

THE CATHOLIC CITIZEN

WOMEN'S SERVICE

Organ of St. Joan's Alliance (formerly The Catholic Women's Suffrage Society)
17d Dryden Chambers, 119 Oxford Street, London W.1

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MARCH, 1966

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Daughter of the ancient Eve,
We know the gifts ye gave and give;
Who knows the gifts which *you* shall give,
Daughter of the Newer Eve?

Francis Thompson

HOW WE STAND

P. C. Challoner

At the Council Meeting in Rome we were given three directives by our President, Madame Leroy; all three at once a promise and a condition of our survival as an international organisation.

The first was to complete the Index of *The Catholic Citizen* and supply each section with a copy; the second was to move to a headquarters office which would be less cramped and more accessible; and the third to find someone to take, in the future and as far as possible, the place of our Miss Barry.

Other things may be required if the Alliance is to keep its place in the international field but these three were "basic needs" and we are glad to report some progress now.

To take them in order. Almost immediately after Miss Barry's Requiem, there came a letter from Mlle. Baetens of Brussels, a firm friend and critic of the Alliance, and remembered by many for her accurate and felicitous translations at Council Meetings, and her wit at social gatherings. Now in our need she asked what she could do for St. Joan's and quickly there came to mind the Index. This had been prepared for printing up to 1960 and Mlle. Baetens undertook this and has now completed it for the years 1961-65. Mme. van Gorp, another most helpful member of the growing Belgian Section of the Alliance, undertook the typing and with her secretary produced a document of real beauty.

The second directive is also achieved—and we cannot refrain from mentioning here our two part-time secretaries, Gabrielle Daye, who is well-known to our British members in particular, and Mrs. Halsey who has made herself well-known, particularly to the sections, old and new. Together and separately they found an office on the ground floor of Dryden Chambers and arranged the move and the disposal of unwanted material and all the

irritating details of lighting, floor covering, etc. As those who read *The Catholic Citizen* will know, we had many kind helpers and somehow the office work went on.

The third directive is also in process of being achieved. We advertised, we interviewed, we hoped, we prayed and at last an applicant who seemed to meet our need, appeared. When she said she knew Father Felice, the parish priest at Golders Green, and found—when she told him of her hope to work for St. Joan's Alliance—that he knew it and Miss Barry well—what better introduction could we have?

So we hope to face our President at the Council Meeting in August, or when she comes to visit us to prepare it, and say we have accomplished these three things. However at the same Council Meeting in Rome our International Treasurer refused to budget for more than one year and we must consider carefully our means.

The Index is prepared but will cost much to print and still more to bind; the office is ours, but will cost more than one pound a week more than the one we left upstairs; the subscription list for the Special Fund for the General Secretary has been opened, but has not yet received the general support we hope for; the Rome Meeting aroused interest but propaganda costs money and new members have not yet come in in sufficient numbers to support the new charges.

Older members will call to mind the shifts we went to of old to raise so much less than we need now—the barrow in the market, the jumble sales etc., for all of which we then had willing hands and an able and energetic organiser.

Times have changed, many older members are too old to give the services they gave so willingly—many younger are engaged in full-time work which leaves them little spare time to do more

than their own chores. The Special Fund is made for all, those with little can give a little and those with much, more—so we commend our needs to all and express our gratitude to those, at home and abroad who have already responded to our call. The amount we have to date includes several small amounts and a few quite outstanding. We thank the donors and trust the example of the ones and of the others will be followed, so that we may continue the work.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

An Auditor Speaks

(Extracts from *Cronache e Opinioni*, Rome, December, 1965)

"I believe that the most interesting feature of the Decrees on *The Church and the World Today* is the insistence on human, man-woman, personality—a fundamental equality in their complementary character."

"In the fourth chapter of the Constitution *Lumen Gentium* it is expressly stated that before Christ there are no differences of sex. Our influence as auditors has been directed to collaboration, in particular on those two decrees."

"Our aim has been non-discrimination, in preference to the adoption of special paragraphs referring to women as practised in the earlier texts of these documents."

Pilar Bellosillo

The Lay Apostolate

We have received from COPECIAL a booklet *The Council Speaks to the Laity* a first anthology of texts from the Second Vatican Council. This is in preparation for the Third World Congress of the Lay Apostolate which will take place in October, 1967.

Celebrations

As February 6th, Votes for Women Day, fell this year on a Sunday the customary celebrations of the Fawcett Society and the Suffragette Fellowship were held on the 7th.

In the late morning a large gathering met at the memorial to Dame Millicent Fawcett in Westminster Abbey. Her great-great-niece, Miss Elizabeth Cregan, who took the place of Dame Kathleen Courtney, who was unfortunately indisposed, laid the wreath at the Memorial and spoke of the great

work of both Suffragists and Suffragettes and the debt of gratitude her generation owed to both.

In the evening the Suffragette Fellowship held its annual commemoration meeting at Caxton Hall. Lady Gammons, M.P., stressed the influence of the Suffrage movement in the developing countries; Mrs. Shirley Williams, M.P. (a member of St. Joan's), pointed to the great changes that had taken place within her own lifetime and the changes yet to come; Miss Bowerman was concerned at the apathy of many women and called for a rekindling of the crusading spirit among women citizens. The Chairman, Miss Lilian Lenton, paid tribute to the early Suffrage pioneers. One hundred years ago the first women's suffrage society was born; today Suffragettes and Suffragists unite in celebrating votes for women.

Two years hence we shall celebrate the Jubilee of this day. Perhaps members of all the Suffrage Societies will unite on that occasion.

* * *

Miss Douie, O.B.E., is being fêted right and left; and we are glad to note that some members of St. Joan's arranged a celebration for her at the Women's Service Club. St. Joan's was represented at the party that was given at Fawcett House on February 22nd when Miss Douie returned from the Investiture.

The award was particularly pleasing to Miss Douie as it was made specifically for her work at the Women's Service Library which has been the chief glory of a life devoted to women's rights and scholarship.

Open Door International

The thirteenth Conference of the Open Door International will be held at Crosby Hall from July 25th to 28th. Names of those wishing to attend should reach the Secretary by May 15th.

One Swallow No Summer

The Guardian of February 18th carried an article by Mrs. Lena Jeger in which she said that of course it was a splendid thing that for the first time in history we had a woman sitting on the Woolsack, all the more so as that woman was Baroness Wootton of Abinger.

She goes on to say, "There is no process of osmosis which ensures that the achievement of a brilliant woman automatically enhances the status of other women."

She pointed out that in the debate on the Street Offences Act (1959) she and other women M.P.s, including Baroness Wootton, had wished to substitute "person" for "woman" or "common prostitute" so that the Law should apply equally to men and women; and that the Josephine Butler Society is still working for the reform of the Street Offences Act and still admires, in spite of slights, the woman who insisted in the face of public insult and physical violence that the moral law is one and indivisible applying equally to men and women.

(Readers of *The Catholic Citizen* may like to be reminded of Miss Chave Collinson's article on Josephine Butler in *The Catholic Citizen* of December, 1952.)

Mrs. Jeger ended by saying that the Street Offences Act was a bad measure and that it is a good thing to be reminded of this on the day we salute what progress there has been in seeing one of our ablest women sitting on the Woolsack.

A New American Law on Prostitution

Article 230 of the Penal Code of New York decrees that a prostitute's client, as well as the person who prostitutes him- or her-self, shall be considered guilty, whether of the same or of different sex. The law applies without distinction of sex to those who receive, contract to receive, or ask for, remuneration for a sexual act. The law applies to the woman who pays a gigolo and to a man who solicits homosexual acts, if for the purpose of financial gain.

(*Revue Abolitioniste*, February, 1966)

Congratulations

Dr. Albertine Winner, O.B.E., F.R.C.P., has been appointed as Honorary Physician to the Queen. We congratulate her on being the first woman to hold this appointment.

Miss Marion Harwood Sindell, M.A., is the third woman in the United Kingdom to be appointed as Town Clerk (of Goole, Yorkshire).

Passports for Minors and Young People

We offer our congratulations to Dame Joan Vickers, who in the course of her long struggle concerning the Guardianship of Infants has persuaded the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to make a change in the Passport Office regulations with the effect that the explicit consent of the legal guardian will no longer be required in order to obtain a passport for a child.

Wastage of Qualified Women

Two recent enquiries on the causes of the wastage of qualified medical women report very similar findings: approximately 50 per cent are in full professional employment, 30 per cent are in part-time work. The greatest "wastage" is among recently qualified married women, presumably mothers of young children, temporarily "unemployed". One-third of those not fully employed wished for more work. The report suggests that the health services should adopt a more flexible attitude to part-time workers of all grades and that the social factors which affect the employment of professional women are in need of urgent reappraisal.

(*British Medical Journal*, February, 12th)

The Cost of Unequal Pay

We should not be misled by talk of the "cost to the nation" of Equal Pay. We should note that the figure mentioned again by the Government appointed study group represents the cost, to that part of the nation consisting of women industrial workers, of their being women. Wherever goods are produced by cheap labour an excessive profit is made. The implementation of the accepted principle of Equal Pay will entail, not a loss, but a redistribution of the rewards of labour from the cheap-labour profiteers to the rightful recipients.

ST. JOAN'S ALLIANCE

founded 1911

BRITISH SECTION OF ST. JOAN'S INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE

AND

Editorial Office of "The Catholic Citizen"

17d DRYDEN CHAMBERS, 119 OXFORD STREET, LONDON, W.1. Tel. Gerrard 4564

Signed articles do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Society.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ex-officio MME MAGDELEINE LEROY BOY, Dr. Jur. President St. Joan's International Alliance.
 MISS P. C. CHALLONER, M.A., *Chairman*
 MRS. MUN WAH BENTLEY, M.A.
 MISS M. BLACKBURN
 MISS PAULINE M. BRANDT
 MISS C. M. CHEKE, *Editor, The Catholic Citizen*
 MISS GABRIELLE DAYE, *Secretary*
 MISS VERA DOUË, O.B.E.
 MRS. HALSEY, *Treasurer*

DR. MARITA S. HARPER, M.A., B.M., B.Ch.
 MRS. ISABEL POWELL HEATH, M.B., Ch.B.
 MRS. M. JACKSON, B.A.
 MISS W. MANN
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 MISS MARY PARNELL
 MISS E. D. PRICE, M.B.E.
 MRS. F. M. SHATTOCK, M.A., M.D., D.P.M.

FIFTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

for the year ending 31st December, 1965

The outstanding event of the year was the twenty-second Council Meeting of the International Alliance in Rome—the United Kingdom Section playing a vital part in the preparation and work for this memorable occasion. It has been an unforgettable year with its happy and sad events. The first which springs to mind is the Golden Jubilee Dinner held at St. Ermin's Hotel in January where we welcomed several Parliamentary friends and representatives of practically all the societies with whom we work. Our guest of honour was Lady Longford. The Jubilee number of *The Catholic Citizen* contained tributes from all corners of the world. Fortunately those assembled were unaware of the gravity of Florence Barry's illness—she died a few days later on January 27th. Her last official act for the Alliance was the despatch of the Petition to the Pontifical Commission for the Revision of Canon Law on which she had been working since the meeting at Antwerp in September, 1964. A Requiem Mass was offered on February 17th in Westminster Cathedral, the celebrant being Father Christopher Laughton Mathews. There was a large gathering including the International President, Madame Leroy, Vice-Presidents from France and Germany, together with numerous friends. The President received condolences at a brief reception in the Cathedral library. It was a severe blow to the Alliance but members and friends were heartened by having the President there to talk over the future and it was agreed to carry on as Florence Barry would have wished.

Meetings and Other Activities

The fifty-fourth Annual Meeting was held at 27 Wilfred Street on March 20th, Miss P. C. Challoner presiding. The adoption of the Annual Report was moved by Miss Annie Christitch, an early member of the Alliance, and seconded by Mrs. Ursula King a recent member. The Treasurer's Report was read by Miss Daye and its adoption moved by Miss E. D. Price whose eloquent appeal for funds resulted in the splendid sum of £75.

Resolutions, with some minor alterations, concerning Jury Service, Private Employment Agencies, the I.L.O.,

Domicile, Equal Guardianship of Infants, Equal Pay, Taxation, Education, Street Offences Act 1959, Slavery, the Fuller Participation of Women in the Service of the Church, were re-affirmed. Two new resolutions, one on Pornographic Publications, and the other on the Revision of Canon Law, were passed.

The Executive Committee was re-elected and agreed to carry on.

Miss Joan Morris outlined arrangements for the next Council Meeting in Rome and urged people to write in early as accommodation at the Villa Bassi, house of the Compagnia di San Paolo, was limited.

A beautiful Mass Card from Monsignor Georges Hakim, Archbishop of Galilee, told us he was saying Mass for us on St. Joan's Day, May 30th, in the Holy Land. Members attended Mass at Westminster Cathedral on St. Joan's Feast Day and visited her shrine where the traditional wreath was laid. A visit was also paid to the memorial to Dame Vera Laughton Mathews.

At the beginning of July we were gladdened by a visit from the President Madame Leroy. This coincided with our annual Summer Sale, held this year by kind permission of Miss D. J. Collier in her attractive home in St. John's Wood. It was all hands on deck and we were lucky to have the help also of young Denis Leroy with the raffles. After tea a short ceremony took place when Miss Challoner, in congratulating Madame Leroy on her installation as Dame of the Holy Sepulchre, presented her with the gold and enamel badge of St. Joan which formerly belonged to Dame Vera. In her reply Madame Leroy said she was happy to be with us and very proud to accept the badge and she called on all present to join in the Rome Council Meeting.

In September six members from this country attended the twenty-second Council Meeting of St. Joan's International Alliance in Rome, two Vice-Presidents, two delegates, one alternate delegate and the administrative

secretary. The delegation was brilliantly led by Dr. Marita Harper whose fluent translations were the admiration of the entire meeting, and Miss Joan Morris who was responsible for the arrangements in Rome.

Members were given a graphic account of the Rome Council at a meeting on October 18th at Fawcett House by Miss Challoner, Dr. Harper and Mrs. Shattock.

On the first Sunday in November the annual mass for deceased members, friends and benefactors was said at St. Patrick's, Soho, and members met together afterwards. On November 27th we held our Christmas Sale in St. Patrick's Schools. This was a great success and brought in the sum of £150. A truly great effort! We are extremely grateful to all members and friends for their splendid support.

Co-operation with Other Societies

The Alliance is represented on the following committees: Commonwealth Countries' League; British Vigilance and National Committee for the Suppression of Traffic in Persons; The Josephine Butler Society; the National Council for the Unmarried Mother and Her Child; the Status of Women Committee and the Women's Advisory Council of the United Nations' Association. The Alliance attends (as observer) meetings of the Women's Council co-operating with the Women of India, Pakistan, Ceylon and other countries of the Far East and has welcomed the co-operation of the Anti-Slavery Society. We also agreed to send observers to future meetings of the Society for the Ministry of Women (Miss Joan Morris our member attended one of them) and to future meetings of the Board of Catholic Women.

Members attended the annual gathering at the Memorial to Dame Millicent Fawcett in Westminster Abbey on February 6th, to commemorate the first instalment of Votes for Women, when tributes were paid to Dame Millicent. They were also present at the Suffragette Fellowship Meeting in the evening of the same day at Crosby Hall when Mrs. Lena Jeger, M.P., spoke. They laid flowers at Mrs. Pankhurst's statue to commemorate her birthday on July 14th.

The Chairman was present at a reception given in honour of His Eminence Cardinal Laurian Rugambwa, Bishop of Bukoba, Tanzania, at Hinsley House on Sunday, May 9th. Representatives attended the thirty-third annual conference of the Commonwealth Countries' League whose theme was "National Independence within the Commonwealth: how it Affects Women". At the Vocations' Exhibition entitled "Challenge 65" members manned a stand giving details of our organisation to a wide public. This was at Olympia and was the first time any lay society had participated.

Members were also present at the eighth Alison Nielans' Memorial lecture on Thursday, November 4th, which was delivered this year by Brigadier H. Dean of the Salvation Army on "A Hundred Years' War".

A few days later Dr. Shattock spoke at the Challoner Club on "The Role of Women in the Service of the Church": this meeting was arranged by the Legion of Mary and we are grateful to Mr. Farrelly for giving us this opportunity of making the Alliance known.

Treasurer's Report

The very generous financial aid which has been received from so many sources during the year has greatly eased the burden which we accepted after the death of Florence Barry. Help of every kind has been forthcoming and no greater appreciation of her work and the desire that it should continue could have been given.

Whilst we are finishing the year with a small balance in hand in the General Fund, the indications are that expenses in the forthcoming financial year will be greater than ever before and we look confidently to the help of our members and friends to enable us to find ways and means to build up our resources. In the meantime our very grateful thanks are offered to you all.

We wish to express our thanks also to Miss Isabel Fleming for so kindly auditing the accounts.

Visitors from Abroad

The President's visit has already been referred to and among other visitors we were pleased to welcome Mrs. Kinsella from New South Wales, Miss Dorothea Parker from South Australia, and Fräulein J. Th. Münch from Germany. Miss Rosemary Goldie, secretary to the Permanent Committee of International Congresses for the Apostolate of the Laity, who was here for one day from Rome and Mr. Clark, a journalist from *Time* magazine, who was interested in the question of Women and the Priesthood. As a result of the meeting with Mr. Clark we had a request from Mrs. Claire Boothe Luce for a history of our organisation.

Obituary

During the year we recorded with sorrow the death of Monsignor Duchemin, a member and lifelong friend of the Alliance; and of Mrs. Lucy Burston (of the Victoria Section), a friend of Dame Vera and a fellow worker with Margaret Flynn; and also of Dr. Hanna Rhyd, the distinguished archaeologist, who was president of the I.A.W. when St. Joan's was an affiliate.

Correspondence

There was much correspondence concerning the blocking of Bills, pornographic publications, and the Ordination of Women; and there were many enquiries concerning our work. A copy of the Petition on Canon Law was sent to Cardinal Heenan with congratulations on his appointment to the Commission on the Revision of Canon Law.

St. Joan's International Alliance

During the year which opened with the Jubilee of *The Catholic Citizen* and the death of Florence Barry (R.I.P.) the International President has filled, as no one else could, the gap left by our "indispensable" General Secretary. The presence of Madame Leroy when she came to the Requiem in Westminster Cathedral (February 17th, 1965) helped us to face our problems with renewed courage.

The outstanding event of the year was, of course, the twenty-second Council Meeting which, with the presence which was her most remarkable gift, Florence Barry had urged should be held in Rome. With the despatch of the Petition to the Commission on the Revision of Canon Law, Miss Barry's work was as she herself said, "done". After the initial shock of her death, the Alliance rallied and carried on.

Before the meeting of Vatican Council II the President had sent His Holiness an account, prepared in the office in London, of former contacts of the Alliance with his predecessors, and, before most of the delegates arrived she had had an Audience with Pope Paul at which she introduced herself as "Presidente de l'Alliance Ste. Jeanne d'Arc" to which the Pope replied "Je sais". (We have a photograph to mark this occasion.)

That was on September 15th, the day after the solemn opening of Vatican Council II, and on Friday the 17th the Reception, initiated and prepared by the President herself, took place. On the 18th the twenty-second Council Meeting opened with a prayer to the Holy Ghost, and a Resolu-

tion-expressing gratitude to Florence Barry. Then the last wish of Florence Barry's heart was fulfilled when the new U.S.A. Section was admitted and warmly welcomed.

The Council then settled down to its routine work—Miss Daye read the Hon. Secretary's Report, the representatives of the various Sections or their proxies read theirs; a report on the Status of Women Commission from Dr. von Müller, and a report on her work in Geneva from Mlle. Archinard, were received. Dr. Bardenhewer agreed to continue her liaison work for the Alliance with UNESCO, and a report on her approaches to the Board was sent by Madame de Martinez of Argentina.

Before calling on the Treasurer to give her report, the President thanked those who had carried on the work at the Secretariat, all the Sections for their fine work, and particularly our Consultants in Geneva and New York. She then spoke seriously of the absolute necessity to find a more convenient office and someone to act as General Secretary.

The Treasurer spoke with more than her usual severity of the need for Sections and members to rally round the Secretariat and provide the wherewithal to pay for these two essential needs.

She proposed that a letter be sent to each of the Sections, pointing out that the welcome given to us in Rome gave proof that our activities must continue—but as the finances stood she could only budget for one year. She proposed that each Section should guarantee £1 extra per head of membership with a minimum of £25, and that a corresponding increase in the membership fee for individuals must be accepted. (This without the subscription for *The Catholic Citizen* which should be at least 10s. per annum.)

The Resolutions were discussed and adopted, with minor alterations—those on the Fuller Participation of Women in the Service of the Church, on Canon Law, and on the Liturgy were re-affirmed and strengthened.

Before closing the meeting, the President agreed amidst acclamation to "fulfil her term", Madame Gouffé agreed to continue her work as Treasurer for the coming year, Dr. Marita Harper agreed to act as Co-ordinator of International Affairs, and Mrs. K. Burton was asked to give information on U.N. affairs in New York for *The Catholic Citizen*.

Much appreciation was expressed to Miss Joan Morris for her able organisation of the Council, the hospitable accommodation at the Villa Bassi, the opening Mass at which Fr. Jean Daniélou gave a brief and encouraging "homily", the Reception, the delightful evening drive round Rome, and arrangements for the duplication of the Resolutions. From Rome Miss Morris set off on a world tour with her film with best wishes from all.

The final thanks were expressed, and the invitation given by the British Section to the delegates to meet in London next year was gladly accepted. The date was fixed for the last weekend in August.

We are grateful for reports from our Consultants in Geneva and New York. Miss McGillicuddy sent a full account of the General Assembly which never reached the item on which the Alliance was interested—the age of marriage. This, however, was fortunately rectified at the General Assembly on November 2nd, 1965, by the initiative of the women delegates to the Social Committee (Madagascar and Uganda), who proposed inserting the words "of not less than 15 years" in the Recommendation on Marriage.

The Alliance was indeed fortunate that the President and Vice-President, Dr. Margarethe von Müller, found

time between them to cover the full session of the 18th session of the Status of Women Commission at Teheran where they made most valuable interventions. The Draft Declaration on Discrimination against Women was discussed at the Liaison Committee and at the Status of Women Committee and comments proposed. A brief Memorandum in three languages on Ratification of the Maternity Convention 1919-52 was sent to the 49th session of the I.L.O. Conference. We are most grateful to the Secretary of the O.D.I. for sending on its President's excellent report of the work of the session.

Mlle Archinard attended meetings of the Social Committee of ECOSOC and lobbied valiantly to defeat a Muslim amendment to the Resolution on equality in case of dissolution of marriage, which, by "taking into account the special situation in certain countries" destroys in effect the work carried on so persistently by Madame Lefaucher for Muslim women.

Mlle. Archinard also made a statement on Slavery on behalf of the Alliance before the Non-Governmental Committee of ECOSOC—and welcomed the Report of the Special Rapporteur. We are glad that Mr. Awad will complete his Report and trust that he will be granted the help of an expert Committee to finish his work.

Mlle. Archinard also took the Chair for Madame Leroy at the meeting of Wingos (W.I. Non-government-organisation) in May. Madame Pesson-Depret and Dr. M. von Müller attended, as observers, the Conference of the O.I.C. in Vienna in April; Mrs. Gordon, M.B.E., attended the Conference of the I.F.U.W. in Brisbane in August; Miss Massingberd Ford organised a Seminar for African women, Indians and Muslims on "Has the Church a place for women?", before taking up her appointment as Assistant Professor in Theology at Notre Dame University, Indiana.

"The Catholic Citizen"

The 1965 issues of *The Catholic Citizen* were remarkable as a record of swift development and great changes—especially in the greater emphasis on the dignity of women as members of the Church, and the voicing of a more enlightened approach to this subject. They contain a record of great rejoicing as well as of our deepest sorrow.

In January we celebrated the paper's Golden Jubilee and published congratulations from our Sections, from many women's organisations and from friends and well-wishers. The February number followed with a warm congratulatory message from His Holiness Pope Paul VI in which he thanked God for "the spiritual fruits" of our publication. In this same issue came the messages of condolence from many and all kinds of people including the Apostolic Delegate and Cardinal Heenan, and tributes to the work and character of Florence Barry.

The June-July issue opened with the International President's spirited call to the Rome Council Meeting of which we gave an account in October.

Reports of the progress and activities of many of the Sections were published in the November-December number.

Space does not allow us to thank individually all those who contributed valuable and interesting articles, scholarly reviews, and news items from home and abroad, but outstanding among these are our indefatigable Chairman Miss Challoner, and Dr. Shattock both of whom also gave a great deal of time each month to the preparation of matter for publication. We are very grateful to our contributors Miss Vera Douie, Mrs. Mun Wah Bentley, Miss Joan Morris, Miss Bendelow and Dr. Letitia Fairfield; and to Miss Pelzer, Miss Baetens,

LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS

to St. Joan's Alliance for the year ended 31st December, 1965

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Acres, Mrs.	1	1	0	Lott, Miss J. A.	1	0	0
Anon.	47	10	6	Loughran, Mrs. B.	10	0	0
Antill, Miss	10	0	0	McCartan, Miss	10	0	0
Bailey, Miss M. L.	10	0	0	Macauley, Mrs.	1	0	0
Baron, Mrs.	25	0	0	McFadyen, Mrs.	1	12	0
Barry, Mr. C.	2	0	0	Makhbouf, Mrs.	1	10	0
Barry, Miss E.	1	0	0	Mann, Miss	2	10	0
Barry, Miss F.	100	0	0	Marsden, Mrs. M.	1	0	0
Bendelow, Miss	10	0	0	Mathews, Rev. C. Laughton	2	13	0
Bentley, Mrs. F. E.	1	10	0	Mathers, Mrs. E.	4	15	0
Bentley, Mrs. M. W.	5	0	0	May, Miss P.	8	0	0
Bille, Mrs.	1	10	0	Maxfield, Mrs.	10	0	0
Blackburn, Miss M. T.	10	0	0	Meynell, Sir Francis	5	0	0
Bond, Miss M.	4	10	0	Monroe, Mrs. M. T.	1	0	0
Bowden, Professor R.	3	10	0	Murphy, Miss B.	1	10	0
Brady, Mrs.	1	10	0	Negus, Miss G. H.	2	0	0
Brandt, Miss	3	10	0	Neilson, Miss	10	6	0
Bulbeck, Mrs. C.	10	0	0	Noton, Mrs.	13	6	0
Carr, Miss N. K.	10	0	0	O'Brien, Rev. H.	4	5	0
Carroll, Miss A.	23	10	0	O'Connor, Miss M.	1	12	6
Cave, Miss	2	10	0	O'Mullane, Miss	1	0	0
Chacaton, Miss	10	0	0	O'Reilly, Mrs.	1	10	0
Challoner, Miss E. C.	9	0	0	Organ, Miss J. M.	1	0	0
Challoner, Miss P. C.	28	0	0	O'Hanlon, Miss	1	0	0
Cheke, Miss C. M.	24	10	0	O'Sullivan, Mrs.	2	0	0
Cheux, Mrs.	1	0	0	O'Sullivan, Miss D.	5	5	0
Christich, Miss	4	3	0	Parnell, Miss M.	10	0	0
Clarke, Miss M. C.	1	10	0	Parnell, Miss N.	1	10	0
Collier, Miss D. J. F.R.C.S.	1	10	0	Parry, Mrs. Hausenstein	2	13	0
Corbett Ashby, Mrs.	1	1	0	Patridge, Miss C. V.	1	0	0
Cummins, Mrs. P. D.	12	6	0	Pierotti, Miss L.	1	12	0
Daye, Miss G.	7	3	0	Price, Miss E. D.	3	10	0
Dickson, Miss C. B. S.	12	6	0	Price, Miss W. M.	1	0	0
Doris, Miss M.	12	6	0	Rawlinson, Miss	5	10	0
Douie, Miss V.	1	10	0	Rennie, Mrs. Cuzner	12	6	0
Drummond, Miss	10	0	0	Retchford, Miss	6	17	0
Dunning, Miss	10	0	0	Robb, Dr. Janet	187	12	8
Ekers, Miss	1	0	0	Roberts, Mrs.	10	0	0
Fairfield, Dr. L. C.B.E.	12	6	0	Rocca, Miss	10	0	0
Farrelly, Mrs.	10	0	0	Rowlands, Mrs.	1	10	0
Fleming, The Misses	1	0	0	Ryan, Mrs. R.	10	0	0
Fogarty, Mrs. J. J.	12	6	0	Salmon, Mrs.	1	0	0
French, Mrs.	10	0	0	Sampson, Miss E.	3	10	0
Fry, Miss E.	1	1	0	Sawyer, Miss	1	12	0
Fulcher, Miss	12	6	0	Shattock, Dr. F. Mackenzie, M.D., D.P.M.	21	0	0
Gadsby, Miss	7	10	0	Shaw, Miss J.	1	0	0
Graham, Miss	10	0	0	Smiley, Mrs.	1	10	0
Grain, Mrs.	10	0	0	Smith, Miss Nicol	5	0	0
Green, Miss	1	12	0	Spender, Miss C.	61	0	0
Guessard, Miss	7	10	0	Stark, Miss	10	0	0
Halpern, Mrs.	4	10	0	Stedman, Mrs.	10	0	0
Halsey, Mrs. L. M.	1	15	0	Stevenson, Miss	10	0	0
Harper, Dr. Marita	1	0	0	Stewart, Mrs. H.	10	0	0
Harrington, Miss D.	1	12	0	Straton, Dr.	10	0	0
Hartnell, Mrs.	10	0	0	Taylor, Miss E. M.	1	0	0
Hastings-Gray, Mrs.	1	10	0	Thomas, Miss	10	0	0
Hayes, Miss E.	3	10	0	Turnbull, Miss M.	5	10	0
Heath, Dr. I. Powell	5	18	0	Turnbull, Mrs.	1	0	0
Hemming, Mrs. A. L.	2	2	0	Walker, Miss M.	2	2	0
Hughes, Miss M. G.	1	12	0	Walker, Mrs.	10	0	0
Hynes, Miss S.	2	10	0	Walmsley, Miss H.	6	11	0
Jackson, Mrs.	7	0	0	Watkin, Mrs. H.	5	10	0
James, Miss	2	10	0	Welch, Miss I. R. V.	1	4	0
Joy, Rev. P. S.J.	10	0	0	Whateley, Dame Leslie, D.B.E.	1	10	0
Keens, Miss V. M.	1	0	0	White, Miss D. M.	10	0	0
Lauder, Miss M. C.	10	0	0	Willis, Mrs.	10	0	0
Leslie, Miss	1	10	0	Williams, Mrs. P. U.	10	0	0
Lion, Miss L. R.	1	0	0	Young, Miss	1	0	0
Longford, Countess of	1	12	6				

Dr. Bardenhewer, Mme. Archambault, Miss McGillicuddy and Mrs. Burton from our overseas Sections, and to everyone else who has helped in any way. Thanks are due, too, to our excellent office staff and to Miss Graham and Miss Hope-Robson who helped in getting the paper distributed.

C.M.C.

Fuller Participation of Women in the Service of the Church

Progress in the attainment of our aims has been substantial and yet difficult to assess; it can best be described as a change of atmosphere, not as the gain of palpable objectives, and is therefore only to be measured by future developments. It is impossible in this report of the British Section to single out what *our* own section has contributed; the mere existence of any section will exert an influence which can be of the greatest importance to the general advancement. It is now usual, when our aims are stated in public, to find that they arouse interest, sometimes sympathy, and that they are no longer regarded as merely outrageous.

The British Section has been active in making the Alliance's aims known whenever and wherever the opportunity presented itself. For this purpose we have engaged in dialogue, personally, by post and telephone and have pursued, as far as we were able, any relevant references in our native and the foreign Press. We should like to thank those editors of French, Italian and Swiss periodicals who have exchanged their publications with *The Catholic Citizen*, also the many friends who have sent us journals and abstracts to draw our attention to news or events of related interest. Members will not need to be reminded how interesting, time-consuming and sometimes costly this work can be. As an example we should like to quote the request for back-numbers of *The Catholic Citizen*, received from a Pontifical Institute. The demand for a speaker at some Catholic gathering or for an observer to comment on our work at an "ecumenical" assembly is not a rare event. We would appreciate more helpers in this field and can assure them (from our own experience) that they are likely to spend an interesting and profitable evening and that they are also likely to attract some new members for the Alliance.

The presence of the Alliance in Rome at the time of the closing session of the Vatican Council, numerous Press reports of our petitions to the Council, the success of our President's reception, and above all the gracious reception of representatives of the Alliance by the Holy Father have secured for us a world-wide hearing of our aims and consolidated our reputation for undoubted "orthodoxy": these are precious acquisitions, possibly more valuable in the long run than immediate small concessions.

Several theologians have given it as their opinion that no theological reasons deny women the priesthood. This is encouraging, as is also the interest shown by some of the younger theologians who submitted doctoral theses on this theme and whose theses were accepted. We expressed our congratulations to these forward-looking candidates for academic distinction.

It was pleasant to hear that the women of Cambridge will in future be full members of their University Chaplaincy. Our own members are aware that St. Joan's Alliance has, for many years, renewed its request that women students be granted the same privilege as the men, at Oxford and Cambridge, and that when this was granted at Oxford, we asked that Cambridge give proof of the same generosity. We are delighted that this has now been done.

ST. JOAN'S ALLIANCE (Merseyside Branch)

Delegates and observers attend the monthly meetings of the Liverpool Standing Conference of Women's Organisations. Our delegate, Miss M. E. Duff, was re-elected to the Executive Committee and acts as Chairman of the Moral Standards Sub-Committee. Much work has been done by this Committee in connection with the Obscene Publications Act, the control and registration of entertainments clubs, and the Abortion Law Reform Bill.

Miss Brady represents St. Joan's on the Keep Britain Tidy Sub-Committee. Members help on various committees, United Voluntary Organisations, Liverpool University Catholic Chaplaincy, and Union of Youth Clubs.

We deeply regret the recent deaths of two of our earliest and most faithful members, Mrs. E. Bligh, J.P., and Miss Joanna Crawford. May they rest in peace. Holy Mass will be offered for them on behalf of the Merseyside Branch.

EQUAL PAY AND THE INCOMES POLICY

Last November it was announced in Parliament that the inter-departmental working party of officials set up by the Minister of Labour "to consider the economic and social consequences of implementing equal pay" had made its report and this was being considered.

Since the Labour Party's 1964 General Election Manifesto included an undertaking to implement a Charter of Rights for all employees based, among other points, on "The right to equal pay for equal work", it is puzzling to know why it was necessary for a Labour Government to institute an enquiry into the social consequences of equal pay and, despite the Parliamentary Secretary's assurance on January 31st, 1966, that the principle was not in question, it is ominous that he also stated "the question of an incomes policy is only one of many factors that must be taken into account in considering this complex and important problem."

Was it entirely fortuitous that the *Daily Telegraph* that same morning announced that the study group claimed it would cost over £600 million a year to introduce equal pay for women, that is, about 3½ per cent of the country's wages bill and "would therefore cost the whole of the annual increase in wages allowed under the Government's policy"?

Clearly women must be on their guard. The Status of Women Committee immediately wrote to the Minister of Labour suggesting that, as women workers have so long been denied the rate of payment to which they have admittedly been entitled, they have a very strong case for prior consideration in relation to the Government's income policy.

A. M. Pierotti

THE MONTH IN PARLIAMENT

On February 7th, Miss Margaret Herbison, as Minister of Pensions and National Insurance, moved the Second Reading of the National Insurance Bill. Clause 4 of this Bill improves the financial position of widows. It extends from 13 to 26 weeks, the period during which the specially high allowance payable on widowhood is received, giving her a longer time to adjust herself to her changed circumstances. Another change gives widows of employed men a widow's supplementary allowance, calculated broadly in the same way as would have been her husband's earnings and related unemployment or sickness benefit. This supplement (which is payable under the Bill up to six months of unemployment or sickness) is graduated according to weekly earnings. It would give a widow a maximum supplement of £7 to her widow's allowance of £5 12s. 6d.

The Sexual Offences Bill passed its Second Reading in the House of Commons by 164 votes to 107. In the House of Lords, Lord Silkin's Abortion Bill has reached the Report stage. On Friday, February 25th, a similar private member's Bill was talked out in the House of Commons.

In the Debate on the Territorial Army in the House of Commons on December 16th, Dame Joan Vickers asked what was to happen to the Territorial Army women, and in reply Mr. Mulley said there would be no specifically women's units in the new Army Volunteer Reserve, but that women would be recruited to serve in signal and other comparable units as operators, drivers, etc.

On February 23rd, under the Ten Minute Rule, Mr. St. John Stevas introduced a Bill to make provision for the recognition of illegitimate children by their fathers. Effects of the Bill would be to grant a right to adequate maintenance and a right to inherit in the case of intestacy. He said that today in England one in every 15 children born each year was illegitimate. In the Lords, Lady Summerskill introduced the Matrimonial Homes Bill, the effect of which would be to give the spouse with no legal entitlement to the matrimonial home certain rights of occupation. The Bill is due for Second Reading on March 8th.

Various notable events occurred during the month in the House of Lords. On January 25th, Lord Airedale congratulated Lady Phillips (who as Baroness in Waiting (Whip) was answering a question on the campaign to educate the public on the danger of smoking) on the fact that this was the first occasion on which a Noble Baroness had answered a question from the Government Despatch Box. On February 16th, Lady Wootton, as Deputy Chairman of Committees, was the first woman to occupy the Lord Chancellor's seat on the Woolsack. On the same happy day, Lady Stocks, sponsored by Lord Percy and Lord Archibald, took her oath and her seat as a Life Peeress. The Upper House is the poorer by the loss of another Life Peeress, Lady Ravensdale, who died on February 9th. The Commons, too, has suffered a sad loss in the death of Dame Edith Pitt, who in the previous Government held the offices of Joint Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance and Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Health.

Dame Joan Vickers' long campaign for equal guardianship was in one respect brought to a triumphant conclusion when, on February 1st, in a written answer, it was announced that in future either parent might apply for a passport on behalf of a child. Enquiries by Mrs. McKay on equal pay elicited the reply that the principle was not in question but that its implementation required further study and discussion. On February 3rd, Dame Joan Vickers asked the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies whether consideration was being given to the provision of equal pay for men and women teachers in Hong Kong, to which the gratifying reply of Mrs. White was: "Yes, Sir." On February 14th, Mrs. McKay asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs if he was aware

ST. JOAN'S ALLIANCE

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OBJECT

To band together Catholics of both sexes, in order to secure the political, social and economic equality between men and women, and to further the work and usefulness of Catholic women as citizens.

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Life Membership £10.

that almost all the United Kingdom dependent territories were now in a position to comply with the obligations imposed by the United Nations Convention on the Political Rights of Women, and if he would now ratify the Convention, with reservations if need be. Mr. George Thomson replied that Her Majesty's Government were now considering, in the light of their recent review of the whole position, whether the United Kingdom should accede to the Convention, as, in principle, they would like to do.

In reply to a question by Mr. Pounder on February 17th, the House was pleased to learn from the Prime Minister that the post of Parliamentary Commissioner (popularly known as "Ombudsman") would be open to women. In Mr. Grimond's view, this would be a most suitable post for a woman, and he was prepared, he said, if the Prime Minister cared to get in touch with him, to provide him with a short list of suitable candidates.

Vera Douie

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