

THE
WOMAN'S LEADER

IN POLITICS
IN THE HOME
IN INDUSTRY

IN LITERATURE AND ART
IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT
IN THE PROFESSIONS

AND

THE COMMON CAUSE

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NOTES AND NEWS.

Women in Local Government.

The annual meeting of the Women's Local Government Society, which took place last week, showed that after an existence of over thirty years its work is still being carried on with vigour and interest. It is always a critical time in the history of any organisation when the day comes when the pioneer workers lay down their tools and hand over their tasks to others. The loss of all their honorary officers at once, including the two ladies, Miss Leigh Browne and Miss Kilgour, with whose names and work the Society has always been identified, cannot fail to be a serious one. The fact, however, that worthy successors have been found, and that the work—never more necessary than at the present time—will be carried on in accordance with the high traditions of the past, bears testimony to the solid foundations laid by those who have borne the burden and heat of the day before the importance of participation in Local Government was duly recognised. A report of the proceedings will be found elsewhere in these columns.

Sir Robert Morant.

The death of Sir Robert Morant, first Secretary of the Ministry of Health, is a serious blow to the prospects of that new and all-important Government Department. Sir Robert was a very great public servant, uniting an enormous capacity for work, great breadth of outlook, and a genius for appreciating new ideas and methods. He had, as his work for National Health Insurance showed, the very rare capacity of concentrating upon the improvement in detail of measures whose fundamental framework was not altogether to his taste. His genius for accommodating rival interests was shown no less in these later positions than in his earlier work at the Board of Education. His influence will be especially missed by the medical profession, whose reliance upon his judgment and sympathy is reflected by a writer in the *Lancet* in the testimony that "in him they had a genuine friend, candid in respect of their weaknesses, but more clear-eyed than many of their own leaders in respect of their great qualities and potentialities."

The By-Elections.

Dartford's polling day is fixed for Saturday. Each of the five candidates advocates measures for reducing the high cost of living, a line of appeal which is addressed especially to the woman voter. At the General Election less than half the electors on the roll voted, a circumstance which makes prophecy especially difficult at this moment. Camberwell polls on March 31st; Miss Susan Lawrence takes the line that Dr. Macnamara supports trusts and profiteering, and what is "in the literal sense of the word" trade anarchy, while he retaliates by making anti-nationalisation and anti-socialism important planks in his platform. Miss Bondfield has already made good progress with her campaign at Northampton, which has not enjoyed (or endured) a by-election since the death of Bradlaugh. It is quite possible that the Liberals will refrain from putting forward a candidate and that Mr. McCurdy and Miss Bondfield will have a straight fight. The sitting candidate had a majority of over seven thousand at last election, but times have changed since then, and Miss Bondfield would at any time be a stronger opponent than Mr. Walter Halls. The date of the North Edinburgh election is not yet known.

Increased Health Insurance.

The National Health Insurance Bill, which has been read a second time, provides for increased benefits and increased contributions. The Treasury will give a larger grant, the employer will pay twopence and the worker one penny a week more than at present. This will make the woman's weekly payment fourpence, and her employer's fivepence. She will be entitled to 12s. a week sickness benefit as against the man's 15s. We have already pointed out that this arrangement is inequitable. It is, no doubt, intended to defray the increased chances of sickness to which a married woman is liable out of the single woman's contribution. This is the affair of the married woman's husband, or of the State. We are glad to see that maternity benefit is to

be raised to 40s., and that sanatorium benefit is to be taken out of the Act. It has never, in any real sense, been in it. The House expressed its satisfaction that the standard laid down for the treatment of insured persons was that of attendance as good as that obtainable by a private patient.

Unveiling the Cavell Memorial.

Queen Alexandra unveiled the memorial, by Sir George Frampton, R.A., which has been erected to Nurse Cavell in St. Martin's Lane, on Wednesday last, March 17th. The monument is of grey granite, crowned with the likeness of a cross, in which is wrought the figure of a woman tending a child. Lower down, pearl white against the grey stone, stands out the figure of Edith Cavell in her nurse's uniform. No more fitting spot could have been chosen for this statue, rising as it does under Nelson's shadow, and on the very spot where, for a short time, Gordon's statue stood before it was removed to Khartoum. The unveiling ceremony was a deeply impressive one to which many thousands of people flocked. The statue of Nurse Cavell was wrapt in the British and Belgian flags intertwined—these were the gifts of Queen Alexandra and the Queen of the Belgians respectively, and have now become the property of the London Hospital, where Nurse Cavell did part of her training. As Queen Alexandra remarked, in drawing away the flags that veiled the statue, "The countless thousands who will pass this spot in our time and in future generations, will think with sorrow of her cruel death, with pride of her splendid fortitude, and with affection of her unselfish and womanly character." But will not this memorial stand for even more than the heroism, courage, and endurance of one heroic woman?—surely it will also stand as a symbol for all time of that great army of nurses who so nobly did their duty to the wounded and dying, who joyfully endured the hardships they were called upon to bear, of many of whom also it might be said, they were faithful even unto death.

Fellowship Services.

The Kensington Town Hall has already proved itself, on its first Sunday, quite inadequate to provide room for those who flocked to the first of the Fellowship Services that are being conducted by Miss Maude Royden and Dr. Percy Dearmer. The Hall was full to overflowing, and many there were who could not find even standing room and were turned away. What is it that drew people in such numbers to the Kensington Town Hall, when so many of the churches remain more or less empty? As Miss Royden in her inaugural address pointed out, the world is searching for God, but the Church in so many instances has failed to aid the searchers; it continues to preach a religion that is very well in the Church on Sunday, but which is estranged from their everyday life. The aim of the Fellowship Services is to bring Beauty, Truth, and Love into the lives of all those who follow them. They declare that they will preach the Gospel of Jesus of Nazareth, because it is the most complete manifestation of God yet vouchsafed to the world. The congregation will be taught to appreciate the best music, because beautiful and pure music is also a manifestation of God. The New Testament is not the only literature that will be read; beautiful thoughts of the geniuses of all time down to the present will also be given to the people. The Fellowship thus concerns itself chiefly with Beauty and Truth, and in searching after these things it will not be bound by dogma or orthodoxy of any kind.

The First Service.

The first service was, of necessity, somewhat experimental, but the congregation was responsive and eager. The first quarter of an hour took the form of a sort of choir practice in which the congregation joined. Under the direction of Mr. Martin Shaw they learned how to intone the Psalms in the old way, as they were originally sung, and how to sing hymns in parts. A quartette of beautiful voices led the singing, and certain verses of the hymns were sung as solos. A shortened form of the Church of England evening service was read, the first lesson was Bacon's Essay on Truth, which was read by

Dr. Dearmer; for the second lesson Miss Royden had chosen that part of the New Testament dealing with the woman with the alabaster box of precious ointment. Miss Royden explained how this passage was unrivalled for pure artistic beauty and a reply to those critics who maintained that Jesus of Nazareth showed no appreciation of art. In her sermon Miss Royden explained the aim and object of the experiment. "For those who truly seek Him ever surely shall they find Him," might be taken as their text; those who follow the Fellowship Services are going to seek together; each will bring their different aspects, problems and experiences of life to bear, so as to make for a broader understanding. Discussions after the service will give people an opportunity of drawing closer together after this manner. Miss Royden said they should not preach a New Jerusalem that is to be gained as a reward for this life, they wanted to establish a New Jerusalem here in London.

The Engineering Trade.

A very important development is taking place in the engineering trade which very closely affects the possible future of women in it. For some time past negotiations have been going on between the engineering employers and the workers' unions with regard to the question of payment by results, and so considerable a degree of agreement has been reached that the matter has been referred to the members to ballot upon. The whole question is technical and difficult in its details; but to the ordinary member of the general public it seems both a fair and a just notion, provided adequate minimum rates are guaranteed, and it is obvious on the face of it that such a method very greatly simplifies the problems of the employment and equal payment for women. Equal or different work is much easier to estimate upon a piece-work basis, and the stimulus to increased production, no less than the extra rewards offered to skill and speed, makes the matter one of great importance to everyone concerned. That the system needs careful safeguards is certain, for it is open to much abuse. But so will all systems, and we believe that what appears to be the very generous and fair terms of the employers will be met in a fair and generous spirit by the men. When the semi-skilled men have decided, the A.S.E. and other skilled unions will have to face the question, and we shall await the upshot with great interest.

The Miners.

The deputation from the Miners' Federation which waited upon the Prime Minister to demand further substantial increases of wages, and his very uncompromising answer to them is a matter of serious importance. The miners demand is, of course, the immediate outcome of the failure of the Trade Union Congress to support them in wanting to take direct action to secure nationalisation; and if it is not a prelude to a widespread and determined strike the signs of the times are indeed misleading. We hope, however, that some other way out may be found. For a coal strike, even in this spring weather, is a thing that no housewife can contemplate with serenity.

Coal-Cutting Machines.

One of the very few matters upon which all parties to the Coal Commission were agreed was that output could be increased and prices reduced by the use of more coal-cutting machinery. Here the agreement stopped abruptly, some witnesses saying that machinery was much less suitable to British coal formations than to coal strata in America, the coal owners' witnesses blaming the men's unwillingness to accept machinery, and the men's witnesses attributing want of progress in this direction to the coal-owners' conservatism. Apparently labour, capital, and geology in Scotland are all more amenable to reason than they are in the remainder of Great Britain, for Mr. Robert M'Laren stated at the annual dinner of the Mining Institute of Scotland, that his country had more coal-cutting machines than any other mining inspection district of Great Britain. Here is the consumers' gleam of hope in a situation where every change seems to mean a higher coal bill. The country cannot afford these expensive prejudices on the part of either capital or labour, and if the price of coal were fixed with due care and revised at suitable intervals, so as to prevent the cost of obstinacy in the coal industry being passed on to the consumer, capital and labour would be obliged to compose their differences, or to defray the cost of quarrelling themselves.

Regent Street.

To foreign visitors to London Regent Street is traditionally the centre of the sight-seer's England, and that being so, we are glad that its undoubted shabbiness after six years of enforced neglect should be at last mitigated by rebuilding the Quadrant. But everyone except the large shopkeepers in that thoroughfare will regret the pressure put upon the Department of Woods and Forests to allow buildings of a greatly increased height. The London climate being comparatively sunless, the effect of tall buildings like those in Victoria Street is depressing to the pedestrian, and is far from enhancing the appearance of window displays in shops. No one wants Regent Street to look like an elongated tank. A matter of even greater importance is the angle at which the rebuilt Quadrant will enter Piccadilly Circus, which is now deprived of almost all the effect it should make on the beholder, by the higgledy-piggledy arrangement or want of arrangement of the streets leading into it. Trafalgar Square and Piccadilly Circus have now very much the effect of fine rooms whose furnishings have been piled together in heaps for spring cleaning.

Early Closing.

During the war shops were closed earlier than customary by regulations issued under the Defence of the Realm Act for the purpose of economising fuel and lighting. The Bill read for a second time on March 19th proposes to maintain the early closing regulations in time of peace. Experience of shorter shopping hours has shown us that no material inconvenience to the public results from a reform which so greatly benefits not only shop assistants but the small shopkeepers whose hours of work were even longer than those of their employees. No one would tolerate going back to conditions under which butchers kept their shops open till midnight on Saturday. The midday closing, common during the war did, no doubt, make shopping very difficult for wage-earners, especially employed women, and the shopping public was glad to see the last of it. But now that dinner-hour shopping is again possible, there is ample opportunity for most of us to make necessary purchases between eight o'clock and seven p.m., and for wage-earners on Saturday afternoons or in their lunch hour, and in West-End shops an eight-hour day is not only possible but easy. The almost automatic exemption of tobacconists from the proposed regulations does not seem to be based upon any rational grounds. Tobacco is not perishable, it is easily portable, it is not a necessary of life, it is admirably suitable for distribution by automatic machines. In fact, if any shop is to close earlier than any other shop, the tobacconist's might well be that one. If this luxury is to be pressed upon us at all hours because it is revenue-producing, some enquiry should be made into the probable effects of restricted hours.

A Woman Geographer.

The Royal Geographical Society has awarded the Murchison Grant to Miss Czaplicka for ethnographical and geographical work in Northern Siberia. This is a well deserved honour for a distinguished scientific woman, and will be the more welcomed by women in general because she is well known as a feminist. Miss Czaplicka, who is of Polish birth, studied in London and at Somerville College, Oxford, taking a diploma in Anthropology in 1912. Her best known book is perhaps "The Turks in Central Asia"; she has also written many pamphlets and articles in Russian and Polish as well as English. From 1916 to 1919 she was Mary Ewart Lecturer in Ethnology to the Oxford School of Anthropology. While geographical exploration is possibly an occupation more suited to men than to women, there is a large field in anthropological research which is virtually closed to men. The fringes of it are disclosed from time to time in the novels and travelbooks of women who have lived in places remote from Western civilisation, but the trained woman ethnologist has before her a great opportunity.

Woman's Suffrage in America.

The Legislature of Washington State has passed the Federal Suffrage Amendment. Only one more State is now required to make up the three-fourths majority which is necessary to make woman's suffrage the law throughout the United States. The Delaware Legislature is now in session, and is expected to give its vote in a few days. If Delaware decides in favour of women's suffrage the victory will be won. If not, some other State will in a few weeks break down the last barrier.

The League of Nations Union.

The growing interest of women in the League of Nations has resulted in a great demand for women speakers, both for meetings arranged primarily for women, and for addressing mixed audiences. To meet this demand classes for training speakers and debates for practice are being arranged by the League of Nations Union. A standing Committee of the Women's Advisory Committee is dealing with all matters concerning the forthcoming campaign of propaganda among women. Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon is its chairman, Mrs. Arthur Croxton, M.B.E., vice-chairman, Mrs. Charles Beatty, Mrs. Percy Bigland, Viscountess Gladstone, Lady Norman, Mrs. Walter Runciman, Lady Selborne, Miss Rosamond Smith, and Miss Meriel Talbot make up its membership.

Temporary Women Clerks.

The Association of Women Clerks and Secretaries has come to an agreement with the Treasury as to the wages of Temporary Women Clerks. The new rates, which will be retrospective to January 1st, show an increase of seven to nine shillings a week in London. Grade I. clerks now rise to a maximum of 69s. 6d., Grade II. clerks to 65s. 6d., and Grade III. to 58s. The increases for shorthand typists are five shillings and six and sixpence, and for copying typists seven shillings and eight shillings. Rates for Edinburgh, Dublin, and some of the large provincial towns are four shillings less than the London scale, and other towns eight shillings less. These provincial rates pre-suppose a cost of living which in practice is not always found to be much lower than that of large towns. The new agreed wages, though not all that could be wished, are a great concession from a Treasury which, in 1917, was insisting on three pounds a week as a maximum for University women trained in research and employed in the Military Intelligence Branch. This penurious spirit was never abandoned; the Treasury met the case in a piece-meal fashion by making countless exceptions on vague grounds. The agreed scale is a more satisfactory achievement, and much more promising for future progress.

Commercialised Vice and Child Welfare.

A memorial of national importance, signed by more than seven thousand persons, was presented to the Viceroy of India on February 26th. It prays for legislation rendering the traffic in vice illegal both for the man who buys and the woman who sells. The signatories are of many races, professions, religions, and of all classes, men's names are in the majority, every town of importance in every village of India is represented. The signatories believe that only by the stamping out of commercialised vice can the wastage of child-life be stopped, and they hold that legislation alone will teach the rising generation that the handing on of disease is a crime. This memorial has been promoted by the Women's Christian Temperance Union of India.

Criminal Law Amendment.

The Criminal Law Amendment Bill has passed its Second Reading in the House of Lords, and has been referred to a Select Committee. The Government has promised a speedy interim report with a view to framing a Bill without delay. The Bishop of London pointed out that the age of consent in several of our Dominions is seventeen, and in nineteen American States eighteen, and that in raising it to this level we should not be in advance of civilised opinion. Lord Phillimore's objection that girls of sixteen were as much or as little in need of protection as boys of the same age, seems to rely for its weight upon a misapprehension of the scope of the Bill, which is designed to protect young persons of both sexes. The experience of a Judge of Assize one may well suppose is likely to lead to over-emphasising the dangers of blackmail and under-estimating the need for protection of boys and girls who are innocent though foolish. This is a case in which lay opinion is less likely to be at fault than legal apprehensions.

Serbian Women's Activity.

According to the latest news from Serbia the women continue to be extraordinarily active. Madame Danitsa Hritstitch, President of the National Council of Women, writes: "We are working as hard as we can on the many problems with which we feel that we women alone can cope. We are very sanguine indeed concerning our speedy enfranchisement, and, meanwhile, we have secured many victories on matters concerning the status of women workers. This Council is summoning all the women's

organisations throughout Yugo-Slavia, to meet at Zagreb in the spring, in order that Serbian, Croat, and Slovene women may have a further opportunity of discussing whether the many questions which affect our united peoples." Miss Zorka Kassner, Secretary of the Society for the Protection of Women and the Defence of their Rights, gives an interesting account of the awakening of Serbian women to their responsibilities. "The great European war (she writes) found the woman in Serbia less prepared than in any other country for the struggle. Suddenly wrenched from a peaceful, patriarchal existence, deprived of her natural protectors, she was forced to take the place of father, brother, and husband, while the country was held in the grip of a foreign invasion. Three long years the men were absent, and when they returned they saw the land tilled, the home preserved, and the children cared for, but the woman who had accomplished all this was a new woman. The gigantic burden which had rested on her shoulders and caused her to awaken to a sense of her own dignity, and to realise that she was a vital factor in the well-being of her country. This explains why woman suffrage has become an urgent question in the re-organisation of the new Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes. The Society has passed a resolution demanding the enfranchisement of all women in Yugo-Slavia." Miss Rose Stoyanovitch, Press Secretary of the same Society, has undertaken an energetic newspaper campaign, showing in calm, convincing language, how unjust it would be to withhold her rights from the Southern Slav woman who has played so loyal a part in the deliverance of her race.

Infant Mortality.

The infant mortality for the last quarter of 1919 is the lowest on record for those winter months, being seventy-one per thousand registered births. Though even this improvement leaves the mortality rate too high, we have travelled a long way since the decade 1851-60, when the rate for the whole year was more than double. The last quarter is not an especially favourable part of the year, especially when the prevalence in Europe of influenza epidemics is considered, and we may hope, now that the work of all the various agencies for infant life-saving is beginning to show, to better the present satisfactory advance. Can we hope that another sixty years will see the rate again halved? It is unsafe to prophesy; but our ideas as to how much of the toll on early life is preventable are rapidly changing. The last quarter of 1919 also showed a very satisfactory rise in the birth-rate, the highest for that quarter since 1906. In the corresponding quarter of 1918 the population of England and Wales actually decreased by about 80,000; 1919 shows an increase of nearly 110,000. Our world is beginning to go round again.

The Death of Mrs. Haverfield.

The death of the Hon. Evelina Haverfield in Serbia adds another to the roll of Suffragist women who have laid down their lives in war work—or, rather, in work directed to healing the tragic wounds of war. Mrs. Haverfield's death will be a personal loss to numbers of women who have worked with her in the W.S.P.U., the Women's Emergency Corps, and in the Scottish Women's Hospitals (initiated by the N.U.W.S.S.). She was closely associated with Dr. Elsie Inglis in Serbia and South Russia. She shared with Dr. Inglis the passion which Serbia's sufferings and courage have inspired in those who have helped her. After Dr. Inglis's death, Mrs. Haverfield continued her work for Serbia, and has continued it till her death. We understand that she was in charge of an Orphanage at Bania Bashta in Serbia, when she was overtaken by pneumonia, of which she died. She had, we believe, worn herself out with her late labours. Suffragists will mourn for her, and will feel proud of her glorious death.

Policy of "The Woman's Leader."

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 aims at offering 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.

A GREAT STEP FORWARD.

The women in the Civil Service have gained a great victory in securing the rejection of the report of the Sub-Committee on the Organisation of the Civil Service as far as it regards women, and in inducing the main Whitley Council to reserve that part of it for further and, we believe, better consideration. To call this event a great step forward is no exaggeration, for upon the success of the women directly employed by the Government depends the position of all other classes of women workers in this country. If women civil servants cannot achieve equality of opportunity and equality of pay no other women can hope to do so. And the fact that they realise both the power and the importance of their position is of great encouragement.

The history of their effort, which has taken barely four weeks, is very instructive. It will be remembered that the Government took power under the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act to regulate by Orders in Council the conditions of entry and employment of women in the Civil Service. This matter was delegated, not without astuteness, to the newly-formed National Whitley Council for the Civil Service, and it was understood that upon the report of that body the Orders in Council would be framed. The National Whitley Council referred the matter in its turn to a special Sub-Committee on the Organisation of the Service, and this Sub-Committee consisted of eleven representatives of the official side and fifteen representatives of the staff side, one official and three staff representatives being women. This body reported on February 17th, and their report, while a distinct advance on present conditions, fell very far short of actual equality.

Meetings both of Associations of Civil Service women and outside organisations immediately took place, and the objections to the Report increased from day to day. At first the obvious step forward indicated by the Report somewhat dazzled those who looked at it with a pre-war mind. The foolishness of compromise at the outset, however, soon became clear, and before ten days were over practically every Association of women inside the Civil Service had called for the amendment of the Report.

A somewhat difficult situation then arose, since the majority of the women's Associations formed part of the larger mixed Civil Service bodies whose representatives were responsible for the Report. The women's groups and societies attempted, but unsuccessfully, to influence the decision of the joint organisations, and finally it became clear that the women, though perfectly solid and united themselves, formed a minority within Associations which approved the Report. It is the essence of Whitley Councils that the staff side and the official side should present unanimous reports, and it was therefore impossible for the staff side to give any indication of the large minority which it had, or rather had not, behind it.

In looking upon the two classes of Civil Servants, men and women, it is only right to remember that the apparent opposition between the men and the women arose not on the question of principle, but upon the expediency of pressing at the present time for the full demand for equality. This difference, while not so serious as one of principle, can nevertheless give rise to grave difficulties, and it is certain that by the time the Sub-Committee's Report reached the main Whitley Council the position of the staff side was almost impossible.

While this was going on within the Service, outside organisations were not idle, and the importance of the question, as it affects the whole problem of women's employment, was very widely discussed. Letters of protest and appeals for amendment reached not only the members of the Whitley Council, but also the Parliamentary heads of great Government Departments. From many quarters the women interested in University education, no less than the societies interested in equality, took active steps, and it is not surprising that the pressure of outside public opinion reached the official side of the National Whitley Council. There are some who say that outside opinion should not influence the decisions of the Whitley Council. That it did so on this question is but a proof that the Council is being called upon to perform a function that is not within its province; for the conditions of entry and status and position of women in the Civil Service is a matter of general public interest that should never have been referred to the Whitley Council at all. On Friday, March 19th, when the National Council met, the Report of the Sub-Committee as regards men was adopted and that concerning women was reserved for further consideration. We trust that in the further consideration that is given to this question the opinions of University women and others representing the outside public will be obtained.

In the course of the campaign the Federation of Women Civil Servants organised a great mass meeting in the Central Hall. Their case was there most ably argued, and the response given to each point as it was made by that large gathering of young women was a most interesting sign of the times. In the old days we can remember almost despairing of women civil servants. They, the teachers and the nurses, used to be more difficult (in the mass at any rate) than even the antis themselves, for though they cared they did not dare to express their opinions. Enfranchisement and the changes that the war have brought has made a great difference, and it is to the stand that the teachers and the civil servants are making that all women workers are looking to-day for their salvation. The nurses, too, are moving, and a very good thing it is; and when these professional women succeed industrial women cannot help but benefit. As one of the speakers at the meeting said, women's employment is like a long chain hung from a height. The top links are the doctors, the artists, and the independent professional women; next to this come teachers, civil servants, secretarial workers, and so on from link to link till at the bottom there are the sweated women workers dragging in the dirt and the dust. To raise the bottom links is difficult, and if done they do but fall back, and the only sure way is to raise the whole chain from the top. The simile is a true one. And we are glad indeed that the women civil servants should use it.

It is very strange to see the new spirit that is abroad amongst women wage-earners. We used in the old days to be thankful for anything. To-day perhaps we go to the other extreme, and we do certainly shock and pain many of our more gentle well-wishers. But, after all, we have votes to-day, and it is small wonder if we make the most of them. In the matter of the Sub-Committee's report we have certainly been victorious, and being so we can regret that we seemed ungenerous. We can admit now that the old report was not all bad; that it did much that would have been thought impossible even a few months ago, and that the men and women who prepared it fought hard and thought hard over a difficult problem. But the new spirit has hold of us at last, and we cannot be content to compromise.

THE BASTARDY BILL, 1920.

By ROSAMOND SMITH.

(Joint Hon. Sec. National Council for the Unmarried Mother and her Child).

The main object of the Bill is to secure the right of the illegitimate child to a father. Under the present laws the responsibility for proving the paternity of an illegitimate child and of securing the support of the child by the father is left to the mother. Considering the circumstances in which the mother is placed it is not surprising to find that in comparatively few cases does she succeed in establishing her case. In the majority of cases the mother is young, is estranged from her friends, is without money, and is in no position to understand the importance of securing maintenance, based on legal sanction, for her child. In a certain proportion of cases the mother is feeble-minded, or at least without the will power to undertake the strange and difficult adventure of legal proceedings. Her instinct is to avoid publicity. In other cases the woman is still under the influence of the father of her child, who naturally wishes to escape from legal responsibility for parenthood. Whether she acts from love or fear the result is much the same, and so it is that many illegitimate children become dependent solely on what the mother is able to earn. But to be at once a good mother, carrying out the maternal duties, and a good father, acting as wage-earner, is beyond the powers of any human being. Foster mothers are scarce and costly, charitable assistance is insufficient to cover the ground, and municipal provision for such cases (under the Maternity and Child Welfare Act) is quite inadequate in its scope or extent. Small wonder that so many of these unlucky babies fail to weather the difficulties of the first year of life, and small wonder that so many of them can be described as "unwanted."

RESPONSIBILITY TO BE SHARED.

The difficulty of securing any alteration in the present system and of saving at least some of these tiny lives to grow up into useful citizens, lies in the fact that there is a natural disinclination to do anything which may foster immorality.

It seems doubtful, however, if girls under temptation are apt to count the cost or to take time to dread the consequences of a false step. Certainly the way of the sinner has been made hard enough in all conscience, and yet the "deterrent" system has not been altogether successful, for it is still fatally easy for the man to escape his share of the punishment. Dealing with one sex alone in this matter is no more successful than it has been in connection with prostitution or venereal disease. And thus it has been decided to attempt a greater equalisation of responsibility for the maintenance of the child. The duty is laid on the mother to give the name of the father, and on the State to take proceedings against him, to make an order for him to support his child, to have his name entered on the Register, if proved to be the father, and to recover payments from him should they fall into arrears.

HOW THE BILL WILL OPERATE.

All cases, of course, are not disputed, and possibly few would be disputed with the State behind the mother to back up the just claims of the child. An agreed case under the Bill can be settled without publicity or the attendance of the parties in court; the collecting officer obtaining the sanction of the magistrate to a legal agreement. Private agreements between the parties are not now infrequent, but drawn up by the father or by someone acting on his behalf, as they so often are, they may be of little use to the mother. The question whether cases should be heard in camera or not, presented a problem to the framers of the Bill. Experienced social workers reported the repugnance of the mothers to give evidence in open court. On the other hand, there may be other women with them in open

court, and in camera they may be cut off from all contact with a member of their own sex. Opinions differed as to what would be a greater hardship to an innocent man—publicity to both the charge and his defence, or privacy for both, with the possibility of something leaking out and taking the form of scandalous gossip. As arranged at present, cases will be heard in camera unless there is good reason for publicity. There has recently been an outcry against any proceedings being in camera, but it cannot be denied that in this particular kind of case it is a boon to the mother to be spared publicity. Once paternity is established the weekly payments will be collected for the mother by the collecting officer, and paid over to her as laid down in the Affiliation Orders Act, 1914. Those who object to the intervention of the collecting officer in this way are evidently ignorant of this most useful little Act which provides an official to intervene between the parties, so that any meeting between them, dangerous to the mother in more ways than one, becomes superfluous. It seems hardly necessary to say that the mother has complete discretion in dealing with the payments for the benefit of the child.

Another important section allows a summons to be served and the case to be heard before the birth of the child. Disputed cases will be adjourned, but as the expenses of adjournment will fall on the disputing father should the case eventually go against him, it is hoped that this necessary proviso will not prevent many cases from being settled at the earliest possible time, with much mental and physical relief to the mother.

The amount of an affiliation order is left to the discretion of the Court. This proposal rouses great alarm that the mother may just possibly benefit if a good allowance is ordered where the father can afford it. Surely the interests of the child should be absolutely paramount. It is difficult to follow any objection to proposals which it is earnestly and hopefully believed will save innocent lives and prevent undeserved suffering.

Space hardly allows of a detailed examination of the remaining sections, but much importance is attached to that section which makes all illegitimate children the wards of the Children's Courts. This has been inserted by the special request of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, and was in Mr. Clarke Hall's original draft Bill. It is a proposal which is certain to receive much attention. There is undoubtedly a strong body of opinion in favour of some legal guardianship for the illegitimate child.

A STEP FORWARD.

One of the concluding sections enables parents to legitimise their children by subsequent marriage; provided that there was no legal impediment to their marriage at the time of conception. This follows the Scots law fairly closely, and while there is probably a good deal of support for a wider clause, it is quite uncertain if public opinion is prepared for unlimited possibilities of legitimisation. So little does the law represent the present views of many people on these problems, that it would not be difficult to double the length of the Bill. But everything cannot be done in one day. What has been attempted is enough and to spare to fill the scant time allotted for a private member's Bill. Fortunately, there is an immense volume of support for changes in the present law, and this particular Bill has won its way to favour in an incredibly short time. It can safely be said that there are no uncontroversial ways of dealing with any moral question. It is not claimed that this Bill is uncontroversial, but rather that it is bold and constructive. It will be introduced by Mr. Neville Chamberlain on May 7th.

NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER.

BY OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT.

It is not often that the House of Commons sits all night: that it should have done so the night before the discussion on the Early Closing Bill was a curious coincidence. The late sitting was on the Coal Bill, on the Government proposal for the limitation of profits, but although the question of coal is again assuming proportions of a nature alarming enough to justify late sittings every night for a session, nothing material was really accomplished in the early morning hours. The Labour Party made their formal protest, and challenged their formal divisions, and sleepy members tumbled out of armchairs to walk through the lobbies to no particular purpose.

On Friday, the Early Closing Bill met with general approval. There are 1,750,000 shop assistants in this country, and it is extraordinary to think that it is not until this year, 1920, that the proposal to stop their work at 7.0 p.m. on ordinary weekdays, and 8.0 p.m. on Saturdays, shows any sign of becoming law. The hours suggested in Mr. Briant's Bill are late enough in all conscience: that they are at present an hour later is a fact that should stir the consciences of all the shopping public.

The Early Closing Bill was followed by Sir Frederick Banbury's Dogs Protection Bill, which, as has been the case in other years, was talked out by the medical men in the House. Vivisection is a question upon which our readers probably do not all agree; but it seems a pity never to take the sense of the House upon a question which attracts so much public attention.

The Naval Estimates and the Consolidated Fund Bill have taken up most of the remaining time of the House this week. Questions, however, have been numerous, and in some cases important. On Tuesday Lady Astor asked whether the Government have any intention of dealing with the serious difficulties occasioned by the present illegality of marriage between a woman and her deceased husband's brother. The official answer to this question is disappointing. But, in view of the seriousness of the difficulty and the considerable number of persons affected by it, it is to be hoped that the official answer may not have expressed the whole mind of the Government upon the point.

The agitation in the political world caused by the "fusion" idea met with a check on Thursday last, when Mr. Lloyd George gave the Coalition Liberals a set of maxims as tame as they were sketchy. Nothing like new party divisions seem to be in prospect, unless the Prime Minister really believes that the world is prepared to divide itself neatly into Bolsheviks and others. All that seems to have happened is that the Labour Party is angrier than ever, while the Conservatives are not placated. But speculation on these matters is utterly useless; unexpectedness is the soul of British political development, and Mr. Lloyd George is such a master of this art that he may make a new party yet in spite of everybody. The bye-elections may result in all sorts of odd combinations, and the conclusions that different people will draw from them will in any case be many and various. We can only "wait and see."

One event, satisfactory in itself, may or may not have a bearing on the future of parties. It is the action of the Government in respect to the Labour Party's New Representation of the People Bill. This Bill came up before its Standing Committee on Tuesday, March 24th, and amendments were brought forward by the Government to eliminate the clauses removing the second business vote and changing the basis of the local government franchise. These amendments were carried, and the Bill now stands a measure for giving women the Parliamentary vote on the same terms as men, that is at twenty-one, on an occupational basis, with a second vote for business premises. The Government intend to give this Bill further facilities. If they do, and if it passes the House of Lords, it will be an immense boon to the young women of the country, whose need for political enfranchisement grows clearer day by day. It will also save many of the present complex and troublesome registration confusions, and will put the Parliamentary franchise upon a fair and sensible basis. The action of the Government is no doubt inspired by other reasons. Mr. Lloyd George has always been a genuine Suffragist, and so have others in the Cabinet. But it may well be that there is another bearing to this question also, and that the Bill may turn out to be the precursor of a General Election. Things move at a great rate nowadays. We may not have long to wait after all before we see.

INCOMES, TAXES, AND MARRIAGE.

BY MRS. HEITLAND.

The Report of the Royal Commission on the Income Tax is a large and highly important work. For those who would express a reasoned opinion on the Commission's proposals a course of study, hardly less prolonged than that of the Commissioners themselves, would be needful. At the present moment we must be content to utter a few of the first impressions which the Report has made upon our own mind. The chief—the predominant—impression is that the members of the Commission (Mrs. Lilian Knowles excepted) saw the whole subject as exclusively from a man's standpoint as women may be thought to see that subject from the standpoint of women. The line taken by the Commission in their general report represents the view of men who regard men as the bread-winners, the income-holders, and the income-distributors. The Married Women's Property Act seems for them hardly to exist; and the system of a "merger" (which may mean the absorption by the husband of his wife's income) is obviously deemed by them to be a happy arrangement. They are aghast at the idea of husband and wife each paying the right amount of tax to which as separate individuals, they would be liable. They point out that the results in tax would vary enormously. They take a fancy case of a married couple whose incomes added together come to £1,000 a year. They show that if one person had the whole income he (or she) would be liable for a tax of £187 10s.; supposing that the husband has £900 a year and the wife £100, the tax would be £168 15s.; but supposing again that each of the pair has £500, then the tax would be reduced to £120—a result which they term "not only inequitable but ridiculous." Many people see nothing inequitable in a person with a moderate income paying a less tax than one who has a large one. The inequality is less marked at either of the extremes—that is to say, where the husband has all or where the total is equally divided—than at the intermediate stages which are far more frequent with married couples. The glaring inequity arises in such a case as that suggested by the Commissioners, where the wife has only £100 a year and yet is taxed as though this £100 were only one-tenth of the property over which she is assumed to have with her husband an equal power of disposal.

The truth is that the proposals of the Commissioners represent an endeavour—and in this post-war period a very necessary endeavour—to get as large a sum as possible out of the pockets of the nation. Whether it is inevitable that to attain this result, political, ethical and financial ideas should be mixed into a sort of salad, half sour and half rather sickly sweet, we do not know. But certain it is that such a salad, when concocted of ancient and modern ideas of marriage, of ancient ideas of women's willingness to execute a "merger," with modern ideas of women's economic independence accompanied by "equal pay," makes a very ill-assorted and indigestible whole. But the curious thing is that the gentlemen of the Commission, after saying in rather patronising terms that they have been "forced to the conclusion that the grievance complained of is more vocal than real, in other words, that it is a grievance rather than a hardship," concede the point that when husband and wife have claimed separate assessment (as they can and should do now) "any relief in respect of their unearned or investment income should be given to the husband and to the wife in proportion to their respective assessable incomes." This means that at all events husband and wife shall each know what they have to pay and that, for example, the wife in the cited case, who has £100 a year to her husband's £900, shall not suppose that she is liable for a tax of £93 15s, because that is half the tax on £1,000. We could wish that the Commissioners who emphasise the necessity for the taxpayer to understand his position, would have included among their numerous imaginary cases, one case at least which might have explained how much of an income tax is payable by a husband and how much by a wife. They only suggest (unless we have overlooked the information) that in the £1,000 a year case, the tax of £187 10s. "may in most households be regarded as borne equally by each spouse, a sacrifice of £93 15s. each." In the cause of equality as understood by the Commissioners, it would seem therefore that the wife with £100 a year must, in order equally to share her

husband's burden, pay a tax of £93 15s., which leaves her the opulent possessor of £6 5s. But then, again, we are told that if the Commissioners' proposals are accepted, a portion of income (of varying amount according to circumstances of earnings, investments, marriage, and children) shall be free of tax; and that yet another portion of income shall only be liable to half its standard rate of tax. Are these abatements to be divided between husband and wife, and if so in what proportion? These questions are of lively interest to many taxpayers, but the settlement of them would seem to be left to the tax surveyors.

After reading a document so distinctly "gentlemanly" in tone, it is refreshing to light suddenly on the ably-drafted "Reservation" of the sole woman on the Commission, Mrs. Knowles. She holds that husband and wife should be taxed as separate individuals; and she disapproves the schemes for bounties, marriage allowances, etc., by which the State at present veils its penalisation of marriage. Nor does she approve the proposals that bounties should be given for children and sundry dependants. Quite logically she points out that those who are sufficiently wealthy to be taxpayers at all get a relative advantage from this bounty system when compared with people who are too poor to be brought into the income tax net. If it is right that people should be helped because they are bringing up children or looking after widowed mothers, etc., a duty of this sort is a duty of the nation towards the nation; but it has nothing to do with the taxation of income. The fact is, if we look far enough into this problem, we find that the incidence and gradation of income tax are inspired by a sort of ostensibly moral motive. The motive would seem to be the lessening of inequalities of wealth and condition. Persons are to be mulcted because they have an unfairly large allowance of wealth compared with others. So far, so good. Let us reduce these swollen fortunes. But no; that will not really suit the book of these or of any other Income Tax Commissioners. If great fortunes disappear and the peaks of wealth are lowered to the level of the plains, where shall a Chancellor of the Exchequer look for his "steeply graded" scale of tax, his super-tax, and his magnificent death duties, on which his receipts so largely depend? All our Lords of the Treasury may deplore inequality, but it is to their public interest to encourage it. And if they cannot find inequality they must assume its existence. That is why (as we find in this Report) the Commissioners wish to penalise the spinster and bachelor, because they are so comfortably off compared with the married, and that is similarly the reason why they propose to tax the married, because two incomes look larger than one.

There are items in the scheme which deserve commendation; and the Commissioners' view that the taxation system is one which ought not to be constantly changed is a sound opinion. Whether the present scheme, if accepted, will achieve permanence we doubt; because, as we have indicated, it is ultimately at variance with itself.

THE HILLS OF MAY.

Walking with a virgin heart
The green hills of May,
Me, the Wind, she took for lover
By her side to play.

Let me flutter her loose hair,
Let me shake her gown,
Careless though the daisies redden,
Though the Sun frown.

Scorning in her gay courage
Lesser love than this,
My cool spiritual embracing,
My gentle kiss.

So she walked, the proud lady,
So danced or ran,
And so loved with a calm heart
Neglecting man. . . .

Fade, fail, innocent stars,
Behind her way,
She has left our hills, for ever,
And the green of May.

ROBERT GRAVES.

SAUCE FOR THE GOOSE.

Of course it's all very fine to joke about taxes; in fact there's not much else to do if one can't pay them. Still, the latest from Paris is just a trifle too much of a good thing, and French fashions are depressingly infectious. A 10 per cent. tax on bachelors, if you please, "irrespective of sex." Indeed we never meant our feminist phraseology to be used against us in this way, and if this is the result of the Women's Suffrage movement in France—well, long live Mrs. Humphry Ward, that's all. But it's hard on the gentle-souled bachelor girl, particularly now that there is a shortage of eligible "Young Subs." Rumour has it that an army of French spinsters is marching against the army of occupation, which perturbs me. Not that a hardened feminist like myself is shocked—oh! no!—but what will be left for the British army of spinsters if the 10 per cent. tax comes across Channel?

Rumours float about the world these days. One is wandering abroad that a certain M.P. has announced his decision to confine to the wastepaper basket all the postcards he receives on the high prices problem from his women constituents. But why trouble to make so unoriginal an announcement? Why not wait until there is something surprising to say? Women are very well used to such treatment of their communications. The only point of importance being that in the old days the matter ended there, whereas now they have some small connection with Polling Day, whose other name is the Day of Reckoning.

Water flows terribly quickly under the arch. It seems no time since the idea of a woman's election to the London County Council made us gasp with surprise, whereas last week we hear and with comparative calm that Mrs. Wilton Phipps has been appointed L.C.C. Vice-Chairman. But still we have much to learn from the East. Assyria has just sent to London the first woman Plenipotentiary, Lady Surma d'Mar Shimum, who has come to represent the interests of 80,000 Assyrians who wish to remain under British protection. When do we intend sending a British woman Plenipotentiary to Assyria or anywhere else?

Jam of course is what we have all been thinking of and—oh! shades of coming snowstorms!—jam-making. The unseasonable weather has helped to bring us into the proper vein, and the filling up of forms for sugar grants has not seemed quite so fantastic as it might have done. Still, it's not easy in March to picture the apples of September, making no mention of summer and autumn, sugar prices, and still less of summer and autumn cooks who can induce the stuff to "jell."

A very wonderful woman, Miss Genevieve Ward, celebrated her eighty-third birthday last Saturday by playing the part of Volunmia in "Coriolanus" at the Old Vic. Who talks of the weaker sex, I should like to know. It is nice to hear that Volunmia is one of Miss Ward's favourite parts, so that presumably she thoroughly enjoyed her eighty-third birthday party.

"It is too confusing," she said distractedly when I discovered her in a London Tube station agitatedly pressing the button of an automatic machine. "This invention has ruined my day."

I looked sympathetic and waited for an explanation. "You see," she said, "I can do most things, but somehow the one thing I can't do is to find my way about in Tubes. They are awfully confusing, don't you think?"

I agreed. "But why is to-day worse than usual?" I asked. "Why! look at this wretched machine!" she cried. "Usually I ask John to make me out a plan of the route, but he is not very nice about it since I joined the Independence of Women League, so when I read that by pressing a button a machine would tell me exactly how to go I thought I just wouldn't ask him."

"And won't it tell you?" I asked. "The Independence League meets in Kensington," she said, "and I've pressed all the buttons and this thing only registers the way to Brixton. Really John is far more satisfactory."

THE GOOSE GIRL.

WOMEN AND PREVENTIVE MEDICINE. III.

By M. H. KETTLE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

IN THE WOMAN'S LEADER of February 20th I attempted to estimate the extent to which the modern tendency to prevention rather than cure in medicine was responsible for the large influx of women into the profession. In the next issue I discussed some of the difficulties which the young doctor has to meet in her attempts to educate the public to a higher standard of hygiene. A further and much more serious limitation to her powers of showing the best way to prevent many diseases is the lack of any precise knowledge as to their origin. Medicine cannot advance beyond its scientific foundations, and thus some of the most valuable work in preventive medicine is being done by research workers in laboratories. The lay public know astonishingly little about the amount and the quality of the work now being turned out by women in this field. Even the briefest review of some of the better known original papers published by women during the last year would take up much more space than that allotted to me by the Editor, so I will confine myself to a few examples chosen at random from only one source.

Most people have heard of the Medical Research Committee, founded under the National Health Insurance Act to foster research and to investigate problems of health and disease. Among the activities of the Committee is the publication of a Monthly Journal, entitled *Medical Science*, in which recent publications are abstracted and reviewed by acknowledged experts. Glancing through the numbers for the last three months, I notice the following abstracts:—A paper by Mildred C. Clough (published in the *Journal of Experimental Medicine*) on the different strains of the microbe causing pneumonia; a paper by Dorothy Norris (published in the *Indian Journal of Medical Research*), entitled "A further note on the preparation of culture media suitable for the growth of organisms used in vaccines"; papers by Ida Pritchett, Agnes Winchell, and G. G. Stillman, on the occurrence of the bacillus of influenza in normal throats. A paper on the proteus group of organisms, by Ida Bengston is abstracted and reviewed by Dr. William Bullock, Professor of Bacteriology in the University of London, who says that "our knowledge of these interesting microbes is carried a considerable step forwards by the present authoress. She has made an elaborate study of the literature of the subject, and has enriched it by her own exact studies."

Four papers on the influenza bacillus by different authoresses, are abstracted and discussed by Professor Bullock and Professor Mackintosh in the March number, and an interesting discussion by May Buell on certain effects of hæmorrhage on the alkaline reserve and on nitrogen metabolism is also quoted. A paper by Harriette Chick and Margaret Hume on the importance of accurate and quantitative measurements in experimental work in nutrition and accessory food factors recalls the exceptional value and importance of the work done by Dr. Chick and her colleagues at the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine on accessory food factors, better known as vitamins. As this work has several important bearings on domestic life, and, moreover, is of general interest, it might be useful deliberately to ignore the mass of other recent work by women, and to use the rest of my space in discussing the results of the experimental research on vitamins. Published from time to time in medical and scientific journals, the chief results are incorporated in the "Report on the Present State of Knowledge Concerning Accessory Food Factors,"* compiled by a Committee appointed jointly by the Lister Institute and Medical Research Committee, of which Dr. Harriette Chick was the secretary. It would be difficult, if not impossible—and certainly futile—to separate out the exact extent to which women are responsible for those experimental results, partly because several of the experiments have been repeated and confirmed by different workers, and mainly because the sex of the authors is justly regarded as irrelevant, and in the reference tables the surnames and initials only are given.

The Report, which is full of interest and not too technical, concludes that at least three accessory food factors exist, deficiency in which accounts respectively for the diseases of beri-beri, scurvy, and, most probably, rickets. Neither their chemical nature nor their mode of action have yet been ascertained, but they differ from the necessities of life formerly recognised by the disproportion between the apparent importance of their functions and the minute quantities in which they are normally consumed. The proof of their existence rests mainly on experimental research on two entirely separate and supplementary lines. Firstly, animals have been shown to be victims to diseases corresponding to those mentioned above, so that certain controlled tests could be undertaken; on the other hand, it has been found, quite independently, that synthetic foods, containing theoretically adequate quantities of the four fundamental foodstuffs (proteins, carbo-hydrates, fats, and inorganic salts) in pure form would not maintain nutrition and growth in an animal. The real importance of these facts will not be understood unless it be recognised that a deficiency in food which, when complete or extreme, leads to actual disease, may, when only relative, be responsible for ill-health of a vague but still important kind.

One of these accessory food factors, or vitamins, is present in cream, butter, cod-liver oil, and egg-yolk, but not in margarine, lard, or vegetable fats such as olive or linseed oil. It is thought, by the Committee framing the Report, that rickets is due mainly to its absence, though the views of Miss Ferguson and Findlay (Special Report, No. 20, Medical Research Committee) that confinement and lack of fresh air are the important factors in the causation of rickets is given due consideration. One practical application of the experimental findings should be specially noted; pregnant and nursing mothers should be given an adequate supply of food containing this vitamin, as the quality of their milk will suffer if their food becomes deficient in this dietary essential. The well-known value of cod-liver oil in curing rickets is now placed on a scientific basis; it is emphasised in the report that to prevent rickets young children should be given much milk, and butter if possible, since milk fat is the natural fat for a child; should only a limited quantity of butter be available, it should be reserved for children. They should not be given vegetable margarines, since the amount of fat they can eat is limited, and the consumption of fats not containing this vitamin may prevent their obtaining enough of this necessary food. The Report says further, that milk should remain the staple article of food not only till weaning, but for some years after.

Some excellent quantitative work has been recorded by Dr. Chick and Miss Hume. They found that the foodstuffs richest in one of the other vitamins proved necessary for growth and nutrition, are wheat germ and yeast, and that the latter loses none of its power when extracted. Dr. Marion Delf has estimated the resistance to heat of the anti-scurbutic vitamin. The importance of this work is obvious in connection with the practice of boiling milk for babies, with the increased use of dried milks for infant feeding, and with the cooking of vegetables. The practical application of the results of her work may be summarised as follows:—

- (1) It is wise to give orange or lemon juice, or the juice of swedes to babies fed on anything but raw milk.
- (2) Vegetables such as cabbage should be cooked at a high temperature for a short time rather than "simmered" at a low temperature for a long time.
- (3) To get the utmost value out of food, hay-box cookery is not recommended.
- (4) If a "stew" is necessary to make meat palatable, the vegetables should be cooked separately and for a short time only.

A further point of domestic interest is the greater stability of the anti-scurvy vitamin in neutral solutions than in acids or

alkalies, so that the common practice of adding sodium carbonate when boiling green vegetables should be discontinued.

Another point of interest established by Chick and Hume, is the remarkable fact that lime juice, formerly reputed to cure scurvy, is much inferior to lemon juice. Mrs. Henderson Smith, however, in a historical survey, published in the *Lancet* and the *Journal of the R.A.M.C.*, has explained this anomaly, and the results of her inquiry afford an important confirmation of the experimental results quoted above. The term lime juice was formerly used to signify the juice of lemons from the Mediterranean. The misconception that the virtue lay in the acidity led to their substitution by the more used West Indian limes for lemons. Mrs. Henderson Smith has been unable to find any recorded instances where scurvy was prevented or cured by preserved lime juice in the absence of other anti-scorbutic agents; while preserved lemons are valuable, Chick and Rhodes found that the juice of raw swedes make an excellent substitute for orange juice, and its slight sweetish taste is not disliked by infants. Its preparation is simple—"the clean cut surface of the raw swede is grated on an ordinary kitchen grater, and the pulp folded in a piece of muslin and squeezed with the fingers, when the juice readily runs out, and a teaspoonful can be given to a baby of any age.

Among much other technical literature by women authors quoted in the Report is Dr. Janet Lane Claypon's book on *Milk and its Hygienic Relations*, the only book as yet published under the direction of the Medical Research Committee and the recognised classic on the subject. A paper by May Mellanby (from the *Lancet*) on the bad effects of a diet deficient in the fat soluble vitamins on the calcification of puppies' teeth, is also quoted as an important contribution to the discussion on the causation of rickets.

It will be obvious that more than enough work has now been done to kill the reproach that women rarely settle down to scientific research. Another fact is equally obvious: that in the only circle that matters—that of their most distinguished professional colleagues—their work is accepted when good, and rejected when bad, with complete indifference to their sex. In scientific work, nowadays at any rate, internal evidence alone counts. It is even somewhat of an anachronism to make this attempt to estimate the contributions of women separately from that of their male colleagues—especially since so much work is published jointly. Such an artificial separation is reminiscent of last century, when medicine as a profession for women was considered unsuitable enough, but when co-education or co-operation in medical work was simply unthinkable.

As a matter of fact, it is only since women ceased to be segregated and were encouraged to mix in work and play with men students that the mutual suspicion between men and women doctors gave place to respect and confidence. The future of medical women now looks very bright. All the provincial and Scottish and many of the London medical schools are already open to them, and co-education is the cry of the times. Of its advantages to men this is not the place to speak; its effect on women is two-fold, and undoubtedly makes for efficiency. The self-importance and self-consciousness of the woman doctor disappear, while, when sure of fair play, her true self confidence increases, tempered by the modesty characteristic of workers in large fields. Her horizon is limited, not by the traditions of any one school, or by the achievements of the most eminent women she knows, but only by the outermost margin of her subject. She has lost the desire to be among the most prominent women workers and gained the ambition to contribute her share, however insignificant, to the foundations on which a scientific medicine is being built from the ruins of superstitious practice. She has learnt to prefer to become a subordinate in a living competitive world rather than take the first place in a secluded atmosphere where her superiority to her companions may be undoubted but her position is unchallenged by her intellectual peers.

The historian of the future will note that the rise of women in medicine has taken place in two definite stages. One dates from her actual admission into the profession—the other will comprise the era into which we are now entering—the era in which, having passed her apprenticeship in segregation, she is privileged to enter the medical schools on equal terms with men.

FIFTY YEARS UNDER PRUSSIAN RULE.

THE WOMEN OF SONDERJYLLAND.

In 1864 the Prussian eagle dug his claws into the Danish country called Slesvig, or as we prefer calling it Sonderjylland (to the south of Jutland), and for fifty weary years the greedy claw cut deeper into the Danish hearts and left a never-healing wound. When the peace was signed in Prag (1866) it was promised that the Danish districts should go back to Denmark as far south as the inhabitants wanted it—a promise which was broken a few years afterwards, and which the Germans now are forced to keep at last, thanks to the victory of the Allied armies.

These fifty years have been a never-ending struggle and humiliation for the many thousands of Danes living where the very stones are parts of the Danish history. How badly the Germans understand the art of colonisation is best proved in Sonderjylland, where in the northern parts still 75 per cent. of the inhabitants have been proved to be Danish by the plebiscite, which has just taken place.

The Sonderjyder are strong people, rather slow and phlegmatic, but when roused good fighters and good haters, strong and faithful. And through all these years they had use for this quality. There were strong men, who by word and deed were born leaders for the oppressed people, but the women fought just as hard, just as bravely, only their fight was in the homes, when the Germans tried to separate parents and children into Danes and Germans. The hardest fight was about the children. Danish was forbidden pretty nearly all over the Sonderjylland both in the schools and in the churches, and yet till this day you can hear the pure Danish spoken down there! And we can thank the brave Sonderjyske women for that. Because the little sweet lullabys that were sung for the babies were Danish, their first stammering words were Danish, and the thrilling stories about the never-ending fight through centuries between Denmark and Germany were told in Danish. And it was the mothers who sowed the love for Denmark in their little hearts; showed the children "the Danish corner," which many homes in Sonderjylland have. In this corner in the sitting-room are pictures of the Danish King and Queen, of famous Danish places; and then there was a "Dannebrog," our beautiful flag, dark red with the white cross—the forbidden and hidden flag. These Danish colours had a knack of turning up in unexpected places, as red and white flowers in a garden, as white dresses with a red sash, or as red houses with white painted windows and doors!

From the first school day the struggle between Danish and German began. The Danish child was forced to speak and think German. A song in which are the words "Ich bin ein Preusze und will ein Preusze sein" was very much used. And brave little Danish children sang, "Ich bin kein Preusze und will kein Preusze sein!" Of course they were beaten, but happily one can't beat a Dane to love the Prussians!

Then came the terrible war. Terrible for the English mother, but a hundred times more so for the Sonderjyske mother. Her boy could not go out to fight for his beloved country. She would suffer whether he went to victory or to defeat under the German flag. Many boys, who fought for a country they hated, 6,000 in all, were killed—a terrible number for this little country. It is said that the Danish soldiers were placed at the most dangerous fronts as "Kanonenfutter." If they escaped to Denmark their relations were punished because they were "suspected" of having helped them.

There are two women I just want to mention who all these years kept the love of Denmark burning in their hearts. One is Mrs. Agnes Slott-Møller, one of the most famous Danish painters of to-day. The other is Marie Jessen. She is the widow of the editor of *Flensborg Avis*, and was like a flaming sword in Jessen's hand. The editor again and again was sent to the Prussian prisons, until his health broke down and he died in captivity. His wife carried on the newspaper in the same spirit and educated her boy to take up his father's work. When the Allied armies in February this year occupied Sonderjylland Mrs. Jessen bid them welcome in French, and was honoured by the troops as the brave wife of a splendid man.

And now the many thousands of nameless women who fought for Denmark in their homes are going to reap what in prayer and silent suffering was sown through fifty years of praying, longing, and humiliation.

CARLA LUISE ANDERSEN.

HOSTELS FOR AILING BABIES.

By M. C. D. WALTERS.

The loss of so many of our little children in the first weeks or months of life makes it urgently necessary that the survivors should be protected from damage as far as possible, so that they may pass into the schools for their education in such a state of physical and mental health as will enable them to derive from it the greatest possible benefit.

The Day Nursery has been the means by which an unsuspected amount of childish suffering has revealed itself, and though the detection of it by the trained eye of the Matron and Medical Officer has resulted in the child receiving a certain amount of the special care, diet, and attention it needs during such time as it is there, the fact that the crèche receives the child for the day only while it spends the nights and the weekends in its own home, and that the nursery can, as a rule, deal only with the normal, healthy child, makes any keen crèche worker feel that her efforts go to make a poor best out of a very bad job. If we consider, in addition to this, that the mother is a working woman, that is, that whether her work be manual or professional, her home sees but little of her, and then only when she is either hurrying from it, or returning to it spent with her work, we see how little can be done for the child that is of permanent benefit to it; for as soon as it breaks down altogether, passes from "sub-health" to ailing, from ailing to real illness, the child has to be excluded from the crèche altogether. Although the mother may throw up her job and stay at home to care for it, she is lacking in most of the knowledge that would help her; besides this, in losing her job, she loses also the means of procuring the comforts and even the necessities of sick-nursing. The child is therefore tended under conditions far from favourable to a speedy return to health, or to the prevention of further attacks of illness.

CITIZENS IN THE MAKING.

Help in the way of cost-price, or even cost-free, supplies of milk and drugs, the loan of nursing requirements, and the provision of the visiting nurse to help the mother, may all be of great use; but it is the lack of quiet, of separation even to a bed of its own for the little sufferer, and the impossibility of really good nursing in a crowded home that all point to the crying need for the provision of Hostels for Ailing Babies. In these hostels impending disaster could be dealt with, whereas now we wait till the disaster is complete and the child's health permanently impaired; in them the causes of illness could be sought, and the cure of the illness itself achieved. The ailments from which babies and very little children suffer are often the symptoms of far graver disease and disability, which will render their after years less happy, less humanly complete, and will immeasurably impair their value as citizens.

Nasal catarrh, for instance, with its later results of bad jaw development, and irregular and decaying teeth is frequent where the habit of mouth-breathing has been acquired during infancy. The primary cause of this ailment is that the child has been kept in stuffy rooms, breathing vitiated air among a crowd of adults, and has probably also suffered from wrong feeding and wrong clothing. This state of chronic catarrh keeps a child in feeble health, more and more liable to the various infections with which it comes in contact, and less and less able to put up any sort of resistance. The production of that exceedingly costly finished article, the physically or mentally deficient school-child, has been begun in the crowded ill-ventilated and jerry-built home, and has been continued slowly, but very surely, during the years of infancy and early childhood spent there. And it must be remembered that so long as these homes remain as they are, a child's early life may be spent fluctuating between its home where it becomes ill, and the hostel where it receives transient benefit, because it is for once in an environment suited to its needs.

Hostels for Ailing Babies, therefore, are too important a piece of national economy for the provision of them, or not, to be left to the discretion of local authorities. Many of these

authorities think but of rate—rather than of life-saving, and are, many of them, after all, even now footing the bill for their predecessors' past errors; and not unnaturally may decide to live in the present and leave the future to look after itself. The State, however, can and must afford to look not merely at the day that is, but to the day that shall be, and must accept its responsibility for very many of the conditions that have made preventable illness so prevalent among children under five.

THE MOTHER'S RÔLE.

In the outlying suburbs, hospitals are not only too distant from the child's home, a serious matter when travelling is costly, but a child is admitted only when seriously ill, though it may have been attending as an out-patient for a considerable time. Once the child is admitted to the hospital the parents see it but seldom, and are in almost complete ignorance of what is wrong, how the evil was caused, and what should be done to guard against similar illness of the same in another child. Hostels for Ailing Babies, on the contrary, will be at no great distance from the child's home, and as it will be in the care of people with whom the mother is already more or less acquainted, she will more readily consent to its admission. The co-operation of the parents will thus be secured both during its illness and also in the prevention of further trouble.

At, or in connection with the Hostel, it should be arranged that on certain days classes are held for instruction in sick-nursing, in the preparation of sick-room diet, and the mother should be told as much about the case as she can reasonably grasp. The Infant Welfare Centre is a comparatively recent movement, and mothers have been unreasonably blamed for ignorance when their opportunity for learning better has been only too limited; also ignorance of this kind is not confined to the working class mother.

A CHILD'S BIRTHRIGHT.

It will be to the benefit of the whole community and may lead to the speeding up of the housing schemes if the parents learn also to feel a righteous indignation that the need of every little child for fresh air, sunshine, a place in which to play safely, and a mother not too overtaxed with toil at home, or, still worse, away from it, is only within the reach of the well-to-do. For comparisons between the town-bred and those who live in garden villages prove sufficiently that it is from bad housing and the resulting poor physique that we get the C3 population out of which an A1 Empire can never be built. If, moreover, the realisation of the responsibility of the right up-bringing of a child leads to the limitation of the family in a certain degree, and by legitimate means, who will say it is not better for the State to rely for safety on a smaller population, reared to the rich inheritance of healthy man- and woman-hood, than to count its riches in regiments and drafts and turn its face obstinately from the million "rejects" created by its criminal neglect of the life that is the nation's greatest wealth.

The coming of the medical woman has been the dawn of the era of preventive medicine, and the prevention of a needless amount of childish illness will in the long run lead to the prevention of destitution and unemployability of the adult. This is traceable in a large degree to low health, which means a low wage-earning capacity, and to work that is more or less intermittent owing to intervals of sickness and unemployment. Efforts are being made to establish a minimum wage. It is equally, if not more, important to establish a minimum health standard, or rather the minimum standard of living conditions which will lead to the good health of as large a proportion of the population as possible.

"The real riches of a nation are not to be measured by vast calculations of commercial statistics, but by the absence of destitution and the high level of healthy life which the people enjoy." By care given to the children of the people alone are these riches to be acquired, and for it we need, as Thomas Carlyle says, "an army 90,000 strong, maintained and fully equipped in continual real action and battle against human starvation, against chaos, necessity, stupidity, our real national enemies."

A MEETING IN THE FOG.

THE fog was much worse when we came out of the committee. It was the thick, yellow kind that chokes one and obliterates everything more than two feet from one's face. The blackness of night was now added to it, and as the few street lamps lighted in our district were obscured on account of air raids, the darkness was almost palpable. I stumbled down the steps, pushed open the gate, turned to the right and began to reflect that if only people had been reasonable the committee might have been over an hour ago. As I remembered how the discussion had wandered from the point, how the members had talked and talked about the food problems of their own households and shopping difficulties, and not about the matter in hand, how the Chairman instead of calling them to order had discoursed on her own special troubles, and how they had all failed to listen to the Hon. Secretary, I grew so angry that I walked on rapidly without thinking where I was going.

It is not a safe thing to do in a fog. The roads were almost deserted, but just as I came to the first lamp I had noticed since I left Mrs. Thomas's house I stumbled against someone and pushed her against the post. She gave a little cry, and as she came into the feeble circle of light I saw that it was a girl with a baby in her arms.

"I am so sorry," I said, restored to myself, and moved to contrition by her white frightened face. "I hope I didn't hurt you or the baby?"

"It's quite all right, thank you," she said in a low tremulous voice—a voice that was refined in spite of its Cockney accent, as is sometimes the way with London girls. I looked at her with some curiosity. The fog with the lamplight shining through it gave her a kind of halo. Her face was small, and very delicate.

It was like a Botticelli Madonna, I thought, or perhaps a Filipino. It had the same kind of pathos, but there was something a little fierce in it too, and she clasped the baby as if Herod himself were at hand. My mind had wandered to remote sunny days, but the thought of the baby brought me back to the present. "It's a bad night to be out," I said. "This fog is awful, isn't it?"

"It's very dark," she said. "Have you lost your way?" I asked. "Can I help you to find it?"

"I don't know my way," she spoke very low—I think she said, "I don't know where to turn."

"Were you trying to get out on to the hill, to find the Tube Station? It ought to be the second turning on the right. If you go—" I paused, we had moved away from the lamp, and lost it in the blackness, and I was suddenly conscious that I didn't know where I was myself. It was one of the tiresome habits of my committee to insist on meeting in each of their houses in turn. It was a large and scattered district. They none of them liked coming out in the evening or late afternoon. It was fairer, they thought, to take it in turn. It was, of course; but it gave the Secretary extra trouble, and on this occasion it had turned out ill. Mrs. Thomas was a new member; we had never met at her house before. I did not know the roads round it. I had rushed away after the committee, as I was too irritated with the other members to want to walk with them, and I thought I could find my way out on to the hill, which was the main road. I might perhaps have done so if I had not been so absorbed in my thoughts, first about the committee, and then about the girl with the baby! Now she and I were both lost.

"I am not quite sure myself," I said doubtfully. "The fog is so very thick. But we can't be far from the hill. Let us go together. Have you carried the baby a long way?"

"A very long way." "Shall I carry it?" I asked, stretching out my hand in the darkness to touch it. I could feel her start back. "No, no," she said, with a note of fierceness and terror in her voice. "No one shan't take her. No one shan't take my baby."

"I didn't want to take her from you if you don't want me to," I said gently; "I only thought you must be tired. Let us walk together a little way; won't you let me take your arm, so that we may not get separated from each other in the fog?"

I slipped my hand under the arm that was not supporting the baby. I could feel that she was very cold. Her coat, or the shawl that was round the baby, seemed wet. I had not realised that the fog was so damp. We walked on side by side.

"Where were you going?" I said. "I don't know," she answered—and then, after a pause—"I haven't nowhere to go."

"Nowhere to go; haven't you a home?"

"No. I haven't no home—not with the baby."

"But where are you staying?"

"We haven't nowhere to stay."

"But do you really mean that you haven't anywhere to spend the night? Where do you come from?"

"I'm a London girl—not from this part, down Clapham way—but I haven't got no home now. Not me and the baby."

"She had not looked so very poor. 'Can't you get a room?' I said feebly.

"Don't let the baby," she answered in a matter-of-fact, and yet despairing voice. "They wouldn't take us in—not me and 'er. Besides, I haven't any money now I've lost my job."

"But your own people?"

"They wouldn't take me in now—not with 'er. They'd say she was a disgrace."

I thought of the C.O.S. and of various charities.

"There are homes," I murmured. "Kind people . . ." I felt her shrink from me again.

"I'm not going near no 'Omes," she said. "They'd take the baby from me. I know what they're like. Take the baby and put 'er in an orphan 'sylum, they would. No, my pretty, they shan't do that. Me and you aren't going to be separated, are we? We'll go together if we must. We belong to each other, and we haven't got no one else."

"The baby's father?" I asked.

"'E's dead. I think 'e must be dead. 'E never wrote after that first postcard, and I see 'is name . . ." She stopped. I could not ask her any more about that. I began to feel strangely interested in her. After a minute I said, "But where were you going when I met you?"

"I—I don't know," she said; she hesitated, "up towards the 'Eath, I think."

"Do you know anyone that lives in that direction?"

"No. I don't know no one . . . I went there once on a 'oliday. I thought we'd go there again, me and baby."

"But—on a night like this! You won't be able to see anything. Besides, you can't sleep on the Heath. You must have somewhere to sleep."

I could feel that she began to tremble. "Yes, I want to sleep," she said dully.

Desperately I turned over resources in my mind. Then I saw that there was only one way, and that I must brave the surprise of my household at having a strange girl with a baby suddenly brought home for the night. After all, it was wartime—and I was a Suffragist.

"You must come home with me," I said.

"Baby too?" she asked.

"The baby too, of course."

"But you won't separate 'er from me?" Her voice shook with something between fear and eagerness.

"Of course I won't separate her from you. How can you think of such a thing?" I demanded indignantly.

"Oh, you're very kind. You mustn't mind my asking. It's not many would take me and 'er too. I didn't know there was anyone. Some would take baby and put 'er in a 'Ome, but they wouldn't 'ave me there, no, not at no price. And some would 'ave me, be glad to 'ave me, if I'd send 'er away. But you're good—if I'd known . . ." She began to cry, not loud, but with low heartbroken sobs.

"Don't cry! Don't cry," I besought her helplessly. "Think of the baby. You've got the baby, you know. She's a lovely baby, isn't she?"

That stopped her sobs. "She is," she said, with concentrated pride and joy. "When we come to that lamp over there I'll show her to you. Oh, she's a treasure!"

I saw that we were in fact approaching another lamp-post. My companion left me and hurried forward. Once under the lamp she began unwrapping the baby's face and head, heedless of the fog and cold. Words of remonstrance rose to my lips, but hung suspended; the baby was so extraordinarily beautiful. The little fair dimpled face against the dingy shawl was as peaceful in its untroubled sleep, as radiant, as any painter's vision of the Holy Child. I looked up from it to the mother, and she too was transfigured. The fierceness, the anxiety had gone from her face. It was shining. If she had been like a Madonna before . . .

How long I stood and gazed at them I don't know. Something, some breath of cold, some slight sound, in the thick silence of the fog reminded me of the present.

"We must be getting home," I said. "If only they would place these lamps so that they showed the names of the streets." The lamp showed nothing but a few yards of pavement and garden wall. My feelings had changed. Except about the way, I had no hesitation. I longed to have this adorable baby and its lovely mother in my house. Instead of an almost tiresome duty, it had turned into a glorious opportunity. I was in haste, I could not wait. . . .

But one has to wait in a fog. We seemed to have got into an almost flat road. I could not tell whether we were going up or down the hill. After groping a little longer, I said: "I think there are houses here. I can see the front railings; I will go up to one of them and ask what road this is. Presently, I found the gate.

"Don't let's go near a 'ouse," she said, suddenly and urgently. "I'm afraid."

"But why?" I asked surprised. "You're coming to my house. Why should you be afraid?"

"You're different," she answered, quick and low. "I'm not afraid of you. You won't take the Baby from me. Don't let's go near no other 'ouse."

"But it's only to ask the way," I remonstrated. "We shall never get home, unless we do. Well, if you like, don't come up. You stand here, by the gate; hold on to the railings, don't move, in case we should lose each other. I'll just ask, I won't be long." I released her arm, pushed open the gate, stumbled up the steps and fumbled for the knocker. There did not seem to be one. With immense trouble and after a long time I found the bell. Then I was not sure whether it rang. After waiting, I rang again, this time rather loudly. Still no one came. It was only after a third and violent ring, that the door was at last opened a few inches, and a frightened voice said: "What is it? What do you want, ringing like that? Is there going to be a raid?"

"I should think it most unlikely. Nothing but a Zeppelin could get over on a night like this. I only wanted—"

"Oh! Zeppelins! They're worse than anything. I must go in. . . ."

"Wait a moment," I cried desperately; "There arn't any Zeppelins. I only want to know what road this is, and how one gets . . ."

"No Zeppelins! Then what do you want to come disturbing us for, telling us there was a raid, to frighten people, and—" in her indignation she threw open the door, and I could see that it was a rather dishevelled looking maid. I could hardly get her to tell me the name of the road. She thought it was part of the "trick." She did so at last.

"Oh, hold open the door, while I get down the steps, do!" I said as she was about to close it. "There's someone waiting for me and a baby—" She was more filled with suspicion than ever. Then it changed to a kind of amazement, as if she thought that after all I was only mad.

"Someone waiting for you?" she said, "where? There's no one there!"

I turned hurriedly round. She had thrown the door wide open now, and a flood of light was projected from it down the front steps along the yard or two of footpath, out on to the pavement and the road.

She was right. There was no one there. I rushed down the steps, and as I did, she shut the door behind me and all was dark again.

"Where are you? O, where are you?" I called.

The sight of the empty road had frightened me. But after all, I had only seen a few yards of it. My late companion was not by the gate where I had left her. She could hardly have gone far. She must have felt cold and moved a little. I called her again—not by name, for I had never heard her name, but eagerly, almost passionately. There was no response. Everything was perfectly still. I had walked a little, first one way and then the other, calling at intervals. Still there was no answer. I felt my way back to the house I had just left, not feeling quite sure whether it was the same house, or another near it. This time, it was still longer before the bell was answered, and when the maid did come she was very cross.

"Oh, do go away," she said. "It's no good you're coming here with your stories about babies and Zeppelins and all. I'll have the police after yer! And they'll be after me, too, letting the light into the street, with Zeppelins about and all." She shut the door with a bang.

The hours that followed were the most terrible night-mare I ever had. Up and down and round about, through the choking fog and darkness, I sought for the companions I had known for such a little while, and who had become so dear to me, that my whole life seemed to depend on finding them. I don't know

where I went, or how often I retraced my steps. I beat against walls and palings with my hands, I stumbled and fell; I picked myself up and went on unheeding. I rushed towards dark objects, or what seemed to be dark objects in an atmosphere that was all dark. I had moments of wild hope, always followed by bitter disappointment. And all the time, I kept picturing her stumbling about in the dark too, more tired than I was, and with the baby. They would both be so cold, perhaps the baby would wake up and cry. I thought I heard a faint cry. I stopped dead—I listened. There was nothing.

How and when I got home I don't know. I must have wandered into my own road and stumbled against my own gate by a kind of accident at last. I must have been wandering about for hours. It was very late. My household were so used to my returning at midnight from meetings or from the office, that they expressed no surprise. A fire burnt brightly. A hot meal was produced for me. The first mouthful made me remember how I had meant to feed that lovely, cold baby, with warm milk. I could not swallow.

I went to bed, and all through the night I repeated the wanderings of the evening. Sometimes, for a little, the girl and the baby were with me, in unearthly beauty, and she talked to me and told me many things that she had not told me in our real meeting. But always, after a little, she disappeared into the fog. Sometimes she left the baby with me, and I tried to carry it and it was very heavy—heavier and heavier, and someone said Zeppelins were coming, and I tried to escape with it, and it grew so heavy that I could not carry it, and had to lay it down, and then I lost it in the fog.

Then, in my anguish I woke, and was miserable in a comparatively calm waking way, wondering what had become of them both, wondering what I could have done.

At last I fell into a heavy dreamless sleep, and woke to find the sun pouring into my room.

I was calm and sane now, but very tired. Too tired to do any work that mattered, I thought.

So as it was fine I determined to deliver some circulars at houses up near the Heath.

I had been doing it for some time, and was feeling much better, although rather footsore, when I saw my friend Dr. Hamilton. She is the nicest doctor I know. It is always a joy to see her, whether one is ill or well.

"Where are you going?" I said, "and where is your car?"

"Oh, I'm not using my car now. One can't, you know; the petrol is all wanted."

"I thought doctors could?"

"Oh well, others want it more than I do. I take a taxi when I'm in a hurry and can get one. Now I'm walking a little way. I shall get into the Tube presently."

"I'll walk with you," I said.

We walked on down the hill, talking of the war news. Presently we came to the Police Station.

"I have to go in here," she said.

"Shall you be long? Shall I wait?"

"I don't think I shall be long. But don't wait. I may be kept. I have to see a poor girl who was found in the pond. I'm afraid from the description she may be one of my panel patients. She's dead, of course—it's a question of identification. Don't wait."

But a sudden overwhelming thought had swept over me. "What is she like?" I said, "I believe I may know her. I must come in."

"You had better not. Why do you think you know her? Did you see the description?"

"I know her, I am sure I know her; I saw her just before she did it!" I said wildly.

Dr. Hamilton looked amazed. However, she said something to the policeman at the door, and they let me come in.

I hardly needed to look. She was lying there. Though I had only seen her face twice, and for a very few moments each time, I knew it as well as if we had been friends for years. It was lovely still, but not radiant like the last time; fixed, and rather stern.

"No," said Dr. Hamilton, after a moment, "it is not my patient. I don't know her—poor girl."

"But I do," I said.

"Do you indeed, Miss?" The Inspector, who had accompanied us, pulled out his note-book. "What was her name?"

"I don't know her name. But I met her yesterday evening, I was with her a long time, I lost her in the fog."

The Inspector looked perplexed, and murmured something about "a mistake."

"Are you sure it was suicide?" asked Dr. Hamilton.
"Couldn't have been anything else, Doctor, in that pond. The water isn't more than two feet deep—must have been very determined too. Must have laid down in it—"

"You don't think she could have stumbled in, in the fog, and sunk in the mud?"

"The mud's been cleared out, only the other day, and there wasn't any fog."

"But there was," I broke in. "It was one of the thickest fogs I have ever known."

"Otherwise I shouldn't have lost her," I added, half to myself.

"When did you say you'd seen her, Miss?" the Inspector asked quickly.

"Last night. She—" I stopped, and gazed intently at her.

"Must be some mistake," repeated the Inspector. I only half heard him. "No doubt about its being suicide," he added, turning to Dr. Hamilton. "She was worrying, I suppose, wondering what she'd do after. Lost her job, most likely, and wondered what she'd do with the child."

"Yes," I cried, "the child. What about—"

THE HOME IN PARLIAMENT

Because the home-loving woman so often thinks that Parliament is no concern of hers, and, because as a matter of fact Parliament has a great deal more to do with the home than you imagine.

And because, during the present Parliamentary Session in particular, Parliament will be discussing and deciding a number of questions which every good housekeeper must understand:

For these reasons you will find, every week on this page during the session an article about one home question with which Parliament is concerned, showing just how the home comes into Parliament's discussions and debates.

You will find this article because the "Woman's Leader" knows that only the woman who understands how Parliament is dealing with her affairs can be a really responsible citizen and a really reliable home-keeper.

THE VIEWS OF TWENTY-ONE.

"Ah! things were very different when I was young."

Surely no younger generation has ever been so familiar with that phrase as is the younger generation of to-day. Surely no ears have ever heard it so often as have the ears of the present-day "modern girl." For she it is who repeats history with a very big difference. She it is who—thanks in part to the pioneer women who have paved her way, and in part to the untoward circumstances that marked the spreading of the wings—has come into a heritage of freedom and opportunity undreamed of and now scarce realised by her mother and her aunts. The gates which barred the paths of their ambition have opened to her knocking; she has far wider scope than they in work and in amusement, and at the moment she is having her innings in Parliament.

A Parliamentary Bill, the passage or failure of which must greatly affect the future of the younger generation, is necessarily a matter of supreme importance to the home. Such a Bill is before Parliament now—the Labour Party's Adult Suffrage Bill. It proposes to enfranchise men and women alike at the age of twenty-one, provided that they have resided within a constituency for a certain number of months. This Bill has already passed its Second Reading in the House of Commons without a division, and has been referred to a Standing Committee to be considered in detail.

When the Second Reading of the Bill was debated in the Commons the effect of giving the Parliamentary vote to women under thirty was very fully discussed, and it was evident that several Members of Parliament found the prospect unnerve. And this not only because the passage of the Bill would mean that there would be more women than men voters in the country, but also because political power would be placed in the hands of a very large number of girls who are enjoying opportunities never before offered to women, and do not yet themselves know what their novel experiences will make of them. "Is the girl of twenty-one capable of making up her mind?" This was the question which the House of Commons asked itself, and although it finally answered in the affirmative it is to be feared that it did so, not from conviction, but because it realised that at last the

"Don't you worry, Miss." He interrupted me soothingly. "This ain't your friend. Not if you saw her last night, as you say. Did you say you saw her last night?"

"Of course I did; and of course it's my friend, but where's . . ."

"There must be some mistake, Miss," he broke in again firmly. "It can't be as you say. This one was taken out of the pond on Wednesday night."

The significance of his words hardly penetrated to my brain; I was so taken up with another thought.

"But where's the baby?" I said. "Let me have it, let me take care of it." I already pictured myself taking it home and loving it—but only for the flash of a second. "But Oh! It ought not to have been separated from her," I cried. "How could she bear to be without it. How can it live without her? Where is it? What have you done with it?"

The Inspector looked at me, as if he thought me quite mad.

Dr. Hamilton laid a restraining hand upon my arm. She touched very gently the cloth that covered the girl.

"You see" she said in a very low voice, "poor, poor child—she had not got her baby—yet."

MARGARET CLARE.

HOW THE WOMEN OF RHODESIA GOT THE VOTE.

(From a Special Correspondent),

BULAWAYO, JANUARY, 1920.

The first Southern Rhodesia Voters' Roll to contain the names of women voters has just been completed, and in a few months the newly enfranchised will have an opportunity of exercising their privilege at a general election.

The passing, last year, of the Ordinance conferring upon women the same rights as men possess in regard to the selection of the people's representatives in the Legislative Council, was a notable event, not only as it affected Southern Rhodesia, but also because it created (with British East Africa) an important precedent in the British Empire system. Southern Rhodesia was the second colony not in possession of full responsible government where women were enfranchised. The women of British East Africa achieved that success just three months earlier.

It is necessary to point out the peculiar constitutional position of Rhodesia. Few people outside the colony understand that there are two Rhodesias, separate and distinct—Northern and Southern Rhodesia. Both are under the control of the British South Africa Company, but as Southern Rhodesia—that is the territory south of the Zambesi—has progressed more rapidly, Company control is modified, to some extent, by a Legislative Council composed of nominated members, who are officials of the Company, and members elected by the people. The elected members have the majority, but their powers are more of an advisory character. For instance, they have no control over finance, and cannot initiate legislation. But as a matter of fact, their powers are really much greater than they appear in theory; it is admitted that the Company's reign would inevitably be cut short if the elected representatives' opinions or policy were flouted.

RHODESIA'S POLITICAL FUTURE.

The Company's Charter does not expire until 1924, but already a strong party has grown up which favours the independence of Rhodesia under its own responsible Government, and there is also a Union Party which is working for combination with the Union of South Africa, and there is a section which favours Crown Colony Government as a stepping stone to either of the two other systems. Thus the whole question of the Company future has to be decided in the near future, and in securing the franchise at the present moment, the women have earned the right to have their say. And now as to how that right has been secured.

THE WOMEN'S REFORM CLUB.

It was in February, 1916, that a small company of women met in Bulawayo and formed a Women's Reform Club. The objects of the Society were:—

- (1) The ultimate enfranchisement of the women of Rhodesia.
- (2) To stimulate in women an active interest in the welfare of the country.
- (3) To work in harmony with and aid the civil powers and to further social reforms.
- (4) To work for the protection of children and animals.

Considerable social work was done under Mrs. Longden's presidency, and her resignation was accepted with regret in July, 1917. At the monthly meeting of the Club in August, it was decided to change the name of the Club to Women's Enfranchisement League. Mrs. E. R. Ross was appointed President, and in her opening address said they all knew the primary object of the Women's Reform Club was the enfranchisement of the women of Southern Rhodesia, but it had been decided to let the matter drop until the end of the war. However, after a challenge at a sitting of the Legislative Council at Salisbury, to the effect that "the women of Rhodesia did not want the vote because they had taken no steps to show they wanted it," the only thing left to the Club was to take up the challenge, put aside all other work, and devote their energies to the one cause, namely, the enfranchisement of the women of Southern Rhodesia. The Women's Franchise Society at Salisbury had already pre-

pared a petition for signatures, and the W.E.L., Bulawayo, willingly co-operated and obtained over 1,300 signatures of the men and women of Matabeleland, while Salisbury obtained over 1,000 signatures from Mashonaland. In passing, it should be mentioned that considerable pioneer work was done by Mr. J. McClery, M.L.C., Salisbury. The petition was laid before the Legislative Council by Sir Chas. Coghlan, M.L.C. for Bulawayo, on May 17th, 1918. All the elected members expressed their support of the movement by passing a resolution in its favour. In September, as nothing further had been done in the matter, a deputation waited on His Honour the Administrator, Sir Drummond Chaplin, to discuss the position of affairs. His Honour stated that the Resolution had been forwarded to the Board of Directors of the B.S.A. Company in London, and that they would do nothing in the matter until the completed Ordinance was laid before them. The Administrator hoped this Ordinance would be drawn up and placed before the Legislative Council the following session in April, 1919, and if passed, would be forwarded to the Board of Directors, and after their approval placed before the High Commissioner. There was nothing further to be done but wait, so the women set to work and organised public meetings in Rhodesia to stir up enthusiasm. The League was fortunate to secure the services of Miss G. Rogaly, Johannesburg, as a speaker, and large public meetings were held in Bulawayo, Salisbury, Gwelo, Gatooma, and Umtali at the beginning of April, 1919. Needless to say, the meetings met with huge success, and Miss Rogaly reported that the people she had met on the journeys, with very few exceptions, were already converted.

THE GOAL IS REACHED.

After two years' strenuous work the efforts of the women were rewarded. On July 4th (America's Independence Day), 1919, a congratulatory telegram was received in Bulawayo, stating that the Women's Suffrage Ordinance was gazetted, having been assented to by the High Commissioner.

The gist of the Ordinance is contained in the first two clauses:—

"1.—Notwithstanding any law or Ordinance to the contrary, from and after the passing of this Ordinance, and subject to any legal disability or incapacity applying by any law or Ordinance in the case of men, every woman shall be qualified to be elected as a member and be entitled to be registered as a voter and to vote at elections of members of the Legislative Council, where she would be entitled to be so qualified and registered if she were a man.

"2.—Every married woman of twenty-one years of age, other than a woman married under any system permitting of polygamy, shall for the purposes of the last preceding section be deemed to possess the same occupation and salary qualification as her husband in cases where she is residing with her husband and does not possess the said qualification in her own right."

The Bill, as first drafted, made no provision for the admission of women members to the Legislative Council, but fortunately, during the progress of the measure through the House, the majority of the members recognised that the exclusion of women members would be illogical. There is absolutely, therefore, no bar against the election of women to the Legislative Council. A point overlooked, however, is with regard to membership of Town Councils. Women in Southern Rhodesia can now vote in Town Council elections, and they can sit upon the Legislative Council from which municipalities get their powers, and yet they cannot be members of the municipal authority. This position is, of course, too absurd to continue.

The resignation of the President, Mrs. E. R. Ross (who has gone to England) on the eve of victory was much regretted, as no more enthusiastic worker could have been wished. No effort was spared by her to do the best for the cause, and to her endeavours must be given the praise. Mrs. McKeurtan, M.B.E., continues as President, and the final efforts of the League to get all women enrolled have been very successful.

M. McG.

INEZ M. FERGUSON.

"THE WOMAN'S LEADER" IN LITERATURE.

An Imperfect Mother. By J. D. Beresford. (Collins. 7s. 6d.)

Cecilia Kirkwood "was no romantic prototype of motherhood . . . but she had an astonishing gift of begetting and retaining admiration." Mr. Beresford's brilliant and subtle dissection of the relations between Cecilia and her son Stephen, from the time when Margaret Wetherley's childish preference first stirs the boy's heart till he makes his final choice between the younger and the older woman, is the subject of the novel. Though much more space is given to the details of Stephen's career as apprentice to a builder than to Cecilia's successful egotism and her one lapse into unselfishness, it is she who is the heroine of the novel, and though we are told much of the admiration she exacted from the Medborough citizens who disapproved of her, from her commonplace bookseller husband, from Christopher Threlfall with whom she eloped, and from his literary and artistic friends, it is not so much their admiration as Mr. Beresford's contemptuous hatred that illumines her personality. We have even an uneasy feeling that she is invulnerable to ordinary weapons, and that Margaret's final victory is gained by stealing her adversary's thunder. One can picture Margaret growing, as she reaches middle-age, like the Cecilia of the first chapter of this story, or imagine Cecilia, when she first married her bookseller as something like Margaret. Heredity is out of fashion in novels, dethroned by psycho-analysis, so there is no need to be surprised at Stephen's extreme divergence in type from his parents. He is a rather new type for Mr. Beresford, more self-reliant, less tormented by temptations of the flesh and vacillations of the spirit than Jacob Stahl or the unhappy boy in the "House in Demetrius Road," and maintains an appearance of sober trustworthiness even when proposing marriage in a Lyons' tea-shop to a girl he has first spoken to five minutes before. The opening chapters of the story, and especially those giving the history of the eventful day of his "century" in the school cricket match, are very pleasant reading, while the record of Mrs. Kirkwood's elopement is a masterpiece of cool and ironical statement of sordid reality, much more telling than the lurid vagueness with which convention adorns such episodes. How far removed from the pistol and postchaise treatment of a guilty flight is the discussion between Stephen and his two sisters as to which of them should pack Cecilia's boxes!

The Surrender and Other Happenings. By Mary Gaunt. (Werner Laurie. 7s.)

After a prolonged orgy of novels which concern themselves almost exclusively with what might have happened but in fact failed, as the Americans say, to "eventuate," the reader comes with real gusto to Mrs. Gaunt's volume of "Happenings" in countries as distant as China, West Africa, and Siberia. The characters are simple and the adventures complex, which again is a pleasing variation on our more usual diet. Also, we welcome, as a change from the too copious exhibition of barbaric vices in modern Europeans, the record of courage, chivalry, and pity shown by Chinese rebels, Vai chiefs, African native servants, and other persons whom psychological novelists would have depicted with brushes dipped in Stygian blackness. Change is always stimulating, and doubtless we shall return with fresh appetite to less eventful pages because we remember these.

The little story of the West African Commissioner who went with a native military escort to hunt out "the great Fish Fetish" which had something to do with the disappearance of native children, is the longest, and perhaps the least successful in the volume, though we do get from it a very vivid picture of the

horror of tropical swamps in which men may wander till death takes them. "His First Born Son" is a triumphant success. A white man, travelling through an African province, is entreated by Dan Hassan's mother to beg for him a respite of a few hours, that his victorious enemy may spare him until he has held his son in his arms. Neither the white man nor Mohamed Ali know that the expected son has yet to be born, but as they wait, Ali bethinks himself that he can make revenge sweeter by claiming the son's life as ransom for the father. Dan Hassan refuses fiercely, and when the new-born babe is laid before Mohamed in the light of the brasier, he threatens the child with his spear. Hassan had slain his son, and why should his own be spared? But in the end he remits the blood debt and departs, fierce, unsatisfied, but half-unwillingly merciful. Stories of missionaries, of Kroo Boys, and Submarines and Timber Wolves, and one very slight sketch whose scene is laid in an English village, make up the volume, and for those who like adventure and humour mingled, a tale of gun-running in Siberia.

The Servantless House. By R. Randal Phillips, Editor of "Our Homes and Gardens." (Country Life. 6s. net.)

Here is yet another sensible and practical book, amply illustrated, as such books need to be. When the author talks of labour-saving machines, his readers are discouraged, because a price list has been added, and we can see for ourselves, by the mere turning of a few pages, that we cannot possibly afford them—not even although they may save their cost twice over in the course of next year. But when he talks of the things that we can do for ourselves, then we see that Mr. Phillips is a friend indeed. All his predecessors have deplored our brass taps and door furniture, and bidden us be careful to have something different in our next house. He says boldly, "Paint them black," and tells where and at what price we can buy a reasonably permanent paint. It may be well to add, since readers of THE WOMAN'S LEADER will certainly write to enquire, that the paint is "Adamantine," to be obtained from S. Bowley & Son, Wellington Works, Battersea Bridge, at 1s. per tin; but how much the tin contains is not stated. Welcome to many householders who have narrow entrance passages will be the suggestion that an umbrella stand can be replaced by a simple set of spring-catches fixed upon the wall. To this careful housewives will add a narrow trough below (such as may be bought for flowers) to catch the drippings. "Well designed racks," says Mr. Phillips, "are a boon" in connection with both washing up and keeping hot over cooking stoves. In addition to the well-known Staines racks, he shows four varieties of home-made rack, all effectual and three quite easy to make. To people who already possess an ordinary plate-rack he makes the wise suggestion that a strip of wood, faced with rubber, should be nailed behind at the point where the plates touch the wall, to preserve them from getting chipped. Even better than the home-made racks for crockery is one for saucepan lids which any amateur carpenter could make and fix in a couple of hours, which would end once and for all those troublesome habits of saucepan-lids from which every cook must have suffered, and which has the further merit of projecting but slightly from the wall.

One error occurs in this useful little book. Mr. Phillips can never have tried straw as stuffing for a so-called "hay box," or he would know that a box so stuffed fails to keep hot the contents of its inner vessel. Hay-boxes are trickier things than they seem, and wrong ways of making them are many.

"THE WOMAN'S LEADER" IN DRAMA.

"Sinners Both" at The Kingsway.

The title is promising, and the play is advertised "for adults only." The programme shows to those who did not know it before that the play contains only two characters—and that the scenery remains unchanged throughout. Well might Mr. Thomas (the author and half the caste) refer to it as "this very experimental play." The two sinners are revealed. The Rev. Ebenezer Jones, a man of between forty and fifty, and one of his flock, Mrs. Rose Hutchings, a woman of between forty and fifty. It is clear that they have a sinful part in common. But now there is some new development which makes their old relations impossible. They stand at a terrible cross-road. The woman has some dreadful thing to tell which will force them both to new paths. It takes her a long time to tell it. The air is charged with electricity. Just as one is beginning to tire of the tip-toe attitude she reveals it. She is going to have a baby.

It sounds as if one ought to have guessed it from the beginning, yet it came as a shock. Perhaps it was a reminiscence of "Ghosts" in the opening dialogue where the woman appeals to the "man" in the clergyman and hurls herself against his hypocrisy and conventionality; perhaps it was the programme which raised our hopes. Anyhow, they were dashed at one stroke by this announcement, and never raised again. Surely Mr. Thomas might have gathered from his reading of Ibsen (and there is no doubt that he has read Ibsen) that the interesting thing about middle-aged people is that they have a past which colours their whole present. Their present is interesting, more interesting often than that of young people, in that it is coloured by long years of experience. The supreme interest in "Ghosts," "Rosmerholm," or our own "Felix Holt," lies in the working out of the long back years in a sudden climax. But Mr. Thomas makes no use of the fact that his characters are both middle-aged. His sinners have no more past than the youngest pair of lovers. Their story might just as well have happened when the Rev. Ebenezer Jones was in his first curacy, and Rose Hutchings had her hair down. In fact it would have been far more likely to have happened then. But then it would have been a very ordinary story.

Apart from the age of the hero and heroine, and the absence of any other characters on the stage, the plot of the play is perfectly conventional if not threadbare. These are some of the problems which are discussed in this elaborately "experimental setting." Whether a "clergyman" is also a "man"?—the unequal part played by the sexes in the bearing of children—whether there should be "one law for the man and another law for the woman," or "the same law for the man and the woman"? The end of the play is devoted to showing how paternal love, a clergyman's fear of what people may say, and how maternal love (though in this case it needs a great deal of rousing) can conquer an injured woman's desire for revenge. The whole point of view is that of the most bitter of Ibsen's opponents in the 'nineties. The great desire of the woman is to be "made an honest woman." The man's one fear, what the villagers will say. In the end, the woman prevails, with the help of the child, who, by the way, begins to be born on the stage in a very "experimental" way. The parson, who has now become entirely lost in the father, repents, and Rose is to be made an "honest woman" after all.

Mr. Thomas the actor was not quite such a sinner as Mr. Thomas the author, in spite of severe and prolonged attacks of staginess. Miss Frances Ivor played her part heroically. She managed to make a more or less real woman out of the part. On the whole, one watched the play not without interest. This was due partly to the acting, partly to a certain skill in the writing,

which kept one in suspense as to what was going to happen. It was a real anxiety to know whether the baby was going to be killed. But though they did not kill the baby, there is no denying that Mr. and Mrs. Thomas are Sinners Both.

"The Truth about the Russian Dancers" at The Coliseum.

There are so many people who really like Barrie that it seems a pity that anyone who dislikes him should write about him. To one who is in that unfortunate position there is something very painful about his new play at the Coliseum. It is only eighteen months since we saw the Russian Ballet in the same building, from the same seat. And now it has come to this. A Scotchman is to tell us "The truth about the Russian dancers, showing how they love, how they marry, how they are made, and how they die and live happy ever afterwards." Of course the play is all fun, whimsical and fantastic—yet to those who have not the advantage of a taste for Barrie's peculiar sense of humour it is far from diverting.

This is Barrie's method. He puts the lovely Russian dancer and an attenuated *corps de ballet* from Hampstead, into one of the "stately homes of England" which has "gone a little queer owing to the presence of a disturbing visitor." He surrounds her by such characters as Lady Vere, the Hon. Bill, a footman, a butler, a clergyman. Lord Vere, the son of the house, is in love with and subsequently marries her. These characters talk endlessly about the Russian dancers in general and Karissima in particular. Karissima herself mercifully cannot talk, but she says all that she wants to say with her toes. Barrie then grows whimsical with the birth and death motifs. Five minutes after Karissima and Lord Vere are married she whimsically demands a baby. He is bought in by the Maestro in a large bag. Five minutes later the child has grown to be five years old and is catching butterflies on the lawn. At the same moment Karissima dies, and is carried in on a bier by the young ladies from Hampstead. She then performs a dance of death; "Russian dancers do." Just as she is returning to her bier the Maestro very kindly changes places with her. The young ladies stagger out with him on the bier instead of Karissima. The curtain goes down on a pretty family group, father, mother, and child.

There is no doubt that children who are not fortunate enough to have modern parents who teach them what they ought to know at the right time, do often make mistakes about the birth of other children. It is also true that such mistakes often make grown-up people laugh. But when a grown man tries to amuse a grown audience with such infantile misapprehensions and fictions as babies in doctors' bags, the effect is painful. It would be much the same if Sir J. M. Barrie himself appeared on the stage in a pinafore and slobbering bib and proceeded to blow soap bubbles. It makes one feel ashamed of him, and for some subtle reason, ashamed of oneself.

There are redeeming features in the performance. Mme. Karsarvina's dancing, of course, though she is prostituting it, the music by Arnold Bax, which those who can judge say is beautiful and needs an article to itself, and the scenery. The stately home of England has been redecorated in orange, green, and black, and the effect is delightful, but this is the work of Mr. Paul Mack.

As for Mr. Barrie, next time he is disposed to be whimsical, and presumably he cannot help it, "I suppose it is his nature," let us hope it will not be about works of art.

D. H.

A WOMAN'S INFLUENCE ON THEATRICAL MANAGEMENT.

Miss Horniman's name is almost as familiar to the play-going public in London as in the city where she has for many years filled a position of unusual influence. When the company from the Gaiety, Manchester, came to London they were sure of an appreciative audience, and the audience was sure of being given entertainment that belonged to a class apart. It has been well said that Miss Horniman's work in Manchester has been supreme as a financial and educational success. Out of a total of about two hundred plays produced up to 1916, over a hundred had been first productions, and in the majority of instances the quality of the production was of an exceptionally high order; often they have served as propaganda, effective and convincing.

Miss Horniman would have the theatre an essential part of the artistic life of the city; its name implies a spot or place where artistic gifts should find expression. She is altogether against allowing the theatre to become a speculative commercial venture. It is greed, speculation, and extravagant competition among managers that has given rise to the type of play of which we have had such a surfeit of late. With theatres being continually sub-let at higher rentals, managers are compelled to put on what will fill the house; it is the number of the audience that matters. And the audience that asks only to be amused must also take a share of the blame.

With a "house" rental of several hundred pounds a week, and a company—quite rightfully—demanding a "living wage" according to the standard set by the Actors' Association, only a full house will pay expenses, and failure to please is disastrous. Incidentally, it might be mentioned that Miss Horniman will be no party to profiteering of this type; for the Gaiety Theatre she paid £30,000; she has been offered £45,000 and has refused to sell. Moreover, she is proof against the temptation to make a display of prosperity.

"I am my own secretary, I read my own plays, I do not keep a motor-car, and am not above travelling third-class," she will tell you, with true Northern directness, and then she will attribute the credit for her dislike to waste to having had an Aberdonian for a grandfather!

Asked whether she did not think the public taste had deteriorated owing to the reaction from war-strain and to the unrest that affects us all, Miss Horniman replied that taking the country as a whole she thought the taste of the people was as sound as ever it had been, but it must be owned that London offers little encouragement to the best artists—Londoners seem almost to have forgotten that some of their favourites can really act. The education of the artist is advanced or checked by public appreciation or the lack of it, and the artist who would educate his audience has an uphill road to travel. With regard to the Actors' Association, Miss Horniman said she had been asked to join it, but her advice had been, "keep the managers out: you exist to make us behave." Her sympathies were all with the struggling actor, but the theatre should not be the refuge for young men and girls who have failed to make good elsewhere and grown restless at home.

Combining true idealism with sound business acumen—thanks, doubtless to the fortunate accident of having a Scottish ancestor—Miss Horniman has visions, still unrealised, of what the people's theatre ought to be like. She would begin with a building in which every seat should have a front view of the stage, and every one numbered and reserved, so that even gallery people should not stand in queues. And probably she would agree with Lord Burnham that the training of the actor should combine that of the school and the workshop, although doubtless she would lay some emphasis on temperament and native talent. But she would not have the artist cramped for lack of space, nor the audience condemned to seats without backs. As to whether her own company, disbanded in 1917, could be got together again and reformed, she did not hold out any definite assurance. That is her hope, but she is in no haste to make it a reality while the present craze for gambling in properties obtains. Although the years are passing over her head, she is not afraid to hold her own with patience and wait for a more favourable time to show itself. Her reputation has not to be made; it is also not to be marred.

L. H. Y.

CORRESPONDENCE.

STATE PURCHASE OF THE LIQUOR TRADE.

MADAM,—Will you permit me to reply to an article on the State Purchase of the Liquor Industry which appeared in your issue of March 5th?

The writer of the article attempts to draw a distinction between the nationalisation of industries generally and the nationalisation of the liquor trade, and argues that since the trade has been controlled by legislation, State Purchase would be only a further step along a path already entered. That argument would apply with as much, or rather with as little, force to every industry which is subject by statute to regulation as it applies to the liquor industry.

Moreover, the entrance to a path may be safe, but it does not follow that it would be safe to pursue the journey. If State Purchase is to be an honest transaction, and not merely camouflaged confiscation, it must create a new charge of 600 or 700 millions on the credit of the country. That is a liability which the overburdened taxpayer can scarcely regard with a light heart, particularly as you affirm that the main object of State purchase would be to secure that the "dwindling" of the trade took place. Obviously, as the "dwindling" process proceeded, the calls upon the taxpayer, to make up the lost revenue and provide for the deficiency as regards the interest payable on the purchase price of the trade would increase.

Another recommendation for State Purchase in your eyes is that it would "involve the complete destruction of a whole political party." I would point out that the organisation of the liquor trade is purely defensive, and that it is only on trade questions that it is set in motion. But surely the destruction of political opponents by legislation is a dangerous method of warfare?

Again, are you right in assuming that whatever influence the trade may possess would be diminished and not increased by State Purchase? It is only necessary to look to the General Post Office for an example of the influence exercised by a well organised body of Government officials.

You refer to certain improvements in the Carlisle public houses, and add that under private management such improvements have never come. That is only partly true. For instance, you are altogether mistaken in assuming that good and cheap provision for meals on licensed premises is only to be found in Carlisle. It is, however, a fact that the development of the catering side of the licensed victuallers' business has been obstructed by the policy commonly pursued by licensing justices, who are very slow to sanction improvements on licensed premises lest "facilities for drinking" should be increased. In Carlisle the Liquor Control Board, under the powers conferred upon it by Order in Council, was able to sweep the authority of the licensing justices aside, and to pursue its own plans without interference.

But when all is said, as regards increased drunkenness, Carlisle compares unfavourably with the rest of England. In Carlisle the "drunk" convictions decreased 71 per cent. between 1914 and 1918, whereas the average decrease in England and Wales in the same period was 84.50 per cent.

GEO. W. TALBOT.

Acton, March 17th.

FRIENDS' EMERGENCY AND WAR VICTIMS' RELIEF COMMITTEE.

TO THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S LEAGUES OF ENGLAND.

We supplicate you to help us and our children. The misery is fearful. We are short of food and everything. Help us as much as you can by sending us anything within your power.

(Signed) U. BEHUCK.

[The Friends' Emergency and War Victims' Relief Committee, 27, Chancery Lane, W.C. 2, have asked us to publish the above letter, which is a copy of that received by them from Frau U. Behuck, of Berlin, and which they are placing before the Social and Democratic Women's Leagues of England.—ED. W.L.]

TEACHERS IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

MADAM,—Has it ever seriously occurred to anyone to take up the cause of the assistant teacher in private schools? Many women of position and education are giving earnest attention to the grievances of the domestic servant, some with zeal and knowledge founded on close observation, others with equal zeal but not with knowledge. Will not some women of position and education take up the cause of the assistant teachers in private schools? Their case is even more urgent than the domestic servants'.

Probably many people suffer from the delusion that the life of the private school teacher is a nice quiet ladylike existence, eminently suitable for the well-bred girl who is either not strong enough or else considers herself too superior to teach in an elementary or secondary school.

Yet in reality the private school teacher finds that if her classes are smaller than those of the secondary school teacher, yet her hours of work are far longer; for to the full week of teaching—the "free periods" of the secondary schools are very scarce indeed—she must add Saturday duty, Sunday duty, before breakfast duty, after breakfast duty, before tea duty, evening duty, and numberless other duties; besides preparation of lessons and correcting, which must be done in the teacher's own time.

Salaries are low, yet an enormous amount must be spent on dress. For each mistress to have a separate room is the exception, not the rule. More often than not both mistresses and girls have insufficient food to eat.

It is commonly thought that private school children are not worked hard. This also often proves a delusion, for the principals are often poorly educated and old fashioned. They worship marks, cramming, and examinations, even the now generally condemned Oxford and Cambridge Junior and Preliminary Locals. As a result the private school child is often harried and overworked, and the fret and worry of the child is reflected in the fret and worry of the teacher.

The remedy then for all the grievances of the assistant teachers in private schools is the formation of a society or union which should have for its objects:—

- (1) Limitation of the hours of teaching and supervision.
- (2) The increase of salaries. No assistant teacher in a girls' private boarding school should receive less than £60 a year resident.
- (3) A Legal Society for the protection of the assistant teachers from the spite and injustice of the principals. Those who know anything of private schools will realise the need for this.
- (4) Lastly. To hold conferences at stated intervals as do all other teachers' societies to discuss conditions of work, grievances, and suggested reforms.

In view of recent education acts it is urgent that this society should be formed at once. Uncertificated teachers in elementary schools have been hit hard by them; how much worse will be the position of the private school teachers! And, since snobbery is the root of all the miseries of the private school teacher's life, they will shrink from forming a union as savouring too much of the working classes, unless women of position and education come forward to help them.

ONE WHO HAS TAUGHT IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

WOMEN ON THE BOARD OF CONTROL FOR LUNACY AND MENTAL DEFICIENCY

MADAM,—It is nearly twenty years ago since I carried on a correspondence in a well-known Daily Paper on the subject of appointing Women on the Lunacy Commission to supervise female cases of insanity. Since that time two ladies have been elected, one as an honorary member, and the other for cases of deficiency, but nothing has been done in appointing women for the inspection of female cases in public and private asylums and those being treated in private houses. I have been trained as a mental nurse and have treated patients in my own home for years. These ladies are visited at intervals by male commissioners, sometimes doctors, sometimes lawyers, who after

interviewing the patient have to make a survey of living and sleeping apartments, enquire about diet, clothing, etc. Now it stands to reason that it is nearly impossible for a man to enter sufficiently into detail to understand if those women are sufficiently clothed, if beds are comfortable and well furnished, and services well kept up. The intuition of a woman's mind is what is needed, and were women appointed for this work, cruelty and neglect of the insane would be much more rare than it is at the present time. Then again, male commissioners are so often "taken in" by artful and dangerous patients who take infinite care to please a man where they would take no such trouble if one of their own sex visited them. I have known a commissioner "forced" in this manner give orders for more liberty for a patient, quite believing her to be safe, when she was unfit to have the slightest license. The diagnosing of cases in this way would be much more safely gauged if the interview was with a woman.

In Asylums on both sides, male and female, there is vast need of reform. I feel sure were men and women inspecting these institutions, environment and treatment would both be more considered and better conditions allowed. So much can be done by thought and consideration to alleviate the pitiable surroundings of these cases. Patients are permitted to drift on month after month without any definite care, and "contact" is not taken into account at all unless the patient is actively dangerous. This is a subject which requires looking into at once, and looking into by women. It is natural, perhaps, that men of considerable medical and legal standing should wish to keep for themselves remunerative positions like the Board of Control Commissions, where they can spend their remaining years up to between eighty and ninety, if they live so long, without being superannuated. The Health Board is hard at work now reforming and altering, and I most earnestly trust that the supervision of female lunatics by women will be one of those reforms, and the women chosen should be cultured gentlewomen trained in the care of the insane (not lady doctors who have no practical knowledge of the nursing of such cases). I have been working hard to bring about a change in this state of things for months, and if any of your readers can assist me I shall be grateful to hear from them.

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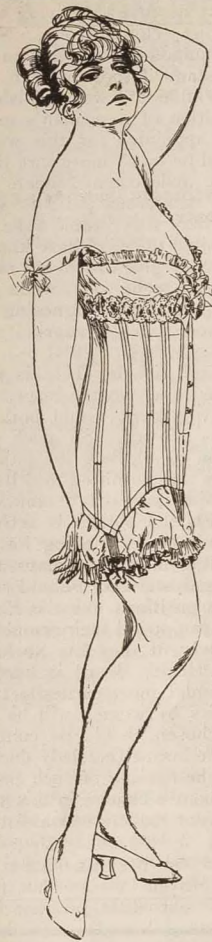
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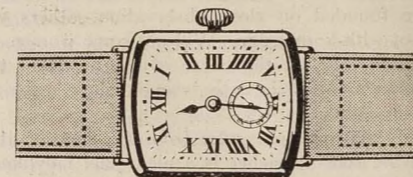
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NEWS FROM HEADQUARTERS AND FROM OUR SOCIETIES.

THE COUNCIL MEETINGS.

Now that the Annual Council is a thing of the past, the Headquarters' staff and our Societies are settling down to the work of the coming year. Encouraging letters have been received which show that this first Council after the constitutional changes made in 1919, has had a stimulating effect, and we look forward to a year of good work. One hint might perhaps be taken from the excellent Press report of our proceedings in the *Manchester Guardian*. The special woman correspondent of that paper writes that in spite of the increased energy and the continued activity shown, it was rather depressing to see so few young women. She discusses the reason why the younger generation are not coming forward in larger numbers to secure the great ends which we have in view now that the first essential means to that end—the vote—has been won. It is an interesting question, and one which should make us think. In the meantime, we ask all those responsible for our Societies to consider if they have done everything that can be done to attract the new population of young people in our various centres, who can, if taken in the right way, be roused to interest and practical service in the removal of injustices and inequality in Peace as well as in War.

THE APPEAL FOR FUNDS.

The Special Appeal has not been closed, and the new Honorary Treasurer will take an early opportunity to make a statement to our Societies. In the meantime we commend the examples of Chiswick and Ealing (reported below), both of which have sent generous contributions to Headquarters' Funds with encouraging letters.

LIBRARY.

The following books have been included in the library:—
“The Peace in the Making”—H. W. Harris.
“The Peace Treaty and the Economic Chaos of Europe”—N. Angell.
“The Working Woman's House”—Furniss and Phillips.
“The State and Revolution”—Lenin.
“Evening Play Centres for Children”—Trevelyan.
“Before the War”—Viscount Haldane.
“A Short History of Education”—Professor Adamson.
“National Guilds and the State”—S. G. Hobson.
“The New Nursery School”—M. Macmillan.
“The Social Worker”—C. R. Attlee. (No. 1 of the Social Service Library Series.)
“Catherine Gladstone”—M. Drew.
“The Sanitary Handbook.”
“Fanny Goes to War”—Pat Beauchamp.
“The Instinct of the Herd”—Trotter.
“The Great Society”—Graham Wallas.
“Scottish Women's Hospitals”—Eva Shaw McLaren.
“The Century of Hope”—S. F. Marvin.
Public Health Series—
“The Story of English Public Health”—Sir M. Morris.
“Food and the Public Health”—Dr. Savage.
“Housing and the Public Health”—Dr. Roberts.
“The Welfare of the Expectant Mother”—D. M. Scurfield.
“The Welfare of the School Child”—Dr. Cates.

NEWS FROM SOCIETIES.

CHISWICK S.E.C.

A very successful soirée was given on Saturday, March 13th, as the result of which the sum of £13 was sent to the Headquarters' Fund.

EALING W.C.A.

The Committee, hearing from the delegates to the Council Meeting that funds were required, has sent a donation of £2 2s. “in recognition of the fact that the affiliation fee is very inadequate for the help they receive.”

NEWPORT W.C.A.

Newport (Mon) W.C.A. held a public meeting, February 23rd, in the Town Hall Assembly Room, on Proportional Representation. The Mayor presided, and the hall was crowded. Seven local speakers, including two Committee members of the W.C.A., the Editor of the *South Wales Argus*, the Assistant Editor of the *Monmouthshire Post*, and the President of the Newport Chamber of Commerce, each took the part of a humorous candidate, and in a five minutes' speech set forth his or her qualifications for the suffrages of the audience. While the ballot papers were counted, solos on the organ were played, and then Miss Morton (London), Secretary of the Proportional Representation Society came forward and announced the result of the poll. Humpty Dumpty, whose claims were supported by a well-known solicitor, headed the list, and, as Miss Morton explained, had a surplus of votes to be divided among the other candidates. There were four places vacant, the remaining three being filled by the Old Woman who Lived in Her Shoe (her views on the Housing Question were extremely pronounced), Mother Hubbard, and Wilkins Micawber. The members of the audience were much impressed with Miss Morton's lucid explanation of the working of P.R., and felt that they had spent an instructive as well as an amusing evening. Twenty-three new members joined the Association, and a good collection was taken in aid of funds.

CANNING TOWN.


A group recently formed here, composed of mothers of Nursery School children, which has done active educational work during the winter, had a memorable afternoon last Saturday, when Mr. J. Jones, M.P. (Silvertown), met them at the Houses of Parliament and conducted them over both Houses. Mr. Jones explained how a Division was taken, and many other matters connected with Parliamentary procedure too little understood by the average woman citizen. The first question asked on entering the floor of the House was, “Which is Lady Astor's seat?” After two most interesting and really profitable hours spent with Mr. Jones, who spared no trouble to interest and instruct his constituents, the party had tea at the house of a friend.

SCOTTISH FEDERATION—KILMARNOCK.

At a meeting held here on February 26th, the Kilmarnock Women Citizens' Association was formed, the following resolutions being passed:—
“1.—That this meeting form itself into the Kilmarnock Women Citizens' Association, which shall have for its objects—the political education of women as citizens on strictly non-party lines, to fit them to take their place in the corporate life of the community, the nation, and the empire, and the furtherance of all such reforms as shall tend to perfect equality of liberties, status, and opportunities between men and women.”
“2.—That, as union is strength, the Kilmarnock W.C.A. affiliate to the N.U.S.E.C.”

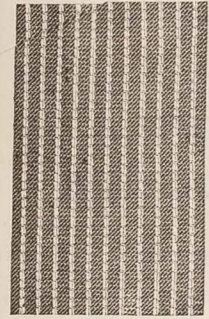
Miss Tancred, Director of the Scottish Training School for Policewomen, gave a most interesting address on the scope for women's activities in municipal, national, and international matters, and Miss Knight, in seconding the resolution, dwelt on the non-party aspect of such an association, and the need for further efforts towards the spirit of perfect equality.

The nucleus of a Committee was formed, and Miss Macnaughton (of Kilmarnock Academy) was elected Honorary Secretary, and Mrs. Stuart Park, Honorary Treasurer.



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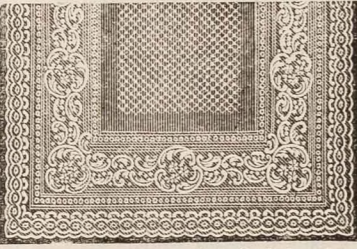
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REPORTS.

THE WOMEN'S LOCAL GOVERNMENT SOCIETY.
On Thursday, March 18th, the annual meeting of the above Society was held with Lady Emmott in the chair. The first part of the morning was devoted to business of more than ordinary importance, owing to the fact that four of the honorary officers, Lady Strachey, Lady Lockyer, Miss Leigh Browne, and Miss Kilgour, as well as the chairman of the committee, were retiring after many years of devoted service. A warm tribute of thanks was expressed to Lady Strachey, the retiring President; Lady Lockyer, the Treasurer, and Mrs. Theodore Williams, the Chairman of the Committee; and the remarkable pioneer work of Miss Leigh Browne and Miss Kilgour was referred to repeatedly in terms of affection and gratitude. The Annual Report of the Executive Committee, which presented a record of useful and successful work, was accepted by the Council with a few additional sentences proposed by Mrs. Ross to the effect that "The Council wishes to place on record their deep sense of the serious change which is taking place in the retirement of so many of the older workers of the Society: in especial of Miss Leigh Browne, the founder, Miss Kilgour, Lady Lockyer, and Mrs. Theodore Williams." Mrs. Ross referred to the generous and watchful interest of Miss Leigh Browne over so many years, the wise and keen foresight of Miss Kilgour, the generous and ever-kindly action of Lady Lockyer, and the gracious and sagacious chairmanship of Mrs. Theodore Williams.

After the completion of the preliminary business important resolutions were passed relating to the Bishop of London's Criminal Law Amendment Bill and Pensions for Civilian Widows. Lady Emmott moved from the chair "That this meeting expresses strong satisfaction that women are now eligible as Justices of the Peace," and pointed out how much pioneer work with regard to this question had been carried on by the Society.

In the afternoon a reception was held, and after a few words of welcome, in which a tribute was paid to the sympathetic help given to the Society by Lord Buckmaster, Lady Buckmaster took the chair.

Mrs. Henry Fawcett gave one of her characteristically delightful speeches in which she congratulated the Society on its remarkable constructive and educational work in the interests of Women in Local Government, and expressed her admiration of the wide range and legal accuracy of Miss Kilgour's knowledge of the subject.

Miss Kilgour, as retiring Hon. Secretary, gave a deeply interesting review of the past thirty years of the Society's existence, mentioning names of men and women who had helped to open opportunities for women in Local Government, among others, Dr. Blackwell, Sir James Stansfield, Mrs. Sheldon Amos, Lord Channing, and Dr. Shipman. Mrs. Ross, the newly-elected Secretary, spoke of the difficulty which confronted the new officers in living up to the high traditions of the past and the constant inspiration which they still hoped to receive from their predecessors. She emphasised the value of historical sequence in all strong and lasting work. At the close of the meeting Miss Bertha Mason presented Miss Leigh Browne and Miss Kilgour with beautiful baskets of azaleas and hydrangeas in full bloom on behalf of the Society.

COMING EVENTS.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO SECURE STATE PURCHASE AND CONTROL OF THE LIQUOR TRADE.
MARCH 26.
Meeting of the Mortlake Women Citizens' Association in the Wigan Hall Mortlake.
Subject: "Temperance Reform by State Purchase v. Prohibition."
Speaker: Miss B. Picton-Turbervill.

MARCH 27.
In the Town Hall, Portsmouth.
Subject: "The State Purchase of the Liquor Trade."
Speakers: Viscountess Astor, M.P., Mr. Arthur Sherwell.
Chair: Rev. L. E. Blackburne, Rural Dean of Portsmouth.

LEAGUE OF THE CHURCH MILITANT.
MARCH 27.
In St. George's Church, Bloomsbury (Hart Street).
A Quiet Afternoon will be held from 2.30 p.m.
Addresses will be given by Mrs. Roberts.
Tea (3d.) will be provided for those who send in their names to the Secretary, 6, York Buildings, Adelphi, W.C.2, by 11 a.m. on Saturday.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION.
MARCH 29.
The following meetings will be held on the subject of "The League of Nations."
In the Church Schools, Littlehampton.
Speakers: M. T. Simms, Esq., M.P. 8 p.m.

MARCH 30.
In Salem School, Nelson (Lancs).
Speakers: T. Wing, Esq., Capt. Albert Smith, M.P., Rev. F. Hall
Chair: The Mayor. 7.30 p.m.

In the Science Institute, Wolverton.
Speakers: J. F. Green, Esq., M.P., F. Whelan, Esq. 8 p.m.

MARCH 31.
In the Temperance Hall, Redditch
Speaker: T. Myers, Esq., M.P.
Chair: Chas. Terry, Esq. 7.30 p.m.

WOMEN'S INDUSTRIAL LEAGUE.
MARCH 29.
In the Conference Hall, Central Buildings, S.W.1.
Speaker: Lady Nott Bower.
Subject: "The Criminal Law Amendment Act."
Chair: Miss Key Jones (Gen. Organising Sec., W.I.L.). 8 p.m.

BRITISH WOMEN'S PATRIOTIC LEAGUE.
MARCH 29.
In Room 1, Caxton Hall, Victoria Street, S.W.1.
Speaker: Sir George McLaren Brown.
Subject: "Production and Patriotism."
Chair: Lady Cowan. 3 p.m.

THE ROYAL VICTORIA HALL (Waterloo Road, S.E.).
On Monday, March 29th, Tuesday, March 30th, and Wednesday, March 31st, at 2.30 and 7.30 p.m., the "Old Vic" Shakespeare Company will play the Fifteenth Century Morality Play, "Everyman," and short introductory addresses will be given by the following:—
Monday, March 29th, at 2.30, Mrs. A. E. Chesterton; at 7.30, Mrs. Matheson Lang. Tuesday, March 30th, at 2.30, Rev. Father Andrew, S.D.C.; at 7.30, Miss Maude Royden. Wednesday, March 31st, at 2.30, Miss Cleely Hamilton; at 7.30, Rev. Dr. Scott Lidgett. Prices: 3s. 6d. to 6d.
For further particulars of these and other performances, apply for leaflet.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB.
APRIL 7.
At 9, Grafton Street, Piccadilly, W.1.
Speaker: Mrs. Horniman, M.A.
Subject: "Theatrical Experiences."
Chair: Mrs. Harold Gorst. 8.15 p.m.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.
APRIL 14.
At the Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.
Public Meeting to discuss the New Education Act.
Speaker: Mrs. Tanner. 3 p.m.

THE CHILD-STUDY SOCIETY, LONDON.
APRIL 15.
In the Royal Sanitary Institute, 90, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.1.
Speaker: Prof. Walter Ripman.
Subject: "Spelling Reform."
Chair: P. B. Ballard, M.A., D.Litt. 6 p.m.

THE EFFICIENCY CLUB.
APRIL 15.
In the Conference Hall, Central Hall, Westminster.
Speaker: Mr. T. Sharper Knowison (Director of Instruction at the Felman Institute).
Subject: "The Pelman System."
Chair: The Honble. Gabrielle Borthwick.
Application for tickets should be made (enclosing card) to the Secretary, at the Triangle Secretarial Offices, 60-61, South Molton Street, London, W.1. 7 p.m.

ROYAL BRITISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.
APRIL 15.
In the Wharfedale Rooms, Great Central Hotel, London, W.1.
A Pageant will be given by the Royal British Nurses' Association and its affiliated Societies, created and designed by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, words by Miss M. Mollitt, representing the Evolution of Trained Nursing.
All information can be had from the Royal British Nurses' Association, 10, Orchard Street, W.1.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE.

APRIL 21.
In the Conference Hall, Central Hall, Westminster.
Conference on "Women and Housing."
Chair: Lady Emmott. 4 p.m.

KENSINGTON TOWN HALL.

March 28th and every Sunday. Fellowship Services, at 3 p.m. and 6.15 p.m.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS.

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Kensington Town Hall, Sunday, March 28th, 3 p.m., Dr. Percy Dearmer, "Five-Quarters," 6.30 p.m., Miss Maude Royden, "What does Palm Sunday Mean to us?" Master of Music: Mr. Martin Shaw.

THE PIONEER CLUB, 9, Park-place, St. James's, S.W.1. Subscriptions: Town, £4 4s.; Country, £3 3s.; Professional, £3 5s. The entrance fee is suspended for the time being.

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TYPEWRITER WANTED. Would any reader kindly lend temporarily an UNDERWOOD OR MONARCH to the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, for pressing work in connection with the Congress at Geneva in May. Please reply to Secretary, I.W.S.A., 11, Adam-street, Strand, W.C.2.

FOR REST AND HOLIDAYS.

DEAN FOREST, Severn-Wye Valleys. A Beautiful Holiday Home (60 ft. up) Fifty Rooms. Five acres, pretty grounds. Tennis, Croquet, Bowls, Billiards, Motor excursions. Garage. Golf within 3 mile. Board residence, 46s. to 57s. 6d. Photos, prospectus.—Hallam, Littledean House, Littledean, Glos.

WHERE TO LIVE.

BROOKLYN PRIVATE HOTEL.—Earl's-court-square, B.S.W. 5 (Warwick-road corner), finest centre all parts; 12 minutes' Piccadilly; quiet, separate tables; write or call for tariff; strictly inclusive terms; unqualified for comfort and attention; own private garage. B. and B., 6s. 6d. Tel.: Western 344.

HOSTEL for Lady Workers; terms, bed and breakfast, from 5s. 6d. per night; from 15s. 6d. weekly; convenient for all parts.—Mrs. Wilkinson, 59, Albany-street, Regent's-park (Portland-road Station). Telephone: 3184 Mayfair.

PRIVATE HOTEL FOR LADIES. Very quiet and refined.—13, St. George's-square, Westminster, Bedroom, breakfast, bath, and attendance, from 6s. 6d. Write, or wire, Miss Davies.

TO LET AND WANTED.

CHARMING single flat (one person). Restaurant, Tennis, Billiards. To let for summer from May, 35s. weekly.—B., WOMAN'S LEADER Offices.

TO BE LET FURNISHED, Frensham, Surrey.—A modern detached House, facing south, with lovely view from terrace. 4 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, bath, h. & c. Garage. Flower and vegetable garden. Rent for six months, six guineas a week. To be let unfurnished after September on lease.—J. Alfred Eggar, Norman & Co., Estate Agents, Farnham.

LADIES' COTTAGE, 4 small rooms and kitchen, furnished or part furnished; for six months on bus route Farnham to Hindhead. References exchanged.—Miss Kruger, 3, King's Terrace, Millbridge, Farnham.

SERVICE CHAMBERS (Unfurnished) for professional woman in professional women's house, with use also of dining-room, waiting-room, bathroom, telephone. Good Bloomsbury Square. Newly decorated, electric light, gas fire.—Write, Box 8361, WOMAN'S LEADER Offices.

FURNISHED BEDROOM and share of sitting-room. Bayswater, near Queen's-road Stations. Suitable for professional woman. Full service; telephone. About £2 10s. inclusive with board.—Box 8,560, WOMAN'S LEADER Offices.

MRS. F. J. ERROCK (Miss Olive Jeffrey) would be grateful to any reader of THE WOMAN'S LEADER who would help her to hear of

(a) An unfurnished house to rent, six to eight rooms, and garden, in any suburb accessible to City;

(b) Small furnished flat or rooms for two persons, available in May, if possible with attendance, to enable her to hunt for above-mentioned house.

Please write to 99, Tweeddale-street, Rochdale.

SITUATIONS VACANT & WANTED.

SUMMER ENGAGEMENT.—Required a Manageress for a Holiday Hostel. Must be experienced in such work, capable, resourceful, strong physically, and have progressive sympathies.—Write Secretary, Holiday Fellowship, Conway, N. Wales.

SITUATION required by capable young unmarried mother with baby aged 18 months. General, plain cooking. Would do best with working mistress. Neighbourhood of Guildford or Petersfield preferred. Wages £20 to £25.—Particulars from Miss Bristow, Barnfields, Haslemere.

COOK-GENERAL OR WORKING HOUSE-KEEPER. Lady recommends superior woman desiring situation where can have her two children, boy 11 (useful for boots, knives, errands), little girl 9. Last place two years.—Chapman, 52, Lissen-den Mansions, Highgate-road, London, N.W.5.

DOMESTIC HELP WANTED.

WANTED TWO DOMESTIC HELPS for April (cooking and housework), might suit sisters or friends. Modern house (no cellars or attics). Good references required.—Apply Mrs. Burnham, Brantnook, Ilkley, Yorkshire.

SOMEONE TRAINED IN SERVICE, active; cooking, some housework; help given; two ladies; £40.—Interview, Miss Hitchcock, Garth, Victoria-road, Fleet.

DOMESTIC HELP WANTED, pleasant country cottage, one lady, light work. Stating age, salary.—Dr. Tomlinson, The Lewin, Rotherfield, Sussex.