

**THE**

# WOMAN'S LEADER

**AND THE COMMON CAUSE**

REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER.

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## NOTES AND NEWS.

### The Prime Minister is dead . . . .

Mr. Baldwin lays down his office this week as a result of the strangest sequence of events which has ever befallen a British Administration. We are reluctant, in bidding him farewell, to reiterate the parrot cry that he was an honest man. Of course he was—most British Prime Ministers have been honest. It is a quality which we expect of them. Moreover, honesty was not his only distinguishing mark. He was, personally, extraordinarily pleasant to work with. He was patiently altruistic, and uniformly just. There was about many of his speeches a quality of humour and scholarship which lifted them above the common run of political utterances, and gave to them a peculiar and very marked distinction. And seldom has any human being preserved such an unbroken front of good temper under circumstances so trying as those which he has been required to face.

### . . . . Long Live the Prime Minister.

Our readers, representing diverse political colours, will regard the advent of the first Labour Prime Minister with mixed feelings. They will, however, agree in recognizing him as a man of outstanding gifts, who has led his turbulent party through its year of official opposition with considerable dignity and remarkable skill. Nor can we refrain from calling attention to the fact that he bears a shining record with regard to the cause for which this paper stands. And for this cause we can, neglecting for the moment our conflicting party politics, give him greeting on our readers' behalf, wishing him wisdom and good guidance in the terribly responsible office to which he has been called. One other thing we wish: that he may have beside him in the spirit that unforgettable companion of his earlier struggles, who is remembered outside the Labour movement as well as inside it, as one of the finest and wisest women of a pioneer generation.

### The Cabinet.

The composition of the new Cabinet, published as we go to Press, puzzles us not a little. We expected to see Mr. Sidney Webb at the Ministry of Labour or the Ministry of Health—that most cumbrous and intricate of Government Departments, whose problems and possibilities he has made his own. Instead, men of lesser calibre fill these offices. In the new Home

Secretary and the Chancellor of the Exchequer we recognize and welcome two of the best friends that women have ever possessed in the House of Commons. The new Secretary of State for India, Sir Sydney Olivier, is one of ourselves: a familiar figure to frequenters of N.U.S.E.C. Summer Schools. So far, so good! But where is Margaret Bondfield? It is perhaps an impertinence on our part to offer advice on the delicate business of Cabinet-making. We will content ourselves by asking our readers to consider whether it is probable that a male member of the Labour Party bearing Miss Bondfield's record of work, holding the office which she holds in the Trade Union Congress, and enjoying her immeasurable personal prestige, would have found no place in the new Cabinet. It is conceivable that indirect sex-prejudice has determined this omission: the anticipated sex-prejudice of a male Bureaucracy, distrustful of Labour dominance, doubly distrustful of female Labour dominance. We are bitterly disappointed.

### Legislation Specially Affecting Women.

#### AMENDMENTS TO THE KING'S SPEECH.

A large proportion of the amendments moved to the King's Speech are, as it is very well known, put down for purposes of propaganda only, but a perusal of such amendments is always worth while as an indication of the trend of opinion in the House. It is therefore gratifying this time to find an uncommonly large number of these amendments relating to reforms for which this paper stands. For example, the giving of the Franchise to women on the same terms as to men was the subject of two amendments—one down in the name of Mr. Frank Briant, and the other in the name of Lady Terrington. Pensions for Civilian Widows with Dependent Children were dealt with in amendments down in the names of Mr. Hore-Belisha and Lord Henry Cavendish-Bentinck, while Mrs. Wintringham and Lady Astor stood sponsor for an amendment regretting the exclusion from the Speech of the promise of legislation providing for the Equal Guardianship of Children as between father and mother.

#### PRIVATE MEMBERS' BALLOT.

In the Private Members' Ballot, although not quite so well represented as some other years, the particular Bills for which Women's Organizations have been working do find a place. The third place in the ballot has gone to Mr. W. M. Adamson (Lab.), who, supported by Mr. Clynes, Miss Jewson, Miss Bondfield, Miss Lawrence, and Mr. Lansbury will present a Bill amending the Representation of the People Act, 1918, which will provide among other matters for the enfranchisement of women on the same terms as men. This Bill is down for consideration on Friday, 29th February. Mr. H. Edwards, supported by Lady Terrington and Mrs. Wintringham, are also introducing a Representation of the People Act Amendment (No. 3) Bill, dealing with the same object. We must admit that we are disappointed that the Labour Party should be dealing with this issue as a Private Members' Bill, as we still hope to see it incorporated in a Government Measure. Even if the Private Members' Bill is taken up by the Government it will mean the waste of a Private Members' Day, which might have been used for another Bill which would have no such chance; and in our opinion this reform is one which should have the status from the beginning of being a Government Measure. This Bill is down for Friday, 9th May, but will no doubt be withdrawn before that date in view of the first Bill.



Mrs. Wintringham, supported by Lady Astor, Lady Terrington, Mr. Foot, Sir Robert Newman, and others, obtained 24th place for the Guardianship of Infants Bill. It has been put down on the Order Paper for Friday, 4th April, and, as it is preceded by a comparatively non-contentious Bill, there may be time to conclude its Second Reading that day.

Mr. Rendall is introducing a Representation of the People Act (No. 2) Bill, which will deal with Electoral Reform and provide for the introduction of Proportional Representation. This is the first Order on Friday, 2nd May.

Colonel Campion is introducing a Legitimacy Bill to amend the law relating to children born out of wedlock, which is down for the second Order on Friday, 29th February. With regard to other matters, we are pleased to welcome the introduction of Mr. Ammon's Children and Young Persons Bill, but we are afraid that, as it is third on the Paper for 22nd March, it is not likely to obtain a hearing. Many of our readers also will welcome Sir Kingsley Wood's Bill to make Summer Time permanent from 1st April to 1st October.

#### The King's Speech and Housing.

Among other maiden speeches of a momentous week, Mr. E. D. Simon's contribution to the debate on the King's Speech stands out because of his first-hand knowledge and practical experience of the problem of Housing. Mr. Simon's work as Chairman of the Manchester Corporation's Housing Committee, and also on behalf of the Smoke Abatement, is well known all over the country. We are glad to hear that a Parliamentary Housing Group is to be formed, and sincerely hope that the pace at which the housing shortage is being met throughout the country will be greatly accelerated.

#### Temperance in the House of Commons.

A very large and influential temperance group consisting of over 300 members has been formed in the House of Commons, with Mrs. Wintringham as Chairman.

#### Married Women Workers under the London County Council.

The L.C.C.'s various decisions in regard to the employment of married women have been incorporated in a new Standing Order which was passed by the Council at its meeting on 22nd January. The occasion was not one upon which the principles at issue could be debated, but a division was taken on a motion proposed by Mr. Stewart Headlam, seconded by Mr. Pincombe, to refer the Standing Order back to the Committee which had framed it. The motion was lost by 68 votes to 38, but an assurance was given that this Order would in no way prejudice the position of the small group of married women doctors whose case is to come up for consideration in October, 1924, in accordance with a former decision of the Council. Further, an amendment moved by Dr. Scott Lidgett, and seconded by Mr. Johnson, was accepted, to the effect that the Education Committee and General Purposes Committee should report to the Council as to the working of the new regulations after they have been in force for twelve months. This will give an opportunity for further discussion of the whole question.

#### Women's Local Government Society Conference.

On 16th and 17th January this society held a conference in the Metropolitan Asylums Board Offices of Women Councillors, Guardians, and Magistrates. On the first day the problem of the unemployed juvenile was discussed under the chairmanship of Alderman Miss Katherine Wallis, L.C.C. Mr. Frank Briant, speaking from long experience of boys' clubs, believed that the club movement might be more largely developed to deal with unemployed boys and girls. He complained that neither in their homes or in the schools was any capacity developed for filling spare time. He also considered that war-time unemployment with its high wages and incentive to constant change had aggravated present difficulties and induced lack of steadiness and a false standard of values. There was considerable disagreement among subsequent speakers as to the value of part-time continuation schools as a method of dealing with the need for further education. Mr. Beresford Ingram, organizer of L.C.C. centres for juvenile unemployed, an educational adviser for Wandsworth Prison, made some interesting remarks on different types of juvenile offenders. He found that boys who left school at an early age had lost all interest and capacity for intelligent work when they came into prison classes, but public school boys in these classes progressed quickly and were soon able to teach others. He also added that if elementary schools had as much success in turning out good citizens as something in the prison system had in

creating criminals, every schoolmaster might be well pleased. In the afternoon session on the work of children's public libraries, with Miss Bertha Mason in the chair, Mr. Berwick Sayers, chief librarian, Croydon Public Libraries, described his very attractive children's library at Croydon, where plays, stories, lectures, clubs, and rambles are provided besides books. Mental sanitation, through libraries, he said, was as important as any other part of a town council's work. On the second day Mrs. Rackham took the chair when the subject for discussion was probation. Mr. Cecil Chapman, the chief speaker, remarked that since the passing of the 1909 Probation Act the principle of punishment had greatly changed to one of reformation. Probation, he said, avoided a police conviction which was so great an obstacle in the future life of a young offender. Mrs. Barrow Cadbury, J.P., followed with an interesting description of probation work in America. In the afternoon the utilization of poor-law hospitals by paying patients was discussed. Dr. Masterman, superintendent of Camberwell Infirmary, described the system by which patients unable to afford hospitals or nursing homes could be accommodated in Camberwell Infirmary at three guineas a week, though subject to the same rules and restrictions as pauper patients. It was suggested by Dr. Masterman and others that the political disabilities and social stigma attaching to those who entered Poor Law institutions largely mitigated against their use by paying patients.

#### Women and Local Government.

Mrs. Lightowler, who has for several years been a member of the Board of Guardians, has been returned unopposed as the first woman member of the Halifax Town Council.

#### Women Police in Cologne.

After Mrs. Corbett Ashby's appeal on behalf of the work of British Women Police at the Headquarters of our Army on the Rhine, our readers will be glad to learn that sanction has been granted for the women to remain for another six months.

#### The Manchester High School for Girls.

Last week this school celebrated its jubilee, and on Sunday a thanksgiving service was held in the Cathedral. The ceremony of Founders' Day was held in the Free Trade Hall, when congratulatory letters were read from Sir Edward Wood, President of the Board of Education, Sir Michael Sadler, and Miss Penrose of Somerville College, Oxford. The Bishop of Manchester gave an address in which he paid a special tribute to Miss Burstall and the rare combination of courage and wisdom with which she had guided the fortunes of the school.

#### A High School Achievement.

The Dudley High School, and its enterprising art mistress, Miss M. Richardson, are to be congratulated on the exhibition of girls' drawings now on view at the Independent Gallery in Grafton Street. The work here displayed is all the more notable in that it does not represent the activities of a few picked pupils concentrated upon a predominantly artistic education. It represents the efforts of the normal Dudley High School Girl who practices drawing as part and parcel of a normal crowded secondary school career. Those of our readers who were present at the N.U.S.E.C. Oxford Summer School in 1922 will remember with pleasure and interest Miss Richardson's account of her educational activities among young prisoners. It is clear from the tone of these drawings that their authors were in no sense young prisoners, and we are delighted to greet Miss Richardson's capacity in a new aspect of her work, which is the expansion of human personality.

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

#### NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE.

Our next issue will contain some account of the political records of the newly-appointed Ministers, as far as they concern the reforms for which this paper stands. Ann Pope will deal with the report on food prices (to which we referred last week) from the point of view of the consumer; and Mrs. Fawcett's reminiscences will reach the exciting stage of Henry Fawcett's assumption of office as Postmaster-General in 1880.

## THE EUROPEAN MENACE.

Under the combined domination of a domestic political upheaval and a railway strike, it is easy enough to forget—momentarily—the tragedy which is working itself out in the occupied districts of Germany. But its existence poisons the front page of our daily paper and hangs like an ominous storm-cloud across the path of the pilot who comes aboard this week. We do not refer to the slowly unfolding tragedy of Franco-German relations, the gradual rekindling of that virulent national hatred and sense of grievance which has been the heritage of the "Peace." Of that we have been so long and so steadily conscious that we have almost come to take it for granted as a normal and permanent feature of European politics. We refer to the more recently developed tragedy of Franco-British relations, which during the past few months have so hideously complicated the position of Great Britain as joint occupier of West Germany. It has its roots, of course, in Great Britain's assumption of "benevolent neutrality," or, rather, disapproving acquiescence, towards the extended French occupation of more than a year ago. Then came the Separatist movement to complicate matters. Whether or no the mass of stories concerning the promotion of that movement by the French, the type of men enlisted in the Separatist ranks, and their persecution of an unarmed native population are true, it is not our business to say. Undeniably, however, the great mass of people in this country believe them to be true. The responsible organs of public opinion, *The Times* prominent among them, testify to their truth. And their very general acceptance on this side of the Channel is an important factor in the situation. And on the top of that, we have had during the past fortnight a series of "incidents" which suggest only too vividly the existence of opposed principles and strained relations between the agents of the two occupying powers. Mr. Clive, the British Consul in Munich, was subjected to the distrustful attentions of a French official on the occasion of his tour of inspection in the Palatinate. As a reprisal for his investigations two French investigators were dispatched to the British Zone on the strange pretext of inquiring into the existence of "secret societies" of anti-Separatist sympathies. Finally, the unacceptable demands of the French Régie for control of the Cologne railway system has culminated in an economic "blockade" of the British Zone. We find ourselves using the phraseology of war.

## NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER.

From OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT.

A great event which is known to be certain and which creates great expectations sometimes creates less visible hubbub than a small event which happens unexpectedly. Whatever one's feelings about the present political crisis, there can be no kind of doubt as to the great interest of the week, which culminated on Monday evening with the expected result of the defeat of the Government on an amendment to the Address.

Students of politics might spend their time profitably in studying the Hansards for these eventful days; they will learn much contemporary history from their pages. Throughout the week the speaking in the debate has been sustained at a very high level, and some of the speeches will go down to history as worthy efforts on a great occasion. The Prime Minister's speech made a great impression not only on those favourably disposed towards him but on others who held him responsible for the present situation, and there is a strong feeling that he should remain leader of his party when it crosses to the Opposition benches. Friend and foe alike were moved by the qualities of character, dignity, courage, simplicity, and humour which characterized his speaking. It is generally agreed that Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's great speech was as tatesmanlike and convincing performance, which gave a certain feeling of confidence that with such a captain at the helm the ship of State would not suffer disaster. Possibly Mr. Asquith had the hardest task of all, and his speech is considered by many to be the finest thing he ever did. At any rate, he carried his party, with the exception of ten who voted with the Government, with him in the support of the Labour amendment.

Among other speeches which attracted attention we might refer to an admirable fighting speech by Mr. Austen Chamberlain, which contained passages far from acceptable to some of his own party. Sir Martin Conway's speech had the unusual effect of appreciation from all sections of the House. Both Mr. Clynes and Mr. Ramsay MacDonald referred to it with approval, and his closing sentences raised the debate to a very

high level when he made an appeal for the sacrifice of party views to the general good of the whole and stated that never more than at the present time "there exists a strong and universally patriotic sentiment which makes every one of us far more a servant of our country than a servant of our party." Among other notable speeches of the week, maiden speeches by Mr. E. D. Simon, who dealt with the Housing question with the weight of an expert, by Mr. W. Henderson, son of Mr. Arthur Henderson, and by the Duchess of Atholl deserve special mention. The contribution of the Duchess of Atholl to the debate will naturally be of special interest to readers of this journal, whatever their party affiliations may be. While not ashamed to speak from a woman's point of view of matters which specially concern women, her speech showed a general grasp of politics and ability to take part in them which is most promising. Both Miss Margaret Bondfield and Miss Susan Lawrence gave effective contributions to the proceedings in their maiden speeches, though in our opinion Miss Bondfield did herself an injustice in introducing a specific problem, even such an important problem as unemployment among women, in the closing stages of a great and historic debate on wide issues. That she will be one of the most effective speakers in the House there can be no doubt whatever, and readers of this paper, of all parties, will be glad to welcome her as the first woman to hold office.

What the future will bring who can tell? but the reassuring feature of the present situation lies in the fact that there are so many matters of urgent international and national importance on which there will be sufficient unanimity of opinion to secure a substantial majority for effective action.

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



WHAT I REMEMBER.<sup>1</sup> XX.

By MILLICENT GARRETT FAWCETT, J.P., LL.D.

## HOLIDAYS.

I worked hard when I was at work, speaking up and down the country, writing for the magazines and for the press, hitting the anti-suffragists, metaphorically, on the head, whenever opportunity offered: but my life was by no means all work. I immensely enjoyed seeing foreign countries and for several years I spent spring or autumn holidays visiting them while my husband was fishing either in his beloved trout streams in Wiltshire or for salmon in Scotland. Switzerland and Italy were my favourite resorts and later Germany, where over and over again I attended the Wagner festivals at Bayreuth. In Switzerland my dear brother Sam was sometimes my companion; in Italy Emma Miller, my sister Elizabeth, my cousin B. E. Rawlins, or my sister-in-law, Maria Fawcett. On one of the Swiss expeditions, I induced my husband to go with me, but this was not a success. He was ordinarily so completely cheerful that I had underestimated the degree to which he would suffer in a place where hardly anything but external beauty and grandeur was spoken of; I had extolled the mountain air, but he scoffed at it and said he preferred the shady side of Regent Street. Two of our Cambridge friends were our companions, who of course helped him to the utmost of their power. With one of them, Mr. J. F. Moulton (afterwards Lord Moulton), I made the ascent of Monte Rosa from the Riffel Alp, with the usual escort of guides and porters. We had perfect weather and encountered no difficulties. I immensely enjoyed the expedition but Harry was in a fever of anxiety during every hour of my absence and I felt on my return that I ought not to have gone.

On another holiday, in an earlier year, I made my first visit to Rome. This was in 1874. The moment when one sees Rome for the first time is as memorable as the first sight of Jerusalem. The Government of a United Italy had not very long established itself in the Eternal City, and at the time of our arrival the Chamber was sitting. The air was throbbing with political excitement and enthusiasm, but there were also many cross-currents of gossip. One piece of this gossip was that Garibaldi, who had been elected but had not taken his seat, could not, or would not do so, because he was at heart a Republican, and therefore could not take the oath of allegiance to the King of Italy, Victor Emmanuel, il Regalantuomo. This rumour reached the ears of the grand old patriot. His real reason for not taking his seat was that he was crippled by rheumatism and could scarcely even stand without assistance. He then at once determined, whatever pain it cost him, to take his seat and, supported on one side by his son and on the other by a friend, he had advanced up the Chamber and had taken the oath, his loud "Giuro" being heard distinctly all over the assembly. Rome was full of this incident at the time of our arrival.

We had some very kind friends, Mrs. and the Misses Morgan, the mother and sisters of Mr. H. A. Morgan, of Jesus College, Cambridge, who had spent several winters in Rome and helped us to see and hear many interesting things we should otherwise have missed. One of the greatest services they rendered us was taking us to see Garibaldi, who was then living in a villa just outside the walls of Rome. I had never been in a presence so inherently noble. He was simple and majestic, absolutely without pose or any sort of affectation. His face was very fine. I was able to give him some messages from friends of his in England, one particularly from Mrs. Charles Seely (the grandmother of the well-known bearers of that name to-day). She had entertained Garibaldi in her home in the Isle of Wight and was also one of my very kindest friends in London. We had brought some photographs of the General with us, intending to ask him to multiply their value a thousandfold by adding his signature to them. But when we were face to face with him this seemed an impertinence and we refrained from asking the favour of him; but he caught a glimpse of the photographs and said quite simply, "You would like me to sign them" and took them from us and added his signature. I quite realized in his presence what a magnetic influence he must have had over his followers in the strenuous times of his noble life. When in later years I read in Mr. G. M. Trevelyan's "Garibaldi's Defence of the Roman Republic" his last speech in the Piazza of St. Peter's before leaving Rome, defeated and a fugitive, in 1848, I could feel the thrill that must have passed through the men who were crowding round him on that tragic day.

<sup>1</sup> This article is one of a series which will extend over several months.

"Fortune," he said, "who betrays us to-day, will smile on us to-morrow. I am going out from Rome. Let those who wish to continue the war against the stranger, come with me. I offer neither pay, nor quarters, nor provisions: I offer hunger, thirst, forced marches, battles, and death. Let him who loves his country in his heart and not with his lips merely, follow me."

Mr. Trevelyan goes on to describe how he rode away through the frantic and sobbing crowd.

"Above the upturned faces of those broken-hearted men and women rose the calm set features of Garibaldi, resembling a perfect type of ancient Greek beauty, and lit up with that serene and simple regard of fortitude and faith which gave him the power to lead the feeble multitudes of mortal man as though he were the sole descendant of some fabled god-like race of old" (p. 232).

It is one of my most cherished memories to have stood in that noble presence, to have heard his voice, to have pressed his hand.

It is rather an anti-climax after this to add that we also attended an audience given by the Pope Pio Nono, a kind, stout, commonplace old gentleman, quite pleased to bring out any word or two of English when he had English visitors. "I see, Inglese very nice," and so on. My sister Elizabeth, who was of our party, had brought a rosary with her to be blessed by the Pope. This was to enhance its value for its future owner, a faithful old cook, who was a Roman Catholic. I peered about as we were being marshalled through the ante-chambers trying to identify the pictures which were painted to celebrate the massacre of St. Bartholomew, and I think I succeeded with one of them representing the murder of Gaspard de Coligny, the Admiral: the body, whether alive or dead at the moment represented is uncertain, but gaping with wounds and horribly disfigured, is being thrown from the window into the street below. When Dean Inge and others argue that human nature has no tendency to improve and remains to-day just what it was hundreds of years ago, does he take into account horrors like the St. Bartholomew massacre which cannot be excused as an outburst of diabolical frenzy, but was planned by men and women of the highest intelligence and culture and was applauded by the "Vicar of Christ," the representative of the Christian religion, who was enthroned in the Vatican? Only yesterday an excellent man was heard explaining to a long-suffering audience that the devil is the master of this world. But surely Browning was nearer the truth when in Saul he writes:

"Let one more attest!  
I have lived, seen God's hand thro' a lifetime, and all was for best."

## OUR WOMEN MEMBERS.

Three new women Members made their maiden speeches during the short but eventful Parliamentary week which is just over. Miss Susan Lawrence spoke on Wednesday, 16th January. As might have been expected, she dealt with Education and drew attention to the fact that the King's Speech contained no allusion to the subject. Miss Lawrence suggested that not only had the Board of Education followed a reactionary policy, but that it had exceeded its powers in cutting down expenditure authorized by Parliament. Miss Lawrence was warmly congratulated by Sir Martin Conway, who followed her.

On Friday, 18th January, the Duchess of Atholl took part in the debate with an admirable maiden speech which, in addition to dealing with general matters, included also those which, in her opinion, were of special interest to women Members. For example, she dealt with the references in the King's Speech to Juvenile Employment Centres, the Separation and Maintenance Orders Bill, the Property and Endowment of the Church of Scotland, the conference on Agriculture, and the Government's Naval Programme, and the promise of legislation to legitimize children born out of wedlock whose parents subsequently marry. Though the Duchess spoke from a Party point of view, and her speech contained much on which the opinions of readers differ, it contained a great deal which gives cause for satisfaction to the women of the country, and even more particularly the women of Scotland on their first Scottish representative.

Everyone has been waiting for Miss Margaret Bondfield's maiden speech. It is characteristic of her that she should take an early opportunity of reminding the House of a section of the community for the most part still unenfranchised—unemployed women.

We warmly congratulate these three women on their able contributions to the historic debate of a memorable week.

<sup>2</sup> Garibaldi's Defence of the Roman Republic, p. 232.

## EXTRACT FROM A CHINESE DIARY.

Ko-chiu was about twenty-three miles away by road. We had to cross to the other side of our own valley and climb up a steep trail and down again to the next valley. The road was notorious for brigands, and in order to shift the responsibility for our safe keeping from our own shoulders to those of the Yunnanese Government, we had to be escorted by four Chinese soldiers. The soldiers were small, slovenly and friendly. Each wore a yellow-lidded forage cap and a very incomplete blue uniform. The Number One soldier wore a puttee on one leg, his subordinates were contented with their own thin bare legs and feet shod with straw sandals. One was a musician; he draped a dirty towel about his head and shoulders under his cap and walked behind us swinging his rifle like a cane and singing unexpectedly intelligible tunes in a very high catlike falsetto. Any brigand could have bought him for a song.

We rode our ponies across the valley to Ta-t'oun, at the foot of the pass, and there our soldiers and sedan-chairs overtook us and our ponies left us. Ta-t'oun is a Mussulman town, one of the few Chinese towns that keep alive the religion of the invaders from Turkestan who overran Yunnan a hundred years ago or so. Citizens of Ta-t'oun have strange forefathers and many of them inherit strange alien traits, mahogany skins, wide—almost Italian—eyes, hairy chins, and arms and heads on which the hair grows at a springing un-Chinese angle. Ta-t'oun has a fierce reputation and fierce traditions; the men of the town were mostly armed quite frankly with heavy obsolete rifles and with daggers, the hilts of which were elaborately chased. Europeans were rarely seen in Ta-t'oun, and we attracted an embarrassing amount of attention. Our soldiers, being hungry, tried to conceal us in a temple while they went off in search of food, but the mob discovered us, surged in through the temple doors, with the assurance of invited guests, and formed into a deep, silent ring about us. For a time we sat self-consciously in this glitter of unwinking eyes and daggers, and then we took refuge in a school which was in session in a side room of the temple. The teacher, a beautiful thin old man in a bright blue robe, sat calmly in a midst of clamour. His pupils, about a dozen little boys, pirouetted, pinched one another, kicked their desks, scrawled on their books, and, all the time, shouted their lessons—each boy a different lesson—at the tops of their voices. Each boy bawled his allotted phrase again and again, and when he had done this a few hundred times, he brought his book to his teacher, who, in a faint ghostlike voice declaimed the next two or three words of the classic under examination. The pupil then skipped irreverently back to his bench and continued to shout this latest addition to his knowledge as before. The throbbing noise of this concerted yet discordant repetition was like the noise one hears when losing consciousness under chloroform.

Our soldiers came back presently. Seated in a tilted heaving sedan-chair, I vicariously set foot on the first red slopes of the pass. Each chair was carried by four men of lawless appearance and incompatible sizes. The shafts of the chair were slung by ropes to short pivoting middle poles, one in front and one behind, and to these middle poles each man set one shoulder. When a change of shoulders was needed the second front man whined "Pan-kuo kuo" and the leading man passed back to him a staff on which the weight of the chair was momentarily balanced while, with one impulse, the four men ducked their heads and changed shoulders. When the path was very steep a whine in a new tone gave the signal for a very slow deliberate march on flourished feet like a goose-step.

The rough cobbled path climbed and climbed. Behind us lay our valley, faint among heat mists and dark lakes of shadow and pale lakes of water. On either side of the pass clouds veiled the tawny faces of the mountains. A little stream rattled down a stony crack in the red earth. Crimson azaleas clung to the dry slopes, and at their feet purple scabreas and a kind of refined red clover and miniature shrubs like daphne and clumps of intensely blue flowers—like poor relations of gentians—grew in the yellow grass.

All the time caravans from Ko-chiu passed us, long trains of mules and ponies running free in a bustle of bells. All the pack animals were decorated with tassels, woollen pom-poms and little pieces of tin and looking-glass. The leading pony of each caravan always wore a high rod springing upright between his paniers; the rod was swathed in scarlet or orange and, at the tip of it, nodded a great mop of vivid colours which dipped and bobbed like a beacon to guide the following ponies and the drivers. Occasionally less innocent travellers passed us; small groups

of men in black tunics buttoned with old silver coins, each man with a gun across his back and a silver-hilted dagger at his belt. These men who, in daylight, would pass peacefully enough a party under escort, reminded our soldiers that we must get to Ko-chiu before sunset or risk attack by brigands. The towel draped musician's song had an impassioned tempo now, and there were hot arguments between Number One soldier and the unhurrying chair-bearers. Reminders of brigands presented themselves. Two rest-houses or provision shops for travellers could be seen in ruins, burnt down by brigands. A few armed guards crouched in a rough turf thatched hovel, one playing a primitive p'i-pa or Chinese guitar, a round-bellied instrument of which only one string seemed to sound the melody, the others being toneless as a child's drum.

At last we could see Ko-chiu, set into steep slopes like a quarry, far away at the foot of the mountains. At this hopeful high point in the road a bold peasant had installed a provision booth; blue and white bowls full of sickly looking milky jellies and gravies and curds lured hurrying travellers from the trail. A box of home-made toffee, handed round by me, interested soldiers and chair-bearers as a novelty rather than a pleasure. They all sucked with surprised expressions, and the musician sang a few pensive bars between toffee-locked jaws. The sight of a man curled up in a hole in the bank smoking opium, with his great varnished straw hat over the mouth of the hole as a shield or a door against the world, amused all the soldiers riotously. Why this reticence? thought the soldiers; everyone breaks the law in Yunnan. No need to hide behind one's hat. "Do you smoke the Big Smoke (opium)?" the Number One soldier was asked. "I will smoke a little one now, at any rate," he replied, helping himself to a cigarette from his tactless questioner's case.

Down the slopes to where Ko-chiu crouched in the late afternoon sunlight, opium fields chequered the earth. White poppies, like great butterflies, floated on squares of grey-green. Poppies by day and brigands by night crept up to the walls of that city and defied them.

The Chinese inn of Ko-chiu—there are no Europeans in the city—had lately been visited by soldiers or brigands; the words are often synonymous in the interior of China; the place is therefore dismantled and filthy; the owner has gone and only a few hangers-on and a pig or two inhabit the dark rooms round the courtyard. But we stayed there—there was nowhere else to stay—and pitched our camp beds on the first floor in a suite of dark, verminous rooms with windows of fret-sawed wood and painted paper. And, as often happens to me in China, I could imagine myself in England of five hundred years ago, coming into a cramped crazy cobbled city from robber-haunted roads at sunset, entering the inn by a low archway from the narrow street and by an inner archway leading to a courtyard with a little tree and a stone-brimmed well in the middle. There was a weather-beaten balcony under the eaves on the first storey. One should have blown a bugle mediaevally in the dark archway and sent our esquire, the Number One soldier, to the steps to cry "Ho, within there!" Then we should have waited to see mine Host, fat and shiny, run out on the balcony, followed by his fluttering fat wife, with promises of venison and pasties and sack for the wanderers.

Alas, our inn was haunted, but not with such jovial ghosts as these. There was no sound in it for all our calling, but the little distant thin sound of errant beggars' music in the street outside, the sound that always spangles the air of a Chinese city at twilight.

STELLA BENSON.

## OBITUARY.

The causes for which this paper stands has lost another of the men who have given devoted service, both in and out of Parliament, in the death of Mr. Aneurin Williams. Mr. Williams was elected Member for Plymouth in 1910, and afterwards for the North-West and Consett Divisions of Durham, and his daughter Ursula stood in the Liberal interest for his former seat at the recent election, and, though unsuccessful, polled 14,619 votes.

In 1921 and 1922 Mr. Williams was chairman of the Public Account Committee of the House of Commons. He was the first editor of "Co-partnership" and the author of books and articles on co-partnership and the Co-operative movement. He was a consistent supporter of equality between men and women, and in recent years played an active part in connexion with the Proportional Representation Society and the League of Nations Union.



## THE LAW AT WORK.<sup>1</sup>

### WOMEN MAGISTRATES IN CONFERENCE.

A Conference of Women Magistrates and Councillors, organized by the Women's Local Government Society, discussed last week the subject of Probation. The opening speaker was Mr. Cecil Chapman, whose name was long familiar to Suffragists through his brave advocacy of their cause. From his wide experience as Metropolitan magistrate at Westminster, he was able to speak with knowledge and authority lit by the enthusiasm which we associate with his name.

Mr. Chapman urged many changes in the penal system which are long overdue. He is specially desirous that the minimum age at which a boy or girl can be sent to prison should be raised to 18 instead of 16, and also that magistrates should be able to commit young offenders to Borstal instead of being obliged to send them to Quarter Sessions for sentence, as at present. In answer to questions as to the apparent unpopularity of Borstal with Press and public, he said there was something too severe and prolonged in the Borstal treatment, and he would like to see the principle definitely adopted that a boy who worked well should be released at the end of six months.

He dwelt with great insistence on the value of probation as enabling the magistrates to avoid a conviction without letting an offender off. He said it was impossible to exaggerate the difference it made to a man whether a conviction was recorded against him or not. He told more than one tragic story of how a man on leaving prison had made every effort to get on his feet again, and then, when success seemed assured, his conviction or the fact that he had been in prison became known, and he was absolutely hounded out of the position he had made for himself. He wanted to see in magistrates the spirit which would welcome the opportunity of avoiding a conviction where possible. Perhaps the most remarkable thing in Mr. Chapman's speech was the faith in human nature which he disclosed in spite of the innumerable examples of sordidness and sin which must have come before him during the years of his magistracy. All newly appointed magistrates must fervently hope that they may retain as much faith after as many years of the work which above all others tempts those who engage in it to become cynical or suspicious. Over and over again has this faith been justified, as when he placed on probation for the third time an offender who has now made good and has repaid the whole of the money that was spent upon him, or when he successfully established in a business of his own a man who was just out from not his first term of penal servitude.

Mrs. Barrow Cadbury, J.P. for Birmingham, was the second speaker, and dealt chiefly with the Children's Courts in America, which she has recently visited. She said that, while there was more crime per head of the population in U.S.A. than in this country on account of the influx of foreigners there and the mixed population, yet the means of dealing with criminals, and especially child criminals, in America are much more scientific and systematic than ours at home. She found that in the large cities the Children's Courts are each presided over by a judge—all of them men with the exception of Washington, where there is a woman judge appointed by President Wilson. In every court there are women lawyers or referees, and in some cases there is a woman assistant judge who tries all the girl offenders. The Probation Officers are paid 1,200 dollars a year, men and women alike; there are no voluntary workers, as there is in America a remarkable willingness to spend money freely, especially on children. In the Chicago Children's Court there are 124 Probation Officers, white and coloured, and these deal with many children's cases without their ever coming into court at all. The Children's Court is already housed in a building which appears magnificent to English eyes, but another is contemplated which is to be "the standard for the world". Of special difficulty is the work among children in Los Angeles, where 5,000 children can find work in the cinema studios, and can earn good money for a time, but mostly lose their occupation when they outgrow childhood.

Mrs. Barrow Cadbury also spoke of a hostel recently opened in Birmingham for boys of 14 and 15 who have been placed on probation. They live in the hostel and go daily to their work outside, and thus learn to use freedom as ordinary members of the community while remaining under necessary supervision.

C. D. RACKHAM.

<sup>1</sup> Under the direction of Mrs. C. D. Rackham, J.P., Miss S. Margery Fry, J.P., with Mrs. Crofts, M.A., LL.B., as Hon. Solicitor.

## NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

President: Miss ELEANOR RATHBONE, C.C., J.P. Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. SODDY.  
Hon. Secretary: Miss E. MACADAM. Parliamentary Secretary: Mrs. HUBBACK.  
Offices: 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.  
Telephone: Victoria 6188.

ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING, 26th, 27th, 28th March, King George's Hall, Tottenham Court Road, W.C.1.

It has after all been possible for our Annual Council Meeting to be held in the King George's Hall at the London Central Y.M.C.A. Building, Tottenham Court Road. Delegates will no doubt be pleased to find themselves in familiar surroundings. We ask secretaries to make a careful note of the change of place.

Secretaries are reminded that resolutions for the Agenda should reach this office not later than 11th February.

Delegates wishing for hospitality should apply as early as possible to the Secretary, N.U.S.E.C., 15 Dean's Yard, S.W. 1.

The Public Luncheon has been arranged at the Holborn Restaurant on Thursday, 27th March. The eight women Members of Parliament and other Members of both Houses who have rendered signal service to our cause during the year will be invited as guests of honour. Lady Astor, the Duchess of Atholl, Miss Bondfield, Miss Susan Lawrence, Lord and Lady Terrington, and Mrs. Wintringham have already accepted invitations. The price of tickets will be 5s. to Members, 7s. 6d. to non-Members.

An Evening Reception will be held at Bedford College, Regent's Park, by kind permission of Miss Tuke, on Friday, 28th March.

### PARLIAMENTARY.—THE NEW GOVERNMENT AND OUR BILLS.

The Prime Minister has been approached and a memorandum placed before him, urging that legislation should be passed by the Labour Government this session giving the Franchise to women on the same terms as to men, Pensions to widows with Dependent Children, and Equal Guardianship of Children. Of these reforms the Prime Minister definitely announced at the Queen's Hall Victory Meeting his intention of dealing with Widows' Pensions, and has also stated on another occasion his intention of dealing with Equal Franchise. In the meantime Mr. W. Adamson, who won third place in the Ballot, is introducing an Equal Franchise Bill. It appears somewhat disappointing that Private Members' time should be taken for this reform, which, above all others, should be given the standing of a Government measure. This may still be done, however, or the Private Members' Bill taken over by the Government at a very early stage in its career. A statement will be made next week as to the course of action to be taken by the National Union with regard to the Guardianship of Infants Bill. Mrs. Wintringham has only obtained twenty-fourth place in the ballot, and the Bill can therefore only be put down on the Order Paper second for 4th April.

### WIDOWS' PENSIONS.

Miss Rathbone has brought up to date the Programme Pamphlet on Widows' Pensions which is on sale now at Headquarters (price 1d.). This pamphlet gives new figures, and a new estimate of the cost of the scheme, and presents the problem from a present-day standpoint. Societies are urged to order large numbers of this pamphlet in order that their members may become thoroughly conversant with the case for Widows' Pensions and the N.U.S.E.C. scheme. The usual discount of 2d. in the shilling is allowed.

Miss Hardy, who has been organizing the campaign from Headquarters during January, will fortunately still be able to take meetings in or near London during February. Other speakers, including the Officers, are also prepared to take meetings.

### CITY OF LONDON BYE-ELECTION.

The N.U.S.E.C. is carrying on a campaign in the City of London constituency, and is hoping to arrange deputations to put the points of our programme before the electorate. Voters who are interested are asked to communicate immediately with Miss Auld, N.U.S.E.C., 15 Dean's Yard, S.W. 1.

MATINÉE IN AID OF THE FUNDS OF THE N.U.S.E.C., 25 Park Lane, 5th February.

The final bills for the Matinée Entertainment are now complete, and we shall be very pleased to forward copies to members who will help us by giving it a wide publicity. The entertainment will be held in the beautiful music room at 25 Park Lane,

by kind permission of Sir Philip Sassoon. Sybil, Lady Brassey, a Vice-President of the N.U.S.E.C., will act as hostess, and among the attractive pieces on the programme are "The Artist," by A. A. Milne, to be played by Miss Athene Seyler and Mr. Nicholas Hannen, and "Canvassing a Constituent," a short play which will be given by Miss Gertrude Kingston and Miss Clare Greet. Tickets are sold in order of application. An excellent suggestion has been made that Societies in or near London should co-operate to buy one or more tickets and ballot them among their members. Orders should be sent immediately to the Ticket Secretary, 15 Dean's Yard, S.W. 1. We hope all members in London will come and bring parties of friends.

### WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE, (British Section: 55 Gower Street, W.C.1.)

On the 17th inst. the members of the International House Club (address above) listened to the vivid account given by Miss Rackstraw (Friends' Relief Committee) of the visit paid in December by Miss K. D. Courtney and herself to parts of Occupied and Unoccupied Germany. The speaker stressed the different conditions existing in the cities and in the country districts: in the former, life for the poor is kept alive by municipal and other soup-kitchens, wages, where they exist, being inadequate for a bare subsistence, whereas in the country districts the usual conditions of life prevail.

Throughout Germany the introduction of the Renten mark has been immense help in reassuring the public, and for the moment currency is stabilized. Wealth and abject poverty exist side by side, and the wealthy minority have not felt the full weight of taxation because their quota is paid at longer intervals of time, when the falling value of the mark lessens the value of the sum levied, whereas the working classes pay weekly. Hospitals, charitable institutions, and lunatic asylums are being obliged to close down.

### DISCRIMINATION AND THE PLAYGOING PUBLIC.

A correspondent writes:—

Everyone who feels the dearth of good drama in the theatre at present should welcome the precedent set by the Arts League of Service in arranging to have a recent play (the debatable "Insect Play" by the Brothers Capek) read by professional actors to an audience of their members, and following up the reading by a discussion in which the salient points that go to make a good play were examined. When an audience has an opportunity of hearing a given play discussed by playwrights, producers, managers, critics, and actors it cannot fail to get enlightenment on the subject. The training of a discriminating public which could recognize plays as being good or bad would result in more intelligent reading and discussion of them were encouraged. One would hear less of the usual low standard of the theatre if a little clear thinking were brought to bear on the question of the drama. For the public, after all, chooses the type of play that is given to it.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### "AFTERTHOUGHTS ON LOCAL VETO."

MADAM,—Marion J. Buchanan in the above article disapproves of America and Prohibition being introduced into the discussion, and blames their introduction for the failure of the L.V. Polls in Scotland.

In an article in the WOMAN'S LEADER last November, "Local Option at work in Scotland," Henry Carter used America as an example for Scotland.

In October, 1922, the Rev. J. A. Sharp, founder, with the Rev. Mr. Carter, of the Five Years' Methodist Teetotal Campaign, said: "I am convinced that Local Option will work in England as it did in America, as the root from which Prohibition will grow, in ever-widening circles, to include in time the whole nation."

So, accordingly, Miss Buchanan must blame the leaders in the Temperance Party for their frankness, while we others thank them for showing us so plainly the thin edge of the wedge.

H. W. THOMAS.

### ANNE ASKEW.

MADAM,—My reason for saying that the article on Anne Askew in your issue of 11th January constitutes an attack on doctrines and beliefs held sacred by many readers of your paper is this: It seems to me quite unthinkable that the writer of the article would have allowed herself to quote *verbatim* the replies given by Anne to the questions put to her at her trial unless she had wished by so doing to gain admiration and sympathy for the nature of those replies in themselves, and not merely for the courage shown by Anne in making them. It would have been quite easy to have indicated the line taken by her through her examination and avoided using her actual words—words which would be regarded as shocking blasphemy by everyone of the three hundred million persons who accept the Catholic faith, whether in this country or in any other part of the world.

ISABEL WILLIS,  
Hon. Press Sec., S.J.S.P.A.

MADAM,—Nowhere in my article on Anne Askew did I say that there were no martyrs on the Catholic side. I am well aware that I owe the right to voice my opinions, including the one that Anne was "a woman of intelligence," just as much to the struggle for liberty of conscience made by those who believed the "mouse to be damned" as by those who did not. What we believe matters but little so long as it does not induce us to burn those who disagree with us. What does matter is that we should be ready, if necessary, to lay down our lives for the right to freedom of belief. I would raise a cenotaph to all martyrs of any faith whatever for they bequeathed us a glorious legacy.

RUTH CAVENDISH BENTINCK.

MADAM,—I was very glad to see Miss Willis' letter. I felt the same. I read the Askew article many times, as I found the point difficult to see; in fact, I don't know if I saw it. I came to the conclusion the article was a sort of "tale with a moral," and connected with the question of "re-union," which was discussed in a number of papers last week or so. It would be interesting to know what the point is, and why the article was printed in the WOMAN'S LEADER; also it might add to the interest if a few footnotes and references to sources of the historical parts were added. I found it extremely difficult to sift the history from Mrs. Cavendish Bentinck's own remarks. I was very surprised to see the article, and quite expected there would be some protest against it.

A. G. MUNN.

MADAM,—Allow me to say that I consider the objection of St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance to Mrs. Cavendish Bentinck's article on Anne Askew abundantly justified. If admiration for the spirit of martyrdom, and hatred of persecution for opinion's sake, if these and the scorn of scorn for women had been the sole mainsprings of the article, there would have been no occasion for protesting. It is because I find in it a spirit of hostility and a tone of contempt for the faith and the central worship of Catholics that I desire emphatically to associate myself with a protest which the Editorial note to-day by no means persuades me to view as unnecessary.

F. DE G. MERRIFIELD.

Member of the Executive Committee N.U.S.E.C. and of St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance.

### PRAYER BOOK REVISION AND THE MARRIAGE SERVICE.

MADAM,—This age is remarkable for the change which is taking place in the position and outlook of women. In most countries they are now enfranchised. Here in England they exercise important public functions, and mothers are no longer excluded from the Mother of Parliaments. Barriers born of narrow sex prejudice are breaking down, and the State is recognizing more and more their right to equality of status and opportunity.

It was assumed that in the revisions of the Anglican Prayer Book the inequalities in its Marriage Service would likewise disappear, especially the wife's vow of obedience, which was introduced into it at the Reformation. Unfortunately, however, at a sitting of the House of Laity, a proposition to this effect was defeated by a small majority.

The Pauline letters so freely quoted require to be read intelligently and with discrimination. Those who aver that they are inspired throughout, and intended for our edification for all time, should consider how their teaching applies to the bond-servants or slaves of the twentieth century; also the passage in which St. Paul clearly contradicts himself, Gal. iii, 28, "there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus."

The vow has either become a mere form to be interpreted or qualified at will, which should be given no place in a religious service, or it is a solemn pledge, and women who have thus pledged themselves ought to be debarred from holding public office, for they are not free agents.

The husband's vow to endow his wife with all his worldly goods should also be deleted. No husband ever does, and to force an untruth from a man's lips at such a moment is tantamount to blasphemy. The giving away of the bride is perhaps of lesser importance, as it may be regarded as an act of ceremony devoid of real meaning. But it savours too much of the old "chattel" theory to be pleasing to some women, and should certainly be optional.

The vows of the husband and wife should be identical, as they are in the marriage services of the Roman and the Eastern Churches. In addition to removing these blemishes, a higher tone might well be imparted to the service by giving greater prominence to the spiritual aspect of marriage, hitherto relegated to "thirdly." If it is allowed to remain unchanged, the result will be a large increase in civil marriages.

Is it right that the devout churchwoman, who is also a modern thinker, should be forced to deny herself the blessing of the Church on her marriage? Far from rejecting the teaching of the Bible, she accepts it with gladness from the lips of Him who taught "as one having authority." She asks that the marriage service shall not be based on a lot of old, worn-out precepts, but on Christ's message to men and women revealed in the Gospels. It is a right and reasonable request which the Church can ill afford to ignore.

The Houses of Clergy and Bishops have not yet spoken, and it is hoped and believed that wiser counsels will in the end prevail.

A. M. VATCHER.

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Tickets 12/6 from the Secretary, Women's Pioneer Housing Limited,  
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COMING EVENTS.

ELTHAM WOMEN'S ADULT SCHOOL.

JAN. 28. 3 p.m. "Pensions for Civilian Widows with Dependent Children." Speaker: Miss Hardy.

GUILDHOUSE W.C.S.

FEB. 4. 3 to 4.30 p.m. The Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Cinematograph Lecture on the World's Children, Mrs. Downer ("Save the Children Fund"); Mrs. Hitecock will sing Folk Songs.

HENDON WOMEN CITIZENS' COUNCIL.

JAN. 29. 3 p.m. "Pensions for Civilian Widows with Dependent Children." Speaker: Miss Hardy.

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE CLUB, 55 GOWER STREET, W.C.1.

JAN. 31. 8 p.m. Informal discussion: "The Political Situation in England."

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

FEB. 5. 2.30 p.m. 25 Park Lane, S.W. Matinee entertainment in aid of funds of N.U.S.E.C. CARLISLE W.C.A. JAN. 31. 7 p.m. "Prospective Legislation Concerning Women and Children." Speaker: Miss Macadam.

CHESTER W.C.A. JAN. 20. 8 p.m. King's School. Miss Macadam.

CHURCH STRETTON S.E.C. JAN. 28. 3.30 p.m. Miss Macadam.

LEEDS S.E.C. FEB. 4. 5.30 p.m. 18 Park Row. Rev. H. Bowman (Vicar of St. Peter's, Woodhouse).

PRESTON W.C.A. JAN. 30. "Widows' Pensions." Speaker: Miss Macadam.

WESLEYAN METHODIST EDUCATIONAL TEMPERANCE CAMPAIGN.

JAN. 28. 7.30 p.m. Wesley Church, St. Helen's. "Social Fellowship and the Dark Peril." Speaker: The Rev. E. Benson Perkins.

JAN. 29. 7.15 p.m. South Bank, Middlesborough. The Rev. E. Benson Perkins.

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LEARN TO KEEP ACCOUNTS.—There are especially good lessons in book-keeping at Miss Blakeney's School of Typewriting and Shorthand, Wentworth House, Maurea Road, Chelsea, S.W. 3. "I learnt more there in a week," says an old pupil, "than I learnt elsewhere in a month." Pupils prepared for every kind of secretarial post.

URGENT.—Lady, teaching profession, needs small loan on own security to complete musical training. No relatives left; genuine. Full particulars (has good furniture and piano).—Box 1044, WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

PILLOW LINEN.—Remnant bundles of superior quality snow-white pillow linen, sufficient to make 6 pillow-cases, size 20 x 30 in., 20s. per bundle. Write for Winter Sale Catalogue.—HUTTON'S, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ireland.

SECOND-HAND CLOTHING wanted to buy for cash; costumes, skirts, boots, underclothes, curtains, lounge suits, trousers, and children's clothing of every description; parcels sent will be valued and cash sent by return.—Mrs. Russell, 100 Raby Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. (Stamped addressed envelope for reply).

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MISS MALCOLM'S DRESS ASSOCIATION, 239 Fulham Road, London, S.W. 3. Bargain Gowns, Evening and Afternoon, at 21s.

"FROCKLETS." Mrs. Elborough, 6 Lower Regent Street, W. 1, 4th floor (Lift). Tel. Gerrard 908. Children's Dresses of original and practical design. Coats, Caps, etc., etc. Smocks a speciality. Fancy Dresses. Open daily (Saturdays excepted) 10 a.m.—4 p.m., or by appointment.

PUBLIC SPEAKING.

PUBLIC SPEAKING.—Will those wishing to follow Marion McCarthy's Special Course write at once to 16 Hallam Street, Portland Place, W. 1.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.—The Stansfeld Lecture, entitled "The Economic Position of Married Women under the Law", will be given by Mrs. H. A. L. Fisher, at Bedford College (Regent's Park, Entrance York Gate), on Thursday, 7th February, 1924, at 5.15 p.m. The chair will be taken by G. W. Johnson, Esq., C.M.G., M.A. Admission Free by ticket, to be obtained from the Secretary, Bedford College, Regent's Park, N.W. 1.—Edwin Deller, Academic Registrar.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE.—Secretary, Miss Philippa Strachey. For information about employment and vocational training, write to all. Interviews 10-1 (Saturdays excepted).—Wellington Place, Buckingham Gate, Westminster.

THE PIONEER CLUB has reopened at 12 Cavendish Place. Town Members £5 5s.; Country and Professional Members £4 4s. Entrance fee in abeyance (pro. tem.).

THE FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Eccleston Guild House, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 27th January, 6.30. Miss Maude Royden.

ALONE? Then send stamped addressed envelope to Secretary, U.C.C., 161, Cambridge Street, S.W. 1.

JOIN INTERNATIONAL HOUSE CLUB, 55 Gower Street, W.C. 1. Subscription, 7s. 6d. per annum. Luncheons, and Teas in the Cafeteria. Thursday Club Suppers 7 p.m., and Discussion Meetings 8 p.m. 31st January, Informal discussion: "The Political Situation in England."

HOUSE ASSISTANTS' CENTRE

510 King's Road, Chelsea, S.W. 10. Tel.: Kensington 5213.

On and after December 14th, 1923, the Employment Registers of the Centre will be closed and work will be concentrated on its second and third objects:

(a) To encourage training and interest in Domestic occupations.

(b) To do everything possible to raise the status of Domestic Service, as Florence Nightingale did that of Sick-Nursing.

As this will entail much outside work the office will only be open for interviews once a week—on Fridays from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m., except by special appointment.

ANN POPE, HON. SECRETARY.

(Member of the American Home Economics Association.)

HOME-MADE CAKES, made with butter and eggs (no substitutes), can be obtained from Nan's Kitchen, 15 Furnival Street, Holborn, London, W.C. Layer cakes, eclairs, meringues, etc. Regular orders undertaken. A room for tea and light luncheons. Recommended by Ann Pope.

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