

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

AND THE COMMON CAUSE

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
EQUAL PAY IN THE CIVIL SERVICE	179
NOTES FROM WESTMINSTER. By Our Lobby Correspondent	179
AFTER THE BERLIN CONGRESS	180
REVIEWS—	
Pioneer Work of an Indian Feminist. By A. R. Caton	181
Mrs. Gaskell Justified. By M. D. S.	181
LITTER AND REFUSE. By Bertha Mason	182
THE TEACHING OF PARENTCRAFT TO BOYS AND GIRLS	182

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NOTES AND NEWS.

The New Parliament.

The general tone of the House of Commons during the last week has been decidedly sober. We have seen in the debates on the Address the new Ministers pressed as regards their intentions, and on the whole returning cautious and very moderate answers. This is partly due, of course, to the very short time that has elapsed since they took office, and partly to the inevitable cold douche to aspirations and intentions which the facts of office present. But the disappointment such as that felt at present with regard to the lukewarm manner in which the Government appears to be tackling the raising of the school age, will be widespread if the present Government fails to overcome the worst of the difficulties it is up against. It was interesting to find a Conservative opponent twitting a Labour Minister on the moderation and orthodoxy of his proposals relating to unemployment. We welcome, however, Mr. Thomas's intentions to facilitate the starting of new industries in depressed areas, and to restore the wider functioning of the St. Davids Committee. It was reassuring also to know that Mr. Henderson intends to proceed with negotiations with the Dominions with regard to signing the Optional Clause as soon as possible.

Women Delegates to the League of Nations.

Mr. Henderson's announcement of the British delegates to the forthcoming meeting of the Assembly of the League of Nations aroused some controversy in the House of Commons on account of the delegation being all members of the Labour Party with the exception of Viscount Cecil. No comment was passed on the fact that the new Government has for the first time included two women as delegates. The inclusion of two such able women as Mrs. H. M. Swanwick (a former substitute delegate to the League of Nations) and Mrs. Mary Hamilton, M.P., will be welcomed by all who believe that the world will be better by the presence of women in public councils, and by all who have an ideal of world peace deeply at heart. We congratulate the Prime Minister on his choice.

Maternal Morbidity.

Concerning one aspect of the fifth English-speaking Conference on Maternity and Child Welfare, held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of last week in the Friends' House, Euston Road, a correspondent writes: "On Wednesday the subject was 'Maternal Morbidity,' and the efforts of enthusiasts in former years were rewarded by the prominence given to the danger of the present sale and advertisement of abortifacient drugs. Among the official speakers were Professor Louise McIlroy, Dame Janet Campbell, Surgeon Boggess (representing the U.S.A.

Government), Dr. Comyns Berkeley, and Miss Musson. Many others took part in the discussion. It was significant that no less than three consecutive and independent speakers appealed for the giving of contraceptive information to married women in Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, and for the suppression of commercialized advice, and their appeal was received with enthusiasm. Only one speaker expressed disapproval, advancing as his main reason the fact that 'the subject was distasteful to him,' and making the usual disingenuous attempt to confuse abortion with contraception. A speaker who introduced the subject of the neglect of miscarriages and consequent imperfect training of medical students, owing to the refusal of hospitals to attend them even in the case of booked patients, was ruled out of order by the chairman on the ground that her remarks were not relevant to 'maternity nursing.' But in her final summing up, Dame Janet Campbell expressed the opinion that the nursing of miscarriages was of great importance. It is to be hoped that this question may receive more attention. At the reception which followed at Mrs. Neville Chamberlain's house, a speaker who had advanced the claim of working mothers to birth control information at Welfare Centres was impressed by the perpetual stream of people who expressed gratification that the matter had been brought forward. It served as proof that the poorer woman's right to knowledge is now very generally realized, except by those who, like the afore-mentioned speaker, 'find the whole subject distasteful.' It is possible that such persons, finding the subject distasteful, refrain from mastering it. It was, by the way, surely a piece of inadvertence which caused Dr. Comyns Berkeley to make the startling statement that 'the majority of women who have babies are on the panel.' It recalls the late Lord Chancellor's assertion that 'everybody at least has a panel doctor' and suggests a very widespread misapprehension concerning the effective scope of the National Health Insurance Act."

The Minister of Health and Maternity.

The closing day's programme was devoted to Venereal Disease Clinics and to the very urgent question of preventable delay in out-patient departments. It was, however, the occasion of a general address by Mr. Arthur Greenwood, Minister of Health and President of the Conference. He laid special stress on the importance of ante-natal care, and though unable at so early a stage to announce the definite terms of a programme, protested his firm intention to pursue a policy of stimulus and development. We sincerely hope that the definite terms of such a programme may speedily emerge. The Government is already committed to an extension of medical maternity benefits to the wives of insured persons, and we hope that it may be possible to secure a retention of some form of percentage grant for the encouragement of local maternity and child welfare services. As regards the question of out-patient departments, introduced by Sir Arthur Stanley, we feel somewhat encouraged by the remarks of Mr. A. H. Leaney, of the Birmingham General Hospital, who pointed out that although a system of appointments for out-patients was said to be impossible in this country, it was working with success in other countries where a similar degree of impossibility had been prophesied. The present evil of hour-long and day-long waiting by busy and distracted mothers is an evil very well known to social workers, and one which is in part responsible for the non-treatment of small defects. It is still widely assumed that the working mother is an "unoccupied" member of society whose time, since her labours are unremunerated and unregulated, is valueless.

A Third International

There is much to be said for a concentration of international activities, since those who have travelled long distances for the performances of one function are easily tempted to use the

occasion for the performance of another. For this reason the British Open Door Council used last month's meeting of the International Alliance for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship in Berlin for the discussion, on an international basis, of its own programme of economic sex equality. The outcome of its activities was a new feminist international organization under the presidency of Miss Chrystal Macmillan, and having for its object the following formula: "To secure that a woman shall be free to work and protected as a worker on the same terms as a man, and that legislation and regulations dealing with conditions and hours, payment, entry and training shall be based upon the nature of the work and not upon the sex of the worker; and to secure for a woman, irrespective of marriage or childbirth, the right at all times to decide whether or not she shall engage in paid work, and to ensure that no legislation or regulations shall deprive her of this right." A board of officers was duly elected, comprising among the representatives of eight countries, two members of the Board of the International Alliance for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship—Fröken Walin, of Sweden, and Mme Plaminkova, of Czecho-Slovakia. Its private deliberations were diversified by a crowded public meeting, which provoked a counter meeting organized by the German Social Democratic Party in defence of labour legislation for the protection of wage-earning women.

—and its Relation to the Second.

The composition of the Board of this new international, its feminist aims, and its place and time of meeting, raise the problem of its relation to the twenty-five years' old International Alliance for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship. That problem was not infrequently raised, during the deliberations of the two bodies, by the German Press as well as by the socialist and trade union organizations of Berlin which seemed disposed on occasions to visualize the entire concentration of feminist forces as an attack by middle-class women on the hard-won legislative standards of their working-class sisters. Indeed, certain socialist handbills which circulated freely in Berlin appeared to have reached an almost hysterical pitch of angry apprehension on this point. In actual fact, though it was not always easy to explain, the two international feminist bodies had no official connection whatever; the newly formed organization having a clear theoretical justification in the failure of the older International Alliance to commit itself to a whole-hearted policy of opposition to all forms of differential labour legislation. At home, in Great Britain, the distance which separates the aims of the Open Door Council from those of the older feminist organization, the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, may be measured by the breadth of a split hair. In the international field the situation is entirely different. The Third International fills a gap in international feminist policy which the Second International has, temporarily perhaps, left unfilled. Its members leave Berlin with minds made up, barred and bolted, whereas those of the older body leave it with a suspended judgment. They may be wrong, in their world-wide condemnation of a type of legislation which produces varying effects in varying forms and at varying stages of national economic evolution. They may even have been somewhat inconsiderate in their selection of an occasion likely to provoke confusion of thought. But their position is a logical one, and for those who take the trouble to inquire into the matter, a comprehensible one.

Looking Back on Berlin.

One of the permanent memories that must remain with every delegate to the International Congress in Berlin is that of the wonderful hospitality both public and private which was bestowed on us by our German hosts. There were lunches and teas and suppers on the most lavish and generous scale; we were fêted by Cabinet Ministers galore; we were entertained by the Lord Mayor to a magnificent lunch at the Town Hall; there were parties every day just arranged at hours when delegates would be free from work. Then on the day following the end of the Congress there was a delightful reception by the German Feminist Societies held in the Board of Trade. There was not a delegate there who did not echo Mrs. Corbett Ashby's words in her farewell speech of thanks: "In return, I have given you my heart, what more can I do?" Even after the Congress, the activities of the German women on behalf of the foreign delegates were not at an end, and three most interesting tours were organized to different parts of Germany. An account of two of these trips appears elsewhere in this issue.

Employment of Women Telephonists.

All subscribers to the telephone service cannot fail to be interested in the proposal of the Postmaster-General to employ women telephonists up to 10.30 or 11 o'clock both in London and the provinces, instead of to 8 o'clock only. This proposal is made as a means of improving the evening telephone service, "which is at present the subject of a disproportionate number of complaints." The part-time male telephonists who now take that turn of duty will either be reduced in number or entirely superseded. In a letter addressed to the Union of Post Office Workers, the Postmaster-General says that he feels that "social conditions as they affect the employment of women have so changed in recent years that the matter should be approached from a fresh standpoint. The social objections to the suggested course have lost much of their weight, while the experience gained in the Post Office and elsewhere during the war does not suggest that there would be any objection to the proposal from a medical point of view." Meantime the Union's organizer of telephonists, Miss Howse, has announced that the Union would not favour the introduction of a class of women part-time night telephonists, and that it "will not agree to discuss the principle of extending the hours during which women are to be employed until the Department's intentions on the questions of pay, hours of attendance, and prospects of promotion of the present full-time day and night staffs are known."

National Baby Week

Following on National Baby Week, we are glad to publish this week an article on "The Teaching of Parentcraft to Boys and Girls," the subject which is really at the centre of any schemes for infant welfare. This is the thirteenth anniversary of National Baby Week, and since its inception the scheme has grown yearly in importance. Her Majesty the Queen, as Patron, has addressed a letter to the Council expressing her great appreciation of "the valuable work which is being carried out on behalf of the motherhood and child life of the nation." The Council has selected three important aspects of maternity and child welfare for special study and propaganda during the coming year. These are, firstly, practical measures to combat maternal mortality and disability; secondly, what local authorities and parents can do to lessen the dangers of infectious diseases amongst young children; and thirdly, the subject dealt with in our article, namely the importance of the teaching of parentcraft and hygiene to school children.

The Jubilee of Somerville.

Only a few years ago women were struggling for educational rights and now Somerville College, Oxford, is celebrating the Golden Jubilee of its foundation. Some 500 old students of the College were present at the celebration dinner last Saturday. Professor Gilbert Murray proposed the toast of "The University," and the Vice-Chancellor, after replying, proposed that of "The College." Miss M. M. Thompson, one of the original students who came up to the college fifty years ago, and Miss Eleanor Rathbone, M.P., replied to the toast. Dame Emily Penrose, the former Principal, presented the College with a cheque on behalf of the old students, and Miss Fry, the present Principal, after referring to the memory of the founders and benefactors of the College, announced that elections have been made to four Honorary Fellowships at Somerville. Those who have been elected are Miss A. M. Bruce, Miss J. M. Kirkaldy, Miss Kate Norgate, and Miss Eleanor Rathbone, M.P.

QUESTIONS IN PARLIAMENT.

CIVIL SERVICE (ROYAL COMMISSION).

Sir A. Pownall asked the Prime Minister whether it is the intention of the Government to set up a Royal Commission to inquire into the Civil Service; and, if so, whether the question of the retention of married women in the service will be included in the terms of reference.

The Prime Minister (Mr. J. Ramsay MacDonald): The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. With regard to the second part, an announcement will be made in due course as to the composition and terms of reference of the Royal Commission. It may, however, be taken as certain that the reference will be so framed as to bring all matters of general importance affecting the Civil Service within the scope of the inquiry.

EQUAL PAY IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.

Last week we expressed regret that the King's Speech contained no reference to the appointment of an inquiry into conditions in the Civil Service, in view of the late Prime Minister's promise of a Royal Commission which should deal, among other Civil Service matters, with the question of equal pay and equal opportunities as between men and women. It is of course very doubtful whether a Royal Commission is the most suitable form for such an inquiry to take as far as this particular matter is concerned. The facts regarding the present position of women in the Civil Service are very well known and very easily ascertainable. All the more so now that the Federation of Women Civil Servants has marshalled them in a brief and extraordinarily lucid manifesto, issued from their office at 35 Marsham Street, S.W. 1, and entitled *Equal Pay*. Their own plea is for a Select Committee to investigate and report on the best means and estimated cost of giving effect to a principle which has already been conceded. As far back as 1914 a Royal Commission on the Civil Service recommended that "in so far as the character and conditions of the work performed by women in the Civil Service approximate to identity with the character and identity of the work performed by men, the pay of women should approximate to equality with that of men." It went on to recommend that the Treasury "should institute a general inquiry with the object of removing inequalities of salary not based on differences in the efficiency of service." It would seem, therefore, that there is some force in the contention that another Royal Commission—whatever new general problems of Civil Service recruitment, status, and classification the last fifteen eventful years may have opened up—has little to contribute to the elucidation of the problem of equal pay and equal opportunity.

The facts of the matter, at any rate, are perfectly clear. In the Treasury Classes, under present regulations, the following rates of salary prevail: In the Administrative Class, men and women start on a basic salary of £200, but from then onwards a divergence occurs, which in the higher ranks leaves men with £1,200 and women with £1,000 a year. In the Executive Class a basic salary of £100 ends in a divergence of £700 for men and £550 for women. In the Clerical Class a basic salary of £80 ends in a divergence of £500 and £400 respectively. The Federation of Women Civil Servants calls attention to the anomalies this situation may produce when the salary of a lower ranked man may touch or even exceed that of a higher ranked woman. As a case in point they quote the example of a recently promoted woman Higher Executive Officer who found on taking up her duties that she had, working under her, a male Higher Clerical

Officer receiving £400 and a male Executive Officer receiving £375. Her own salary was £300. Added to these financial anomalies there is in addition the intolerable discriminatory interference with the domestic affairs of women Civil Servants embodied in the rule of compulsory retirement on marriage.

So much for the facts of the case. Our readers may recall that they were so far recognized in May, 1920, as to precipitate a resolution of the House of Commons calling in unequivocal terms for equal pay and equal opportunity as between men and women in the Civil Service. This resolution was prevented from translation into immediate practical reform by the onset of industrial depression and financial stringency. In the following year, however, the House of Commons passed a further resolution calling for a reopening of the matter within a period not exceeding three years. That was in 1921. Not three, but eight years have passed, and with them the worst phase of financial stringency. Yet the position of women in the Civil Service remains as we have described it.

It is our own frequently declared view that an essential logical condition of equal pay as between men and women is the frank recognition that the valuation of a man's or woman's work in a competitive labour market should be uncomplicated by the irrelevant fact of family dependency. The Federation of Women Civil Servants point out with unimpeachable truth that any justification on the ground of family need of a higher rate for men breaks down on the incontestable fact that it allows the bachelor to draw surplus pay for a non-existent family while the woman burdened with dependents, as many women are, is required to finance her needs on a salary adjusted to individual need. But the equally incontestable fact remains that most men and some women are obliged to finance families during some portion of their working lives, and that financial resources must be made available for the job. It is to meet all these incontestable facts, and at the same time to torpedo the popular justification for paying all men at a higher rate than all women, that we are inspired to couple our advocacy of equal pay with the advocacy of family allowances. And in the case of the Civil Service such advocacy gains point from the fact that family allowances are widely prevalent in the Civil Services of Continental countries as well as in the Commonwealth of Australia. Here at any rate is a matter which calls for detailed exploration by any Select Committee, or, for that matter, any Royal Commission that may tackle the problem of equal pay in the Civil Service. And we sincerely hope that it may be tackled soon and tackled decisively.

NOTES FROM WESTMINSTER.

By Our Lobby Correspondent.

Last week was given up to a general debate on the Address and the first two days of this week to a Safeguarding Amendment. Wednesday will begin with a Liberal amendment on the Scottish Local Government Act. There are other amendments which will only be dealt with "if time allows," and it is probably not intended that time shall allow. They include an amendment by the members of the Independent Labour Party on the lines of "Socialism in our time," including children's allowances and nationalization generally, an amendment by members of the Liberal Party regretting that the Government proposals include no scheme for educational improvement, and one backed by Dr. Spero and Miss Eleanor Rathbone asking for an early fulfilment of the Government's pledge to extend the school leaving age to 15 and to grant maintenance allowances during the additional year.

There is disappointment in many quarters at the vagueness of the Government's references both to school-leaving age and to Housing. The former subject is to be referred to a Committee, which is apparently to consider also proposals for more effectively removing workers over 65 from industry. This seems a curious combination. The raising of the school age should surely be considered primarily as an educational question turning on considerations of school curriculum and buildings and staff, only secondarily as a means of relieving the labour market of children of 14 to 15. The question of the older men and women raises quite a different issue and concerns another department. Mr. Churchill remarked ironically that the question of school age was "a very fit matter for a committee." It remains to be seen whether the Committee is indeed intended, as he implied, as merely a device for marking time or whether it means business.

No doubt it will mean business if the Minister for Education (Sir Charles Trevelyan) has the deciding voice. But the Chancellor of the Exchequer's well-known dislike for maintenance allowances, combined with his desire for economy, may prove formidable impediments. Housing, the Government can scarcely long postpone dealing with, and the difficulties of slum clearance are a reasonable excuse for caution in their earliest pronouncements.

There has been some excellent speaking on the Address. Those of us who have hitherto had more opportunities for reading Parliamentary speeches than for hearing them must be struck by the different effect produced by the two vehicles. Some of the speeches which were most impressive when heard seemed commonplace when read, and vice versa. Much depends on whether the speaker himself is so much at ease and so deeply impressed with the importance of what he is saying that he imposes the same conviction on his audience. One is reminded of the advice I once heard given to a débutante before her first ball, "to hold herself fifty per cent above her looks." It is good advice, but only if skilfully carried out.

A speech which stood well the test both of hearing and reading was that of Mr. Winston Churchill. Even those who usually disagree with the late Chancellor of the Exchequer and dread his influence on political thought could not but admire his happy knack of hitting off the predicaments and qualities of his opponents.

For example, even his victims manifestly enjoyed the passage about—

"a band of notable converts from the Liberal Party, of whom the most distinguished are the Secretary of State for India,

the Attorney-General, and the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. I ask myself, are they converts or are they missionaries? The life of a missionary is one of hazard; he leaves his home and his friends and goes out to dwell among the heathen, living their lives, adopting their customs, sharing their victuals, and hoping that by precept and example he may gradually raise them to a higher outlook of existence and destiny. Certainly, his life must be very exciting, because he is dependent upon the caprice or temper of the natives or their chief. Witness, for example, the sad fate of the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Newcastle-under-Lyme (Colonel Wedgwood), who, after being indulged in a fleeting share of tribal festivities, has now been unceremoniously put into the pot."

And so forth. There was a note of real admiration in his reference to Mr. Lloyd George as one who—

"has never cared two rows of buttons about orthodoxy. When he wants to do a thing, be it fiscally or financially heterodox, he starts out and tries to do it."

This is a true description of one of Mr. Lloyd George's most alluring and alarming characteristics, a characteristic which has alternately led the country into and out of very tight places. But as regards its particular application to the unemployment policy which Mr. Churchill was discussing, it seems at least questionable whether Mr. Maynard Keynes and Mr. Henderson, who have so warmly endorsed their Party's policy, are not as competent to determine the lines of economic orthodoxy as those nameless Treasury experts who have been so frequently cited on the other side.

Another speech which the House thoroughly enjoyed was that of Mr. T. Shaw from the Government benches. This was partly because he so obviously enjoyed it himself, contriving somehow to turn the tables on those who would treat the Ministerialists as blundering amateurs, striving to overcome their deficiencies of education and experience, and to make the House feel with him that where industry was concerned, the ignorant amateurs were the correctly tailored gentlemen on the opposite benches.

CROSSBENCH.

LADIES OF THE AIR.

While solemn debates have been in progress at Blackburn concerning the suitability of allowing women to participate in the game of bowls, in a more active and exacting form of sport they have been holding their own with credit and endurance. Of the three women who entered for the King's Cup air race round Great Britain, all were among the twenty-two of the forty-one competitors who finished the course, Miss W. E. Spooner securing fifth place. We congratulate her on a fine piece of work, the more so as it was by all accounts a "gruelling race" carried through under peculiarly difficult weather conditions.

The National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship.

A LUNCHEON

in honour of

WOMEN MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

is to be held at the Holborn Restaurant on
THURSDAY, 18th July, at 1 p.m.

Chair:

MRS. CORBETT ASHBY

Speakers:

THE RT. HON. MARGARET BONDFIELD, M.P.
THE VISCOUNTESS ASTOR, M.P. (engagements permitting).
MISS MEGAN LLOYD GEORGE, M.P.
MISS ELEANOR RATHBONE, M.P.

Those wishing for tickets (price 6s.) should apply as soon as possible to the Secretary, 15 Dean's Yard, S.W. 1. Seats are being allocated in strict order of application.

AFTER THE BERLIN CONGRESS.

The Congress activities were brought to an end by a delightful farewell meeting in the premises of the German Board of Trade organized by the Union of Women's Societies in Berlin. But that was not all. The women's organizations in the provinces had arranged tours in various parts of Germany and were ready to give hospitality to their visitors.

IN BRUNSWICK.

Two of the British delegates took advantage of the invitation to Brunswick, one of the oldest towns in Germany. On their arrival the party was taken to the Cathedral where lies buried the English princess, Mathilda, daughter of Henry II, and also Queen Caroline, wife of George IV. After listening to a recital on the famous organ the visitors were received by the Mayor of Brunswick and by Frau von Praun, member of the Brunswick Parliament, and entertained by a series of lantern views of the wonderfully beautiful town, a lecture on its social life and a recital of folk songs.

Then next day they were taken through mediaeval Brunswick and also had an opportunity of personal contact with some of its poorest families who are truly in a pitiable condition. Many formerly well-to-do gentlewomen have lost almost their all through the war and are eking out a living as best they can by knitting, teaching or making small articles for sale. Wolfenbüttel, the birthplace of the poet Lessing, was visited in the afternoon and again the visitors were received by the Mayor and by representatives of the Women's Societies. They were taken over the valuable Library and in the evening attended a performance of "Nathan the Wise" by Lessing. After a visit to two factories in Brunswick the following day the party went to Hartzburg and Goslar, another very old town. At Hartzburg they were again given a warm reception and tea by the Women's Societies, and after a walk in the Forest spent a delightful evening with the President, Frau Wernicke.

All who took part in this tour very gratefully appreciated the opportunity of contact with the Women's Societies in the towns of Brunswick, of understanding their conditions and of realizing the suffering which is the legacy of war.

M. B.

IN SAXONY.

The Dresden Society also entertained a party of delegates for four days after the close of the Congress, and certainly the visit made a great impression on those who were fortunate enough to go. In Berlin delegates were so busy with the actual work of the Congress that it was not possible for them to take advantage of the many opportunities for viewing the social work of the city which had been arranged. Here in Dresden the Women's Society had arranged a very full programme of both instruction and entertainment.

Frau Krantz, the charming President of the Society, gave up the four days completely to her task as hostess, and was nobly assisted by a number of other interesting women, especially versed either in social work or in knowledge of art, according to the programme of the day. In addition to visiting the beautiful art gallery, and the china factory where we were shown all the processes of the famous Dresden china, we obtained a very valuable insight into the social work of this beautiful old city. Infant welfare centres, open-air schools, homes for the aged, and a very up-to-date employment exchange were among the institutions visited. At one welfare centre we were introduced to a policewoman in a very serviceable uniform. These more serious visits were interspersed by a steamer trip down the Elbe, an excursion by motor to enjoy the beautiful scenery of Saxon Switzerland, and an evening at the opera.

The Lord Mayor of Dresden gave a special reception for us at the Town Hall with a few interesting speeches and some very beautiful music. Then on the last evening there was a reception by the Dresden Women's Society in the Belvedere Hotel, and this was a most enjoyable function. The whole of Dresden seemed to have been invited to meet us and everyone was so charming and so friendly that we were very loth to say good-bye. Dr. Ulrich Beil gave an interesting account of the Congress proceedings in Berlin, and afterwards one English and one French delegate spoke.

We all have very happy memories of Dresden, and feel very grateful to all those who put themselves to so much trouble on our behalf.

V. L. M.

PIONEER WORK OF AN INDIAN FEMINIST.¹

The founder of the Women's Institute movement in India (perhaps the most valuable short cut towards the solution of the many problems affecting women in that country,) was a Hindu woman, born and educated within the Hindu joint family system. We read in the life written by her husband¹ of the house in which lived, besides her parents, "her grandmother, several uncles, aunts, and cousins." This was set in a large garden, "with thick groves of mango, coconut, and betel palm, and fragrant with the scent of lemon blossom and the night lily."

Saroj Nalini was not educated at any school, but her mother had discarded the purdah, and she had from earliest times contact with Indian and European families. She adhered to Hindu customs, and every morning would pray with the female members of the joint family while half immersed in the Hooghly, the sacred branch of the Ganges. But she also easily absorbed what she admired in Western ideas. She had an intense desire for social service, as well as keen enjoyment in athletics. She became an accomplished tennis player and a fearless horse-woman; she enjoyed accompanying her husband on tiger shooting expeditions. Rabindranath Tagore says in his introduction to the book: "The understanding of both East and West came naturally to her . . . in her own nature she possessed the active temperament of the West side by side with the more meditative temperament of the East."

She was married at 19, and between then and her early death at the age of 37 she had an extremely full and varied life. Though devoted to her home and domestic matters, every detail of which she herself dealt with, social problems continually possessed her thoughts. She felt acutely the tragedy of the custom of early marriage, the position of the Hindu widow, and the evils of purdah. If she went to a meeting with her husband she insisted on arrangements being made for purdah women to attend. From the first she realized that education was the basis on which alone reform could be built. "How far behind we are in education," she would say when travelling in Europe or Japan, "and how woefully limited also we are in our activities. When will men awaken to a sense of their duty in these matters? . . . The nation can never advance by the progress and efforts of its men only." "One half of India is stricken with paralysis," she wrote in an article. "Men are absorbed with politics, they have no time for anything else. Let us women wake up and try to remedy the disease. But how many of us are doing so?"

She determined to devote herself to the awakening of the women of Bengal, in particular to those in the rural districts. Without having heard, as yet, of the Women's Institutes in England, she set about establishing similar organizations called Mahila Samitis, or Women's Associations. The object of these was first of all to enable the women to meet and exchange ideas—perhaps the most revolutionary step of all. Later, more definite educational and practical activities would follow, classes in general education, child welfare, and midwifery, industrial training of an indigenous kind, etc. Adult education, repeatedly advocated by educationalists in India, was shown by her method to be a practicable proposition, and the opportunity given was seized with avidity.

The first organization was founded in Pabna in 1913; other Samitis followed, her ultimate aim being to establish one in each district town and later in every village.

A year before her death she came to Calcutta, and was swept into the many health and educational movements for women there. She decided after her arrival upon the establishment in Calcutta of a central organization, to be called the Bengal Mahila Samiti Federation. Its object was to provide lecturers, literature, general information and help to the local organizations, as well as to co-ordinate their work.

Her death occurred before the committee began to function, and the widespread sorrow and regret which followed resulted in a great impetus to the movement. Prominent men and women bound themselves together to perpetuate her memory by the extension of her work. Since her death in 1925 the numbers of Samitis have increased with amazing rapidity. Over 250 organizations are now at work in Bengal, and one of the most urgent needs of the day is the extension throughout India of a work which is probably the cheapest, simplest, and quickest way of aiding the women's movement in India.

A. R. CATON.

¹ *A Woman of India*, by G. S. Dutt. (Hogarth Press. 4s. 6d.)

MRS. GASKELL JUSTIFIED.

Among the world's great biographies, Mrs. Gaskell's *Life of Charlotte Brontë* holds a leading place. It is, as great biographies must surely be, something more than a literary triumph excellent in form and texture, and something more than a peculiarly laborious and accurate piece of detailed research. It is on the top of all this a dedication of personal affection by a kindly, sensible, and perceptive woman, to a friend whose greatness she was almost able to gauge, and of whose depths she had some fleeting suspicion. But the single-minded directness of Mrs. Gaskell's biographical method was not pleasing to her generation; and the crop of complaints, resentments, and lawyer's letters which the first edition evoked, has been summarized by her as "a veritable hornet's nest." At any rate, her own experience in this respect seems to have inspired in her a hearty reaction against biography in general, and she is reported to have left an injunction that no friend of her own should incur a similar liability on her behalf. Whether in response to that wish, or for some other reason, the fact remains that no biography of Mrs. Gaskell was ever written, notwithstanding her contemporary literary eminence and wide personal popularity, until a few weeks ago, when Mr. Stanton Whitfield stepped into the breach with a brief monograph on her life and work.¹

Frankly, one is tempted to wish that he had refrained from rushing in where for over half a century angels have feared to tread. He has added nothing to our understanding of Mrs. Gaskell apart from a handful of interesting biographical facts already available from other sources. Long as is the period which has elapsed since her death, it is almost inconceivable that, had he put his back into the job, he could not have accumulated sufficient material, in the form of letters from and concerning Mrs. Gaskell, to make a book worthy of his subject. He has not, however, succeeded in doing so. He has been content to fill the gaps in his thinly spun tale with suppositions such as: "The present writer believes that the remainder of this holiday was spent in Rome . . . and at Florence, where Mrs. Gaskell witnessed a performance of *Lucia di Lammermoor*. This much-criticized opera was favoured by our grandparents, though we may be sure that the novelist, as a lover of Beethoven and Mozart, would not fail to criticize Donizetti. It is fairly safe to assume that she was impressed by the *ensemble* of guests in the ancient hall of Ravenswood . . ." Or, again, in respect of her encounter with Wordsworth: "We have no further record of this meeting. Boswell was absent; no one garnered their intellectual gossip. Did they discuss the severe and terrible in love and art? There, at least, Mrs. Gaskell and Wordsworth had an affinity in ideas. Most likely they did not. Perhaps she venerated Wordsworth's lofty sentiments and remained quiet." These passages are typical of Mr. Whitfield's literary form, which may be said to touch bottom in a sentence referring to Mrs. Gaskell's treatment of the Héger-Brontë letters. "Mrs. Gaskell knew of their existence, but from a sense of delicacy and nearness to events she probably felt bound to omit all mention of her friend's unrequited *amourette*." Now here is a sentence which is both inaccurate and vulgar: inaccurate in its confident assertion that Mrs. Gaskell knew of the existence of the Héger letters, vulgar in its designation of Charlotte Brontë's hopeless and dominating passion. We cannot, off-hand, remember whether Mr. Whitfield refers to Mrs. Gaskell as a "member of the fair sex," but there can be little doubt that he has it in him to do so.

It must in fairness be reiterated that the book under review contains a handful of facts concerning the life and work of Mrs. Gaskell, which though available elsewhere, are not conveniently or easily available. It contains too, here and there, letters and quotations from letters whose intrinsic interest shines out from the tangled undergrowth of strained metaphor, and irrelevant comparison, with which Mr. Whitfield surrounds them. From this point of view the book may be worth reading. From all others it can but confirm Mrs. Gaskell's worst fears. One feels that its author's time would be more suitably employed in a critical and descriptive study of the works of Mrs. Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

M. D. S.

¹ *Mrs. Gaskell, Her Life and Work*, by A. Stanton Whitfield. (George Routledge and Sons, Ltd. 7s. 6d.)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEWS.

By BERTHA MASON.

LITTER AND REFUSE.

"With every general holiday there comes the same story of field, moorland, park, footpath, and road bestrewn with litter, sandwich-papers chocolate cartons, photographic film covers, tobacco covers, orange peel, banana skins, match boxes, and other forms of refuse, which are to be found wherever the holiday-maker has penetrated. The litter is chiefly caused by thoughtlessness. Will all holiday-makers please try to remember that besides offending the eye, this litter is sometimes a danger, and that the carelessly discarded match and cigarette are possible causes of serious moorland, heathland, and woodland fires? (And we may add, in the case of broken bottles, of danger to children and animals.) We appeal to all listeners to do their utmost to prevent litter being left about or damage done to the countryside."

Such is the appeal in which for years we have joined—made on the eve of public holidays to those who are thinking of holidays, by the B.B.C., and by other bodies and individuals who are anxious to keep not only the countryside but the city, the parks, and public places fresh and clean and beautiful.

It is encouraging to note that the determined efforts which have been made in this direction during the last few years are having some effect. Careful inquiry and investigation made this year after the Easter and Whitsun bank holidays, reveal distinct improvement in certain areas.

Royal Parks.

In the Royal Parks, for instance, with one exception, "the reduction in litter was considerable." Hyde Park was reported "to be cleaner than it has been for years."

Richmond Park "was singularly free." Battersea and Woolwich Parks showed "decided improvement."

Victoria Park "not so bad." Regents Park (the exception) was "as bad as ever."

Commons and Open Spaces.

In regard to these, the record is less satisfactory. To take but three of many.

Hampstead Heath on the day after Whit-Monday was "an offence to the eye of all who passed by." "Litter everywhere."

Wimbledon Common "was covered with litter" though some attempt had been made to hide refuse in the undergrowth." A practice not to be commended.

Putney Heath "conditions worse even than at Wimbledon."

Country Districts.

In many districts outside London "marked improvement" was reported. In Surrey, for instance, the efforts of the Anti-Litter League had met with an encouraging response. In Hertfordshire "the absence of litter was particularly gratifying." This is all to the good.

On the other hand we have before us many records of thoughtless acts of destruction and wilful vandalism to three of which we draw the attention of our readers.

(1) A Sussex magistrate has recently been compelled to close his estate—a beauty spot in the heart of mid-Sussex in the midst of great pines, and thrown open to the public—owing to the damage done by holiday-makers and by motorists who have driven through the bracken and lighted fires to the danger of the houses in the vicinity and the destruction of the forest. The owner of the place in former years, it is stated, and his employees have often been out late at night beating out fires said to have been started by careless trippers. The ground has been strewn with cans and bottles, trees defaced, and plants uprooted and taken away.

(2) The beautiful park and grounds at Hardwick, Derbyshire, owned by the Duke of Devonshire, has for many years been thrown open to the public free of charge and visited by thousands. Last year on the day before the Whitsun bank-holiday the grounds, according to an eyewitness, "were a picture." On the day following Whit-Monday the place was a mass of litter and broken glass. An oak tree had been set on fire, boats on the lake smashed, fences destroyed, names carved on newly-painted gates, and a trail of holiday refuse left behind.

The owner has now issued a final warning that if the privilege of visiting the park continues to be abused, he will be compelled to close it.

(3) Visitors to the beautiful Chew Valley, in Yorkshire, are in danger of losing certain privileges—owing to the thoughtless acts of destruction to growing crops and pasture-land in the vicinity. "Litter is left everywhere and the place after a holiday is a disgrace to the countryside." Buses take people into the district on Sundays. Ice-cream is sold openly in front of the church during service, and litter and rubbish is left in the village in profusion.

These three cases, a few out of many which could be quoted, show that though improvement has set in, much remains to be done before holiday-makers as a whole, refrain from the desecration of that which is beautiful in the city or the countryside.

We hope in our next article to draw attention to the part which can be, and is being, played by local authorities in the all-important work of keeping the country tidy.

(To be continued.)

THE TEACHING OF PARENTCRAFT TO BOYS AND GIRLS.¹

There is a growing recognition of the need for providing both boys and girls, before they leave school, with some teaching in parentcraft and child hygiene. Infant Welfare Centres, where advice is given to mothers, realize that their teaching would be vastly more effective if the young mother, coming tired and anxious to them, had been given a sound knowledge of hygiene before life's burdens were weighing upon her. Moreover, the Welfare Centre does not always reach the fathers, whose part in the happiness and welfare of the children is of such tremendous consequence. It is obviously, therefore, in the schools that boys and girls should be prepared for the fulfilment of their duty to another generation.

The great difficulty, at present, is that the majority of children leave school at the age of fourteen. Such boys and girls have learnt something about hygiene and have gained some elementary knowledge of the evolution of life from a study of simple plant and animal forms. They are too young, however, to have had any effective teaching on those subjects true knowledge of which lies at the root of national life. In the secondary schools, where boys and girls stay till they are eighteen, more adequate teaching may be given. These schools deal only with a minority but, turning out the better educated part of the community, their influence is of the utmost importance.

The type and scope of the teaching that should be given to the young people in the secondary schools were indicated by Dr. Ralph Crowley, Medical Officer to the Board of Education, in an address which he gave to the North of England Conference last January: "How to keep the body fit would be the main thing. . . . Another part of the course would deal with the control of disease through the individual and his environment. . . . Then some indication would be given, under the general title of 'What one generation owes to another' of the simple facts connected with heredity and environment. Throughout the course the romance of personal and community life would be kept before the boy or girl." At present little of such teaching is given in our schools, but inquiries prove that students would welcome it as an addition to the school curriculum. The Hadow Report on the Education of the Adolescent recommends a post-primary education for children from 11 to 15 years of age, which should include a course of hygiene for boys and girls similar to that advocated by Dr. Ralph Crowley.

The National Baby Week Council has published, as a leaflet entitled "The Importance of Teaching Parentcraft and Child Hygiene to School Children", a paper read at its November meeting by Miss Freda Hawtrey, Principal of the Avery Hill Training College. Miss Hawtrey emphasizes the necessity of urging each Local Education Authority to start experimental schools for senior girls, with a course in child welfare, and of impressing upon parents the value of such teaching for their children.

It is by working along these lines that we may hope to remove the reproach that the vital subject of child hygiene is the "Cinderella of subjects in our schools."

¹ Contributed by the National Baby Week Council.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

President: Mrs. CORBETT ASHBY. Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. ALFRED HUGHES.
Hon. Secretary: Mrs. RYLAND.
General and Parliamentary Secretary: Mrs. HORTON.
Offices: 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.
Telephone: Victoria 6188.

BERLIN CONGRESS.

TEA PARTY, CROSBY HALL, 18TH JULY, 4.15 P.M.

The N.U.S.E.C. is arranging a tea party to be held at Crosby Hall on Thursday, 18th July, at 4.15 p.m., when accounts will be given of various aspects of the very successful Congress of the International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship at Berlin. Mrs. Corbett Ashby will preside, and the speakers will include Mrs. Percy Bigland, Miss Courtney, Miss Macadam, Miss Margesson, Mrs. Laughton Mathews, and Miss Neilans. Members of the delegations from other countries, now present in London, will be among the guests, and we urge members of our Societies and others to take advantage of this opportunity of meeting those who took part in the Congress. The tea party has been arranged for the afternoon of the 18th in order that those coming to London for the luncheon to women M.P.s may be able to attend. Tickets (price 2s. including tea) can be obtained on application to Headquarters.

LUNCHEON TO WOMEN MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

HOLBORN RESTAURANT, 18TH JULY, AT 1 O'CLOCK.

Great interest is being aroused by the Luncheon to women Members of Parliament, and applications for tickets are coming in so rapidly that we have had to secure larger accommodation. Further seats are therefore available which are being allotted in strict order of application, and all those wishing to take advantage of this opportunity of meeting the women Members of Parliament should apply as soon as possible. The Right Hon. Margaret Bondfield will be the principal speaker, and Lady Astor, Miss Rathbone, and Miss Lloyd George will also speak. Mrs. Corbett Ashby will be in the chair. Tickets (price 6s.) can be obtained from Headquarters.

FACTORIES BILL.

In view of the Government's intention to introduce the Factories Bill, the National Union has approached the Home Secretary asking him to receive a deputation of women's organizations to lay before him the point of view that all provisions in the Bill should be based on the nature of the work and not on the sex of the worker.

N.C.W. ANNUAL MEETING.

MANCHESTER, 14TH TO 18TH OCTOBER.

The National Union is entitled to appoint 10 delegates to the Annual Meeting of the National Council of Women to be held in Manchester from 14th to 18th October. We shall be glad to receive immediately nominations for delegates to this meeting. If the number of nominations exceeds ten a postal ballot will be taken.

NEWS FROM SOCIETIES.

1928 GROUP.

The 1928 Group, of which the nucleus was formed by students at the Oxford Summer School, organized by the N.U.S.E.C. in September of last year, held its Annual General Meeting on Saturday, 6th July, Mrs. Horton, the President, in the Chair. The Group approved of the programme of work for the winter session, drawn up by the Committee, and will be studying Local Government in its various aspects. The Committee was asked to arrange a place and date for the regular monthly meetings, of which particulars will be given later.

MALVERN S.E.C.

The Malvern S.E.C. has been taking active steps in accordance with the resolution passed at the Council Meeting regarding public conveniences for women. Early in May a resolution was passed asking the Malvern Urban District Council to consider the possibility of making provision for free public conveniences for women. As a result the Council decided that as an experiment until September, wherever more than one convenience was provided in public buildings, one should be made free of access. As it has been found that this concession is of great value, both to business women and holiday makers, the Society is hoping to have the privilege extended beyond September.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE RIGHTS OF PEERESSES.

MADAM,—In last week's issue (5th July) of THE WOMAN'S LEADER, you quote the *Manchester Guardian* as stating that a peeress who is charged with committing a murder has no right to be tried by the House of Lords.

May I point out that this statement is incorrect? A peer indicted for treason or felony must be tried by his peers, and this right was extended to peeresses by Statute in 1441-2 (20 Hen. VI, c. 9).

For a misdemeanour a peer or peeress is tried by a jury in the same way as a commoner.

MAUD I. CROFTS.

. 39 Victoria Street, S.W. 1.

STUDLEY COLLEGE APPEAL FUND.

MADAM,—May I, as Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Appeal, ask for help in the effort we are making to raise money to ensure the future of Studley College and the development of its valuable work?

Your readers will appreciate the pioneer work for women which has been carried on there for 30 years and will be interested to know that this remains the only College in the British Isles which, in addition to courses in specialized branches, provides courses in general agriculture solely for women.

The importance of training country women for the essential work they carry out is now beginning to be realized and the Ministry of Agriculture has recently formally recognized the national service which is being rendered by the College. A Government grant is available, on a pound for pound basis, up to £5,000 for the purchase of the freehold. Although this has been a difficult year for raising money we have managed to collect £3,000 since November last and £750 has been promised for development, provided the purchase of the property is completed.

The Duchess of York has consented to open an Exhibition and to receive purses at the College on 18th July and we are hoping for substantial support from the Midlands on that occasion. Meantime the outstanding fact of the situation is that we must raise £7,000 between now and October in order to attain the £15,000 necessary to complete the purchase, cover incidental expenses and claim the promises referred to above.

The unflinching assistance which your readers give to all efforts for the betterment of women's work encourages me to hope that they will aid us generously in this endeavour to promote a cause—the advancement of women's agricultural education—whose importance needs far more recognition than it at present receives. Donations, large or small, should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Keeling, 109 Colmore Road, Birmingham, and further particulars of the Appeal may be obtained from Miss Gordon, 26 Eccleston Street, S.W. 1.

G. DENMAN.

43 Upper Grosvenor Street,
London, W. 1.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

BERLIN CONGRESS

A TEA PARTY

is to be held at Crosby Hall

on

THURSDAY, 18th July, at 4.15 p.m.

Accounts of the activities of the recent Congress of the International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship at Berlin will be given by members of the British delegation and British representatives on the Commissions of the Alliance. It is also hoped that some of the delegates from the Dominions and other countries may be in London and able to be present.

MRS. CORBETT ASHBY WILL PRESIDE.

Tickets (price 2s. including tea) can be obtained from the Secretary, N.U.S.E.C., 15 Dean's Yard, S.W. 1.

KENSINGTON AND PADDINGTON SOCIETY FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP
A GARDEN MEETING

will be held at

Pembroke Lodge, Pembroke Gardens, W. 8

(by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Adrian Corbett)

on MONDAY, 22nd July, at 3 p.m.

SUBJECT: THE NEW PARLIAMENT AND THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT

SPEAKER: MISS ELEANOR RATHBONE, M.P.

CHAIRMAN: MISS VERA BRITAIN

After the Meeting you are invited to tea by Mrs. Claude Taylor at 1 Pembroke Studios, Pembroke Gardens. For Tea invitations apply beforehand to Miss Macpherson, 20 Ladbrooke Gardens, W. 11.

COMING EVENTS.

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH LEAGUE.

18th July. 2.45 p.m. Motor excursion to Garden Party, Heathfield, Addington, Surrey. Tickets from Secretary, 17 Buckingham Street, W.C.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

18th July. 1 p.m., Holborn Restaurant. Luncheon to Women M.P.s. Chair: Mrs. Corbett Ashby. Speakers include the Viscountess Astor, M.P., Rt. Hon. M. Bondfield, M.P., Miss Lloyd George, M.P., Miss Rathbone, M.P.

4.15 p.m. Crosby Hall, Chelsea. Tea Party to meet the delegates from the Berlin Congress. Chair: Mrs. Corbett Ashby.

Acton W.C.A.—12th July, 3 p.m. Garden meeting on the Terrace, Gunnesbury Park. The Park Superintendent will speak and visitors will be conducted round the Park.

Cardiff W.C.A.—12th July, 3.30 p.m. Garden Party at the Mansion House, by kind permission of the Mayoress. Speakers: Mrs. Bennett, Dr. Betty Morgan. Music, Folk-dancing.

Kensington and Paddington S.E.C.—22nd July, 3 p.m. Garden Meeting at Pembroke Lodge, Pembroke Gardens, W. 8. Miss Rathbone, M.P., will speak on "The New Parliament and the Women's Movement." Chair: Miss Vera Brittain.

THE SUFFRAGETTE CLUB.

13th July. 6 p.m. Caxton Hall, S.W. Celebration of Mrs. Pankhurst's birthday.

TYPEWRITING.

M. McLACHLAN and N. WHITWAM—
TYPISTS.—4 Chapel Walk, Manchester.
Tel.: 3402 City.

TO LET AND WANTED.

BOARD AND LODGING. Quiet home at moderate terms. Bed-sittingroom and service for lady or gentleman at Cheam. Pleasant country in easy reach of London.—Apply, Mrs. Bampton, Puttsboro', Alberta Avenue, Cheam.

WENSLEYDALE.—Board-residence, every comfort; electric light, bath; sunny garden, garage; beautiful views.—Smith, Warnford, Thoraby, Aysgarth, Yorks.

WANTED.—Small Country House from 14th July to 14th August; boating and fishing; to hire or to exchange for house in Sussex.—Write, Mrs. Oliver Strachey, 53 Marsham Street, Westminster.

NORTH DEVON.—Delightful old-world village, unspoilt; moors, river; modern guest house; August 3 guineas, July, September, 2½.—Mrs. Hamilton, Hatherleigh.

HAMPSTEAD GARDEN SUBURB.—In house with garden adjoining Heath, three bed-sittingrooms and share drawing-room and dining-room. Suitable for Reading Party. Full board if required, meat or vegetarian.—Apply, Miss Marshall, 2 Linnell Drive, N.W. 11. Telephone: Speedwell 3042.

LADY and two daughters (adults) returning from South Africa middle July require Furnished Rooms London; one single, one double bedroom, or bedroom and bed-sittingroom; board by arrangement.—Write, Saner, c/o Barclays Bank (D.C.U.D.), Circus Place, London Wall, E.C.

POSTS WANTED.

EXPERIENCED ORGANIZER (University Woman) requires post, September, where can drive own car. Practised speaker, keen, energetic, accustomed travelling.—Write, Box 1,549, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Tufton Street, Westminster, S.W. 1.

HOLIDAY POSTS wanted by women students and others. Care of children, coaching, and light housework.—Educated Home Helps Bureau, 190 Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W. 1. Tel.: Vict. 5940. Fees: Registration, employers 2s. 6d., workers 1s.; Suiting, employers 10s. 6d., workers 2s. 6d.

LADY wishes to accompany lady or family for holiday during August; offers light services, not cooking or children, in return for expenses, near Catholic Church.—Box 1,550, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Tufton Street, Westminster, S.W. 1.

POSTS VACANT.

WANTED.—Capable Domesticated Lady to share small Furnished House in the country with elderly lady. Comfortable home offered in return for household duties including plain cooking.—Apply, by letter, M. K., 72 Park Road, W. 4.

PROFESSIONAL.

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

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

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. (Stamped addressed envelope for reply.)

VALUABLE Freehold Riverside Village Property. Shop, tea-rooms (also) (vacant) Two Cottages. Bargain.—Paxton Crib, Cookham, Berks.

DRESS.

GOWNS well cut and fitted by experienced dressmaker. Terms from 21s. Ladies' own materials made up. Renovations a speciality.—Grace Mayman, 168 High Street, Notting Hill Gate. Phone: Park 2943. Appointments.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON AND NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 35 Marsham Street, Westminster. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey, Members' Library, Books on Suffrage, Sociology and Economics, Hansard, latest Government Publications, Periodicals, Newscuttings. 10-8 (except Saturdays).

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 14th July, 6.30. Rev. G. E. Barnes, D.D., of Overhook Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia.

EDUCATED HOME HELPS BUREAU, 190 Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W. 1, requires and supplies educated women for all domestic work. Holiday engagements. Registration: Employers, 2s. 6d.; workers, 1s. Suiting fee: Employers, 10s. 6d.; workers, 2s. (Victoria 5940).

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NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

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These two libraries contain some three thousand volumes, including sections on current political, economic and social matters of special interest to women as citizens, as well as a historical section of the Women's Movement, which dates back to the 15th Century. Boxes containing approximately 20 books are available for Societies, Study Circles, etc.

SCALE OF CHARGES.

For individuals, 10s. 6d. per annum for two volumes per week, or 3d. per volume per week. Book-boxes 5s. per one month.

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