

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

AND THE COMMON CAUSE

Vol. XVI. No. 39. One Penny.

REGISTERED AS
A NEWSPAPER.

Friday, October 24, 1924.

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Annual Subscription for Postal Subscribers: British Isles and
Abroad, 6/6.

Common Cause Publishing Co., 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

NOTES AND NEWS.

Greeting.

To the 41 women candidates nominated last Saturday, Conservative, Labour, and Liberal, we send greeting and sympathy. Some of them are fighting forlorn hopes against long odds. Some are already well on the road to victory. But whatever may be their solid chances, they are a splendid company, and in wishing them the success that they deserve we are wishing them a glowing destiny. Such wishes require on our part no stupendous effort of non-party abstraction. Not one of our three parties as yet appreciates to the full its women candidates. Not one of them but would be the better for a stronger backing of women M.P.s in its parliamentary counsels.

A Corrective of the Liberal Manifesto.

The Liberal Party has bestirred itself during the past week, to make good those omissions from its manifesto which we noted in our leading article of 17th October. Those responsible for drafting the document in question appear to have assumed without further repetition, continued liability for a faith in "political, legal, and economic equality between men and women," expressed in a Liberal manifesto relating to the preceding election. We are reminded of the sluggish Christian who growing weary of long prayers, had his multifarious supplications typed out and framed in order that he might repeat before them, night and morning, the brief formula "Them's my sentiments, O Lord." Political memories are short—and it is on the whole fortunate for politicians that this should be so. We cannot therefore commend the Liberal method of non-repetition although we agree that under the present régime of annual parliaments it offers strong temptations. However, Mr. Asquith has done his best to make good the omission, in general terms, in his reply to questions from the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship. In addition, he dealt with the matter in some detail in his Paisley speech on Friday last, laying particular stress upon the justice of our claim for an equal franchise. (We repeat it is as well for politicians that political memories should be short.) It is, however, regrettable that the principal organs of the Press should have chosen to omit all reference to this important section of Mr. Asquith's speech. It was the enterprise of the British Broadcasting Company rather than the accuracy of the Press which enabled large numbers of women to receive an assurance of Liberal faith.

The Conservatives and Equal Franchise.

Meanwhile, Mr. Baldwin has made a definite (or rather a definitely indefinite) pronouncement upon the question of Equal Franchise. "The Unionist Party," he says, "are in favour of equal political rights for men and women, and desire that the

question of an extension of the franchise should, if possible, be settled by agreement. With this in view they would, if returned to power, propose that the matter be referred to a conference of all political parties on the lines of the Ullswater Committee." Needless to say, we regard this pronouncement as wholly unsatisfactory. The demand for equal franchise has been subjected to unending discussion in the House of Commons; for years a majority of members has been pledged to support its realization. It has been embodied in something so far resembling an agreed Bill that it emerged last summer from a peculiarly tedious and obstructive Committee stage as a rather grudgingly accepted Government Bill. It is true that its slow progress owed nothing to the enthusiasm or ability of Conservative Members for a democratic principle to which many of them had rendered lip service; nevertheless, we are unpleasantly surprised by Mr. Baldwin's proposal to throw the whole thing back into the melting-pot. In the matter of equal franchise the Unionist Party deserves thanks neither for its performance in the past nor its promise of the future.

The Labour Manifesto and Legislation affecting Women.

The Labour Party also, as we pointed out last week, did not see fit to restate once again this year its attitude with regard to the questions for which we stand—save in a reference to the Equal Franchise Bill, which the Election brought to an untimely end. Nor has this omission been rectified as in the case of the Liberal Party by later announcements. All that has been done is that in answer to a telegram from the N.U.S.E.C. the Prime Minister has replied that the Labour Party still stands for political, legal, and economic equality between men and women, including Equal Franchise, Equal Guardianship, and Equal Pay for Equal Work.

Cost of a General Election.

It is salutary perhaps in the midst of a General Election to be given some idea of the cost involved. The Home Office has just issued a statement of the expenses of the last Election. Apart from returning officer's charges it cost a total sum of £982,340 practically, that is to say, a million pounds. There were approximately 14½ million voters registered, so that every vote cost about 1s. 4d. Some of the expenditure is probably really educational, but what proportion of it, we wonder. Most is purely wasteful, and added to it is all the expenditure of energy, and the wasted effort over Bills which are halfway on their journey to becoming law. It should make politicians think twice before they go to the country.

Women Candidates.

Since last week there have been certain changes in the list of women candidates:—

ADDITIONAL CANDIDATES.

		Majority against.	
Dr. Laura Sandeman	Unionist	4,318	Aberdeen (North).
Mrs. Shaw	"	6,642	Lanark (Bothwell).
The Hon. Lady Barlow	Liberal	2,575	Derby (Ilkeston).
Mrs. Drake	Labour	439	Lewisham (West).
Miss E. Stewart	"	2,835	Edinburgh (North).

CANDIDATURES WITHDRAWN.

Mrs. D. C. Edmunds	Labour	Glamorgan (Ogmore).
Mrs. Randolph Clarkson	Liberal	Birmingham (Moseley).

These changes mean that there are now 41 women candidates, 12 Unionists, 6 Liberals, 22 Labour, and 1 Independent Labour. We print elsewhere an article on their prospects.

St. Mary's Marching Backwards.

With expressions of "great regret" the Board of St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, have closed their medical school to women. Their reasons, given in a letter to the public on Saturday last, appear to be mainly financial. The diminished number of women students is insufficient to justify the extra costs of co-education. Meanwhile they specifically disclaim "any sympathy with such prejudice as may exist against medical co-education," and are careful to assure the public that their decision must not be "misconstrued as a verdict against the competence of those women who have been trained at St. Mary's . . ." On the contrary, it is unanimously recognized that the women who have received their medical education with us have rendered the hospital as fine service, have won as many academic honours, and are as fitted to receive the confidence of the public as any generation of students who have passed through our school. This latter assurance on the part of the Board is gratifying, but as far as the great mass of the public is concerned wholly superfluous. It is not upon the women doctors that this decision will reflect discredit. We are not in a position to analyse the personal motives of individual members of the Board, nor can we challenge or corroborate the implication that the initiative was taken by those responsible for the finance, rather than for the day to day teaching of the Medical School. Under the circumstances we can only hope that within a short time the Board may find itself the victim of financial pressure of a similar kind to that which induced it in 1915 to open its doors to women students. We believe that this is not improbable. It is, moreover, unlikely that any appeal for funds based as was the last on the statement that "The Board is committed to the principle of co-education" will meet with much response.

Children and Public Houses.

The dissolution of Parliament has prevented amongst other things a consideration of a petition submitted to the Government asking for an amendment of the Children's Act. The petition, which carried nearly forty thousand signatures, urged that the exposure of children outside public-houses should be regarded as an act of neglect. The Liquor Trade organ naturally is up in arms at the suggestion, and asks, "why distinguish between public-houses and other premises?" The answer is sufficiently obvious. But the proposal made in the petition does raise difficulties. The working class parents often have no one with whom the children can be left, so that if they are not allowed to leave the children outside the public-houses or to take them inside, it will involve far greater restrictions than is at first sight apparent. The fact that the parents will often have to risk a charge of neglect or go without their drink would certainly be exploited heavily if there were a question of making this proposal into law; it is so easy to work up a righteous indignation over the liberty of the subject. Probably the solution of this, as of many other proposals with regard to the drink trade, is to make the public-houses into decent refreshment houses where children could be taken without being subjected to the sights of utter degradation. If anyone wishes to know what is really involved in the amount of drink consumed in this country they will find a mine of information in a revised edition of *Facts and Figures*, published by the Temperance Council of the Christian Churches (price 2d.). It gives the cost of drink in money and food stuffs, its connection with various diseases, as well as many other interesting facts.

Married Women Doctors.

The question of married women doctors under the L.C.C. is again to the fore. One of the Council's Committees has recommended that in future the Health Department should not engage married women doctors, though an exception is made in the case of those who are already in the Council's service. The recommendation has duly received the benediction of the Council, which on Tuesday defeated, by 59 votes to 27, an amendment brought forward by Dr. Scott Lidgett and Miss Wallas calling for an alteration in this outrageous Standing Order. The question of the employment of married women by public authorities is a perennial one. Even when it has once been settled in favour of the women there is never any guarantee that it will not be reopened. It shows professional women can never rest on their laurels and think that the fight to be regarded from a purely professional point of view is really won.

Pressure on the Housewife.

The Ministry of Labour records, this month, a further increase in the cost of living, as indicated by its own index number.

On 1st October the general level of retail prices was 76 per cent. above the level of 1914, as compared with 72 per cent. on 1st September. It is true that this increase represents to some extent a seasonal and normal increase in the price of certain foodstuffs—but not entirely; for the corresponding date last year shows a percentage increase of 75 per cent. as compared with 1914. We cannot, of course, off-handedly deplore a rise in the cost of living without references to its causes. It is conceivable that a moderate increase of prices might so stimulate economic activity as to give back to the individual citizen in income more than it removed from him in expenditure. It must, however, be remembered that the re-adjustment of income to increased prices involves a "time lag" during which the change operates to the disadvantage of the wage-earner and salary-earner (not to mention the pensioner and fixed interest receiver who is apt to suffer clear and irretrievable loss). And, as we have repeatedly pointed out in past issues, it is upon the wage-earner's wife that the "time lag" operates most unfavourably. For in her case, if the deficiency is to be made good, not merely has an increased price level got to be translated into an increased wage, but that done (and it is not always done) the increased wage has got to be translated into an increased "wife's share." And that is not always done either.

The French Survival Rate.

Statistics for the first half-year, 1924, show a striking decline in the survival rate of the French population. Births totalled 575,636, deaths 544,287, the net increase being 31,349. The corresponding figures for the first half-year, 1923, were respectively 595,621, 514,442, and 81,179. The fact that an increase in the number of deaths plays a larger part in this diminished survival than the decrease in the number of births indicates the principal factor in the French population problem and the most economical (we do not say the only) channel of approach towards its solution.

The International Law Association and the Nationality of Married Women.

Miss Chrystal Macmillan writes:—

In your issue of 26th September, in reporting on the recent Stockholm Conference of the International Law Association you stated that the Conference recommended that the woman who married a man not of her own nationality should have the right of choice as to whether or not she should take her husband's nationality. Unfortunately, the Conference did not go so far as this, although they did recommend that in certain cases she should have the choice. I have seen other Press reports which also suggest that the recommendation of the Conference went further than it really did.

The recommendation adopted was that all states should be encouraged to adopt in their own law the following rules:—

(a) A woman national of a conforming state shall not, by reason of her marriage with a national of a nonconforming state, lose her original nationality unless and until by reason of such marriage she becomes a national of such other state either automatically or by naturalization.

(b) A woman national of a conforming state marrying a national of another conforming state shall acquire her husband's nationality, unless she does under the law of the state to which she belonged before marriage, retain the nationality of such state, or unless she makes a formal declaration (to be recorded on the register of marriage) to the effect that she wishes to retain her former nationality.

Under (a) above, a woman who automatically is given her husband's nationality may lose her original nationality without being consulted. Under (b), apparently, if a woman does not retain the nationality of her original state on marriage, and declares she does not wish to acquire her husband's, she may be left without nationality.

It will be remembered that at the meeting of the Association at Buenos Aires in 1922, the following resolution was passed unanimously:—

"The Conference . . . is of opinion that it would be desirable to fix uniformly by treaty the nationality of married women, reserving to a married woman, so far as possible, the right to choose her nationality."

While recognizing that the Association in its Stockholm recommendation has selected certain cases in which a married woman is given a choice of nationality, it is to be hoped that at subsequent meetings the number of "possible" cases may be considerably increased.

"VALE ATQUE AVE."

"We want eight, and we won't wait." The slogan of a tempestuous by-election of pre-war days buzzes in our ears. Then, it was Dreadnoughts. To-day, the mystical number stands for our eight women ex-M.P.s whose political fortunes are about to be cast into the melting-pot. We want eight again, and eight more, and five times eight. For the moment we limit our wants to the possibilities offered by the nomination lists. But thrusting our wants forward into the uncertain future, we want eight times eight and eight times eight again—enough, indeed, to give proportionate balance in the nation's councils to the experiences and viewpoint of something more than half its population.

But for the moment our thoughts are busy with the eight whose work we know and whose political faith has been tested upon one short but inordinately active parliament. Of Lady Astor, pioneer and "Mother of the House," we have spoken so much and so freely in these pages that there really seems little more to say. Like many another headlong and valiant fighter, she has raised up passionate friends and obstinate enemies. But we venture to assert (a risky assertion, perhaps, but we do not make it thoughtlessly) that there are no women among the latter. Whether we continually reiterate it in print or whether, for fear of tedious repetition, we "keep it in our hearts," the fact remains that Lady Astor has a place in the affections of British women which nothing will shake and which very few competing affections will rival.

It is unthinkable that Lady Astor should cease to represent us in the House. It is almost as unthinkable that we should be called upon to do without Mrs. Wintringham. From time to time in the kaleidoscopic history of Parliament, it is possible to indicate an individual M.P. whose unbroken personal popularity combined with the power of inspiring political respect from everybody has made him a kind of "spoiled child" or rather "unspoiled spoiled child" of the House. It is an unchallengeable fact that our second woman M.P. has slipped into this enviable position. History has indicated its own infinite variety by achieving so striking a personal and political dissimilarity between our first two women M.P.s, and combining it with a comradeship so effective and so fundamental that it is difficult to conjure up one, without simultaneously visualizing the personality of the other. Indeed, the mind's eye can produce few more pleasing and whimsical pictures than that of the exuberant and sometimes indiscreet wit of the first woman M.P. playing like forked lightning round the restrained and gentle wisdom of the second.

The newcomers have naturally less hold upon our imagina-

tions: indeed, we are even beginning to look forward to the time when by reason of her frequency the woman M.P. *qua* woman M.P. will cease to be an object of interest to us. This time, however, has not yet come. Perhaps that is one reason why few women (whatever their party colour) could forgive the electors of Northampton if they were to reject Margaret Bondfield. It has been said that the age of oratory has passed. Those who have said so are to be pitied—for they can never have heard Miss Bondfield holding the attention and moulding the emotion of a large audience. It has been said that the too-eloquent orator is a dangerous luxury. Miss Bondfield draws the teeth of such danger by her transparent goodness. She may lift an audience "off its feet" but she lifts it on to a plane where it will find itself a little nearer to the Kingdom of Heaven. Nor could we do without her colleague, Susan Lawrence, who has served the educational system of this country under two political flags, and served it devotedly and consistently with an untiring public spirit. We remember with vivid sympathy Miss Lawrence's exasperated outburst against the obstructionist committee tactics of those who held the Equal Franchise Bill at bay during interminable days last summer. And the same memory includes the activities of another of the eight, whom those of us who lived outside the orbit of the Militant Suffrage Movement and the Women's Trade Union Movement will have regarded in 1923 as a newcomer of quite unknown potentialities: Miss Dorothy Jewson. 1924 has shown us at least that the valiant feminism of militant days has not faded, and that we have in Miss Jewson an M.P. who, like Lady Astor, will fight for unpopular causes in the teeth of political opponents and (a thing which requires infinitely greater courage) in the teeth of political friends.

But this does not exhaust our eight. There is Lady Terrington, overflowing with goodwill to mankind and ready sympathy for all the causes for which this paper stands. When will she become a completely grown-up politician? Meanwhile, we wish her well in her equestrian campaigning. But of the remaining two, the Duchess of Atholl and Mrs. Phillipson, we speak with heavy hearts. We were not often tempted in old days to break the tenth commandment over the brains of the Anti-Suffrage Movement. But we might have envied them the Duchess of Atholl's incisive and deliberate ability. It was a bitter day for us when she went into the Division lobby against Equal Franchise. And Mrs. Phillipson—oh dear, oh dear! In 1913 we went four times to "With'in the Law." Our memory of the gaiety and humour which Mrs. Phillipson contributed to that fascinating performance prevents us from saying what we think of her attitude to many of our dearest aims.

PROSPECTS OF THE WOMEN CANDIDATES.

Are there to be more women M.P.s? That is the question which every reader of this paper is doubtless asking. If the little group of eight in the last Parliament were to receive substantial addition it would be the one compensation for an unwanted election and for the killing of the Bills in which we are interested.

Let us first consider the prospects of the present women Members. Two of them won the election last year by only very small majorities, the Duchess of Atholl was in by 150 votes and Miss Susan Lawrence by 416. Last year the Duchess of Atholl had a Liberal standing against her; this year there is again a straight fight, but it is between her and a Labour candidate. The substitution of a Labour for a Liberal candidate will probably strengthen her position, as she may get the moderate Liberal vote, and, on the other hand, she is not likely to lose many votes to Labour. The general opinion locally is that she will get in provided the Unionists are not over-confident. Miss Lawrence is opposed by the same two candidates as stood against her last year, so that there are no new factors in the constituency. Her seat, we suppose, cannot be regarded as a certainty, but with reasonable good fortune the House should see her again. Rumour has been rife with Lady Astor's seat, which was not supposed to be safe in spite of her majority of 2,676, but Lady Astor is one of those characters round whom exaggerations seem to cluster; we gather the situation has been painted in blacker colours than the facts warrant, and do not believe we are going to lose our first woman Member. Both Miss Bondfield and Miss Jewson are likely to have a stiffer fight than last year. Miss Bondfield has been caught at a disadvantage, being in Canada, and she has got a strong opponent in Mr. Manfield, the Liberal candidate, who is a much respected Northampton

manufacturer with a considerable amount of local influence. Miss Jewson, who sits for one of the few two-Member constituencies, last year had two Unionists and two Liberals opposing her and her fellow Member; this year the two older parties have only put up one candidate each. On the other hand, Miss Bondfield had a majority of over 4,000, Miss Jewson of 3,000, so that they both have a considerable margin. The two women Liberal Members, Lady Terrington and Mrs. Wintringham, were in last year by majorities of 1,682 and 1,101 respectively; that is to say, they both have a fair margin, and a good chance of success, but their seats cannot be regarded as absolutely safe. The same applies to Mrs. Hilton Phillipson, who had a majority of 1,869, but it is said that the Unionist organization in her constituency, Berwick-on-Tweed, has been very much strengthened. The same Liberal candidate is opposing her as last time, but she has not got a Labour woman against her this year, as Mrs. Penny, her late opponent, is fighting North-East Leeds.

In the lists we printed of the women candidates last week and to-day, we gave the majority against them, but this is not always a safe measure of the opposition they have to face. To begin with, the figure given would be more accurately described as the majority of the sitting Member, which in a three-cornered contest means his majority over the candidate next on the list, not his majority over the candidate who was third at the poll at the last election. If the woman candidate, or her predecessor, were in this position the majority against her would be greater than that quoted. This is the case with Mrs. Corbett Ashby; the Liberal candidate at Watford last year was over 4,660 behind the successful candidate. Lady Barlow for the same reason has actually a majority of 3,129 against her, Dr. Ethel

Bentham 3,729, Mrs. Ayrton Gould 2,652. Blackburn, where Mrs. Hamilton is standing for Labour, is another two-Member constituency. Last year one of the Labour candidates was 5,689, the other 9,214, behind the successful Liberal; they were 3,077 and 6,602 behind the Conservative, who was second at the poll. In most of these cases it will be seen the true majorities against the women are serious but not necessarily hopeless. Mrs. Ayrton Gould, for example, writes to us: "The enthusiasm in this Division in favour of my candidature is amazing. Our meetings are packed out, so that we have to hold overflows constantly—we should win here."

Another way in which the figures showing the majorities of the sitting candidates may be misleading is that the situation may be completely altered by the withdrawal of a third candidate or the substitution of a three-cornered election for a straight fight. From a glance at the majorities given it would seem as if the four candidates with the easiest task ahead were Miss Mitchell (the Liberal candidate for Lanark), Miss Sayle, Miss Spurrell, and Mrs. Drake (the Labour candidates for Hemel Hempstead, Totnes, and Lewisham (West) respectively), for the majorities of the sitting Members vary from 17 to 502. But unfortunately in all four cases there is this year a three-cornered contest where last year there were only two candidates, and in all four cases the woman candidate represents the third comer, so that their prospects are less rosy than the figures suggest. These are not the only contests where the woman candidate means a third party in the field. In Morpeth, Miss Irene Ward is standing as Unionist against Robert Smillie, as the sitting Member in a constituency where there was last year a Liberal-Labour contest; Mrs. Elias is standing as Liberal in Southwark, where last year a Labour candidate won in a fight against the Unionist, whilst Dr. Stella Churchill, Mrs. Dollan, Miss Stewart, Miss Pictou-Turbervill all appear as Labour candidates in three-cornered elections where last year the Liberal and Unionists were alone in the field. It must be admitted that the difficulties in the way of success for the third candidate are always great. Added to these, Miss Richardson is standing as Independent Labour, where there was already a Labour candidate, and Mrs. Mercer is standing as Liberal in a constituency where last year the Unionist was unopposed.

In some cases the position is reversed, and the women candidates are engaged in straight fights where last year there were three-cornered elections. Two of them are Unionists, Dr. Sandeman and Mrs. Shaw; in both cases the sitting Member is a Labour man. What result the withdrawal of the Liberal candidate will have it is not easy to say. Last year one would certainly have said it would have strengthened the Labour candidate; this year it is by no means certain that it will have that result. But the Labour majority last year over the Unionist was greater than the whole of the Liberal vote; in Bothwell, Mrs. Shaw's constituency, very much greater; in Aberdeen, where Dr. Sandeman is standing, very slightly greater. Mrs. Shaw's chances are therefore not very encouraging in spite of the Liberal withdrawal. Dr. Sandeman has more chance, and she is very well known in the constituency, having done much medical and public work there. Four Labour women are in the same position of having a straight fight in the place of a three-cornered one—Miss Stephen, Mrs. Corner, Miss Pallister, and Mrs. Porter.

Miss Pallister would need to get the whole of last year's Liberal vote to make good the difference between her poll and that of the Unionist; in the other three cases even the whole Liberal vote was considerably less than the majority against the Labour candidate, so here again we cannot be optimistic about the chances of a woman's return.

In the remaining cases the figures showing the majority against the candidate give a fair idea of the situation. The lowest majority is that against Miss E. Wilkinson, the Labour candidate for Middlesbrough, where the Liberal member has a majority of 1,529. In the other cases, unfortunately, the majorities against the women are high, and some of them have stiff opposition to face. Thus Mrs. Hulse is standing for Derby, a great railway centre, against Mr. Thomas, where the railwaymen's vote will be against her, whilst Mrs. Middleton, at Wansbeck, is faced with a large mining vote. Whether the Liberal coal mine programme will tempt the Labour tendencies of the miners remains to be seen. An interesting case is that of Dr. Helen Gwynne-Vaughan. It must be remembered that in the election before last the majority against her was only 254, and it was the Unionist landslide last year which increased the Labour majority to over 4,000. We hope there may be another swing of the pendulum this year.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

THE LAW AT WORK.¹ MAGISTRATES IN CONFERENCE.

About 100 women magistrates assembled in council on 16th October, under the auspices of the Magistrates' Association. The main subject of discussion was Street Offences. It was introduced by Mr. Clarke Hall and Miss Alison Neilans. They dwelt upon the inequality and injustice of the present Solicitation Laws, which by no means accord with the theory that every person is deemed innocent until he or she has been proved to be guilty. It was urged that the special legislation directed against "common prostitutes" should be swept away, and one law for men and women forbidding annoying and indecent behaviour in the streets should be substituted. A discussion followed which dealt not only with the legislative aspect of the problem, but also with the immense difficulties experienced by magistrates in their efforts to help those women who are convicted and punished (sometimes again and again) for these street offences.

Resolutions were passed urging that more women magistrates should be appointed, and also that there should be at least one woman on every Advisory Committee. Many of those present gave evidence of the very small number of women justices in some parts of the country. The result is that many cases which involve women and children come before Benches which consist entirely of men, either because there is no woman member or because there is only one and she cannot possibly be present at every sitting. It was stated that in quite recent additions which have been made to the justices the number of women has been absurdly small.

An interesting discussion took place on Probation, revealing, as always with this subject, the immense differences that exist in the methods in which Probation is worked in different courts. In some places no system exists by which the Probation Officer makes reports on his cases to the magistrates, and there is no Probation Committee to receive them. Magistrates find it very difficult in such circumstances to get any definite knowledge as to whether the probationers are going on well and whether all is being done for them that might be done. The speeches on this subject all pointed to the same thing, the urgent need that the Criminal Justice Bill, which will raise the standard of Probation throughout the country, should be passed. Some valuable information was forthcoming with regard to Hostels for Lads on Probation which have been established at Birmingham and Liverpool. It is clear that this is a need which is making itself widely felt. Magistrates often know that a juvenile offender ought to have a change from his home surroundings, at any rate for a time, and they wish to make residence at a certain place a condition of the Probation Order. The difficulty is that at present there is often no place to which a boy or girl can be sent. Hostels in which they could live under discipline and yet go daily to school or work are an urgent necessity.

On the following day the Annual Meeting of the Magistrates' Association was held at the Guildhall. Here, amid much that was of interest, speeches were made on After-care of Borstal Boys and Girls and of Discharged Prisoners. One or two pieces of information about Borstal emerged. Boys now all stay for two years as the course of training is mapped out to cover that period. If they are committed for three years part of the last year can be spent on licence if the boy's conduct is good. It is clear that Borstal boys have much leeway to make up in the way of education. Only five out of every 100 that are admitted got beyond the fourth standard at school. The scanty knowledge they once acquired must often have been forgotten by the time they reach the Institution. The figure of 60 per cent. was given as rather an under-estimate of the number of Borstal lads who after leaving are not again convicted in a court of law. A story was told which illustrates the want of sympathy with youthful tastes sometimes shown by those who have charge of the young. A report was received from an official which stated: "He goes to dances and has a young lady: Borstal is the only chance for him."

C. D. RACKHAM.

(Continued from preceding column.)

The net result of this survey is perhaps not very encouraging, but it is not intended to damp the ardour of our readers. On the contrary, a knowledge of the difficulties to be faced is likely to spur the women on to greater efforts. There are always many unexpected happenings in an election, and with luck and hard work we may yet next week find the number of women in the House reinforced by new recruits.

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

TWO SPRING VISITS TO PALESTINE, 1921, 1922.¹

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

CHAPTER IV.—THE STREETS OF JERUSALEM.

As one drives into Jerusalem by the Jaffa Gate and is put down about fifty yards from it at the Grand New Hotel, one has almost, but not quite, exhausted the possibilities of wheeled traffic within the walls of the city. It is evident, even at the first glance, that Jerusalem was not built and planned for those who reclined in coaches or carriages. The streets are extremely narrow: an ordinary-sized man could stand in the middle of most of them and, by stretching out his arms, could put his hands on the booths or stalls of the bazaar-keepers on either side. The streets are, moreover, up and down steps; donkeys and horses pick their way daintily over these stone stairs, and camels march disdainfully over them, but they are not framed for carriage exercise. The wheeled chariots spoken of in the Old Testament were instruments of war, and form one of the instances in which the exigencies of warfare caused the invention and gradually the general use of commodious and useful aids to civilization. But Palestine is more than ordinarily tenacious, even for the East, of ancient habits and customs. Mr. Laurence Oliphant, writing in the eighties, said that when he first visited Haifa wheeled traffic was unknown there.

In Jerusalem, the streets are not only narrow and steep, but the houses in many places completely over-arch them, so that the wayfarers have to proceed through tunnels. Once in Jerusalem, one can never forget even for a moment that it is a mountain city: the space which could be built upon was very limited and, therefore, crowded and packed by a dense population. Now, of course, there are pleasant suburbs stretching out, especially to the South, North, and West, and hardly anyone of European origin who is not obliged to do so lives within the old walled city. The hotel just mentioned is one of the exceptions to this rule. It also affords an example of the extreme tenacity with which the old race inhabiting Jerusalem clings to ancient tradition. The hotel is said to be Bathsheba's house, and may quite possibly be upon the site of it. It is a strangely formed, sprawling building with wings proceeding from a central court, something like the legs of an Isle of Man penny. Its roof commands a very fine view over Jerusalem. The Tower of David is just opposite, almost within a stone's throw. Did David first see Bathsheba from his tower? In the little court which forms the centre of the building, is a small column of black basalt. The inscription on it tells that it was put up after the siege by Titus in A.D. 70 to commemorate the death of the Commander of the tenth legion of the victorious Roman army; it is a war memorial unlike in form, but similar in sentiment and partly in expression, to the thousands which have been put up in nearly every town and village of Great Britain. On the Roman war memorial it will be noted that only the Commander is mentioned: nothing is said of the ordinary soldier who laid down his life! Of course, we heard a great deal about the war, of the proud humility of Allenby's entry on foot, very near the place where the Kaiser had entered in theatrical state nearly twenty years earlier. Allenby's first gift to the people of Jerusalem was a free supply of fresh spring water. Before this the water supply of the city had been solely that which could be stored in cisterns or pools and during droughts it often became very contaminated and unwholesome. The British standpipes with a perpetual supply of fresh water, quite hideous but quite invaluable, are now to be seen in every part of Jerusalem. At first, the people had difficulty in understanding that this water was a free gift. They asked what they had to pay. When the reply was "Nothing," they said, "The Turks were here 400 years, but they never gave us even one cup of water." Nevertheless, it would be folly to pretend that the British administration of the city is popular with its old happy-go-lucky inhabitants and their unchanging ways. The process of being cleaned up seldom endears the cleaner to the cleaned. Stagnant pools and marshes have been drained, the destruction of accumulations of unwholesome rubbish has been insisted upon and there has been, since the war, a marked improvement in the health of the population. [See article in the *Jewish Guardian*, 27th May, 1921, by Mr. Arthur Franklin.] So that, popular or unpopular, we may be assured that the present administration has been a blessing to the city.

¹ This is the fourth of a series of weekly articles which will extend over a period of about six months.

The Germans were in great force in Jerusalem and in its suburbs before the Great War. One whole district was occupied by the German Colony. They were not supposed to be allowed back when we were there, but, nevertheless, they were beginning to reappear. In the very narrow streets of Jerusalem, where a donkey with panniers may occupy almost the whole free space in the middle of the road, I once inadvertently jostled against a European gentleman. Of course, I said, "I beg your pardon," and he immediately responded "Bitte." So at any rate one German was in Jerusalem in March, 1921. Another peculiarity of Jerusalem is that the names of streets are not put up. They have names, e.g. David Street, Christian Street, Jaffa Street, etc., but everyone is supposed to know them, and therefore there is no necessity to spend time and money in writing the names upon the walls; moreover, with the mixture of races and peoples inhabiting the city, it is agreed that if the names of the streets were written upon them it would be necessary to have this done in at least three languages. Now the three would be English, Hebrew, and Arabic: even in Pilate's time, public inscriptions, it will be remembered, were written up in Hebrew, Greek, and Latin. Everything in Jerusalem serves to recall those far-off days, which seem so near to a people which forgets nothing and, unfortunately, may almost be said to learn nothing.

The most famous street in Jerusalem is the Via Dolorosa, the way by which, it is said, Jesus was led from the judgment-seat to Calvary. It is marked with the Stations of the Cross. The Ecce Homo Arch is shown, which occupies the site where Pilate came forth and displayed Jesus to the people with the words: "Behold the Man." In the adjacent Convent of the Sisters of Zion we were shown in the basement, engraved upon the living rock, the tracery cut by the Roman soldiers for the games by which they sought to while away their time.

HOUSES AND DREAMS.

Mrs. Trotter's little book of poems,¹ collected, many of them, from the pages of *Punch* and other periodicals, shows a talent of wide inequalities. Some are fascinating—some are uninteresting. But among those which are fascinating most certainly may be included the poems which concern the distinct and forcible personalities of houses. There are houses which have no personalities of their own— which bend themselves unresistingly to the wills of their occupiers. There are others—like Mrs. Trotter's "Old Selfish House," which require knowing and conciliating. Some, again, like her "Cruel House" are steadfastly malign. "Better to end you," is her verdict on this particular house. We know a house, square of room, lofty of ceiling, which has stood for two centuries or so on the banks of the Thames. Its present occupants have draped its fine windows with their vulgar lace and velvet curtains, silted up its spacious rooms with their loathsome upholstered furniture, befouled its graceful curved stairway with their fussy and insignificant properties. Their last house was gentle with their crude vulgarity and yielded to their personality with a shrug of its shoulders. This house resists them at every turn. A sense of baffled conflict pervades it. Cold and aloof, it withdraws its welcome, and stands like some brooding, desecrated goddess, bound and gagged, dressed in the absurd frills of a tenth-rate ballet-dancer, and shown in the market-place for public pleasure. Mrs. Trotter would understand it—and could sing its song. Under pledge of secrecy we might even tell her where to find it!

"SPECIAL GRACE."

The Rev. Wilna Constable, Minister of the High Street Chapel, Warwick, records the following prayer, offered on her behalf by the somewhat apprehensive deacon of a North Country chapel in which she was about to preach: "O Lord, we pray for special grace for Thy servant to-day: O Lord, Thou knowest she is only a woman, but Thou canst use anything." She informs us that the deacon in question, though very old and somewhat conservative in his social and theological outlook, had been largely instrumental in securing her services in the teeth of some local prejudice. We consider that the measure of his grave apprehension was the measure of his reverence for the fundamental equality of opportunity which Christianity offers to the individual spirit. We would gladly have seen a little more of that reverence reflected in the atmosphere of the recent Church Congress. If the authorities of the Church really believe woman to be by virtue of tradition, training, or physique less capable of spiritual leadership than men, then let them pray for "special grace" without taking upon themselves to deny the power of the Holy Spirit to "use anything".

¹ *Houses and Dreams*, by A. F. Trotter. Basil Blackwell, 3s. 6d.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S ANNUAL MEETING.

After the first day, the proceedings on which were briefly recorded a fortnight ago, the N.C.W. tackled its programme of thirteen resolutions, and by Thursday afternoon had dealt with the whole list, leaving only international business for the final hours. A discussion took place on a part of the resolution proposed by Mrs. Potts (Birmingham), and seconded by Lady Nott Bower to enforce the appointment of collecting officers under the Affiliation Orders Act, 1914, to all petty sessional courts, the debatable point being the "opinion" that such officer should not be the magistrates' clerk. An amendment was carried to omit this clause, and substitute the opinion that any suitable person appointed by the court should be collecting officer. This amendment proposed by Miss Spear, J.P. (Malvern) was seconded by Mrs. Phillips, J.P., for the N.U.S.E.C.

A motion urging a consideration of what steps should be taken to secure the adherence of young people to a high and equal moral standard was brought forward by Miss Alison Neilans (Association for Moral and Social Hygiene), one of the speakers whose voice and diction triumphed over the difficult acoustics of the hall. One of her points was a distinction to be drawn between religious and ethical motives and those based on social and civic duty and she urged a restatement to young people at the "idealistic age between 14 and 21" of the reasons for morality. Dr. Martindale seconded, dwelling on the importance of educating young children from babyhood in self-control, of teaching in the nursery the equality of the girl with the boy, and the need for moral courage. She advocated lessons in schools on the history of empires and how luxury led to decadence. The motion was carried.

Housing, the reporting of cases of juvenile crime, facilities for training in skilled trades, compulsory teaching to girls of domestic science were next discussed.

The Equal Franchise Resolution of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, presented by Miss Helen Ward, and Miss Burch's amendment that the age for both sexes be 25, opposed by Mrs. Hartree (Cambridge), was lost by an overwhelming majority.

Councillor Mrs. Crawford (St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance) moved to call upon the Government to establish an adequate system of pensions for widows with dependent children, Miss Helen Ward seconding for the N.U.S.E.C. She directed her argument chiefly to opposing the amendment tabled by Mrs. Keynes, J.P. (Cambridge), providing that widows' pensions be "part of a general scheme of national insurance," which amendment was carried by 184 to 126.

The resolution on Women in the Civil Service was proposed by Miss D. Smyth in a vigorous speech demanding that recruitment to the clerical, executive, and administrative grades should be by open competition for both sexes and the recruitment of women only to the Writing Assistant grade be abolished.

The Equal Pay resolution was proposed by Miss Ward. Miss James (Federation of Women Civil Servants) in seconding, declared that the cost of equalizing pay in Government employment would amount in the first year to about £150,000, the motion was carried without dissent.

In the discussion of international business which concluded the sessions, Miss Chrystal Macmillan proposed for the N.U.S.E.C. the important addition to a resolution tabled to come before the International Council of Women at Washington next year, that representatives of Governments should be included among authorities to be brought together in international conference to consider the adoption of an international convention giving to a married woman the same right as a man to retain or change her nationality.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

(British Section: 55 Gower Street, W.C.1.)

The meeting at the Essex Hall last week, dealing with the Assembly of the League of Nations and addressed by Mrs. Swanwick and Lady Mary Murray, was highly encouraging and stimulating. Warm appreciation was expressed by Mrs. Swanwick, of the help and welcome afforded at Geneva, and of the work of the Civil Servants and officials of the Secretariat. One of the most remarkable features in the Assembly was the change of feeling with regard to the admission of Germany to the League. The "vacant chair" on its Councils was a hindrance to safety, and the fact had made itself felt. She gave a detailed and lucid explanation of the Protocol, laying stress on the point that it provided that all possible steps should be taken to ensure settlement by arbitration before force was imposed. In the event of these being unavailing there was a moral obligation to help the Council, but the extent of the help was left to the States themselves to determine. A Disarmament Conference and a measure of agreement was a preliminary essential to a successful issue, and it was this which made the character of the coming Government so vital a question, for reaction might wreck the whole idea. She appealed for a wide and detailed study of the Covenant in order to counteract the prevailing lack of knowledge on the subject. Lady Mary Murray commented on the admirable character of the French delegation, and alluded also to the recent work of the League in relation to the solution of Minority questions. Both speakers believed that a great step forward had been taken at this Assembly.

OUR NEXT ISSUE.

Our next issue, which will go to press during the progress of the General Election, will contain an article by Mrs. A. D. Lindsay on the Notification of Venereal Diseases, and the second of Mr. Albert Lieck's series on "Husband and Wife before the Law." We regret that the words "From a Correspondent" were omitted from the title of last week's article on the Russian Treaty.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

President: Miss ELEANOR RATHBONE, C.C., J.P. Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. SODDY. Parliamentary Secretary: Mrs. HUBBACK.

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

WORK FOR WOMEN CANDIDATES.

We have had requests for help from the following direct to Headquarters: Mrs. Wintringham, Miss Lawrence, Miss Bondfield, Lady Terrington, Mrs. Corbett Ashby, Mrs. Ayrton Gould, Miss Picton-Turbervill, Miss Sayle, Dr. Stella Churchill, Miss Pallister, Mrs. Simpson, Miss Richardson, Mrs. Corner, Dr. Ethel Bentham, and in many instances considerable assistance is being given to women candidates by our Societies in their locality. *We are still badly in need of voluntary workers to help in the constituencies where women are standing.*

ELECTION WORK IN SOCIETIES.

The response from Societies with regard to Election work is encouraging. No final report can be given, as fresh accounts are coming in daily. At the time of writing we hear that meetings with candidates have been arranged by our Societies at Birkenhead, Hull, Nottingham, Reading, and Repton, while deputations have been arranged at Chelsea, Chester, Petersfield, and Preston. The entire work in Scotland is being divided up among the West and Eastern Federation. 45 constituencies are being dealt with by the North-West Federation in England.

LITERATURE DEPARTMENT.

The activity of this department has been remarkable—far more than on any previous General Election. We have sent out over 99,000 leaflets—33,000 to one candidate alone. Fresh orders are coming in daily.

RESPONSES TO THE ELECTION APPEAL.

We print below the very generous response that has been received to our special appeal for a fighting chest:—

	£	s.	d.
Total from last list	41	6	2
Mrs. Howell	100	0	0
Miss R. Hovey	20	0	0
Miss E. C. McKee	5	5	0
Miss Cawthra	5	0	0
Mrs. M. Flugel	5	0	0
Mrs. Gossage	5	0	0
Miss Hoc	5	0	0
Mrs. McLintock	5	0	0
Mrs. E. M. Osmaston	5	0	0
Mrs. Sarah Smithson	5	0	0
Mrs. Todhunter	5	0	0
Mrs. Hilda Crook	3	0	0
Miss E. Lever	2	2	0
Miss M. C. Sharpe	2	2	0
Mrs. James Ward	2	2	0
Miss I. M. Hervey	2	0	0
Peter-fild S.E.C.	2	0	0
Miss Prestwich	1	1	0
Mr. G. W. Johnson	1	0	0
Miss Millon	1	0	0
Anonymous	10	0	0
Miss M. Chave Collisson	10	0	0
Miss S. M. Robinson	10	0	0
Miss E. L. Willis	10	0	0
Miss E. C. Wilson	10	0	0
Mrs. S. J. Hardy	8	0	0
The Misses Hooton	5	0	0
Mrs. S. Lake	4	0	0
Miss I. Hopkins	2	6	0

£226 7 8

SALE OF WORK IN AID OF FUNDS OF THE N.U.S.E.C.—POSTPONEMENT TO 10th DECEMBER.

The Sale of Work arranged to be held at Church House on 12th November, 3 to 6.30 p.m., has been postponed to 10th December, at the same place and time. It is hoped that members, even though busy with the work of the Election, will find time to note this date.

MELROSE WEEK-END SCHOOL.

A very successful and well-attended Week-end School, from the 9th to the 13th October, was held in the Waverley Hydrographic, Melrose, under the auspices of the Glasgow Society for Equal Citizenship and Glasgow Women Citizens' Association. The speakers were Mrs. Bethune Baker, who spoke on the Equal Moral Standard with special reference to Women's Courts in New York, Solicitation Laws, and the reasons against Compulsory Notification of Venereal Disease; Miss Rathbone, who spoke on the Legal and Economic Status of Women, with special reference to questions of Maintenance and Family Endowment, and Dr. Clarkson, of Larbert, who gave two very interesting addresses on Mental Deficiency and its Treat-

ment. Other speakers were Miss Bury, the Parliamentary Secretary of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship in the East of Scotland, who spoke on a proposed Bill on Intestacy for Scotland, and on the Position of Women in the Church, and Mrs. Paisley, one of the Joint Honorary Secretaries of the School, who spoke on a proposed Bill concerning alimony of Illegitimate Children. The weather was unusually favourable for this summer, and excursions to Abbotsford and the Border Abbeys were enjoyed by the majority of those attending the School. Some of the members of an old society in Melrose took the opportunity of hearing the speakers and many of the visitors in the Hydro attended lectures, especially in the evening.

PRESTON W.C.A.

The Preston Women Citizens' Association opened its winter programme on 2nd October, with an address by Miss E. Rathbone on the question of "Family Endowment." Miss Rathbone showed how widely the scheme was already accepted on the Continent, and how in this country the principle was being admitted in many pieces of legislation, free meals, pensions for widows, relief of the workless and the adult poor. The audience was greatly interested. Miss Rathbone urged them to study the question, and reminded them that it was to be a subject of discussion at the next annual Council Meeting.

BERNARD SHAW SPEAKS HIS MIND.

On Sunday last the O.P. Club paid a tribute to the success of "Saint Joan" and to the brilliance of Miss Sybil Thordike's interpretation of the title part by entertaining that gifted actress to dinner. The absence of Mr. Bernard Shaw from this gathering was explained in the following letter to Mr. Carl Hentschall:

"I am quite staggered by your revelation of the fact that the O.P. Club has waited until 1924 to screw itself up to the desperate and revolutionary steps of admitting women as associates under careful precautions, such as keeping them out of the clubrooms and discriminating between males and females as distinct classes. It has, it says, made this rash advance as a 'pioneer in welcoming ladies.' A pioneer, if you please.

"That such a belated, benighted, obsolete, absurd, ridiculous, and mentally defective anachronism of a London club should have the audacity to invite Sybil Thordike to one of its conventicles, actually to couple the occasion with the name of Saint Joan, takes away my breath. I am amazed at her condescension in carrying her radiance into your darkness. As for me, I would not be seen at a Victorian governess's funeral with such a club, and I am sure my wife would not come without me.

"I withdraw all the polite things I said before I knew about that notice, 'Women not allowed in the clubrooms.' How can you, who really were a bit of a pioneer, countenance such things?"

We sympathize with Mr. Shaw's point of view, but expecting less from masculine good-sense, we are more ready to encourage with a show of surprised and polite gratification, tardy and tentative moves towards a national outlook. After all, a club is a club, even if it is composed of O.P.'s and as clubs go, the O.P. is in advance of the average. That is not saying much.

CORRESPONDENCE.

BIRTH CONTROL.

MADAM,—I wish to protest for the third time against the columns of the WOMAN'S LEADER being used to discuss Birth Control. I am not surprised that you should get letters on the subject, but I was surprised at the publication of the two articles recently published, which was practically "asking for it." Your correspondent, Mrs. Renny, I am afraid, must have been misinformed. The Catholic and Roman Church *now* as ever says definitely that Birth Control, except by continence, is immoral and wrong, according to Catholic moral theology. There is no doubt about it. It is quite definite: most non-Catholics know it. I understood that the WOMAN'S LEADER was not going to open its columns to a discussion again after the last one was closed. Certainly I see nothing fresh in this one in shape of argument for or against.

A. J. MUSSON.

[The above letter was received before our decision to close the correspondence in question had been announced. We are, therefore, glad to be able to print it, but would point out that its writer has misunderstood our position. Our policy in general coincides with that of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship. That body, by a resolution of its Council, has recommended affiliated societies to study the pros and cons of Birth Control as a matter of peculiar concern to women, without itself expressing an opinion for or against. We are not in a position, therefore, to exclude all discussion of the matter from our columns; but we intend to preserve an even keel and give equal opportunities to its opponents and its advocates.—Ed.]

SOUTH AFRICA AND EMIGRATION.

MADAM,—In your Notes and News of 3rd October there is a paragraph on the "White Population of South Africa" which appears to me misleading, for in it South Africa is regarded as on a par with other "new" lands in relation to emigration. But the very fact that the white population of South Africa bears a proportion to the "native" of roughly one-fifth, puts the question of a "large scheme of emigration" on a footing entirely different to that in Australia, New Zealand, or Canada. Besides her pure native population, South Africa has some 600,000 odd coloured (or hybrid) persons who have an outlook varying from comparatively European to almost native. There is no scope for an influx of semi-skilled or unskilled white workers in the Western Cape Provinces, the Transvaal, the Free State, or Natal, which are the parts of the country I know best. In fact the coloured people of the Cape Province already carry on at least semi-skilled jobs as efficiently as white men and at a lower rate of pay because they have a lower standard of living: the native under present conditions does rough work, and could do many

other things more easily than the white man in the South African climate, and much more cheaply. Where is the scope for emigrant white workers unless the nation is segregated? There are not many people in South Africa who seriously support segregation and the conduct of industry and agriculture on entirely white labour. As it is the unsuccessful white man may easily drop into a hopeless position. His descendants are not likely to increase the weight of white civilization or even to remain white. As a quite decent cobbler from Manchester, living in Cape Town, said, what he could earn would not support a white wife, and he married a coloured woman who made a decent home for him and his children. Even now the rate of increase among the hybrid race is several times greater than that of either white or black!

There is scope in South Africa for much new capital and to a certain extent for selected skilled and professional workers, but perhaps I have said enough to show that there is a strong case in favour of the "Nationalist and Labour parties setting their faces against any large scheme of emigration." In fact, in four years in South Africa I have rarely met anyone belonging to any party in favour of a large scheme.

(Mrs.) M. G. THODAY.

(Late of Cape Town, and at one time President of the Women's Enfranchisement League of the Cape Province, and then President of the Women's Enfranchisement Association of the Union of South Africa.)

GENERAL ELECTION, 1924.

APPEAL TO CANDIDATES.

The undermentioned organizations unite to urge the different Parliamentary parties and Parliamentary Candidates of all parties and Independent Candidates, to make clear to the public and to their constituents that if returned to the new Parliament they will support such legislative and administrative measures as would promote the establishment of a real equality of liberties, status, and opportunities between men and women. They further urge Candidates to give special consideration to these points during their election campaigns, and emphasize in particular the need for the early establishment of:—

- (1) Equal political voting rights for men and women and equal eligibility to the Upper House.
- (2) Equal pay and opportunities as between women (whether married or unmarried) and men in industries, in the professions, and in the civil and local government services.
- (3) Equal status for married women in relation to the guardianship of children, employment and nationality.
- (4) Pensions for civilian widows with dependent children.

The undermentioned organizations also appeal to the men and women electors throughout the country to obtain from Candidates in their own constituencies a pledge to support these reforms: Actresses' Franchise League, Association of Civil Service Sorting Assistants, Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, Association of Women Clerks and Secretaries, Conservative Women's Reform Association, Federation of Women Civil Servants, Guild of Insurance Officials (Women's Committee), League of the Church Militant, London Society for Women's Service, National Council of Women (this Society wishes to delete words: "Whether married or unmarried," in No. 2), National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, National Union of Women Teachers, Professional Union of Trained Nurses, St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance, Six Point Group, Women's Election Committee, Women's Engineering Society, Women's Freedom League, Women's International League, Women Sanitary Inspectors and Health Visitors' Association.

7 New Books for our Readers

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COMING EVENTS.

GUILDHOUSE W.C.S.

OCT. 27. 3 p.m. The Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. Lantern Lecture by Miss Beatrice Lambert on "Palestine, Past and Present."

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE.

OCT. 28. 3 p.m. 35 Marsham Street, Westminster. Mrs. Le Mesurier (Brownie Restaurant) on "A Living from Bread and Butter."

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

NOV. 12. 3.45 p.m. Caxton Hall, Westminster. Reception to meet Mrs. Swanwick and other women who took part in the Assembly of the League.

EDINBURGH W.C.A. NOV. 7. 8 p.m. U.F. Assembly Hall, Mound. "The League of Nations and International Social Problems." Dame Edith Lyttelton, J.P., British Substitute Delegate to the Fourth Assembly of the League of Nations.

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HOSTEL FOR WOMEN STUDENTS, at 100 Grosvenor Road, Westminster, S.W., will be ready in January to take twelve students. Special care taken of girls straight from school.—Particulars from the Warden.

TO LET, at once, for two months (possibly longer), THREE FURNISHED ROOMS, in old Westminster; gas-fire, cooker; 30s. week.—Apply, Box 1,101, WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

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