

THE
WOMAN'S LEADER

IN POLITICS IN INDUSTRY IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT
IN THE HOME IN LITERATURE AND ART IN THE PROFESSIONS

AND
THE COMMON CAUSE

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NOTES AND NEWS

The New Year Honours.

Among the New Year Honours there are two which are of especial interest to readers of this paper. Dr. Ethel Smyth has been made Dame Commander of the British Empire, and this is all the more gratifying since Dr. Smyth has never received the full recognition from her countrymen which is due to her. She has the distinction of being the greatest living woman composer as well as a woman with a very great gift for writing. Miss Cornelia Sorabji has been awarded the Kaisar-i-Hind medal for public services in India. She is Lady Assistant to the Court of Wards in Bengal and very well known to our readers.

Women Mayors in Belgium.

Other women besides Mme. Keinglaert, of Gheluvelt, have been chosen as Mayors of Belgian towns, and Mlle. Isabelle Segers, Mayor of Appels, in the Termonde district, follows her father and brother. The Dowager Mme. de Bruges de Gerpinnes has been elected at Weillem, in the Province of Namur, and the people of the town will be sure of being well governed by her. Mme. M. Carlier-Renard was chosen at Thimongies, in the district of Tournai, where for over a generation her family has provided the Mayors of the town. Her brother, the last Mayor, was killed in the war, and Mme. Carlier-Renard hopes to hold office until his son is old enough to succeed.

Women's Co-Operative Guild.

Miss Llewelyn Davies, who has just retired from the general Secretaryship of the Women's Co-operative Guild, is succeeded by Miss A. Honora Enfield, who is well known in the movement. She was recently appointed Secretary of the new International Co-operative Women's Committee, to which we lately drew the attention of our readers. Mrs. Barton, also well known to the readers of this paper, is the new assistant secretary. She was invaluable as a member of the Reconstruction Housing Committee, and is a J.P. She is the prospective Parliamentary candidate for the King's Norton Division of Birmingham. The membership of the Women's Co-operative Guild is now 52,000, and there are 1,030 branches.

Husband and Wife Co-Ministers.

The Rev. Claud Coltman and his wife, the Rev. Constance Mary Coltman, have become joint pastors of the Congregational Church, Greville Place, Maida Vale. This somewhat unusual association should be, and no doubt is, welcomed by the inhabitants of the locality. There have been many regular women ministers in Methodist and Congregational churches in the United States, but so far as we know this is the first instance of the joint ministry of husband and wife.

Exhibition of Apparatus and Schemes of Work for Individual Teaching.

From Miss C. M. A. Coombs, LL.A., President London Unit, National Union of Women Teachers, has emanated the idea of holding an exhibition of books and apparatus, and the London Unit has entered enthusiastically into the matter. The exhibition will be opened at the end of January in some large hall in Central London. Directors of Education, Inspectors, Directors of publishing firms, and many others, will be invited to the exhibition. The aim of the promoters of the exhibition is threefold:—1. To hold an exhibition which will be of real educational value. 2. To induce publishers to place on the market really useful scientifically graded apparatus. 3. To compile a book on apparatus. For further information application should be made to the Organiser, N.U.W.T., 39, Gordon Square, W.C. 1.

Lower Dressmakers' Wages.

It is said that lower wages for women and girls in the dress-making trade are to be proposed by the Dressmaking Trade Board. The present minimum rate for experienced women is 8½d. an hour, and it is proposed to reduce it for retail workrooms in the City of London and Metropolitan Police district to 8d., 7½d. in large provincial towns, and 7d. in areas with a population under 10,000. In the wholesale branch of the trade, the rate is to be 7½d. an hour. It will be hard to make both ends meet with such an income in these days.

Domestic Labour-Saving Competition.

There have been many suggestions lately that women engineers and mechanics who are looking round to find an outlet for their energies, might very profitably turn their attention to the invention and improvement of devices for saving labour in the home. In order to stimulate interest in this direction the Women's Engineering Society has decided to hold a competition which will give women an opportunity of bringing forward some of the improvements which they consider necessary to the more efficient working of the home. This competition will not be confined to members of the Women's Engineering Society, but will be open to all women, as it is felt that there are many women in the home with natural mechanical ability whose ideas on this subject would be of considerable value to the community. One of the chief points upon which the entries to the competition will be judged will be the economy with which the idea could be carried out. For further particulars apply to the Women's Engineering Society, 26, George Street, Hanover Square, W. 1.

School of Tropical Medicine Examinations.

At the recent examination of the London School of Tropical Medicine the following women passed, together with thirty-one men: Miss A. Reubens, M.B., B.S. (Bombay), and Miss Reba Hunsberger, M.D. (Phila.), American Board of Foreign Missions.

Woman Traffic Manager.

Miss Hendrick has been appointed as Ocean Traffic Manager at Liverpool, a new post for women. She is an expert on ocean traffic, and is being sent by her firm on a tour of inspection of the Pacific Coast Agencies. She is probably the first woman traffic manager in the world, and as she is young she should go far.

Miss A. E. Winkworth.

It is with great regret that we record the death, at the age of eighty-eight, of Miss Alice Winkworth, one of the pioneers of women's public work in this country. She and Miss Mary Clifford were elected Poor Law Guardians in 1882 (amongst the first in England) and she was in her fortieth year of service when she died. After she was eighty she was repeatedly begged to postpone her resignation by officials of the Board, who specially valued her powers of careful investigation and discriminating judgment when important appointments had to be made. Her resignation was pending, but had not taken effect at the time of her death, and the last letter she ever wrote was concerned with details of public business. She took a warm interest in the education of girls and founded a scholarship in connection with the Clifton High School where she, like her sisters, served for many years on the Council.

The Helena Residential Clubs.

The Helena Residential Clubs were inaugurated by H.R.H. the Princess Christian, supported by Princess Marie Louise, a capable organiser, and a council, for the purpose of supplying the long-felt need for comfortable quarters for working women. The scheme, which was launched in the nick of time to meet the great after-war housing shortage, has now taken form. Two large houses in Lancaster Gate have been opened as Residential Clubs, and have immediately been filled. The Ex-Service Women's Association has turned over the sum of £10,000 to the Council of the Helena Residential Clubs for the purchase, the furnishing, and adapting of the houses, on the understanding that a minimum of twenty-four beds shall be reserved for ex-Service girls. In these houses, cubicles, with breakfast and dinner, full board on Sundays, and the use of comfortable living rooms may be obtained for the small sum of 30s. per week, the share of a double room with the same advantages for 35s., or a single room for £2 2s. The living rooms (drawing, dining, and reading rooms) are delightfully spacious and homely, and a library is provided. Admission is reserved for girls who are in receipt of a moderate salary only, and the Clubs are occupied principally by typists, secretaries, business women in a small way, and a few girls training under the new scheme of the Ministry of Labour.

A Need Filled.

How great a need these Residential Clubs really fill may be seen at once by a comparison of the prices charged and the advantages gained with those exacted and offered by the up-to-date landlady. It may be said, once and for all, that the small salary earner can no longer cope with the up-to-date landlady, for she can and will, in these days, charge 15s. a week for a small, dingy,

back bedroom in a second-rate street, 1s. 6d. for a simple breakfast, 2s. a week for gas—and firing, of course, extra! She will not, as a rule, provide any other meal but breakfast. Her weekly bill alone then, minus lunch, tea or supper, or fire, will amount to 27s. 6d., and in addition there is usually some "extra" which the lodger had not been led to expect! For only 2s. 6d. more than this sum, the girl living in a Helena Residential Club can obtain a cubicle, the use of a really comfortable dining, drawing, and reading room, her dinner and full board on Sundays, when she can be at home. For 14s. 6d. more than the cost of the dingy, back bedroom and the—very often badly cooked—breakfast, she can obtain a single room in a Residential Club and the corresponding comforts. She will be saved that insufferable weariness (how truly insufferable only those know who have tried it!) of having to go out to seek every meal, wet or fine, and of having to eat it in a noisy restaurant where she does not even get good value for her money; and last, but not least, she will be able to live with the sense of financial and personal security so essential to the well-being of the worker! She will have companionship, moreover; and companionship in a Helena Residential Club entails dances, "socials," and "good times" generally. (And here, kind readers, please note that a piano is badly needed!) The Council of the Helena Residential Club intend to open new houses as soon as funds are forthcoming for the purchase or rent, the furnishing and redecorating. It is also hoped, in co-operation with the Ex-Service Women's Association, to open a "Holiday Home" at some suitable seaside place, where girls may go for rest or recuperation for week-ends or longer. The scheme is run as a business proposition, and when initial expenses have been defrayed, all Helena Residential Clubs are self-supporting.

Maternal Mortality in New Zealand.

New Zealanders, who are justly proud of having the lowest rate of infantile mortality in the world, were horrified the other day to find their maternal mortality rate almost correspondingly high. According to American statistics, the Dominion is next to the top of the list of nations in this respect. There has been an increase since 1914, and a committee was set up to investigate the question. They came to the conclusion that the mortality is due mainly to sepsis, deaths from which are largely preventable. The lack of domestic help and the housing difficulties during the war contributed to the diminished resistance which is affecting the women to-day. Attempted abortions and the unduly large use of instruments and other operative measures at confinements, and the unsuitable surroundings in many cases, are other causes. The committee recommended a thorough investigation of every case of maternal mortality; the compulsory return by all maternity hospitals of mortality rates; post-graduate courses for midwives; a stricter inspection of private maternity hospitals; and the establishment of ante-natal clinics, &c.

Ourselves.

Our fourth list is very acceptable, though not as long as we should like! But this first week of the New Year is a good moment for appeals, we are told. May it prove so in our case! Please remember our need for MORE READERS.

	FOURTH LIST.	£	s.	d.
Amount previously acknowledged	...	105	17	6
Miss Dora Mellone	...	0	2	8
Mr. and Mrs. Payne	...	2	2	0
Mrs. Mott	...	0	10	6
Mrs. Percy Thompson	...	1	1	0
Miss E. L. Dunlop	...	5	0	0
Mrs. White Birch	...	1	0	0
Miss D. S. Solomon	...	0	5	0
Miss Blackett	...	0	3	2
		£116	1	10

POLICY.—The sole policy of THE WOMAN'S LEADER is to advocate a real equality of liberties, status and opportunities between men and women. So far as space permits, however, it will offer an impartial platform for topics not directly included in the objects of the women's movement, but of special interest to women. Articles on these subjects will always be signed, at least by initials or a pseudonym, and for the opinions expressed in them the Editor accepts no responsibility.

SMALL CHILDREN.

When one comes to think of it, the most important thing to the State is its small children. This is such a platitude, and the reasons for it are so obvious, that it seems almost unnecessary to talk about it. And yet, although we recognise the plain fact, we most of us do not act as if we did, and the Bolsheviki State appears to be the only one in which the importance of small children is accepted as an axiom of government. In this country we pay very little public attention to them, and what little we have been paying of late years is now threatened with curtailment. We leave them and their education to their mothers—which is an excellent plan if the mothers themselves are educated, perhaps, but under the actual conditions of modern life it is often a very inadequate plan indeed. The physical well-being of small children is by now more or less understood, though not, of course, secured or securable among the housing conditions which we still tolerate. But, at any rate, we have studied and worked out what ought to be the physical environment of a child during its first five or six years of life, what food it ought to eat, what clothing to wear, and what conditions of temperature and atmosphere it ought to enjoy. This knowledge is being spread out among the mothers at a fairly rapid rate, and some attempt is being made on a national scale to provide for this aspect of the well-being of the next generation. Of course, there is not nearly enough done yet. The education of the mothers is by no means complete, and when it is it will be to a large extent inoperative without the parallel education of the fathers; but still, in our slow and cumbrous fashion we are moving along this line.

But what about the other part of the child's life? What about the mental, moral and emotional training of our children? What do we do there? The answer is, practically nothing. No one is teaching parents how to handle the awakening minds of their offspring, nor how to inculcate the virtues and the restraints which make a healthy citizen out of the little savages who are born to them. Although educationalists and psychologists have been devoting more and more attention to the early years of life, and although both agree that these are the most formative period, still we do nothing as a community to secure that it shall be well looked after. Our children tumble up through these apparently critical years without a single concerted effort on the part of the community to impress anything upon them. They are treated entirely by the light of the wisdom or folly of their individual parents, and may develop—indeed, obviously do develop—anti-social or miserable "complexes" which years of after education fail to eradicate. Every sort of diversity prevails in this matter. From parents who beat their children for their good to those who indulge their every whim; from those who impatiently brush them aside to those who everlastingly pander to the egoism of youth—from wise to silly, from cruel to fond, every variety of experiment is tried upon small children, with every variety of good or evil consequence.

Now, we do not maintain the thesis that all children should be treated alike, nor yet that their education should be wrested away from their parents from the moment of birth; nor yet that education is the only thing of importance. Obviously, variety of method is needed for a variety of natures; obviously, parents should have wide liberty and discretion in the manner of their children's upbringing, and, obviously, heredity and character are of fundamental importance. But what we do maintain is this, that there are some things which should be implanted in every child if the social state is to be healthy, and therefore that we should see to it that all parents know both what to implant and how to do it. Just as their bodies need a foundation of health, so do their minds; and although we may all differ profoundly about the ethics of capitalism or the value of our own system of government, there are few who will deny that to teach elementary civic virtues to small children would be a good thing.

These virtues include an appreciation of the rights of others (a very hard matter to teach to the young), the power of joint action, the absence of suspiciousness, the love of equity. These things—and the many more we all know—ought to be the common mental food for all infants, and we ought to see that parents administer it. Pure milk is vital, and so is pure thought. We need schools for mothers for more subjects than one, and, undoubtedly, we need schools for fathers too.

NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER.

By OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT.

[The views expressed in this column are those of our Parliamentary correspondent, and are not our editorial opinion. Like so many other things in this paper they are expressly controversial, and comment upon them will be welcomed.—Ed.]

The General Election looks like a certainty for the end of this month or the beginning of February, and all the political prophets are at work. I am not a prophet myself, but I feel fairly safe in forecasting a renewed majority for Lloyd George, taking one thing and another into account. There has undoubtedly been a swing of opinion in the country towards Liberal ideas; but in these days of Coalitions a change of opinion need mean no change of Government. What it will mean is the shifting of the balance within the Coalition itself, and from all the signs this is what is going on to-day. The conference of Coalition Liberals this month is expected to be a big affair, and there seems likely to be a first-class controversy over the name. The Coalition-Liberals will become the National Liberals, I understand, and this will be most fiercely contested by the Independent Liberals. In the end it must be in the constituencies that this battle will be fought out, but for the moment it is raging at the centre.

That the Government will not have it all its own way in the constituencies this time, is another fairly obvious fact. Labour is still an unknown factor, and the ultra-Conservative element may have more backing than as yet appears, and there will be the Anti-Wasters to reckon with too. And then there are the Independent Liberals—who are very sanguine indeed—and a number of other Independents of different brands, so that there will be no plain sailing. But what is clear is that there is no one simple alternative to Lloyd George, and until that appears I suspect that he will hold the field.

I am writing, or rather I am trying to write, without bias, as if I were an observer from another planet without any party views of his own, not prescribing what ought to be, but merely stating what it seems to me is. From such an exalted position I notice that the present Government has a number of good cards to play, and a number of bad ones to slip away up its sleeve. The good ones concern Ireland, Washington, and—if it comes off—the Cannes proposal for financial stability in Europe. The bad ones are housing and education and unemployment. Of these the one least likely to be hidden is unemployment, which naturally looms gigantic in the minds of great sections of electors. Unemployment is not very easily controlled by Parliament, but nevertheless its existence under this Government will turn a lot of the votes which went to the official nominee last time to the Labour candidate this time. When all the factors are counted and discounted, and even if my original impression as to the general result is true, enough uncertainty remains in any given constituency to make the election a time of great excitement and importance. Anyone with a cause to promote had better be preparing now. Anyone with a grievance had better make ready to air it; and anyone with energy to spare had better plan out how to use it, for the campaign will be short and sharp, and very important.

Apart from election talk, little is going on just now. The centre of political speculation has gone off to Cannes, and even the Honours List has created hardly a ripple. There are no by-elections involved in it (in itself one of the indications of a coming appeal to the country), and there is nothing of great political moment. The appointment of the Earl of Lytton to be Governor of Bengal will be noted by readers of this paper with interest. He has always been one of the real friends of women's causes; and in India he will still find the same work to be done.

The Cannes Conference, with its far-reaching, but as yet nebulous proposals, may perhaps be the most important thing which has happened to Europe since the Armistice. It may, on the other hand, be nothing at all. It can hardly be anything between. But it is still before us, and cannot be judged as yet.

CORRECTION.

[We regret to announce that the list of women candidates for the next Election published in our issue of December 16th was incorrect in regard to Miss Alison Garland. While she is likely to be a candidate (and we hope she may get in), she has not as yet actually decided to contest any particular constituency.]

WOMEN IN THE BUSINESS WORLD.

By A BUSINESS WOMAN.

The world of business is man's world. The exceptions are immediately conceded and but serve to prove the rule. Most of us could point to notable women amongst the small shop-keeping class who are making quite as much of a success of small shop-keeping as any man could do. Probably we also know women who are acting as their husbands' right hands in successful businesses. Only very wealthy women can emulate Lady Rhondda; small shop-keeping is quite a small part of the business world; and to be second fiddle to a man is only second-hand business, after all; the real responsibility is his.

There remains a huge field including directorships, working partnerships and managerships; single-handed enterprise in manufacture and distribution, wholesale and retail; and the control of all these is almost entirely left to men. Women in plenty are employed in subordinate positions; but the control—and the profits—are the perquisites of men. Why? What is there formidable about business that women should be shy of it?

Their reluctance is probably due to two causes. The most insurmountable is the ingrained idea, rubbed into them in season and out all their lives, enforced and emphasised even by "advanced" women, that "home duties" or the "running of a house" are the only kinds of control suited to their femininity. The idea of "running a business" instead of a house is unthinkable to most women. The business world, of all worlds, is "man's world," where he meets worries and trials galore during the day. His devoted "house-runner's" part is to be prettily dressed, to meet him with a smile—and a good dinner—and all the day's worries will vanish under the sun of domestic comfort. From "ladies' papers" which I sometimes come across, I gather that it is a further duty of the "homemaker" to enter into the business difficulties of her husband and so to be a "real companion" to him; and I often wonder how it is done. It would bore an uninitiated person to tears to listen to my daily business worries; and it would certainly bore me to expatiate on them to a person who had not, and could not have, the slightest real knowledge of what I was talking about. Until we separate ourselves from that Old Man of the Sea—domestic tyranny—and the idea that domestic duties are women's noblest occupations, I cannot see much hope for women in business.

The second handicap is women's lack of money. It is possible to start in business with very little money and to work one's way to considerable financial power, as has been proved many times over by men; but it is better to have some money and difficult to begin and to carry on with only a little; and as women do not generally have much money, they do not look upon a business career as a practical one. It is not a royal road to fortune. Like most other paths of experience and knowledge, it is strewn with pitfalls into which the unlearned are apt to tumble. Few men in the business world but have had to "pay their footing"; and the payment in this case is generally a literal one—one learns how to avoid losses by first making them. It needs courage, and the more one succeeds the greater risks one has to take. But the gains usually correspond; and why leave all the money-getting to men? The business world takes a large share in government, for the very good reason that it controls the purse-strings. If women continue to stand outside this great part of the nation's life they will not have much real power in government. And even under a Socialist Government the argument holds good. We live by our manufactures and the distribution of them, and shall do so under any Government. The money made in business gives power to-day, and since women have little part in business they have little power. And even if private profit is eventually eliminated, the intimate knowledge of the nation's interchange of goods, which taking a share in the work gives, if monopolised by men, will leave women outside much, the knowledge of which would be of real service to them as citizens.

The world of business is not arbitrarily closed to women as are some other "men's" occupations. Women can enter it when they like, and if they do so in the same spirit as men, determined to "stand their corner," it will yield its prizes to them in spite of their sex. Numbers of women have a little money; most men would try to make the little more, greatly relishing the enterprise. To men it is second nature to try to "get on," whilst women are supposed to enjoy the part of watching and applauding; but never, oh, never, to emulate!

I am driven to the conclusion that they do not want to emulate. It has been my fate to employ many women, in the way of business. It was my ambition, when I became managing partner, to run the business entirely by means of my own sex. Alack-a-day! The safety of the ship, as every man knows, is, and must be, the first consideration with "the man at the helm." To secure the safe progress of my business I was driven to employing men, and my fine scheme of reliance on women only, came to nothing.

Why should not fathers who have money bring up their daughters with a serious view to business as a career? The newspapers regularly contain advertisements offering investment of money in return for a position in a business concern by well-to-do fathers for their sons, but never do they contain the same offers for daughters. And for a very good reason; daughters are not worth the money. Businesses are not run on sentimental lines, for to instil into a girl the idea that womanly duty is entirely contained in wifehood and motherhood, and that the career of being "a wife and mother" is incompatible with any other, and expect her to make a business woman in the sense that a man is a business man, is to expect the impossible. We cannot have it both ways. Men are husbands and fathers—and quite satisfactory ones—and business men. And until we get it into our heads, and instil it into the heads of our girls, that wifehood and motherhood are things apart from one's daily job, with no more need to swamp us than the corresponding human relations swamp men, there will be no real place for women in business.

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF WOMEN WORKERS FOR DEPENDENTS.*

Mr. Rowntree's study of the problem of the woman worker's dependents makes a valuable contribution to the problem of equal pay for equal work and to the closely allied problem of family endowment. His conclusion is that only 12.06 per cent. of women workers have, at a given time, either partially or entirely, to support others besides themselves. The implications of this conclusion as regards the determination of wages are, of course, obvious; and the opponents of equal pay for equal work will no doubt revel in the facts and figures here presented, until the advocates of family endowment come along and add unto them certain similar facts and figures concerning the dependents of men workers. But whatever use may be made of Mr. Rowntree's results, his study suggests that the investigations on which such results are based have been carried out with infinite care and accuracy, and afford the best evidence which we so far possess on this particular subject. Our only regret is that the Oxford University Press has not seen its way to put this pamphlet on the market at a more reasonable price. Four and sixpence is a big figure for a paper-covered book of sixty-eight pages.

M. D. S.

* "The Responsibility of Women Workers for Dependents" by B. Seebohm Rowntree. (Humphrey Milford. 4s. 6d.)

BACK TO CIVILISATION: QUARANTINE AT TERIJOKI.

By CARMEL HADEN GUEST.

The doctor leant over the table. His loose-featured face was crimson and his eyes and lips were twitching in a manner that suggested rising wrath. He spoke German with so perfect an accent that I concluded the rumours I had heard about his nationality were correct. "You and your colleague will go into quarantine for the full fourteen days," he bellowed. "I'll teach you what Finnish hygiene means." We had just crossed the frontier from Russia into Finland, having been to Russia on a relief expedition with milk and medicines for the hospitals of Petersburg.

We tried to explain that the Finnish Foreign Office authorities had promised only to intern us for four days, but this seemed to incense the doctor all the more.

"I'll teach you," he cried, glaring at us. "If you were the German Emperor himself, I'd give you fourteen days. Take their temperatures," he shouted at an over-buxom frau who was acting as a nurse at the hospital.

The Frau addressed my colleague in German, and as he didn't understand there was a chorus of abuse. He was supposed to be defying them because he stared dumbly at the gesticulating pair. After our temperatures had been taken a little sentry with a bayonet was summoned and instructed to conduct us to the Russian house in the Quarantine.

It was early in March. The snow was still lying in deep profusion, and in the darkness (it was past ten o'clock) we slipped into holes and rucks in the uneven road.

Our luggage followed us on a sledge. The driver mocked us. "I offered to drive you to an hotel," he said, "now you'll have to stay here."

"I wish we'd taken his advice," I murmured to my colleague.

"There would have been a row when it was found out," he replied. He had the Englishman's dislike of scenes, and besides, he knew that without the Finnish Authorities' *visé* we could not leave their country.

When we arrived at our destination we found it was a villa situated in a garden with a wood at the back which led, as we afterwards found out, on to the shore. Our frontiers were marked by a stone wall in the front of the house and the Baltic Sea at the back. We entered the house through a little porch and were shown into the kitchen. It was a very small room with a stove in one corner, a wooden table, and illuminated by a dying candle which a young Russian student was holding in his hand.

He looked rather picturesque in his loose, black shirt and khaki knee breeches. The flickering light revealed a young, round face, with slightly long curly hair. He smiled pleasantly at us.

"Why have you come to Russians' house?" he asked. "It is the worst—English much better. Perhaps it is only for the night. They will change you to-morrow." He spoke with a curious little impediment in his voice. "Come, I will show you where there are some empty beds." He led the way through a narrow, dark passage, and opened a door into a fair-sized room with eight empty beds. "How's that for you?" he asked.

"But we're not married," I stammered. "Can't you find my colleague a place in another room?"

"They don't seem to mind much about that here," he answered absently. "but he might find room for an extra bed in my room."

After they left me I examined the beds. The mattresses were of straw, and the covers looked suspiciously grubby. A washing-table with a cracked basin was the only other furniture in the room. The walls were streaked with dirt. I wrapped myself in my rug and prepared to spend my first night in the Finnish Quarantine. My room was more like a passage than a room. It led into an inner bedroom, and the fastenings on both doors were broken. People walked through quite unconcernedly, and when I rose in the morning it was rather like attempting to dress in a public thoroughfare.

My colleague looked very black when I met him in the kitchen. "I slept in a small room with eleven others," he growled. "They all smoked, and the windows were shut; and you'd turn a dog into the streets for the sake of conventions."

"You'd better find something to put your porridge in," said a musical voice behind us, "because the only other meal they provide you with is soup and black bread, at three." The speaker was an attractive Danish woman. The kitchen gradually filled. A bearded Russian professor with an elaborately coiffed wife; a banker's wife with two children; three or four students; a Russian doctor's wife, and a few refugees from the working class made up the assembly.

There was a sudden stir of excitement at the entry of two soldiers with a barrel of porridge and milk. This was ladled out into saucers, cracked pots, bottles, saucepans, cups, and anything that could be found. Some of the refugees hurried away with their portions, ate them seated on their beds, and reappeared with clean vessels, which they presented with an air of not having been served.

"There are sixty people in the house," the Danish lady told us, "and only eleven rooms! They are all people who have crossed the frontier illegally. The Finns call it quarantine, but it is purely political. They want time to search our boxes and make inquiries about us. My husband was a merchant in Petrograd. He had a shop on the Nevsky Prospect. There he is holding out a basin for porridge. If we had only waited a few days longer we might have come legally. The Soviet gave the Danes permission to leave two days after our escape." She sighed. "It's a pity we had to leave so much behind. Have you had your bath yet?" she asked. "You have one on the first day here and on the last day."

"Where is the bath-room?" I asked.

She smiled. "It's not so simple as that," she replied.

"Mon Dieu, non," the pretty little doctor's wife broke in. "You are taken there by an armed guard, and—well, you're lucky if there are only women bathing with you, because when I went —"

My colleague drew me aside. "A soldier is asking for us," he said. "He has a number of people with him, and we're to bring our towels."

It was not without misgivings that I allowed myself to be martialled along to the bathing quarters. Once there, the men were taken off to another part of the establishment and the women were left waiting on the steps of the bath-house.

After considerable delay a batch of men came out of the building, and the bathing woman motioned our party to go in. There were two rooms. In one we undressed, in the other there were two barrels of water, hot and cold, a ladle, and a few tin basins. One of the novices was trying to get into a barrel, but was stopped, and told to help herself to water and wash, and empty the dirty water on to the floor under our feet.

After the ablutions were carried out, we dressed, and were marched back. By this time the refugees were all dressed and out in the garden. It was rather like a parade of costly furs at a London fur merchant's showroom. Some of the refugees wore priceless fur coats and peasants' shawls over their heads. A banker's wife told me she had escaped with millions of roubles sown up in the lining of her coat. She had had a perilous escape over the frozen Baltic Sea with her two small children.

"I can't understand it," she said, plaintively. "They were both so delicate in Petrograd, they would catch cold from a breath of fresh air; and yet during our escape our driver drove into a hole in the ice—a hole the Bolsheviks made to catch us—and the horses, the sledge, and our trunks disappeared under us. We were sinking, too, but I managed to hold up the two children until the driver pulled us out. I didn't realise I was a heroine at the time. We had to sleep all night on the ice in our wet clothes and walk for miles next day, but it didn't seem to hurt the children a bit. I told the quarantine doctor here about it, so he put the children into hospital. They survived that, too. At first they were in a ward with typhus and measles patients, and a suspected smallpox, and when I complained he moved them up into the scarlet fever ward!" The children certainly looked very bonny and none the worse for their adventures.

(To be continued.)

PSYCHOLOGY AND THE CARE OF YOUTH.

The Care of the Adolescent Girl. By Phyllis Blanchard, Ph.D. (Kegan Paul. 7s. 6d.)

Seven Ages of Childhood. By Ella Lyman Cabot. (Kegan Paul. 12s. 6d.)

The New Psychology and the Teacher. By H. Crichton Miller, M.A., M.D. (Jarrolds. 6s. net.)

"The Care of the Adolescent Girl" is described on the title page as a book for teachers, parents, and guardians, and Dr. Mary Scharlieb in her preface to the English edition says that it is "a very valuable contribution to our knowledge of a difficult psychological problem, and that it ought to be carefully studied by all those who are responsible for the mental and moral welfare of young girls, and, indeed, by all who feel that they have an interest in our young people, and who believe that on our proper comprehension of the young girl's difficulties and dangers depends in a large measure the welfare of the human race." She adds, however, that it ought to be taken with a grain of salt. This is, we think, a very just criticism. Dr. Blanchard is an American, a doctor of philosophy not medicine, and, we gather, young enough not to have forgotten her own adolescence. She has not only studied her subject in books (a short bibliography is given with each chapter), but in her own life and in the lives of her contemporaries and friends. Her standpoint is that of the psycho-analyst, and, like most psycho-analysts, she treats as dogmas conclusions which seem to outsiders to rest on rather inadequate evidence. She fits her experience and that of her friends into her theories, and is hard and fast about things which seem to us to be still unproved. The book is, however, stimulating. It has an introduction by Professor Stanley Hall, author of a classic work on adolescence. He specially commends it to "the careful attention of all women interested in the true status of their sex in the world." He thinks that "it is probably far harder for woman to achieve true self-knowledge than for man to do so. She is more prone either to over or under-estimate herself, or to take flight from reality and misconceive what she really wants." We wonder — but, at any rate, such books as Dr. Blanchard's, which provoke observation and thought, will give us some help in the difficult task.

Another American book for parents and teachers is "The Seven Ages of Childhood," by Ella Lyman Cabot. It is spoiled by its sentimentality, its lengthiness, and the fact that the author, although obviously possessed of a good deal of first-hand experience of children and young people, is not content to draw her illustrations from that. She not only quotes the opinions of many authors, American and foreign, but also long passages of description and anecdote. Some of the stories of children

are fresh and amusing; others are such chestnuts that we can hardly bear them. We doubt whether many English parents will have patience to read through the whole book.

This is perhaps a pity, as there are some valuable things in it. Amongst these is the chapter on Fear and Disobedience, with the observation that childish terrors often depend on the fact that a child's conception not only of possibility, but of time and space, differs from ours. The advice about conquering cowardice, or rather teaching frightened children how to conquer it themselves, is also good. The stages through which children, at least some children, pass are well observed, though it seems rather arbitrary to attach them so definitely to special ages. Perhaps we should not be so struck with this if the course of development did not differ somewhat among American children from that which we are accustomed to among our own. The book includes many excellent warnings to parents, amongst which is the following, vouched for by Mrs. Cabot as authentic and unconscious:—

"I'm awfully disappointed in Dorothy," said her mother. "She has no independence. She does just what the crowd does. Now, Harriet is fine. She is absolutely independent. She always comes to me about every decision and then she does exactly what I tell her to."

"The New Psychology and the Teacher" is a clear and interesting summary of the chief points in psycho-analytic teaching which affect education. Doctor Crichton Miller shrinks from "the thorough-going determinism" of Freud, and prefers the philosophy of free will, which he believes to be implicit in the teaching of the Zurich school. Even as a Jungite we doubt whether he would be regarded as quite orthodox. In regard to such a new study as Psycho-analysis, even the most would-be impartial writer of handbooks can hardly exclude a personal bias, and Dr. Crichton Miller is a student with strong individual views. This adds to the interest of his book and does not detract from its clearness. We can imagine that other psycho-analysts might complain of a certain tendency to smooth away aspects of the subject which are specially distasteful to those brought up in other schools of thought. Looking at the book from the outside, we feel that as an individual the writer exaggerates the claims of the next generation; he suffers from the ultra-parental bias, and does not admit to himself that in the scheme of things one generation is probably as important as another. As one of a school, he seems to us to attribute too many of our present difficulties to sex, and to ignore the evils caused by other over-developed or misused instincts, such as the desire for ease and the desire for power. Some exaggerations and omissions may, however, be due to the necessity of keeping the book short and easy to understand. It would, of course, be absurd to regard it as an exposition of Dr. Crichton Miller's whole point of view. It will, we think, fulfil very well the purpose of suggesting fresh ideas to teachers and parents, and stimulating them to fruitful thought.

M. C.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

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

Telephone: Museum 6910.

1922.

To wish our Societies a happy New Year is equivalent, of course, to wishing them a year of great activity, for it is only in such activity that a political organisation can find life and happiness. We send this wish with good hope of its fulfilment, for there are signs on all sides that those of our Societies which have been somnolent are waking up, and that those which have always been awake are rising to the level of their opportunities. These are certainly almost bewilderingly great. To begin with, there is the prospect of a probable early General Election. That should mean concentration on two tasks. First, to secure the return of a House of Commons, every member of which has learnt to know and respect the N.U.S.E.C., and is pledged to support the reforms on its Programme. Secondly, to secure the return of a contingent of women M.P.s belonging to all or no political parties, but all destined to work together as colleagues for the reforms specially concerning women. These two tasks obviously demand a much more complete organisation than we possess on paper, but we should like to believe that in the old scattered army of suffragists we have a body of reservists who will agree to join the active strength now that the time of crisis has come. We invite all such women to put themselves at once in touch with the local Society, if there is one; where none exists, to offer their services directly to Headquarters. Those who cannot give active work can contribute money and information as to local conditions.

When Parliament meets our primary duty becomes the passage into law of the Bills on which so much energy has already been expended, but besides and above these there are the great problems which affect all citizens, but with which women have their own special concern. There is the thorny question of the economic status of the woman worker, and the family, both under the dark shadow cast by trade depression, unemployment, and falling wages. There is the question of the preservation of child life abroad, and of the maintenance of a high standard of welfare

and education of the child at home. There are the problems of disarmament, of the machinery for ensuring future peace, and for securing economic prosperity to Europe. Who can say that women have not their special point of view, their special contribution to make to these problems? But at present we are even more conscious of the fewness of the labourers than of the greatness of the harvest, and we ask all who know us not only to come into the field, but to bring others with them.

ELEANOR F. RATHBONE.

"AS OTHERS SEE US."

The following extract from the columns of the "Morning Post" during the recent Southwark by-election will amuse our readers:— "That peripatetic and somewhat inquisitorial body, the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, which sprang from the ashes of the former Suffragette movement (!), has descended upon the constituency, and presented its pistol at the heads of the three candidates. In the name of political womanhood, are they in favour of Equal Franchise for the sexes, Equal Parental Guardianship and Control of Children from the earliest age, Equal Wages, Equality before the Law in matters of Divorce and Morality, and the other tenets of the Union's Programme? They held their sashes on Tuesday evening, when the candidates duly attended and bared their souls. . . . After hearing the views of the candidates the Union has pronounced judgment to the effect that all three have returned proper and satisfactory replies, but that the bias is in favour of Mr. Jacobsen, who was an advocate of female franchise in the years before it was an accepted and popular creed."

ERRATA.

The amount sent by the Liverpool Young Citizens' Society for Russian Relief was entered by mistake as £1.1s. instead of £2, which was sent.

CORRESPONDENCE.

UNEMPLOYMENT OF PROFESSIONAL WOMEN.

MADAM,—This winter is no time to relax efforts for the relief of unemployment. We are, however, reluctantly compelled to announce that the Women's Service Bureau, which has been dealing with employment problems among educated women since August, 1914, will have to be closed next March owing to lack of funds. The Bureau has now 48,800 women on its register of workers and over 6,000 firms on its employers' list. Since the Armistice over 40,000 individual interviews have been given to women seeking work and advice, of which over 6,000 have been in the training department. The Bureau, except that it administers grants and loans for training, gives no relief in money. It is a centre where women can find information on all the kindred subjects of employment, training, pensions, and societies for assistance, and its personal and sympathetic work has made it beloved by the thousands who are in touch with it.

During the war it recruited for all the war services, and, among many other interesting enterprises, selected the first women for training in the Arsenal and for employment as London bus conductors, and introduced the first skilled women oxy-acetylene welders into the engineering trades, women trained in its own pioneer welding school. After the Armistice, it devoted its efforts to replacing the war workers in civilian posts, and later attempted to stay the worst effects of hard times to the destitute women workers. It has twice received grants of £5,000 from the National Relief Fund with which to carry on that part of its work which relates to women suffering through the war. It has acted in closest co-operation with the Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment, and its loss from the social organisation of London will be incalculable.

It has never taken fees from the women it has helped, but their voluntary subscriptions have been a steady source of income and the rest of the money has been supplied up to now by generous gifts from friends and from the London Society for Women's Service, in whose hands its management has lain.

Now, however, that the end of the last National Relief Fund grant is in sight, no prospect is left, but to close the Bureau.

We are still hoping against hope that someone will step forward to save this work; those who prefer constructive work for the relief of unemployment to doles, those who have at heart the needs of the women of the new poor, and those who value human sympathy between employers and employed would find those things furthered by the Women's Service Bureau. The sum required to keep it open is £4,000 a year, and copies of its annual reports and balance-sheets can be obtained from the Secretary, Miss Philippa Strachey, 58, Victoria Street, S.W. 1.

It is with real dismay that we see the approaching end of the work. We do not see how its place is to be taken, nor do we care to contemplate how the class of women it has helped will fare without it.

(Signed)

HELENA ACLAND-HOOD, FRANCES BALFOUR, CLEMENTINA BLACK, SYBIL DE V. BRASSEY, BURNHAM, ROBERT CECIL, A. COWDRAY, LOUISE CREIGHTON, GERTRUDE EMMOTT, MILLICENT GARRETT FAWCETT, DOROTHY GLADSTONE, I. MARY LOCKYER, EDITH LYTTLETON, M. DE ROTHSCHILD, DOROTHY ST. CYRES, ALICE SALISBURY, MARY SCHARLIEB, J. M. STRACHEY, MARGARET J. TUE.

"ANOTHER WOMAN IN THE HOME."

MADAM,—It is surprising to find your usually well-informed contributor, L. H. Y., treating seriously a forgery which has been so repeatedly exposed as the alleged "Journal of Elizabeth Woodville." Forgery is, perhaps, too harsh a term, since the internal evidence suggests that the "Diary" was composed as a fragment of historical romance by some gentle enthusiast fresh from the perusal of Miss Yonge and the author of "Mary Powell." But one finds it difficult to believe that anyone acquainted with either the thought or the language of the fifteenth century could regard it as genuine.

SYDNEY C. GRIER.

MADAM,—If the diary of Margaret Clare is not more authentic than that of Elizabeth Woodville, quoted in your issue of December 22nd, I fear it cannot throw much light on any period.

Referring to the latter "document," Agnes Strickland, writing as long ago as 1841, said: "There is a well-known and amusing paper called the 'Journal of Elizabeth Woodville,' when courted by Sir John Gray, which makes her fill a very pastoral situation as a country lady at Grafton; it is a palpable fabrication, and therefore not to be quoted here."

I cannot say that I had ever seen this "well-known paper" myself till I read the extracts in your columns, but unless your contributor has deliberately modernised them, it must be plain to any student of the fifteenth-century history that they were not written then, and they are indeed "a palpable fabrication."

I. B. O'MALLEY.

EVERY WOMAN'S DUTY.

MADAM,—Your correspondent "L. L. B.," in the article "Every Woman's Duty" in a recent WOMAN'S LEADER, writes of ninety-nine out of every hundred women being ignorant of the Criminal Law Amendment Act, the Guardianship of Infants Bill, &c., and asks "how can it be possible for men to respect our capability to vote when we are content to allow millions of women to remain in ignorance of these vital facts?"

We, like "L. L. B.," are heartily in sympathy with all educational propaganda, but contend—after some experience of canvassing—that the need is as urgent for men as for women. Ninety-nine men in a hundred would also be confused by the said Acts, under their technical names.

M. J. BUCHANAN.

WOMEN AND WAR.

MADAM,—As a witty modern writer has remarked, "It is useless for the sheep to pass resolutions on vegetarianism while the wolf remains of an opposite opinion." This aptly presents the difficulty which so many "pacifists" refuse to face, and brings us back to what was emphasised

at the outset of this discussion, namely, that it is only by the growth of international sentiment that an end can be put to this curse of war. The body of public opinion must be enlisted for peace in all the great nations before this end can be achieved; and the common desire for peace might be a great link in all international movements.

BARBARA WALL.

COMING EVENTS.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION.

JAN. 8. Consett Y.M.C.A., 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Speaker: Major-Gen. Sir Frederick Maurice, K.C.M.G.

JAN. 9. Wellington, Somerset, Town Hall, 8 p.m. Speakers: F. H. Rose, Esq., M.P., Frederick Whelen, Esq.

London, Devonshire House, 1.20 p.m. Speaker: S. Sharman, Esq., B.A.

JAN. 10. Bristol Colston Hall, 8 p.m. Speaker: Rt. Hon. Viscount Grey of Falodon.

JAN. 11. Elstree National Schools, 8.30 p.m. Speaker: Frederick Whelen, Esq.

JAN. 12. Canterbury, Foresters' Hall, 8 p.m. Speaker: Frederick Whelen, Esq.

EDINBURGH S.E.C.

JAN. 6. New Gallery, Shandwick Place, 8 p.m. "The Problem of the Working Mother." Speaker: Prof. Louise McLroy, M.D.

JAN. 7. St. Guthbert's Church Halls, 7.30 p.m. Mock trial repeated owing to numerous requests.

WOMEN'S LOCAL GOVERNMENT SOCIETY.

JAN. 18. Public meeting at Caxton Hall, Westminster, 3 p.m., to promote the return of women to the L.C.C. Speakers: Miss N. Adler, L.C.C., J.P., Mrs. Hudson Lyall, C.B.E., L.C.C., J.P., Miss Margaret McMillan, C.B.E., L.C.C., J.P., &c. Chair: Miss Bertha Mason. Tickets, 2s. 6d., 1s., 6d. Office, 19, Tottill Street, S.W.

FAMILY ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE.

JAN. 10. Coventry, Women Citizens' Association. Speaker: Miss Eleanor Rathbone, J.P., C.C., M.A.

JAN. 12. Winchester, Women Citizens' Association. Speaker: Miss Eleanor Rathbone, J.P., C.C., M.A.

JAN. 13. Paddington, Women's Municipal Society, at 5 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. F. W. Hubback.

INTERNATIONAL FRANCHISE CLUB.

JAN. 11. 9, Grafton Street, Piccadilly, 8.15 p.m. Subject: "Shakespeare Recitations." Speaker: Mr. Charles Fry. Chairman: Mr. Frederick Morant.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO SECURE STATE PURCHASE AND CONTROL OF THE LIQUOR TRADE.

JAN. 9. Gravesend Sisterhood, 8 p.m. "State Purchase as a Temperance Solution." Speaker: Miss M. Cotterell.

JAN. 10. Preston, Women Citizens' Association, 8 p.m. Lantern Lecture, "The Carlisle Experiment." Speaker: Mrs. Renton.

JAN. 11. Leigh, Women's Co-operative Guild, 3 p.m. "Public Ownership of the Liquor Trade." Speaker: Mrs. Renton.

Hampstead, Women's Co-operative Guild, 3 p.m. "Public Ownership a new Solution of the Drink Problem." Speaker: Miss M. Cotterell.

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January, Mr. Harold Hodge, L.C.C., on "Case for
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