

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

CHRISTMAS NUMBER.

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Price 2d. Monthly.

4 Great Smith Street,
S.W.1.

Vol. XXV.

No. 2.
December, 1932.

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— by —

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COMING EVENTS

BROADCASTING TALKS.

- Mondays:** 10.45 a.m. THE WORKER IN INDUSTRY.
7.10 p.m. THE DOCTOR AND THE PUBLIC: The Surgery of Yesterday, To-day and To-morrow. Dec. 5th, 12th and 19th.
9.20 p.m. TO AN UNNAMED LISTENER.
- Tuesdays:** 8.30 p.m. HOW THE MIND WORKS: In the Adult. Dec. 6th, Dreams. Dec. 13th, Heart or Head?
- Wednesdays:** 10.45 a.m. INDIA: The Marquis of Dufferin and Ava. Dec. 7th The Indian Nation, concluding talk.
7.30 p.m. UNFINISHED DEBATES ON LEGAL PROBLEMS. Dec. 7th, That Divorce is Too Easy. Dec. 14th, That the Present System of Punishment is Too Severe.
- Thursdays:** 10.45 a.m. THE WEEK IN WESTMINSTER. Dec. 1st, Major Attlee, M.P. Dec. 8th, Mr. W. S. Morrison, M.C., M.P. Dec. 15th, Miss Megan Lloyd George, M.P.
9.20 p.m. THE WORLD AND OURSELVES: Mr. Vernon Bartlett. Dec. 15th, Budapest. Dec. 29th, Rome.
- Fridays:** 7.30 p.m. OUR NEIGHBOURS TO-DAY AND YESTERDAY. France: Mr. E. L. Woodward. Dec. 2nd, 9th and 16th.
9.20 p.m. POLITICAL DEBATES AND TALKS.
- Saturdays:** 7.5 p.m. SCIENCE IN THE MAKING: Mr. Gerald Heard. Dec. 10th and 24th.
9.20 p.m. CONSIDER YOUR VERDICT: A weekly series of imaginary trials.

THE GUILDHOUSE, ECCLESTON SQUARE, S.W.1.

Sunday Afternoons, 3.30—4.45 p.m. "The Evolution of Religion in the Twentieth Century."

DR. MAUDE ROYDEN, C.H.

Sunday Evenings at the Guildhouse, Belgrave Road, Victoria, S.W.1. 6.30 p.m. Questions and Discussion.

NATIONAL UNION OF GUILDS FOR CITIZENSHIP.

8th Dec., 1932, at 3 p.m. "Private Enterprise in Housing." Speaker: Miss Calkin, 35, Marsham Street, Westminster, (continuation of Gt. Smith Street), S.W.1.

COUNCIL FOR THE REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN IN THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Dec. 2nd, 1932, at 2.30 p.m. Annual Meeting at 35, Marsham Street, S.W.1. Address by Dr. Maxwell Garnett. Visitors welcomed.

SOCIETY FOR THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN (INTERDENOMINATIONAL).

3rd Dec. 1932, at 2.45 p.m. Members' Conference and Social at Wesley's Chapel, City Road, E.C.1. Chair will be taken by Dr. Maude Royden, C.H., President.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

Thursday, Dec. 1st, at 4.30 p.m. Meetings at the Minerva Club, 28a, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Speaker: Mrs. Donze, on "Nationality of Married Women."

Thursday, Dec. 8th at 4.30 p.m. Speaker: Mr. F. W. Pethick-Lawrence on "My visit to Russia."

MORLEY COLLEGE, 51, WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD, S.E.1.

Public Lecture, 8 p.m., 6th December, 1932. "Japan," The Dowager Lady Swaythling.

EDINBURGH WOMEN CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION.

14th Dec. 1932, 8 p.m. Gartshore Hall, 116, George Street. "Taking the Strain off Parliament."—Ernest Brown, Esq., M.C., M.P.

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THE
WOMAN'S LEADER

Vol. XXV. No. 2 (New Series.)

DECEMBER, 1932.

EDITORIAL.

We will begin by wishing all our readers a Happy Christmas. As we explained last month, having come to the end of our Guarantee Fund we shall have to cut our coat according to our cloth, and we were about to do so this month by reducing our number of pages when we received a magnificent length of cloth from Mrs. Van Gruisen in the shape of a cheque which enabled us to print the characteristic little study which Mr. John Galsworthy has so generously given us. Please try to increase our circulation or give us a page next month. **THIS WOULD BE A PLEASANT THING FOR FEDERATIONS TO DO.** We are very grateful also to Lady Denman for her encouraging message, to Miss Daphne Allard for the charming drawing which completes her "Guild Calendar" series, to Miss Betty Alldrige for another of her delightful wood engravings and to Miss Gladys Bellamy for selling **831** copies of *John and Pam at the Sea*. We have received a touching message from one of the old supporters of the paper, now seriously ill and unable to read it any more. Her brother writes:—"She wants me to thank you warmly for all the benefit and pleasure she has derived from your publications."



Wood Engraving by Betty Alldrige.

LULLABY.

Sleep softly, little rose upon the bough!

The merry summer stars peep out
to light the fairy-folk in ring, I trow,
and watch them turn and turn about—
Sleep softly, little rose upon the bough!

Sleep softly, little robin in the nest!

Under each rustling holly-leaf
the berries will burn brightlier than thy breast
when Christmas of the world stills grief—
Sleep softly, little robin in the nest!

Sleep softly in the cradle, little heart!

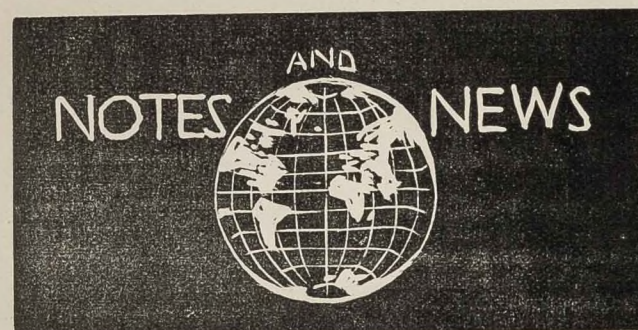
The baby Jesus long ago
in Bethlehem was cherished as thou art
and Mary rocked him to and fro—
Sleep softly in the cradle little heart!

Lorna de Lucchi.

**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
HANDICRAFT EXHIBITION, November 10th, 1932.**

Her Majesty the Queen, attended by Sir Harry and Lady Joan Verney, visited the Private View of the National Federation of Women's Institutes Exhibition of Craft work recently held at the New Horticultural Hall, Greycourt Street, Vincent Square, Westminster.

Every county in England and Wales was represented in some of the 43 sections comprising the Exhibition and noticeable features of these were the rooms furnished co-operatively by members in seven different counties, and workshops where craft work was seen in progress. The exhibition as a whole proved more than ever that the Women's Institute Movement is forging ahead in the very important matter of extending practical knowledge to its Members all over the country, the splendid quality, finish and wide range of exhibits showing clearly that a very high standard of craftsmanship has been reached.



NEWS IN NOVEMBER.

At no time since the War have the newspapers been more engrossing. Every day brings forward some matter of vital importance. Armistice Day has once more reminded us of the urgency of Disarmament, and the French and British Plans have been published. In America Mr. Franklin D. Roosevelt has been elected President by a majority of 4½ millions. In Germany, as we write, President Hindenburg is trying to form a 'Government of National Concentration.' The third Indian Round Table Conference is sitting in London. There has been a disastrous hurricane in the West Indies and a typhoon in Japan, and at home we have been appalled by a succession of mining accidents. Trade is said to be slightly better in some places, though farming seems in a parlous plight. The recommendations of Lord Salisbury's committee for the reform of the House of Lords have been published and include the admission of women. (Will time and tide wait for the entrance of Lady Rhondda to the House of Lords?)

Mrs. Mollison has set up a new record by her flight to the Cape in just over four days, and Mr. John Galsworthy has been awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature. All lovers of children and of justice regret the sudden death of Sir Wm. Clarke Hall, the Old St. magistrate.

THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND THE ROYAL COMMISSION.

The Royal Commission on Unemployment Insurance has been subject to many delays but it has reported at long last, its recommendations, signed by all except the two labour members of the Commission, but they are likely to be generally welcomed. The general aim of the majority is to stiffen up the insurance side of the scheme so that insurance benefits shall be *real* insurance benefits, and to transfer all those unemployed who cannot be carried on an insurance scheme to a new system of national relief—called Unemployment Assistance—administered under the direction of the Ministry of Labour by a new set of local committees appointed by the County and County Borough Councils. Thus the means

test will remain—but its much criticised association with the Public Assistance Committees and the Ministry of Health will disappear. Meanwhile the means test itself is to be operated on certain definite uniform principles—a step which the Government has already recognized as necessary.

WOMEN GIVE A LEAD IN INDIA.

The result of Mr. Gandhi's fast, and the prompt action of the Prime Minister in accepting the Poona Agreement has led to a new era of peace and goodwill in India. Not only has it removed some of the bitterness against this country but it has led to many endeavours being made among the communities to sink their differences and thus achieve unity among themselves. A public appeal by 100 women of all communities has been issued to Hindu and Muslim leaders. It calls upon them to "Bury the ancient differences, forget the mutual wrongs.....to make a supreme effort and change places with your opponents, crediting them with the same honesty of purpose and purity of motive that you claim for yourselves."

TOWN COUNCIL ELECTIONS, 1932.

The elections for Town Councils in England, Wales and Scotland took place on November 1st, and in most places seemed to evoke little interest. The number of electors voting was less than last year although in some towns the percentage was higher, as for example in such diverse places as in the Wardleworth Ward, Rochdale and Chippenham, where 70 and 60 per cent of the electorate recorded their votes; again there was a 75 per cent. poll in the Maesydre Ward, Wrexham. In many places it is reported that the women polled in large numbers. A writer in a northern paper who made a tour of the polling stations in Newcastle stated: "Everywhere I went I saw women going to poll. Some dropped into the voting stations on their way to the family wash at a public wash house." At another polling station she was told that "the women outnumbered the men again by three to one." As far as we are aware 333 women were nominated in England and Wales, and 46 in Scotland. In England and Wales 164 women have been elected—85 being returned in the county boroughs. Many of these women councillors have already served for some years and several were returned without a contest. Women have been elected for the first time to the Blackpool, Flint, Heston and Isleworth, Kidderminster, Maidenhead and Thornaby Councils. There are still, however, six county boroughs and over 100 non-county boroughs without a woman member. In Scotland 18 of

the 46 women nominated were elected, 4 being returned without a contest. The Perth and Stranraer Councils now include women among their members. In the latter place the women defeated two retiring magistrates, which caused quite a sensation. Some present day workers may consider the results small, but to those who have watched the movement for years and remember that in 1912 only 13 women were nominated in England for the Town Council Elections, none in Wales and one in Scotland, and that only 3 were elected in 3 small English towns, will appreciate the advance that has been made.

LADY DENMAN'S GOOD WISHES.

Lady Denham, O.B.E., President of the National Federation of Women's Institutes, evinces also a most generous practical interest in the Towns women's Guild movement. We are glad to be able to pass on to our readers the following message from her:—

I hope the Year 1933 will be a most prosperous one for the Townswomen's Guild.

The hope for the future seems to me to lie first in individuals working together and then in the Nations of the World working together.

Townswomen have a great opportunity through the organisation of the Guilds. There is a very real demand for these Societies and my wishes for 1933 are that enough money will be forthcoming for more Guilds to be formed and for larger numbers of Townswomen to be able to co-operate in helping to bring about better times.

G. DENMAN.

WOMEN PROVOSTS AND MAYORS.

The most interesting event to women in recent Scottish municipal life is the election of three women as Provosts—Baillie, Mrs. Young of Gourock, and Mrs. Hunter in Loanhead, and Mrs. Spalding, of Dalkeith. Women have been eligible to hold the office since 1907, and in 1913 the late Mrs. Malcolm—the first woman town councillor in Scotland—was elected Provost of the Dollar Council. Fifteen English towns have elected women mayors; in Harwich and Eye (Suffolk) Mrs. Hill and Miss Short enter on their fourth term of office. At Aldeburgh, Mrs. Galsworthy is Mayor for the third successive year and at Blandford and Chorley, Mrs. Gillett and Miss Castleman Smith enter on the second year of their mayoralty.

SCOTTISH COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

We desire to remind our Scottish readers that on December 6th the elections for county and district councils will be held. These elections only take place every three years, and in some divisions the contests for the county council are few. In Kinross and Bute all the candidates have been returned without a contest. Twenty-five women have been nominated for county councils of whom seven have been returned unopposed. At the last elections seven women county councillors were elected.

THE HOUSING PROBLEM.

The last of the three lectures on the Housing Question will be held on Thursday, December 8th, at 35, Marsham St., Westminster, at 3 o'clock, when Miss Calkin, Hon. Secretary, of the Southwark Housing Assn. will lecture on "Private Enterprise in Housing." At the first of these lectures on Nov. 10th, Capt. Reiss, of Welwyn Garden City spoke on the Present Situation. He showed that the needs of the middle classes and better paid workers had been fairly met, but that there was still an acute shortage of houses for the poorly paid workers. He mentioned the various Acts of Parliament and the wide powers that local authorities have to meet the housing shortage. In the county of London the number of families had increased by 60,000 and the dwellings by only 40,000. The Lecturer pointed out that now was essentially a time to build; building materials were less costly, a large number of building employees needed work and there were many people wanting homes. Lady Stewart of the Kensington Housing Trust, presided.

WOMAN'S LEADER FUND. 1932-3.

Miss S. Tapp £1 0 0

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PITMAN'S, Parker Street, Kingsway, London, W.C.2.

OCCUPATIONAL CENTRES FOR THE UNEMPLOYED.

It is universally recognised that the tragedy of unemployment lies not only in the economic stringency which results to the families of the unemployed when wages cease to come in, but also in the terrible boredom and depression which is bound to follow lack of any occupation and the consequential feeling of being of little use in the world. Attempts to provide employment or technical training have only proved practicable on a very small scale, and it is essential, as the recent Report of the Royal Commission on Unemployment Insurance shows, that—for the great majority of the unemployed-occupation of various kinds unconnected with their own work in life must be found.

The problem is so vast that inevitably a large part must be played by voluntary organisation in providing such centres, and all over the country are springing up clubs, classes, workshops, allotments, etc. for the unemployed.

It is hoped that the Townswomen's Guilds will take their part in this great call for voluntary public work. It will be open to nearly all our Guilds either to join in the efforts made in their own localities, or where nothing has been done—take the initiative in calling together all those likely to be interested and seeing that a part is played by all types of organisations. Full information for those wishing to take steps as to what might be done and how to do it can be obtained from the National Council of Social Service, 26, Bedford Square, W.C.1, or the British Institute of Adult Education, 39, Bedford Square, W.C.1.

NOTES FROM WESTMINSTER

BY

Cross Bench.

So far as legislation is concerned, the remains of the Session have been entirely devoted to the gloomy subjects of tariffs and unemployment. We have had the pros and cons of food taxes, the ups and downs and ways and means of a Means Test, discussed *ad nauseam*. A certain futility is given to these interminable debates by the knowledge that, owing to the Government's immense majority, debates can effect nothing. This was specially so with regard to the Ottawa Bill, because that implemented a detailed agreement arrived at with the Colonies, so that the Government was not even open, as it usually is, to persuasion in minor matters where the House showed great concern. The sense that this was so sapped interest, so that the Ship of State

effected its final passage from the open seas of Free Trade into the winding channels of a complicated protective system silently and almost without spectators. Or perhaps there were ghosts of the old Corn-Law debaters in the many empty places.

Interesting discussions though they too have been abortive as regards practical results, took place on the questions of Disarmament and the Circular No. 1421 concerning fees in secondary schools. Both debates were remarkable for the number of young Tories who showed themselves anxious to go further than their own Government, even than the professedly Socialist part of it. It is one of the penalties of belonging to a great majority that these young men get so few chances of being heard. On the other hand, the former National Liberals, now that their leaders have separated themselves from the National Government, get ample chances of speech and are strong in good speakers. Sir Francis Acland is a powerful accession to their ranks. His speech on Unemployment and Mr. Baldwin's on Disarmament stand out in my mind as the most notable of the Session and it is significant that both were in a strain of deep pessimism, or at least, warning of impending disaster.

Though mainly silent on the subject of tariffs, the handful of women members have fully held up their end of the stick in the other debates. Miss Graves and Miss Pickford made short but forceful contributions to the Disarmament debate and got a good hearing. In the debate on secondary schools no less than four women took part, the Duchess of Atholl, Miss Cazalet, Miss Rathbone and Mrs. Runge—the Duchess and Miss Cazalet as defenders of the circular, Miss Rathbone in strong condemnation, and Mrs. Runge mingling praise and blame.

Now this Session is over but only a long weekend separates us from the opening of the next.

BINDING CASES

— FOR —

"The Woman's Leader."

□□

PLAIN ORANGE CLOTH, 2/9 PER CASE.**ORANGE CLOTH, LETTERED IN EITHER BLACK OR GOLD, 3/3 PER CASE.****Postage and Packing on Single Cases, 3d.****'COUNTRY DANCING FOR GUILD MEMBERS'
OR 'KEEPING FIT AT FORTY.'**

by

Janet E. McGrindell.

Perhaps the second title will attract more readers than the first for a great many Guild members are doubtless within ten years, one side or other, of this comfortable age. To be comfortable is a good feeling but we do not want to become inactive and although housework is very healthy exercise it does not tend to make us lightsome on our feet; to lose the facility for moving quickly and easily is to miss a very real joy.

To move to gay music and to weave the beautiful patterns of a dance in the company of friends is the most delightful re-creation (note the hyphen) we can have. The kind of dances which give us all these things are our own English Country Dances. The tunes are lovely English airs, the movements are suited to ordinary people and the figures are simple but call for our attention and interest to perform them aright.

Thanks to Cecil Sharp, who early this century noted down the traditional dances still popular from Northumberland to Cornwall and then found hundreds more we had forgotten in the collection of an old dancing master in the British Museum, we have a richer store of national dances than any other European country. In the 16th and 17th centuries we were famed as 'the dancing English' and we bid fair to earn this title again for all over England groups of young and old are meeting regularly to practice this art. Many of these centres are in Women's Institutes (husbands and brothers invited) and we might paraphrase a well-known quotation—'where W.I.'s lead can T.G.'s be far behind.

A number of Guilds already enjoy country dancing in their social half-hour and a few even arrange a class on another day, (the local Education Authority will usually provide and pay a teacher for a minimum of 12 people).

It is the social dancing by all Guild members which is so enjoyable; nothing makes people put off their shyness and forget their worries so easily as the simple gaiety of 'Galopede' or the jollity of the Cumberland 'Long Eight' or the 'Durham Reel.'

If your Guild has not already started, try to arrange some country dancing for the social half-hour in January or February. It is essential to have a really good leader and pianist; the latter you can probably provide from your own members. For the leader, make enquiries in the town to find out if there is a local branch or centre of the English Folk Dance Society and if none can be found write to the Secretary, English Folk Dance and Song Society, Cecil Sharp House, Regents Park Road, London, N.W.1, and ask for the address of the nearest person able to help you.

Any Townswomen's Guild members within reach of London will be amply rewarded if they go to the Albert Hall on December 31st (see the advertisement on another page) when they will have a feast of music, pattern and colour provided by dancers from all over England and by our cousins from Norway.

DISARMAMENT PROGRESS.

The month of November witnessed some definite progress, after a long and depressing period of deadlock, in regard to disarmament. The first rift in the cloud was the announcement of the French disarmament plan. This was followed by the statement of British policy by Sir John Simon to the Bureau of the Disarmament Conference. By its frank recognition of Germany's right to equality it was virtually an invitation to Germany to resume her place at the Disarmament Conference. Both as regards submarines and mobile land guns the British policy is the same as that advocated by the International Federation of League of Nations Societies and although the Naval programme is in somewhat vague terms most League supporters will agree that it is in the right direction. The chief criticism that can be directed against the statement is in regard to the use of tanks, for not only is "the modern tank of a lighter type" left undefined but Sir John used the ominous words that "it is impossible to deny in principle to Germany the right to possess a limited number of tanks of the lighter type."

NATIONAL UNION OF GUILDS FOR CITIZENSHIP

4, GREAT SMITH STREET, WESTMINSTER S.W.1.

OBJECT.

To encourage the education of women to enable them as citizens to make their best contribution towards the common good.

THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING.

7th—9th MARCH, 1933.

The formal notices summoning the Council will not be despatched until the 13th of this month, but we take this opportunity of reminding you that it is at the Annual Council Meeting that all the Societies within the National Union, through their appointed delegates, can take part in guiding the policy of the N.U.G.C. Any question your Society wants to bring forward for discussion at the Council Meeting will need to reach this office by 16th January, 1933. Nominations for the Officers and Executive Committee need to be made before 13th February. It is therefore now time that Societies should begin looking round for suitable candidates to serve on the national Executive Committee which will be responsible for carrying on the work of the National Union for the year 1933-34.

Preliminary Programme for the Annual Council Meeting Imperial Institute, South Kensington.

Tuesday, 7th March: In the afternoon, the first business session, including Presidential Address, Annual Report, and Treasurer's Statement, followed by an informal reception given by the Officers to the delegates.

Wednesday, 8th March: In the morning, resolutions. In the afternoon, a conference over which Lady Cynthia Colville will preside, at which Sir George Newman, Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health, will give an address on some Health question not yet decided upon, followed by resolutions and discussion on related subjects. The Handicraft Exhibition will be open throughout this day, and there will be a reception in connection with the Exhibition at the end of the afternoon session.

Thursday, 9th March: In the morning, the final session for resolutions. A conference for Federation Secretaries will be held in the afternoon.

NEW TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILDS.

As we write there are 140 Townswomen's Guilds, but by the time this is read there will already be more. Since September Guilds have been formed in Newton Abbot (Devon), Rickmansworth (Herts), Bloomsbury (London), Bullingdon, Cowley, and South Oxford (Oxfordshire), Bannockburn, Larbert and Stenhousemuir, and Grange-mouth (Stirlingshire), Guildford and Leatherhead (Surrey).

THE HOUSING PROBLEM.

The last of the series of lectures arranged by our Local Government Committee will be held at 35, Marsham Street, on Thursday, 8th December, at 3 o'clock, when Mrs. Hornabrook will be in the Chair, the speaker being Miss Calkin on Private Housing Schemes. It is hoped that many Guild members will be able to take advantage of this opportunity to hear what will certainly be a most interesting lecture. Brief reports of the three lectures—Captain Reiss's on the General Situation regarding the Housing Problem, Mrs. Stevenson's on Municipal Housing Schemes, and after 8th December, Miss Calkin's—may be obtained on application to the office.

OUR APPEAL.

The response from Townswomen's Guilds to Mrs. Corbett Ashby's special appeal to them has so far been most gratifying. Many contributions have been promised, and the following is a list of amounts actually received:—

	£	s.	d.
Alvaston, T. G.	1	10	0
North Berwick, T.G.	1	0	0
Bournemouth (West Cliff) T.G.	5	0	0
Christchurch, T.G.	1	10	0
Cippenham, T.G.	2	0	0
Grieff, T.G.	2	2	0
Eastleigh, T.G.	15	0	0
Halesowen, T.G.	2	0	0
Halling, T.G.	10	0	0
Hampshire Federation of T.G.'s.	1	1	0
Hampstead, T.G.	1	0	0
Harrow, T.G.	4	0	0
Hassocks, T.G.	5	0	0
Horwich, T.G.	5	0	0
Hounslow, T.G.	1	1	0
Matlock, T.G.	1	10	0
Mudeford, T.G.	2	2	0
Nuneaton, T.G.	2	2	0
Ormskirk, T.G.	5	0	0
Pensnett, T.G.	2	2	0
Richmond, T.G.	1	10	0
Stepney, T.G.	2	2	0
Stonehaven, T.G.	5	0	0
Southampton, T.G.	3	3	0
Swaythling, T.G.	10	0	0
Thurso, T.G.	2	2	0
Weybridge, T.G.	3	3	0
Woolston, T.G.	1	10	0
	£65	5	0

We apologise to Richings Park T.G. for an error in our last published list of donations from Guilds. The amount gratefully received from them was £10 10s. 0d. and not £10 0s. 0d., as stated.

OFFICE TEA PARTIES.

The crowd at the November Tea party spoke for its popularity. In December the office will be "at home" on Thursday the 15th. There will be Executive Committee members there, and "experts" of our Programme Committee ready to give help and advice on their special subjects. Let us know if you have a particular problem and we shall try to arrange for the appropriate "expert" to be there to meet you.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

The office will be closed for Christmas from 23rd—28th December, inclusive, re-opening on Thursday, 29th December. All orders, therefore, for the January "Woman's Leader" should reach the office not later than Thursday, 22nd December.

GERTRUDE HORTON,

1st December, 1932.

[Secretary.



"I HEARD AN ANGEL."

*I heard an Angel singing
When the day was springing:
"Mercy, Pity, Peace,
Is the world's release."*

W. BLAKE.

GAMES FOR CHRISTMAS.

CONTRARY.

One person stands in the centre and all the others form a ring round her, each person having a handkerchief in her hand, and the circle being made by holding on to the corners. The ring moves slowly about. Suddenly one person in the middle calls out either 'hold fast' or 'let go.' If the former, the players immediately drop their handkerchief, if 'let go' hold fast. If a mistake is made the player drops out. Other orders can be given.

ORANGE ON A SHEET.

All sit round in a circle on the ground, holding a sheet. Put an orange in the middle of the sheet. One person is 'he' has to try and catch the orange, which is bounced up and down on the sheet. Object is to keep him from getting the orange.

ANIMAL BLINDMAN'S BUFF.

One person stands in the middle of the room blindfolded, the rest form a circle and walk or dance round her, till she calls out stop. After giving this command she will then point to one of the people in the circle telling her to make the noise of some animal, such as a cat, cow, donkey. From this noise the person blindfolded must try and tell the name of the person. If she guesses correctly they change places.

BLIND BELL.

Everyone is blindfolded, except one person, who carries a bell loosely in her hand that will ring with every step. The blindfolded players try to catch the one with the bell, who will have to be very alert to keep out of the way. Whoever catches the bell-man changes places with her.

STOOP TAG.

One person is chosen to be 'it.' She chases the others trying to tag or catch one of them. A player may escape being tagged by suddenly stooping or squatting, but each player may only squat three times, after the 3rd time, a player may resort only to running to escape being tagged. Any player being tagged becomes 'it.'

JAPANESE TOUCH.

One person is chosen as 'he' and tries to touch any of the other players, who then becomes the 'he.' Whenever the player is touched she must place her hand on the spot touched whether it be on her back, knee, or any part of her body, and she must chase the others in the position. She is relieved of that position when she has caught someone else.

CHILDREN'S COMPETITION.

DEAR CHILDREN,

Your entries for the "John and Pam" painting Competition were splendid, and we hope you enjoyed painting the pictures as much as we enjoyed judging them. We have given the prize to Lancelot Jusper of Redditch, aged 8½. His choice of colour was good and his delicate handling was remarkable for a child of his age. Eileen Bailey (Upper Wyche), Beryl Hanson (Bradley Green), June Cornwell (Ruislip) and Eileen Winter (Upper Colwall) all sent in very good work. Several of the entrants had coloured the covers of their books very prettily. We wish all our competitors success in the future.

THE JUDGES.

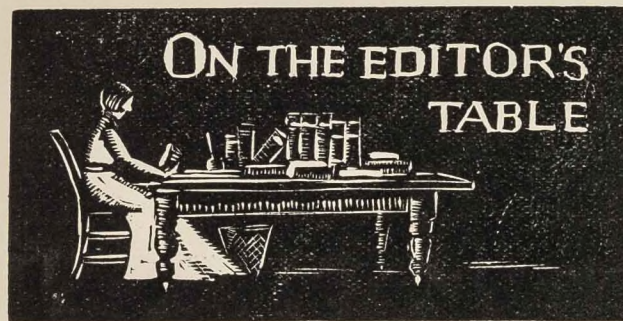
COMPETITIONS.

Our November Competition is THE BEST SUGGESTION FOR A COMPETITION IN "THE WOMAN'S LEADER." Entries should be sent in on or before December 16th. We reserve the right to make use of all or any of these entries and to withhold the prize if no suitable entry is forthcoming.

No coupon is necessary for this competition.

Our December Competition is A SEASONABLE DISH FOR JANUARY. Entries, accompanied by "The Woman's Leader" coupon should be sent in on or before January 16th, 1933.

Our January Competition is THE BEST REPORT, IN 100 WORDS, OF THE MEETING OF A GUILD OR SOCIETY. The meeting may be real or imaginary, but competitors should say which of these alternatives they have chosen. Entries, with coupon, should reach our office on or before February 16th, 1933.



BOOKS OF ALL SORTS.

My Funniest Story: An Anthology of Stories Chosen by their Authors. (Faber and Faber 7/6), comes at a most opportune time. The names of the 24 authors contributing to this collection is recommendation enough. The fun contained within these covers has a wide range, from the comedy of Somerville and Ross, or the humorous imagination of Stella Benson to the farce of Mabel Constanduros. This book will serve for family reading aloud, for the guest's bedside table or for lending to a friend with influenza.

Blue Days at Sea by *H. V. Morton* (Methuen 3/6) Mr. H. V. Morton reveals in this book of essays his power of seizing on the significant and presenting it in a pointed, pleasant and impressive manner. "A Visit to the Navy" is particularly informative and I should say, good character study. This is a good book for a railway journey.

Something New in Sandwiches by *M. Redington White* (Routledge 1/6), also comes opportunely for Christmas. This little book is the acme of practicality, for it contains not only recipes for 200 kinds of sandwiches but also general hints, menus for picnics and railway journeys and tells you what to do with sandwich trimmings and left-over sandwiches.

The Child in Home and School by *F. M. Surfleet* (Headley Bros. 3/6). This is a practical book. The problems of childhood are described and made clearer by illustrative stories, and the points in the book further emphasised by questions. A useful book for a study circle.

"**THE SYSTEM,**" by *Lionel Birch*. (Philip Allan, 7/6).

A story advocating mixed education in which, in the author's rather photographic system of writing, the scales are a little overweighted against schools for one sex only. Is the mistress "masculine; unattractive; a bully probably; hair carelessly done; bad glasses and protruding teeth;" really representative of the staff of a modern Girls' School? The picture of a mother too much engrossed in her children is well done.

The Improvised Stage by *Marjorie Somerscales* (Sir Isaac Pitman and Sons, 5/-). This book will be invaluable to the amateur Stage Manager. The author shows how a fruitful imagination will enable stage scenery and dresses adequate for amateur performances to be evolved from the simplest materials. The chapters on dress contains some most ingenious devices, e.g., to turn a coat frock into a man's tunic, a nightdress into an Empire dress and a jumper into—almost anything you want.

Patterns, actual prices and measurements and many useful illustrations, are given in this engrossing book.

Beginner's Luck and Here Lies Matilda by *M. E. Atkinson* (Deane and Sons 1/-), are two amusing playlets for women characters only, each well within the powers of amateurs.

Three children's books come from Messrs. Methuen:—**Betty and the Bears** by *Hal Eyre* (5/-) **The Easter Hare** by *Rose Fyleman* (3/6) and **Wotta-Woppa** by *Mabel Marlowe* (3/6). Each of these is charmingly illustrated and contains enough amusing or interesting reading matter to keep a child engaged quietly for some hours, and is to this extent a good investment for busy parents.

We have also received—

THE LAND OF THE GOLD MOHUR, by *Lady Louther* (P. H. Allan, 12/6), an attractively illustrated appreciatively written account of the author's travels in India, when she had exceptional opportunities of seeing people and things.

WILLIAM JAMES ASHLEY, A LIFE, by *Anne Ashley*, with a Foreword by the Rt. Hon. Stanley Baldwin, M.P. (P. S. King, 8/6). This biography of a Professor of Commerce, an expert in Economics, contains much to interest the general reader.

MEMORIES MELLOWING, by *Agnes Errington*. (The Hill Press, cloth 3/- parchment 1/9), a simple account of the everyday happenings in a woman's life. The binding of the cloth edition is very attractive.

REPORT OF THE SIXTH CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN, EDINBURGH, 1932. A valuable record of the work, progress and interests of University Women.

A FEW NEW BOOKS.

Flowering Wilderness, by *John Galsworthy*.

First Night, by *Lorna Rea*.

Green Banks, by *Dorothy Whipple*.

They Were Defeated, by *Rose Macaulay*.

Peking Picnic, by *Ann Bridge*.

The Common Reader. Second Series, by *Virginia Woolf*.

A Man's Life, by *Jack Lawson, M.P.*

SOME LONDON THEATRES AT CHRISTMAS

BY

Gervase Hughes.

ADELPHI	Words and Music. A revue. Noel Coward at his best and most versatile.
ALDWYCH	Fifty-Fifty. A clever French comedy turned into a farce to suit Ralph Lynn.
APOLLO	Springtime for Henry. A better-than-usual farce.
CRITERION	Musical Chairs. Still the best play in London for grown-ups.
PALLADIUM	Peter Pan. Perhaps the best play for children and grown-ups.
DRURY LANE	Wild Violets. Riotous 1902 costumes by Doris Zinkeisen and 6 feet of absurdity called Charlotte Greenwood.
GAIETY	Potash & Purlmutter. The old Jewish comics have turned up again.
GARRICK (<i>Matinees</i>)	Buckie's Bears. An entertainment for those under 10.
GLOBE	For Services Rendered. Somerset Maugham's latest, showing the devastating results of the war on the morale of those taking part. A fine play.
HIS MAJESTY'S	The Dubarry. Anny Ahlers, Anny Ahlers and Anny Ahlers.
OLD VIC and SABLERS WELLS PLAYHOUSE	Opera and Shakespeare as per usual.
QUEENS St. MARTIN'S	The Firebird. This theatre is out of the way, but don't forget about it. Gladys Cooper is an accomplished actress as well as a pretty one.
SAVILLE	Even-song. "Edith Evans." Strange Orchestra. An interesting, amusing and in places almost moving play in the modern manner.
SAVOY	Tell Her the Truth. Pleasant tunes and plenty of fooling.
SHAFTESBURY	Gilbert & Sullivan Operas. Surely I need say no more.
WHITEHALL	Orders are Orders. Good clean fun of the "Punch" type. Road House. Marion Lorne is a joy for ever.

At Christmas several of these shows may be transferred to other theatres. We are also promised a production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream." There will be pantomimes at the Hippodrome, Daly's and the Lyceum, and probably revues at the Prince Edward and Piccadilly Theatres.

PRESS CUTTINGS.

The Turkish Republic has just completed its first ten years, under the Presidency of Mustapha Kemal. During this time Turkish women have become completely emancipated—matrimonial laws have been framed on modern lines and polygamy abolished. The wearing of the fez and veil, the old national head-dress, is forbidden by law.

The Y.W.C.A. has evolved a scheme for giving girls of 14 a two years training in domestic work. Twenty girls from all parts of the country are at present in training.

At the Derby Borough Police Court one day recently the Bench was composed entirely of women.

The Nobel Institute of Norway has given a grant of 2000 Norwegian crowns to the Disarmament Committee of the Women's International Organisations.

Mrs. Franklin Roosevelt is a hard-working woman. She edits a magazine called *Babies Just Babies*, lectures on history and current affairs at the fashionable Todhunter School for Girls, and makes reproductions of antique furniture.

Mme. de Vilmorin has been raised to the rank of Commander of the Legion of Honour. She is the second woman to receive this distinction. Mme. de Vilmorin is at the head of the largest seed and grain producing firm in France, and is sent on missions by the French Government to advise on the cultivation of land in the Colonies.

Miss M. Wills, who has been appointed clerk to the Bath National Health Insurance Committee, is stated to be the first woman in England to hold such an office. Miss Wills succeeded her father, who died recently.

The Right Hon. Sir Godfrey Collins, K.B.E., C.M.G. M.P., Secretary of State for Scotland, was the principal guest and speaker at the annual Parliamentary reception of the Edinburgh Women Citizens' Association.

A BOOK FOR STUDY.

"**The Finance of Government,**" by The Rt. Hon. John W. Hills, M.P. and E. A. Fellowes (Philip Allan & Co., 8/6).


This is a first rate book about the problems of public Finance. It is not one of those books which are easier than a novel, for it deals seriously and thoroughly with such apparently dry subjects as the public Revenue and its administration, the currency system and the National Debt. It tells you exactly how far the House of Commons can control National expenditure, and what steps can be taken to enforce public economy. The chapter on the National Debt and the various sorts of Government securities is particularly interesting. It can be recommended with confidence to Members of Parliament, to all students of modern history and economics, and to the general reader who takes his newspaper and his politics seriously. The authors form an ideal combination, for the one brings to the task his first-hand knowledge of Parliamentary procedure, and the other his expert knowledge of Civil Service and Treasury practice.

A.W.P.

We are particularly pleased to notice this book, as the author, Major Hills, is well known to our older readers as a friend of the causes for which "The Woman's Leader" used to stand.

In response to the request of many educational and social organisations, a January Vacation Course of practical play-production will be held at the Everyman Theatre, Hampstead, from December 30th to January 8th. This School will constitute the Twentieth Vacation School organised by the Little Theatre, Citizen House, Bath, and, like its very successful predecessors, it will be of a thoroughly practical nature. The inclusive fee for the Course is Two Guineas. The membership is limited to one hundred men and women, in order that the maximum personal tuition may be afforded, and application for membership should be made to the Hon. Secretary, Little Theatre, Citizen House, Bath.

For those who live within an easy radius of London, a further Week-end Course of Dramatic Production will be held at the Everyman Theatre from February to April, meeting on alternate Saturday and Sunday afternoons.



THE WHIST DRIVE

THE GUILD CALENDAR

DECEMBER	
S	... 4 11 18 25 ...
M	... 5 12 19 26 ...
Tu	... 6 13 20 27 ...
W	... 7 14 21 28 ...
Th	1 8 15 22 29 ...
F	2 9 16 23 30 ...
S	3 10 17 24 31 ...

NEWS FROM GUILDS & SOCIETIES

Glasgow S.E.C. & W.C.A.

The first of the three Lectures under the heading of "A Vision of the Future" was given on 10th November, by Dr. Carstairs Douglas, Professor of Public Health, Anderson College of Medicine, Glasgow. He took for his subject "A National Aim—The Attainment of an AI Nation." His address was most instructive and interesting and at times amusing, and was listened to with great attention and there were many questions put to him which were answered satisfactorily.

The following titles of Addresses which have been given during November will serve to show the varied nature and scope of the subjects provided by the Committees of the various divisions for the delectation of their Members:—Elizabeth Fry; Rural England; International Disarmament; League of Nations; The Efficient and the Inefficient; The Cinema; Fresh Air Fortnight; The Work of a Hospital Almoner; Empire.

Arrangements are in progress for a Jumble Sale and also the holding of a Café Chantant and Christmas Sale, both of which judging from the enthusiasm of the Committees promise to be highly successful.

Press Correspondent: Mrs. Bertram, 226, Woodlands Road, Glasgow, C.3.

Lancashire and Cheshire Federation of T.G.'s.

The Lancashire and Cheshire Federation held a very full meeting this month. Reports from Guilds were read, showing varied activities. Miss McCrindell, the new organiser for the North of England, attended the meeting and said how pleased she was to have the opportunity of meeting so many Guild Officers who would, she hoped, help her with the formation of new Guilds. After the Chairman had explained the seriousness of Headquarter's financial position, suggestions for resolutions for the Annual Council Meeting to be held in March were made, and Guilds were asked to discuss these and report on them at the next meeting. *Hon. Secy: Mrs. Beard Taylor, Wensley, Derbyshire Road, Sale, Cheshire.*

South Wales Area Group of Women Citizens' Associations.

The tenth Annual Meeting of the South Wales Area Group of Women Citizens' Associations was held at Newport, Monmouthshire on 29th October, when each of the Associations was well represented despite very bad weather. Miss Barks, M.A., presided and the reports of the Associations were received. They proved very interesting and most helpful in discussing the future work of the Area Group. In this Area unemployment affects quite three-fourths of the population which depends almost entirely on the coal industry, so that financially the Associations were badly handicapped. Nevertheless very successful meetings and some sales of work had been held, at which much useful work had been accomplished. Cardiff and Newport had continued to agitate for Women Police, and Abertillery and Ebbw Vale had each provided lethal chambers for the painless

destruction of cats and dogs. These they had installed at the police stations where they contributed towards their maintenance. One outstanding event of the year was the Farewell Luncheon to Mrs. Coombe Tennant, held at Cardiff in December last and reported in our February issue. The Area Group are very proud of their first Townswomen's Guild which has been formed at Nantyglo, Mon. *Hon. Secy: Miss C. Tilney, 20, Guild Tops, Newport.*

Bermondsey T.G.

Mrs. Shephard and Mrs. Edwards of Purley assured the success of the November meeting of Bermondsey T.G. by giving a most delightful half-hour's concert, finishing up with "Love's Old Sweet Song," and "Shenandoah," all joining in the chorus. Mrs. Eade then gave a demonstration of home-made toys and very kindly gave patterns to members who were greatly interested in the work. She also judged the competition for making hats from newspaper: a few were extraordinarily good, and two prizes were awarded. *Hon. Secy: Mrs. Barnard, Beech Hanger, Merstham, Surrey.*

Buckie T.G.

The popularity of the youthful Townswomen's Guild at Buckie was shown at the November meeting, when Miss Milne presided over a very large and enthusiastic gathering. The President, in her opening remarks, referred to the death of Mrs. Mayne, one of the Guild members, and a vote of sympathy with the relatives was passed. The evening's programme had been carefully arranged to suit the season of the year: Mr. Coutts delighted everyone with his talk on "Hallowe'en and its Customs," and his singing of several songs. Miss Gordon then gave a cookery demonstration on 'Apple Fritters' and afterwards in company with Mrs. McDonald, judged the competition in making apple-jelly and apple-chutney. Mrs. Nicol's singing of "Loch Neven," "Songs my Mother taught me," and "Loch Lomond" were very greatly enjoyed. *Joint Hon. Secretaries: Miss Lyall, 40, High Street, Buckie, Miss P. Davidson, Cliff House, Buckie.*

Bullington and District T.G.

The first meeting of the Bullington and District T.G. was held on Friday, 14th October, 1932, when great interest and enthusiasm was shown for the formation of a dressmaking class and of a choral society. Dr. Dorothy Crook gave an interesting talk on "Health," and games and tea completed a very pleasant afternoon's programme. At the second meeting on 11th November five new members joined. There were some tempting looking cakes entered for the cake competition and these were judged by Mrs. Wise—the prize, a Guild badge, being awarded to Mrs. Black. Mrs. Wise afterwards gave a most interesting talk on "Christmas Fare." The Guild members were very pleased to have with them Mrs. Grey from Headquarters, who spoke on the Guild movement. Tea and games ended a very happy afternoon. *Hon. Secy: Mrs. Hull, 103, The Slade, Headington, Oxford.*

Prestwich and District T.G.

Prestwich and District T.G. can look back with satisfaction on a very successful first year of life. The membership, which started at 58, is now 100, and the attendance at interesting and instructive meetings throughout the year has been good. The usual procedure has been to start the Meeting with community singing, and end it with a Fellowship song. Of the various demonstrations given during the year, that on leatherwork was perhaps, the most fruitful. A leatherwork class was formed, with the result that two members won prizes in a local exhibition. The art of stool-seat weaving further challenged the skill of members, 20 of whom are now able to take their ease on stools of their own making. Most interesting talks have been given throughout the session. The various competitions held at each meeting have further stimulated the efforts of members, many of whom have produced really good work. A very special feature of the guild is the Helping Hand Fund, with the aid of which valuable work has been done among sick members, in the way of distributing fruit, flowers, etc. Finally, whist drives have been held throughout the year to raise money for the Guild funds. *Hon. Secy: Mrs. Ayres, 10, Alexandra Avenue, Whitefield, Manchester.*

St. Thomas (Exeter) T.G.

At their November meeting held at the Buller Hall, Exeter, the members of the St. Thomas T.G. listened with great interest to a most instructive address given by Mr. F. G. Richardson, from St. Dunstan's Home. He gave a detailed account of the work of the Home, and the care and attention given to all, who like himself had lost their sight in the War. After various aspects of the work had been discussed an appeal was made to the audience to join the "Old Bill" Club, whose members promise to buy a minimum of 5/- worth of goods a year, and thus ensure an income to St. Dunstan's. This appeal was backed by an attractive exhibition of the work done. A play "The First of April," which followed was a great success and the producer, Miss Cox, is to be congratulated, with the performers, on a most amusing entertainment. *Hon. Secy: Mrs. Day, 7, Lion Terrace, Alphington Road, Exeter, S. Devon.*

Stourbridge T.G.

The November Meeting of the Stourbridge T.G. witnessed not only a record attendance, but the enrolment of many new members. Nominations for new Committee members and suggestions for next year's programme were handed in. Mr. Browning Button then gave a most interesting lecture on "The Lure of the Cumbrian Coast," illustrated by excellent lantern slides which showed the many beauty spots of Wales. An interlude followed for tea, after which the Sketch Party gave a performance of "The Gipsy's Warning." The Sketch Party together with Mr. Farley, husband of one of the members, who wrote the Sketch, were heartily congratulated, and thanked for an excellent piece of work. The Ladies' Choir which numbers 20, is practising for a Concert to be held on December 12th, 1932, in aid of the Blind in Stourbridge. *Hon. Secy: Mrs. Moberley, Hawbush House, Stourbridge, Worcs.*

Hassocks and District T.G.

The Hassocks and District T.G. celebrated their third birthday at their October meeting, when 61 members were present. They were fortunate in having with them Lady Woodward who presided at their inaugural meeting three years ago. She gave an interesting address on "Embroidery through the Ages." One of the members gave a most attractive birthday-cake, and the meeting ended with a very enjoyable tea. At the November meeting Miss Plowright spoke about ways in which Guild members could help the unemployed of Brighton through the coming winter. She referred to the excellent work of the Southover Street and Whitihawk canteens and reported the proposal that women of neighbouring towns and villages should have depôts to which they could bring food, etc., to be forwarded every week in hampers to the Brighton canteens. *Hon. Secy: Miss Plowright, Holly Villa, Lodge Lane, Keymer, Hassocks, Sussex.*

Middlesbrough T.G.

The Middlesbrough T.G. had an extremely interesting meeting in October. The speaker was Mrs. Murray Brooks, a nurse, from the Birth Control Clinic of the Women's Welfare Association of Newcastle-on-Tyne, and she took as her subject the present-day need for birth control, illustrating her talk with references to the work of the Newcastle Clinic. Listeners generally were greatly impressed by the subject and felt that the introduction of such a service into their own town would be greatly appreciated. Visitors from the local branch of the National Council of Women and from the Marton (Yorks) Women's Institute attended the meeting. At the November meeting the attendance was again good. This time the programme was of a more domestic character; the chief feature was a demonstration of cookery, "Supper Dishes," given by Miss R. Ross. *Hon. Secy: Mrs. F. Bird, 2, Mayfair Avenue, Grove Hill, Middlesbrough, Yorks.*

North Kensington T.G.

On Wednesday, November 2nd, 1932, the North Kensington T.G. held its third Annual Meeting. A considerable part of the meeting was necessarily taken up with business; the Secretary read a report of a full year's work including many extra activities beyond the monthly meetings, such as concerts, outings to places of interest, fortnightly singing classes, etc.; in addition one of the Guild members gave a brief report of her experiences at the Malvern Rally. Turning from business to pleasure, members greatly enjoyed the performance in costume of a Cantata with spoken parts, called "Fun at the Fair," by the Singing and Dramatic Circles. The cutting of a birthday cake ennobled the usual ceremony of tea. Guests were welcomed from other Guilds belonging to the Central London Federation. *Hon. Secy: Mrs. Mawer, 12, Dawson Place, W.2.*

A Pioneer T.G.

We gather from the local press that through the initiative of the Wellington (Salop) T.G. a representative Committee has been formed to assist in the work at the Wellington Aftercare Centre of the Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital.

The Secretary of the Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital spoke warmly of the value of after-care treatment and thanked the T.G. for their work in this connection.

GLEANINGS.

Public opinion is not the average of what people think ; it is the average of what people express. *The Archbishop of York.*

There is no limit to what a man can do if he does not care who gains credit for it. *Mr. Lloyd George.*

You cannot expect to get a first rate article at a third-rate price. *The Prince of Wales.*

Surveyor : This house appears to be well-built.
Tenant : It is indeed, Why, I've brought up nine children in it.

Prospective Mistress. You seem very young. Have you had much experience ?

Applicant. Well, no, not really. Pictures twice a week, perhaps ; but you can't hardly call that experience.
from Punch.

OUR INFORMATION BUREAU.

We shall be pleased in this column to print questions and replies from our readers on matters of general interest. We cannot as a rule undertake postal replies.

CLUBS writes :—

I belonged for many years to the International Women's Franchise Club, and I would now like to belong to a similar club, one that is fairly central and not too expensive and with a wide social outlook." Can any of our readers give advice on this question ?

A CORRECTION.

We regret a mistake which appeared in our last issue in the announcement of the death of Miss Rosa Hovey. Miss Hovey was Head Mistress of Penrhos College, not Penrose as given in our November issue.

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