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NOTES AND NEWS**Criminal Justice Bill.**

This Bill, which has been introduced by the Lord Chancellor into the House of Lords, embodies the recommendations of three recent Committees dealing with the administration of justice, viz. the Committee set up by the House of Lords last spring on the Responsibility of a Wife for Crimes Committed under the Coercion of her Husband, the Committee on Alterations in Criminal Procedure, and the Committee on the Detention in Custody of Prisoners Committed for Trial. The Bill abolishes the "presumption of law that an offence committed by a wife in the presence of her husband is committed under the coercion of the husband." This, it should be noted, leaves, as is indeed necessary, the right of a wife, as of any other individual, to plead coercion as a defence in cases in which this really obtained. It is satisfactory that the anomaly of the presumption of coercion should be done away with, but somewhat unfortunate that it should have been included in a Bill of this nature. What was really needed was a Bill removing the many other inequalities and anomalies respecting the legal position of a wife under the Law of Coverture. If this particular anomaly, which has recently become so notorious, is disposed of in this way, it will make it more difficult to get through a wider measure containing other less popular, though more necessary, provisions. Some of the more technical matters with which the Bill is concerned will be dealt with in our special Law column in a later issue.

Nationality of Married Women.

Our readers will remember that the British Nationality (Married Women's) Bill, introduced into the House of Commons by Sir John Butcher, was being considered by a Select Committee of the House of Commons when the General Election intervened. Sir John has now given notice of a motion asking for the appointment of a Joint Committee of both Houses of Parliament to inquire into the whole subject.

Local Elections (P.R.) Bill.

Mr. H. Morris, K.C., M.P., one of the Members for Bristol, in a very lucid and forceful speech, moved on Friday last the Second Reading of the Local Elections (Proportional Representation) Bill. The motion was rejected by 169 to 157. Mr. Morris secured first place in the Ballot, and his action in bringing forward this Bill is an indication that the advocates of P.R. intend to seize every opportunity of pressing this reform until victory is won. The closeness of the division gives all possible ground for confident belief that victory will come. One of the features of the debate was the duel between Mr. Moles, one of the Members for Belfast, and Mr. T. P. O'Connor.

The Parliament of Northern Ireland has abolished P.R. for local elections against, to use the phrase of the Unionist Vice-Chairman of Castlereagh Rural Council, "the expressed wishes of the minorities." Mr. Moles gave the impression that in abolishing P.R. the Northern Parliament had shown special concern for the interests of minorities. Mr. T. P. O'Connor had no difficulty in giving examples, showing how the abolition had deprived the minorities of representation. Carrying the argument to the Parliamentary field, Mr. O'Connor called attention to the absence of Mr. Devlin from the present House of Commons. Mr. Devlin had represented the Nationalist minority at Belfast. In a rearrangement of Parliamentary divisions, some Unionist sections had been added to the old West Division of Belfast. The rearrangement turned a Nationalist majority into a minority. It was an illustration of what is possible under the Single Member system. P.R. would have assured to the Nationalist minority their spokesman in the House of Commons. As in the old days of Suffrage debates, there was a curious mixing of parties and of persons in the Division lobbies. It was perhaps surprising to see Mr. George Lansbury supporting the Unionists of Belfast in their action towards minorities. Mr. Lansbury is a fervent apostle of justice, both in internal and in international affairs. The cynic would point out that the Municipal Council of Poplar contains an overwhelming representation of Labour. The advocates of P.R. stand for the fullest doctrine of Unionism—the co-operation of all; they believe in justice, and ask of all parties who happen to be in the ascendant that they be just to their opponents; for, unless we can be just to our neighbours, all talk of international justice seems to fall very flat.

Blessings and Cursings.

On 5th February Dr. Marion Phillips, chief Woman Officer of the Labour Party, gave an address to the Monmouthshire Labour Women's Advisory Council, entitled "Our Friends and Opponents." In the course of it, she appealed to her hearers to have nothing to do with those who "come to them in the guise of friends and ask them to co-operate in regard to certain individual points in the Labour Party's programme." Among such undesirable friends she included the Women's Institutes and the N.U.S.E.C. From their number she specifically excluded the National Council for the Unmarried Mother and her Child. Now, the points raised by Dr. Phillips give us furiously to think. On what principle, for instance, does she class the N.U.S.E.C. among the goats, and the N.C.U.M.C. among the sheep? The latter body advocates a particular reform which is of interest to women of all parties; the former body advocates half a dozen such reforms. It is possible that Dr. Phillips gave her reasons for this differentiation, and that the newspaper report from which

we have drawn our information fails to reproduce them. Meanwhile we are left wondering.

A Defence of Non-Party Co-operation.

But, apart from this little uncertainty, Dr. Phillips' remarks raise a big question. Has the woman member of a political party indeed nothing of value to give to, or receive from, a non-Party organization such as the N.U.S.E.C. or the Women's Institutes? We do not think so. In the first place, unless her political faith is distressingly unstable, she has nothing to lose as a Party woman, and everything to gain as an all-round human being, by co-operating where co-operation is logically possible with women of different views and different experiences. In the second place, the Party woman has everything to gain by carrying her point of view into outside organizations and preventing their "capture" by a hostile section. We believe, for instance, that the Women's Institutes are capable of doing a work of gigantic benefit among women who have hitherto led isolated and miserably unsocial lives in lonely places, that they have so far been able to maintain their democratic and non-Party ideal with extraordinary success against an age-long rural tradition of Tory paternalism, and that if women of Labour sympathies stand aside both they and the Institutes will suffer. The former will lose opportunities for social enjoyments and educational enterprise which would otherwise be opened to them; the latter will tend in very truth to develop an anti-Labour tendency, because expressions of anti-Labour opinion and misunderstandings of the Labour case within their ranks will go unchallenged.

Indian Women Municipal Councillors.

Last month four women were elected to the Bombay Corporation—one European and three Indian—to sit in an

assembly of 102 men. This is the first time in modern history that Indian women have stood successfully after the granting of the franchise to women in 1920. It is a sign of progress and of their great desire to serve their country. Their names are Mrs. H. Hodgkinson, with 4,406 votes; Mrs. Avantikabai Gokhlay, with 3,674 votes; Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, with 3,460 votes; and Miss Bachubai Lotewala, with 2,864 votes. Last year Mrs. Devadas was nominated to the Madras Municipality, and the districts of Malabar, Salem, and Bellary, which are in the South, have also each nominated one woman on the Taluk and District Boards, which are like Borough Councils in England.

An Inadequate Sentence.

A case which is rousing the indignation of all the local women's organizations was tried at the recent Hants Assizes. A man of 44 was indicted for an offence against a girl of 14 at Aldershot. The girl is expecting to become a mother, and the judge—Mr. Justice Rowlatt—finding the man guilty, imposed the nominal sentence of seven days' imprisonment, which, in effect, meant that the man was immediately released. The Judge gave no adequate reason for imposing so light a sentence or so dastardly an offence, and as there appeared to be no shadow of a defence, the sentence becomes a sheer mockery of justice. The man is old enough to be the father of the child he so callously violated. Every decent parent will regard the sentence as a shocking travesty of justice. The women's organizations have passed a resolution of protest, and it is proposed to ask the Member for the Division—Lord Wolmer—as well as Lady Astor and Mrs. Wintringham, to give this matter their consideration, so that steps may be taken to amend a law which imposes such light sentences for such serious offences.

LOYALTIES.

A few days ago, on explaining the merits of the WOMAN'S LEADER to a lady who was unaware of its existence (our readers must take it from us that such persons do still exist) we were met with the question: "But what's the use of it?" Following up this blunt and disconcerting query, our acquaintance proceeded to develop the argument that the vote having been won, and the columns of the Press more widely opened to the affairs and interests of women, there remained no place for an exclusively feminist organ. Men and women should, in fact, face the future together, without sex-consciousness (we use the word in the same sense in which our communist friends use the word "class-consciousness"), and without any point of view narrower than the human point of view in face of problems of life which concern both sexes equally.

This attitude towards feminist organizations and a feminist newspaper is no novelty. We have met it over and over again in the world of party politics. A sex-equalitarian programme seems at the moment to be a thing of mean significance compared with the acute problems of national and international policy, on whose solution depends the civilization of the Western World. The joint interests of men and women, their common outlook on the future of their class, their vocation or their nationality, seem so toweringly to overshadow their differences of outlook, that there seems to be no place among competing loyalties for the loyalty of sex. Especially simple must the question seem to those of our readers who are members of the Labour Party, in whose official programme practically all the outstanding demands of feminist organizations find a place. On the one hand, it seems necessary to conserve every ounce of energy, every penny of money for the struggle against those inequalities of economic opportunity which divide the men and women of the privileged and property-owning classes from the men and women of the exploited and under-employed proletariat. On the other hand it seems possible at the same time and through the same machinery to pursue feminist ideals; and all this can be done without distracting and contaminating contact with women of other parties, in whose company the Labour woman may feel more conscious of the economic and social differences which divide, than of the feminist affinities which unite. This is an attitude which was recently expressed with forceful bluntness by a woman correspondent in the *New Leader* who wrote to scold its editor, Mr. Brailsford, for having supported a woman Liberal candidate in the absence of a Labour man, and for having expressed regret at the defeat of Miss E. F. Rathbone as Independent candidate in the recent General Election.

Now, this is a standpoint which we understand, and for which we cherish even a kind of sneaking envy. One first-class loyalty

is a heavy enough responsibility. More than one is an intolerable burden, and into the bargain an intriguing complication, for the two are apt to tread on one another's toes. But just as the Socialist sees in the Labour movement the reflexion of a tremendous cleavage of interest which transcends the interest of nationality, so we see in the woman's movement the reflexion of a tremendous cleavage of interest which transcends, though it does not obscure, the interest of class. For, after all, the conditions which the policies of our present political parties reflect are conditions peculiar to individualized communities, and to the last two or three centuries of history. There is no reason to suppose that they are more fundamental to human nature than other conditions which they have replaced. But the conditions which our feminist programme reflects are older than capitalism in its present phase—older than imperialism—older even than national consciousness. They are age-long and world-wide. From the dawn of history, in varying degrees, women have been oppressed, exploited, sometimes flattered and pampered, but always dominated by men. Everywhere law and social custom, education, religious ritual, moral standards, and the distribution of wealth, reflect the oppression of women. From age to age the voice of articulate male humanity has joined in the chorus of "thou shalt not—thou canst not." And to this stupendous effort of social auto-suggestion, female voices have contributed their dreary repetition of "we may not—we cannot."

But the degrees of oppression do vary. Among the Anglo-Saxon races of modern times the yoke has become so comparatively light that a generation of women which cannot remember the Suffrage struggle is almost unconscious of its existence. That is why we are encouraged to carry on the struggle. The sickness is very fundamental, but it is amenable to treatment. But the struggle is not an easy one; for its responsibilities cannot be thrown off at the end of an eight-hour day or a seven-day week. Its manifestations follow us into the home—and into the Church. And for that very reason the sustaining of the feminist cause needs higher skill, grimmer forbearance, and more constant vigilance than the sustaining of any other cause. If the Socialist allows himself to confuse the "economic man" and the individual man in his employer, it is disastrous enough; for personal rancour is a hindrance rather than a help to his cause. But if the feminist allows personal bitterness to creep into her mentality, if she confuses the "sociological man" and the individual man in her husband, father, brother, or son, the disaster is a thousand times worse.

These, then, are some of our reasons for demanding that women of all parties, all creeds, and all nations shall include among their loyalties a loyalty which shall unite them as women. But we are willing to admit that it is "not enough."

NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER.

By Our POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT.

The Division list on the Liberal Amendment to the Address in Reply, calling for the immediate reference of the Reparations question to the League of Nations, does not correctly show the opinion of the House on this policy. It is probable that a substantial majority of the Members, including the Prime Minister and many of his colleagues, agree in principle that the matter ought to be referred to the League. But on account of the view held by the Government that to invoke the League at this moment might precipitate an even worse crisis, the rank and file of the Conservative Party are not prepared to participate in forcing the Premier's hand.

A number of the newly elected Liberal Members have signed a "round robin" declaring that Lord Robert Cecil, in the Manifesto recently issued by him as Chairman of the Executive Committee of the League of Nations Union, had virtually agreed to the Liberal Amendment, and expressing their regret that he should have allowed party considerations to over-ride this view and govern his attitude in the debate. This, of course, is far from being the case. The manifesto expressly recognizes that the Government of the day must be the judge of when and how the League should be invoked, and this was the principal reason given by Lord Robert for refusing to support the Amendment. Nor is it fair to suggest that he placed party considerations before the League. His argument really was this: An amendment to the Address, if carried, constitutes a vote of censure on the Government, and therefore, speaking broadly, should only be supported by those who desire a change of Government on general grounds, which he frankly did not. As to the policy urged in this particular amendment, he agreed with it entirely and in every particular, except where it sought to usurp a function of the Administration, namely, to dictate the appropriate moment for invoking the League. It is common knowledge that this has always been Lord Robert Cecil's attitude; and the truth is that there are two distinct points of view in the matter, and there is much to be urged in support of each. It is most regrettable that these particular Liberal Members, who can hardly lay claim to Parliamentary or Political omniscience, should allow their impatience with another point of view to betray them into condemnation of the one man in all the world to whom, if it is indebted to any single person, the League is indebted for its prestige to-day. And it is equally ridiculous that Mr. Lloyd George should take his present sanctimonious tone and pose as the League's great champion. If he had had his way the League would have died the death at the Genoa Conference, if not long before.

The Mesopotamian debate on Tuesday was a rather wearisome rehash of the old familiar arguments for evacuation, lifted, however, from complete dullness by a good fighting speech by Mr. Asquith, a maiden effort, brilliant though without any great depth, from Mr. Mitchell Banks, and a masterpiece of evasive eloquence from the Prime Minister.

Tuesday evening was occupied by Mr. Adamson's motion drawing attention to War Pensioners' grievances, and censuring the Ministry for want of sympathy. Two specially sincere and thoughtful speeches were contributed, one by Major Cohen, the disabled Conservative Member, and the other by Mr. F. Martin, the blind Member for Aberdeen. Major Tryon's reply was conciliatory, and he promised to inquire into and remedy all complaints. On Wednesday evening, however, another Pension question brought the Government within 22 votes of defeat. Mr. Maxton moved for the grant of pensions to all persons over 70, regardless of their means. In the debate that followed it was made plain that the general sense of the House was in favour of the proposal, and only an earnest appeal from Mr. Baldwin, expressing complete sympathy with the proposal and rejecting it solely on the ground of economy saved the situation for the Government.

The Second Reading of the Rents Restriction (Notice of Increases) Bill, moved by the Attorney-General on Thursday, gave scope for a vigorous debate, in which Sir John Simon shone with even more than his customary grace and brilliance, and Sir T. Inskip (Solicitor-General) showed himself thoroughly maladroit in handling the House. He has a superior and aggressive manner, and, as his remark to Mr. Jowitt showed, is not above trying to hit below the belt.

Proportional Representation suffered a defeat on Friday. It can hardly be expected to commend itself to the party that stands to lose most by it.

THE CALDECOTT COMMUNITY.

From a SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

The Caldecott Community, the first boarding school for working men's children, was founded in 1911, in the belief that the accident of birth should not disqualify a child from receiving full educational advantages. That belief, however, after eleven years, is still held by such a small minority of people that to-day, when funds are forthcoming for the establishment of yet another public school (Stowe House), the Community is likely to have to close unless increased support is immediately forthcoming.

The vulgar assumption that education is the prerogative of the rich is based upon a fear that if the workers are educated there will be none left to do the work the leisured find uncongenial. This fear is based on a false conception of education. "Culture," says R. L. Stevenson, "is not measured by the greatness of the field that is covered by our knowledge, but by the nicety with which we can perceive relations in that field, whether great or small."

It is this "nicety of perception" that the Caldecott Community has endeavoured to foster in its children. Intellectual work, as such, has not been considered more worthy or dignified than manual labour. "The assumption is that work which is connected with sacred or noble things is itself sacred or noble work," says Dean Inge. "I know of no worse snare than this idea. My housemaid, when she sweeps my study, does nobler work than I do when I am writing a sermon or lecture, if, as is likely enough, she does her work more conscientiously than I. The blessing which his work brings a man depends hardly at all on the subject on which he is working, and almost entirely on the spirit in which the work is done."¹

Such a spirit towards work, and indeed towards life itself, cannot be taught by hearing only, but by doing, and at the Caldecott Community, where education is viewed from this angle, all honest work, whether of hand or brain, ranks equally. No slur is cast upon the child who is dull at "lessons," for it is often the case that he excels in another department; nor do the Directors lose the dignity of their position because they, in common with the children and all other members of the staff, take their share of the housework for the first hour of the morning. It is, in fact, this first hour of the day that gives the key to the principle governing the Community, which, as its name indicates, is more than a school.

A school is "the porch to the house of Life," a place of instruction; whereas a Community implies joint ownership and fellowship, with all members working for the good of the society. It is not a preparation for, but life itself, in a miniature society, consisting of both sexes, where work in the house and kitchen, the farm and garden, are not lessons merely, but labour necessary to daily life.

A favourite school motto is "Prepare for life"; but the Caldecott Community's motto is Dean Inge's statement quoted above, which is beautifully and concisely expressed by the poet in the words: "The days that make us happy make us wise." That the forty children at the Community are happy there is little doubt, for it is this sense of happiness that strikes the visitor most forcibly at Charlton Court, the old Tudor house occupied by the Community, set on the ridge of hills overlooking the Weald of Kent. The house is surrounded by orchards and fields, where hockey and netball are played, and the Community's cows and goats graze. The farm adjoining the old walled kitchen garden is full of activity at certain hours of the day, when the children are responsible for milking and feeding the animals. Every corner at Charlton Court is utilized, and one of the farm outhouses has been converted into a hand-work room, where looms are set up, and weaving and basket-making are carried on. The stable loft has become the Carpentry Shop, and the Coach House is the Community's Chapel, transformed into a place of beauty and peace. Here prayers are held daily, and on Sunday three services are held, two for the children adapted to their varying ages, the third for the staff after all work is over on Sunday night. On the altar table is the Grail, which has stood there ever since the children acted a play adapted from Malory's stories of the "Quest of the Holy Grail"; and underneath it is written "In quest of that one beauty God put me here to find." It was not the Grail that the knights were seeking, but the holy thing; not the chalice, but the Presence of God; and the Grail has become a visible symbol of the Eternal

¹ *Speculum Animæ*, by Dean Inge.

Quest. It is the Community's belief that in the development of this spirit, rather than in the instilling of dogmas formulated by adult minds, lies the best means by which the child may at last arrive at a religious conviction which will be vital because it is his own.

As the life of the Community makes demands upon the children which take up much of the day, the hours of study must necessarily be shorter than in most schools, which usually arrange for seven or eight hours of intellectual work. The hours spent in the study at the Community are only three, or at the most four for the older boys and girls of thirteen and fourteen. Yet those children who have passed on to traditional schools have taken their place amongst children of their own age quite satisfactorily, and, what is more, naturally, as children of the same "class."

Should the Community come to an abrupt end before establishing the precedent of boarding schools for working men's children, it will at least have shown that an education on the lines indicated can in a few years break down class barriers and give the worker's child an outlook on life which is cultured in the best sense of the word. The life at Charlton Court is, at the same time, one of great simplicity, and the assertion could never be made that it unfitted the child for a life of hard work. Nor does it weaken the home ties, for even a Community does not take the place of a home, and holidays are enjoyed as much as in any other section of society.

It has only been possible to give a brief outline of the work of the Community, but sufficient has been said to show that it is a social and educational experiment which should be preserved at all costs. That such an experiment should fail for lack of

PUBLIC SPEAKING.

By MARION McCARTHY.

Recent events, particularly the last election, have brought home to women, as well as men, the fact that public speaking is an accomplishment which they would give much to possess.

Many are asking themselves the question "Could I ever speak in public?" and the wisest of these questioners are seeking the answer in their own efforts to get up and do it.

Many will fight shy of the task of acquiring this great, and to-day essential, art by saying "you are born a speaker, or you are not; it is a gift which cannot be acquired." The fact that the art of public speaking has a definite technique and a ground work of progressive steps, and can therefore be learnt like any other art, is the first thing to realize. The great and important thing is to know your subject and everything about it, the rest will be easy to you when you have mastered the technique of speech-building and speech-making.

The other day I was present at Viscount Grey's lecture to the School Nature Study Union on "Birds." It was absorbingly interesting, telling us all about birds and their ways and habits. The loving care and thought with which the facts had been gathered and cherished was there, and added greatly to the beauty of the discourse. At the end a friend turned to me and said, in a tone in which I detected a note of reproof, for she knows I am a teacher of public speaking, "That is what I like in a public speaker; he seemed to be just talking to us, it was so natural and easy." I heartily agreed with this remark, but I could not then explain that such perfection is acquired only after perfect mastery of technique, many years of practice, and a complete knowledge of the subject.

When you have mastered all the groundwork, and know your job, then you can roughen your style or adapt that easy conversational style, but you cannot begin with it. *Summa ars est celare artem.*

This is the same in all the arts. A great actor or actress may do many unusual and surprising things on the stage when the art is there, but a beginner in anything must work steadily and persistently through the earlier stages.

Therefore I would say, begin at once and speak to an audience whenever you can find one; but I warn you there is one great danger, should you get up to speak having had no previous experience, with no definite idea of what you are going to say, with such material as you have not thought out in the order in which you intend to use it, and not knowing at all how to produce your voice or even control your breath, then ten chances to one you will make a horrible failure of your first speech.

£1,000—for that is the sum required to wipe off a debt—is a great calamity. Sufficient funds are forthcoming to enable it to be run at a cost of £65 per head for forty children, the number now at the Community. Can no one be found to save it?

Mr. W. Clarke Hall, magistrate of the Old Street Children's Court, emphasized the value of experimental work at a recent meeting of subscribers to the Community. "All the best philanthropic work," he said, "has been of an experimental character in the first instance. Once you have succeeded in showing that a particular course is beneficial, the difficulty is over. With regard to the experiment we are here to-day to support, that has a very great future. It is entirely experimental; there is nothing else like it; as far as it goes it is a new idea. All of us here to-day are convinced that it is a tremendously important idea, and one that might have infinite development. In supporting it we are supporting it and giving money to it not for a definite immediate result produced by the actual cash we are spending, but by the very great future possibilities which the development of the ideas may possibly have. We want such an experiment to be one not only for the treatment of individual children, but for propaganda purposes. No one could see the children of the Community without being convinced of the value of the experiment."

Further information concerning the Community's work may be found in a small booklet entitled *New Foundations* (price 1s.), which is illustrated by photographs of the children and reproductions of their work, and may be had from the Secretary of the Community, East Sutton, near Maidstone, Kent. Additional information on any particular aspect of the work will be gladly furnished.

Bad as this is for your audience, it is nothing compared to the harm you will do yourself. It often takes years to get over a first setback; you cannot afford to do it, the crushed feeling resulting from a first failure must be avoided, and the way to do this is to rehearse your speech beforehand, if only to an audience of chairs and tables.

When you have a speech to prepare sit down and think, or go for a brisk walk, think out all you have to say, then make copious notes; jot down everything you can think of in connection with the subject.

Then analyse it and criticize drastically, cut out all that is too irrelevant, don't try to say everything you have thought of, remember the audience is hearing what you have to say for the first time and cannot possibly assimilate more than a certain amount. If you are working to achieve some reform, bring forward your facts in a crushing crescendo and try to repeat the main point more than once.

I have said nothing about your manner in giving your speech, I have taken it for granted that you know how to breathe deeply, and contract the breath, that you have learnt to produce your voice so as to be heard without tiring your audience by an effort to catch what you say, and that you have enough control of your muscles and nerves to stand at ease and not to fidget. Practice this simple exercise.

Stand up, the body well balanced, imagine there is a line running from your forehead, between the eyes down the centre of your body to a point exactly in the middle of the space between your two feet; now relax each muscle one at a time, then keeping the muscles relaxed, particularly the facial ones, concentrate hard on any line of thought, or try to remember the last speech you listened to. I have often deplored the fact that gesture is thought superfluous, foreign, or even bad form, by the English, therefore it is avoided as a fault and never cultivated. "The eye sees long before the ear hears," and a true gesture which springs in the arm at the same instant that the thought is born in the brain often expresses a thought better than the words which follow it can ever do. Gesticulation which is the result of uncontrolled nerves only should be strenuously avoided.

If you will study carefully the few hints I have given you in this little article you will know enough to begin to prepare your first speech. And having done so, and rehearsed it, you will be burning with a desire to try it on an audience, and I advise you to do so. Every speech given is a long stride along the road to perfection, and women speakers are needed—needed badly.

THE LAW AT WORK.

DR. MARY GORDON'S "PENAL DISCIPLINE."

This book, which was published last year by George Routledge & Sons, is written by the one and only Woman Inspector of Prisons that this country has had. Dr. Mary Gordon retired last year, and her place as inspector has not been filled, but we are grateful for the thirteen years of service which gave her the knowledge and experience to write this book.

Every magistrate should read it and should have its main contentions in mind when sentencing a woman offender. The writer was obviously interested in prisoners and not in prisons; she tells us that her official work was easy and dull, and she turned from it to the human material which was neither. Having rapidly disposed of her routine inspection, she had many hours free for getting to know the women prisoners and she availed herself of the opportunity to the full. We thus learn what was the effect of the prison life upon those with whom she talked.

Dr. Gordon drives home the familiar tale of how well prison succeeds in creating its own material. "The manufacture of the habitual offender is a very swift affair." She tells us that in 1911 she made a record of the first offenders—twenty-one in number—who entered one prison that year. Every one was back again in the next year, some of them as many as seven times. The number of short sentences is brought home to us as well as their futility; in 1908 out of 40,000 women sent to prison over 30,000 had sentences of two weeks or less. These numbers have greatly fallen off since that time; the total number of prisoners—men and women—receiving sentences of two weeks or less has diminished from 109,000 in 1909 to 14,000 in 1921, mainly as a result of the Criminal Justice Administration Act, 1914, allowing time for the payment of fines. The suggestion is made that a longer sentence of from three to six months sometimes deters an offender, by the fear of another and longer sentence, from repeating the offence, but it is difficult to reconcile this with Dr. Gordon's wholesale condemnation of prison on another page: "If the system had a good effect on any prisoner I failed to mark it," or again, "All were injured; the thing that injured them was not discipline but penal discipline."

The prison system appears in this book not so much cruel as costly and useless. We read of one class of prisoners after another to whom prison is obviously unsuited—the young girl, the infirm and senile vagrant, the sufferer from acute hysteria—and one begins to wonder who are the people to whom it is suited. Dr. Gordon has much to say about the hopeless procession of young prostitutes whom she saw serving their sentences of a few weeks in prison. The mere fact that they are arrested as "common prostitutes" serves to seal them for their avocation, and they leave prison slightly better equipped than they entered it for the life of the streets, as the knowledge that they have been even for a short time under medical treatment gives men a sense of security (usually quite false) in associating with them. Even if a girl is cured of disease in prison one day outside may mean re-infection. We hear, too, of the scandal of the "remand in custody", sometimes for several successive periods of seven days, simply in order that a girl's state of health may be ascertained or treated; out of 150 girls whom the inspector saw on remand in one prison in nine months only twenty-four were sent to prison on conviction. The account of this procedure recalls the days of the C.D. Acts.

Dr. Gordon is a severe critic of the Borstal system. She thinks it altogether too repressive and penal, and that it creates in the "good prisoner" the passive obedience of the slave. The figures she gives as to the number of girls who go wrong again after Borstal treatment, and the high percentage of punishments, especially for violence, are not cheerful reading. The reorganization of the Borstal system at present proceeding comes not a day too soon.

The book ends with a chapter on Bases of Reform, which sounds a more hopeful note. We have here some helpful proposals such as the deferred sentence, various forms of control to help offenders to manage their own lives outside prison, and treatment by doctor and psychologist instead of the mere custody of the gaoler. Some things, too, may be learned from foreign prisons, but we are warned from generalizing about them by the statement "In America were the best and the worst places of detention I have seen anywhere."

THE CHILD AND THE SCHOOL.

THE CHILDREN'S COUNTRY HOLIDAYS FUND.

Already in the poorest schools the C.C.H.F. visitors are beginning to collect, and the thoughts of the children are turning to joyous memories of sunshine and green fields. Canon Barnett had great understanding of the needs of the London child when he worked out the plan by which each child should go for a fortnight as an individual guest in a country cottage. Under the best conditions, the London child, born, living, playing, and sleeping in a crowd, for the first time gets a sense of its own individuality, and life assumes a wholly different aspect.

Some Care Committee visitors are strangely indifferent to work of such inestimable value for just those children who give them most anxiety, the poorest and most neglected. No child is too poor to go when there is a visitor ready to start preparations far ahead, so that the few pennies possible can be saved, the necessary clothes gradually collected, and an adequate standard of cleanliness eventually reached.

THE BOOT PROBLEM.

A local Association recently passed the following resolutions in connection with hard cases of non-attendance through want of boots:—

(a) That existing funds need to be more widely known and more fully made use of than at present; (b) That Care Committees should be immediately notified by Head Teachers of cases where non-attendance at school is attributed to lack of boots, in order that such cases may be promptly investigated and dealt with before they reach the stage of being summoned before the local Attendance Sub-Committee.

Committees are often very helpless before a case of apparent hardship but of which they have no details. Great care is needed to avoid the idea

that non-attendance at school will lead to a gift of boots, but a visit to the home, and some knowledge of the actual facts, will usually enable a sound judgment to be formed as to the reality of the effort that the parents are making. The opening of new funds should be avoided, since those that already exist are very ready to co-operate with Care Committees that can be trusted to recommend with care and with a real knowledge of the facts.

The Almeric Paget Massage Corps has two centres, one in the North and one in the East of London, both of which are of great value to the school children within their purview. Massage, electrical treatment, exercises, and remedial drill are carried out for such varying cases as spinal curvature, fractures, flat-foot, infantile paralysis, etc. Children are even taught how to breathe after adenoid operations, and recently special electrical treatment for ear trouble has been undertaken.

The children are all recommended for treatment by doctors—they come from hospitals, private practitioners, school doctors. (They may attend the centre alone for actual treatment, the parents only being asked to make a point of coming on the doctor's day or when there is some special difficulty in which their co-operation is essential.)

When a child is attending an elementary school the Care Committees are notified and various recommendations of the doctor are passed on to them. The special arrangements made by them assist the cure materially.

HOUSEHOLD ADMINISTRATION.

A LADY WITH A GRIEVANCE.

For thirty years "Ann" has been singing the praises of domestic work and domestic service, as an occupation and profession, to the extent of giving up her own house during the war and taking a situation as working housekeeper at a wage of £20 a year, all told. She played the game in this capacity for five years, even to the extent of wearing print dresses and cap and apron, scrubbing floors, cleaning steps and grates, etc. More than that, she only gave up the work because advancing years and breaking health made it impossible. Since then she has said and written, in season and out of season, that given her life over again she would begin at 16 as scullerymaid and work her way up through the kitchen until she became a qualified cook. Yet, in spite of this, a correspondent in the WOMAN'S LEADER of 16th February asks "Is not Ann Pope rather unfair in some of her remarks when she deliberately decries domestic service as a possible means of livelihood for girls of any class?" Poor, poor Ann!

TRANQUILLITY FARM.

Even "Tranquillity Farm", which was a farm only in name, was misunderstood. It was the dwelling of gentle-folk who had sufficient personality and social status to disregard worldly conventions. Its mistress, one of the most intelligent of women, filled with the wisdom of woods and garden lore, had a perfect genius for organization, and by taking her share of the work ran the place with only one servant to her own satisfaction and that of everyone else, including the happy general servant. All of which is explained in a back number of the WOMAN'S LEADER.

"Tranquillity Farm" was, as a matter of fact, a name given in affection to the house by those who enjoyed its hospitality. The title was gained because it did not matter who went there, or at what time, the administrative and executive machinery of the household never creaked.

PROPAGANDA, IF YOU PLEASE!

We all know that the supply of good domestic help is not equal to the demand because a slur has been cast on domestic work and domestic workers. Girls who leave school feel that their schoolfellows and friends will look down upon them if they become domestic servants, and therefore prefer to become typists of a very inferior type, if their parents can afford it. Now, whilst secretarial work may be full of interest and possibility, mere typing is a soul-deadening occupation, and, as has been truly stated, the reward in leisure and personal comfort is very meagre compared to that of domestic service ruled by good conditions.

More than that, if one can free one's mind from the four walls of a kitchen and its pots and pans—if whilst doing the work one can see above and beyond it, and realize that it is part of what may be a glorious whole, then each humble task will be illuminated and drudgery be no longer drudgery. We need propaganda to explain all this.

A FLANK OF CHILLED BEEF.

When household bills have to be kept down, and there are many hungry folk to feed, the flank of beef at 6½d. per lb. deserves a paean of praise all to itself. "Wyvern," that prince of cooks and epicures, in his *Common Sense Cookery* (which is at present out of print), gives the following directions for spiced beef, rolled: This is best made of a piece of thin flank or brisket weighing about 5 lb. If ordered especially for rolling, the butcher will bone and salt it sufficiently for the purpose (but as saltpetre should not be used, it is perhaps better to do this at home, and directions will be given next week). When the meat is sent in, wash it in cold water and spread it out flat, skin downwards, dry it, and lay a thin coating of the following seasoning over the upper side (in the same manner as you would spread jam over the paste before making a roly-poly pudding): half an ounce of powdered cloves, half an ounce of peppercorns freshly ground, half an ounce of powdered mace, a dessert-spoonful of finely powdered thyme, with one of marjoram, the chopped peel of a nice-sized lemon pared very finely, and a quarter of an ounce of Neapol pepper—mixed thoroughly together. Roll up the brisket, secure it with tape, wrap it in a freshly scalded cloth, and tie it firmly with a string. Place it in a saucepan or oblong pot, cover it with cold water, set the vessel over a moderate fire, and let it come slowly to the boil. Cook it patiently and set it when done in the larder under a weight; when cold remove the string, trim the joint neatly, and glaze it. When the glaze is dry, the beef may be considered ready for table.

I shall be pleased to give any special recipe in these columns, or to send postcard replies if postcards are enclosed ready addressed, but cannot write letters.

ANN POPE.

AMERICAN LETTER FROM THE EDITOR.

DEAR READERS OF THE WOMAN'S LEADER.—It is a difficult and presumptuous thing to try to give "impressions of America" after only a week's stay on this continent; but I shall try it, all the same.

The outstanding thing which I notice is the intense interest felt here in European affairs. The New York Press contains a great deal of news, as well as constant and well-informed articles on European problems; and I believe that the tide of opinion here is turning towards Intervention and the League of Nations. President Wilson is, apparently, still a very sore subject, upon which people do not wish to talk because their feelings run too high. But the League—which was in the same category a few months ago—has now taken its place again in the normal vocabulary. I am told that travelling speakers, both native and foreign, used to have as a P.S. to their invitations "We do not wish to hear about the League of Nations." To-day the reverse is the case, and the automatic postscript runs: "We should be glad if you could tell us about the League of Nations." This is one of a dozen favourable symptoms I have met with; and you can imagine that they are all welcome.

Apart from European affairs, there is much which is absorbingly interesting in American politics. I am hoping to be able to tell you about the position of American women in relation to their Parties and their Government. But I really must have more than a week to seek information on this matter, which is more technical and less obvious than the bigger international attitude. I will only say this week that I believe the situation is good from our Feminist point of view, and that everything connected with the position of women here seems to be exceedingly hopeful.

It is thirteen years since I visited this country. I cannot be sure whether it is I or the country which has changed, probably both. But certainly it seems to me now a wholly different and a much more interesting place than it was in 1910.

With all good wishes from the other side of the ocean,
RAY STRACHEY.

REVIEW.

"LADY INTO FOX."

It is probable that most of our readers seek at some period of the day or night for a literary antidote to the kind of problem with which we habitually deal in our pages; it is possible even that some of them occasionally read aloud to members of their families, or cause members of their families to read aloud to them. For either or both of these purposes we venture to suggest that they should speedily acquire Mr. David Garnett's intriguing book—*Lady into Fox* (Chatto & Windus, 5s. nett). For the former, its romance, its earnestness, its originality and its unique quality of humour, render it eminently suitable. For the latter, its stately and elegant eighteenth century English most specially commends it. The author tells how Sylvia, the virtuous and newly wedded wife of Mr. Tebrick, county gentleman, is suddenly and almost before his eyes, changed into a vixen; not a vixen in the metaphorical sense, but actually into the animal shape of a small female fox. He tells of the almost insurmountable social and domestic complications which arise from this unique metamorphosis, of the patient and unchanging devotion of the husband under its strain, of the gradual assumption by the lady of the animal characteristics of her soul's new habitation, and of the final tragedy which coincides with the opening of the Wiltshire hunting season. Mr. Garnett assures us that he has narrated the circumstance with the caution and reserve of the true historian. "Indeed," he protests, "I could never have got to the bottom of this history if I had believed one-tenth part of what I was told; there was so much of it that was either manifestly false and absurd, or else contradictory to the ascertained facts. It is, therefore, only the bare bones of the story which you will find narrated here, for I have rejected all the flowery embroideries which would be entertaining reading enough, I daresay, for some, but if there be any doubt of the truth of a thing, it is poor sort of entertainment to read about in my opinion." Whether or no this is also our opinion, we will not at this juncture divulge; but if entertainment in reading is a sure test of the truth of what is written, Mr. Garnett's narrative is stamped with the seal of truth, for it is exceedingly rich in entertainment. And if the supposition with which we opened this subject be, after all, false, and there exist among our readers persons who reject mere entertainment, then we venture to urge their perusal of Mr. Garnett's book with another object—the attempt to attribute an allegorical significance to Mrs. Tebrick's gradual assumption of foxy qualities—and we wish them joy of their quest.

CROSBY HALL.

The Crosby Hall Endowment Scheme, promoted by the British Federation of University Women, has aroused a great deal of interest among our readers, and we think they would be glad of an opportunity of giving it their practical support. We are therefore opening a WOMAN'S LEADER Subscription List. Donations, however small, may be addressed to the WOMAN'S LEADER, and will be acknowledged in this column. Cheques, money orders, etc., should be made payable to the Crosby Hall Endowment Fund.

Miss Emily Lever £5 5s.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETINGS, 7th, 8th, and 9th March.
St. George's Hall, Y.M.C.A., Tottenham Court Road (entrance, Caroline Street).

The final agenda has now been issued, and is a document of some interest. Copies may be obtained at the office, 4d. each. The events of the Council week are as follows:—

Tuesday, 6th March.—Conference on the Candidature of Women for Parliament.

Wednesday, 7th March.—First day of the Council meeting. Equal Franchise Demonstration, at Central Hall, Westminster.

Thursday, 8th March.—Second day of Council meeting. Lunch-hour service at St. Botolph's. Tea for delegates, and Public Debate on P.R., in King George's Hall.

Friday, 9th March.—Third day of Council meeting. Public luncheon at Holborn restaurant, the chief guests being the Right Hon. Lord Robert Cecil, M.P., Mrs. Henry Fawcett, J.P., the Right Hon. Sir J. Simon, K.C.V.O., K.C., M.P., Mr. Philip Snowden, M.P., and Capt. Wedgwood Benn, M.P. Tea for Delegates, and Conference of Officers and Members of Societies.

Saturday, 10th March.—Conference of Officers and Members of Societies.

(For hours and names of speakers, etc., see Coming Events, page 40).

Visitors are warmly welcomed to all the Council Meetings, Conferences, and to the Public Luncheon. A large part of the Central Hall has already been allotted to those who have sent in early applications, so that those desiring to reserve good seats should apply at once.

ADMISSION OF WOMEN TO MEMBERSHIP OF CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY.

We are now informed that the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge Bill will not be introduced until after Easter, which will have the advantage of giving time for a longer campaign to press for provision in the Bill being made for the Admission of Women to Membership of Cambridge University. The Bill, when introduced, will appoint Statutory Commissioners for each University to carry out the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Oxford and Cambridge Universities. These will probably number eight or nine persons, but there is no limit. The N.U.S.E.C. has decided to press for the appointment of a woman among the Statutory Commissioners of the two Universities. A Representative of Labour is being appointed. Resolutions on this subject should be sent to the President of the Board of Education.

THE BY-ELECTIONS.

Four by-elections simultaneously is something of a strain on our resources, especially so near the Council week. We are, however, doing the best we can. A second opportunity already this year has presented

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itself of giving support to a "tried friend", as Major Hills is standing in the Edgell Division of Liverpool. Help has been offered to Major Hills, and fuller particulars will be given next week. A deputation of representative women has been organized in Mitcham to interview the four candidates, and efforts are being made to do the same in East Wiltshire. Mr. W. Sherwood, the Labour candidate in the Darlington by-election, has stated, in his election address, that he is in favour of Equal Citizenship for women on the same terms as men.

SOUTH WALES GROUP OF SOCIETIES.

The Newport W.C.A. recently arranged a conference of South Wales Societies to meet Miss Helen Fraser, when it was decided to form a South Wales group of Societies affiliated to the N.U.S.E.C. We hope the formation of this group will result in many new societies in South Wales, and lead to the active promotion of work for the reforms for which we stand in that part of the country.

SUNDERLAND W.C.A. CONFERENCE.

The Women Citizens' Association in Sunderland succeeded in having a very stimulating conference last week-end. The subjects under discussion were of national interest, and the organizers were fortunate in having Miss Macadam, Hon. Secretary of the N.U.S.E.C., to speak for them on Parliamentary Bills of special interest to women. The two other subjects were the League of Nations and Penal Reform, both of which elicited a great many questions which were ably answered. The chair was taken at each session by prominent women in the Borough, the Mayoress presiding at the opening meeting. Between the meetings an informal conference between the five visiting Societies and Sunderland was held in the Mayor's Parlour, and some useful suggestions were made.

NORTH-WEST FEDERATION.

CHESTER W.C.A.

On 20th February, at the Free Library, an address on Probation was given by Mrs. Stead, Officer for Lambeth and South London under the Probation of Offenders Act, 1907. The human and economic effects of the system were noted from a wide experience, and heard with sympathy by an audience including three women magistrates.

CHINLEY AND CHAPEL-ON-LE-FRITH W.C.A.

The Annual Meeting was held on 31st January, and was devoted to the business of the Association and to communications received from Headquarters. Mrs. Russell undertook the duties of Hon. Treasurer, and Mrs. Hansford was appointed Hon. Secretary in place of Mrs. Preston, whose resignation in consequence of illness was accepted with great regret. A special meeting was called to consider the Preliminary Agenda for the N.U.S.E.C. Conference, and a lively discussion ensued.

No Reports have been received from other Societies in this Group, but their activities have been normal, and in many cases the Annual Meetings have been well attended, and the excellent Reports and speeches have attracted much attention.

KENSINGTON SOCIETY FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

A public debate on Proportional Representation was held under the auspices of this Society at the Kensington Town Hall on 23rd February. Mr. John Humphreys, Secretary of the Proportional Representation Society, moved a resolution to the effect that our present electoral system is not satisfactory, and that Proportional Representation is the remedy. Mr. Humphreys contended that it was grossly unfair, and certainly not equal citizenship, that very large minorities in practically every constituency should be unrepresented in Parliament, as was the case under the present system. Such a Parliament could not possibly reflect the minds of the nation. Mrs. Stocks agreed that the present electoral system is unsatisfactory, but chiefly because the franchise is not enjoyed by women on the same terms as men. She objected to P.R. on several grounds, the principal being that under such a system it would be impossible to form a homogeneous Government to speak for the nation in its dealings with other countries. Miss Chrystal Macmillan made so admirable a chairman that, although she admitted feeling so strongly on the question that she would "much rather be on the floor fighting than occupying the chair," it was impossible to detect on which side her sympathies were. Two votes were taken, one for members only, and one for the whole audience, and in each case resulted in a considerable majority for P.R.

CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

MADAM.—The articles on this subject by Mr. Lansbury and Mr. Holford Knight are both suggestive, but they do not go to the heart of the question. Mr. Lansbury regards all punishment—not capital punishment in particular—as vengeance, and therefore un-Christian. So, no doubt, it often has been, but we are coming more and more to see that the right object of punishment is reformation, and that our present grievous failure to obtain that object is due to our faulty methods rather than to any evil inherent in "all punitive systems." Capital punishment holds a place apart, since however administered it cannot be reformatory, and its justifiableness seems to me to depend largely upon our view of death. The wholesale executions of past days were horrible because the judges believed that all who died impenitent went straight to endless torment. It is a different matter if we can regard death as an incident in life, in no way cutting off the possibility of moral progress and purification from sin. Believing this, I see nothing necessarily wrong in sending a criminal out of this world to that other "where God unmakes but to re-make the

soul." Nothing wrong—but it is a confession of failure on the part of society. In some cases we must sorrowfully confess the failure to be irretrievable, and acquiesce in the murderer's death. In others it may seem that he might yet learn to justify his existence on earth, and it is a question whether we ought not to allow him the chance of doing so.

It is hard to face the subject squarely, uninfluenced by the feelings excited by particular cases. The ghastly crowds at the trial of the Iford murderers and the way in which the press kept them forcibly in all our thoughts brought protests against capital punishment from many who in calmer moments realize that these things are not its inevitable accompaniments, and at present there is no satisfactory alternative. The case for abolition will be much stronger when we have cleared our minds as to the essential nature of punishments of all kinds, and have found the right ways of carrying it out. We have to remember that as death is unique among punishments, so is murder among crimes; both are irreparable. There are weighty reasons both for and against; let us see that our decision, whichever it may be, is not based on sentimental ones. If we merely shrink from the responsibility of taking the murderer's life, how about our responsibility for his second victim?

C. L. DICKINS.

OXFORD WOMEN'S COLLEGES FUND APPEAL.

The appeal of the Women's Colleges at Oxford is a matter to which no one in the community can afford to turn a deaf ear, and it is of the first importance to women themselves.

The Women's Colleges have no endowments. The fees of the Colleges have been raised to £150 a year, and no further increase can be made without damaging the very purpose for which the Colleges were instituted—the higher education of women of all classes. To educate the comparatively small number of wealthy girls who are able to afford high fees would be nothing short of a travesty of the high aims and heroic efforts of the women to whom the Colleges owe their being. On the contrary, what is required is a larger number of scholarships to admit girls of suitable intellectual promise, without sufficient means to meet the present charges. As things are, applicants are being refused every year by each of the four Colleges. Lady Margaret Hall has now 101 students, Somerville 137, St. Hugh's 151, and St. Hilda's 91. But Somerville needs money for extension, Lady Margaret Hall is over £20,000 in debt, St. Hugh's needs £40,000 to clear the debt on its buildings, and to secure its freehold, and St. Hilda's, £14,000.

The Lord Mayor has recognized the importance of the Appeal for the Four Colleges by according to the Joint Appeal Organization a meeting at the Mansion House on Wednesday next, 7th March, when, at 4 p.m., the Archbishop of York, Professor Gilbert Murray, and the Dean of St. Paul's will speak. This meeting will afford an opportunity for friends and sympathisers to support what must be regarded as a memorial to the gallant women of earlier days—a memorial to which the Queen one of the first subscribers, herself sent £500. Other very valuable contributions have been made by the Chancellor of the University, and several of the Livery Companies of London—the Clothworkers, the Merchant Taylors, and the Goldsmiths—as well as many friends, and past and present students of the Women's Colleges. But the aggregate is still small, in proportion to the sum needed.

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OF WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS.

Particular interest attaches to the proceedings of the Consultative Committee which met last week, as many of the constituent Societies are concerned with the various Bills which are coming up this Session, and were anxious to arouse interest in them.

It is probably known by now that Lady Astor has gained third place in the Ballot for Private Members' Bills, and that she is introducing a Bill called the Intoxicating Liquors (Sale to Persons under 18) Bill, 1923. As the law stands at present any child over 14 may buy intoxicants though they may not buy spirits until they are 16, but the Bill will prohibit the sale of intoxicants to anyone under 18. It was pointed out that the Bill is not a temperance measure, but it is being promoted on the initiative of a large body of teachers in the interest of adolescents. Members of the Committee were asked to support the Bill in any way they could, and especially by circulating Members of Parliament before 9th March, when the Second Reading will be taken.

Support was also urged for the Matrimonial Causes Bill, 1923, promoted by the N.U.S.E.C., which comes up for its Second Reading on 2nd March; also for the Bill to amend the law relating to Children born out of Wedlock. Other matters then dealt with included the Invasion of the Ruhr and Married Women in the Public Services. An interesting discussion took place on the question of a Royal Commission on Lunacy, Legislation, and Administration. It was suggested that the Bill of 1890 urgently needed revision since certificates of insanity were too easily obtained, and people tended to be unnecessarily detained in asylums. Attention was drawn to the small number of cures effected, due in part to the fact that patients are not adequately classified.

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COMING EVENTS.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB.

MARCH 3. 9 Grafton Street, Piccadilly, W. 1. 5.30 p.m. Concert. Harpist: Mrs. George Morley. Singer: Mrs. Peter Smial.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

MARCH 6. Drawing-room Sale, 25 Wimpole Street, by kind permission of Dr. Octavia Lewin; to be opened by Dr. Mary Scharlieb, C.B.E. 3.30 p.m.

EDINBURGH W.C.A.

MARCH 7. Royal Society of Arts Hall, 117 George Street. 8 p.m. "Psychological Tests in Education." Speaker: D. Kennedy Fraser, Esq., M.A., B.Sc.

READING S.E.C.

MARCH 6. Large Town Hall. 8 p.m. "The Equality Programme of the N.U." Speaker: Mrs. Hamilton More-Nisbet. Chair: Mrs. Robie Winacke.

CROSBY HALL ENDOWMENT FUND.

MARCH 15. Matinee, Chelsea Palace. 2.30 p.m. H.M. The Queen has graciously consented to be present. Tickets (prices 5s. to 2 guineas) to be obtained from the Chelsea Palace or usual agencies.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION.

MARCH 3. London, Essex Hall, Strand. 3 and 7 p.m. Speakers: F. J. Gould, Esq., and Rt. Hon. Sir Maurice de Bunsen, Bart., G.C.M.G.

MARCH 5. Newport, Mon., Town Hall. 7.30 p.m. Speaker: Capt. F. Evans, M.B.E., B.A.

MARCH 6. Guildford, Holy Trinity, Parish Hall. 7.30 p.m. Speaker: Sir George Paish.

MARCH 7. Cambridge, Lecture Theatre, Arts' School. 5.30 p.m. Speaker: Rt. Hon. G. N. Barnes.

WOMEN VOTERS' LEAGUE FOR LICENSING REFORM.

MARCH 5. Luton Women's Co-operative Guild. 7.30 p.m. "The Carlisle Experiment." Speaker: Mrs. Renton.

MARCH 6. Shipley Women's Unionist Association. 3 p.m. "Licensing Reform." Speaker: Mrs. Renton.

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SMALL FURNISHED HOUSE to let, near Westminster Abbey, three weeks from 26th March; accommodation for two. Four-and-half guineas weekly, including services excellent housekeeper.—Miss Picton-Turbervill, 14 Gayfere Street, S.W. 1.

HOUSING, GARDENING, Etc.

PRACTICAL TRAINING FOR LADIES in Gardening (all branches), Dairy and Poultry Management. Expert Teachers. Lovely old manor house and grounds. Home life. Hockey.—Apply, Principals, Lee House, Marwood, Barnstable, N. DEVON.

NORTH DEVON.—Vacancy for Pupils, Market Gardening, Poultry, etc. Girls leaving school prepared; every care and most comfortable home. Run by two ladies. Terms 35s.—Box 870, WOMAN'S LEADER, 62 Oxford St., W. 1.

GARDEN ECONOMY. Advice by letter, or advising visits. Reasonable terms.—Mrs. Chamberlain, c/o Women's Farm and Garden Association, 23 Park Road, N.W. 2.

THE WOMEN'S FARM AND GARDEN ASSOCIATION. Land Outfit Department now opened.—Write to Secretary, or call, 23 Park Road, Upper Baker Street, N.W. 1.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

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

PREPAID CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS 1d. a WORD, 6d. EXTRA FOR BOX NUMBER.

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IRISH LINEN SHEETS.—Fine quality of genuine grass bleached Irish linen, heavy durable make, snow-white. Size 54 x 90 ins., 37s. 6d. per pair; 64 x 100 ins., 49s. 6d. per pair; 2 x 3 yards, 60s. per pair; 2½ x 3 yards, 78s. per pair. Write for Bargain List—TO-DAY.—Hutton's, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ireland.

UNCRUNSHABLE DRESS LINEN for Spring and Summer wear, all pure linen dyed perfectly fast colours in White, Ivory, Sky, Pink, Cerise, Old Rose, Brown, Navy, Peacock, Putty, Lemon, Grey, Saxe, Fuchsia, Brick, Cardinal, Purple, Emerald, Orange, Mauve, Black, Nigger, and Mole. 36 inches wide, 3s. 6d. per yard. Today's value, 5s. 6d. per yard. These lovely dress linens will be very largely worn this year. Patterns free. For all orders under 20s. add 6d. for postage.—Hutton's, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ireland.

SWEET PEAS.—Collection of 12 lovely wavy varieties, 25 seeds each, 2s. 6d.; mixed, 8d. per ounce; wavy varieties only 1s. 8d.; all post free.—Hutton's, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ireland.

WOULD any friend who has a COTTAGE PIANO, in fairly good condition, give it (or sell it at a low price) to a Women's Institute in the country where it is greatly needed.—M. Fussell, Curridge, near Newbury.

DRESS.

SHEBA, of 62 Oxford Street, beg to announce that they have changed their name to "Shirlyn." All are invited to come and inspect their excellent show of Spring Hats at very low prices.

COSTUMES, coats, furs, underwear, gentlemen's and children's clothing, house furnishings wanted. Specially good prices given.—Helene, 361 New King's Road, Fulham, S.W. 6.

KNITTED CORSETS.—Avoid chills, no pressure. List free.—Knitted Corset Co., Nottingham.

PROFESSIONAL.

"MORE MONEY TO SPEND" (Income Tax Recovery and Adjustment).—Send postcard for particulars and scale of charges to the Women Taxpayers' Agency, Hampden House, 84 Kingsway, W.C. 2. Phone, Central 6049. Estab'd 1908.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

HELP OTHERS TO HELP THEMSELVES HONESTLY.—Central Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society: D.P.A.S.'s at all H.M. Prisons, assisting over 20,000 annually, irrespective sex, creed, age, nationality. Wives and children aided.—W. W. Jemmett, F.I.S.A., Secretary, Victory House, Leicester Square, W.C. 2.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY, 55 Berners Street, London, W. 1. Telephone, Museum 4181. Minimum subscription, 1s.; Organ: "Catholic Citizen," 2d. monthly.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE.—Lecture by Professor Flinders Petrie, March 1st, 5.30 p.m., at 54 Mount Street, by kind permission of the Hon. Mrs. Harold Pearson.

THE PIONEER CLUB has reopened at 12 Cavendish Place. Town Members 55s.; Country and Professional Members 44s. Entrance fee in abeyance (pro tem.).

THE FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Eccleston Guild House, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 4th March, 12 noon, Little Rally, for children of all ages. 3.15, Music, Poetry, Lecture, Dr. Deamer. 6.30, Dr. Deamer.

FORM HAPPY FRIENDSHIPS.—Particulars, write Secretary, U.C.C., 161. Cambridge Street, London, S.W. 1.

ANN POPE will be pleased to give advice on household matters, cookery, etc., by post. Letters (two questions answered), 1s.; copies of recipes from 6d. each according to length. Lectures or interviews by arrangement. Please enclose stamped addressed envelope in every case.—Ann Pope, 6 Edith Terrace, Edith Grove, Chelsea, S.W. 10.

JOIN INTERNATIONAL HOUSE CLUB, 55 Gower Street, W.C. 1. Subscription, 7s. 6d. per annum. Dainty Luncheons and Teas in the Cafeteria. Every Wednesday, Club Suppers at 6.45 and Discussion Meetings at 8 p.m. 7th March. "The League of Nations and International Labour." Mr. Clifton Robins (Labour Bureau, League of Nations).

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB, 9 Grafton Street, Piccadilly, W. 1.—Subscription: London Members, £2 2s.; Country Members, £1 5s. (Irish, Scottish, and Foreign Members, 10s. 6d.) per annum. Entrance fee, one guinea. Excellent catering; Luncheons and Dinners a la Carte. All particulars, Secretary. Tel.: Mayfair 3932.

A WEEK-END RETREAT

For Women Graduates, Undergraduates, and others, will be given by Rev. C. C. Martindale, S.J., M.A., at The Cenacle, Lance Lane, Wavertree, Liverpool, from Friday, 23rd March, 7 p.m., to Monday, 26th March, 9 a.m. Terms, £1 1s. or 15s.

PUBLIC SPEAKING.

PUBLIC SPEAKING TAUGHT BY POST.—The Postal Course of 12 Progressive Lessons, prepared by Miss Marion McCarthy (sister of the talented actress, Miss Lillah McCarthy), will teach you how to speak clearly and convincingly.—Write for particulars, 16 Hallam Street, Portland Place, London, W. 1.

MISS HELEN FRASER can take some meetings.—List of lectures and terms on application to 101 Cromwell Road, London, S.W. 5.

SITUATIONS VACANT & WANTED.

FREE TUITION IN TYPING, Etc.—Miss Blakeney, Wentworth, Manresa Road, Chelsea, S.W. 10, requires 3 well-educated girls, about 20 years old, who will attend and read regularly 1½ hours every day in return for instruction in typing, etc. Recommended by Ann Pope.

WORKERS DESIRED.—Entente propagandist sympathies interesting activities England and France. Typewriting, etc., necessary. Independent means or payment by results.—Box 950, WOMAN'S LEADER, 62 Oxford Street, W. 1.

POST VACANT in school. Charge of goats, poultry, and assistance with light housework.—Box 974, WOMAN'S LEADER, 62 Oxford Street, W. 1.

BIRTH.

BROWN.—At Old Brewery House, Tirril, Penrith, Cumberland, on 24th February, to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Brown (née H. M. K. Wright), a son.