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Nationality of Married Women Pass the Bill Committee

(Formed by the National Council of Women)

Chairman:
MRS. HARTREE,
21 Bentley Road,
Cambridge.

Hon. Secretary:
MRS. ISABEL DONZE,
Christmas Mill,
Edenbridge, Kent.

EIGHT REASONS

WHY YOU SHOULD SUPPORT THE **BRITISH NATIONALITY AND STATUS OF ALIENS (AMENDMENT) BILL** (introduced in 1938 by Lord Alness, P.C., K.C.) WHICH

Restores to British women a right taken from them in 1870, and

Provides that a British woman marrying an alien shall no longer automatically lose her nationality; that an alien marrying a British subject shall not have his nationality conferred upon her unless she so desire; and that a married woman shall be regarded as an individual, competent to claim and be admitted to British nationality in her own right.

1. BECAUSE it is a measure of justice.
2. BECAUSE to possess nationality is a fundamental political right.
3. BECAUSE no woman should be penalised on account of marriage.
4. BECAUSE women should not lose their separate identity on marriage.
5. BECAUSE the present law weakens the conception of allegiance by easy grant or denial to women of nationality.
6. BECAUSE women are human beings and should be denied no human rights.
7. BECAUSE the present law treats women as chattels, whose consent is unnecessary when allocating them citizenship.
8. BECAUSE loss of nationality involves loss of political rights, including the parliamentary and municipal vote, her freedom of movement within her own country, her country's protection when abroad, and frequently causes passport and other travelling difficulties.

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EIGHT WAYS

IN WHICH YOU CAN HELP THIS BILL TO BECOME LAW

1. Write to or interview your M.P., and ask him to support it.
2. At every meeting you attend, ask the Chairman to submit a resolution in favour of the Bill. A suggested form is printed below.
3. See that a copy of this resolution is sent to your M.P. and the Prime Minister, and also published in the local Press.
4. Send a donation to the Pass the Bill Committee, at 21 Bentley Road, Cambridge, and/or collect contributions, however small, from among your friends.
5. Set up a "Pass the Bill" Committee in your town or district to organize support.
6. Ask any society with which you may be connected if you may send a speaker to one of their meetings to explain the Bill.
7. Send a letter to the local Press setting forth the case for the Bill, and interview the Editor of your local paper, and enlist his sympathy and support.
8. Organize a Garden or Drawing-room Sale, American Tea, Competition or other similar money-making effort to raise funds for the campaign.

The need for funds and workers is urgent

RESOLUTION

The Nationality of Married Women Committee calls the attention of His Majesty's Government to the extreme importance, particularly in view of the international situation, of restoring to British women their former equal and independent nationality rights, and urges the Government to adopt and pass with the utmost speed the Bill introduced in the House of Lords in July, 1938, by Lord Alness, which provides :—

- (a) that, unless they desire otherwise, British women married to aliens shall re-acquire their British nationality, and that British women who in future marry aliens shall retain their British nationality;
- (b) that an alien woman who marries a British man shall be required to satisfy the same conditions as to residence, oath of allegiance, etc., as are required for an alien man or a single woman.

Published by the
Nationality of Married Women Pass the Bill Committee

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