

The Common Cause

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Important Notice.

Under the new Paper Restriction Order, the supply of papers on sale or return is prohibited. It will therefore be impossible in future for the public to obtain newspapers WITHOUT GIVING DEFINITE ORDERS. Readers of THE COMMON CAUSE are therefore urged TO PLACE AN ORDER WITH THEIR NEWSAGENTS IMMEDIATELY, OR TO APPLY FOR THE COMMON CAUSE TO BE POSTED DIRECT FROM THIS OFFICE.

Notes and News.

Women in the R.A.M.C.

Sir Robert Newman asked an interesting question in the House of Commons last week, to which Mr. Forster (for the War Office) gave an even more than usually unsatisfactory reply. Do the women doctors serving with his Majesty's Forces receive the same treatment as men doctors? This was the substance of Sir Robert Newman's question. The extraordinary substance of the official answer was that they do. The fact is that they do not, as Dr. Jane Walker pointed out in a lucid letter which appeared in *The Times* of the following day. Women are not granted commissions in the R.A.M.C., and from that initial fact there follows a whole host of small disabilities which, taken together amount to a real annoyance and hindrance to efficient work. The status of an officer carries with it discipline, respect and obedience; it carries also free railway warrants, income-tax exemption, medical treatment, pension and separation allowance. It is no use for the War Office to tell us that women have "equivalent rank." It must remedy its regulations and carry into effect its remedied regulations, or it must invent a better answer next time.

Enlistment of Women in the Service.

The discussion of the position of women Army doctors leads inevitably to the consideration of the whole position of women

in the sister services. This remains supremely unsatisfactory. Women may not hold commissions either in the Army or Navy, they may not enlist as privates under ordinary naval and military regulations. They must remain organised independently; if recognised, recognised only on sufferance, although they are doing much of the work formerly done by soldiers and sailors, and at times they work under fire. Against such a position we must strongly protest not only on general grounds of principle, but for reasons demanding more immediate attention. We hold, naturally, that where women and men are giving equal service they should occupy a position of equality, but at the moment we are particularly exercised over the grave dangers which attend women placed in positions of inferiority in the Army and Navy. Recent events have shown us that members of Q.M.A.A.C. run serious risk of capture by the enemy in the performance of their duty. If captured, what is their position? They are not treated as prisoners of war: they are merely camp-followers whose fate is of little consequence. We appeal to all mothers whose daughters are on service abroad to join us in working for a more just condition of affairs, and to help us in securing equal safeguards with men for those of our women who are risking dangers such as these in the service of their country.

The L.C.C. and the Teachers.

At a packed meeting at the Queen's Hall on July 8th, the London women teachers once more reaffirmed their dissatisfaction with their treatment at the hands of the L.C.C., and unanimously demanded that their disputes should be referred to arbitration. The enthusiasm of the meeting was great, and the telling points made by the speakers were greeted with frequent and assuring comments by the audience, so that at times there was a running conversation between platform and gallery, punctuated by laughter and applause. The whole gathering was animated by a spirit of determination that bodes well for the future struggle for equal treatment, and it was pervaded, too, by a very serious apprehension for the future welfare of education. The real love of the teachers for their work came out again and again throughout the meeting, and with such a spirit, the women teachers cannot fail.

Nationality of Aliens.

The Nationality and Status of Aliens Bill is coming up this week for the Committee stage, when Sir W. Dickinson, M.P., will move an amendment enabling a British woman to retain her nationality on marriage with an alien. This amendment is of the utmost importance to British women, and suffragists are urged to give it their closest attention and all the support in their power.

Registration Claims and Appeals.

Claims for registration have now been sent in by women who believe themselves qualified for the Parliamentary or Local Government vote. Suffrage societies should give all the support they can to women whose claims have been rejected, and whose appeals will shortly be heard under the Representation of the People Act. The voter's right of appeal is, in the first instance, to the registration officer; in the second, to the County Court. Individual women voters are urged to do all in their power to get their claims freely considered and recognised, in order to make the women's franchise an actual, not merely a nominal privilege.

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Women M.P.s.

In the days of Suffrage propaganda we used to say, and to believe, that the extension of the franchise to women did not necessarily involve their admission to Parliament. We thought a special Enabling Act would be needed, and that years would elapse before it could be passed. It is true that most of those who wanted women to vote also wanted their other political disabilities removed, but this was not by any means universal, and some of the valued supporters of women's suffrage strongly opposed the actual admission of women to Parliament. Now, however, all seems changed.

In other countries women members of the governing bodies are being returned, and nothing dreadful happens. In Holland the first woman member, Miss Suze Groeneweg, has just been elected. In Denmark four women of different parties have recently been elected to the Lower House, and five to the Upper House, and in the United States Miss Rankin is a member of Congress. In State legislatures, too, many women are already sitting, and in Canada two have been recently elected.

All this gives us hope for our own country, where indeed things seem to be moving fast. The Government has asked for a legal decision on the matter of the immediate eligibility of women, and while their answer is awaited women candidates are being seriously discussed and their prospects fairly canvassed. As a sop to the unknown women voters they are thought good electioneering tactics, as a strength to their parties they are being considered, and as a new element in the House of Commons they are under review.

Will they, we wonder, be any of these things? It depends upon who they are.

Women voters will not, we think, rally to vote for a woman candidate just because she is a woman. Why should they? Women can be as foolish, as wicked, and as corrupt as men; they can also be as wise, as good, and as honourable. It all depends, we repeat, upon who they are. It seems likely, however, that the women who come forward as candidates for Parliament will be carefully chosen, and will be the wise, and the good, and the honourable. For a long time to come, perhaps for ever, the world will expect a very high standard from its public women, and we venture to believe it will get it. It will not be worth while to choose a woman—at any rate for years to come—unless she is somewhat exceptional: a strength to her party, and a credit to her sex. We have no fear of our first women M.P.s, they will be splendid; but they will also be very hard worked.

Suppose, for example, that four women are returned at the next election—four among six hundred and seventy! The first thing that will happen to them will be that they will be put upon a shoal of Parliamentary Committees. Every time an enquiry is made into matters touching women, one or other of them will have to take part. Every time a "woman's question" comes up in the House one or other of them will be expected to speak. At every public meeting of every women's society they will be in demand. On every Committee they will be urged to sit, and of every organisation to be president. And then, their constituents! How closely and eagerly they will watch! If their member does nothing but "women's things," how angry they will be, and how rightly angry! How closely the words and actions of these members will be followed, and how numerous their visitors will be, how vast their correspondence! They will need to be exceptional women, we feel, to face such a task as this, and we are confident that they will be equal to it.

Perhaps in our surmises we are going ahead too fast. The women candidates might not be elected at the next election. We cannot tell. But if we can judge from the tone of the Press, and of political organisations, and of members of the House of Commons itself, it will not be long before "honourable and gallant members" and "honourable and learned members," are joined upon the august benches by "honourable and fair members," and, perhaps, when Lord Buckmaster's Bill is through, by "honourable, fair, and learned members," too.

In all seriousness, we are of opinion that when this time comes, it will be a good thing. Our women M.P.s (whatever their party and whatever their views) will know many things M.P.s do not care for, and they will draw the attention of Parliament to questions it habitually forgets. The nation needs, at all times, the widest possible choice of good legislators, and in the social changes that lie before us it must take counsel of the very finest of its sons and of its daughters.

The Education Bill.

Mr. H. A. L. Fisher is to be heartily congratulated on the safe passage of the Education Bill, even though it disappoints many by the modifications that have crept into it. When we have a good thing we cannot but regret that we have not more of it, but that is no reason for undervaluing the good that we have, and Mr. Fisher has done his country magnificent service. Towards the close of the Committee stage Mr. Whitehouse moved the amendment to refuse grants to any local authority which made any differentiation in salary between men and women teachers. The daily press gave practically no report of the debate which followed. We are glad, therefore, to print it below:—

NEW CLAUSE (TEACHERS' SALARIES).

In making arrangements with respect to the appointment of teachers, a local education authority shall not make or authorise any differentiation as regards salary on the grounds of sex.

MR. WHITEHOUSE: I wish to suggest to the Committee that the proposal to give equal pay for equal work is a just proposal. In saying that this proposal is just in itself, it is right to add that the State should set a good example to industries all over the country. That is why it is so important that the Government should adopt this Clause, in order to give a general lead in the reorganisation of our national life. Throughout the whole world of industry there has been a gradual, in some cases a very gradual, but generally speaking a well-defined tendency towards the ideal which I here set forth. What does it mean? It is proposed that the woman who is doing a man's work is to receive the same amount as a man would receive if the amount of work she is able to do less. The amendment simply asks that where there is equal work done by a woman, she is to have equal pay.

SIR H. HIBBERT: They want more than that. MR. WHITEHOUSE: The right hon. gentleman says they want more than that. I am not concerned in any such request nor have I ever heard of it. The amendment simply asks that where a woman performs equal work with a man she should not receive less payment because of her sex. I would also like to remind the Committee that there is not only this general tendency throughout the world of industry, but that to-day we are having much more united attempts for it in the name of women generally than we have ever had before, and now that we have enfranchised the great body of women in the country I very much doubt whether we shall be able to continue this unjust sex discrimination. But I want to refer to the serious and united evidence which has come from the organised representatives of women's labour.

MR. BOOTH: They are not united. MR. WHITEHOUSE: If I wanted any evidence, I would venture to call the President of the Board of Education himself as a witness, because I am quite sure that his post bag, during the last month, must have been filled with letters from the organised representatives of women's labour, making the demand which is contained in the amendment. The only economic argument which I have ever heard against the proposal I now make is that women should be paid less because they have fewer responsibilities than men. I do not think that is a sound argument. If we are to act upon that argument we ought to pay less to unmarried men and more to married men. To consider the individual responsibilities of every person is obviously impossible.

SIR R. NEWMAN: I support the Clause of my hon. friend which affirms the principle that women should receive equal pay for equal work. This Clause is not revolutionary at all. It simply lays down the principle that I have stated—equal pay for equal work, whether it applies to a man or to a woman. Surely there can be no exemption so far as women teachers are concerned, and no exception so far as the State is concerned. I have heard it said by some people that women cannot do the same amount of good work as men in our schools, and that, therefore, men should receive higher salaries than the women. That seems to me to be a poor argument. One can admit that the headmaster of a school should perhaps, be in a better position than the headmistress. Still, there are cases in which women would better discharge educational work than men. The fact that some women teachers are in charge of high schools shows distinctly that women are quite capable of carrying out the most difficult class of work done by school teachers. The President of the Board of Education has accepted proposals safeguarding the interests of children, and I would now ask him to accept this proposal to safeguard the interests of women.

MR. FISHER: I am afraid that I cannot see my way to accept this amendment, and for a reason which I am sure will be appreciated by the hon. member for North Lanarkshire. Whatever may be said for or against the principle for which he contends, and upon that I say nothing, the broad fact remains that the teachers in this country are not the employees of the Government, but of the local education authorities, and for the reason, if for no other, it would be improper for the Government to adopt any such plan as the hon. member suggests. I think that in reality the object of the hon. member was to draw the attention of the Committee to the fact that a great number of women teachers are inadequately paid, to the fact that it is desirable that their remuneration should be increased, and to the fact that the women teachers in this country are a very devoted body of public servants, whose work ought to be adequately remunerated, but although I agree with all these propositions, I cannot accept the Amendment.

MR. CHANCELLOR: I am sure the reply of the right hon. gentleman will be received throughout the country with very great dissatisfaction on the part of the women. I suppose there is no organised body of women in the country which will not be dissatisfied. The right hon. gentleman's point is that the central authority ought not to fix the salaries of the employees of the local authorities, but in this case the local authorities derive a very large proportion of their total income from the central authority, and I think the right hon. gentleman ought to have a say both in the conditions under which the employees are employed and the remuneration which they receive. Many women teachers are badly underpaid by many local authorities, and some power

ought to be taken by the central authority to squeeze up the backward authorities and compel them to pay a living wage. But that is not the grievance of the women. Their grievance is that they, doing identical work, are paid less money for the same work than men. It is the differentiation against them on the ground of their sex which rouses their anger. It is not their underpayment so much as their unequal payment which they resent, and at a time like this when equality is entering more and more into the relations between the sexes, I had hoped the right hon. gentleman would have removed a real grievance, which has not only been felt for years past but is felt now, and is likely to be felt a great deal more in the near future. The refusal of this amendment is almost sure to lead to considerable agitation as well as dissatisfaction.

Captain Sir C. BATHURST: I rather wondered as I listened to the three hon. gentlemen whether they have actually gauged or anticipated the real desires of the organised women workers in the teaching profession. I have very grave doubts on this point, and I venture to suggest that this is not an opportune moment to decide on behalf of the other sex what their wishes are. We are going to have a very large opportunity in the early future of discovering what the opinion of women in general is upon matters such as this, and I have reason to think that the hon. gentleman is entirely wrong in supposing that the women teachers generally desire this so-called reform. Some of us have had some experience quite recently in settling an entirely new scale of salaries for male and for women teachers in our respective counties, and I say at once that I view with regret that in these revised scales the salaries suggested for women are not higher in many cases than they are. They are going to be squeezed up far more as the result of the organised opinion of the profession itself, brought to bear upon the local education authorities, than they are likely to be by any action which we may take in this House. At any rate, when all is said and done, what the hon. gentleman is asking us to do is to stereotype the price of two different commodities. Labour is a commodity, and has its price, and nothing can be more dangerous than to attempt in an Act of Parliament to force a Government Department to say that two commodities are of equal value whether in fact they are so or not.

MR. CHANCELLOR: Is teaching by women a different commodity to teaching by men?

SIR C. BATHURST: Quite conceivably it may be, and in some cases undoubtedly it is. What I really want to impress upon the Committee is that, in attempting to fix the same value for women's and for men's labour in the teaching profession, you are, in fact, making the competition in the case of women much more severe than it is to-day, and for a class of women whose intellectual attainments may not be very high, but who are looking after the younger children in our schools. That is a class which will be seriously prejudiced if this Clause is passed. I should like to know, before I assent to any such suggestion as this, what are the views of the National Union of Teachers?

MR. BOOTH: I venture to say that women's organisations, taken either collectively or individually, are not united on this question, and I oppose the amendment, because I am certain it would not carry out the objects of any of us who want fair treatment for women. I am willing that women should be paid higher wages than men even, but this resolution will not provide for that. Take the ordinary school, where there may be twelve teachers, of whom six are well paid and six poorly paid. Under this Clause six women could get the poorly-paid jobs and six men the other jobs. The Clause refers to differentiation as regards salary, but the hon. member is quite agreeable that there should be differentiation as regards employment or posts, and part of the women's case is that if they demand always the same salary as the men they would not get any of the head posts. That is the view of a great many women. I am more moved to say that because there was a Committee which dealt with this very thing, and which had four women upon it, and was presided over by the right hon. gentleman the member for Glasgow and Aberdeen Universities (Sir H. Craik). They presented a unanimous report exactly opposite to this Clause. Whenever I have read the discussion of teachers I have always been puzzled to know what views they would take, and I have been informed that the men teachers as a rule vote in favour of an equality of salary, but the women are against it. That is a very curious thing. I should have thought it was far better to have an enlightened policy on the part of the local authorities. If women are fit for higher posts, they should have them; but when you come to make hard and fast rules and make no provision for the—

SIR R. NEWMAN: The hon. gentleman has rather misinterpreted our position. This Clause is not to make any hard and fast rule. It is only against the education authority having one scale for men and another scale for women for the same work.

MR. BOOTH: I have pointed out there is no protection whatever. You do not insist that the same wages should be paid to every teacher. You cannot. You do not pay the same for teaching Latin as for teaching the alphabet. Certain education authorities do now give all the higher paid post to the men and the lower paid posts to the women, and we can get out of that, I suppose, by education, and by demanding that there shall be fairer treatment. But this Clause does not put it right, and it is a false idea to imagine that by passing a few words of this description we shall do so.

SIR H. CRAIK: With regard to the Committee over which I had the honour to preside, there were on that Committee three ladies very eminently qualified to sit on it. Our view was that if we laid down a rule of this sort it would lead to minimum salaries, and that the result, in a very large number of cases, would be to drive women out of the positions they at present held. We made one exception, and it is a very important one. We laid down no rule, but merely made a recommendation that in the higher post of the profession for which, by special qualifications, a woman had shown she was fitted, then those higher posts should be paid at a certain fixed scale of salaries, and that those salaries should be assigned whether to men or women. But to have laid down a general rule of this sort applicable to every post running through the whole profession, we felt—and our lady colleagues joined in that feeling—that the result of such action would be fatal to the strong position which women at present occupied in the profession.

The Committee divided: Ayes, 20; Noes, 90.

The Virtuous Circle.

By EGBERT C. MORLAND.

We are all familiar with the vicious circle. Many of us work in such a circle ourselves, and are very ready to see its results in others. Overwork leads to fatigue, the sense of fatigue is relieved by alcoholic drink, the drink reduces the efficiency of work; the amount of work is increased, more overwork results, and so it continues. Each lapse makes the next one easier, and the effect goes on increasing round and round the circle. The vicious circle is most marked in social conditions: ignorance, neglect, poverty, dirt, disease; all these react upon each other in various ways, making practically a vicious acrostic. But it is only the pessimist who sees vicious circles and who cannot see at the same time virtuous circles. The greatest virtuous circle in the world is formed by child welfare work as it is now beginning to be realised. Mothercraft teaching at schools, eugenic instruction in youth, education for marriage, care of the expectant mother, provision of maternity homes, improved status and training of the midwife, infant welfare clinics, mothers' pensions: these are some of the points on a tremendous virtuous circle which was clearly set forth last week at the London Baby Week celebration. Work anywhere on the circumference, no matter where, and you help to set the whole wheel in motion. No section of the work is greater or less than any other; the worker needs only to put the best into that for which he or she feels the best fitted.

The real achievement of the Westminster Week was in making this felt. Very wisely, the National Baby Week Council had given over to the National Association for the Prevention of Infant Mortality the arrangement of the educational conference, and to the National Union of Women Workers the carrying out of the exhibition. And in both the thread connecting the whole was clearly discernible. To many of us the Mothercraft teaching in elementary schools was the newest and most enlightening phase of the work. The first stall at the exhibition was devoted to it, and Miss Chapman put her ten years' practical experience of it at the disposal of a most attentive audience at an evening lecture. The schoolgirl's curriculum is brought more into touch with the realities of life, and she learns things by doing them. From being shown how to wash, feed, and protect the baby herself, the girl soon learns to demonstrate to other girls, and in so doing makes habits for life as well as getting to feel that she is doing something really good and useful in itself. Miss Chapman spoke of the way in which this practice of Mothercraft (the word was coined for the purpose) had exerted its effect on the sub-normal girl, opening up the whole of her dormant nature. It was an atmosphere alike of freedom, inspiration, and adventure. And those who watched the schoolgirls whom she brought with her demonstrating with conviction on their life-sized dolls will agree that the thing has been done. Baby's powder, said one, equal parts of zinc, boracic, and starch: "zinc to soothe, boracic to heal, starch to dry." That girl's future baby's safety is assured.

Another stage of infant welfare work on which emphasis is now for the first time beginning to be sufficiently laid is the antenatal. Dr. J. W. Ballantyne, of Edinburgh, who has made this subject particularly his own, said that those who knew most of mother and child welfare were most aware of the serious gaps in our knowledge of the essential facts of the life of the expectant mother and of her expected child. We know now how many infants who are born alive fail to survive their first year, and we shall soon have a chance of knowing how many infants who reach the light of day at the right time are dead when they arrive. But we have no record whatever of the younger lives which are simply quenched by being expelled as miscarriages in the first six months of their antenatal existence. Dr. Ballantyne thinks that at this point the mother welfare army and the child welfare army are not working sufficiently in unison in their fight against death and disease. Professor G. G. Adams, who followed him, agreed that the State cannot afford to deal with infant mortality alone, and neglect the heavy mortality that occurs previous to infancy. It is the midwife who may be a great, if not the chief, agent for good at this critical period, and to the midwife with the better training and heightened status which are hers by right many are looking to take her proper place in the virtuous circle.

Woman not Inferior to Man.

"I would beg leave to say that our being so much more capable than the male kind to execute that office well (i.e., the rearing of children) no way proves us unqualified to execute another. Indeed, the men themselves seem tacitly agreed to acknowledge as much; but then, according to their wonted disinterestedness, they are still confining all our other talents to the pleasant limits of obeying, serving and pleasing our masters. That they are our masters they take for granted; but by what title they are so not one of them is able to make out. And yet so universally received is this notion among them, that it everywhere prevails from the prince to the peasant."

Thus wrote Sophia, a Lady of Quality, in 1740. Since then the education and higher education of women, for which she was pleading, are accomplished facts: the Married Women's Property Acts have been passed, the Guardianship of Infants Act has ameliorated (though by no means entirely reformed) the position of mothers, the C.D. Acts have been passed and repealed, the nursing profession and several other things have been invented by one woman, the medical profession has been opened by the efforts of three, the various bodies through which local government is carried out have become the province of women as well as men, and the Parliamentary vote has been won for a limited number of women—and yet—and yet—"That they are our masters they take for granted." Woman is still regarded as inferior to Man. Why is it?

The habit of centuries, the numerical predominance of women over men, the greater muscular strength of the male, with all that that entails in our present semi-civilised world; the boarding school system for boys and their consequent spoiling in the holidays, characteristics supposedly inherent in the male sex and tacitly encouraged; the self-confidence bred of conscious superiority (though it be imaginary)—all these things probably help to create the atmosphere of inferiority in which enormous numbers of women in 1918 A.D. live and move and have their being. It begins in the nursery with "You're only a girl," continues in many a schoolroom, where the boys must go to such and such a school because "they have their way to make," and, as a direct consequence, the girls put up with a third-rate education; persists at Oxford and Cambridge, where the governing bodies still, apparently, take the Miltonic view, and is admirably exemplified in the invention of a new honour for "War-work," which is given to men of secondary importance and women of first importance, presumably to avoid admitting the latter to Orders which really give standing.

The attitude is apparent in the thousand trivial incidents and tiresome conventions of daily life affecting individual women, but unfortunately for the welfare of the country it is enshrined also in many laws, hard to alter, and in customs, harder than any law to break down, in our standards of payment, in our code of morals, in our literature, in the social structure of our national life.

Long after Sophia was in her grave "womanliness," or what passed for such, was the altar on which ability, ambition, love of learning, powers of organisation, had to be sacrificed if the unfortunate possessor of these gifts was a girl, while they were encouraged as legitimate and praiseworthy in the human young of the male sex. Admirers of Etheldred May, in *The Daisy Chain*, will remember the conversation between Margaret and Miss Winter, the governess, on the subject of Ethel's preoccupation with Latin and Greek on the one hand and with the poor children at Cocks Moor on the other. Even charitable efforts were condemned if they led to want of "exactness and orderly habits."

"Those children engross almost all her time and thoughts. She is working for them, preparing lessons, running after them continually. It takes her whole mind from her proper occupations."

According to Miss Winter, "proper occupations" for a girl would seem to have consisted in sewing, writing in "running-hand," tidying chiffonnières, and keeping the hair and dress "neat."

It is with positive sinking of the heart that we read the sequel. After several attempts on Margaret's part to suggest the abandoning of Latin and Greek and many enthusiastic references on Ethel's to Sophocles, Thucydides—"a frightfully difficult play"—and "a new kind of Greek verses," Margaret finally brings it out:

"Don't think me very unkind if I say, suppose you left off trying to keep up with Norman?"

"Oh, Margaret! Margaret!" and her eyes filled with tears, "we have hardly missed doing the same every day since the first Latin Grammar

Education and Co-Education.

A SCHOOLMASTER'S DIARY. Selected and Edited by S. P. B. Mais. (Grant Richards. 6s. net.)

Mr. Mais's book, which has the outward semblance of a real diary, does not "take us in," and perhaps is not even intended to do so. It is supposed to be the diary of Patrick Traherne, schoolmaster from 1909 to 1917, first at "Radchester" and then at "Marlton." But we are told: "The names both of people and places mentioned in this book are entirely fictitious. Patrick Traherne did not portray any specific Public School or living person in his diary." How could a real diary avoid the specific and confine itself to the fictitious?

Patrick Traherne himself is highly eccentric and untypical. That would not matter in the least if the story were put forward as fiction pure and simple, but it *does* matter in a story of a definitely and deliberately propagandist turn. How can we form reasonable judgments about educational establishments which are shown to us through the medium of a character so abnormally sensitive, so violently given to the extremes of emotional excitement, that he constantly applies to himself such phrases as "incipient madness"? Mr. Mais's very success (for he is successful) in convincing us of these exceptional emotions destroys the propagandist value of his work. I am not for one moment arguing that Patrick Traherne's neurosis could have affected the nobility and generosity of his ideals: Mr. Mais shows clearly that it could not. Much of the world's progress has been due to people who suffered from tortured nerves, and there is no reason why that should not be so in education, as it has certainly been so in other branches of human activity. Only, it is precisely amid the old and solid conventions of a public school that the nerves of the frantic idealist would be most exacerbated. Take the two practical points on which Traherne's diary is perhaps most insistent—the excessive worship of athletics, and the monastic seclusion of public school life. Traherne is himself an athlete, a "blue," a violent player of violent games: at the same time, games do not keep him fit—indeed, they apparently wear him out and contribute to his nervous prostration. This is an exceptional case. Roughly speaking, the conspicuously athletic are *not* conspicuously neurotic: they are rather conspicuously the opposite—and the converse is equally true. The old controversy, then, about the place of athletics in education is unaffected by Traherne's record of his own experiences. His views have the same importance as other people's, purely as views, and that is all. They have to be considered in abstraction. And Traherne admits that the old controversy has been much affected by the new circumstances. It is impossible to pretend that athletics are now worshipped in the same blind way in which, by the majority of schoolboys (and a large proportion of schoolmasters), they were worshipped before the war. The true place of athletics in education, as contributing—like mathematics, like music!—to the discovery and worship of the ultimate beauty, was long ago laid down by Plato. As in so many other things, we are at last rediscovering, by the painful method of trial and error, what was so simple and so clear to him. Indeed, there are few subjects in which it is at once so enlightening and so depressing to read the suggestions of the past as it is in this subject of education. To read Aseham, to read More, is to ask ourselves whether we have learnt much about any of the essential *theories* since their day.

To come to the second of the two "practical points" mentioned above: the "monastic" nature of education. Here, too, Traherne's exceptional temperament complicates the issue; yet it is at *this* point that the whole question of the public school system of boys' education merges most obviously in the question of the status of women, and calls most loudly for women's practical and effective judgment. Already the better relations of the sexes have caused here a definite advance. We have all come to realise that—to put it no higher—it is absurd for us to herd together, under artificial conditions and conventional regulations, and during the most impressionable period of their lives, people of one sex. Mr. Mais tackles school immorality with considerable courage, though I cannot believe he really imagines that any human schoolboy ever expressed himself like this: "Immorality is not like a fire which can be stamped out; if there is any certain method it lies in gentle handling and weaning us gradually from impure thoughts to higher things." The sentiment is sound, if the sentences are sounding. The moral question (as Plato knew) is not distinguishable from the aesthetic: "education for liberty" is "education for beauty," and "education for beauty" is "education for purity." On the *facts* as to morality in schools it is easy to be dogmatically wrong, one way or the other: those who pretend that every public school is neces-

was put into his hands. From *hic, haec, hoc* up to Alcaics and *beta* Thukididion we have gone on together, and I can't bear to give it up. I'm sure I can. . . .

"Stop, Ethel; I don't really know whether you can. Do you know that Norman was telling papa the other day that it was very odd Dr. Hoxton gave them such easy lessons?"

Ethel looked very much mortified.

"You see," said Margaret kindly, "we all know that men have more power than women, and I suppose the time has come for Norman to pass beyond you. He would not be cleverer than anyone if he could not do more than a girl at home."

"He has so much more time for it," said Ethel.

"That's the very thing. Now consider, Ethel—his work, after he goes to Oxford, will be doing his very utmost—and you know what that utmost is. If you would keep up with him at all, you must give your whole time and thoughts to it, and when you had done so—if you could get all the honours in the University—what would it come to? You can't take a first class."

"I don't want one," said Ethel; "I only can't bear not to do the same as Norman does, and I like Greek so much!"

"And for that would you give up being a useful, steady daughter and sister at home—the sort of woman that dear mamma wished to make you, and a comfort to papa?"

Ethel was silent, and large tears were gathering. "You own that that is the first thing?"

"Yes," said Ethel, faintly.

"And that is what you fail in most?"

"Yes. Margaret, if you would only let me leave off that stupid old French and horrid dull reading with Miss Winter, I should have plenty of time for everything."

"I don't feel as if I had that authority. . . . and I don't think dear mamma would have liked Greek and Cocks Moor to swallow up the little common lady-like things."

Ethel made two or three great gulps: "Margaret, must I give up everything, and forget all my Latin and Greek?"

"If you give up trying to do as much as Norman, and fix some time in the day—half-an-hour perhaps for your Greek—I think it might do very well."

Later, poor Ethel confesses to Norman.

"I suppose it is a wrong sort of ambition to want to learn more in one's own way, when one is told it is not good for one. I was just going to say I hated being a woman, and having these tiresome little trifles—my duty—instead of learning, which is yours, Norman."

"I am glad you did not," said Norman. . . . "I assure you, Ethel, it is really time for you to stop, or you would get into a regular learned lady, and be good for nothing."

The modern reader feels that Norman wanted slapping.

Charlotte Yonge was a realist of the first order, and her method, like that which produced the charming *cartes-de-visites* photographs of the period, is unrivalled for clearness, attention to detail, and extraordinary faithfulness to life. Her reproductions can be trusted.

During the Victorian era (surely one of the worst periods in this respect), how many Miss Winters were manufactured from the glorious possibilities that were Etheldred May? Why, Miss Yonge's splendid characters did not even become missionaries unless they were men! Deeply religious as she was, she never admitted all that is implied by the belief that women, like men, have immortal souls.

But the curious fact is that in 1918, with the history of fifty years' struggle behind us, and the glamour of victory in our eyes, the attitude of mind against which Sophia revolted, and to which Charlotte Yonge gave such whole-hearted acceptance, is still the natural attitude of the ordinary man—and woman. It is this attitude that we must alter; it is this atmosphere that we must change. The Bills in Parliament which we seek to have amended, the regulations under D.O.R.A. which we claim to have repealed, the underpayment of women for first-rate work, the shutting out of women from positions of the first importance—all these things are but symptoms of a wrong attitude of mind. If the right attitude existed these things, which we would see changed, could not exist; it is nothing less than the creation of a new social structure at which we aim. Some Suffrage societies are thinking of dissolving "because our work is accomplished." Accomplished! It is well begun, but no more. What we have just won is, perhaps, the most powerful weapon yet put into our hands. Every step forward has done something more than accomplish fresh freedom for women; it has made future progress easier. This applies perhaps in a special way to the winning of the vote, but let there be no cry of work accomplished till every barrier is down.

Sophia wrote in 1740. A few women before her, hundreds of women since, have given their brains, their devotion, their energy, their lives to the same great idea. They received no public honours; many had recognition from small groups of disciples only, most suffered obloquy, not a few never lived to see the fruition of their work—but all believed in and were urged on by the same idea: all felt that women were neither animals nor angels, but human beings. Their names shine like great stars in the firmament of history, and it is the sacred flame of their enthusiasm and of their sanity which it is the task of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies to keep burning to-day.

MARGARET JONES.

sarily "rotten" because of the mere conditions are exaggerating as much as those who pretend that the whole problem is slight and almost negligible. Everything depends on the school, the house, and the year: the tone, the standard, varies from place to place and from time to time. But co-education is assuredly the quick and sane solution. We all tend to use the word "natural" too freely, in favour of whatever we happen to approve, without due regard to its difficult metaphysical implications: but surely it must be natural for the two sexes to mingle freely at all ages!

The central difficulty in "the theory of education" is not merely the difficulty of finding anything *new* in the statements of theory, but the difficulty of finding anything *true* that does not seem at once to contradict something else equally true and equally fundamental. You believe in liberty? Yes. But you also believe in discipline—you do not, that is, want to risk a sudden precipitation of the immature mind into an anarchy for which the maturest minds have not, so far, shown themselves strikingly fit! You compromise, then, on not "forcing" or "moulding" the child's individuality, but "letting it develop." But it cannot develop in a vacuum; even if you do not mould, you must suggest: even if you do not control, you must guide. What is a child's *true* individuality? Which of its impulses is right, which merely selfish and anti-social? It is not only possible, it is easy, to frame two complete educational systems, each of which shall be wholly logical, half false, and utterly destructive of the other. The practical teacher has no course but to compromise, to adjust, to feel his or her way. But then again, does not this make the science of education merely empirical, and so *unscientific*? Does it not leave everything to the personality, and possibly to the caprice, of the individual teacher? The difficulty, so stated, is insoluble. It is not exceptional in that. Indeed, it is but a special statement of the one great difficulty. Another statement of it can show the idea of democracy, or the idea of law, or the idea of liberty itself, to involve flat contradictions and an apparently endless series of unsatisfactory compromises. To say so much is only to admit the dual nature, half earth and half divinity, of the human being. The contradiction is the condition of humanity. Only, we can advance. And we make a great mistake if we suppose that our advance is merely empirical, merely "pragmatic": for, if it were, it would not be an advance towards an eternally and ideally existent end, and so would not be an *advance* at all. You cannot progress except *towards* something. And if we find that progress is barred by the contradictions in a theory, the thing for us to do is—not to abandon theory, or to concentrate on half a theory, but to go deeper *into* theory. It is only in crude statement that the principles of education seem to cancel each other out. If we take any one of them in practice and examine its implications, if we try to correlate it with philosophical truth and psychological experiment, we shall find that it solves old problems in the same measure as it raises new—and subtler and more exciting—problems.

And this brings me to one final and practical matter, on which every educationist ought all the time to insist. We expect infinite achievement of our teachers. We entrust them with the most delicate and important material in the world—the material of the world's future: we demand of them that they shall use infinite knowledge and infinite tact in the application of the most profound theories to the practical handling of this material: we expect of them infinite devotion, enthusiasm, sympathy, and wisdom. And regularly, systematically, as a national policy—grossly, unrepentantly—we *overwork* them and *underpay* them.

GERALD GOULD.

Reviews.

IN THE FOURTH YEAR: ANTICIPATIONS OF A WORLD PEACE. By H. G. Wells. (London: Chatto & Windus. 3s. 6d. net.)

Mr. Wells's book may be described as an Essay on a League of Nations, with an Appendix on Democracy. The Essay is about three times as long as the Appendix; and as the study of Democracy undertaken in the Appendix is almost entirely confined to a warm advocacy of the claims of the Single Transferable Vote to the attention of the British electorate, the relation of Appendix to Essay cannot be said to be very close. "In connection with the League of Nations people talk a lot of Democracy: well, what British Democracy wants is Proportional Representation, and its defeat in the House of Commons shows how badly we want it." That, or something like it, seems to be the connection of thought in the author's mind. The blessed word Reconstruction offers the most obvious cover behind which these two contributions to current political thought can unite.

Mr. Wells cannot reason, but he can write. If you happen to dislike any of the darlings of his imagination, he will not convince you, but he will make you uncomfortable, so obviously, almost unfairly, has he all the angels on his side—the angel of Science and Scientific Industry, the angels of Wealth and Comfort, the angels of Ability and Ingenuity and

all that is most up-to-date. The more debatable Mr. Wells's case, the more prominent are his heavenly allies.

The proposed League of Nations is already the subject of a considerable body of literature. The value of this latest contribution lies in its insistence on one main point. If the League is to be a real thing it must have powers. But international power is necessarily an infringement of national sovereignty or independence. The British Empire cannot, therefore, expect to realise the League without abating something of its Imperial pretensions. Not only might the League insist on inspecting and limiting armaments of war, or on laying down rules for the treatment of the black races in Central Africa: it might also invite appeals to its Courts from any subject people which considered itself wronged, or dictate to the constituent nations the method by which their national representatives should be appointed. In short, it is not only German militarism and the German doctrine of national egotism which are inconsistent with the idea of an international authority. Not less, or hardly less, inconsistent is Imperialism as many consciously or unconsciously conceive it in France, Italy, and Great Britain. It is urgently necessary that, before the Peace Conference begins to sit, we should clear up our ideas on the subject of Empire. Mr. Wells adds a pertinent query. In view of the probable future expansion of air locomotion, of the increased range of big guns, and of various other actual or imminent developments, it may be asked whether our ideas of Empire are not already more than a little obsolete. It is rather odd that Mr. Wells, who goes straight from this point to the consideration of Democracy, does not press his attack on Imperialism further. Why not tell the British public the plain truth? In the end Democracy and Imperialism are incompatible, and cannot co-exist.

On these topics we find Mr. Wells lively, vivid, and stimulating; and we can only hope that he will induce his large public to reflect further on the lines he has so clearly laid down. The three chapters dealing with Democracy, on the other hand, are very unsatisfying. While they may do good indirectly by stirring up discussion of the topics rather arbitrarily selected for treatment, they can hardly add to the author's political reputation. Prejudice takes the place of argument, and opposition is met by abuse instead of refutation. Proportional Representation is without doubt a debatable proposal, but it is not here debated. No coherent argument in its favour is advanced, and no serious argument against it is considered. The only way to meet Mr. Wells is by counter-assertion. We do not happen to believe that its adoption in this country would have any of the effects which he assumes. We do not agree with his diagnosis of the present state of British politics, and we do not like his forecast of rule in the Proportional Utopia by the "Able Person." Finally, we could wish that Mr. Wells would find room among the heavenly visitants who surround him for one more—the angel of Personal Generosity.

J. L. STROCKS.

WOMEN AND THE LABOUR PARTY. (Headley Bros. 1s. net.)

"Women and the Labour Party," by various women writers, with introductions by Dr. Marion Phillips and Mr. Arthur Henderson, is a little book that matters. Few of the articles in it are written by that personage exploited for their own ends by every axe-grinder—the "bona-fide working woman"—but none the less does the book present on the whole a fair view of much that is best in the thought and policy of organised labour. The writers make a frank bid for the support of the newly-enfranchised woman. In Miss MacArthur's words, "It is for those who read to decide whether the Labour Party meets their needs, understands their problems, and merits their support."

Some suffragists will not agree with all Miss MacArthur's conclusions in her lucid article "The Woman Trade Unionist." Her views on the precise forms that industrial organisation for men and women should take in the future are perhaps just a little too definitely conditioned by what she and her comrades have known of defeat and victory in the past. Be this as it may, all will support Miss MacArthur in her contention that women will now interpret their own needs and call for "new schemes of public health and housing and . . . protection of the mothers of the future."

Mrs. Webb, herself a pioneer in this cause, claims with just pride that the "end of the Poor Law," now achieved, has been a plank in the party's programme for ten years.

Miss Bondfield, clear-headed and vigorous as usual, deals with "Domestic Workers" (paid and unpaid). She lets air and sunshine in on the problem of the "servant," and, as we read, the cobwebs of sentimentalism and South Kensington ignorance disappear. She attaches immense importance to more "labour-saving" devices, and more co-operation in the domestic sphere, but touches hardly at all on equally needed social and political reforms to uplift the status and assure the health of the unpaid domestic worker. But she gives us a good story: "At a West Country conference the future development of domestic work was being discussed. A Trade Union comrade arose and impatiently dismissed the subject with: 'Why do we waste time discussing domestic service? We workers never have domestic service—we can't afford it!' He was promptly told by the housewives present that he got domestic service all right, but he paid nothing for it!"

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WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN OTHER LANDS.

THE important statement made by President Wilson of his strong support for the principle of women's suffrage, particularly in view of the needful reorganisation of the whole world for the preservation of its future peace, was made in answer to the memorial sent to him by the French Suffrage Society, "l'Union française pour le suffrage des femmes." The memorial, extracts from which we print below, was signed by the suffrage organisations of the following countries:—Great Britain, France, Italy, Russia, Belgium, the United States, South Africa, and Portugal.

A. M. le président Wilson.

Monsieur le président,

Dans le message historique qui annonçait au monde l'entrée en lutte de la force et de la pensée américaines, vous avez précisé en formules inoubliables ce que votre grande République attendait de la victoire: le droit pour les peuples de disposer d'eux-mêmes, et le règne d'une paix durable pour les générations à venir.

Les suffragistes françaises et celles des pays alliés ont entendu vos belles et fortes paroles et elles s'unissent pour vous prier de vouloir bien accueillir le vœu suivant:

"Considérant que de cette guerre sortira un nouveau droit international, fondé sur le droit des peuples de disposer librement d'eux-mêmes,

"Que nul ne peut se croire autorisé à parler au nom des peuples tant que les femmes seront exclues de la vie politique des nations;

"Considérant, d'autre part, que les femmes ont, durant le conflit actuel, montré quelle pouvait être la valeur de leur action sociale;

"Que la participation des épouses et des mères au suffrage serait une des meilleures garanties de la paix à venir (le besoin que les pays belligérants ont eu de leur aide dans le présent conflit, les souffrances tant morales que physiques que ce conflit leur a coûtées, ont donné la preuve définitive qu'on ne saurait plus, sans iniquité et sans imprudence, leur refuser d'avoir par leur vote une influence dans les pouvoirs qui décident de la paix et de la guerre).

"Les femmes des pays alliés émettent le vœu:
"Que le président Wilson veuille bien, dans un de ses prochains messages, proclamer le principe du suffrage des femmes comme un des fondements du Droit futur."

"Nous avons lu avec émotion dans le *Woman Citizen*, Monsieur le président, les paroles d'un sens si profond que vous avez adressées en réponse à la délégation des femmes de New-York. Si nous les citons ici, c'est que ce sont des paroles analogues que nous voudrions vous demander d'adresser à l'humanité tout entière, dans une de vos déclarations qui ont une répercussion mondiale.

"Le monde entier assiste en ce moment à la lutte entre deux idéals de gouvernement. C'est une lutte qui va plus profond et qui touche plus aux fondements de la vie organisée qu'aucune autre lutte précédente du monde entier.

"Aucun règlement des questions superfélicielles ne nous sortira d'une situation qui exige que les questions profondes et fondamentales soient résolues et bien solutionnées.

"J'exprime mon opinion que le suffrage des femmes est une des questions fondamentales qui exigent une solution."

"Agréez, Monsieur le président, l'expression de notre immense reconnaissance pour notre sœur Amérique, et notre admiration profonde pour la hauteur morale des déclarations que vous faites en son nom."

OBITUARY.

LORD RHONDDA.

The country has lost a good man and Suffragist a good friend by the death of Lord Rhondda. He was a brilliant administrator, and they are all too few. He was also a sincere man. He believed in women's suffrage and in the equality of men and women not only in theory but in practice. His daughter, Lady Mackworth, was a sharer in her father's business interests and in his business life, and we are glad that the Viscounty which was conferred upon him devolves by special remainder upon her.

Correspondence.

LEGISLATION AND THE SOCIAL PROBLEM.

MADAM,—In her letter (THE COMMON CAUSE, July 5th), Miss Royden has shown several misunderstandings of my article of June 21st.

(1) I find nowhere in my article the contention that "the small number of cases that would be brought under any given law is an argument against the law." When one of the arguments used for a proposal was that it would be equal as between the sexes, it appeared to me relevant to prove that the equality was illusory; that the number of women who would avail themselves of the law would be negligible, while the law would be used, and misused against them.

(2) Miss Royden writes: "Mrs. Swanwick must surely be aware that (whatever Lord Derby said or implied) it is not an offence for a soldier to infect a woman; consequently she cannot bring an action against him." I am aware, writing for those who know as well as I do that the apologists for the War Office have (intentionally or not) misled ignorant opinion on this point, I did not perhaps make clear to that ignorant opinion what my argument was. It was this: Miss Royden and others have asserted that a woman who finds herself infected is so embittered that she will be glad to use a legal weapon against the cause of her misery. Now, although a woman cannot at present, charge a soldier with infecting her (because this is not an indictable offence) she can inform against him and get him punished if he has concealed the disease which he has communicated to her. We are told no woman has done this. I deduce from this, not that these women feel no desire for revenge,

but that they dread satisfying it by giving information which will almost certainly lead to their own destruction. This seems to me to be valuable evidence against a proposal aimed at giving women a legal remedy. They will not dare to invoke that remedy.

(3) Miss Royden writes: "Again, I do not think that unless you penalise young girls you achieve nothing, since I do not think it 'nothing' if we succeed in penalising the men who infect those girls." Unless this is intended to suggest that I do think what Miss Royden repudiates, it seems to me irrelevant. Nowhere in my article is such an opinion given. But I do strongly hold that Miss Royden's proposals will not succeed in penalising the men.

(4) Miss Royden writes that I "substitute abuse for argument," because towards the end of an article of a column and three-quarters, full of detailed arguments, I allude to her proposals (as well as 40 D and the two Bills now before Parliament) as "panic legislation."

I do not deny the "very serious danger." I think Miss Royden and others do well to be "aware of it." What I regard as a sign of panic is that, desiring a good end, they had not given adequate thought to the means for attaining it.

Sixteen months ago the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene passed a resolution advocating the establishment of a Commission of Inquiry. The Government will not appoint such a Commission. Last week at a joint meeting convened by the Association a resolution was passed urging it to promote the establishment of a Commission of men and women which should "invite expert evidence and consider the whole question of legislation, and remedial treatment dealing with the social evil and venereal disease, in accordance with scientific knowledge and fundamental morality." The report of such a Commission may give a basis of knowledge upon which to build remedial legislation. Such a basis does not yet exist.

H. M. SWANWICK.

WOMEN CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS.

MADAM,—I have read Mrs. Strachey's sermon in THE COMMON CAUSE of June 28th several times, but remain unregenerate. I still think that the Council of the National Union missed its chance in not deciding to throw itself vigorously into the work of educating the Woman Citizen, the only immediate, practical, and effective work which lay to its hand. I read the minutes of the Executive Committee's meetings, as they are sent out to societies, and I get the impression that instead of devoting itself to a uniform and coherent piece of work, our Union is dissipating its energies in a thousand and one directions, and playing second fiddle to other bodies who send resolutions to our Executive for its approval. I disagree entirely from Mrs. Strachey's view that it is narrow and mean to regret playing second fiddle. I do regret it, and I find myself thinking: "There comes a tide in the affairs of men, which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune. Neglected, all the current of their lives is bound in shallows and in miseries."

Yes, extraordinary as it may appear to Mrs. Strachey and those who agree with her, I am still of the opinion that it would have been a good thing—the best thing—if our societies could have taken up as their latest task the education of the newly-enfranchised. The Woman Citizen is asking us for it: and looks to us for it: and there are other ways of educating than "pumping."

As it is, many of the societies—most, I fear—have done and are doing nothing, so has the issue been confused by the want of definiteness in the Council's decision and the Executive's leading. When and if some of us do get to work I am inclined to think that we shall become Women Citizens' Associations, and the National Union will have to go. For this reason—and now I shall indeed shock Mrs. Strachey—some of us hesitate with our subscriptions to the Central Fund.

EMMA COMMON.

ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN CLERKS AND SECRETARIES.

MADAM,—I would not venture to trespass on your valuable space, but that I feel my subject to be of vital import to a large percentage of your readers.

From articles which you have published lately from the nascent Society of Welfare Workers and the newly-formed Union of Women Motor Drivers I gather that you are willing to foster our Women's organisations, but I doubt whether your readers have grasped the crying need for combination among women clerical workers.

The average woman nowadays finds herself in a better financial position than ever before, and is not therefore faced with the immediate necessity of considering the prospects and status of her profession. If she does give the matter a thought, she comforts herself with the consoling reflection, "Oh, yes; but then the Association of Women Clerks will fight my battles for me if the necessity should arise." Such an attitude betokens an utter inability to realise her individual responsibility and a total misconception of the meaning of "association," whose very *raison d'être* lies in the power which accrues to workers in a particular craft by combination among all the workers engaged in that occupation. This is the fundamental principle of Unionism, and from this it follows that unless an association comprises all the workers engaged in that craft, the association must fail, and the profession itself remain a veritable "will o' the wisp," at the mercy of every opposing force.

I would therefore remind the woman clerk of to-day that, though present-day conditions may appear to some to be better than ever before, others realise that the position at the moment is far from satisfactory, whilst the outlook for the future is still more serious. "What plans for post-war employment has she formulated? What precautions have been taken to guard against undercutting when demobilisation takes place?" These and a hundred such questions it is the patriotic duty of every woman clerk to ask herself, for now it is that women, being able to pay for the means of securing a decent livelihood for themselves, should set the clerical profession on a safe and sound basis as an attractive career for women. The aim is high, and if, now that we have the means, we fail to shoulder the burden, then surely we merit the inevitable reward of our inactivity.

The Association of Women Clerks and Secretaries, I might add, offers to all interested in their own safety, and in the welfare of their fellow-workers, an opportunity to take their part in present-day organisation and in the coming reconstruction.

DOROTHY EVANS, Secretary.

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TIED COTTAGES AND LIVING IN.

MADAM.—If you have any space I shall be glad to add a few remarks re "tied cottages." I can quite understand a good landlord thoroughly believing that it is best as it is, but the crux of the matter lies in the fact that the landlord has too strong a hold on the workman in matters that should be outside the contract of employment. The same effect takes place in the case of living in for shop assistants and servants. They are not able to develop their individuality with the same freedom as those who, as in the towns, start and end their relations with their employers with business hours, and whilst to be tied to an employer who is bad is very bad, to be tied even to an exceptionally good one is not satisfactory.

If the tied system gradually died out and villages where houses could be got for rent grew up instead of tied houses, there would be less movement towards the towns, and it would be possible to free the people from the idea that they must be beholden to the landlord of their small farm or the same person if they are employed, because their whole opportunities are bound up in the estate, and may be affected by the deserved or undeserved favouritism or tyranny of one man.

The policy of the breaking up of large estates is involved in this matter, because it is essential that there shall be a greater chance of changing employers, as well as an opportunity of being quite free from any tied arrangements that are outside the ordinary working hours, before the rural employe and smallholder can really be as free as the town dweller.

H. M. THEEDAM.

CHILDREN AND FOOD.

MADAM.—May I express my thanks to "C. R." for the article in THE COMMON CAUSE, May 10th, on "Children and Food"? After reading this article I felt impelled to bring the matter before our Local Food Control Committee, and urged, from a national point of view, the importance of securing a sufficiency of food for growing girls as well as for boys. I reminded the Committee that as the potential mothers of the future it is imperative that girls should, in their growing years, be well fed. Our Food Committee unanimously recommended to the Ministry of Food that girls, as well as boys, should have increased rations. I mention this in the hope that other Food Committees may take similar action.

CLARA C. LUCAS.

Reports and Notices.

Cardiff.

A public meeting to commemorate the Enfranchisement of Women was held in the City Hall, Cardiff, on July 5th, and was preceded by a reception at the Mansion House, in honour of Mrs. Fawcett, given by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress (Alderman William Roberts and Mrs. Roberts).

Both reception and meeting were crowded, and Cardiff, in the person of the Lord Mayor, met their honoured guest at the station and expressed to her the satisfaction of Wales in the enfranchisement of women, and the appreciation so universally felt for Mrs. Fawcett's magnificent work for the cause. An address of gratitude and of affectionate regard was presented to her by the Cardiff and District Association of the Federation of University Women, and the Newport Society presented her with flowers as her train passed through that town.

At the evening meeting the chair was taken by the Lord Mayor of Cardiff, and the speakers, besides Mrs. Fawcett, were Mrs. Coombe Tennant and Mrs. Oliver Strachey. Votes of thanks were proposed by Lord Pontypridd, Mr. Leufer Thomas, Professor Griffiths, and Professor Barbara Foxley. An address of congratulation and thanks was also presented to Mrs. Lewis, of Greenmeadow, President of the Cardiff and District W.S.S. Delegates from many parts of South Wales were present, and the South Wales Federation Committee took the occasion of the celebration to hold a business meeting, at which the officers were elected and the annual report adopted.

The Annual Meeting of the Proportional Representation Society.

Many of our readers will like to know that Mrs. Fawcett has accepted an invitation to speak at the Annual Meeting of the Proportional Representation Society, which will be held on Thursday, July 18th, at the Conference Room, Central Hall, Westminster, at 5.30 p.m. Tickets may be obtained from the Proportional Representation Society, 82, Victoria-street, S.W.1.

Mrs. Fawcett's interest in proportional representation dates back a long time. Her husband, Henry Fawcett, was one of the four who introduced a Proportional Representation Bill as long ago as 1872, and so keen was his interest in this reform that had he lived he would have resigned with Leonard Courtney when the latter felt compelled to withdraw from Mr. Gladstone's Government because this method of election did not find a place in the Reform Bill of 1884.

Many women have taken a very keen and active part in support of proportional representation. The late Catherine Helen Spence, known as the Grand Old Woman of Australia, after women had obtained the suffrage, devoted her energies to secure what she called an "effective vote, and it was largely due to the influence of her insistent propaganda that the first Proportional Representation Act was passed in Tasmania.

The "Common Cause" Scholarship for Commercial Chemistry.

Our readers will remember that Miss Olive Workman, the holder of THE COMMON CAUSE Scholarship, began her research work in January, 1917, at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, South Kensington. She has submitted reports upon the progress of her work, and it is interesting to know that she is engaged in research on the absorptive power of wood charcoal for methylene blue. The research has shown the importance of the method of preparation of the charcoal, and experiments are being conducted with a view to ascertaining the relative importance of heat and other factors in connection with this phenomenon.

National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

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Hon. Secretaries:

MRS. MARGARET JONES.

MRS. OLIVER STRACHEY (Parliamentary).

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Headquarter Notes.

Secretaries of Societies, Please Note!

A List of Societies and Federations with the names and addresses of Secretaries will be published in THE COMMON CAUSE during August. As the whole value of this list lies in its absolute accuracy SECRETARIES ARE ASKED TO NOTIFY ANY CHANGES TO HEADQUARTERS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Literature Department.

The third and fourth of the National Union's new recruiting leaflets are now on sale: "Women in the Teaching Profession" and "Women in Business" (rs. 6d. per roo). Also a larger eight-page pamphlet, "The National Union and Reconstruction" (2d.). These three publications should prove of great use to our societies in explaining to new or prospective members the future activities of the Union. The eight-page pamphlet outlines the Union's general reconstruction programme; the single-sheet leaflets show how this programme will affect particular trades and professions. Societies are advised to order early, as our new publications are in great demand.

Treasurer's Report.

No doubt our members and readers glance through the reports of the societies, and probably have noticed the activity of our organisers during the last month—Miss Mercer at Deal and Walmer, Miss Foggo at Nairn and in many parts of Scotland, Miss Hartop at Dewsbury, etc., etc. But do they realise that these organisers are attached to Headquarters, and that the money for their salaries and expenses, now higher than ever before, has to be found by Headquarters? And do they ponder well that without a very immediate and a very generous response to our appeal for a Permanent Fund, it will be impossible to carry out the new scheme decided on by the Council? Subscribers, and more subscribers, of big sums and small, are urgently needed. Will YOU be one of the thousand new subscribers required this month?

Third "Common Cause" Hut.

We are most anxious to complete the Fund before the opening of the Hut, in the middle of this month. Contributions are therefore urgently solicited.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	606	4	0
Miss M. B. Greswell, Hon. Sec., Taunton N.U.W.S.S.	1	0	0
Miss C. M. Forster	5	0	
Miss H. M. Gaskell	2	2	0
	£609	11	0

The "Common Cause" £2,000 Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	427	0	4
Mrs. Huxley (per Mrs. Ring, Birmingham)	1	0	0
	£428	0	4

LONDON UNITS, S. W. H.

At the Mansion House on July 5th the Lord Mayor formally opened the fund for the London Memorial to Dr. Elsie Inglis. After paying personal tribute to Dr. Inglis' personality and work, he read a telegram of good wishes and gratitude from M. Pasjitch, sent on behalf of the Serbian Government in Corfu, followed by letters of regret from Mrs. Fawcett and others who were unable to attend the meeting. The speakers—Lord Selborne, Lady Frances Balfour, and Commander Locker Lampson—commended to the audience the Chair of Medicine at the University of Belgrade, which is to be endowed with the money raised for the London Memorial. Mrs. Kinnell then made a short and telling appeal, whose results were apparent when Miss Palliser announced later that the promises received amounted to £1,760. The Serbian Minister proposed a vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor and speakers, which was seconded by Miss Palliser.

All money received for the London Units Memorial Fund will be invested in War Loan till it can be used for its ultimate purpose. Contributions, which should be sent to the Countess of Selborne, 66, Victoria-street, S.W.1., may be made, if desired, by transfer of War Loan

N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals.

Subscriptions are still urgently needed, much new work being undertaken, and should be sent to Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treasurer, S.W.H., Red House, Greenock. Cheques to be crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland." Subscriptions for the London Units to be sent to the Right Hon. Viscountess Cowdray, or to Miss Gosse, Joint Hon. Treasurers, 66, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W.1.

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Hunts.
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Collected for the "Trinity Heroes" Bed (Royaumont), per Mrs. Young, Leith: Wm. Graham (5s.), Mrs. Jessie M. Young (2s.) ... 1 12 0

*Lady Murray per Mrs. Conway, M.A., Hon. Sec., Manchester W.S.S., for "Chinley and Chapel-en-le-Frith" Bed (Manchester and District Federation) (Corsica) ... 8 10 6

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*Per Mrs. Robertson, Kilmarnock: *Employees, Messrs. Portland Forge Co. Ltd. (22 0s. 6d.); *Employees, Messrs. Matthew Muir & Co. (21 9s. 6d.) ... 3 9 6

"C. J. F." ... 1 0 0

*Clerks in the Claims & Record Office, Kew, per Miss Janet Smith, for upkeep of "Claims & Record Office, Kew," Bed (Wiltshire-Cotterets) ... 6 4 6

*Hull W.S.S., per Miss Hyde, Hon. Secy. ... 4 18 2

*Miss Isabella Steele, Glasgow ... 5 0 0

*For the "Isabella" Bed ... 2 6

*Hongkong War Charities Fund, per H. C. Sandford, Esq., Asst. Hon. Treas., Hongkong ... 3 1 9

Miss M. C. Ronaldson, Larbert ... 10 0

Mrs. Arthur Mackay, Chicago, per Chas. P. Clifford, Esq., Chicago (250.00 doles) ... 52 11 0

*Denotes further donations. £327,913 4 11

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"Vive la France" (Salonica, further 6 months) ... From two Members of the Glasgow W.S.S.

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SPECIAL HOME FUND.

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Reports from Societies.

HARROW BRANCH, LONDON SOCIETY.—The annual meeting was held on June 7th. Very few members were present. The Hon. Secretary urged members to take THE COMMON CAUSE, both because of its educational value and in order to help it financially.

It was decided to ask all members to contribute sixpence per quarter towards Women's Service. The Hon. Secretary then gave a summary of some of the subjects discussed at the Council meeting.

The annual meeting was followed by a public meeting, with Miss Clough in the chair, to discuss Women Citizens' Associations. There was a good attendance. It was decided to start an Association in Harrow, and a provisional joint committee was elected.

Forthcoming Meetings (N.U.W.S.S.)

JULY 15. **Bermansley**—South-East London Mission, Old Kent Road—Women's Own—Responsibilities of the New Women Voters.—Speaker: Miss Relf. 3 p.m.

Birmingham—Perry Barr—"Use of the Vote"—Mrs. Ring. 3 p.m.

St. George's-in-the-East—The Imperial Club for Women, 252, Cable Street, E. (Soldiers and Sailors' Wives Club)—Speaker: Miss R. D. Fox.—Subject: "Women's New Opportunities."

Wandsworth—Springfield Hall, Women's Meeting—Wandsworth Road—Speaker: Miss Ruth Young.—Subject: "Women's New Opportunities."

JULY 16. **Birmingham**—Grand Hotel—Presentation to Mrs. A. Alder by Alderman Clayton, on behalf of Subscribers. 5.30 p.m.

JULY 17. **Islington**—Branch Meeting, Argyle Hall, 105, Seven Sisters Road—Speakers: Mrs. Stocks and Miss R. D. Fox.—Chair: The Hon. Mrs. Spencer Graves. 7.30 p.m.

JULY 18. **Birmingham**—Bourville Mothers—Baby Week Meeting—Bourville Grounds—Mrs. Ring. 2.30 p.m.

South London—Citizens' Discussion Circle, The People's Church, Denmark Hill—Speaker: Miss A. E. Scott.—Subject: "Continuation Schools"—Chair: Miss Mary Fielden.

JULY 22. **Norwood**—Raiton Road Wesleyan Church, Herne Hill—Sisterhood Meeting—Speaker: Miss Margaret Jones.—Subject: "The Responsibilities and Opportunities of Citizenship." 3 p.m.

Coming Events.

JULY 16th.—Bloomsbury Central Church, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.—Protest Meeting to demand the withdrawal of the Regulation 20B, D.O.R.A.—Chair will be taken by Rev. T. Phillips.—Admission Free. 7.30 p.m.

JULY 18th.—Central Hall, Westminster—Proportional Representation Society Annual Meeting—Speaker: Mrs. Fawcett. 5.30 p.m.

JULY 20th.—"Lavender Market" will be held in the Ascot High Street in the afternoon, for the benefit of the five "Ascot Beds" in the Scottish Women's Hospitals and of the "Cure Committee" for Prisoners of War of the Royal Berkshire Regiment. Gifts of lavender and of small articles suitable for the outdoor sale will be gratefully received at any date beforehand by Miss V. Hembury, Hon. Sec., Holmwood Lodge, Ascot.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S CITIZEN ASSOCIATION.—Address by the External Registrar of London University on "The University Franchise of the London University Club (Conference Hall), 21, Gower-st., W.C., on Friday, July 12th, at 5.30 p.m.



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WANTED for beginning of September, two ladies as House Orderlies for Girls' Private Boarding School; seven ladies on domestic staff.—Apply Miss Turner, The Laurels, Rugby.

WANTED, a lady as National Secretary to the Women's Total Abstinence Union; must have had experience in Secretarial and Temperance Work and be prepared to devote her whole time to the interests of the organisation.—Applications should be sent to Mrs. Alfred Brooks, Goldsmiths, Langdon Hills, Essex.

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[Continued on page 168.]

Continued from page 167.]

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