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

A British Woman for the League of Nations Assembly.

Mr. Lloyd George stated in the House of Commons last week Mr. Lloyd George stated in the House of Commons last week that the British Delegates for the next Assembly of the League of Nations at Geneva would be Lord Balfour, Mr. Fisher, and Colonel John Ward. In reply to Lady Astor, he said that the Government had decided to send a woman in an advisory capacity. This is good news, and is obviously the result of unremitting pressure applied by Lady Astor.

Nationality Bills.

The British Nationality and Status of Aliens Bill has been agreed to by the Lords, and the Select Committee of the House of Commons is considering the Bill to alter the law of nationality with regard to women who have married aliens. Under this Bill British women who married alien husbands here would retain their British nationality. Alien women who married British husbands would not by reason of their marriage become British, but would be required to become naturalized in the ordinary way if they desired British nationality. Evidence was given by Mr. Dowson, assistant legal adviser to the Home Office, who said in many respects British women would derive a distinct advantage. In the case of the exercise of the franchise, for instance, at present a British-born woman marrying an alien husband would herself become an alien and would lose her vote if the had one. if she had one. Answering Sir John Butcher, the witness said that under an Act of 1918 no alien could serve in the Civil Service. Thus, if a woman civil servant married an alien husband she lost her position immediately. On the other hand, if she had not hitherto been a civil servant she could never become one as the wife or widow of an alien. Under this Bill she would be all right in each case, because she would not lose her British nationality. In reply to Mrs. Wintringham, the witness said the position of children of mixed marriages would in the future, as in the past, be that they would take the nationality of their father. Lord Justice Younger spoke against the Bill, saying that there should be only one nationality for husband and wife, the nationality of the husband. He looked on man as the stronger, and it was his nationality which should dominate the two! The Committee then adjourned.

The Separation and Maintenance Bill.

The Summary Jurisdiction (Separation and Maintenance) Bill "to amend the Married Women (Maintenance) Acts 1895 and 1920" was presented last week by Mr. Shortt, and supported by Sir Ernest Pollock and Sir John Baird.

St. Pancras' Assistant M.O.H.

We congratulate St. Paneras on having decided, after many months of deliberation, on appointing a woman as assistant medical officer of health. Our readers will remember our indignation at the dismissal of Dr. Gladys Miall Smith on the occasion of her marriage. St. Pancras has made good by the appointment of Dr. Stella Churchill.

Married Women Teachers.

Mr. Mills referred in the House last week to the recent practice of local authorities of terminating the engagements of women teachers because they are married women, and said that, in view of the fact that, since these married women teachers are unable to secure employment elsewhere, this practice is tantamount to suspending the teachers' certificate, which is the sole prerogative of the Board of Education. Mr. Mills asked Mr. Fisher if he could prevent local authorities adopting this practice. Mr. Fisher replied that the suspension of a teacher's certificate involves prohibition of employment in a public elementary school, and is not the same thing from the teacher's point of view as failure to obtain employment. He had, he said, no authority to interfere with the exercise of the local authorities' discretion in the matter. Meanwhile, another local authority, the Rochdale Education Committee, have decided to dismiss their thirty-four married women teachers, and it is expected that by the end of September they will all have left.

Women on Asylum Committees.

Sir Robert Newman asked Sir Alfred Mond the number of county and borough council lunatic asylums who have no women members on the visiting committees of their asylums, and how many women patients are detained in those institutions. The Minister of Health replied that, so far as the Board of Control are aware, there are fifty-eight county and borough mental hospitals which have no women members on the visiting committee. In these institutions there are approximately 31,000 female patients.

The Report on the Asylum System.

The committee appointed to investigate the charges made by Dr. Lomax in his book, *The Experiences of an Asylum Doctor*, reported last week. It was a whitewashing committee, as was obvious from its composition, and it says that the present provision for the treatment of the insane is humane and efficient. The only thing that is wrong, apparently, is that our asylums are not fully staffed with assistant medical officers and trained nurses. It is up to the public to sanction increased expenditure. "It is the community itself which imposes limitations on the extent to which the efficiency of these institutions can be developed," says the report. You can always so constitute a committee of perfectly honourable men that you get the answer you want.

Prisons and Borstal Institutions.

In answer to Sir T. Bramsdon, Mr. Shortt said that the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the prison system and the administration of prisons and Borstal institutions, is under consideration. Lady Astor asked the Home Secretary to realize, before he comes to a final decision, that no Commission can be thoroughly representative unless it has got a woman on it. In a later answer to Lord Henry Cavendish-Bentinck, who asked whether, in view of the fact that there is, among persons admitted to prisons, an abnormally high percentage of persons prone to insanity and suicide, steps can be taken to ascertain whether the present conditions of prison life are suitable to the mental constitution of these persons, and not calculated to aggravate these tendencies. Mr. Shortt said that in the event of a general inquiry into the prison system, this point will be among the matters for consideration.

Executions at Pentonville.

Mrs. Wintringham raised a very important question in the House last week, without, however, getting any satisfactory answer from Mr. Shortt. She suggested that the unwholesome excitement caused in the neighbourhood by the posting of notices on the gates of Pentonville prison before and after executions is extremely bad for the children of the L.C.C. school near by. Adults and children wait about discussing the subject of the notice until it is removed, and she thought some other way of notifying the public that a death penalty is about to be imposed on a prisoner, and subsequently that it has been paid, would be more desirable.

The Tuition of Magistrates at the N.U.S.E.C. Summer School.

Sir H. Brittain, in the House of Commons last week, asked the Attorney-General whether it had been brought to his notice that at the desire of newly appointed women J.P.'s, a summer school is to be held at Oxford, so that some training in the administration of the law may be given to those women justices who so desire it. Sir Harry Brittain asked also whether any similar effort is being made for the benefit of any lay magistrates of the male sex who so desire it, and if not, whether he will make a recommendation that such a scheme should be supported. Sir Ernest Pollock said that doubtless if male magistrates desire such tuition they could make similar arrangements.

The Liquor (Popular Control) Bill.

Lady Astor introduced the Liquor (Popular Control) Bill in the House of Commons last week. It proposes to give to the inhabitants of boroughs and counties the right of deciding periodically whether they are to have no change in the conduct of the liquor trade in their area, or whether the trade is to be reorganized, or whether all licences are to be abolished. Electors, by means of the alternative vote, can vote preferentially in favour of one choice, and alternatively in favour of a second. If an area votes for the reorganization of the liquor trade, a central body called the Board of Management (appointed with the approval of, and dismissable by, but otherwise bearing the same relation to Parliament as such bodies as the Port of London or Mersey Dock Board) takes over the liquor trade in the area concerned. It will be the duty of this Board as soon as possible to close in

reorganization areas all redundant public-houses, to abolish grocers' licences, etc. A central compensation fund is created, into which all profits from the reorganized areas would be paid by the Board of Management. The Bill is backed by Mr. J. H. Thomas, Mr. Trevelyan Thomson, and Mrs. Wintringham.

Girl Clerks' Salaries.

The Association of Women Clerks' and Secretaries have been investigating the cost of living in 1922 for women clerks. The average budget, emerging from the returns obtained by the association for a temporary girl clerk in the Civil Service, in respect of a salary of 51s. 8d. a week, living at home without anyone solely dependent on her, shows that, after paying at home for part board, lodging, and laundry £1 11s. 8d., fares to office, 7s., lunches and teas out, 6s. 6d., she has a balance for clothes, holidays, studies, savings, amusements, and "luxuries," of 6s. 6d. Girls with longer service, whose salary averages 55s. a week have an average home expenditure of 35s, a week with the same average expenditure for fares and food out. According to medical evidence, which the Association also obtained, the balance, for purposes of health, should be at least 12s. 4d. The conclusion drawn by the Association from these investigations is that large numbers of women clerks are underfed, underclothed, and have inadequate recreation.

Woman Cotton Broker.

Probably the first woman in the country to become an active cotton broker is Miss Margaret Robertson, who has just been taken into partnership by her brother in Liverpool. For some years Miss Robertson has taken an active part in the business.

Women in Industry in U.S.A.

Statistics recently issued by the Division of Women in Industry of the New York State Department of Labour are full of interest Of the inhabitants of the United States, ten years and over, onehalf are classified as "gainfully employed." Incidentally, women employed in housework in their own homes, and not having other employment, are characterized as "unproductive"—that is from the standpoint under consideration, not definitely earning money at their work. Of the somewhat more than 40,000,000 individuals thus gainfully occupied, the figures show that approximately 32,000,000 are men and 8,000,000 are womenin other words, that there is one woman worker to every four men. Other figures show that a similar relationship exists between the women who are working gainfully and those who are not, one out of every five being a "worker." A striking feature presented in the comparison of the women workers of New York State in 1920 with those of 1910 is the fact that the number of women office clerks has more than trebled in this period, while the number of women employed in domestic and personal service has dropped by nearly 25 per cent. In the State of New York also the number of women lawyers has almost doubled since 1910, whereas the number of women in manufacturing and mechanical industries has shown practically no change. There is a marked increase in the transportation group—this group including telegraph and telephone operators—the number of women employed in 1920 being nearly twice the number employed There are 469 postmistresses and a big group of women detectives, constables, and sheriffs. Figures available show that only about 10 per cent. of the women employed in New York State are members of unions. There are two main difficulties in the way of organizing women. One is the attitude of men toward admitting women to their unions, and the other is the fact that women for the most part are performing unskilled routine work in industry, and there is not a tendency toward organizing in such work as in the higher skilled lines of employment. In Greater New York, however, since 1914, there has been an increase of about 35 per cent. in the number of women in trade organizations. Women's wages are almost always lower than men's—even when they are doing exactly the same work as men and are producing equal results.

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.

THIS FREEDOM.

AUGUST 11, 1922.

August is the silly season for newspapers, and this year the subject hit on by the enterprising journalists appears to be the question: "Shall women, and especially married women, work?" With a flair for what will provoke discussion, upon which he is to be congratulated, Mr. A. S. M. Hutchinson has opened the ball by his novel, *This Freedom*. This is a book which, despite, or perhaps because of its transparent silliness, most women will undoubtedly enjoy; but we cannot pretend to recommend it seriously to our readers.

The moral of the book is that if a married woman goes on working her children come to bad ends. Do what she will, organize as she may, this fact that she does not sit at home continually will corrupt their morals and destroy their natural and spontaneous affections. And her husband will sit with his head bowed upon his hands and groan. "I have a right to a home," he will say—be he never so enlightened to start with. And there you are. Through a great many pages, eked out with more than enough repetition, this theme is developed; and during all the first part of the book the ultimate moral is carefully concealed.

The story begins in the heroine's babyhood, when the selfishness of her brothers and the egregious egotism of her father turned her against men as a whole (and incidentally drove one of her sisters to suicide, in spite of the constant and unremitting attentions of a downtrodden mother). It passes on through her youth and middle age, with page upon page of argument put orward by herself as to the need for a woman to have an ndependent career, and blossoms out, with her marriage, into fine welter of mixed sentiment and wrong-headedness. A woman whose feelings are hurt when her son, aged 16 or so, sks her on his school prize-giving day to call him Hugh and not Huggo," and who replies: "It is the name we loved you by." an hardly be expected to retain the confidence of her children, whether she stays at home or works in a bank. Mr. Hutchinson, for all his parade of modernity, has a good deal to learn about common sense.

This book, however, is not worth serious comment, even in the illy season. But the subject which it raises is, and it is one with which we are, of course, thoroughly familiar. We do not propose to express at any length the arguments for or against the continuance of a career for married women. Whatever Mr. Hutchinson may say, we cannot believe that any general rule can be laid down. It all depends, as most things in life do, upon the particular circumstances of the case; upon the man, the wife, the career, the children, the financial position, the health, temperament and ages of all concerned; and it is for each woman to decide for herself. This much, however, we can and do affirm, with passion and earnestness, that it is not for any one else arbitrarily to settle the matter. It is not for Parliament, or Borough Councils; it is not for Education Committees or even 'the man in the street"; it is for each woman herself to decide upon her own duty, and to order her life as she sees fit. And no one need imagine that in saying this we are forgetting the needs and the claims of the children. From all time and to all time these claims will have their safest defence in the hearts of the women of the human race. Men may talk, and they do talk, about the sacred duty of motherhood and the joys of maternal sacrifice. But women know, and always will know, more about it than anyone else can express. Human experience is, after all, incommunicable; but human nature remains more or less the same. And we are confident that the mothers of our emancipated generation are as much to be trusted with their own children as the mothers of a fettered one. We may perhaps be pardoned for thinking that they are, if anything, a shade more to be trusted; for to the instinctive love and the instinctive sacrifice they bring more knowledge, more power, and more common sense. We are not afraid of this freedom-either for ourselves or for our children.

NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER.

By OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT.

The Session closed last week, and honourable members have scattered and gone for their holidays, not, indeed, with the consciousness of work well done, but, at any rate, with the prospect of a rest in front of them. We propose to give in this column a summary of the achievements of the Session from the "feminist" point of view. This week, however, we must take a more general survey, and look for a moment at the whole national situation in its relation to Parliament.

No one can doubt that we are living in a dark and dangerous time, a time which is overshadowed by problems which appear all but insoluble, where trouble surrounds us wherever we turn, and where only the lassitude left by the war, and the horror of our memories of it, prevent the outbreak of armed strife. In the Near East, in Asia Minor, in India, Ireland, Italy, Austria, Germany, Russia, China—wherever we look the state of affairs is distracted, and it is impossible to deny that it is going from bad to worse. And everywhere money is lacking, trade is bad, unemployment and civil disturbance are rife. Governments fall like snowflakes, and everywhere all over the world the people are uneasy, uncomfortable, and apprehensive.

Now what, in the midst of all this, has our British Parliament been doing? How have we maintained our traditional stability and imperturbability? We are, on the whole, less hard hit than any other of the European combatant nations; from us, if from anywhere, the leading towards order and hope must come, and hard as the task may be, it is the one which lies before our statesmen. How far have they fulfilled it?

It is impossible to deny that they have not done well. We have seen, all through this Session, the spectacle of divided councils. of a Parliament labouring over trivialities, swayed to and fro by considerations of party advantage and personal faction, making one bid or another for popular approval, and following no clear and comprehensible policy. The great affairs of the day have not been helpfully debated—indeed, they have often been almost ignored, while outside the Halls of Westminster decisions have been taken and revoked, and plans hatched and abandoned. Again and again the demand for information and discussion in the House of Commons has been met with disapproval, with evasion, and with delay. Again and again the House, baffled by the old, and now dangerous, tradition that it should not deal with foreign policy, has had to be satisfied with taking its news from the daily Press; and again and again we have seen the spectacle of our legislators busy and concerned over matters of no moment whatever, while our country has been faced with momentous decisions. This sort of procedure is not good for the reputation and prestige of Parliament. It is not good for the stability of democracy; it is not agreeable for Members. If it continues much longer there will be an end of the tradition which has made the career of politics one of the most honoured ones in this country. For who can honour people to whom the name of responsibility is given and yet from whom the fact is withheld? With the swing over of interest and of importance from domestic to foreign affairs, and with the transcendent urgency of the European crisis, the Parliamentary history of this last Session seems almost to have been a farce. Academic discussions have of course, taken place, and questions have been asked and answered; but everyone knows that it is by Downing Street, and not by the Houses of Parliament, that the conduct of the country is now carried on.

The House has now reverted to a position from which it emerged from blood and battle in 1649. It is once more a machine for voting money, with little control over the expenditure, and none over the foreign relations of this realm. The outward trappings of the system are different, and the sovereign power is not vested in the King, but the parallel is worth consideration, for it has a substance of truth within it.

[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.]

THE CHILDREN'S WELFARE ACT IN GERMANY.

By Dr. ALICE SALOMON.

In discussing the possible result of women's suffrage in former times, people used to express the opinion that legislation for the protection of children of the needy classes would be furthered by the entrance of women into the sphere of politics. Such forecasts have certainly come true in Germany. The Children's Welfare Bill, which was passed on 14th June, the day after the annual congress of the German League for the Protection of Childhood held an impressive meeting in Berlin, is a strong confirmation of this opinion. It is certainly due to the influence of the women members of Parliament that, after a preparation and discussion of the Bill during a period of nearly two years, it was unanimously passed; that in spite of the pressing sorrows and overwhelming difficulties of the German nation it braced itself courageously and undertook a new and important piece of social legislation. The Children's Welfare Act regulates the whole system of public assistance, care and protection for children and young people, for the normal child as well as for the delinquent and neglected or defective child. It provides for the establishment of child welfare boards in town and country and for a uniform system of such institutions in all parts of the Republic, so that every child will be certain to receive assistance if necessary.

The leading principle of the Act is expressed in a preamble, which claims educational, physical, mental, and social efficiency for all children. It is considered the supreme right and the highest duty of parents to give efficient education to their children. But in all cases, in which parents cannot or will not provide such education and care, public assistance has to fill the gap and must work with existing private associations for the welfare and the education of such children. All welfare work in the interest of children will in future be subject to these ideals of education. It will not merely be concerned with children's health and with economic assistance, but also with the development of their individual capacities and with their qualifications for social life.

The responsibility of public authorities for the orphans, for the needy, the neglected and defective children, is not a new departure. But till now it was left to the different States in Germany to have their own standards and laws for the protection of children, and the different branches of protection assistance, and care were regulated by manifold laws and decrees, and there was no proper co-operation between the different departments and agencies. Up to the present there has existed neither a complete system nor a uniform organization of children's welfare work. Social workers used to express their opinion regarding these conditions frequently by saying that a child in urgent need of help could not be quickly assisted, since it depended on four separate government departments.

The new Children's Welfare Act does away with these difficulties. It introduces a uniform system of assistance and a complete organization for all branches of public welfare work for children, embracing the protection of the child from the day of its birth until the time when it comes of age. A children's board is to be established under the local government boards in town and country, with the object of carrying out the law, and they are to administer all legal assistance and help for children and young people. These boards are also meant to become the centre of all voluntary agencies, and to bring about a close co-operation between public and private institutions. The local boards of a State will get their directions through a State board, which will also enable them to exchange their experiences and to have certain institutions and homes in common, and the whole system of children's State boards in the different parts of the German Republic will be controlled by a Children's Bureau, which is to work as part of the Home Office.

The administration of these boards will not be confined to officials, but will be entrusted to an executive committee, of which men and women experienced in children's welfare work will be members on the basis of full equality with the officials. It must be considered an important progress in welfare administration and a recognition of the schools for social workers that according to the law only such persons may be appointed as officials who have had a special and adequate training for this children's welfare work.

But the importance of the Act is not limited to the unification

of assistance. It also brings about a material change in public children's welfare work, and widens its sphere and its duties to a very considerable degree. One of the new regulations deals with boarded-out children. The children's board is to licence and to supervise all families in which foster-children up to the age of 14 years are brought up, and the same regulations apply to illegitimate children, even when they are living with their mothers. Only in exceptional cases, when the well-being of the child seems secured, the mother may be exempted from such supervision.

Another very important change transfers the care for orphans and children of needy parents from the poor law administration to the children's board. This board is to provide the children not only with the indispensable food and clothing as was the rule under the poor law, but to give them all help needed for their education and for their professional training. The assistance shall aim at a complete and permanent removal of poverty and want. This means at last a recognition of the fact that an orphan or the child of necessitous parents has just the same wants and depends absolutely in the same way on care and education as any other child, and that it is a wicked injustice to punish the child of circumstances over which it has no control, and for which it is not responsible, by giving it an insufficient education and instruction

It belongs further to the sphere of the children's boards to take over considerable duties regarding the guardianship of children. The board is an official guardian to all illegitimate children, but may transfer this duty to individuals amongst its members or officials. The children's board can also be made guardian to other children. It must advise, assist, and control all guardians within the district.

A new uniform regulation is made regarding compulsory preventive and reformatory education for delinquent and neglected children. In future young people up to the age of 20 may be sent to reformatories. But in all cases the children's board must bring forward the proposition and give their opinion as to the advisability of such action. The department shall also work in connexion with the juvenile courts, and its members shall act as probation officers, reporting regularly to the court.

Besides, the care for the general welfare of children and young people is entrusted to the boards. It is their duty to further, stimulate, or establish institutions and centres for the protection of mothers (pre-natal and after-natal care), for infants, children of school-age, for adolescent children, and young people, and to give advice in all questions relating to children and young people in general.

In this way a responsible body is introduced in the administration dealing with children's welfare work in every respect, and all endeavours for the well-being of the child, public or private agencies, will be brought together for a united effort.

The great question which still remains unsolved is the financial basis of this work. The Reichstag has, however, voted an annual grant of 100 million marks for the next three years to meet the expenses incurred by the new boards. But it is hoped that unification will mean simplification and that a better provision will be possible for the youth of the country without a considerable increase of expenditure. In any case, more will depend upon the spirit in which the nation accepts its new duties. The law can only be carried out if volunteers from all classes come forward, and if they are capable of a true and full interpretation of the ideals which prompted those who drafted the Bill.

A lively interest has been aroused. All prominent leaders of social work have had their share in the preparation of the Bill. The best opportunities were given to build it up on the experience of life and to adapt it to the real and practical needs. The passing of the Bill was hailed by the leading educationalists and social workers, assembled to await the result. They know that new opportunities are given to them to work for reconstruction, to work not only for the physical and material welfare of the younger generation, but for education in its widest aspects, for higher ethics and a new spiritual life, to bring up the children of the nation not only with a view to their individual welfare, but to develop their capacity for fellowship and co-operation.

THE EFFECT OF DIET ON THE NURSING MOTHER.

THE WOMAN'S LEADER.

The inability of many modern women to nurse their babies, owing to deficient secretion, has led to a serious study of the whole question, and one is gratified to know that the researches of a woman scientist, Miss Gladys Hartwell, whose thesis on mammary secretion gained for her the degree of Doctor of Science in the University of London, have led to the establishment of certain highly important conclusions. A recent interview with Miss Hartwell, who is a member of the teaching staff in the physiological department of King's College for Women (Household and Social Science Department), obtained for the writer permission, with the consent of the Dean, to give to the readers of the Woman's Leader some of the results of three years' research work in the experimental laboratories.

The animal chosen as a field for study was the rat, mainly because, being an omnivore, it would readily eat all foods normally taken by man, the psychic effects resulting from forcing an animal to eat unpalatable food being thus avoided; also because it is a small, easily handled creature, with a short gestation and lactation period, and will breed and rear as many as six healthy litters in the course of a year provided it is kept warm. All rats used for these dietetic experiments are normal, healthy animals, and the litters are reduced to six in order to obviate strain on the mother. Special feeding begins directly the litter is born, parent and offspring are weighed daily, and the rate of growth of the litter (gauged by the increase in weight per diem during the lactation period) carefully plotted. All food given is measured and weighed.

A variety of diets have been used with bread as the basal one, to which milk, meat extract, dextrin, caseinogen, meat, etc., have been added; water being given to drink in all cases except the one in which 100 cc. of milk was added to the bread.

The weight curves of the baby rats on these diets showed considerable differences; thus a "bread and milk" baby of ten days will weigh twice as much as a "bread" baby of the same age. When meat extract is added to the basal diet the young rats, though small, are specially active; and the general health and liveliness of the young rats, even when the diet of the mother is deficient and their own weight small, seems to indicate that it is the quantity and not the quality of the milk which is affected by the defective diet of the mother. It has been proved that a rat can rear a healthy litter on a diet deficient in fat and vitamines, the babies being normal in every respect save that of size. On this dietary the mother loses weight throughout the lactation period, indicating that she is able to supply the deficiencies—fats, vitamines, and the scorbutic factor from her own tissues; and the fact that the daily weight gain of the litter lessens towards the end of the lactation period shows that the tissues of the mother are not able entirely to meet the demands

made upon them.

Both carbohydrates and fats appear to be unimportant factors in the milk secretion; but the addition of 100 cc. of milk per diem to the basal diet shows a great difference in the weight gain of the litter, exceeding that of any other diet, pointing to the importance of this food in the diet of the nursing mother.

The addition of meat to the basal diet also showed rapid growth on the part of the litter, though to a less degree than in the bread and milk diet. A diet of lean meat only proved unsuitable; the mother lost weight, and the daily weight gains of the litter was only half that of the former case. The reason for this was probably that the mother was unable to eat a sufficient quantity of food to obtain the necessary amount of energy for good milk secretion—in other words, that the carbohydrates were insufficient for the effective metabolism of the proteins taken.

But the most interesting conclusion of all arose quite incidentally in the course of the experiments. The belief is generally held that the diet of the nursing mother should be rich in proteins, because the young growing animal requires that element. Dr. Hartwell's experiments have led her to the inevitable conclusion that while protein is a necessary element in the diet of the parent, promoting good growth in the young and helping to maintain the health of the mother, its presence beyond a certain limit is directly detrimental to the offspring; and that if large quantities of protein are taken into the body of the nursing mother some other factor or factors must be present in the diet to safeguard the infant. Various forms of protein were employed in the tests, pure caseinogen being

primarily used in various diets; and the results were most striking.

The litters throve for a time, but eventually ceased to gain weight and began to show typical symptoms—marked excitability, inability to crawl normally, dragging one hind leg and rolling over on that side, exterior and contractor spasms. In very bad attacks the young rats would rush round their cage and bite each other, presently sinking into an exhausted stupor. If the mother was killed and examined the mammary glands were found to contain no milk, only a small quantity of a lymph-like substance, which appears to show that excess of protein in the diet first causes the production of abnormal milk and then stops the supply altogether; this although the mother gained noticeably in weight and appeared in the best of health, while all their young died.

Whether excess protein has any relation to the development of fits in a suckling child has yet to be determined; but it seems probable that there is a connection between its proportion in the diet of the nursing mother and metabolic and nervous trouble in

Dr. Hartwell's experiments prove that excess protein in any diet will stop the milk flow; though the secretion can be reestablished by changing the diet to bread and milk—the diet on which the baby rats thrive the best. Further investigations have established the fact that not merely caseinogen, but excess proteins of all kinds have a similar action on the young. The results differ to a certain extent with the various proteins; and it seems, therefore, that certain animo-acids are primarily responsible for the bad effects on the babies. If this is so, a diet of mixed proteins—such as a human being would take—should prove less harmful unless the protein be taken in any excess.

The *immediate* effect of excess protein is to produce a maximal growth curve; and toxicity is not shown until the tenth or eleventh day.

If the feeding is started before the birth of the litter, none of the babies survive; and failure in rearing the young is of much more frequent occurrence when the mother is given excess protein at the birth of the litter than when she is given another diet. If the feeding is started after the birth of the litter, some babies may survive, but these are never normal, and the majority die. Yet the mother-rats are in the best of condition; and it is a startling fact that a diet which is so obviously good for a growing animal (young, weaned rats on an excess protein diet doing as well as those on a normal diet), as well as for fertilization and reproduction, should have such fatal effects upon the offspring during lactation; and experiments made by changing the litters proved still more conclusively that the milk of the rat fed on excess protein contains some toxic substance.

The search for the factor best able to neutralize this toxicity produced some interesting results. 100 cc. whole milk to any excess protein diet entirely obviates the typical symptoms, though the curve of growth of the litter is not maximal. 100 cc. whey from all experiments yet tried gave practically similar results. The addition of calcium lactate and milk ash to an excess protein diet prolongs the life of the litter, but does not remove the spasms. Butter and lactose have no ameliorating effect; but the addition of yeast extract (commercial marmite) prevents the symptoms altogether, except in the case of the protein egg albumen, where they are checked but not entirely removed.

These experiments prove that though large quantities of milk added to the diet of the nursing mother safeguard her from dietetic errors which would injure the child, yet there are other diets which will give equally good results provided the right proportions of the various constituents can be ascertained. This is a point which Dr. Hartwell is at present engaged in working out, together with the question of the proportion of protein constituting danger to the nursling. Her experiments are almost complete, but are not yet ready to present to the We shall all await their appearance with interest, proud that they are the work of a woman scientist in a matter of such vital importance to the nation and of such absorbing interest to thinking women. It is possible that the whole system of feeding of nursing mothers may be revolutionized; and readers of the Woman's Leader will be among the first to congratulate Dr. Hartwell on the success of her long and laborious researches on a question affecting the whole future of the nation.

E. C. DAVIES.

ADVERTISING WORK FOR WOMEN.

Among the various forms of commerical activity which are now opening to the educated woman, advertising work has perhaps received too little consideration. There are few advertising agencies which do not employ women in some capacity—as typists, clerks, secretaries, canvassers, or even as heads of departments—but this innovation is of comparatively recent date and few educated women have so far realized the possibilities of the work. Yet, given the right type of woman, there can be little doubt that the advantages of a good education and wide interests must be valuable assets in a profession where personality counts for much and there is daily contact with clients of every class and occupation

The work of the clerk, typist, or secretary in an advertisement agency—though, of course, possessing its own technique—calls for no special remark here, as it falls into line with other business houses; but it may be of interest to consider advertisement canvassing as a profession for a gentlewoman, indicating briefly its advantages, drawbacks, and prospects.

There is no reason why the advertisement canvasser should consider her work in any way derogatory. It is true that in old days, when pay and conditions were bad, the stamp of persons employed was inferior, canvassers were recruited from a class of men who would not be tolerated to-day in any business office, and canvassing was regarded as the last desperate effort of the failure and incompetent. But with modern methods and the establishment of advertising agencies run by first-class men of business, the whole status of the profession has been raised, and a woman canvasser who represents a sound, wellmanaged firm, can take both pride and pleasure in her work, and will find herself well received and courteously treated by the clients she visits.

Most advertising agencies, in addition to their general work, have the advertising rights of certain periodicals, and it is to keep the advertisement pages of these papers filled issue by issue that canvassers are employed. At present the majority of canvassers are men, and these are generally paid a weekly salary exclusive of any commission, but some men and nearly all women are employed on a commission basis—that is to say, a weekly wage of from £2 to £3, with a percentage on all orders they book and on the renewal of all advertisements which were originally obtained by them so long as they are employed by the agency. It is thus possible to make in commission £10 or more on a single order, but on the other hand for one order which she books the canvasser visits dozens of clients and returns empty-handed. At first the novice may find this depressing, but she soon realizes that these visits are not necessarily wasted. In a large number of cases she may have been unable to interview the principal, but this is remedied on a second or third call; and, in other cases, where the interview seemed fruitless she finds—when on a future occasion she calls on the firm—that the ground has been prepared on her former visit, and the client is willing to discuss the matter, this time perhaps favourably

It is obvious that a woman who has read and thought should find herself at an advantage when called upon to discuss intelligently the various topics which interest her clients. The conversation, though nominally concerning the advantages as an advertising medium of the periodical she represents, yet is apt to branch off on other subjects, and to be able to listen and reply intelligently to details of manufacture or conditions of labour from the business man; philanthropic activities and social conditions from secretaries of hospitals and charitable societies; picture or music talk from the artist; books from the publisher and bookseller; and enthusiastic anecdotes from the animal-, sport-, or garden-lover, not only adds greatly to her chances of booking an order, but also to the interest of her daily round

It should be unnecessary to say that while always trying to create a good impression for her firm, the canvasser's attitude should always be strictly businesslike. She should realize that she goes to put before the client the advantages of her paper, and to offer him something that he needs for the development of his interests—i.e. advertising space—which he has a perfect right to accept or refuse on the terms offered, neither acceptance nor refusal being anything personal to herself. The ideal canvasser therefore cultivates a cheerful optimism, takes all that

comes in the day's work, and finds in a ready sense of humour (without which she has decidedly mistaken her vocation) compensation for the little contretemps and disappointments which inevitably crop up from time to time in this as in all other work.

The question may be asked, is advertisement canvassing more suited for men or women? Physically men may be said to have the advantage in work which necessitates going out in all weathers, travelling far each day by tube and bus, and often involves long walks; but naturally there can be no question that a woman is peculiarly suited for work which requires intuition, tact, and the faculty of putting oneself in the client's place, calling for instinctive judgment as to the best method of approach, and the power of distinguishing between the "No' bsolute and the refusal of the uncertain client who wants his mind made up for him.

At present the salary a woman can command is not commensurate with her powers, but she is undoubtedly proving her worth in the advertising field and the future will lie largely in her own hands. Already many agencies have realized her peculiar gifts for this work, and in some of the most palatial of London advertising offices women may be found as heads of sections through whose hands pass all the advertising business of worldknown manufacturers. These men of business rely on the advice and initiative of these women advertisement directors in placing their advertisements and in the preparation of their and "blocks". As an instance of the valuable work done by such women, it may be mentioned that the woman director of a certain agency has by her management of the advertisements of a large firm of cigarette manufacturers both made their goods world famous and more then quadrupled their sales.

In addition to consulting women employed in agencies as directors, many large firms and publishers employ an advertisement or publicity expert of their own, and in the largest and most up-to-date firms this expert is most often a woman. Even distillers and motor-tyre manufacturers—activities which might have been considered purely masculine-show this preference, and there seems great scope here for women of business acumen and initiative, with the prospect of high salaries, for a good publicity manager can make him- or herself invaluable to a firm. These experts have often begun their advertising experience as canvassers, and as one of their duties is to interview such canvassers as call on their firms they are excellent judges of the arguments laid before them.

The canvasser has another source of income besides the commission she obtains from booking advertisements. It is possible that she may be so fortunate as to be able to persuade a client to place all his advertising in the hands of her firm. Advertising agencies should respect each other's clients, and poaching is to be regarded as a serious breach of the professional etiquette, but the canvasser visits many firms which employ no agent placing their advertisements direct with the Press, and should she convince such a firm of the advantages to be gained by the experience and expert knowledge of the agency by which she is employed, so that the proprietors decide to be guided by that agency in future, she will draw commission (as long as she continues in their employment) on all the money spent in advertisements by the client. As "advertising schemes" often run into £1,000 and more, such an opportunity compensates for many minor disappointments, though, needless to say, it only occurs at rare intervals, while the disappointments occur daily, for there never was a job to which the proverb of the cup and the lip was more applicable.

But the optimist who is always ready to take the rough with the smooth will find much to interest and amuse her as she passes from factory to office and hospital to shop. She spends her life in the open air, not within four dull walls, and every day brings fresh people to talk to, quaint characters to observe, and life at ever-shifting angles. All work tends to be mechanical unless done con amore, and the canvasser, in spite of constant change of scene, needs enthusiasm if she is to make a success of her job —granted that, together with intelligence, perseverance, and above all a sense of humour, she should find, after the first few months, not only that she is beginning to find her work increasingly interesting, but also that her financial position grows from month to month.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

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

Telephone: Museum 6910.

SEPARATION AND MAINTENANCE ORDERS BILL.

August 11, 1922.

The Bill promised by the Government has been introduced to the House, and though one or two points to which the N.U.S.E.C. attaches great importance have been omitted, it is much stronger measure than we had dared to hope.

In the first place a married woman can apply for a Separation and Maintenance Order without previously having left her home. Further, it empowers the Court to grant a warrant for arrest in the case of non-payment of liabilities under the Act, and requires my person under an obligation to make payments to give notice any change of address. It also gives the Court power to direct that the imprisonment for non-payment shall not wipe out arrears of debt, and provides for satisfactory evidence of the mount of wages. This Bill will come up for its second reading arly in the Autumn Session. Though several obvious and quite racticable amendmends suggest themselves, we feel that the act that the Government has introduced a Bill embodying so any of the essential elements of the Bill promoted by the N.U.S.E.C. is a matter for congratulation, and we hope and onfidently expect that it will find a place on the statute book n the autumn

THE SUMMER SCHOOL IN PARLIAMENT.

Readers of this page will be interested to see that on Monday, 31st July, question was asked in the House by Sir H. Brittain, M.P., relating to the summer School for women magistrates. He asked the Attornby-General whether it had been brought to his notice that "a Summer School is to be held at the University of Oxford in one of the Colleges so that some raining in the administration of the law may be given to those women nembers who so desire it; whether he is aware of any similar effort for the benefit of magistrates of the Male Sex.". Sir Ernest Pollock replied that if magistrates of the male sex desire such tuition it is open to them to make similar arrangements. nake similar arrangements.

OUR GENEROUS FRIENDS.

We have to acknowledge with warm thanks the following donations om kind and interested friends of the causes for which we are working, wo gifts call for special mention—45 from Miss Morrison (Glasgow) for the expenses of the Summer School, and £2 2s. from Miss Thompson for ork in connection with the Maintenance and Separation Orders Bill. This gives the total expenses of the Summer Section of ngs the total amount received up to date to £844 10s. 8d.

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CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS.

UNDER SENTENCE OF DEATH.

MADAM,—The signatories and one or two other friends are attempting collect a sum of money to provide for the defence at the Court of Criminal ppeal of Elsie Yeldham, who is now under sentence of death for murder. This prisoner was not defended at her trial; and it appears to us that if proper defence had been made, she would probably not have been returned.

The case is that known as the Epping Forest murder, and the admitted acts are as follows. The prisoner was living with Yeldham, to whom she as subsequently married. She had connexions with a man called rimshaw, and met him, by appointment, at Higham Park. Yeldham ollowed her, and attacked and killed Grimshaw. They then robbed him. The theory of the prosecution is that the matter was arranged between he Yeldhams, and that the woman acted as a decoy. The story of the prisoner is that she kept her relations with Grimshaw secret from Yeldham; that he became jealous and suspicious, and followed her; and that she writed to interfere in the struggle and prevent the murder.

Now, there is no evidence available to prove or disprove either of these ales. The prisoner may be a prostitute, and is a thief; but neither of these are grounds for inflicting the penalty of death. Owing to her poverty and ignorance she was not defended at the trial, though Yeldham himself had the benefit of counsel; but we submit that poverty and bad character d the benefit of counsel; but we submit that poverty and bad character not yet capital offences.

e not yet capital offences. She is a woman of exceptionally low intelligence, and appears par-cularly helpless and unable to take steps to protect herself. We desire, in view of the helplessness of the prisoner and the weakness of the evidence, to ensure that her case shall be put effectively before the ourt of Criminal Appeal, and are therefore asking for subscriptions. We nderstand that between forty and fifty pounds will be sufficient for this surpose. Any subscriptions may be sent to Miss Susan Lawrence, Dilke long, Malet Street, London, W.C. 1 louse, Malet Street, London, W.C. 1

SUSAN LAWRENCE. MADELEINE J. SYMONS.

CONFERENCE OF MEDICAL WOMEN.

An International Conference of Medical Women has been arranged take place at Geneva during the first week of September. This is he second occasion on which medical women from various parts of the orld have met together, the first being in New York in 1919. The

authorities of the University at Geneva have very kindly granted accommodation for the meetings of the Conference, and many medical discussions will take place, and subjects of international medical importance where the opinions of medical women of the world should prove of value will be considered. The members of the Conference will also be invited to place the constitution of the International Medical Women's Association on a permanent basis. The proceedings will begin with an incurrent beauty to a the Conference will be a proceeding the constitution of the International Medical Women's Association on a permanent basis. The proceedings gin with an inaugural banquet on 4th September, and will extend or four or five days.

COMING EVENTS

LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION.

Newcastle. Durt Hall, Northumberland Road. 3 p.m. Speaker: Clifton

AUGUST 12. Newcaste. Park France, Robbins, Esq.
AUGUST 13. Paignton. Speaker: Rev. Canon Bickersteth Ottley, M.A.
Clapham. Lavender Hill Congregational Church. 3.45 p.m. Speaker: E. Everitt Reid, Esq.

ST 19-SEPT. 2. Summer School, St. Hilda's College, Oxford.

MRS. HOSTER'S SECRETARIAL TRAINING COLLEGE,

29 Grosvenor Place, S.W.1.

This well-known Training offers an excellent opportunity to well-educated girls who, on leaving school or college, wish to prepare themselves for a professional career.

Pupils can start at any time provided there is a vacantry.

Part of the Course can be taken by correspondence.

References: The Countess of Mayo; The Countess (Dowager) of Desart; The Viscountess to Cyres; The Lady Pirrie; Claude Montefiore, Esq.; Messrs. Wainwright, Pollock and Co., Solicitors; Messrs. Lewis & Vglesias, and many others.

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

TO ORDER. TWEED and SERGE COSTUMES

Ladies' Tailor. 16. Melissen,

SMART CUT AND PERFECT TAILORING.

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MR. CHODWICK BROWN, Surgeon Dentist. FREDK. G. BOUCHER, Asst. Dental Surgeon. Estd. 35 Years.

Gas Administered Daily by Qualified Medical Man, Nurse in attendance. Mechanical Work in all its Branches. Send Post Card for Pamphlet. N.B.—No show case at door.

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THE MISSES NEAL and TUCKER undertake every description of Typewriting and Secretarial work; reporting meetings, etc.; first-class training for ladies as Secretaries. Tuition in Journalism. — Walter House, 52 Bedford Street, Strand, W.C. 2. (Gerrard 1472).

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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 I mile. Board residence 47s. 6d. to 63s. Prospectus.—Hallam, Littledean House, Littledean, Glos.

WENSLEYDALE. — Comfortable Board-residence near moors; outside sanitation; 550 ft. above sea-level.— Miss Smith, Low Green House, Thoralby, Aysgarth S.O.

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

WHERE TO LIVE.

ROOMS and breakfast (Gentlewoman only); temporary or permanent; gas stoves.—Miss Kemp, ro Endsleigh Street, W.C. 1.

15 TREBOVIR ROAD.—Attractive Residential Club for 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.

COMFORTABLE Home for ladies engaged during day. 4 or 5 only received; S.W. district; gas fires and rings in all rooms and every convenience.—Box 929, Woman's Leader, 62 Oxford Street, W.T.

TO LET AND WANTED.

ACCESSIBLE Marble Arch, FOUR UNFURNISHED ROOMS wanted, by two ladies; rent moderate.—Writes E. Fuller, 99 New Bond Street, W. r.

TO LET, furnished or unfurnished, Modern SIX-ROOMED VILLA, Welwyn; rent two or four guineas; Garden City.—Sault, 46 Brockswood Lane, Welwyn Garden City.

HOUSING, GARDENING, Etc.

GARDENING FOR WOMEN at Ileden College, Kingstone, near Canterbury. 300 ft. up. Practical comprehensive training, individual consideration. Gardening year begins mid-September.—For illustrated prospectus apply Secretary.

TO GENTLEWOMEN.—Courses in practical Gardening, Dairywork, and Poultry Management under expert teachers; beautiful old manor house and grounds in North Devon; present vacancies.—Apply, Principal, Lee House, Marwood, Barnstaple.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

COSTUME, brown velour cloth; never worn; cost £10; sell £7; suit tall figure.—Box 928, Woman's Leader, 62 Oxford Street, W. r.

HOME-MADE CHOCOLATES and SWEETS; Tearooms, Bazaars, etc., supplied at wholesale prices; lessons given; price list sent on application.—Write Miss Martin, 93 Chelsea Gardens, S.W. 1.

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

MEN'S SOCKS.—Special lot; 600 pairs of men's Irish-knit ribbed socks, all wool, heather and grey mixtures, rs. 6d, per pair, or six pairs for 8s. 9d. To-day's value, 2s. 3d. per pair; write for monthly bargain list to-day.—Hutton's, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ireland.

PROFESSIONAL.

SECRETARIAL TRAINING combined with practical office work; fees according to subjects taken.—Miss Trotman, 36 Victoria Street, S.W. 1.

"MORE MONEY TO SPEND" (Income Tax Recovery and Adjustment).—Send postcard for particulars and scale of charges to the Women Taxpayers' Agency, Hampden House, \$4 Kingsway, W.C.2. Phone, Central 6049.

DRESS.

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

LACE.—All kinds, mended, * transferred, and cleaned; embroidery undertaken; many testimonials.—Beatrice, Box 1000, WOMAN'S LEADER, 62 Oxford Street, W. 1.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

A NEW CAMPAIGN urgently needed to proclaim the strong social, as well as moral reasons for self-control and good citizenship.—Apply for particulars to the Secretary, Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, 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.),

THE GREEN CROSS CLUB FOR BUSINESS GIRLS, THE GREEN CROSS CHOP FOR BOSTAGES, THE GREEN CROSS CHOP STATES CHARLES, Expecious accommodation for resident and non-resident members; large dining, common, library, and smoking-rooms excellent meals at moderate prices; hockey, gymnastic classes, dancing, tennis, etc.; annual subscription £1.

THE FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Eccleston Guild House, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1; Sunday, 13th August, 7 p.m A. Maude Royden. "The Poetry in Christ's Teaching."

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY, 55 Berners Street, London, W. I. Telephone, Museum 4181. Minimum subscription, 18.; Organ; "Catholic Citizen,"

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

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE, 55 GOWER STREET. Membership open to men and women; light luncheons, teas, and suppers 12-7-45; Foreign and English journals; lectures and debates on international subjects; pleasant

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 58 Victoria Street, S.W. 1.—Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Information Department for advice about Women's Work and Training, by letter or interview.

EDUCATIONAL.

KING'S COLLEGE (UNIVERSITY OF LONDON).—
COURSES IN THEOLOGY FOR WOMEN. Women are prepared for the following examinations:—B.D. London, the Lambeth Diploma in Theology, the University of London Certificate in Religious Knowledge. Day and evening classes are arranged. A special reduction in fees is made to Church workers. The lectures are open to members of all denominations. For particulars as to fees and courses, application should be made to the Tutor to Women Theological Students, Miss Evelyn Hippisley, S.Th., King's College, Strand, W.C. 2. Next term begins on 4th October.—S. T. Shovelton, M.A.,

PUBLIC SPEAKING.

MISS DAVIES WEBSTER'S Elocution and Voice Production Lessons for the speaking voice. Also coaching for Theatricals, Public Speaking, etc. The names of those wishing to join a Rehearsal Class, including appearance in anateur theatricals at the end of the term beginning in September, to be entered before 17th August.—Address, which please keep, 24 Russell Road, Kensington, W. 14.

POSTS VACANT OR WANTED.

WANTED, for Ireland, a LADY (Protestant), experienced, to do work of bungalow; three in family; lady nurse kept,—Write, Miss Richford, 37 Vincent Square, S.W. 1.

HOMEWORK.—Good money earning information, including sweet making, successful jam making secrets, etc. Valuable instruction; booklet posted, 1s. 6d.—Industry, 50w Morecambe Street, London, S. E. 17.

E DUCATED WOMAN needs light work: caretaking, etc., or would act as children's maid or companion help in return for passage to U.S.A. Good references.—Box 930, Woman's LEADER, 65 Oxford Street, W. 1:

PREPAID CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS 1d. a WORD, 6d. EXTRA FOR BOX NUMBER.