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SELMA LAGERLÖF.

A Birthday Tribute.

The name of Selma Lagerlöf is of wide international fame. Millions of readers have experienced the magic spell of her wonderful art of story-telling. However, writing these unpretending lines for "Jus" because of her seventieth anniversary, on the 20th of November, a recapitulation of her literary career would not suffice as a measure of what she is and what she has given out of the riches of her genius and her mind. It must be brought home to the champions of the freedom of women that Selma Lagerlöf at the height of her literary fame stood up for women's equal rights, for citizenship and votes for women. She gave the shield and the power of her celebrated name to the suffrage movement of her country, and in doing so even to the international movement. Those who were present at the Suffrage Congress in Stockholm in 1911, will never forget her fine speech and imposing appearance at the great evening meeting at the Royal Opera.

Official honours have been bestowed on Selma Lagerlöf as far as there were any to be given. In 1907 she was nominated *doctor honoris causa* by the University of Upsala, in 1909 she got the Nobel prize, in 1914 she became one of the eighteen members of the Royal Swedish Academy, the first and as yet only woman of this Swedish institute of letters. She is honorary member

of a number of national and foreign associations and clubs, among those the Pen Club.

There is no need to give here the whole stately list of her published novels and tales. Most of them are translated and to be read in different languages—so many that the total sum of them is thirty-four—and to the many, many of her readers the recollection of *Gösta Berling*, of *The Miracles of Anti-Christ*, of *Jerusalem*, of *The Adventures of Nils*, of *The Emperor of Postugallia*, and of the many other of her books will remain "a joy for ever" in their richness of imagination, their enchanting art.

On the very day of the anniversary the Royal Opera of Stockholm will produce *The Cavaliers of Ekeby*. It is the first representation in Sweden of Riccardo Zandonai's Italian opera *I Cavalieri di Ekeby*, composed to Arturo Rosato's adaption of *Gösta Berling* for the opera stage. The composer himself will conduct and Selma Lagerlöf will be present.

It is easy to predict that the evening will be of one of the great festivity and will bring many tributes to Dr. Lagerlöf.

ELLEN KLEMAN.

Stockholm, Oct. 1928.

PAN PACIFIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE.

HONOLULU, AUGUST, 9-19.

We have received most interesting accounts of the Conference from the Australian member of the Alliance Board, Mrs. Rischbieth who represented the Alliance there. It is not easy to pick out a straightforward account of the proceedings from the bulky package of press matter she was kind enough to send, and one regrets that it is not possible to report all the interesting speeches and resolutions in full.

The programme was divided into Sections for Education, Health, Women in Industry and Professions, Social Service, Women in Government. These Sections each had Round Table Conferences in the morning with public sessions in the afternoon, joining up gradually as their proceedings converged. The Conference Chairman was Miss Jane Addams, who needs no introduction to our readers, and a continuation Committee was chosen to carry out future work, on which two of the Alliance Auxiliary Presidents were appointed, Mrs. Rischbieth, of Australia, and Mrs. Gauntlett, of Japan. This Continuation Committee was instructed by the Conference to bear in mind the following points: a study of costs and standards of living in Pacific countries, and comparison between such standards with wages; a survey of the health of women in industry; research into electoral systems, women's place in political parties and legislation affecting women and children. The Committee then presented a Report giving tentative plans for the follow-up work as follows: that the next Pan Pacific Women's Conference should be held in 1930 and that the invitation to hold it in Shanghai be further considered; that Miss Eleanor M. Hinder be appointed Executive Secretary for the Continuation work; that a Conference Continuation Fund be formed; that the Executive Secretary be empowered to institute correspondence with various countries for the purpose of consultation with national and international groups as to whether some permanent Pacific woman's organisation should be set up at the Second Conference. The Executive Secretary was further instructed to undertake the publication of the proceedings of this Conference; to compile a simple handbook of women's organisations operating in the Pacific region to ascertain what research is already being done on matters treated by the Conference and to promote further research; and finally to act as a clearing house for the dissemination of material communicated by various countries.

It will be seen that this Conference has a very great interest for women's international organisations as being possibly the starting point of a great unifying movement among the women of the Pacific countries. All international organisations have been conscious of the difficulties of getting and keeping in touch with many of these countries which have little direct touch with Europe, and such a new centre might very well form the ideal link which would bring the women of the world into closer relations.

The nature of the papers presented on various subjects by the women of widely varying countries prove what good work they have been doing. Miss Mary Anderson, of the United States, presented a most complete Report on the work of the Children's Bureau. Dr. Mildred Staley, of New Zealand, contributed most useful information and suggestions with regard to the influence of the Cinema on children. An excellent summary of the League of Nations Experts' Report on the Traffic in Women was presented to the Conference. Several papers were given dealing with women in industry, two of them specially referring to women and trade unions. Japan contributed a report on woman suffrage and political status generally in addition to a study of the standard of living. Mrs. Rischbieth dealt with the subject of the influence of women in Government, and gave an interesting survey of what the present position is as well as excellent suggestions for the future.

Mrs. Rischbieth gives a glowing account of the wonderful hospitality shown to the delegates, to the value of the discussions and to the outstanding ability of many of the delegates. There was evidently an atmosphere of hope mixed with determination to help in the shaping of the destiny of the Pacific countries. This is a real section of the international movement and it is clear that the internationally minded woman and women's international organisations must realise the important possibilities which have been opened up. The next Conference should be seized on as a most valuable meeting place for the Union of East and West.

We only regret that this account of the Conference is necessarily brief and incomplete.

YOUTH AND THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT.

I know that many countries have lost hold of the younger generation in their struggle for equal rights, after they have gained their political rights. It is as if most women are of opinion that with the possession of the right to vote and to sit as a member of the different representative bodies the women's movement has reached the goal.

But we are far from it. We have still to fight for so many rights before we have reached the status of really standing socially, economically and legally on the same level with men. And that status must be gained before we can be permitted to give up the woman's movement.

But how to keep the battle going if we lose our old soldiers and get no younger ones in their place?

This question the Amsterdam branch of the Nederlandsche Vereeniging van Staatsburgeressen (Dutch Society of Women Citizens) has tried to bring to a solution. I got hold of a group of clever young women and men and told them the aim of our movement and asked them if they were of opinion that such an aim was worth fighting for and they thought it was.

But how could they and so many others know what we were doing, since people began to hate to go to meetings and listen to a speaker, or to read a monotonous weekly or monthly paper. We ought as in the time of our struggle for Woman Suffrage to try to rouse the people in the street and get the daily papers interested in our cause, not by writing articles but in a new way.

The older members let them have their way and on the evening of September 26th, a most beautiful and almost summer night, the members of the Society of Women Citizens were invited to sit in a series of little gondolas beautifully decorated and with illuminated paper lanterns of different colours to make a tour from 8-10 o'clock through the various canals of Amsterdam. Heading the procession was a large boat, on which was a band of 30 students, which played the hymns and other students' songs and made so much noise that along the canals and on the bridges the people stood head behind head. Young women went on bicycles, laden with handbills in bright colours, on which was printed why the Vereeniging van Staatsburgeressen still had to work for:

Legal Equality for men and women
Liberty to work
Equal pay for equal work
Better marriage laws
Equal opportunity to be employed in all offices,
etc., etc.,

in short: for equal duties and equal rights for men and women, which they distributed among the countless people along the road and on the bridges.

On these handbills was also printed the address of the Amsterdam Secretary, to whom one could send subscriptions.

But that was not all. The next day that same propaganda-committee had arranged in the afternoon from

2-4 o'clock an auto-drive in the streets of Amsterdam in autos beautifully decorated with fresh flowers. Headed again by a very big open car with band, a very long tail of mostly private autos in which the members of our society had taken the places went slowly through the streets of different parts of the town and distributed again our coloured handbills. Not only men and women in the streets took our handbills gratefully, but we saw men and women come out of their houses asking us for one or picking up the copies which lay in the streets.

The meeting which was announced for that evening in one of our biggest halls of the town was crowded and there again our aim was placed before the audience in a gay way. Theatricals were given, acted by young people.

The next day all the daily papers of the town gave long and good articles on the way in which our society has made propaganda for the cause and all praised the artistic and jolly way on which it was done. One paper said: "De Vereeniging van Staatsburgeressen has shown that to make propaganda for a cause does not need to be ennuyant, it can be done in a gay and artistic way and still be efficient."

And efficient it was. Since it was done the Amsterdam branch has got daily new subscribers for their cause and will not be content before their number of members has been doubled or tripled.

D. ALETTA JACOBS.

REVIEW.

THE CAUSE: A SHORT HISTORY OF THE WOMAN'S MOVEMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN, by Ray Strachey. G. Bell & Sons., Ltd., York House, Portugal Street, London. Price 15s.

Mrs. Strachey begins her preface by stating that the records of the woman's movement are easily accessible and most of the events still within living memory. Nevertheless, we are very grateful to her for writing this record while that statement is still true in general, because even now consultation of records means a good deal of research and memories are short.

The Chapters are headed with the dates of the period which they cover, and the first date is 1792 to 1837—a period which was rather that of the incubation than the actual birth of a definite women's movement. It is appropriately called "The prison-house of Home" and shows what life meant for active, intelligent women when only with the greatest difficulty could they become anything more than some man's daughter or some man's wife. Florence Nightingale is the great protagonist of that period—Florence Nightingale who wrote: "O weary days, O evenings that seem never to end! For how many years I have watched that drawing-room clock and thought it would never reach the ten! And for twenty or thirty years more to do thus!" She did not have to spend those years thus, but by a miraculous effort of will spent them in doing her predestined work and in becoming one of the great liberators of women from a life of soulless ease in the case of the upper and middle class, and from miserable, unending, sweated toil in the working classes. This is not to say that that liberation is complete, but Florence Nightingale did much to undermine a wretched system. At the end of the book there is republished a poignant fragment called "Cassandra," which she wrote in 1852 on the text, "The voice of one crying in the 'crowd,' 'Prepare ye the way of the Lord.'" It was privately printed, but has never before been made public. It is a bitter cry from a woman who knew her gifts and feared their utter loss and it should be read by every ambitious young woman to-day so that she may realise what indeed she owes to the women who fought such a bitter fight to give her a measure of opportunity.

Then came the period of "Discontent," when woman suffrage began to be tentatively mooted, in the Chartist Movement and even in the Press. Then came the first beginnings of reform in the position of the married woman with the passing of the "Infants Custody Bill"

largely founded on the heroic fight made by Caroline Norton to win the right to see her children kept in the custody of the husband she had left. The famous incident of the Anti-Slavery Convention in 1840 with its rejection of the women delegates is familiar to all students of the women's movement.

When we reach 1850 we reach the real birth of an organised women's movement, though it was not until 1855 that Barbara Leigh Smith formed the first feminist committee which sponsored the first married woman's property act. That Committee faded away, but it bore fruit and gradually women began to yearn for co-operation in fighting all the evils which charitable work was bringing to their notice. Then a woman's paper was founded in 1857—the Englishwoman's Journal—and round it grew up a multitude of feminist activities. The great name of John Stuart Mill now comes in and it was round his promise to introduce a suffrage bill into Parliament that the first purely suffrage committee was formed. It was closely followed by others, notably Lydia Becker's Committee in Manchester. From that time on, the work for suffrage went forward on lines which are comparatively well-known.

Mrs. Strachey deals rightly at considerable length with the struggle for education and its pioneers, Emily Davies, Frances Buss and Dorothea Beale. She follows on with the fight to get women admitted to the medical profession, and a most interesting chapter on the work with which the name of Josephine Butler is for ever associated.

As we come nearer to the present, the things Mrs. Strachey tells us are more familiar but not less enthralling. All the many facets of what the women's movement really means catch the light: the liberal professions; higher education; the Married Women's Property Act; the militant movement; the long years when hope and discouragement alternately swayed the policy of the suffrage groups; the work of women during the war and then the passing of the first franchise act and its immediate sequels in the shape of the granting of eligibility to women, the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act and many others, with the final suffrage victory of equal franchise this very year.

It is a great tale to read, and it written with clearness, with spirit and with just that sense of humour which any human history needs to make it come alive. Those of us who read with enough knowledge of the old order to realise what opposition women met with, and who perhaps from that deep realisation are sometimes tempted to groan in spirit at the opposition they know is still arrayed against "equal status," cannot but take heart at this chart of the track of a miraculous comet. What! has this bright thing moved so far and so fast? Then indeed we may well feel that nothing is impossible.

K.B.

BERLIN CONGRESS FUND.

Our Berlin Fund started off with a very generous contribution from Mme. Hoda Charaoui Pacha of £50 on behalf of the Egyptian Auxiliary. We have been much encouraged by further donations from many kind friends in response to our little appeal sent out with the Call to the Congress. In all we have collected about £75, but grateful though we are to those who have sent a prompt response, we must remind our readers that our big international Congresses are rather expensive and we need a really big response from our friends in all countries if we are to make our Anniversary worthy of the achievements it will celebrate. It is a great help in the organisation if contributions come in early so that we have a solid financial basis to work upon.

CUBA.

As reported by the Associated Press, Señorita Zolla Soto Martinez has been appointed judge at Matanzas,

REPORTS FROM AUXILIARIES.

AUSTRALIA.

WOMEN'S NON-PARTY ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Peace and Arbitration is one of the planks of our platform, and the following resolution was unanimously passed at the August meeting for discussion of association work: "That the Federal Government be urged to sign the Optional Clause of the Permanent Court of International Justice with such reservations as may be considered necessary after consultation with the other Governments of the Empire." (Signatories of the Optional Clause promise to submit to the International Court all disputes of a legal nature which arise among themselves, instead of resorting to war methods.)

Payment of Woman Censor: A strong protest has been sent to the Federal Government concerning its proposal to pay the woman member of the new Film Censorship Board a lower salary than the two male members. As the censors are to do individual and concurrent work there is no excuse for such an injustice, and it is to be hoped that the Government will establish equality of remuneration and status in this important Board.

New Legislation Concerning Divorce is contemplated by the South Australian Government, and the W.N.P.A. has forwarded to the Minister its considered opinions on this subject. The whole matter was very carefully gone into last year by our members, and a list of desirable provisions for a divorce law were drawn up and put into legal shape. The South Australian law at present is almost as limited as it is possible to be. Wise additions are most necessary to bring this State more into line with the others, and thus pave the way for a Federal Divorce Law.

The Police Act Amendment Bill, now being discussed in Parliament, has roused the interest of the Association, which realises that certain benefits would accrue from the Bill, but is anxious to secure that it shall not interfere with the liberty of innocent individuals, especially women and girls. Action is being taken in the matter.

AUSTRIA.

Nomination of the first woman Sektionsrat in the Ministry of Commerce and Trade.

With the greatest satisfaction it is reported that Margarete Geyling, Inspector of the Women's Trade schools, was nominated as the first of her sex as *Sektionsrat* in the Ministry of Commerce and Trade. Frau Geyling is well known in the circles of the Austrian women's movement, as she has been a co-worker in the National Council of Austrian Women for many years. She is a member of the Council's Commission for education. In her professional work she is appreciated as a skilled organiser. The Women's Trade Schools of Vienna and Nether-Austria are under her supervision.

The first woman advocate in Vienna.

Dr. Marianne Beth, of whom it has been already reported that she was the first woman who passed the examination as a Counsel, was registered also as the first of her sex in the list of Viennese advocates last July. Since then she has already been the first woman charged with the administration of bankruptcy (Massaverwalterin). She is also the first woman who was nominated a sworn interpreter at the Law Courts for English some years ago. Dr. Beth is very interested in the woman's movement and especially in work in the legal sphere in the interests of women and children. In her private life she is known as a very clever housekeeper and also as a model mother and wife. She is married to the University Professor, Dr. Karl

Beth, well known as theological historian and philosopher. For all, who believe that a woman working professionally and interested in public work at the same time, must neglect all female duties, Dr. Beth is the proof that such a woman, gifted with a high intellect, may overcome all difficulties and fulfil her woman's mission in all directions.

A new Penal Law for Juveniles.

For long years women's organisations and all men engaged in public work and interested in children's welfare, have demanded the establishment of a new Penal Law which to permit of children and juveniles committing any offence to be treated not with punishment, but with educational measures. Such a Law after a long debate was accepted by the National Council last July. It had to pass the upper House, the Federal Council, in September. In spite of the fact that in the legal Committee of the Federal Council there are many renowned lawyers, Frau Olga Rudel-Zeynek, member of the Federal Council, was selected to report on the Law before the House. Surely, this event is to be noted as a woman's success.

GISELA URBAN.

GREAT BRITAIN.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

The General Election, 1929.

For various reasons, the General Election next year is arousing peculiar interest, and there is already a general stir throughout the country indicative of a consciousness, at least to a certain extent, of the importance of this event. A greatly enlarged electorate, with women voting for the first time on the same terms as men, and an election after the completion by the Government of its full term of office, are conditions which do not occur for every General Election, and the results will consequently be looked forward to with even less certainty than is usual on these occasions. The exact date is not yet, of course, fixed, but it will probably be early in June, as the first register bearing the names of women electors qualified under identical conditions with those of men will not come into force until 1st May, the election cannot be before that date, and it cannot be later than September, as by October the five years' term of office of the Government will have expired.

All of us who have helped to secure the vote for women realise how it is largely our responsibility to help the newly enfranchised to master the use of the vote, and show them how they can take their share in the government of the country. Consequently many meetings are being arranged throughout the country specially for new voters, on the meaning of the franchise. Great interest has been shown by women in the annual Conferences of each Party which have been held recently—the last before the General Election—but it is too soon yet to estimate the full power of the women voters in their respective Parties. It is noteworthy that this year the Central Women's Advisory Committee has been recognised as an official part of the Conservative Party organization. The election of Miss Susan Lawrence as Vice-Chairman of the Labour Party means that she will be Chairman next year and consequently will preside over the Party Conference.

Local Government.

Although there are a good many women standing for the borough council elections which take place on the 1st November, we have still a long way to go before we can feel that women are taking, or being given the opportunity to take, their full share in local government. Several of our societies are working for the return of women members and in one ward of the Kensington Borough six non-party candidates are being

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

We are continuing our Equal Franchise Victory Celebrations. On the evening of November 7th, Mr. Laurence Housman, the author and dramatist, who so gallantly helped the cause of woman suffrage throughout the entire period of militancy in this country, will make an after-dinner speech at the Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1, on "Suffrage Memories," the Chair being taken by Mrs. Zangwill; and on Tuesday and Wednesday, November 13th and November 14th, we are having a Victory Green, White and Gold Fair at Caxton Hall, Westminster, which will be opened on Tuesday afternoon by The Viscountess Astor, M.P., and on Wednesday by Miss Margaret Beavan, J.P., the present Lord Mayor of Liverpool.

We have representatives attending all the Public Sittings of the Royal Commission: Police Powers and Procedure, and we are pressing for legislation making it compulsory on all Watch Committees and Standing Joint Committees to appoint women as well as men police. Members of the Women's Freedom League are standing as candidates for the Borough Council Elections which take place this month, and our Branches are supporting women candidates, irrespective of the party to which these candidates are attached. In view of the forthcoming General Election, we are urging through our paper "The Vote" and our Branches the great need for more women candidates for Parliament, and several of our Branches are attempting to reach the new women voters by arranging meetings at which the local prospective candidates, or the local party chiefs, are being invited to come and speak on their party programme and to reply to members of the audience on questions regarding the policy of the party to which they belong.

F. A. UNDERWOOD.

HOLLAND.

NEDERLANDSCHE UNIE VOOR VROUWEN-BELANGEN.

In January 1928 a Committee was formed on the initiative of the "Nederlandsche Unie voor Vrouwenbelangen" with the aim of studying what share schools could have in educating the younger generation for the task awaiting them later on in life as fathers and mothers of a family. As fathers and mothers—for it is not its purpose to teach to girls only the principles of hygiene, dietetics and such like things, but also to give to boys some knowledge of those things a good husband and father has to know in these our times, now that the housewife also has often to earn her living and servants are rare and expensive. Originally it was thought this training could be given in the seventh elementary school year, which is about to be introduced in Holland. We hoped to be able to place something of the intended subject in the curriculum.

But in the meantime the Committee has extended its task and has got into touch with many authorities in the field of High School and Technical Education.

When the matter has been thoroughly looked into, and information been gained on all hands, the Committee, in which Women's Unions of the most different natures are represented, hopes to be able to make proposals itself.

CH.L.P.R.

October, 1928.

CORRECTION.

The Editor very much regrets that in the October issue the names of the two Dutch ladies whose portraits appeared on page 5 were wrongly given. The top picture was that of Mrs. Itallie van Embden and the one below that of Mrs. Knappert.

put forward by our Kensington and Paddington Society for Equal Citizenship on a programme based on that of the Society and under the colours of the National Union. This is a splendid experiment which we would wish to see followed in other places, for the need of candidates prepared to put the welfare of the locality before party politics is great.

The Government is putting forward very extensive proposals for altering the system of local government throughout the country, and we are examining these very critically, as they threaten to remove from effective co-operation in this work a very large number, including many women who have given valuable services voluntarily.

The Married Teacher.

To many of our readers the difficulty in this country of the married woman teacher to obtain employment must be rather surprising, for the rightness of married women to be free to teach children is so obvious. Recently a teacher's salary was stopped by the local education authority because she had become a wife, but the managers of the school refused to dismiss her; and later the education committee was made to realise that dismissal on marriage was not justified, not being on "educational grounds," which is the only reason for which the committee, independently of the school managers, could dismiss her. The school managers were determined to maintain in that particular school the services of this teacher who had proved her worth, and the education committee finally agreed to pay her salary. Indeed, it went further, and the committee repealed the ruling which had previously been passed, and affected those schools directly under its jurisdiction, by which women teachers were compelled to resign on marriage. We should like to see these unfair conditions, which hold in so many parts of the country, removed as rapidly as possible, but it requires much work yet to convince the general public of the justice of giving married women freedom to follow whatever profession they have chosen.

G.H.

ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE.

Next month Messrs. King are publishing a book for the Alliance, "TOWARDS CITIZENSHIP: A handbook of Woman's Emancipation," written by two of our members.

The opening chapters trace from the very earliest times the efforts of women to win their freedom of action, with special reference to the position in the early Christian centuries and again through the Middle Ages, and the final chapter gives a more detailed account of the women's fight for the vote in this country.

An appendix is added (kindly supplied by the International Alliance for Women's Suffrage and Equal Citizenship) giving the present international position as regards woman's suffrage.

Dame Millicent Fawcett has very kindly written a Foreword, and we hope to have one also from His Lordship the Bishop of Pella.

We hope the book will find its way into many of our Convent and other schools.

At our last monthly meeting in St. Patrick's Club-room, Soho Square, Mrs. Laughton Mathews gave a most interesting account of her impression of the women's movement in Japan, from where she has recently returned.

The Alliance co-operated in the "Victory and After" celebrations of the Equal Political Rights Campaign committee, both at the lunch at the Hotel Cecil and at the evening reception at Caxton Hall, when one of our young members, Miss Monica O'Connor, was privileged to speak on behalf of the "New Guard."

Two of our members are London candidates for the Borough Council elections, Mrs. Crawford (Labour), St. Marylebone, and Miss Monica Whately (Labour), St. Pancras, and our members are actively helping the women candidates of other parties and constituencies.

INDIA.

The Maharani of Vijayanagaram presided on Wednesday at a meeting held under the auspices of the Women's India Association, The Muslim Ladies' Union, The Indian Ladies' Samaj, Shri Sarada Ladies' Union, Y.W.C.A. and Mothers' Union to celebrate the anniversary of Devi Shri Ahalyabai Holkar of Indore, a great ruler of the 18th century.

Shrimati Malati Patwardhan gave a short sketch of Devi Shri Ahalyabai's life, and said that the women of India should take courage and be inspired to gain their freedom.

Sister Subbalakshmi spoke in Tamil. Dr. Muthulakshmi congratulated Miss Seeta Devadoss on her being enrolled as a Barrister by garlanding her, to which Miss Devadoss replied. Dr. Muthulakshmi said a few words about Ahalyabai.

Shrimati Sumatibai spoke on the harm that Child Marriage is doing in India.

Shrimati Ammu Swaminadhan then spoke saying that the reason for holding the meeting at Pantheon Road was because the Women's Indian Association was hoping to shift its headquarters to that place, as it was more central. There was at present no place in Madras as a women's centres, and it was essential that there should be a place where women can come and meet and discuss matters of importance.

Vidyavati Devi, the Maharani of Vijayanagaram then closed the meeting saying that women should help each other and be guided by such examples as Ahalyabai.

Resolutions were passed supporting the Child Marriage Bill asking that at least two women should be added to the Select Committee—supporting the Bill regarding Women's Inheritance Rights—condemning M. K. Acharya's untrue and irresponsible statement "real sexual morality is impossible without child marriage," and offering grateful thanks to those who defended our rights in the Assembly.

—Stri Dharma.

SWEDEN.

After the Elections.

Since 1914 there has not been seen in Sweden such an animated political movement as in the beautiful days of September, when the election of representatives to Andra kammaren (the House of Commons) took place.

The electoral body had formed into two large fractions: *the commons* and *the Labour party*. The first consisted of fascists, conservatives, bureaucrats, plutocrats, perhaps all the clergy, at least three Liberal parties. The latter consisted of socialists and communists.

The communist party in Sweden is a cell of the Soviet, and proclaims with fervent ardour their will to force the felicity of proletarian imperialism on the country and to arrange for its admission to the Soviet. This treason against the country is a mortal insult to a people, that in no period of its history has bent to the yoke of a foreign kingdom and the whole people wanted indignantly to reject it.

The fascists, the great power-accumulating forces of banks, monopolies and trusts, took this welcome opportunity to raise a still more fervent and clamorous agitation with a view to driving the flocks into the right folds. Their operations, which were very successful, created too much alarm, and there was a rush to the Labour party, from which the communists made a clear profit.

In the middle of the mass the pressure was enormous. It was squeezed between the wings and split just as the middle of a glacier is shivered under the pressure of the great ice-blocks to right and left when the whole must find an outlet in a narrow river-bed. But this splitting makes it elastic and provides the possibility of a forward movement.

The left triumphed over the rally to the red colours,

the right over the gathering in opposition against bolshevism.

But there were two small fractions who realised that this political way was neither happy nor judicious, and both of them were women's parties. The one is a part of the Liberal Party, ranged on political lines with the name of Liberal Women's National Association, but independent; the other is standing outside political lines. It is a neutral association of about 200 women and its name is Kvinnolistan. Unfortunately the liberal women's party was not able to organise an elective body all over the country, but only in Södermanlands and Hallands län (counties), and Kvinnolistan only in the capital. Their ballots were nothing but a little bundle at the bottom of the poll, and these few hundreds of women voters realized exactly their lack of organisation, power and money. But the significance of their action is the demonstration of a self-dependent and independent political view, absolutely denying and opposing every subjugation to material power or the pressure of angry and contemptuous mass opinion. The attacks came from all quarters. The independent women were accused of spoiling the gathering of the commons, of throwing the country into bloody Russian arms, of paving the way for bolshevism and jeopardizing wealth, culture, the church, and evolution and of exposing the people to pauperisation. But at the same time they were declared absolutely insignificant and unimportant.

In this little corner of the great world you can make an interesting observation. Among its six millions there are women who are capable of thinking and acting independently of the masses, of riding out a political gale; who refuse to take any part in preparing Armageddon, where the battle between the marxism above and the marxism below would destroy the human world, but who demonstrate at the polls for evolutionary progress in all matters following the old Swedish rule "that land should with law be built"; who act on the human principle that man and woman are equal before the law and in work and life.

Twelve women dared to expose themselves in the many lines of fire, four on each ballot. The first name on the Kvinnolistan was Ingeborg Walin. She is a very prominent lady: member of the state education board, president of the central council of the union of women's associations, president of the Swedish women's citizenship association, member of the International Women's Suffrage Alliance, etc.

The first candidates of the independent liberal ballots were Elisabeth Tamm and Ruth Adler. Miss Tamm is a prominent land owner and very clever politician. She is very interested in educating women for citizenship and has founded a school for this purpose. Mrs. Adler is a country woman farming the family's own land and enthusiastic in her work for liberal ideas and aims.

The result of the noisy game was that none of the women's candidates was returned to the Riksdag. But it was no better for the women in the block fractions. Only three women are now taking their seats in the House.

JENNY VELANDER.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

In considering the subjects which have been made outstanding issues in the presidential campaign, and in which women voters have shown an intensive interest, attention may well be directed to the following excerpts from an article appearing in the *Washington D.C. Star*, one of the country's leading newspapers.

Efforts of the National Woman's Party leaders to make equal rights for women an issue in the presidential campaign failed to awaken any general enthusiasm, according to the reflection of opinion in newspaper comment. Democratic editors give the matter little attention one way or the other, while Republic spokesmen

IN MEMORY OF MISS HAY.

Suffrage workers the world over will learn with real sorrow of the death of Miss Mary Garrett Hay, of New York City. Miss Hay will long be remembered for her valiant work in the suffrage campaign in the United States. She worked closely with Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt and for many years had shared a home with Mrs. Catt. They were inseparable.



MARY GARRETT HAY.

A service in memory of Miss Hay was held on October 10th in New York City. Delegations from prominent New York organizations of which Miss Hay was either an officer or member were present. These included: Clio, Congress of State Societies, Educational Auxiliary of the Leake and Watts Home, Home-makers' Forum, Indiana Club, Leslie Woman Suffrage Commission, National American Woman Suffrage Association, New York State Federation of Women's Clubs, New York League of Women Voters, New York Women's Committee of Law Enforcement, Post Parliament, Rainy Day Club of America, Society of Political Study, the Priors, Woman's Forum, Woman's Journal, Woman's Press Club and the Women's City Club.

WOMEN AND SCIENCE.

BY GISELA URBAN (Vienna).

In perusing the history of the development of Woman, we perceive the dogma of the intellectual inferiority of the Sex to stand in the centre of all treatises directed against women's progress. Nay, there was even a time—the darkest epoch of the Middle Ages—when not only intellect but also soul were denied to women and she was considered "not to be created after the image of God." And even to-day, when woman is manifesting her human personality more and more by her surprisingly quick economic and intellectual rise, when the success in science of learned women is increasing in a way no more to be overlooked, the old prejudices against the female sex have not disappeared. Again and again the inferiority caused by sex is insisted upon as the original source of the intellectual difference between men and women, of the lack of creative power in women.

But the learned woman is by no means a product of our times. There have always been learned women. From the history of ancient Greece we may cite a number of feminine names whose owners, pupils of the great

emphatically approve the action of Mr. Hoover in declining to be hurried into committing himself to another constitutional amendment.

Quoting the proposed amendment, "Men and women shall have equal rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction," the *St. Paul Dispatch* (independent) says: "Mr. Hoover unquestionably is well advised in his refusal to approve without deep study such a sweeping and doubtful proposition as that sponsored by the National Woman's Party." This paper bases its attitude on the fact that the effect of such a constitutional law would be to scrap important protective laws that now exist in regard to the employment of women, and declares that "to dispense with all these special laws might be to do great injury to the army of American working women."

Sharing this viewpoint, the *Detroit Free Press* (independent) remarks: "The fact that biological differences cannot be overcome by constitutional amendment should not be lost sight of. There are solid grounds for the protective legislation that has been thrown around womanhood and motherhood," contends this journal, as it voices its belief that "sacrificing the substance of this protection for the shadow of equality would be the height of misguided enthusiasm." The *Kalamazoo Gazette* (independent) expresses its opinion along similar lines, adding, "Some women leaders of the country, unfortunately, do not seem to appreciate the fact that in many cases the granting of 'equal rights' to women would amount, in effect, to an imposition of 'equal wrongs.'"

That the desire of the National Woman's Party for this legislation is not shared by the majority of the women of the United States is the contention in a number of newspapers, among which is the *Philadelphia Evening Bulletin* (independent Republican). "Outside of the ranks of the Woman's Party," says the *Bulletin*, "women's organisations in general hold that in the interest of woman herself, of the home and of the community, special legislation for the protection of woman as wife, mother and wage earner is needed."

Supporting this view also the *Hartford Daily Courant* (independent Republican) observes: "The Woman's Party may be all 'het up' over its equal rights proposal, but that does not mean that women generally would favour a constitutional amendment wiping out all the humane legislation that has been written into Federal and State statutes for the benefit and protection of women in their various spheres of activity. When it is remembered that nearly all such legislation was brought about by women themselves, it seems quite possible that the Woman's Party speaks only for a relatively small group."

In reply to the contention that such of these legislative safeguards as were needed could be retained even if this "twentieth amendment" were adopted, the *Jackson Citizen Patriot* (independent) says: "It is hard to see how, with the Constitution decreeing absolute equality as between men and women, such laws could stand. They clearly impose certain handicaps against the employment of women and require some employers to refuse jobs to them," explains the *Jackson paper*, as it argues that "the National Woman's Party is not on firm ground when it contends that such laws could be enforced and others of similar character enacted under the constitutional amendment they advocate."

The *Salina Journal* (independent) thinks the "frankness of Mr. Hoover is commendable and should add to the reputation in which he is held," while the *Albany Evening News* (independent Republican) comments: "That is just what might be expected from Mr. Hoover."

He is making no pledges for the sake of support in his campaign. He is studying this question and will take no stand thereon until he is fully informed.

The women of the land know him and that delegation can only respect him the more because of his honest and conscientious answer."

philosophers, influenced intellectual life, and also left behind independent writings which show their own original conception. At the end of antiquity, at the time when Christianity, getting more and more powerful, caused the ideas of Greek philosophy to fade, it was a new interpreter of Platonism, *Hypatia*, who made the Hellenic spirit one more flare up in conquering brightness, and became so renowned that men and youths from far and near made pilgrimages to Alexandria, in order to be taught by this woman, who was exalted as "the miracle of her sex." Also in the Middle Ages the learned woman is to be found. She does not only work in convents, as *Hildegard von Bockingheim*, Abbess of the convent of Ruppertsberg near Bingen, who wrote a natural history of the animal, vegetable and mineral kingdoms, and "Physica," who studied the classical languages and acquired such high knowledge that Popes and Kings were counselled by her, the learned nun. The scholarly woman also appears in the Professor's chairs of the Italian universities and composes, as *Trotula* did, who lectured to the oldest medical high-school in Salerno, a manual of the entire field of medicine. And then, at the time of the Renaissance, when art and science experienced a new, magnificent bloom, and when in this rushing torrent of vitality, strong female individualities also shone by their intellectual powers, how many women worked in Italy who vied with the most remarkable men in their erudition! To name only one example: the lovely *Novella d'Andrea* who, when she replaced her sick father, a notable scholar, stood behind a curtain lecturing on canonical law, in order not to disturb her hearers' attention by her beauty. The scholarly activity of women was so appreciated at that time that some towns quarrelled about the honour of being registered as the birthplace of this or that renowned woman scholar. At that time, there were also women who, without having pursued a regular course of studies, acquired great learning. So the historian *Johnson* says of *Queen Elizabeth*: "She possessed so much learning that it would have given dignity to a bishop." In later years also women distinguished themselves as scholars: as the astronomers *Caroline Herschel* and *Mary Somerville*, the mathematicians *Sophie Germain* and *Sonja Kowalewska*. And to-day? Are there not *Madame Curie*, the discoverer of Radium, and *Beatrice Sidney-Webb*, the English national economist, who are considered not only learned, but also women of genius? And beside these dazzling stars, there shine on the horizon of science many smaller, glittering lights, whose works serve scientific progress even without being sensational researches.

In nearly all civilised countries there are notable scholarly women. But all these women are, as our treatises prove, still called "anomalies" by male experts. The philosophically gifted women of Antiquity are, at best, referred to as "talented disciples," though it is admitted that the receptive talent of these women was often greater than that of the men. The women scholars of the Middle Ages and of later centuries were classed as "viragos," because under the influence of the exclusively male world, they quite unconsciously tried to put a male stamp on their works, and to make people forget their sex. And this judgment is still reverberating. The learned women of our days are also criticised as "exceptions." What does this mean? Nothing else but that the majority of women are intellectually inferior. This theory is so inveterate that in comparisons between male and female accomplishments, the chief thing is always forgotten: That the change in conditions, which made it possible for women to develop their own human personalities is only a few decades old, whilst men have been able to develop their personalities for thousands of years.

Under what conditions could women who dared to undertake scientific studies, quench their thirst for knowledge before the universities opened their gates to them? Except a few Italian women, who could in earlier times lay the foundation of their scientific work

by attending the universities, women had to possess heroic, even super-human powers not to be frightened by the distance that existed between them and the sciences. And when they undertook to bridge over this distance, how strong had their devotion to their beloved science to be, in order to walk on their self-chosen path, unswerving and steady, and to find happiness in the inner experience of scientific work as a recompense for the renunciation of the joys and pleasures which else embellish a woman's life. Only remember *Sophie Germain*, the French mathematician, who counts among the predecessors of *Auguste Comte*, having taught even before the founder of positivism that all processes are to be reduced to one prototype by observation and calculation. Against the will of her family she began to study. The "Histoire de Mathematiques," by *Montucla*, which she happened to find among her father's books, roused in her the longing to study this science. How frightened were the parents at this inclination of their daughter! They forbade her to study, they denied her light and fire to make it impossible for her to read. But *Sophie Germain* got up in the night, in a bitterly cold room where the ink got frozen, in order to study the hidden books with unquenchable thirst for knowledge. Entirely self-taught, the mind of this woman rose, to the height of an exact science, and at the same time developing creative powers.

Surely this woman, like all other learned women, was an exception. But an exception which cannot be substantiated by any sex-anomaly. Rather an exception caused by the circumstances which forbade women to penetrate into science, so that women who, overcoming all obstacles, attained a scientific activity that absorbed all their thoughts, were stamped as being exceptions from their sex. But it is true, as is always being maintained, that the intellectual inferiority of women is due to their sex, such exceptions would simply be impossible. Then even the strongest, the most wayward will in a woman would have to founder on her sex disposition. This being regarded as exceptions, served to make learned women believe that they really were exceptional. What was the consequence? Learned women lost their feeling for their sex, they felt unrooted, they could not, like men, continue a tradition, founded by predecessors, they had, again and again, to fight for the exceptional place.

Compared with the total accomplishments of men, the intellectual work of women must be called scanty. But is it fair to compare the women's work with that of men, if there is no equal basis for comparison? If one knows that women were forced to walk with the mass, that light and air for intellectual development were denied to them? It is certain that only a small number of female talents could be saved. But who asks for the nameless geniuses who had to perish without success, because their strength was broken by their subjection?

Madame de Staël who fought with all the ardour of a poetess for social equality of women, called out to *Napoleon's* valet, who refused her admittance: "Genius has no sex." At a time which did not yet consent to promote women's intellectual activity, this woman, whose works have become fundamental for the study of woman's nature, uttered this word of wisdom. Will she carry her point in the future?

CORRESPONDENCE.

112, Beaufort Street,
Chelsea, London, S.W.3.
8th October, 1928.

Dear Madam,

I see on page 5 of the October issue of the "News" that it is said that *Dame Edith Lytton*, on the Fifth Committee of the League of Nations, had been pressing for an enquiry into the Opium Trade. This, I think, shows a misunderstanding which is universal in the press, and which should really be cleared up. I think

MARIE STRITT.

The sudden death of *FRAU MARIE STRITT*, one of the finest and most successful pioneers of women's work and woman suffrage in Germany is felt by us all as a severe loss not only nationally but, we are sure, also in the international women's sphere.

Frau Stritt's life was one of devotion to the great cause and her personality did a great deal to win sympathy for our aims at a period when the fight for equality and freedom was opposed, belittled and considered ridiculous.

Frau Stritt had all the gifts of a leader. She was born in *Transylvania* in the little town of *Schassburg*, one of the German colonies in that country, which never lost its German character, civilisation and language during the time it belonged to *Hungary*, the former partner of the Austrian-Hungarian monarchy. Now these German colonies in *Transylvania* continue to cling to their old nationality and customs though they have been handed over to *Roumania*.

The surroundings of *Frau Stritt's* childhood and young days were those of a cultivated and intellectual family. Her father was active in the field of law and it proves the advanced, independent spirit of her parents that they put no obstacles in the way of their handsome and gifted daughter, when she resolved to study dramatic art and to become an actress. Perhaps the English origin of the father's family, whose name was *Bacon* may have lived on in the form of international interests and a wide view of life.

Marie Bacon was successful on the stage during a number of years, playing leading parts, praised by the press, loved by the public. Nevertheless she withdrew very young, at only 24, in 1870, when she married the famous opera-singer *Albert Stritt*, a musician, whose great success led him far beyond his own country, in order to give performances in distant lands. His young wife was the companion of many of those journeys and especially on a big tour through the United States, taking home many interesting impressions and ideas.

In 1891 *Marie Stritt*, then living in *Dresden*, the town which became her home, took up activities in the woman's movement, and amongst other work became the pioneer of the legal aid-societies for women, an institution of great importance on account of the absence of rights and the ignorance as to their legal position, prevailing amongst women of that generation.

At the end of the last century the reform of the civil code roused particular interest amongst women, the reform was completed and came into force in 1900. *Frau Stritt* was one of the women who have done their best to work out and to influence the new laws in the spirit of greater justice to our sex. We know that before we were enfranchised, all efforts were rather hopeless and that most of the petitions signed by women's organisations, petitions that had caused any amount of study, work and energy, used to disappear in the waste-paper-baskets of Parliament.

In 1896 *Frau Stritt* became a Board member of the *National Council of Women* and its president in 1899.

Those of our fellow-workers, who took part in the wonderful Congress of the International Council of Women in *Berlin* 1904 will surely remember the German President, who combined an unusual amount of knowledge, energy and charm.

During the presidency of *Marie Stritt* from 1899 to 1910 the Council had its most successful years and a number of great congresses showed noteworthy progress. Its magazine first called "Centralblatt des Bundes deutscher Frauenvereine," afterwards "Die Frauenfrage" was also edited by *Frau Stritt* in an able and clever way.

In 1910, after 11 years of the presidency, *Frau Stritt* retired from the Board of Control, but in no way from public life. The year after she became president of the *German Union for Women Suffrage*, to which she

Dame Edith is pressing on behalf of the British Government for an enquiry into Opium Smoking in the Far East. China took great exception to this, because they wanted a similar enquiry into the manufacture of morphine, etc. in the West. When the vote was taken, there were, I think, seventeen abstentions, which is a very large number for a League Committee, and shows how there was a good deal of mistrust and suspicion about the situation.

I do not know enough about the facts of the opium question to be able to help much, but I think that it would be a very good thing if one of the women's organisations could take up this matter, and go into it thoroughly. There seems to be a good deal of misunderstanding and a certain amount of evasion of Conventions which is reacting very seriously on people who are becoming drug addicts in various countries.

Yours faithfully,

KATHARINE FURSE.

The Editor, "THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWS."

190, Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W.1.

Port Elizabeth, 24.9.28.

To the Editor,
INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWS.

Dear Madam,

At the last quarterly meeting of the Port Elizabeth's Women's Enfranchisement League a vote of congratulation to the Societies for the Enfranchisement of the Women of England on the occasion of their attainment of Equal Franchise for Women was passed unanimously. I have much pleasure in forwarding this expression of our sincere congratulations and cordial sympathy with our English sisters in their great victory.

Yours fraternally,

ANNIE L. P. DORMAN,

Hon. Sec., Port Elizabeth Women's Enfranchisement League, South Africa.

BRITISH-AMERICAN WOMEN'S CRUSADE.

55, Gower Street, W.C.1.

4th October, 1928.

Dear Madam,

I am asked by my Committee to request you to be so kind as to insert the enclosed resolution in the next issue of your paper. In view of the feeling in the United States at the moment it is very important that all possible publicity be given to joint activities of these two countries.

This message is being sent to the Chairman of the Committee for the Cause and Cure of War in America, which is working for the renunciation of war and the peaceful settlement of all disputes on lines parallel to the Crusade in this country.

Yours faithfully,

C. M. GORDON,

Organising Secretary.

RESOLUTION.

"The General Council of the British American Women's Crusade at its first meeting after the signature of the Kellogg Pact, greets the women of America with deep appreciation of their wholehearted work in the cause of Peace.

Realising that the signing of the Pact should lead at once to steps towards disarmament and to the adoption of methods for peaceful settlement of all disputes, it desires to continue to co-operate with the American women in working for much more rapid progress towards both these ends.

This Council is convinced that the great mass of women's organisations bound together in this Crusade both in Great Britain and in the U.S.A. to work for Peace can by vigorous and united effort ensure a public opinion in the two countries which shall insist that a frank and determined effort towards disarmament shall be made unreservedly in the full spirit of the Pact."

had already belonged for many years, being a board member of the Saxon branch ever since 1906.

She was also elected to the Board of the "International Woman Suffrage Alliance" and those who have worked with her in the national or international field have been able to appreciate her strong, loyal and amiable personality. She was excellent in the chair, thorough in all questions of organisation and detail-work, an impressive speaker and perfectly charming in private life. The sad years of war and the hard days she had to go through at a time when old age was approaching, never altered her noble attitude, her firm standpoint as a fighter for justice, freedom and democracy.

In 1910 the German Suffrage Societies disbanded, Frau Stritt also belonged to those who thought that the time had come when their mission was fulfilled. Nevertheless she took part as an official representative of the new German Republic in the first *Suffrage Congress* after the war, in Geneva 1920, but she declined to be elected to the Hoard again. Her main activity was afterwards given to municipal service in Dresden and to journalistic work; she became the correspondent of the "International Women Suffrage News" and its readers will sorely miss her regular, instructive contributions. Death came unexpectedly and without previous illness. In her 74th year our dear friend and leader passed away, spared long suffering.

Her cremation showed how many mourned her and had come to express their feelings to her daughter and to her son. Amongst the speeches some words were spoken on behalf of the "International Suffrage Alliance." We shall however not omit to pay full tribute to Frau Stritt's memory in October, when the Board assembles for the Meeting in Berlin and the Peace Conference in Dresden. How deeply we regret that we shall not have Marie Stritt amongst us in June 1929 and to see her at the Jubilee-Conference! Her vacant seat will be a shadow over our congress.

ADELE SCHREIBER.

S.A.F.F.A

By L. E. WINTER.

"Saffa" was the name by which the Swiss Exhibition of Women's Work (Schweizerische Ausstellung für Frauenarbeit), recently held at Berne, was known throughout the country. It was an ambitious but entirely successful effort on the part of the women of Switzerland to show the various kinds of work they are doing, what professions, trades, and industries are open to women, and how the numbers of women wage-earners and their rates of remuneration compare with those of men.

The immediate object of the Exhibition was, one assumes, threefold. In the first instance, it was a graphic attempt at a solution of the problem of "what to do with our girls." Parents visiting the "Saffa" could see at a glance what careers were open to their daughters; clear, statistical tables showed the scales of remuneration and the chances of advancement; the education exhibit gave valuable information as to the various forms of training.

In the second place, the Exhibition showed how to deal with the numerous problems of housekeeping in the modern labour-saving manner already largely practised in America. Numerous devices for simplifying the labour of cooking and cleaning were shown; we may mention the model electric house, in which all cooking, washing, ironing, mangling, lighting, heating, carpet beating, and so on, were done by electricity. There were model kitchens, too, with beautifully fitted cabinets, and in which the position of the range, sink, table, and other furnishings were all carefully planned to call for the minimum of effort.

Finally, the "Saffa" was propaganda, in the best sense of the word, for the women's suffrage movement. Readers of *The Vote* are probably aware that Swiss

women have no vote, and that the attitude of the country in general towards this question is either indifferent or definitely antagonistic. By demonstrating the useful and varied forms of work carried on by women throughout the country, the leaders of the women's suffrage movement hoped to draw attention to the fact that women have a right to a share in the federal and municipal government of Switzerland. Set up in a quiet corner of the beautifully laid out Exhibition grounds was a mammoth snail, carrying its house on its back, humorously labelled "The Progress of the Women's Suffrage Movement in Switzerland up to the Present Day." The actual Exhibition was divided into fourteen groups, each set out in a separate pavilion or series of pavilions.

Group I was devoted to *Domestic Economy*, the object of the exhibit being to show how the best results in housework may be obtained with the minimum expenditure of time, effort and money, so that the woman worker who is obliged to earn her living, or to go out to work in order to supplement the family income, may be enabled to get through her housework in her free time without being overworked. There were sections for cookery reform and rational diet, simplified clothing, various forms of useful needlework and home dressmaking, house furnishing, and so on, with a large section devoted to domestic education, domestic science colleges, and schools for the training of domestic servants. Cookery demonstrations were given, and separate exhibits showed the working of a model kitchen and a model industry. Other separate buildings showed a model detached family house, built on the latest labour-saving principles, and a charming home for a woman artist, both designed by women architects.

Group II, Agriculture and Gardening, illustrated an important branch of women's work in Switzerland. The various agricultural and gardening colleges gave particulars of the training of women workers. The exhibits of fruit, flowers and vegetables, the model gardens, and, in particular, the charmingly laid out grounds of the Exhibition, showed the practical results of their work. Other sections showed the work of women as poultry farmers, pig breeders, bee keepers, in the vineyards, and in general farm work. A special section was devoted to labour-saving machinery and apparatus. A model farm, complete with poultry yard and pig pens, was deservedly popular.

Group III, Handicrafts, showed the work of women, or, more often, women at work, in a number of crafts, such as bookbinding, hairdressing, dressmaking and millinery, embroidery and handweaving, toymaking, pottery, photography, various branches of jewellery, and many others.

Group IV, Fine Art and Applied Art, was an interesting exhibit of the work of Swiss women artists. The greater part was devoted to painting and sculpture—the latter in particular showing an advanced modern tendency; a side wing showed various forms of applied art, such as mural decorations, artistic bookbinding, china painting, and every branch of art needlework and embroidery.

Group V, Industries and Home Industries, was one of the largest and best exhibits, and brought clearly before the public the fact that nearly all Swiss industries employ a majority of women workers, though the works managers and heads of departments are, one regrets to say, almost exclusively men. The section showed women at work on spinning and weaving looms, in many branches of the silk, cotton, linen, and woollen manufactures, in various forms of the clothing industry, in the cigar and cigarette factory, in confectionery and chocolate-making (the latter being further illustrated by an excellent film in the adjoining cinema), in brushmaking, pottery, cardboard box-making, and other processes too numerous to mention.

The separate exhibit of Home Industries showed women at work in the home on hand looms (chiefly for silk or linen), on knitting machines, and especially embroidery in every possible form. The clothing business was also supplied to some extent by home

PERSIA.

The Persian newspapers anticipate that at the forthcoming session of the Mejliss (Parliament) resolutions will be passed officially emancipating Persian women. The movement for emancipation has already been making steady progress in Persia as in Turkey. Enlightened men in the capital are against retaining the veil any longer, and regard it as contrary to the best interests of morality.

LADY ABERDEEN.

EDINBURGH FOR THE THIRD TIME IN ITS HISTORY CONFERS THE FREEDOM OF THE CITY ON A WOMAN—THE PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

The Usher Hall in Edinburgh, holding some 3000 people, was crowded on the occasion of the presentation of the Freedom of the City to three distinguished Scots—The Duke of Atholl, Sir John Gilmour—Secretary of State for Scotland—and the Marchioness of Aberdeen and Temair. Truly it was a 'heartening' sight as the Scotch would say, and worth coming far to see. All the pomp and dignity of the Capital of Scotland, the Lord Provost in his robes and chain, the Bailies and Town Council, the Halbardiers with badges and axes, and the uniforms and gay dresses of the dignitaries and friends of the new made burgesses. The Moderator of the Church of Scotland opened the ceremony with prayer, and the Town Clerk read aloud the Burgess tickets proclaiming the merits and services of each new made 'freeman and guild brother,' which had moved the Corporation of Edinburgh to bestow the honour upon them. The Duke of Atholl's work as Head of the National War Memorial Committee in the establishment of the lovely War-Shrine on the Castle Rock is well known. Just as the Duke rose to reply the stirring strains of "Scots Wha Hae" pealed out from the organ and no-one there but felt his heart stirred at the remembrance of that commemoration of their noble dead which makes the Castle Hill even more than ever a place of pilgrimage. Sir John Gilmour's services in securing the restoration of the dignity of Secretary of State to the office he holds as Scottish Secretary, appealed to the Scottish audience.

But the warmest welcome of the day was given to Lady Aberdeen. Her name is only the third woman's name to appear on the Burgess Roll of Edinburgh, and her predecessors—the Baroness Burdett Coutts and Miss Flora Stevenson—belong to a past generation, the latter not perhaps so far removed in time from Lady Aberdeen, but with the outlook of those to whom the awakening of the Great War and its aftermath had not yet come.

The Town Clerk read aloud the Burgess ticket, which was later enclosed in the Presentation casket, concluding with the statement that Lady Aberdeen's good works were too many to be enumerated, but that "enough had been said to show that she was a fit and proper person to be admitted as a Freeman of the City." The applause from the great audience was loud and long, and especially noticeable were the happy smiles and eager gestures of the women who formed a large proportion of the audience. There was welcome for her as a Scottish woman, but there was a deeper welcome for her as a woman who had set an example of all a woman can be. Indeed to those who know her she stands out a figure apart, even from the many great women who have marked this age of women's emancipation and development. The gracious composed woman with her serene face who stood up by the Lord Provost's side to reply, bore no sign of the battle storms of opposition, unfair criticism and ill-will to which her persistent unswerving support of unpopular causes has exposed her, and there was equally little visible mark of the almost incredible amount of work which she has

industry. A further section showed the work of various women's societies throughout the country in obtaining orders for the home workers and in selling their work.

Group VI was entitled *Machines and Appliances to Assist Women's Work in the Home and Professionally*, and was to some extent a continuation of Group I. We were shown wonderful sewing machines that darn, mend and embroider, as well as sew; also knitting machines, and all sorts of contrivances to lighten the labour of cleaning, cooking, and washing. Separate sections demonstrated the use of Gas and Electricity in the household; in the latter we were especially struck by the excellent illustrations of indirect lighting. A series of modern rooms with hygienic, labour-saving furnishings completed the exhibit, the delightful bath rooms with their constant supply of electrically-heated water taking our particular fancy.

Group VII, Commerce and the Hotel Industry, showed the various courses of training for girls at the commercial schools, with details of the numerous careers open to business women, and the manifold openings for women in the Hotel Industry, ranging from manageress and owner to scullery-maid. Clear statistics were given as to salaries and wages, provision for holidays, insurance, and so on.

Group VIII was devoted to *Science, Literature, and Music*, and illustrated the work of women in the academic professions (with the exception of teaching, which is included under Education). Lectures and demonstrations were given daily, and the work of Swiss women writers was collected in a library of some 6,000 volumes. The reading rooms, one of which was reserved for children, were a popular feature of this section.

Group XI, Education, showed, firstly, the teacher at work; and, secondly, modern school teaching for girls. We could follow the course of training from the Kindergarten through the primary and secondary schools to the high schools and grammar schools, from which the pupils go on to the university, and in the various domestic science and teachers' training colleges. A separate pavilion showed a model Kindergarten, where the children of visitors to the Exhibition might be left in charge of trained teachers for a small charge.

Group X, Social Work, was divided into two sections. The first, *Feminism*, was a review of the various women's societies in Switzerland, among which the Suffrage Society (Association Suisse pour le Suffrage féminin) takes a modest place. The second section was entitled *Philanthropic Activity*, and illustrated the work of Swiss women in a large number of charitable, religious and philanthropic associations, among which the various institutions for the furtherance of temperance occupied an important position. Separate exhibits under this group were a number of delightful holiday homes and week-end houses.

Group XI, Hygiene and Sick-nursing, with a subdivision for *Sport and Gymnastics*, showed the work of women doctors, dentists, and dispensers, the training of nurses and the organisation of nurses' holiday and pension funds, the prophylactic treatment of diseases, especially tuberculosis, and, finally, the various possibilities of physical training for girls. A model crèche with "real" babies formed a separate exhibit.

Lack of space forbids us to give more than passing mention to the remaining groups, which included a picturesque collection of old and modern peasant costumes, church embroideries, and a section showing the work of Swiss women abroad. The Exhibition also included, in addition to the excellent restaurants and tea rooms, a picture house, where instructive and amusing films were constantly shown, and a large Central Hall, where lectures and conferences were held in the daytime, and which was available for concerts or plays in the evenings.

In conclusion, we may point out that the entire Exhibition was organised, designed, and carried out by women. It represented the faithful and patient industry of many months, and deservedly enjoyed a very marked measure of success.

—The Vote.

got through in her life and still continues to accomplish.

The extent of her work, and the things she has actually accomplished are known to very few, and even they are sometimes inclined to dismiss their knowledge as an impossible dream. But from her own home where the happy atmosphere of perfect order and goodwill seems to pervade every corner and radiate from every servant's face, to the very smallest details of the concerns of far off friends, or of her endless work for the I.C.W., and the Irish Health and Child Welfare Committees over which she presides, there is a certainty that Lady Aberdeen is to be relied upon, that to use a war-time expression, she will never let you down. As someone said, her life lent a new meaning to the phrase in the Gospels: "she has done what he could." Most of us take that as meaning that if the woman with the box of ointment had had more power or greater opportunity she would have done more. But the truth lies deeper, for it means that she has done *all* she could, without stint and without limit, and given not out of her abundance but all the abundance itself, (and with Lady Aberdeen that was much) the gifts of personal charm, of great ability, of high station, of good health, of happy life and surroundings, and she never stopped to give, though misunderstanding, sorrow and disappointment might well have choked the springs of service.

The speech she made in reply was noteworthy and beautifully delivered, though her voice trembled a little. It is rather an ordeal to address an audience on such an occasion, but the humorous confessions of her birth in London and the graceful thanks for the City's freedom which gave her the status of a citizen of Edinburgh and removed the stain of an English birthplace, moved her audience to delighted laughter: "The signal honour which your Lordship and the Corporation of this beloved city have conferred on me this day, has acted like magic on a skeleton in my closet, which has haunted my life till this hour, but which you have now buried. From my earliest years I have always sought means to evade giving an answer to the question so often put by kindly relatives and friends—'when is your birthday?' for I knew this would often lead to another 'where were you born?'" On such occasions it was with inward agony and shame, although maybe with outward calm, that I was forced to the admission that I—the descendant of three Lord Provosts of Edinburgh, and of innumerable Burgesses and Guild Brothers, had been permitted by my parents to make my debut on life's stage, not only South of the Tweed, but in the city which was the symbol of England's supremacy. And then, later on, to that rankling sense of wrong was added fierce jealousy of my husband's good fortune in being born in the heart of Edinburgh. But from now and henceforth, by your goodness, these angry passions are appeased, and I shall be able to walk by his side almost on equal terms—a free Burgess of Edinburgh; and I shall be able to meet my ancestors without apologies."

The tender allusions to her husband, the second oldest Burgess of Edinburgh, and the gratitude for the encouragement this honour bestowed on their President would give to the I.C.W., to which she has devoted herself, carried her hearers to a higher plane, and evoked from the Civic dignitary the praise that Lady Aberdeen's speech was the only one to rise above the personal and touch on wider issues. She ended:

"And so, my Lord Provost, I feel that when you and the Magistrates and Corporation of Edinburgh express your conviction of the value of the combined effort of the organised forces of womanhood, in all countries towards international co-operation for the welfare and happiness of humanity and for the permanent peace of the world, I may accept what you say as the voice of Scotland.

It will be with joy and gratitude that I shall pass on the message of encouragement and God-speed which you have given me from *my* city to the forty million women of the International Council of Women who are upholding the practice of the Golden Rule."

JAPAN.

The Japanese Government has decided to extend to all officials in the service of the Imperial Railways, women as well as men, the right to vote for the election of members of the railway committee on improvement and the treatment of employees. There are no less than 10,000 women employees on the railways who will be affected by this concession. Hitherto this particular franchise has been confined to men only. We understand that Japanese feminists regard it as a step in the direction of wider voting rights for women.

SECTION FRANÇAISE.

ASSOCIATION SUISSE POUR LE SUFFRAGE FEMININ.

Une Demission.

Le 29 septembre écoulé avait lieu à Berne la 17e assemblée générale de notre A.S.S.F. Cette séance avait été retardée pour coïncider avec notre Exposition du travail féminin dont la préparation avait absorbé une bonne partie de notre activité au cours de cet exercice, ainsi que le Congrès pacifiste d'Amsterdam et les "Journées d'Etudes" de Lausanne, projetées ce printemps. Parmi les rapports présentés à Berne, mentionnons celui, très remarqué, de Mlle. Gerhard, présidente de la Commission des Allocations familiales. Cette question a grand 'peine à intéresser notre public, mais celles qui s'y sont attelées finiront bien, par leur persévérance, à avoir gain de cause. Le très suggestif panneau figurant à l'Exposition, au stand du suffrage, était, certes, de nature à éveiller l'attention des visiteurs sur ce progrès social de si grande importance.

Pour la première fois, une de nos assemblées a été honorée, ce jour-là de la présence de Mrs. Corbett Ashby qui, d'emblée, gagna le cœur de toute l'assistance et que retrouvèrent avec joie toutes celles qui ont eu le privilège de la rencontrer à nos Congrès. Notre présidente internationale était venue à nous, non seulement pour traiter de la façon captivante qui la caractérise le sujet: "Les femmes et la politique," mais elle avait tenue à venir entourer Mlle. Gourd de sa sympathie en une journée particulièrement émouvante pour cette dernière.

En effet après avoir présidé pendant 14 ans notre Association suisse, avec une rare compétence et une distinction admirable, Mlle. Gourd a trouvé nécessaire de déposer ces fonctions et peut-être nul ne comprend-il à quelle point cette décision lui a été douloureuse. Attachée de tout son être à ce travail qui est sa vie, à notre fédération suffragiste qui a pris sous sa direction un essor et un développement si rejoyissant, Mlle. Gourd a dû faire un cruel sacrifice, s'imposer une véritable amputation pour dire adieu à cette activité. Elle s'était donnée à sa tâche toute et de toute son âme, avec un superbe dévouement, une enthousiasme communicatif, une consécration si complète que jamais nous ne saurons lui être assez reconnaissants de ce qu'elle a été.

Dans un discours d'une élévation remarquable, Mlle. Gourd évoqua l'ature jour, avec émotion et mélancolie, quelques-uns des précieux souvenirs qu'elle gardera de sa présidence. Elle fit revivre devant nous quelques-unes des pages des plus poignantes de ces 14 années de luttes, de travail joyeux et confiant, d'enrichissement fécond. Et son dernier mot fut: "Soyez optimistes, ayez foi dans le succès d'une cause aussi juste que la nôtre. Ne transigeons jamais avec nos principes, ne cachons jamais notre drapeau; la victoire ne sera obtenue qu'à ce prix!"

Puis Mrs. Corbett Ashby lui adresse un cordial message, la remerciant de tout ce qu'elle a fait au sein du Comité de l'Alliance Internationale et pour le mouvement suffragiste en générale.

Car, certes, ce n'est ni la lassitude ni le découragement qui pousse Mlle. Gourd à renoncer à son poste, ni le désir de s'accorder du repos! Mais elle ne peut plus suffire aux multiples besognes qui lui incombent et malgré tout ce qu'il lui en coûte, c'est la présidence suisse qu'elle a déposée à cause de la situation très spéciale de notre pays bilingue et même trilingue. En effet chacune de nos régions linguistiques a le droit d'être représentée à tour de rôle dans nos différentes autorités, qu'il s'agisse d'une association suffragiste aussi bien que de notre haut Conseil fédéral. Il est même dans les habitudes de quelques-uns de nos groupements de respecter un certain rythme dans l'attribution des charges qui passent régulièrement de la Suisse allemande à la Suisse française et vice-versa.

Et c'est donc à une représentante de la Suisse allemande, Mme. Leuch-Reineck, que l'assemblée générale du 29 septembre a remis la succession de Mlle. Gourd. Nous savons toutes que Mme. Leuch comme son prédécesseur va donner le meilleur d'elle-même à cette grande tâche à laquelle elle a été si bien préparée, depuis de nombreuses années, comme trésorière de l'A.S.S.F. Nous connaissons toutes ses qualités remarquables et nous souhaitons à notre nouveau chef la plus chaleureuse bienvenue, sachant quel pilote sûr va continuer à diriger notre barque à travers les écueils.

LUCY DUROI.

A TRAVAIL EGAL—SALAIRE EGAL

Le féminisme, tendant à l'affranchissement total de la femme, a eu dernièrement un progrès à noter, grâce à une motion présentée à la Conférence Internationale du Travail à Genève par une polonaise, M-me Eugénie Wasniewska.

Madame Wasniewska a pris part à cette Conférence en qualité de déléguée de l'Organisation centrale des Unions professionnelles des Travailleurs Intellectuels et de la Confédération des Travailleurs Intellectuels. A une des séances plénières de la Conférence pendant une discussion au sujet du minimum des salaires, la déléguée polonaise a prononcé un discours, demandant: (1) que la loi concernant le minimum des salaires soit étendue aux travailleurs intellectuels, (2) que le minimum d'existence des différents pays soit pris comme base pour établir le minimum des salaires, avec comme principe, l'égalité des salaires pour travail égal effectué aussi bien par les hommes que par les femmes. Madame Wasniewska a cité à l'appui de cette dernière motion le paragraphe 427 du Traité de Versailles.

Toutes les déléguées ont adhéré à cette motion si juste présentant pour la première fois aussi clairement devant un forum international une des questions concernant les droits de la femme, motion qui d'ailleurs a provoqué un enthousiasme général facile à comprendre.

Néanmoins, pendant les travaux des Commissions les représentants des Gouvernements ont combattu la motion de la déléguée polonaise ce qui faisait craindre que les Etats ne refusent de ratifier une convention dont cette motion formerait un des articles. Elle fut donc, pour raison de tactique, placée au nombre des "recommandations." Elle y figure au point "b" comme suit: "La Conférence générale de l'organisation internationale du travail considère comme son devoir d'attirer l'attention des Gouvernements sur le principe de l'égalité des salaires pour travail de même valeur, sans distinction du sexe de ceux qui l'ont exécuté, principe appuyé par l'article 437 du Traité de la Paix."

Après controverse fut admise également à première motion de Madame Wasniewska relative à l'extension aux travailleurs intellectuels de la loi sur le minimum des salaires.

L'auteur de ces motions, M-me Eugénie Wasniewska, députée à la Diète, est une personnalité éminente et bien connue en Pologne.

Depuis quelques années elle prend part aux Conférences du Travail à Genève soit comme déléguée du Gouvernement, soit comme envoyée des différentes organisations de travailleurs intellectuels. On peut dire de M-me Wasniewska qu'elle reste fidèle au but qu'elle poursuit depuis sa tendre jeunesse et qui lui a été désigné par son esprit indépendant, avide de travail créateur, ainsi que par son grand talent d'organisateur.

Dès sa sortie du lycée elle est contrainte à travailler durement pour vivre et quoique ce fut à cette époque d'avant guerre ou le champ d'activité offert à la femme était bien restreint elle cherche à trouver une situation indépendante et la trouve comme chef du service commercial d'une grande maison d'électrotechnique, situation qu'elle conserve pendant de nombreuses années. Cependant le travail professionnel n'arrive pas à remplir sa vie, son esprit, qu'elle ne cesse de cultiver, est toujours à la recherche de nouveaux problèmes intéressants. Elle se révolte à l'idée de nombreuses injustices sociales touchant la femme et elle tend à les combattre. Elle devient membre de l'Union des Droits de la Femme, puis de l'Association des femmes travaillant dans l'Administration et le Commerce, où elle fonde une section d'auto-éducation et enfin—pendant la Grande Guerre—du Club des femmes progressistes, dont elle devient vice-présidente. Depuis la guerre son activité englobe des domaines de plus en plus vastes. Elle devient successivement membre du Bureau du travail social, vice-présidente de l'Union des Associations féminines, vice-présidente du Conseil des Associations sociales,—enfin depuis le commencement de l'existence de cette institution elle est l'unique membre féminin du Conseil général et du Comité exécutif de l'Organisation Centrale des Unions professionnelles des Travailleurs Intellectuels. Depuis quelques années M-me Wasniewska remplit également les fonctions de Secrétaire Générale de la Société d'Eugénique. En reconnaissance de ses nombreux mérites les Associations féminines ont posé la candidature de M-me Wasniewska aux élections à la Diète législative. Cette candidature a réuni des suffrages très nombreux à la suite de quoi M-me Wasniewska fut élue députée.

Ce bilan d'activité—non définitif certainement, car M-me Wasniewska, se trouve dans la fleur de l'âge et en pleine éclosion de ses forces vitales—permet d'augurer pour l'avenir aux femmes de Pologne de résultats de son travail.

—La Femme Polonaise.

BUREAU INTERNATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHIQUE.

S'il est en somme assez facile de trouver la bibliographie relative aux ouvrages déjà publiés depuis plusieurs années, il est en revanche beaucoup plus difficile de se tenir au courant des travaux récents. Ceux-ci, pourtant, semblent présenter un plus grand intérêt pour la plupart des correspondantes qui paraissent surtout vouloir être renseignées sur les nouveautés. C'est pourquoi, nous aimerions bien que les lectrices de ce journal nous signalent les dernières œuvres publiées dans leur pays, de façon que nous puissions d'abord les noter à notre fichier et ensuite les faire connaître en en parlant dans "JUS." Il y aurait ainsi, en plus de l'intérêt général pour les lectrices qui seraient tenues au courant des derniers livres, un intérêt particulier pour les auteurs qui, en raison de la publicité donnée à leurs ouvrages, verraient augmenter le nombre de leurs lecteurs.

Le Bureau International Bibliographique, 4 rue de Chevreuse, Paris (6e), s'intéresse à toutes les questions touchant les femmes et leur demande, dans un intérêt mutuel, de bien vouloir collaborer avec lui tout en faisant appel, pour leurs travaux, à sa collaboration.

La Secrétaire, G. LE MARCHAND.

Octobre, 1928.

NOUVELLES INTERNATIONALES.

Grande-Bretagne.

Union Nationale des Sociétés pour l'égalité civique.— Les élections générales de l'an prochain soulèvent un intérêt particulier. Un corps électoral plus étendu, des femmes votant pour la première fois dans les mêmes conditions que les hommes, tout cela rend les résultats plus incertains. La date sera probablement le commencement de juin. L'Union nationale tient à prendre sa responsabilité en aidant les nouvelles électrices à remplir leur devoir civique et en leur montrant comment elles peuvent prendre part au gouvernement de leur pays. Aussi de nombreux meetings sont organisés dans toute la contrée. Les femmes ont pris un grand intérêt à la Conférence annuelle de chaque parti. Notons que cette année, le Comité central du Conseil des femmes a été reconnu comme une partie officielle de l'organisation du parti conservateur. L'élection de Miss Susan Lawrence comme Vice-Présidente du parti socialiste indique qu'elle sera présidente l'année prochaine et présidera la Conférence du Parti.

Gouvernement local.—Plusieurs des sociétés de l'U. Nationale travaillent pour l'élection de femmes dans les conseils d'arrondissement et six femmes se présentent dans l'arrondissement de Kensington sur le programme et sous les couleurs de l'U. Nationale.

Le gouvernement se prépare à changer le système de gouvernement local dans tout le pays. L'U. Nationale considère cette réforme avec méfiance, car elle amènera l'éviction de nombreux membres y compris des femmes, qui ont déjà rendu de grands services au pays.

Les fonctionnaires mariées.—Dernièrement, le traitement d'une institutrice a été supprimé parce qu'elle s'était mariée; l'école refusa de la congédier et le comité d'Enseignement fut obligé de s'incliner. Il est temps que les féministes fassent cesser cette iniquité.

Ligue de La Liberté des femmes. Des représentantes de la ligue assistent à toutes les discussions publiques de la commission royale sur les pouvoirs et la procédure de la police et la Ligue réclame une législation rendant obligatoire la nomination de femmes dans tous les comités. Des membres de la Ligue se présentent comme candidates pour les élections aux conseils d'arrondissement qui ont lieu ce mois-ci, et sont soutenus par la Ligue, quel que soit leur parti. La Ligue travaille aussi à faire élire plus de femmes aux prochaines élections générales. (d'après F. A. Underwood.)

Alliance sociale et politique Sainte Jeanne. Un livre publié chez King "Towards citizenship," écrit par deux membres de l'Alliance Ste. Jeanne, fait l'histoire des efforts faits par les femmes, depuis les temps anciens jusqu'à nos jours, pour l'émancipation. Il se vendra dans les écoles et les couvents. Deux membres de l'A. Ste. Jeanne sont candidates pour les élections aux conseils d'arrondissement.

Ecosse.

La première femme ministre. Miss Vera Findlay, âgée de 24 ans a été nommée ministre de l'église congrégationnelle de Partick. La cérémonie aura lieu en Novembre.

La Marquise d'Aberdeen et Temair.—Le Usher Hall d'Edimbourg contenant 3000 personnes était comble, lorsque la "Franchise de la Cité" a été accordée à trois écossais distingués: Le Duc d'Atholl, Sir John Gilmour et la Marquise d'Aberdeen. Elle est la troisième femme qui ait reçu le droit de Cité à Edimbourg. Les œuvres sociales de Lady Aberdeen ne se comptent et elle restera unique parmi les grandes figures des féministes de notre époque.

Iles anglaises.

Un journal du soir de Guernesey commente la nouvelle loi de 1928 sur le droit de propriété des femmes mariées; cette loi vient d'entrer en application. D'après l'ancienne loi, les femmes mariées n'avaient aucun droit de propriété. Elles ont maintenant les mêmes droits que les hommes à Guernesey, Alderney et Sark.

Hollande.

La branche d'Amsterdam de la Société hollandaise des citoyennes a organisé une manifestation très réussie. A notre époque où les gens sont trop occupés pour assister à des conférences ou lire des brochures, il faut les atteindre par d'autres moyens. Par une belle soirée, le 26 Septembre, les membres de la Société prirent place dans de jolies gondoles décorées et illuminées et firent le tour des canaux de 8 à 10 heures. Dans un grand bateau, en tête du cortège, un orchestre de 30 étudiantes jouaient et chantaient des hymnes, ce qui attira un nombreux public sur la berge; alors, des suffragistes circulèrent sur des bicyclettes ornées d'affiches de couleurs brillantes sur lesquelles on pouvait lire:

Egalité légale pour les hommes et les femmes, Liberté du travail. Salaire égal pour travail égal, De meilleures lois sur le mariage, Opportunités égales pour l'emploi dans tous les offices, etc. Sur ces affiches était aussi imprimée l'adresse de la secrétaire d'Amsterdam, à qui les cotisations devaient être envoyées. Le jour suivant, le même comité organisa de 2 à 4 une promenade dans les rues d'Amsterdam, sur des autos décorées de fleurs, précédées d'une auto avec le même orchestre que la veille. Tout le long du chemin on distribuait des prospectus de diverses couleurs. Le soir, la salle du meeting fut bondée et le lendemain, les journaux étaient pleins d'éloges sur la manière artistique dont les femmes avaient organisé leur propagande. Depuis ce jour, la Société des citoyennes gagne de nombreux adhérents et le nombre de ses membres aura bientôt doublé. (d'après D. ALETTA JACOB.)

Un comité a été formé en Janvier 1928 pour déterminer la part que les écoles doivent prendre dans l'organisation de l'enseignement sexuel, et pour préparer les jeunes générations à leur tâche de futurs parents. Le Comité a étendu son rôle et est entré en rapport avec les écoles secondaires et les écoles techniques. Des femmes de plusieurs sociétés féministes font partie du comité.

Autriche.

La première femme Ministre du Commerce. C'est Margarete Geyling, inspectrice des écoles d'apprentissage. M. Geyling est membre du Conseil supérieur de l'Instruction publique. Elle fait partie du Conseil national des femmes autrichiennes.

La première femme avocate à Vienne. C'est Docteur Marianne Beth. Elle est aussi la première femme chargée de l'administration des faillites, et la première interprète jurée au tribunal depuis quelques années pour l'anglais. Elle s'intéresse beaucoup au mouvement féministe, surtout au point de vue légal. Elle est mariée au fameux professeur de philosophie Karl Beth.

Une nouvelle loi pénale pour les jeunes gens. Cette nouvelle loi traitera les jeunes gens et les enfants qui ont commis quelque faute, non comme des criminels, mais comme des êtres qui devront être soumis à un système d'éducation spécial. La loi a été acceptée par le Conseil national en Juillet et a passé au Sénat en Septembre. Quoiqu'il y ait dans le Comité légal beaucoup d'éminents juristes, Frau Olga Rudel-Zeynek, membre du Conseil fédéral, a été choisie pour présenter la loi devant la Chambre. (d'après G. URBAN.)

Suede.

L'élection des membres de la chambre des députés (Andra Kammaren) a eu lieu en Septembre et a soulevé un mouvement politique extraordinaire. Le corps électoral était divisé en deux partis: Les Communs et les travaillistes. Les Communs comprenaient les fascistes, conservateurs, bureaucrates, ploutocrates, le clergé et trois partis radicaux; les travaillistes comprenaient les Socialistes et les communistes. Les fascistes provoquèrent une agitation bruyante et réussirent si bien qu'ils inquiétèrent les modérés et jetèrent beaucoup de ceux-ci dans le parti travailliste. Mais une fraction du pays garda son sang-froid, ce furent les femmes. Une partie d'entre elles se rangea sous la bannière de l'association nationale des femmes

libérales, l'autre se tint en dehors de tout parti politique, et forma une association neutre, la "Kvinnolistan." Mais elles n'étaient pas organisées et elles manquaient d'argent et d'influence; elles furent attaquées par tous les extrémistes et perdirent la partie. 12 de ces femmes vaillantes se présentèrent aux élections, mais ne furent pas élues. Parmi les femmes engagées dans les deux grands partis, 3 ont réussi et auront leur siège au Parlement. (d'après JENNY VELANDER.)

Selma Lagerlöf.—Selma Lagerlöf, la grande romancière, fêtera son 70ème anniversaire le 20 Novembre. Elle est une ardente féministe. On se rappelle le beau discours qu'elle fit en 1911, au congrès de Stockholm. Elle est docteur Hon. Causa de l'université d'Upsal, titulaire du prix Nobel, membre de l'Académie royale de Suède, etc. (d'après ELLEN KLEMAN.)

Chine.

Mlle. Soume Cheng, célèbre diplomate chinoise, a reçu du gouvernement français la croix de la Légion d'honneur. Elle vient de retourner en Chine, après un tour en Europe. On lui a offert le poste de Ministre chinois en France.

En Chine, les femmes commencent à s'intéresser à l'aviation. Le parti nationaliste chinois a nommé une jeune femme de 18 ans professeur dans un aérodrome.

Indes.

La Maharani de Vijayanagaram a présidé un meeting de l'Association des femmes hindoues. Shrimati Sumatibai y a fait un discours sur les mauvais effets des mariages d'enfants dans les Indes. Des résolutions ont été passées en faveur du projet de loi sur le mariage des enfants, demandant qu'au moins deux femmes soient ajoutées au Comité choisi; du projet de loi sur les droits d'héritage des femmes, et condamnant l'assertion fautive de M. K. Achayr: "qu'une véritable moralité sexuelle est impossible sans le mariage des enfants." (d'après Stri Dharma.)

Perse.

Les journaux annoncent qu'à la prochaine session du Mejlis (Parlement), des résolutions seront passées officiellement pour l'émancipation des femmes perses. Le mouvement pour l'émancipation a déjà fait de réels progrès en Perse et en Turquie. Les gens sérieux s'opposent à la coutume de faire porter le voile aux femmes, coutume contraire aux intérêts de la moralité.

Etats-Unis.

L'égalité des droits.—Les efforts des dirigeantes du Parti National des femmes pour obtenir l'égalité des droits des deux sexes n'a pas éveillé l'enthousiasme général, si l'on en croit les journaux. Presque tous approuvent le refus de Mr. Hoover de faire voter l'amendement constitutionnel proposé par les féministes: "Les hommes et les femmes auront des droits égaux dans toute l'étendue des Etats-Unis et des endroits soumis à leur juridiction." Les arguments sont toujours les mêmes: "Cet amendement aurait pour effet de supprimer d'importantes lois de protection pour les travailleuses," ou "Un amendement constitutionnel ne peut pas supprimer les dissemblances biologiques," ou "On a eu de bonnes raisons pour établir une législation protectrice en faveur de la femme et de la mère," ou "il ne faut pas sacrifier la proie pour l'ombre," ou "droits égaux peut dans certains cas signifier torts égaux," ou "l'intérêt de la femme, du foyer et de la communauté demande des lois de protection de la femme comme mère, épouse et travailleuse." D'autres journaux ajoutent que les femmes, en général, n'approuveraient pas un amendement qui supprimerait toute la législation humanitaire établie pour le bénéfice et la protection des femmes et demandée par les femmes elles-mêmes autrefois.

En mémoire de Miss Hay.—Un service funèbre a été célébré pour Miss Hay, la grande pionnière suffragiste; des délégations de toutes les sociétés féministes des Etats-Unis y assistaient.

Australie.

Association des femmes sans parti, de l'Australie méridionale.

Paix et arbitrage.—La résolution suivante a été passée au meeting d'Août: "Que l'on presse le gouvernement fédéral de signer la clause optionnelle de la Cour permanente de justice internationale, avec les réserves jugées nécessaires, après consultation avec les autres gouvernements de l'Empire."

Nouvelle législation sur le divorce.—Le gouvernement de l'Australie méridionale envisage une nouvelle législation et a envoyé au ministre son opinion à ce sujet. L'Association a examiné la question avec soin et a tracé les lignes principales de la nouvelle loi.

Projet de loi sur la réorganisation de la police.—Ce projet est en discussion au Parlement. L'association suit de près les discussions, car, si le projet de loi apporte des améliorations, en revanche, il peut avoir une action fâcheuse et gêner la liberté des innocents, en particulier des jeunes filles et des femmes.

Congrès de Berlin.

Mme. Hoda Charaoui Pacha a offert 50 Livres Stg pour le congrès, au nom de l'Union égyptienne. D'autres donations sont venues de la part de plusieurs amies de l'Alliance. En tout, 75 Livres. Mais les congrès internationaux coûtent cher et nous espérons que nos lectrices de tous les pays répondront à notre appel. Nous voudrions avoir d'avance une base financière solide pour organiser un congrès digne de l'anniversaire qu'il doit commémorer.

Conférence pan-pacifique, Honolulu,

Août, 9-19, 1928.

Mrs. Rischbieth, qui représentait l'Alliance Internationale, a envoyé un rapport intéressant dont nous ne pouvons donner que le résumé.

Il y avait plusieurs sections: Pédagogie, Hygiène, professions féminines, service social, Femmes dans le gouvernement. Chaque section avait un meeting privé le matin et un meeting public l'après-midi. Les sections se rejoignaient pour les affaires communes. La Présidente était Miss Jane Addams. Un comité permanent a été élu; il continuera le travail et s'occupera spécialement des questions suivantes: Coût de la vie dans les contrées du Pacifique, comparaison avec le taux des salaires, hygiène des femmes dans l'industrie, étude des systèmes électoraux, place des femmes dans les partis politiques, législation affectant les femmes et les enfants. Il a été proposé: Que la prochaine conférence aurait lieu à Shanghai en 1930, que Miss E. M. Hinder serait nommée secrétaire du Comité permanent, qu'un fond serait constitué, que la secrétaire se mettrait en rapport avec les différentes contrées du Pacifique pour préparer l'organisation d'une société permanente. La Secrétaire entreprendra la publication des travaux de la conférence; elle centralisera les renseignements sur les travaux des sociétés organisées dans les contrées du Pacifique et provoquera des recherches sur les questions indiquées ci-dessus.

Cette conférence a pour objet d'unifier le mouvement féministe de toutes les contrées du Pacifique. Celles-ci ont eu jusqu'à présent beaucoup de difficultés à se mettre en contact les unes avec les autres, et en contact avec les sociétés européennes. Un nouveau centre était nécessaire.

Les rapports présentés à la conférence ont porté sur les sujets suivants:

Oeuvres de l'enfance, par Miss M. Anderson; Influence du cinéma sur les enfants, par Dr. M. Staley de Nouvelle-Zélande; Traite des femmes, par des experts de la Ligue des Nations; Plusieurs rapports sur les femmes dans l'industrie, dont deux sur les femmes dans les trade-Unions; Le Japon a envoyé un rapport sur le suffrage des femmes et un autre sur le coût de la vie; Miss Rischbieth a traité de l'influence politique des femmes dans l'état présent et dans l'avenir. Les Déléguées ont reçu une hospitalité somptueuse.

MADELINE RUDLER.

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