THE

WOMAN'S LEADER

IN POLITICS
IN THE HOME

IN INDUSTRY
IN LITERATURE AND ART

IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT
IN THE PROFESSIONS

AND

THE COMMON CAUSE

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NOTES AND NEWS

Australian Women and the League of Nations.

Mr. Hughes, the Prime Minister of Australia, replying to a Brisbane deputation of the National Council of Women last week, said that he was in favour of the inclusion of women in the Australian delegation to the League of Nations.

Women Suffrage in Burma.

The new electoral rules for Burma, which were passed by the House of Commons this week, include enfranchisement for women on equal terms with men, and when they come into operation there will be an electorate of some three million, of whom about two hundred thousand will be women. The Indian rules, as our readers will remember, exclude women at the outset, but enable them to be admitted by the Legislative Councils. In Burma, however, there is even stronger ground for a different procedure than the ground of merit familiar to all suffragists, for the women of Burma have had the franchise before now, and they are in very many ways more free and independent not only than their Indian, but also than there European sisters. These new rules will be welcomed in Burma and they are welcomed here.

Greece and Woman Suffrage.

A division was taken in the Greek Chamber of Deputies last week on the question of woman suffrage, which resulted in 77 votes being recorded in favour of the proposal and 87 against. As a four-fifths majority of the members present is required for a final settlement, it will be necessary to take a fresh vote later. We hope very much that the decision may be reversed.

Equal Guardianship.

Mothers will have the same rights as fathers in Massachusetts, in appointing testamentary guardians for their minor children, under a measure recently enacted by the General Court, which gives to the last surviving parent the right to appoint such

guardians. This measure is one of those introduced by the Massachusetts League of Women Voters.

Women in Public Offices in Massachusetts.

Following the opinion of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts that no amendment to the Constitution is necessary to permit women to hold any elective or appointive office of the State, and that the General Court has authority to enact legislation, a Bill making women eligible to hold elective or appointive offices has been passed in connexion with the Civil Service. Department heads retain the right to request men candidates, and the Civil Service Commission may, as at present, limit examinations to men. The measure will become effective in three months' time, and this will make it possible for women to be candidates for the legislature this year.

Degrees for Women.

Mr. H. A. L. Fisher, Minister of Education, will receive on Thursday a deputation of women graduates of Cambridge on the question of women at Cambridge and their admission to degrees on terms of equality with men. The deputation will be introduced by several M.P.s who are interested in the matter. The question arises out of the recent report of the Royal Commission on the Universities.

Lady Rhondda.

The Consultative Committee met last week, and among other resolutions, passed one urging that a Bill should be passed amending the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, in order that Peeresses in their own right should sit and vote in the House of Lords.

The Schoolmasters and Equal Pay.

The National Association of Schoolmasters spoke very plainly at Liverpool last week on the question of equal pay for equal work. Not only are they entirely opposed to it but demand separate consideration for men teachers, and in future no school-

master belonging to an organization whose policy is opposed to separate consideration, shall be elegible for membership of the Association. This pettiness always comes as a shock to us, though by this time we ought to have realized it, but we always imagine schoolmasters must be well-educated, and therefore necessarily progressive and broad-minded.

Another Educational Economy.

Some time ago, when the proposals of the Fisher Act made it seem likely that there would be a great shortage of teachers, the L.C.C. encouraged headmasters and mistresses of secondary schools to bring pressure to bear upon promising pupils to induce them to prolong their stay at secondary schools in order to become candidates for the profession of elementary school teachers. Moreover, the L.C.C. issued a leaflet in which it was stated that candidates accepted for training would be entitled not only to the "King's Scholarships", but to substantial maintenance grants during the period spent at a training college. Those unfortunate pupils who responded are now being informed that, in spite of the pledge given, the maintenance grant is about to be withdrawn. In many cases it will enforce the abandonment of the teaching profession, after a period of time which would have been invaluable in any other walk of life.

Unemployed B.A.s.

A striking testimony to the difficulty which educated women are experiencing in finding employment was shown in the answers to the application of Savoy Hotel Laundry for a woman to fill the post of telephone operator at $\pounds 250$ a year. Eight hundred women, presumably with a public school or University education (suce that is what the advertisement demanded) replied, among them several University graduates, and two B.A.s were finally chosen. It feels no more pleasant to be unemployed because you have been highly educated, but one hears little of the hardships of the unemployed educated women.

Woman Co-operative Leader.

For the first time in history the vast assembly of nearly 2,000 delegates, representing over four and a half million cooperators, was presided over by a woman. Miss Margaret Llewelyn Davies is too well known to our readers to need any references to her splendid work for the Women's Co-operative Guild, but we can add our congratulations to those of hundreds of her friends on her achievement.

Girl Organist.

It is a great achievement for a girl of sixteen to be appointed deputy organist at a famous church. Miss Aileen Bransden has not only been appointed deputy organist at the City Temple, but is also to act as deputy organist to Sir Frederick Bridge at Westminster Abbey.

Women Sculptors.

The Royal Society of British Sculptors has, since it was established in 1904, refused to admit women as members. It had just decided to abolish this barrier and to elect Lady Feodora Gleichen as the first woman member, when her death occurred some months ago. The Society has now decided to make her a posthumous member. The Sculptors' Society has therefore now come into line with all the other art institutions.

Women's Pioneer Housing.

The second house transformed by this enterprising Public Utility Society was opened on 12th June, by Lady Cynthia Mosely, who paid a tribute to the crying need which still exists for such houses for professional women. The house, No. 28 Philbeach Gardens, Earl's Court, contains five open flats or flatlets, of rents varying from £30 to £80 (including rates), and they are so attractive that they need only to be seen to be envied. To turn the large impracticable houses of fifty years ago into manageable flats for single women is not a difficult job. All it needs is a comparatively small capital outlay; and the Women's Pioneer Housing Co. has proved that it can be done as a sound business proposition. Money invested in

this good work brings a safe 6 per cent. and all particulars can be obtained from the Secretary, Miss Browning, 92 Victoria Street, London, S.W. 1.

Servants and Unemployment Pay.

In spite of the many questions asked in the House about "the abuse of the unemployment pay by women and girls, who, accustomed to domestic service, now refuse to re-enter it," Sir Montagu Barlow was recently obliged to explain patiently to yet another questioner that "private domestic servants as such are not insurable under the Act, and to women who have received it (unemployment benefit) are those normally engaged in other occupations. Any claims for benefit by women normally engaged in private domestic service would be disallowed."

A Woman Diplomat?

It is hoped that diplomacy will be open to the women of America, and it is possible that Miss Atcherson will be the pioneer in this field. She has had an excellent education, and has filled many important posts. She was private secretary to Miss Annie Morgan; then General Executive Secretary of the American Committee for Devastated France—at Soissons, Chateau-Thierry, Blérancourt; and both Executive Secretary and Directress of the General Headquarters of the American Committee at Paris. Her leaves of absence she spent in half a dozen countries of Europe, and since her return she has been studying international law. She has successfully passed the first part of her Civil Service examination, and now awaits only the longed-for statement of President Harding, and of the Secretary of State, Hughes, that women may enter this important branch of Government service. The women's organizations are exerting pressure, and with their invaluable backing it is hoped that Miss Atcherson's appointment will not be long delayed.

Babies in Prisons.

The New York State law no longer allows babies to live in prisons, for the Fearon Bill, which has been passed recently, amends the law so that babies born to women in prison shall be taken from their mothers and sent either to relatives or to the County Superintendent of the Poor. The immediate occasion for the law was the case of a girl entering upon a long term for perjury who is shortly to become a mother.

Widows' Re-marriage.

M. Gourgu has been asked to draw up a report on the question of the time which should elapse after the death of her husband before a widow in France should be allowed to marry again. The Senate will consider the report next session, and the present minimum time limit of 300 days may be reduced. A divorced woman can marry again 300 days after she has obtained an ordonnance de non-conciliation, which may, in some cases, be months before the actual divorce is obtained.

A Woman Engineer.

Miss Partridge, a member of the Women's Engineering Society, has started in Exeter as a contracting domestic engineer in electrical plant and appliances. She has specialized in heating, ventilation, and electric lighting, and is going to hold an exhibition of electrical models and machines in order to show what can be achieved even in small houses.

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

WOMEN POLICE: AN AMERICAN PARALLEL.

JUNE 16, 1922.

This week the House of Commons has been discussing the amendment of the Criminal Law, and last week public attention was focussed, by the True case, upon the question of insanity in connexion with crime.

The question of deterrent punishment is extremely important, and so is the question of irresponsibility, while that of the proper treatment of sexual offences against children is of vital urgency, and we welcome the increasing thought which is being devoted to these matters with all our hearts. We must admit, however, that it shocks us profoundly to find that, for all the talk and for all the care, the obvious matter of the retention and extended use of women police remains unattended to. Prevention is more important than punishment, and more important than the exact adjustment of blame, and we cannot but think that if we really meant business in those directions we should talk more of preventive police work and less of "after care".

During her recent visit to America Lady Astor made a special inquiry into the position of women police in that country, and she brought home a number of very interesting reports, which she has kindly given us permission to use. There are now about three hundred cities in the United States with regularly appointed women police. In nearly all police departments women were appointed primarily for perventive and protective work, because of pressure by women's organizations. They have frequently been put in positions in which they were unable to do their work at all well because of hampering conditions imposed on them by ignorant authorities. It was found to be a great handicap to place women under a police officer who, nine times out of ten, had made up his mind before he saw them that they were incapable of rendering any useful service, and who usually placed them in some subordinate clerical position.

It is interesting to note that the general trend of opinion in America is in favour of police women serving as a unit with a distinct field of operations, and forming a definite Women's Bureau for dealing with all cases involving women and children, and this is the method which has been adopted in Washington D.C. where very successful work is being done. A Virginian Chief of Police says:—

"The secret of success in the use of police women is, first, the appointment of only those women who have been trained as social workers, or those with its equivalent from actual practice; second, police women to work as a separate bureau responsible only to the head of the police department; third, a mandatory order for all cases in which women are involved to be referred to the Women's Bureau."

The police women do not wear uniform, and in many cases they do what is practically detective work. They usually, however, have the power to arrest both men and women.

"The assistance they render to the men of the force," as one Director of Public Safety testifies, "soon reduces, if it does not eliminate, criticism on the part of the male members of the organization. This is particularly true if the policewoman is discouraged from making the actual arrest, except in extreme cases. Great care should be exercised to prevent policewomen from being victims of a 'frame-up'."

Taking it all round, it is clear that the movement towards "socializing" the police departments as a whole is moving forward in the United States, pressed on by the women's societies. The policewomen have come there to stay.

Mr. Vollmer, of California, President of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, writes emphatically on this point: "The policewoman has arrived. She is not a creature of tomorrow, she is here to-day, and is as permanent a fixture in the police world as in any other position. "The policewoman of the future will be the most potent agent for crime-prevention, and will do more in one day in that respect than the modern police department in a large city does in a year to-day."

Another very striking testimony comes from the Director of Public Safety in a large city of Virginia:—

"I am . . . so thoroughly convinced the policewoman is a necessity in any well-organized police force and well-regulated community, that I would not be willing to accept a position at the head of a police organization where such a bureau did not exist, unless I was assured one would be established."

With police officers taking this view, and with the great force of the organized women of America behind the movement, there is no doubt that it will grow and succeed.

The best thing we can do here is to follow suit.

NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER.

By OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT.

All the last week Parliament has not been sitting, and the Members, like the rest of the inhabitants of the country, have been revelling in Whitsuntide holidays and summer weather. The newspapers have tried to work up a General Election excitement, basing it upon what remains a very serious situation in regard to Ireland; but as an election stunt it has not proved very popular. This is no weather for politics, whatever it may be for cricket.

The Irish matter is bad enough to warrant an election, or anything clse, if only that would settle it. But no one supposes that it would. The trouble lies in Ireland, and not in this country, where there is a feeling as nearly unanimous as has ever been known upon this difficult subject. It does not need an election to tell us that—nor would any conceivable election do so, for, of course, all parties would be bound to say the same thing.

The foreign position, so far as it can be stated in Parliament, is unsatisfactory. The shadow of the German reparations looms up again and again from all sorts of quarters. Parliament has never had a very full control over foreign affairs, and at present it has as little as ever it had. But the numerous questions always upon the order paper give expression to the growing popular interest in this subject. Greece and Turkey, Angora and Constantinople—affairs there are serious enough, and unless an unexpected change takes place quickly they seem likely to grow even worse.

The House met on Monday, the 12th, for a day of small things, which excited little interest. Tuesday, however, brought the questions to the Home Secretary, upon the subject of the Ronald True case, a matter which has aroused an immense volume of public indignation. Upon the actual merits of the case the Home Secretary appears to have acted perfectly correctly, but it is the rumour that his action was prompted by influence which has caused the popular outcry. It is a very healthy instinct in the British people which causes them to resent so fiercely any suspicion of undue favouring of any individual. But there is less of this secret pull than is popularly imagined, and none at all, we believe, in matters connected with the administration of the law. Moreover, in this case, we believe the whole thing to be a pure fabrication, and the Home Secretary acted in the way that our legal code ordains.

The immense popular agitation over this and other recent legal cases suggests that more Parliamentary attention should be paid to the administration of the law. There is a great deal to be done with our prison system, our penal code, and our treatment of juveniles and lunatics, and Parliament is rapidly awakening to the fact, as can be seen by the numerous official and unofficial committees and Bills which touch upon the subject. The reform of the Lunacy Laws is needed, and has begun. The reform of the Prison System is much discussed, and even the blindest bat can observe that these social and humanitarian questions began to creep into politics in real earnest soon after the passing of the Representation of the People Act.

We go to press before the discussion on the Criminal Law Amendment Bill has taken place, but before our readers see this column its fate will be known. At this moment we can only hope that all will go well.

Lady Astor's return from America has been marked by much less outward comment than would be the mode in a similar case on the other side. But she has been welcomed none the less warmly in reality, for all that. She has evidently done good service both to her native and to her adopted countries by her frank and open speaking about the League of Nations, and has done a great deal to draw the two countries closer together. A dinner given in her honour by the English Speaking Union and the American Committee of the League of Nations Union on the 12th was a brilliant success, and Lord Lee, who presided, paid a well-deserved tribute to our first woman M.P. She herself, in a speech which mingled wit and wisdom, gave a much-needed warning to those people with "missions" who seek to draw countries together. Do not forget, she said, that it is by showing the best and the most sincere in each country that friendship grows. Artificial friendship is useless; it is understanding and sincerity which are effective. In these days when international understanding is so essential, this is a thing to remember.

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

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THE AMENDMENT OF THE DIVORCE LAWS IN GERMANY.

By Dr. ELISABETH ALTMANN-GOTTHEINER.

One of the ablest women members of the German Reichstag, Dr. Marie Elisabeth Lüders, member of the Democratic Party, is at present fighting hard for a reform of the German divorce laws, which, though they have only existed since the new Civil Code came into force in 1900, have proved very inadequate. It is characteristic and interesting that nearly all the lawyer-members of the Reichstag—with the exception of those belonging to the Roman Catholic party—are on her side, though several of the parties they belong to would not support a Bill facilitating divorce.

As the law stands to-day, numerous marriages have to be kept up, the inner truth and sanctity of which has disappeared long ago. Divorce cannot always end marriages even where open enmity has taken the place of mutual trust and love. It is a well-known fact that not only the partners in wedlock suffer severely under conditions of this sort, but that their children suffer with them, and that in the course of time they often lose all love and respect for their parents.

The chief cause of the difficulty in dissolving marriages of this kind in Germany lies in the present law which makes divorce only possible if one of the partners has been guilty of some misdemeanour. This guilt has to be proved by the other in the law court. The consequence of this is that either the husband or the wife are driven to self-accusations or to accusations of their partner, even in cases where neither of them is actually guilty, because this is the only way of obtaining a divorce. As it is for adultery that a divorce is most easily obtained, accusations of this crime are most frequent. If neither husband nor wife have the courage, nor the wish, to accuse the other of having committed adultery, they can only obtain a divorce if one of them deserts the other. In this case the lawsuit is often dragged on for several years, and can only come to an end if ultimately one of the partners is willing to take the guilt on his or her shoulders, and by doing this to renounce every right to the children.

In spite of all the difficulties in obtaining a divorce, divorce suits have become, not less, but more frequent, since the Civil Code came into force in 1900. The law has not been strong enough to prevent divorce, but circumstances have been so strong that the real intention of the law is often frustrated. This surely is much more immoral than having a law which facilitates divorce in cases where, through incompatibility of temperament, a marriage has completely broken down.

Experienced lawyers of all parties therefore have come to the conclusion that the divorce laws ought to be amended so that a divorce may also be obtained in such cases where positive guilt cannot be proved, but where married life has broken down so completely that there does not seem to be any hope of resuming it on a reasonable basis. The promoters of the amendment hope that it may help to create better and cleaner relations between men and women than can exist under the present law.

The present law has another drawback, namely, that the right to educate the children is withheld from the so-called "guilty" partner. This is the cause of the hardest fights between the parents during and after the lawsuit, and it is also the reason why many men and women refuse to plead guilty.

It is hoped that the new German law will follow the example of the Swedish law, which allows divorced parents to arrange between themselves which of them is to have the guardianship of the children, and in difficult cases to let it rest with the judge to decide as to which will be the better guardian.

After Whitsuntide the amendment will be brought forward in the German Reichstag. If it is carried, and if at the same time precautions are taken to prevent an undesirable loosening of the marriage-bond in favour of the brutally egotistic, the fickle, and the unscrupulous, a law will be created which in a higher sense is much more moral than the one thousands of German men and women are suffering under to-day.

RABBIT-BREEDING AS A CAREER FOR WOMEN.

The future of rabbit-breeding lies not only in the direction of production for food purposes, but in the production of pelts. Hitherto we have had no fur-producing rabbit industry in England, and the majority of rabbit-keepers have not realized the possibilities of increased profit in this branch of work. A determined effort is now being made, however, to encourage the home production of pelts and to compete with the immense importations of foreign rabbit-skins now used for all kinds of fur work; and it will be a good thing if the large sums of money which are now being sent abroad for this purpose can be kept in this country. The Ministry of Agriculture is giving serious attention to this new and profitable industry, and special displays of suitable breeds of rabbits, dressed skins, and made-up coats have been a feature of some recent shows. The Blue Beveran Club might well be justly proud of the beautiful coat presented to Princess Mary on the occasion of her marriage which was on exhibition at the recent Ideal Home Exhibition at Olympia.

There is, of course, a very wide difference between the values of pelts specially grown and prepared for the purpose, and of ordinary rabbit-skins taken from animals bred primarily for the table. But given the right breeds and the possession of the requisite knowledge and ability, the profitableness of pelt production is considerable. The occupation is one primarily suited for women, since in the production of fur the niceties of colour and texture present problems of mating and strain-making which demand close and skilful attention to detail. Women have been so successful as exhibition poultry breeders, where the same qualifications are necessary, that their prospects as rabbitbreeders are distinctly good. The work is not heavy or unduly a strain upon physical strength. On a small holding in the country the work will fit in very well with the other duties without too serious an inroad upon time needed for cleaning and feeding, etc. Rabbit-keeping has the advantage of requiring no great outlay of capital. The material for the hutches may be obtained very cheaply and a woman with a rough working knowledge of carpentry will find the expenses much lower than the one who must employ outside labour. The stock may be increased and maintained very inexpensively; and the rabbit-breeder for fur production is recommended to join the Beveran Club so that she may benefit by their co-operative scheme, under which the pelts are properly dressed and disposed of at top prices. This scheme removes the otherwise serious drawback to the beginner, namely, the difficulty of marketing. The dressing of the pelts calls for skill and experience, and the small producer could never hope to deal with the fur-merchant on profitable terms; whereas, through the medium of the Beveran Club the breeder runs no risk of loss over sales.

The rabbitry should consist primarily of some sort of a shed in which the hutches and appliances can be housed and the food stored. An existing outhouse can be utilized provided it meets the necessary requirements—sufficiency of space, light, good ventilation, warmth, and dryness. The hutches may be built in three-tier stacks to economize floor space; but a three-tier stack is as high as is desirable for ease of feeding and cleaning. Also the hutches should not be deeper than two feet or shorter than four feet, to facilitate cleaning, while allowing for sufficient freedom of movement. Half-inch mesh wire-netting is the best for the front of the hutches; and where the whole front is composed of a netted frame removable at will, nest-boxes must be made to fit inside the one end when the hutch is used for breeding. When using the same hutch as a nursery for the young stock the next box can be removed. If the floor and a few inches of the back and sides of the hutch are well tarred and sanded before use cleaning operations will be greatly facilitated.

The rabbits which are to be bred for fur production must be reared larger than for ordinary table use, as they must be in full

coat, which requires six or eight months to "set". The winter skin is the valuable one, so the breeder aims to rear her animals so that they reach a killing age and condition from November to April. A moulting rabbit is useless, and a buyer would look at the skin as well as the fur when pricing and grading pelts, black marks on the inner side indicating a state of moult. The purebred stock will usually breed true to type, provided due care is exercised in selection and mating; though there may be slight variations of colour, which are of small importance when production—individual or co-operative—is on a big enough scale to enable matching of the dressed pelts.

The Blue Beveran is first favourite of the fur-producing rabbitbreeder, as its fur, of a clear deep blue, is very fine, silky and dense, and quite twice the length of ordinary rabbits. Also as the giant type is usually kept, the flesh of the dressed carcase produces a profitable table rabbit of the "Ostend" type. The Havana is another general purpose rabbit, growing a thick silky coat of a charming chocolate colour, while beneath the undercoat shades off into a beautiful pearly grey. The Chinchilla rabbit most closely resembles the fur of the genuine Chinchilla; and under skilled handling requires an expert to detect the difference!

Angora rabbit breeders make quite a good addition to their income by the daily grooming of their pets. The long, silky hair is sold to dealers and made up into the fluffy "rabbit-wool" trimming, with which we are wont to decorate the necks of "jumpers" and the like. As much as 5s. an ounce is obtainable for the wool wholesale, so great is the demand.

Even should the present high prices not continue there is no doubt that rabbit pelt has come to stay; and the opening is one which the country woman should not fail to consider as a serious business proposition.

E. C. Davies.

THE EAST LONDON WOMAN'S SIDE OF UNEMPLOYMENT.

"It's starvation, that's what it is." A little wrinkled old woman of East London summed up the unemployment situation with an air of finality. "Out of work means starvation to poor folks. I reckon that's what it is."

This particular octogenarian had been working at the tailoring trade for seventy years. She had seen all sorts of changes, could even remember the days before machines. In all those years she had seen good and bad times come and go, but never before such times as these.

She hardly knew what to make of it; nor do the majority of women in the East London tenements. But as decidedly as my ancient friend they know what it means behind those lace curtains and gay jardinières that face the street. On Candy Street and Pollard Row they will invite you into their stuffy, overcrowded workrooms and tell you what it means.

With people on Pollard Row and Candy Street it is not a question of shillings and pounds. Each penny counts. One day I was talking with two old women who had failed to keep up their health benefit, though they were entirely dependent on their own earnings. They could be reinstated upon payment of fivepence each. But that meant tenpence for the two of them; and how could they spare tenpence?

Unemployment means more than ever the stretching of these pence, inevitable raking and scraping to make both ends meet. But there is a limit to this. Then the woman goes to the factory and brings home jobs to be done at odd moments. Hands that were full enough with cooking, washing, and looking after numerous small children take leisure time for stitching waistcoats or making nursery boots.

As men's time and wages are cut, women who before may have worked for pocket-money now work for the necessities of life. I sat for half an hour in the combined work and diningroom of one of these home-workers, while her nimble fingers flew from glue pot to slips of white paper and turned out countless little boxes. Upstairs two children were ill; at 3.30 the husband would be in for dinner. Yet she managed to finish a gross of boxes in a day. It was a case of necessity. A couple of cuts in his wages and a shortening of hours had reduced his earnings below the living level. The family was dependent on the 15s. she could add a week.

These women go to the factory each morning for supplies, come home and toil all day in the intervals of housework, then return the finished articles. Many spinsters and widows in East London are solely dependent upon the work for livelihood. Often an aged mother, a disabled brother, or two or three small children

must share their few shillings. It is never more than that when one gets about three shillings for a gross of pasteboard boxes or seven shillings for finishing a dozen pairs of trousers. It is a struggle to get through a good week. There is no question of saving for a bad one. When a bad week comes it is a calamity. If many of them come it means the parish.

It was a tragedy in one household when the old mother had "not a farthing coming in off" her daughter for three weeks. The most dreadful thing in their lives had happened to two sisters when for a solid month the factory could supply neither with work. How they lived through those weeks without charity or relief they could never explain.

The home-worker suffers first. As long as work exists, though it may be the type usually given out, it must go to the idle inside worker. Otherwise relief payments stop. But the home-workers draw no relief or dole of any sort. The scheme of relief that once existed has been cancelled; and payments have been returned.

Day after day these workers may go to the factory and come home empty-handed. The younger and more enterprising ones look for work inside, leaving the home to take care of itself. Some have gone into domestic service, others have found stray places in the factories. But for the woman who has passed middle age at a familiar job in her own little workroom the change is never easy and often impossible. Most of them, perhaps toiling at the work their mothers did before them, are accustomed to being independent and self-supporting. The parish is the last resort.

It's mighty hard for the likes of us," one little woman told me.
"It's not so bad for the younger folks. They can stand things easier. And with some of them it ain't like they had known better times. With other folks, too, it don't make no difference if they get two pounds or ten. It goes just the same on drink and things. But we've always worked hard, and taken care of ourselves. And now we can't get nothing to do."

Unemployment may mean destitution to the woman who depends on getting a living out of turning shoes or making neckties while keeping up her home. Her neighbours, too, live in the shadow of the menace. The babies must have sugar and milk; and even the unemployed expect to eat. It is up to the woman at home to eke out the dole or stretch it. After hearing the story of a family that had cut out week-end meals and subsisted for days at a time on rice alone, I began to understand my aged friend's verdict of "Starvation, that's what it is, and there you are."

M. F. DREWRY.

SOME WOMEN POETS.

"Daybreak." By Fredegond Shove. Hogarth Press. 3s. 6d. "Karn." By Ruth Manning-Sanders. Hogarth Press. 3s. 6d.

"The Serpent's Head." By Ruth Young. B. H. Blackwell.

Mrs. Shove has called her poems "Daybreak", but it is the hour before daybreak or the hour which comes after sunset that we think of when we read them; the time when light and colour are one, and, in their birth or lingering suggest a splendour which we have never seen. There are only twenty-two poems in the book and none of them give one any sense of perfection, but the unsatisfied feeling they leave behind is the same that we experience in the moments when we are conscious of something beyond time. The author has sought to catch these moments and to express that which is in everything and yet disembodied. This is a task in which even the greatest poets can never be said to have succeeded, because, at the last, the thing they pursue found to be not only disembodied but inexpressible. Wordsworth, after listening to the Highland reaper, wrote :-

A voice so thrilling ne'er was heard In springtime from the Cuckoo-bird, Breaking the silence of the seas Among the farthest Hebrides.

he did not succeed in expressing what he felt; but what he did do in reminding us of the unattainable was sufficient to prove that he was one of the greatest of poets. When Mrs. Shove, listening to children's hoops at dusk, writes :-

The sound is purer, keener, than we dream The voice of stars in spring to be, Keener and merrier Than tune of scythes by night, Sharpened among the virgin moon-da Amid the shadows of a waving field.

she does not succeed, but she thrills us by calling up our best moments of unsatisfied delight, and we recognize her as a true poet. This is the last poem in the book, and perhaps the loveliest, but the magic is in them all.

If "Karn" had come out a few years back we should have called it an allegory; appearing now, it seems rather to be one of those symbolic dreams by which psycho-analysts tell us that our Unconscious evades the censorship of the conscious

and protects sleep. The temptation to analyse it is irresistible and rather interferes with one's enjoyment of the strange fascinating story and finely imaginative verse.

The princess has a tiny head of gold,
The princess has a face of ivory,
All fine and small her fingers are and she
Guards a still fire in lovely chambers cold; Oh jealously She feeds the fire with buds of perfume rare That she should feed the fire with buds so rare-The princess has a little silver net,
And when she flings the net into the air
Bright birds fly down from bushes, everywhere—
That nets will break their wings bright birds forget. Then speedily She shuts them in a cage to hear them sing.—

That she should pinch their hearts to make them sing!

It is lovely! But one stops to wonder whether the cruel princess is one aspect of sex instinct and the slave with the petal-sweet face" another, and it disturbs one's enjoyment. What a good thing that psycho-analysis had not been invented when Coleridge wrote "Kubla Khan!"

Miss Ruth Young's verse belongs to an older school. She addresses one poem to Matthew Arnold, and some reminiscence of that sweet and troubled poet lingers in many of her lines. Like him, she loves the delicate freshness of English landscape and English flowers; cowslips, "Dew-covered at the dawn of April day," "and prickly gorse bright gold," and "roses in the hedges"; like him, she longs for some spiritual intensity of life, always a little out of reach.

If birds can soar so high Above the sweet-scented hill Almost into the cloud As they desire and will, Why am I bound

Like him, may we dare to add, she is overweighted with the deficiencies of our present state. It is hard to be a social reformer and a poet at the same time, and certainly not easier now than it was in the days of Matthew Arnold.

I. B. O'M.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

Offices: Evelyn House, 62 Oxford Street, London, W.1. Telephone: Museum 6910.

A WHITSUNTIDE CAMPAIGN FOR WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT

A WHITSUNTIDE CAMPAIGN FOR WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT A short series of meetings in favour of women in Parliament and in support of Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon was held in the Canterbury Division of Kent during the Whitsuntide holidays. For three hours on Whit-Monday meetings were held at short intervals, attended by large numbers on the seashore at Whitstable, and addressed by Mr. A. S. Roule, of West Australia, and Miss Macadam. There was a steady flow of intelligent questions from the crowd after each speech, touching on such subjects as the League of Nations, Temperance Reform, Equal Franchise, Trade Unionism, Unemployment, etc. On the previous Saturday an open-air meeting was held in the town of Whitstable, and on Tuesday Miss Auld addressed the women of the Municipal Clinic at Canterbury by invitation.

THE N.U.S.E.C. AND THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

The N.U.S.E.C. has recently heard from the Secretary of the League of Nations Union that it has now been formally recognized as one of the affiliated societies of the League of Nations Union, and at the meeting of the Executive Committee on 8th June, Miss Helen Ward was appointed delegate to the General Council of the League of Nations Union. This closer association will give a great stimulus to the work of the National Union on behalf of the League of Nations through its societies all over the

LEAGUE OF NATIONS DEMONSTRATION.

In view of the recent affiliation stated in the above paragraph, we are In view of the recent affiliation stated in the above paragraph, we are very anxious that the N.U.S.E.C. contingent and platform at the Hyde Park demonstration on Saturday, 24th June, shall be as large and effective as possible. Mrs. Fawcett and Miss Rathbone will lead the N.U. section of the procession, and will speak from the N.U. platform, and other speakers will include Mrs. Wintringham, M.P., Mrs. Rackham, Mrs. Layton, Mrs. Oliver Strachey, Mrs. Corbett Ashby, Miss Ward, Miss Macadam, and others. We shall be glad to have the names of all who will join us on this occasion sent to Headquarters as soon as possible. Help in making arrangements, carrying banners, etc., will be gladly welcomed.

THE OXFORD SUMMER SCHOOL August 19th to September 2nd.

As we are very anxious to bring the School within the reach of all, we As we are very anxious to bring the School within the reach of all, we are glad to say that owing to arrangements made with St. Hilda's College, we hope to be able to make some reduction in the charges for board and lodging. Full particulars may be had on application. We would like to acknowledge the courtesy and kindness of one Woman Magistrate, Mrs. Bolitho, J.P., who in writing to say she could not attend, sent a donation of \$1 5s, towards the expenses.

Applications are now coming in daily, and we urge all who wish to attend to register as soon as possible, as rooms in the College will be allocated strictly in order of application.

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Miss Buchanan (Glasgow)			1	1	0
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NEWS FROM SOCIETIES.

CARDIFF W.C.A. (N.U.S.E.C.).

An original mock trial, "Sweetbread versus Vandyke", was given by the Cardiff Women Citizen's Association on 24th May, in aid of the Lord Mayor's Russian Famine Relief Fund, and on the 26th in aid of the W.C.A. Funds. The plaintiff, Miss Mary Sweetbread, claimed to have been wrongfully dismissed by Mrs. Vandyke, who had employed her as cook. The case was tried before Mr. Justice Well-beloved (Mrs. James Robinson, Vice-President of the Association), and much talent was shown by the counsel for both sides. The excellent acting of the five witnesses was warmly appreciated by the audience. The correct legal forms were observed throughout.

CHESTER W.C.A. (N.U.S.E.C.).

JUNE 16, 1922.

Four new Women Magistrates have been appointed to the Chester City Bench, including Councillor Phyllis Brown, the Chairman of the Chester W.C.A. All the five Women Magistrates in Chester are members of the

On 31st May a lecture was given at the Free Library by Mr. W. E. Beckett, B.A., Fellow of All Souls, on "Inequalities of the Law as between

In the paragraph dealing with the report of the North-Western Group, the Society supporting Lady Barlow's candidature is Chinley, not Chester.

CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS.

THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH.—CONGRESS IN

The Royal Institute of Public Health concluded a very successful congress of five days' duration at Plymouth. The Hon. Secretary of Section IV, "Women and Public Health," Dr. G. Miall-Smith and Miss Mabel L. Ramsay, M.D., F.R.C.S., Edin., etc., were able to secure a great success because the cream of scientific women came to their aid and gave some splendid papers. "The care of the Expectant Mother" was ably dealt with by a speech delivered without any memoranda by Professor Louisa Mellroy, who showed how great a need there is for properly equipped maternity hospitals, which should also be centres at which medical students, midwives, etc., can be properly trained, and so raise the standard of efficiency.

This was followed by a very able paper given by Miss Frances Ivens, L.S., M.B., Surgeon to the Liverpool Maternity Hospital, who described a her paper "The Organization of the Maternity Hospital", how many nks there should be between Infant Welfare Centres, the Maternity lospital, and Maternity Centres.

Hospital, and Maternity Centres.

Lady Barrett opened a discussion on Birth Control, or, rather, the question of the use of contraconceptives. She pointed out that the use of contraconceptives is a matter that in certain cases may be necessary on account of disease. But the method is between doctor and patient, and on account of medical illness. But she deplored the public propaganda which goes on to-day. She felt that public propaganda led to much misunderstanding, unhappiness, and physical ills. The putting off of the natural date of conception on the score of economical grounds led ofttimes to inability to conceive at the time which the parents thought they could afford to have children.

Dr. Lorimer Hawthorn made an eloquent plea for the working methor.

Dr. Lorimer Hawthorn made an eloquent plea for the working mother who has a succession of pregnancies. She showed how fearfully hard the economic stress is upon mothers with large families and with inadequate means of feeding and nourishing the children they bring into the world. Reply was made that Birth Control was no solution of the economic problem, rather should attention be directed towards some scheme of pensions, or endowment of the motherhood of the land.

pensions, or endowment of the motherhood of the land.

Professor Winifred Cullis gave a paper on "The Physiological Aspect of Women in Industry". She showed in a scientific manner how little cientific basis there is for legislating for women's work, especially in the industrial world. Her researches had brought out no real evidence to upport the common idea that every month a woman became something lifterent, or an enfecbled creature. Scientifically there was no evidence or support special laws for women's work. She spoke of her work in indeavouring to elucidate the problems of the difference physiologically between men and women under the same conditions. She showed that hen do a day's work and there it ends, but women are expected to do two ays' work in one day, i.e. the work in the factories and the work at home. Inch error has arisen from this, because the work of men and women annot be comparable.

The care of the cripple child was discussed by MissChampness Secretary.

cannot be comparable.

The care of the cripple child was discussed by Miss Champness, Secretary, Cripple Children's Association, and the need for getting them adequately treated and educated so that they may become as near normal as possible.

E. J. Lidbetter, General Relieving Officer under Bethnal Green Board of Guardians, gave a splendid lecture, "Recipients of public assistance and hereditary tendencies of their offspring." He showed very convincingly that paupers' offspring develop a larger amount of insanity, tuberculosis, and eye disease than other sections of the community.

The delegates were well entertained, and regarded their visit as a pleasant one. They went in robes to church, and the women graduates were successful in opposing the organizer of the procession that women should walk in a group by themselves.

MABEL L. RAMSAY.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS DEMONSTRATION.

At the League of Nations rally in Hyde Park on 24th June one of the welve platforms will be occupied by the diplomatic representatives in London of Foreign States that are members of the League of Nations. It wenty-seven States in all will be represented, and each speech will be lelivered in the language of the State concerned.

A feature of the monster procession, which will assemble on the Embankment and proceed to Hyde Park, will be the presence of delegations from nearly all the foreign colonies in London behind their respective banners. Members of each delegation will wear distinctive armlets, and some of them will appear in national costume.

me of them will appear in national costume.

The National Federation of Women's Institutes will have a great many

The National Federation of Women's Institutes will have a great many banners in the procession. Other organizations in evidence will be: The British Legion, the Women's National Liberal Federation, the Church Militant, the Guild of Citizens of To-day and To-morrow, etc.

The fifty speakers from the twelve platforms in the Park will include six Members of the Government—Mr. Fisher, Mr. Shortt, Sir Alfred Mond, Sir Arthur Griffith-Boscawen, Mr. McCurdy, and Viscount Peel. Other speakers will be the Archbishop of York, the Viscountess Astor, Mr. Barnes, Lord Robert Cecil, Miss Margaret Bondfield, the Bishop of St. Albans, Bishop Hamilton Baynes, Mr. Walter Runciman, and the Reverend Father Jarrett, O.P.

FAMILY ENDOWMENT.

FAMILY ENDOWMENT.

The first of a series of three informal discussion meetings was held at the office of the Family Endowment Council, Evelyn House, 62 Oxford Street, W. 1, on Friday, 9th June. Miss Eleanor Rathbone, who opened the discussion, presented the Case for Family Endowment, i.e. a method of providing for the children of the nation alternative to the present system by which they are entirely dependent on the earnings of the head of the family. She said that wages were falling heavily and there was a risk that the standard of life would be debased even below pre-war level, when an appalling proportion of the working people were living "in primary poverty". How was this to be prevented? Sir Josiah Stamp and Dr. Bowley had demonstrated that a re-distribution of wealth between classes, even if pushed to the utmost possible limit, would not yield enough to make a really high standard possible. Apart altogether from the question of what proportion of national wealth could be spent on wages, was the question of how that portion could be less wastefully and equitably distributed than at present. Under the present wage system, the doctrine of "a living wage" was an absurdity, because it bore no relation to the facts. It was assumed that the "typical family" consisted of five persons and that men's wages must suffice for the maintenance of such families. But in fact more than half the adult male wage earners had no dependent children and 40 per cent. of the children at any one time belonged to families with more than three dependent children. Thus the system involved making provision for a vast army of phantoms and letting the real children go short. Another objection to the present system was that it treated wife and children as mere accessories or appendages to men wage earners, without any share of their own in the nation's wealth. The two succeeding lectures, on Thursdays, 15th and 22nd June, at 50'clock. present system was that it treated wife and children as mere accessories or appendages to men wage earners, without any share of their own in the nation's wealth. The two succeeding lectures, on Thursdays, 15th and 22nd June, at 5 o'clock, would deal with alternative ways of adjusting the income of families to their needs. Particulars of these and of the work of the Family Endowment Council can be had from the Secretary, at 62 Oxford Street, W. 1.

THE WOMAN'S MOVEMENT IN FINLAND.

We regret to say that owing to delay in returning the corrected proof, it was not possible to make the following corrections in this article last week: Finnish women won the vote in 1906, and gained municipal representation in 1918. There are 21 women members of Parliament to-day. The Finnish Parliament has passed a law this year on the subject of illegitimate children

COMING EVENTS.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION.

JUNE 20. Leeds. 5 p.m. The University. 7.30 p.m. Albert Hall. Speaker: Professor

JUNE 23. Horsham. Wesley Hall. 2.40 p.m. Speaker: Miss Muriel Currey, O.B.E. JUNE 24. Hyde Park Rally.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB,

JUNE 21. 9 Grafton Street, Piccadilly. 8.15 p.m. Recital "Pompilia" from "The Ring and the Book", by Miss Magaret Omar.

FAMILY ENDOWMENT COUNCIL.

The last of a series of discussion classes will be held at the office (Evelyn House, 62 Oxford UNE 22. 5 p.m. "National Schemes for Family Endowment." Opener: Mrs. Barbara

A charge of 6d, will be made, and, as accommodation is limited, tickets should be obtained in advance from the Secretary. (Continued on page 160.)

MRS. HOSTER'S SECRETARIAL TRAINING COLLEGE.

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References: The Countess of Mayo; The Ccuntess (Dowagef) of Desart; The Viscountess St. Cyres; The Lady Pirrie; Claude Montefore, Esq.; Messrs. Wainwright, Pollock and Co., Solicitors; Messrs. Lewis & Yglesias, and many others.

All communications to be addressed to:—Mrs. Hoster, St. Stephen's Chambers, Telegraph Street, E.C. 2.

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COMING EVENTS (Continued.)

JUNE 22. 56 Queen Anne Street, W. r. 8 p.m. "The Hygiene of the Child". Lecturer: Dr. W. J. Pearson, M.A., M.D., M.R.C.P.

YORKSHIRE COUNCIL FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

JUNE 23-27. Week-end school at the White Hart Hotel, Harrogate. Application should be made at 18 Park Row, Leeds. Speakers: Miss Helen Fraser, Dr. Stanley Boyd, Miss Sybil Campbell.

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

JUNE 20. At Erith Women's Co-operative Guild. 3 p.m. Subject: "Public Ownership of the Liquor Trade." Speaker: Miss M. Cotterell, O.B.E.

JUNE 22. At North St. Pancras Labour Party, Women's Section. 3 p.m. Subject: "The Carlisle Experiment." Speaker: Miss M. Cotterell, O.B.E.

JUNE 24. League of Nations Day Demonstration. N.U.S.E.C. Contingent and Platform, Hyde Park. Procession leaves Whitehall at 4 p.m.

KENSINGTON S.E.C.

UNE 17. A drawing-room meeting will be held at 48 Talgarth Road, West Kensington, on Vomen Police, "3 p.m. Speaker: Chief Inspector Champneys, Women's Auxiliary Service, air: Mrs. Hudson Lyall, C.B.E., L.C.C., J.P.

JUNE 20. Public meeting at The Venture, 138 Portobello Road, W. 11, 8.15 p.m. "The isbandment of the Women Police." Speakers: Chief Inspector Champneys and the Mayor

THE GUILDHOUSE.

JUNE 15, 16, and 17. The Bazaar will be opened at 3 p.m. on the 15th by Lady Rhondda, n 16th by Mrs. Wintringham, M.P., and on 17th by the Dowager Lady Royden.

MEDICAL, Etc.

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A DELIGHTFUL HOLIDAY CENTRE; good cycling and motor country; Welsh border; golf and fishing;

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

SHOREHAM-BY-SEA. — A few PAYING GUESTS received in bungalow, two minutes sea; easy access Brighton, Downs; suit quiet people; terms moderate. — Miss Haines, "Aurora," The Beach.

SILVERDALE, LANCS.—RESTHAVEN; beautifully strated, near sea, golf links; ideal for holidays or rest;

A USEFUL HOLIDAY IN LOVELY COUNTRY.—An ex-officer and his wife take pupils for short holiday courses in poultry, rabbit, and dairy work for the amateur at their country cottage in North Wales; tuition, board and residence, a guineas per week inclusive; references.—Write, Box 912, WOMAN'S LEADER, 62 Oxford Street, W. 1.

WHERE TO LIVE.

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

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

 R^{OOMS} and breakfast (Gentlewomen only); temporary or permanent; gas stoves. — Miss Kemp, 10 Endsleigh Street, W.C.1.

LADIES RESIDENTIAL CLUB, 15 Kensington Park Gardens, W. 11. Miss FitzSimon and Miss Scott. Furnished bedrooms with partial board from 24th June. Gas stoves. Temporary or permanent.

TO LET AND WANTED.

COMFORTABLE BED-SITTING-ROOM, also Bedrattendance; bath; near buses and park. To moderate.—49 Worfield Street, Albert Bridge, S.W. 11.

CRESSWELL GARDENS, SOUTH KENSINGTON.— Freehold HOUSE for Sale, price £3,500 or near offer; Freehold HOUSE for Sale, price £3,500 or near off 7 bed, 3 reception, bath, good domestic offices, maids' sittin room, small garden leading to private gardens; grand pia (Collard & Collard), billiard table, \$3, only selling as no roor table £50, piano £200 or offer; seen by appointment 3-7. Owner, 4 Wetherby Road, South Kensington.

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KENSINGTON. — FURNISHED SUITE TO LET, comprising large sitting-room, large double bedroom, smaller bedroom, kitchen (gas stove), scullery (constant hot water), bed linen, and plate. Use of bathroom (hot and cold). Telephone. Rent & per week. Similar smaller suite & 3 2s.—Write Miss Gates, 23 Redcliffe Gardens, S.W. 10.

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

HUCKABACK TOWELLING.—Remnant bundles of Irish huckaback linen towelling, very superior quality, for bedroom towels, sufficient to make six full-size towels, 12s, 6d, per bundle, postage gd.—Hutton's, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ireland.

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CORSETS made to order. Shetland Underclothing and Jumpers from 258.—Emile Wiggins, 63 Elizabeth Street, Eaton Square, S.W. 1.

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

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ANNOUNCEMENTS.

A SSOCIATION FOR MORAL AND SOCIAL Drawing-room, Tuesday, 20th June, at 5,30. Speakers: The Viscount Astor, Lady Barrett, Dr. Douglas White, Mr. G. W. Johnson, and Miss Alison Neilans. Reserved seats, 1s, Tickets from Secretary, Orchard House, Great Smith Street, S. W. 1.

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

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THE FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Eccleston Guild House, Eccleston Square, S.W.; Sunday, 18th June, 6.30. Miss Maude Royden. "Spiritual Sight."

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY, 55 Berners Street, London, W. 1. Telephone, Museum 4181. Minimum subscription, 1s.; Organ: "Catholic Citizen," 21. monthly.

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

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