

Contents :

PAGE

REVIEW : "MORE PI	AIN	SPEAKING."	M.D.S.	PAGE . 196
HOUSEHOLD ECONOM	MICS.	By Ann Pope	- Car	. 196
CORRESPONDENCE A	AND	REPORTS .		. 197

### NOTES AND NEWS

### Rocks Ahead.

The British Government has at last defined its attitude to the German note which has lain for so many weeks unanswered. The long period of delay was, as everybody knows, dictated by the hope that joint action with France might eventually be achieved. As to whether such delay was justified in view of the rapid deterioration of German economic conditions and the scepticism which many people felt regarding the reality of M. Poincaré's desire for an economic settlement, opinion is sharply divided. Now that it is at an end, opinion is united. With insignificant exceptions the people of this country agree with Mr. Baldwin that the Ruhr occupation is a disastrous method of debt collection, that the recent German offer of an impartial enquiry is worthy of consideration, and that the time is ripe for the British Govern-ment to take the initiative in saying so. Meanwhile, the reception of Mr. Baldwin's statement by the Paris Press, and M. Poincaré's answering reideration at Senlis of an unchanging attitude suggest that this new phase of our own policy may lead the paths of French and British diplomacy still further asunder. Should this be the case, we believe that the people of this country have sufficiently long war memories and a sufficient understanding of French fears and difficulties to avoid slipping into anything resembling the national animosity which characterized Anglo-French relations in pre-Entente days. The substitution of French militarism for German militarism has not assisted the cause of European peace. Nor would that cause be assisted by the substitution in this country of an anti-French feeling for an anti-German feeling.

### Women and Cambridge University.

The Universities of Oxford and Cambridge Bill was considered in Committee on Wednesday, 11th. It was a great disappointment that the amendment moved by Mr. Butler to provide that the Commissioners of Cambridge University should make statutes and regulations in accordance with the recommendation of the Cambridge Committee of the Royal Commission on the Universities was lost. This amendment would have had the effect of admitting women with certain exceptions to full membership of the University. The amendment was moved in an admirable speech by Mr. Butler, who made clear the harm which their non-admission to membership is having on the education of women at Cambridge, and on the University, and how, moreover, Oxford and Cambridge Universities were in a unique way national institutions supplying a particular kind of education to both men and women which could not be got elsewhere. The State therefore could not step aside. He was supported by Mr. Graham and others, but unfortunately both the Minister for Education and Mr. Fisher spoke against the amendment on the grounds that the change is one which, however desirable in itself, should be carried out by the Universities. As we have frequetly pointed out in these columns, this "autonomy cry" is ludicrous on the consideration of a Bill which in its very essence consists of nothing but interference with the internal affairs of the University !

### A Point Gained.

One cause for rejoicing is found in the carrying of Mrs. Wintringham's amendment which provided for the appointment of a woman on the Statutory Committees of each University. This is a point for which the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship has been fighting for over a year, and if, as is only too possible, provision for the admission of women to membership will be determined by the Commission, the presence on the Commission of a woman will be extraordinarily valuable. With regard to Oxford, as the Statutory Committee for this University will be considering matters affecting both men and women Members of the University, the appointment of a woman is of great importance.

### Guardianship, etc., Bill, 1923-for and against in Committee.

Interesting evidence has been given before this Committee this week by Sir James Greig, who presented an admirable digest of the laws relating to the Guardianship of Children

abroad and in the Dominions. He showed the extent to which Equal Guardianship Laws obtain in the United States—in that out of 48 States 34 have adopted the principle, so also in Canada has British Columbia and Alberta. Sir James, who, as the Member in charge of the Bill when it was before the House in 1921, spoke warmly in favour of it, and pointed out how the fact that the principle was being adopted in an increasing number of States was proof that it is not an insuperable difficulty to work out the principle in practice.

On Monday Sir Chartres Byron, Chief London Magistrate, gave evidence against the Bill very much on the same lines as his evidence last year. Though bound to admit that there are certain gaps in the present law by which the mother suffers hardships, at the same time he is on his own confession so imbued by the fact that the father for "obvious reasons should be regarded as the sole guardian of the child, that he finds many of the administrative problems insuperable. The Committee is obtaining the opinion of all London Magistrates on the Rill

### The Illegitimate Child-The Bastardy Bill.

It is satisfactory to report that the above Bill has passed its Committee Stage and Third Reading in the House of Lords. A small amendment was moved by the Government and accepted by Lord Astor, so that the Bill-will have to return to the House of Commons before it receives Royal Assent

### Legitimacy Bill.

With regard to this Bill it is also satisfactory to note that" Lord Salisbury has announced in the House that if the Bill is amended in the House of Lords in the Autumn Session the Government will do its best to arrange time for the amendments to be considered in the House of Commons, so that the Bill can become law this session.

### The Axe at Work.

The question of the Metropolitan Women Police has been again raised in the House of Commons. On Wednesday in reply to questions from Lady Astor, Mr. Bridgeman admitted the value of the services of Women Police, but gave no indication that larger numbers were contemplated. The following day the matter arose again on the vote for the Home Office, when the urgency of the need for the protection of children against indecent assault was dwelt on in speeches by Mr. Briant, Lady Astor, and Mrs. Wintringham. *The Times*, in a sympathetic leading article on Friday entitled "Children First", pleads for the children, and states that the reduction of the number of women police to save a sum of something like  $f_{20,000}$  was totally unjustified. During the same discussion the inadequacy of the factory inspectorate was also referred to by Mr. Arthur Greenwood, Lord Henry Cavendish-Bentinck, and others. It was pointed out that each inspector had every year to inspect 1,400 factories and workshops. The cost to the community of unnecessary accidents cannot be estimated though perhaps more capable of calculation than the cost of the ruin of child lives. But unfortunately the expense of a few additional salaries can easily be ascertained and an unimaginative nation allows such economies to be continued at the expense of human lives.

### Lady Astor's Bill.

Lady Astor's Bill preventing the sale of intoxicants to young people for consumption in bars went triumphantly through its Report and Third Reading stages on Friday morning by 257 votes to 10. It is well that the rights of minorities should be safeguarded, but in view of the exceedingly small opposition, it seems a lamentable waste both of the time of the House and of the patience of the Bill's promoters that the small group of obstructors should have been able to hold the measure up by various well-known Parliamentary devices. The two hours on Friday were made full use of by Sir Frederick Banbury, who read lengthy extracts from Hansard and from other documents in inaudible tones and at a funeral pace which bored, if it did not actually irritate, the House. To him this prodigious success of a Private Member's Bill and the facilities afforded by the Government could be attributed to one cause, and to one cause only-the fatal feminine attractions of the promoter of the Bill !

The interests of sane temperance reform were well served by Mr. Scrymgeour, who in a speech of bitter but sincere invective denounced the Bill as a piece of hypocritical humbug, because it did not ask for total prohibition for adults and juveniles alike. Lady Astor made an admirable ten minutes' speech at the end in her own mixture of earnestness and gaiety. To the timid souls who nervously asked for assurances that this was not to be the first of a series of Temperance Bills, she very properly replied that it was not for her to say, but that it lay with public opinion and the House of Commons to secure fresh legislation as and when the demand for change made itself felt.

JULY 20, 1923.

### The Forces of Reaction.

Only the following ten Members could be found to vote against the third reading of the Intoxicating Liquors (Sale to Persons under Eighteen) Bill: Right Hon. Charles W. Bowerman, Right Hon. Sir William James Bull, Major William Phillips Colfox, L. Forestier Walker, C. S. Garland, Lieut.-Col. Sir F. Hall (Dulwich), Sir Neville Paul Jodrell, Col. H. Mercer, C. K. Murchison, and E. W. Shepperson. Tellers for the Noes: Sir Frederick Banbury and Lieut.-Col. Sir Martin Archer-Shee. Tellers for the Ayes: Viscountess Astor and Mr. Isaac Foot.

### Women in Local Government.

Two outstanding successes of women candidates have recently occurred. Miss Snodgrass, who was unfortunately defeated last year after ten years' successful experience on the Glasgow City Council, was returned after a stiff fight by a majority of 373 in another ward at a by-election caused by the death of the sitting councillor. As all the three candidates went to the poll as so-called "moderates" it was obvious that sex prejudice was still at work in the opposition to Miss Snodgrass, but the women worked splendidly and the men voted with discrimination, with this most satisfactory result. Another fight resulting in the successful return of a woman is reported from Cambridge, where Miss Ellen Briscoe was recently elected a member of the Cambridgeshire County Council. Miss Briscoe is Chairman of the County Federation of Women's Institutes, and was for many years a member of the local Board of Guardians, as well as member for some years of the County Education and Insurance Committees. In Glasgow, in a ward where "everybody" goes out of town for the three summer months, there was a conspicuously small poll, but it is worth recording that in Cambridgeshire 712 voted out of a possible 837. Such interest in local Government is alas rare indeed.

#### Women and the Professions.

The Members of North Bow Congregational Church, Roman Road, London, E., have unanimously invited Miss M. G. Collins to become their Minister. Miss Collins received her theological training at New College, Hampstead. Miss Margaret Henderson Kidd, daughter of Mr. James Kidd, formerly M.P. for Linlithgowshire, was admitted a member of the Faculty of Advocates at Edinburgh last week. Miss Helena Normanton, in wig and gown, took her seat among counsel at the Old Bailey yesterday. She is the first lady barrister to do so.

#### STOP PRESS

### Latest News of Women's Bills.

The Matrimonial Causes Bill, the story of which Major Entwistle tells in another column, receives the Royal Assent to-day. As we go to press we are delighted to hear that the Summary Jurisdiction (Separation and Maintenance Orders) Bill goes into Committee next Wednesday.

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.

ULY 20, 1923.

### NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER.

### By OUR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT.

On Friday the Rent Restriction Bill followed the Housing Bill to the House of Lords; and our hard-worked Minister of Health may begin to look forward to a spell of comparative tranquillity. Its satisfaction may be poisoned by the memory of last Wednesday's " climbdown " over the cherished reference ommittee sub-section. On the face of it all parties appear to have been satisfied by the acceptance of Sir Ryland Adkin's amendment, which in effect shelves the whole question by providing that the disputed committees do not become operative unless both Houses subsequently pass a resolution in their favour. It is doubtful, however, whether Mr. Chamberlain's atisfaction at the compromise is as fundamental as Sir Frederick Banbury's

On the following day the Prime Minister's eagerly awaited in both Houses. In the Upper House it was followed by a short sion—characterized by Lord Curzon as " a little irregular n the House of Commons it was not discussed at all. It is enerally believed that the statement as originally drafted vas heavily expurgated at the cabinet meeting which preceded ts publication. Every phrase likely to cause unnecessary irritation to M. Poincaré—including an expression of opinion on the part of the Law Officers of the Crown that the Ruhr occupation is not legally covered by the provisions of the Treatywas carefully toned down. Little was given to the House beyond bare statement of the Government's intention to take the nitiative in accepting the German offer of an impartial enquiry to her reparation-paying capacity. Whether or no this reply vill eventually be forwarded to Berlin in the name of the British Government alone or in the names of the four allied Powers emains to be seen. Meanwhile Mr. Baldwin has the united upport of the House of Commons in the action which he is about take. Very great is the general satisfaction that this country as at last a policy.

On Friday the long, intolerable strain on Lady Astor's batience was compensated by the thundering majority by which the House of Commons carried her "Under Eighteen" Bill. It was not any rebirth of good sense which in the end wore down

### By C. F. ENTWISTLE, M.P.

In this and in next week's issue Major Entwistle tells the story f how the Bill for Equality in Divorce drafted by the N.U.S.E.Č was passed into law.

It is one of the great drawbacks of our Parliamentary system hat it is almost impossible for a Private Member to introduce Bill on any subject of wide and general interest and get it assed through all its multifarious stages into law. It is difficult nough for the Government, with its power of appropriating the whole of Parliamentary time, to get through its own legislation, and the "slaughter of the innocents" is a familiar sight at the end of every session. I have known many admirable measures, even though "starred" by the Government, go year after year without getting on to the Statute Book.

### THE ART OF OBSTRUCTION.

The House of Commons is rightly very jealous of the power of criticism vested in the individual. The necessary corollary of this is that a skilful Parliamentarian single-handed can work wonders in the gentle art of obstructing legislation. In later lays the amendment of procedure, by the introduction of new orms of closure of variegated and picturesque nomenclature, such as "the kangaroo" and "the guillotine," has considerably curtailed this power of obstruction, but not nearly to the extent of giving a Private Member a reasonable chance of piloting a Bill rough the House.

In the last Parliament the Government made a practice of expropriating for its own business the whole time of the House. In this Parliament the Government has relaxed to the extent of allowing two or three Fridays for the second reading of Private Members' Bills, and two Fridays for the report and third reading

194

### THE WOMAN'S LEADER.

the destructive tactics of the Banbury group; but rather a definite assurance from Government quarters that time wasted on Friday would be made good at the expense of Government business at a later date. Apart from the size of the majority the debate was in no way remarkable. Everybody said exactly what everybody expected them to say. But it was sad to see a man so young as Major Colfox among the handful of hardened veterans who fought and died in the first ditch before the outer defences of alcoholic individualism.

On Monday the House reverted to its discussion, interrupted on 20th March, of the pros and cons of capitalism. A debate of this kind on a subject so vast in its scope, in an assembly economically so uneducated, is bound to be disappointing. Its hearers would have learned more about the possibilities and dangers of socialism had the discussions been concentrated upon a definite and concrete socialist proposal, such as the Sankey nationalization scheme. As it was, the speeches were for the most part strings of ill-supported generalizations with a few irrelevant facts thrown in here and there like currents in a bun. The most interesting and intriguing speech was perhaps that of Mr. Lloyd George. And though the lobbies subsequently buzzed with the derogatory comments of his past and present supporters he was the only anti-socialist speaker who attempted to argue out the most effectual anti-socialist point : that Great Britain, by reason of her peculiar and precarious economic conditions. is the worst country in the world in which to try socialist experiments. He did not argue the point well, but he did it better than anybody else. However, there is nothing to be said on behalf of the fatuous proposal for an inquiry into the causes of our present industrial discontents, with which Mr. Lloyd George wound up his curiously double-edged attack on socialism. Indeed, nobody took it seriously at all. An inquiry forsooth ! How many inquiries has Mr. Lloyd George initiated into this very question-and into what dark departmental pigeon-holes has he stuffed their various recommendations for reform ?

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

### THE ADVENTURE OF A PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL.

stages. A ballot was held to determine the order of precedence in which Members could select a Friday for the second reading of their Bill.

### ORDER OF PROGRESS.

If a second reading was secured it was essential to obtain a rapid passage through the Committee stage of the Bill upstairs, as the Bill first through Committee had precedence in obtaining one of the two days allotted for the report and third reading. As most people are aware, a Bill to become law has to be read

a first and second time in the House, then it has to go through a Standing Committee, in which it can be drastically amended. Afterwards it has to go through a report stage in the House, where it can again be amended, and finally the Bill has to be read a third time. The Bill is now through all its stages in the House of Commons, but it has by no means completed its adventurous course. The same stages have to be gone through in the House of Lords. If the Lords amend it in any particular, the Bill has to come back to the House of Commons to see if the Commons are prepared to accept the Lords' amendments. If they disagree the Bill again goes to the Lords, and this game of shuttlecock may proceed for a considerable time until either the Lords and Commons at last agree, or the Bill is lost through lack of time. If the Bill is a Private Member's Bill, any amendment by the Lords will probably be fatal, as no time is allotted to Private Members' Bills for consideration of Lords' amendments.

It will be seen from the above that I embarked upon a tremendous undertaking when I set out to get my Bill for Equal Divorce passed into law.

Matrimonial Causes Bill, 1923.

### MORE PLAIN SPEAKING.

106

Dr. Stopes' new book 1 will meet a demand of which many people are at present fully conscious. To-day, numbers of married persons are practising birth control unwisely and with ill-effects. Numbers are desirous of practising it, but are deterred from so doing by ignorance. And numbers are experiencing burdensome and disturbing obstacles to married happiness which an adequate knowledge of birth control would dispel. The book under discussion will not itself reach this wide public; it is too big a thing, and incidentally too expensive; but as a manual for medical experts and social workers it fills an obvious gap and provides concisely and comprehensively much needed knowledge, which can be easily digested and diffused.

The sub-title of the book explains its general scope, and it may be added that the three aspects there indicated are treated with a width of knowledge and wealth of reference which make the whole treatise rather a monumental achievement. Its most important section, from the practical point of view, is that central block of chapters in which the author describes one by one all the known methods of contraceptive birth control, of which our readers may be surprised to learn there exist no less than thirty distinct forms differing widely in their physiological and psychological reactions. This fact alone is sufficient to make us very sceptical of any offhand criticism which condemns birth control in general as physically harmful without specification of which particular form is under consideration. Each form is here treated in considerable detail, a balanced account of its advantages and disadvantages is given, and where adequate information or recorded experience is lacking the lack is duly chronicled. Clearly Dr. Stopes is herself conscious that she has still much to learn by observation and experiment. Her conclusion is that at present the "ideal" method has yet to be discovered, but that although individual peculiarities may need individual treatment, for normal persons the method recommended by her in an earlier work, "Wise Parenthood," remains the most satisfactory

Taking the book as a whole, we are of opinion that it is not only the best work that Dr. Stopes has yet produced (incidentally, it is free from the "top-dressing" of rhetoric and sentiment which characterize some of her earlier books), but the most careful and complete treatise that has yet been produced on this important and, as far as the medical profession is concerned, neglected subject. It is, however, assured of a stormy reception in the world of to-day In the Anglican, and still more in the Roman Catholic Church there is a considerable section of opinion which imposes a taboo upon the very discussion of contraceptive birth control. This view is not, we believe, determined by a desire that the human race should multiply up to its full capacity-many of its advocates would welcome a restricted and selective birth-rate as heartily as Dr. Stopes would. It is determined mainly by a belief, bound up with the traditions of ecclesiasticism, that the enjoyment of the sex act by married persons apart from the motive of procreation is an unjustifiable sensuality. To this point of view Dr. Stopes philosophy and life work constitutes a violent challenge. her the sex act between married persons is in itself, and quite apart from the procreative intention, a sanctified and sanctifying process of psychological and physiological value to the persons who perform it. And since under the material conditions of modern civilization it is economically undesirable for the human race to multiply continuously up to the limits of its physical capacity, it is therefore necessary to devise and popularize means whereby the sex act may be divorced from its reproductive effects. Indeed, a careful study of Dr. Stopes' work reveals the fact that she is not primarily a malthusian advocate of a lower birth-rate. She is not particularly interested in that aspect of the question which is at present engaging the attention of Mr. Keynes and his Cambridge School. She is primarily an expert in the technique of married life, and with the zeal of a missionary she is bent on perfecting it.

We believe that whatever measure of hostility and misrepresentation may await her in the immediate future, public opinion is slowly but surely ranging itself on her side.

M. D. S.

<sup>1</sup>Contraception: Its Theory, History, and Practice. A Manual for the Medical and Legal Professions. By Marie Carmichael Stopes, D.Sc., Ph.D. John Bale, Sons & Danielsson, Ltd. 12s. 6d. ngt.

HOUSEHOLD ECONOMICS.

JULY 20, 1923.

It is a lovely and pleasant thing when happy dreams come true. Ideals are often a social worker's hair shirt, but they bring more real satisfaction than silk attire.

### A VISITING COOK.

This week a young and enthusiastic woman came to me from Women's Service. (To work together in unity with those whose aims are similar but who see life from different angles is another joy !) This delightful girl is still on the sunny side of thirty, has taught domestic economy for eight years with great success, bought land, built her own cottage, studied the teaching of domestic economy in Denmark, Sweden, and Holland, and is now sallying forth from her own home in the country to share her skill in cooking and kitchen organization with others.

e is prepared to go anywhere and help both mistress and maid to fill up gaps in their working equipment. She teaches cooking, kitchen cleaning, and economy, as well as organization and method. Her terms are f1 1s. a day and expenses; the latter can, of course, be considerably lessened if hospitality be given and the guinea may be shared by several mistresses. If, for example, six combined for a week, a day might be spent in the kitchen of each house, different equipment used each day, and a week's lessons would only cost each mistress one guinea. There is no fixed syllabus. Do you or your cook wish to become expert sauce-makers? This practical girl will teach you in your own kitchen whilst preparing your daily meals. Are omelets or soufflés your fancy ? She will show your cook how to surmount all difficulties. She will, in short, teach exactly what you want to know on your own premises. She is the friend of both mistress and maid

### THE LEAGUE OF SKILLED HOUSECRAFT.

In the autumn of 1920'the Cambridge Evening News published a series of articles by "A Cook-General," the immediate result of which was a lecture by the writer at the G.F.S. Lodge on "Home-Making," setting forth the true inwardness of domestic work as a skilled occupation. Both articles and lecture advocated system of examinations and certificates for domestic workers. linking up the teaching of domestic economy in schools with practical work at home and stretching forward to the Domestic Science Degree of London. An up-to-date lending library of English and American works on Domestic Economy was loaned to the Lodge for a year. The Cambridge Associates and Lady Superintendent took up the matter with enthusiasm.

Was it a mere coincidence that the League of Skilled Housecraft was inaugurated at the London Headquarters of the G.F.S. in 1921, and held its first examination in forty-four centres in November, 1922?

The League is under the management of a Central Board, composed of representatives from the Girls' Friendly Society, Young Women's Christian Association, M.A.B.G.S., and National Organization of Girls' Clubs. Representatives of the Board of Education, the Ministry of Labour, the London County Council, and others serve upon it in an advisory capacity.

There are two classes of examinations, preliminary and diploma. The first is for girls of good character who have served at least six months as domestic servants, the second for proficiency as cook, parlourmaid, housemaid, etc. Membership of the League carries with it the right to wear the badge and uniform. Full particulars can be obtained from the Secretary, League of Skilled Housecraft, 39 Victoria Street, S.W. 1.

### A NATIONAL HOUSEWIVES' ASSOCIATION.

In those same articles, the credit for which belongs to Mr. Morley Stuart, Editor of the Cambridge Evening News. a National Guild of Household Employers and Assistants was advocated for the purpose of uniting the interests of mistress and maid. The writer has often set forth the power or such an organization. It could, for example, control food prices, and taxes on the necessaries of life. They have had a Home Economics Association in America since 1908 which has now thirty-two branches, and this week the organizer of the Australian and Tasmanian National Housewives Association and of their National Household Service Association blew into the humble little office of the House Assistants' Centre and gave a thrilling account of overseas enterprise. This lady is also young, charming, and enthusiastic, and she does not find domestic work dull. All of which is one more dream come true.

ANN POPE.

JULY 20, 1923.

## CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS.

THE TREVETHIN REPORT. MADAM,—We, the undersigned officials of the Women's Committee of ne Society for the Prevention of Venereal Disease, beg to enclose a copy f the Resolution passed unanimously at the Annual General Meeting of ar Society on 13th instant.

ar Society on 13th instant. The six essentials of our policy are stated, practically *in the words of c Trevethin Report*, and are sufficient reply to the article and letter by Irs. Bethune-Baker appearing in your issues of 22nd June and 13th July. The states that the Trevethin Report found *against* immediate self-sinfection—on the contrary, it clearly found *for* it. In 1920, at our First Annual General Meeting, a Resolution was passed

In 1920, at our First Annual General Meeting, a Resolution was passed ling "upon the Ministry of Health and upon local authorities to instruct qualified chemists to sell such means of immediate self-disinfection ainst venereal disease as may be approved from time to time by the nistry of Health or by Medical Officers of Health." The object of this Resolution is clearly endorsed by the Trevethin

mittee

Again, we must repudiate the policy imputed to us by Mrs. Bethune-Again, we must repudiate the policy imputed to us by Mrs. Bethune-saker and others. We do not advocate "the broadcast education of oung people in the use of prophylactics" or "teaching the young of both exes how to apply the disinfecting drugs." The Women's Committee were largely responsible for the wording of ur published policy concerning women and adolescents. If Mrs. Bethune-Baker will take the trouble to make herself acquainted with these publica-

ions she will discover her interpretation is incorrect. ELLEN ASKWITH, Chairman Women's Committee. JANE LORIMER HAWTHORNE, Vice-Chairman. SYBIL WANSEY BAYLY, Hon. Secretary.

RESOLUTION PASSED BY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

That the Society for the Prevention of Venereal Disease accept the evention Report as a document, support the six essentials of the policy

Society, namely, that:-A man who after exposure is properly and thoroughly disinfected with disinfectants of appropriate nature and strength runs little risk

an intelligent man if furnished with reasonable instructions cansin favourable conditions, effectively disinfect himself.
The adoption of skilled disinfection (in disinfecting centres) if not to be recommended as part of any general system, for reasons of time, cost, and impracticability.
The instruction by medical officers of venereal disease clinics of male persons attending such clinics in the preventive use of disinfectants offers a useful means of educating the community.
There is no evidence of facts in support of the view that any system of disinfection would tend to increase the number of exposures and raise the disease rate.
The law should be altered so as to permit properly qualified chemists to sell ad hoc disinfectants provided such disinfectants are

chemists to sell *ad hoc* disinfectants provided such disinfectants are sold in a form approved and with instructions for use approved by some npetent authority

competent authority. d also in view of the unqualified acceptance of the Trevethin Report the National Council for Combating Venereal Disease, that the Society r the Prevention of Venereal Disease is prepared to form a Joint Com-ittee with the National Council for Combating Venereal Disease, under the chairmanship of Lord Dawson of Penn, to watch and further the policy used on the terms of the Trevethin Report.

#### "A MONSTROUS INJUSTICE."

MADAM,-In your issue of 29th June, in the above article, the following

"In *Great Britain* the wife and children without property of their own have no rights, except to be protected, as a dog or cat is protected, from actual starvation or maltreatment. This, again, is very nearly the only civilized country in the world where it is possible for a mar to marry a wife in her youth, to give her a number of children, and then die leaving every penny he possesses to his mistress, even though is wife and infant children should become chargeable to the rates."

This does not apply to Great Britain, but only to *England*. In Scotland to rights of the wife and children are protected, and they have a legal aim on the estate in spite of any will the man may leave. J. S. ROGERSON. We are grateful to our Scottish correspondent for her reminder of the

periority of Scots' law.-ED.] +

**LABOUR-SAVING COOKING.** MADAM, —In the interesting article in your issue of June 29 under the leading of "Labour-Saving Cooking," there is omitted all elementary science. This was probably intentional. But your journal, Madam, is intended for reasonably educated peaple, and surely the knowledge of a little Chemistry and Physics should be included under the rather procession "presenably educated" nowradaws 2

a neutre chemistry and rhysics should be mentated at a set of the state of the set of th small middle-class families seems to me to be at the root of much of the domestic service problem. The girls from any of our better elementary schools already know how to read a thermometer. Have the masters or mistresses seen to it that there are thermometers in their kitchen ranges, etc. ? How often do we read in cookery books "see that your oven is hot enough, but not too hot ?" How are we to see ? To put our hand in ? But to learn the necessary skilled feeling needs considerable hand in ? But to learn the necessary skilled feeling needs considerable practice, probably at the expense of the digestions of our families, and seldom leads to accuracy save in the case of those with a genius for cooking. Should we continue going to an apprentice bootmaker until he had learnt his job if he deliberately used no last or other method of measuring? I am here instancing only one case of many similar examples in considering thermometers in kitchen ranges. Various ermometers in various parts of the oven, boiler, etc., are needed to at all adequate even in this one case. The writer of the article recommends the buying of jam rather than

The writer of the article recommends the buying of jam latter that the making of it under the heading of "Labour-Saving Cooking". Pulping or breaking up the fruit increases the risk of infection from those agents which cause decay. We do not necessarily need "spacious leisure and an old-world aroma" to preserve fruit with tolerable quick-ness, *provided* we have the necessary apparatus. For instance, a

### THE WOMAN'S LEADER.

197

"pressure ccoker" is much used in America for sterilizing and canning fruits whole; it does it quickly—say, in five or six minutes. Whether fruits whole; it does it quickly—say, in five or six minutes. Whether or no the essential vitamines are better preserved in such cooking as compared to the old longer ways has yet to be experimented on as far compared to the old longer ways has yet to be apprint and time, but as I know. At any rate, there is great saving of trouble and time, but the initial apparatus costs money. However, such initial cost may prove cheap in these days of high wages and the servant difficulty.

A pressure cooker is one in which the temperature is raised above boiling point ( $100^\circ$  C = 212° F.) to something like 120° C. = 250° F., at will, under pressure. The vapours cannot escape, the juices are better preserved; the gas, or other fuel needed is very small in quantity, the final cleaning up is not a lengthy or dirty process, there are no burnt

final cleaning up is not a lengthy or dirty process, there are no burnt preserving pans. The primary question is whether home-made preserves or bought jams (assuming those of the best makers) are the most wholesome. The question of time and overhead cost, and how the fruit can be obtained, make the answer differ as to food value and cost in individual cases. But to suggest the buying of jam is not necessarily an economically adequate proposition, save consideration be given to the means of carning the ready money, and also whether or no the labour, fuel, etc., has to be separately paid for or is already provided for other purposes. The writer of the article then goes on to consider the making of omelets. We are told that butter must be used but not margarine. No reason, however, is given. Surely the readers of the WOMAN'S LEADER, or some few of them, could take an interest in the reason for such a statement if a few simple data were offered such as that :---Butter boils at about 66° C. (150° F.).

Butter boils at about 66° C. (150° F.)

Butter boils at about 66° C.  $(150^{\circ} \text{ F.})$ . Margarine at quite a different temperature. The white of an egg coagulates at 66° to 72° C.  $(150^{\circ} \text{ to } 160^{\circ} \text{ F.})$ , and thickens into a hard leathery substance (which can be used as a cement) at temperatures above the boiling point. Are we readers of your journal not 'capable of taking a tolerably intelligent interest in the reason why butter is best to use when making a flaky omelet rather than other fats or oils. The 'frying substance settling the temperature. To "boil" an egg for some ten minutes at a temperature such as 75° C.  $(170^{\circ} \text{ F.})$  is to cook it longer than in the usual way, but to obtain a different (and as some think nicer) product, the white, even of a couple-of-days old egg, being then kept from being too stiff and leathery. If any reader likes to test the above, let her put some white of egg into a test tube with a thermometer and watch the result of heating. result of heating.

some white or esg me track the time time transfer and the second where the children work at their elementary chemistry

EDITH A. STONEY Lecturer in Physics, King's College for Women, Household and Social Science Department, London University.

### UNIVERSITY WOMEN IN COUNCIL.

Science Department, London University. UNIVERSITY WOMEN IN COUNCIL. Women Professors from many Countries. At the fifth Annual Council Meeting of the International Federation of University Women, which was held in London last week stinguished women from the Universities of fifteen countries met to discuss such questions as the foundation of international Federation of understanding between the Universities of fifteen countries. The addition to the business meetings, an attractive programme was arranged for the delegates, beginning on Monday, 18th July, with a dinner at the Lyceum Club, and including, the following afternoon, a visit to historic Crosby Hall, on Chelsea Embankment, where it is proposed to establish an International Hall of Residence for women graduates working in London. On Wednesday afternoon the British Committee on Inter-national Relations was At Home at Bedford College, while in the evening arrangements were made for the members of the Council to see Mr. John Drinkwater's play: "Oliver Cromwell." On Thursday the members were invited to Oxford, where they spent the night, after viewing the colleges and other things of special interest. Those attending the Council Meeting are as follows: President, professor Caroline Spurgeon.: Vice-Chairman, Mlle. M. Mespoulet; Secretary, Miss T. Bosanquet; Representatives: America, pan Gildersleeve; Great Britain, Professor Winifred Clulis; Canada, Miss Lenslei, Anstria, Dr. H. Kuranda; Belgium, Dr. Alise four Gubanel Stochholm; Finland, Miss C. Rosenius; Italy, Dr. Isabella Gubane Stochholm; Finland, Miss C. Rosenius; Italy, Dr. Isabella to solve Xealand, Dr. S. G. Chapmar.

### WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE. In connection with the No More War demonstration on 28th July it is interesting to study the resolution submitted by Senator Borah to the United States Senate on the Outlawry of War. Miss Woods, Secretary of the American Section of the W.I.L., who has recently been in England, tells us that the proposal is arousing much interest in her country, and urges that it should be considered by pacifist organizations in Europe as a practicable means of abolishing war

urges that it should be considered by pachet organizations in Europe as a practicable means of abolishing war. The resolution reads: "Resolved, That it is the view of the Senate of the United States that war between nations should be outlawed as an institution or means for the settlement of international controversies by making it a public crime under the law of nations, and that every nation should be encouraged by solemn agreement or treaty to bind itself to indict and punish its own international war-breeders or instigators and war profiteers under powers similar to those conferred upon our Congress war profiteers under powers similar to those conferred upon our Congress under Article I, Section 8, of our Federal Constitution which clothes the Congress with the power " to define and punish offensives against the law of nations '

### THE WOMAN'S LEADER.

JULY 20, 1923.

### JULY 20, 1923.

## NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

Offices : 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1. Telephone: Victoria 6188.

198

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

The Annual Meeting of the National Council of Women will be held in Edinburgh on 16th to 22nd October, 1923. The N.U.S.E.C. is entitled to appoint ten representatives. Affiliated Societies are asked to nominate Delegates and to send in their names to Headquarters by Monday, 23rd July.

### NO-MORE-WAR DEMONSTRATION.

The N.U.S.E.C. is anxious to send a banner to the above Demonstration in London on Saturday, 28th July. Those who would be able to help by carrying the Banner or by marching behind it are asked to communicate with Headquarters.

### NEWS FROM SOCIETIES. STROUD AND DISTRICT W.C.A.

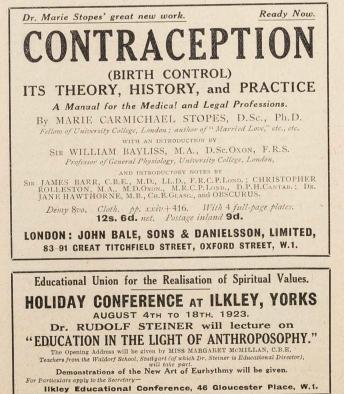
A joint meeting of the Stroud and Ebley Branches of the above was held in the garden at Ebley Court, by kind permission ot Lady Proctor Beauchamp, on Thursday, 12th July. Mr. Ford, of Newport, gave a most interesting and inspiring address, describing the doings of the Newport Branch, and reporting on the Plymouth Conference. The meeting numbered well over 100, and great enthusiasm was shown.

### DURHAM S.E.C.

A garden fête under the auspices of the Durham Society for Equal Citizenship took place in the grounds of Dr. T. B. and Mrs. Jevons' residence, North Bailey, Durham, yesterday. There were varied attractions, including a performance by children trained by Mrs. W. T. McDemid and folk dances by girls from the Durham County School. Miss E. Christopher, Principal of St. Hilds College, presided, and the opening ceremony was performed by the Mayoress (Mrs. Robert McLean).

### NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE.

Mrs. Fawcett, J.P., L.L.D., will contribute an article. Major Entwistle's will be concluded, while one on Summer Schools will be of topical interest. Owing to pressure on space the column entitled "The Law at Work" has been omitted this week



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THE WOMAN'S YEAR BOOK 1923-1924

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Compiled by the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship Edited by Miss EVELYN GATES

with the assistance of

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(d) Other reforms for which the N.U.S.E.C. is 1. Because, as the oldest and largest of the doing original work are Votes for Women Suffrage Societies it helped in the past to get women on the same terms as men; Pensions for their votes and is now working to secure for them Civilian Widows; Equal Pay for Equal a real equality of liberty, status and oppor-Work; and Equal Moral Standards. tunity with men. 3. Because the N.U.S.E.C. is not only a body of

2. Because thousands of women are suffering cruelly for want of the reforms for which the V.U.S.E.C. is working. For example :--

(a) The Matrimonial Causes Bill, which as just passed into law was initiated and promoted by the N.U.S.E.C. It secures to women for the first ime the right to obtain a divorce for the same cause s a man.

(b) The Guardianship and Custody of Infants Bill, also initiated and promoted by the U.S.E.C. and now under consideration by a Joint committee of both Houses of Parliament, would ake a woman, for the first time, the legal parent nd guardian of her children equally with the father.

(c) The Separation and Maintenance Orders Bill, also the N.U.S.E.C.'s own Bill, and ikely soon to become law, makes it easier for a roman to obtain relief from a cruel or neglectful iusband.

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### THE WOMAN'S LEADER.

#### COMING EVENTS.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION.

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200