues mark time until August brings in the first of the political activities. Committees will be at work during June and July formulating programmes and making out questionnaires to be presented to candidates for office; but the rank and file of the members will take a rest, joining forces now and then for outings or "bus rides, that combine pleasure with a little profit for the League. In the country, on the contrary, where good weather is essential to make people desirous of travelling long distances to meet in conference, many activities will be arranged and carried through by the rural Leagues during the next few weeks.

During the month it has been the good fortune of the women of Pennsylvania, both inside and outside the League, to take part in a notable political uprising, during which, at the primaries, the people defeated a once strongly entrenched party machine, winning for their candidate (Gifford Pinchot) a nomination for Governor in a spectacular fashion. Upon the death of Senator Penrose, of Pennsylvania, the political machine that he had held together by the force of his personality was left without an adequate leader, and his followers began to divide into quarrelling factions. With men voters divided, the women voters became an important factor in the primary elections for State officers. Early in the contest they gave a convincing demonstration that they intended to have a voice in the selection of the candidate for Governor by starting a State-wide revolt against the leading candidates whose legislative record was objectionable to them. He was soon out of the running. In the Democratic Party, the women being given equal representation and filling half of the seats on the State Committee, held the balance of power and put through their own selections. In the Republican ranks, Mrs. Barclay Warburton, leader of the Republican women of the State and vice-chairman of the Republican State Committee, did a notable thing by objecting publicly to the method employed by the Republican machine in putting up a "harmony" candidate, George

Alter, reminding the backers of this candidate that they were violating the spirit of the direct primary in championing one primary candidate and not giving all Republican candidates an equal status. This "insurgency" within a party takes courage, and Mrs. Warburton's stand for a principle has won respect and admiration from all those who hope that woman's coming into politics will mean a new and a better order of things.

The Pennsylvania League of Women Voters also helped to show the new attitude of women toward candidates for office. Fifteen hundred of its members, coming from many parts of the State, attended a luncheon to which they invited the avowed aspirants in both parties for the nominations for Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, and Senator, and asked them to state their political views.

The *Philadelphia North American* thus comments on the affair: "After the social part of the meeting had been completed the tables were pushed aside and the candidates were introduced, each being invited to expound his principles and outline the platform and policies upon which he would seek support. The proceeding was not only unique in the State's political affairs, but was dramatically interesting. For some of the candidates, at least, the situation was trying as well as novel. The women were non-partisan, open-minded, and as the meeting progressed it became apparent that they were judging the speakers impartially and with keen discrimination. While they evinced polite interest in reference to budgets, tax revisions, an economical administration, etc., they were not to be swayed by vague statements on indefinite policies. They showed that they were warmly in favour of a constitutional convention, of law enforcement, and of the preservation of the direct primary. Only the politically blind can fail to perceive the importance of the innovation of conducting a public examination of candidates. The demonstration the women staged gives new dignity and strength to their position by serving notice upon politicians and candidates that the new voters will judge them upon their records and by their deeds, and that character and fitness, not patronage or political power, will determine the extent of the support to be given them."

The attitude assumed by the Pennsylvania League is important because it is not a sporadic effort of one League, but is the political policy of the entire organization in action. "Common sense applied to candidates" seems to be the League's slogan. Different Leagues work out the practical part of the idea in different ways. While the Pennsylvania League permitted the candidates to present their own claims, the Wisconsin League has obtained its own data about the men who will later run for the State Senate and Assembly. Before the last election the League sent out a questionnaire to men nominated for State and national offices. It has now prepared a roll-call on all these questions and on all of the Bills that the League introduced or supported in the last Legislature. This has gone to every member of the League, so that she can see whether pre-election promises were fulfilled and whether the officials stood for meritorious legislation. "We expect to prepare a similar roll-call on the United States Senate and the House a little later," the President of the League, Mrs. Ben Hooper, explains, "because we feel that the best information we can give voters about candidates is contained in this roll-call, showing in black and white just what the men have accomplished while in office."

That plans and policies like these constitute the beginning of what many call "the definite and distinctive contribution that women will make to politics" no one can doubt who contrasts these new methods with those in vogue in American politics for generations. What the woman voter seems to be bringing into politics is just the practical, ordinary ways of working that she has found effective in her household and in her club life, nothing startlingly original or daring. But because the best men in America have so generally

left political matters to politicians, and because the latter have put the personal advantage of themselves and their friends first, women's ideas are creating something of a sensation and in time bid fair to create higher standards to which both parties and candidates will be forced to rise.

OREOLA WILLIAMS HASKELL.
New York City, June 1, 1922.

VISITS TO SERBIA AND TURKEY.

MADAME SIMON, who has just returned from Serbia and Turkey, gave the following interesting interview to the I.W.S.A.:

In SERBIA Madame Simon visited the Feminist Club and saw the Superintendent, Mme. Lepossara Maximovitch Petkovitch, who is studying law in order to be able to point out the inequalities between men and women, especially with regard to the laws of inheritance. Girls cannot inherit like the boys; if there are no boys in the family, they get a very small dot, but only boys can inherit land. This law may be good enough in the country, but now the towns are growing it is very inconvenient, more especially as now women preponderate. Mme. Petkovitch is also a teacher in a big orphanage school, which was most beautifully kept. The president of the Club gives up a great deal of her time to it and to forwarding the Woman Movement. The Americans started the Club, and the King then gave a donation and supports it. They are very eager for as much news as we can send

them, as they do not get half enough, and can read English and French well enough to enjoy letters from us.

In CONSTANTINOPLE Mme. Simon found a very great change among the women. They are not veiled; they only wear the charchaff, a kind of little hood which covers the neck, and this is usually of some colour to match the costume, whereas it used only to be of black. They have even altered their views so much that women now dine with men friends in public restaurants. Many of them still keep to the patriarchal system of whole families living under one roof, but they have dropped the habit of segregating the women in the harem. The women are sufficiently advanced to be known under their own names after marriage if they wish. The Constantinople College (American) includes amongst its boarders many Mohammedan girls, and they have more time to themselves and more freedom than girls do in France. Several orphanages were visited, and one in particular was splendidly kept, entirely by the Turks, in a palace given by the Sultan, who has given most of his palaces away for charitable purposes. There are a terrible number of refugees, both Turkish and Russian. Smyrna is now in the hands of the Greeks, and the refugees are looked after, though there is little idea of organization. But the Russians are infinitely worse off. It is perfectly true that well-educated women are compelled to wait in the restaurants and are expected, when required, to give themselves to the clients who frequent the place. One of Mme. Simon's friends pointed out a Georgian woman who at one time entertained largely in the Diplomatic Service, who has now been compelled to follow the occupation of a waitress, with results such as that referred to above. Mme. Simon brought away seventeen Russian children for her home in Paris.

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Telegrams: "Vocorajto." Telephone: Regent 4255.

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LECTURES.

Wed., July 5th, "Old Lamps or New." LADY AMHERST OF HACKNEY.
8.15 p.m. Chairman: Mrs. DEXTER.
Wed., July 12th, "Women in H.M. Forces." Professor Dame HELEN GWYNNE-VAUGHAN, D.B.E., LL.D., D.Sc.
8.15 p.m. Chairman: Miss VERA S. LAUGHTON, M.B.E.

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The Advertising Manager, Miss F. L. Fuller, 99, New Bond Street, London, W. 1. Telephone: 2421 MAYFAIR.

Printed by WILLIAMS, LEA & Co., LTD., Clifton House, Worship Street, London, E.C. 2.

NEWS OF THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

Published by the World's Young Women's Christian Association
34, Baker Street, London, W. 1.

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INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION SERVICE OF THE WORLD'S Y.W.C.A.

THE International Migration Service bears a strong likeness to "Alice in Wonderland" and especially to the incident of the mushroom, when one small bite made her grow to enormous dimensions with startling rapidity. One friendly letter to the right person opens up social service for migrants, reaching around the world. One accidental interview can result in a short time in the organization of friendly assistance to thousands of migrants. One flying visit to half a dozen countries on the part of the secretary creates study, correspondence, advice and reports which it takes weeks to complete. The staff in the Migration Office feels about as wide-eyed as Alice must have been, at the size of the task which a handful of them have attempted. It has its moments of seeming almost ridiculous, and yet, perhaps, the following report will show that much definite progress has been made in the two years since migration work was undertaken as a serious responsibility by the World's Young Women's Christian Association.

International Need for Social Service.

At the World's Y.W.C.A. Conference at Champéry, in June, 1920, the studies and experience which had been gradually evolving in the whole Association since 1912 crystallized into a definite plan of study, personal service for the benefit of emigrants and immigrants, and education for the general public. Perhaps it was the great need that the United States Y.W.C.A. reported at that Conference for an especial type of assistance in Europe for women and children who had come to her shores from half around the world—their stories of the need for friendliness and advice and protection on their long journey to a new land—which made the World's Committee feel that immediate action was imperative.

Committee Organization and Plan.

The Commission on Emigration and Immigration laid down in their findings, which were accepted by the World's Committee to be presented to each National Committee and action reported in 1922, lines of service most immediately needed and authorized the creation of a standing Migration Committee, which should have a secretary who was a specialist, to develop further the plan. Naturally the World's Executive Committee decided first to make an investigation of the actual conditions of migration and to organize demonstration centres for service and as starting points for a study

of the problem. It was decided to begin investigation at once, even before appointing a World's Migration Secretary.

Preliminary Survey.

A preliminary survey was made at points where emergency situations had suddenly arisen. These were the frontier stations between France and Switzerland, between France and Italy and one French port. At these border stations thousands of transmigrants from Eastern Europe were pouring through in an utterly after-the-war state of mind, body, and worldly goods. One of the chief problems of this period was the health condition of migrants. Many of the travellers were small children whose physical condition was often pitiable. In the light of this an effort was made to turn over all the information collected on this point to that group best able to use it to improve the situation. Therefore, connections were established with the head of the Health Section of the League of Nations and with the Transit Section of the same body.

Necessity of Trained Leadership.

The reports showed very clearly the necessity of securing immediately a trained expert to lay the foundations for an international scheme of study, service and education. It was natural to look to the United States for this person, since it was the country with the greatest international migration experience, and the Y.W.C.A. in the United States had a definite programme which had been thoroughly tested in practice, and trained workers for this form of service.

Investigation of the Experience of Migrants.

A specialist arrived at the end of January, 1921, and immediately began a strenuous and intensive study of the processes of migrating in two of the countries sending the largest number of immigrants, namely, Czecho-Slovakia and Poland. The report gives in detail what is the human experience of being a migrant from those countries—what one actually has to do to start, to continue, to finish the journey; the experience in each country at frontiers, on emigrant trains, on steamships, on landing and disembarking at the ports—the whole complicated business is set down in a report called the "Welfare of Migrants." This was printed and ready for use in time to be offered to the International Labour Office, to add to the material collected for study of the general migration problem for the International Emigration Commission which met on August 2, 1921, in Geneva. The survey covered a large territory, including France, Switzerland, Belgium, Germany, Poland and Czecho-Slovakia.

Demonstration of Social Service for Migrants.

While this study was being made a Migration Service was set up on an international basis, with uniform standards, methods and policy, in Prague, in Czecho-Slovakia and in France, including the ports of Havre, Cherbourg and Marseilles, and the foundations were laid for work in Belgium. Systems of interchange were worked out between emigrant and immigrant countries, drawing up for use in this connection an international confidential case card, which is a uniform type of record used by our secretaries throughout the world. This card has done the same for the Migration Service in winning respect, confidence and prestige, as thoroughly well-kept books do for a commercial concern. Without them, also, we would have been unable to make a uniform study of conditions affecting migrants, because of the impossibility of visiting every country in one short period.

General Principles for International Migration Service.

In May, 1921, the general plan for the immediate future was accepted, as follows:—

- (1) That our aim should be the best possible service to migrants, in such form as to provide a basis for study.
- (2) That in order to secure the best results the service should be done in co-operation with all agencies interested in the welfare of migrants.
- (3) That for purposes of co-operation and because of the temporary nature of the service rendered, such service must be non-sectarian and without any form of religious or political propaganda.
- (4) That in view of these considerations the World's Y.W.C.A. is willing to take a certain amount of responsibility for initiating work, but with the definite aim of relinquishing control as soon as practicable to an independent, representative and co-operative body.
- (5) That in countries where there is an affiliated national committee the World's Y.W.C.A. will, in accordance with its principles, only take the initiative when authorized by the national committee, while in case the Y.W.C.A. of a country feels itself in a position to initiate the work and call together other agencies in co-operation, the World's Y.W.C.A. will be an adviser and co-ordinating factor.

With the general lines of development thus laid down, and demonstration centres already at work, it was felt that the next step was the development of interest of all the national associations in the general migration problem.

Development of Interest in National Associations.

The general lines of development during the year which followed show special emphasis in developing the Association interest in the migration problem in eleven countries; in the distribution of educational information, both spoken and written, on the welfare of migrants, to individuals and organizations outside the Association movement; in training conferences in London for five migration secretaries for as many countries; in the establishment of co-operative connections with foreign Governments and other international organizations, and the preliminary organizing of migration service in four new countries. (This does not include continual improvement in methods, principles and practices of the migration service work in each of the countries where it is organized, the international case work, the growth of our actual service connections and the friendly co-operation with other international societies and the committee development.)

Respect won for the International Migration Service by a careful study of the Programme.

The most important contribution to the migration problem that has been made by the Y.W.C.A. is the report made by Miss Mary E. Hurlbutt in 1921 on the "Welfare of Migrants." Many times since, sincere commendation and appreciation for its sane, technical, unbiased, constructive presentation of facts has been

expressed. It has been referred to in publications in many countries time and again. Copies of the report have been sent out, either on request or with a covering letter, to national associations in various countries, to foreign consuls and other officials, to delegates at international conferences, to co-operating societies in many countries, and to many individuals. Foreign Offices of many countries are familiar with it and make the first reference to it often in interviews. One Foreign Office official thanked the World's Y.W.C.A. not only for the report, but for the service to its nationals. The report has been the key to unlock doors to many individuals and groups throughout Europe. The migration secretaries throughout the world have continually used it for educational material to develop interest in the migration problem.

Opportunity of sharing our experience with International official bodies.

The Emigration Commission in Geneva was held in August, 1921, to which representatives of eighteen countries were invited, under the auspices of the International Labour Office. It met to consider the whole problem of migration in all its phases and to suggest questions of the most immediate need for international agreement. There were five people present not officially connected with the Commission. The two Y.W.C.A. secretaries at the Commission explained the report (the "Welfare of Migrants") to each individual delegate, making real to them the problem of migration as a human experience, and thus adding to their technical knowledge of the problem as a legislative or labour one. It was made clear to us again and again that we were permitted to be present because of our general interest in the problem as a human one, because we had no axe to grind or ulterior motives, and because we represented a large and influential women's organization whose chief interest is Christian ideals. Such work as the Emigration Commission was attempting to outline required the support of people of vision and idealism. The connections established at this time with the International Labour Office have been continued throughout the year, and most courteous and interested attention is constantly given to requests for information or advice or for the privilege of sending them some confidential material. The Labour Office granted a request for copies in English, French and German of their report on the Emigration Commission, which is being distributed throughout the world for study.

In July, 1921, the International Conference on the White Slave Traffic was held under the auspices of the League of Nations, and the Migration Secretary was sent to represent the World's Y.W.C.A. in general and the Migration work in particular. In each country the migration workers co-operate with the society which protects women and girls from the dangers of the white slave traffic, but the World's Committee distinguishes carefully between general migration work and the problem as it involves the question of vice and disease. The welfare of women and girls who travel has a far wider meaning than protection from vice, and a very large part of the service needed by women and girls is in connection with this larger problem. The protection of women and girls from vice is only a part of the whole problem.

Method of Unifying the Programme.

This office co-ordinates and standardizes methods of service; promotes, through the Y.W.C.A. or other organizations, social service for migrants; trains new workers; maintains a research and information service; makes special studies of difficulties affecting migrants; aids in creating an intelligent public opinion on the general problem of migration; and arranges international co-operation with other organizations.

Extent of the Service.

The close of the year finds the Y.W.C.A. with a rather astounding outreach throughout the world of new developments in five different directions.

In July the Migration Headquarters for Belgium were opened in Antwerp (organized and supported by the American Y.W.C.A.), and a Belgian was appointed Migration Secretary.

In August the Near East Migration Headquarters were opened in Constantinople, organized, supported and staffed by the American Y.W.C.A.

In December a preliminary organization was begun for Migration Headquarters in Copenhagen, organized and supported entirely by the Danish Association, with a Dane as Migration Secretary.

In February, 1922, the Continental Migration Secretary for South America arrived in Montevideo to begin her language study in preparation for a general survey of Migration conditions of the continent of South America.

In England, in May, 1922, preliminary plans were laid for the organization of an International Service Centre, and the beginning of social service for migrants started in Liverpool. There is as yet no Migration Secretary, but an International Service Committee has been organized. The British National Association confidently looks forward to the development of this work.

In France there is a central office in Paris with an American Migration Secretary. There are service bureaux and port workers in Havre, Cherbourg, Marseilles and Paris. At present this entire service is supported by the American Y.W.C.A., although the personnel of seven has only two American Secretaries, four being French and one Russian.

In Czecho-Slovakia the Headquarters are in the National Y.W.C.A. Office. The work has been directed by a joint committee of the Red Cross, Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A., on which the National Y.W.C.A. Executive acts as Migration Secretary. There is one case worker at the Liben Barracks in Prague, and one in Svatoborice.

In Poland the Migration Bureau has largely done corresponding work with the American Association, until May, 1922, when the Bureau was regularly organized under the leadership of a Polish lady, the support for its initial development coming from the United States.

In the United States the National Headquarters is the Migration Bureau in the National Office. The American Y.W.C.A. has port work on all its frontiers, Atlantic, Pacific, Mexican and Canadian, and has developed a splendid system of friendly service for women and girls of many nations who are newcomers in the country.

In Canada travellers' aid work is done at the port of Quebec in close co-operation with the International Migration Service system.

In Japan there have been for two years institutes for migrants carried on by the Y.W.C.A. in Kobe and Yokohama, to which intending migrants are required to show a certificate of attendance before they can secure passport and transportation. This work is subsidized by the Government.

Correspondents.

The great need on the part of associations dealing with immigrants for connection with some groups of people able to assist along lines of social service in certain countries where the Y.W.C.A. either does not exist or is not yet ready to undertake international social service of this character, has caused an effort to be made to establish a practical working relationship with other organizations who could act as correspondents at the request of the World's Migration Committee. In a few cases this correspondent is someone connected with the Y.W.C.A. Such relationships exist in Hungary, Jugoslavia, Sweden and Germany.

Territory covered in Visitation.

There have been made the following field trips in eleven months. Two visits to Geneva, two to Poland, and four to France, two to Sweden, and one each to Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Germany, Denmark, Jugoslavia, Hungary, Near East, and some travelling in England. This included 21 weeks of continuous travelling to

22 ports. Special contacts have been made with six Foreign Offices. On these journeys 36 addresses on the International Migration Service have been given.

Preparation of Trained Leadership.

It has been thought wise for each migration secretary to have a first-hand knowledge of the aim, purpose and plan of the International Migration Service before they start building up this new programme. The plan has been carried out to have as many as possible of the secretaries spend from five days to three weeks in the London office, studying reports and plans; the relationship of migration work to the World's Y.W.C.A.; the necessity of keeping the programme international and the methods uniform.

Creation of Public Interest in Migrants.

Definite emphasis has been laid during the year on an effort to inform the public on the human side of the Migration problem and to help in creating an intelligent public opinion on the subject of the protection of migrants, which can express itself through women's organizations. This propaganda included, besides public addresses, a leaflet in English and French, explaining in brief form the International Migration Service of the World's Y.W.C.A.; newspaper articles in various foreign countries; eleven articles in the INTERNATIONAL SUFFRAGE NEWS Supplement, and so forth. One general article on the International Migration Service has been written and distributed for general use. Five hundred and fifteen newspaper cuttings have been distributed to twenty-four countries. Mention has already been made of the distribution of the "Welfare of Migrants," and the article on the Migration Commission published by the International Labour Office. Special chart maps have been made by the information office and distributed to the migration offices for their committee use round the world.

Making of International connections for Migrants.

The World's Y.W.C.A. Office has been called upon to assist in making international connections in the interests of some migrant in special difficulties. These cases include the following nationalities: Armenian, Czechoslovakian, Polish, French, Greek, American, Italian, Ukrainian, Belgian, German, Swiss, Roumanian, Ruthenian, Serbian, Austrian, Finnish, Jugoslavian. Some of these have been an effort to follow the fortunes of a person deported from Canada or the United States. On information of this kind, studies are being made of the causes and effects of deportations.

Committee Contribution.

In March, 1921, a standing committee was established with seven members. The committee combines in its personnel knowledge and experience of British Empire emigration, Eastern European conditions, Central European conditions, a special knowledge of the ideals and plans of the League of Nations, and general Association connections through the General Secretary and the Industrial Secretary of the World's Y.W.C.A.

This, in brief and without any emphasis, is a summary of the development of the International Migration Service of the World's Y.W.C.A. It gives no idea of the untiring patient industry and inexhaustible Christian fellowship for those in trouble, on the part of the secretaries; no idea of the fellowship and understanding and co-operation that exists between all the staff everywhere in the world; no idea of the amount of correspondence and personal conference necessary to keep such a vast programme going; no idea of the interviews with government officials, Y.W.C.A. committees, representatives of other organizations, newspapers and steamship officials on the part of the World's Migration Secretary, nor the correspondence and requests for information and advice each of the above brings in its wake.

We are more and more convinced that service for migrants that is not international in machinery and

principle is only a duplication of well-done work of other national organizations—that any effective international work must swing around some central co-ordinating body. This for the present is the World's Y.W.C.A., until some other larger body undertakes it.

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE INTERPRETATION OF CHRIST TO YOUNG WOMEN TO-DAY, St. Wolfgang, Austria, June 10-16, 1922.

FROM Salzburg a little mountain railway puffs industriously, ever uphill, through pasture lands and fields, through rock-hewn tunnels and through woods, almost always in sight of hill-girt lakes, until (more than half-way to Ischl) it draws up at St. Wolfgang station. A few steps take the traveller to the little wooden quay where a lake-steamer waits to take him across the St. Wolfgangsee to the village of St. Wolfgang. Clear cut against the darker background of houses and hill-side the cloisters and bell-tower of the church catch the eye, and as the boat draws nearer the twisting lines of the steep streets can be traced.



Representatives of the Young Women's Christian Association in twenty-eight countries who took part in the Commission on the interpretation of Christ to young women of to-day, held at St. Wolfgang, Austria, June 10-16, 1922.

In this quiet spot representatives of twenty-eight countries came together for a week's work on the results of a questionnaire sent out months before. The delegates had in their hands the summaries of the answers, collected under the headings of: Young women to-day as they actually are (their attitude towards economic questions, towards organized religion, towards the family, etc.); the practical services undertaken by the Y.W.C.A. for young women (housing, recreation, education, etc.); work specifically for the adolescent girl; and, lastly, membership of the Association in all its different aspects.

The Commission presented the results of its discussions in the form of four sets of findings. These will be published shortly in English, French and German in the report of the whole Commission. They have a peculiar interest as expressing the considered opinion of women from every part of the world who are avowedly Christians. They would seem to offer a proof that Christians as a whole are progressive in their thinking and are taking an increasingly active interest in industrial and social questions. The last statement of all, on the distinctive message of the Young Women's Christian Association, may be quoted here at some length.

"We believe that in face of the world's desperate need—the chaos in industrial and economic conditions and international relationships, and the lowered moral standards arising out of the disintegration of society, following the war; and in face of the serious problems confronting womanhood in all the countries of the world, arising out of the world's negation of the principles which Christ proclaimed,

"The message of the Y.W.C.A. in presenting the claims of Christ is the message already implicit in the World's Y.W.C.A. basis, the same message which the whole Christian Church should insistently proclaim—the message of the love of God, giving, through Jesus Christ, deliverance both from individual and corporate sin, in social, national and international relationships and leading into newness of life through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

"We realize that while this is our message in common with the whole Church of Christ, the Y.W.C.A. has distinctive opportunities and means for interpreting it, namely:—

For the future many doors are open to us. Some lead to technical study of the Migration problem, some to developing new work in at least three countries, some to speaking for the emigrant women to the large number of women who have not known about her, and all to the service of humanity.

"(a) Its world-wide scope, which includes an appeal to women of all nations and of all faiths, and to all groups in the community; and its wide scope and trained leadership, which gives it especial fitness for enabling women in this new age to meet the demands and responsibilities with which they are faced.

"(b) Its fourfold programme, enabling it to give a tangible, living presentation of Jesus Christ, Who can transform human life in all its phases.

"(c) Its wide outreach (e.g., through its industrial and migration departments).

"(d) The youth of its membership, enabling it to mobilize young women for a large programme of service.

"(e) Its special possibilities for promoting fellowship between women of different classes, religions and nationalities.

"(f) Its flexibility and freedom from limitations in aim, enabling it to experiment and pioneer.

"Acknowledging the responsibility of these distinctive opportunities, we challenge all of the Associations:—

"(1) To interpret Christ to the individual as the One Who meets her insufficiency and gives power to be free and strong; Who is a real and ever-understanding Friend, showing infinite love in her everyday life; Who desires for her joy and the fullest development of her personality; Who calls her to explore His teaching and in personal allegiance to Him to follow the guidance of His Spirit in the pursuit of beauty, truth and righteousness; Who asks of her a constant translation into life of her growing understanding and experience of Him.

"(2) To express truths that are eternal in the language of to-day, and in the terms of the individual's experience.

"(3) To present the Scriptures so vividly and simply that they are seen to be full of reality and interest.

"(4) To be fearless and open-minded in facing new ideals.

"(5) To be humble, sympathetic and imaginative in our dealings with all groups, nations and creeds.

"(6) To relate the work of the Association with other movements for social reconstruction.

"(7) To recognize fearlessly corporate sin and to proclaim the necessity for corporate righteousness; showing that the present social, industrial and international conditions are far from being in accordance with the mind of our Lord Jesus Christ, and calling upon Christians to face in all of these three relations the full implications of their faith."

This, with the other findings, will be presented at the meeting, lasting the greater part of a week, of the World's Y.W.C.A. Committee, and if adopted by that body, will stand for the policy of the Association throughout the world until the next meeting of the Committee two years hence.

JVS SVFFRAGII.

THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWS

THE MONTHLY ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.



Volume 16. No. 11.

PRICE 6d.
Annual Subscription, 6/-

AUGUST, 1922.

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WORLD'S Y.W.C.A. SUPPLEMENT

CENTRE PAGES.

SUFFRAGE AND THE INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUES.

WOMAN Suffrage was discussed at the International Congress of the Catholic Women's League held in Rome, and the result of the discussion may be considered as satisfactory in that it brought out very clearly the fact that the vast majority of the Societies belonging to the League is strongly in favour of the women's vote. All recognize the great importance and the gravity of the question and feel the obligation of taking part in civic duties and of interesting themselves in the great questions of the day and in all legislative matter.

Since legislation touches on the religious, moral and social sides of all civic life and on that of the individual citizen, and since many countries have already enfranchised their women, while it is merely a matter of time for other countries to follow, if tardily, in their wake, it is recognized by the Leagues that it behoves all Catholic women to prepare for the serious responsibilities which are either already theirs or likely to become theirs at no distant period. The League recognizes that Catholic women must not stand on one side, and so leave the power which the vote confers to those who may use it in a manner antagonistic not only to Catholic principles but even to the moral and social principles of all Christian and right-thinking peoples. To this end the Committee proposed resolutions to the effect that

Catholic women of all nations must understand their moral responsibility as regards the electoral suffrage; that they should prepare themselves to exercise their civic duties by carefully studying the moral, religious and civic aspect of legislative measures, since religion cannot be divorced from legislation; furthermore, that as the moral life of a country depends on its legislation each elector has a grave moral responsibility in the election of the legislators, which consequently cannot be evaded.

It is a distinctly hopeful sign that only an insignificant minority of the members of the C.W.L. are opposed to women's enfranchisement and the opposition appears to have come from those who have "fears" (How the suffrage movement has suffered and does suffer from inordinate "fears"!) or from those who cannot distinguish the views of a few extremists from the great question which we firmly believe and know to be based on true orthodox, Catholic principles.

The Council has spoken with no uncertain voice as to the necessity of the women of all countries standing for one moral law for both sexes. To this end it was urged that mothers should bring up their children, and in particular their sons, to realize this obligation, which is the great Christian law of morality and justice. That there should be a propaganda by