

THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S NEWS

JUS SUFFRAGII

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ALLIANCE BOARD MEETING.

From July 19th to 22nd the Alliance Board has been meeting in London for a very momentous discussion on the future of the Alliance and how it may be carried on during these difficult days. In the usual way, financial support for the ensuing three years is obtained at our Congresses, and the postponement of the Congress which should have been held this Spring has therefore helped to make more acute a financial situation which in any case would be full of difficulty, since the Leslie Commission from which the Alliance long received such generous support has now spent its funds and been wound up. It is obviously a very difficult moment to make an appeal for funds for propaganda work, and the Board has been searching to discover the best way to meet the immediate problems. At the moment of going to press discussions are not concluded, but all our Auxiliaries and members may be assured that the most stringent economy is being and will be exercised and that their advice will surely be sought in due time.

Economic and other difficulties prevented many members from coming to London, but in addition to our President, Mrs. Corbett Ashby, coming direct from her work in Geneva for the Disarmament Conference, and the English members, Miss Sterling and Miss Neilans, we have had Mme. Plaminkova, Senator of Czechoslovakia, Mlle Gourd, our indefatigable Secretary and Representative in Geneva, Miss Manus one of our Vice-Presidents, Mme. Grinberg from France, Miss Ingeborg Walin from Sweden, and Miss Ingeborg Hansen from Denmark.

Serious work was the order of the day, but one reception was allowed to interrupt the sessions. The National Union of Guilds for Citizenship which is one of the two bodies into which the former National Union for Equal Citizenship has been divided, organised a reception in honour of Miss Helen Keller, the wonderful woman from the United States who, deprived by illness at the age of 19 months of sight and hearing, learnt to read, write and speak by the wonderful skill and patience of her teacher, Anne Mansfield Sullivan. Miss Keller graduated as a B.A. from Radcliffe College, she speaks and reads French, German and some Spanish, and is a well-known writer. The members of the Board of the Alliance were also guests of honour at this Reception, given in the great new London Club of the Young Women's Christian Association, and together with an audience of over four hundred people, heard from Miss Keller's own lips and from her Secretary something of the marvellous victory she has won over such overwhelming disability. It is like magic to see Miss Keller read through her fingers on the lips and throat of a speaker what she is saying, and our President was as easily understood as her own constant secretary and friend, Miss Thomson. Miss Keller also herself answered questions put through Miss Thomson by members of the audience and spoke of her ardent belief in the necessity for peace and international understanding. All her educational books and college lectures during her school days, and all newspapers and such matters as are not available in special type, are read to her by sign language

made with uncanny rapidity into the palm of her hand. Truly, as Miss Sterling said when thanking Miss Keller for coming to talk to us, she gives an example of courage and perseverance which should be specially valuable to us in days when the world looks dark around everyone.

AN INTERNATIONAL FEMINIST CENTRE IN GENEVA.

As in previous years, the International Woman Suffrage Alliance will establish a Temporary Office in Geneva at the time of the ordinary General Assembly of the League of Nations, to which we have been asked to call the particular attention of our readers. Those who are visiting Geneva either in the course of a journey, or in order to take part in the intense international activity which goes on at this time, are always glad to know of somewhere where feminists from all countries may meet, obtain addresses or other information, get cards for the Assembly, etc., and where there will be friendly little receptions and talks on the present-day problems which the woman's movement is meeting all over the world. The steadily growing success of the Office proves that it fills a real need.

This year the Office will be situated at the International Club, 4, rue de Monthoux, and the fact that it is taking up its quarters in such an active centre of internationalism, close to the Secretariat of the League and to the Disarmament Conference, gives further promise of success. It will be open every afternoon from 3-7 p.m., but even when it is not open it will be possible to obtain from the Club urgent information. As usual, the Office will be open the whole week before the opening of the Assembly, that is from August 29th if the Assembly begins on September 5th; but if the opening is postponed for three weeks, of which there is a rumour as these lines are being written, the opening of the Office will similarly be postponed till three weeks later. This is why it is not possible for us to state yet which members of the Alliance Executive will be in Geneva at that moment; but the presence of the President, Mrs. Corbett Ashby, and of the Secretary, Mlle. Gourd, being already assured, we can promise a fine programme of activity for the international season of 1932.

DISARMAMENT.

The appeal for national action has found a ready response on all sides and the following notes give some indication of the intense activity that is being developed by the Women's Organisations in many lands. General reports from organisations such as the World Union of Women for International Concord and the International Co-operative Women's Guild show that campaigns, of which there are as yet no detailed accounts, are being undertaken in Bulgaria, Poland, Roumania and other countries not mentioned in this brief statement.

Australia. The International Council of Women reports that Mr. Latham, K.C., leader of the Australian Delegation to the Disarmament Conference was asked to convey to the Conference from the National Council of Women in Australia a message of greeting and good wishes for a successful issue of "their efforts in the furtherance of the world peace so ardently desired."

Canada. The Executive Director of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs reports that the President of all the affiliated Clubs in Canada has received the appeal for action. The Y.W.C.A., reports a great mass meeting in Toronto, Sunday March 6th, under the auspices of a

co-operative committee of Women's Organisations. Two paragraphs of our address on February 6th were printed on the programme. A resolution in support of the Disarmament Conference was unanimously passed.

Czechoslovakia. At Brno, a group of members of the World Union of Women for International Concord wrote to Dr. Bénès, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, while, in collaboration with the local branch of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom and its groups interested in disarmament, a letter was drawn up and dispatched to the technical Commission of the Conference. In it the signatories on behalf of women, mothers and sisters of Brno protested against the delays and lack of results in the technical Commissions and demanded the immediate abolition of military aeroplanes, tanks, heavy artillery, capital ships and submarines as well as that these arms should be completely destroyed.

They appealed to the delegates to prevent the disruption of all culture and the ruin of all civilisation through attacks on pacifist nations with the help of explosives and chemical products and to save the millions of money, that the preparation of such warfare costs, for developments more useful to mankind.

Further appeals have been sent to the government through the Prime Minister and have been published in newspapers and periodicals.

Denmark. In Denmark the women's work in support of Peace and Disarmament is now so well organised that at a signal from the centre, 1500 secretaries (representing some 17000 members) are ready to take immediate action. The result of last month's appeal from Geneva transmitted through the leaders in Copenhagen has been to overwhelm the Secretariat of the Conference with messages from all corners of Denmark.

Estonia. The Y.W.C.A. of Estonia addressed the following message to the President of the Disarmament Conference on June 6th:

"In the name of 3000 women of Estonia we are demanding the Disarmament Conference to eliminate all aggressive armaments—big warships, submarines, bombing aircraft, tanks, and mobile guns—in spite of technical difficulties."

National Y.W.C.A. of Estonia,
(Signed) ALINE HERMAN, President.

France. The French section of the League of Mothers and Educators for Peace which is affiliated to the World Union of Women for International Concord, has responded generously to the appeal. It has sent out to all correspondents of the League in France a circular whose contents are so significant that we quote the following extracts:

"We ask you when you receive this letter to send Mr. Henderson, President of the Disarmament Conference at Geneva, a telegram in the following terms.

"We demand subject to international control and the organisation of mutual assistance, the immediate abolition of armaments prohibited to the vanquished countries under the Treaty of Versailles; the suppression of the private manufacture of and traffic in arms still permitted."

"Further, it is essential that the will of the peoples for peace which has made such a magnificent demonstration should not be killed by the timid fears of the French government. This will of the French people for peace is one of the greatest factors for the salvation of the world. Everywhere in village, town or countryside where it is possible to hold public meetings, men and women must make up their minds to speak and to carry a resolution on the lines of the

message in the telegram quoted above, a resolution which should be published in the local press and copy sent to the Prefect of the Department as well as to us."

Germany. In Germany the political developments have made it more and more difficult to promote the cause of disarmament, but the following account given by Dr. Lüders will show that the obstacles encountered have only served to redouble the efforts of the peace workers:

"The women of Germany continue to follow with great interest the work of the Disarmament Conference and of the Disarmament Committee of the Women's International Organisations in Geneva. Various women's organisations are giving every encouragement to sustain and deepen this interest and are initiating a variety of different activities dealing either solely with the question of Disarmament, or taking it in connection with other subjects, more particularly those bearing on economic and financial problems. This kind of co-operative work is supplemented by articles and notices in the newspapers, and by dispatching particularly important items of information to the affiliated associations. The women have extended their work beyond the women's sphere and are in close touch and co-operation with other organisations. In this way the suggestions emanating from the Women's International Committee in Geneva have been able to reach a very much wider public."

Recently two large public meetings were held in Berlin under the auspices of the "Deutsche Kundgebung zu Abrüstungskonferenz."

Great Britain. As may be expected of a people among whom petitions and resolutions are a tradition, there has been very great activity in the past few weeks in Great Britain. The Joint Peace Council reported over 300 meetings in one fortnight at the end of April, and from various groups resolutions have been pouring in to Geneva and have been showered upon the Prime Minister and the Delegation. One of the most important of all these is the Resolution passed at a mass meeting, organised by the Women's Peace Crusade, held in the Queen's Hall, on June 13th. The Resolution was passed with great acclamation and a copy of it was carried straight off the platform by an airman who flew with it to Geneva where it was delivered to Mr. Henderson and Sir John Simon.

Holland. The Dutch Auxiliary of the International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship, reports that a letter has been sent to the Foreign Secretary urging that the General Commission should meet as soon as possible and should give a definite meaning to Sir John Simon's Resolution.

A copy of this, together with a covering letter was sent to the Dutch Delegation at Geneva and Mr. Henderson, the President of the Conference, was informed of the contents of both letters.

Hungary. Madame la Comtesse Apponyi, one of the International Council of Women representatives on our Committee reports that the National Council of Women in Hungary have conveyed their demands to the General Commission through Count Apponyi, the leader of the Hungarian Delegation. A letter has also gone to Mr. Henderson urging the abolition of aggressive weapons forbidden under the peace treaties to the vanquished nations and the suppression of the private manufacture of arms.

Ireland. The International Disarmament Committee in Dublin wrote at the end of May to the Government and to the Irish Free State Delegation in Geneva as well as to the President of the Conference. It published its

demands in the local press and is now endeavouring to get a Resolution passed by the next Quarterly meeting of the National School Teachers' Association.

Similar action has been taken by the National Council of Women of Ireland which has particularly stressed the abolition of chemical and bacteriological warfare.

Lithuania. The National Council of Women of Lithuania has organised a series of local meetings at Kaunas, Klaipeda, and other towns, from which resolutions and petitions have been sent to Mr. Henderson.

Norway. The Women's Peace Group has sent letters based on the one received from us to 32 organisations, clubs and institutions in Norway. They are writing to Mr. Henderson and sending articles to the press.

Poland. The vice-president of the Polish group of the World Union of Women reports extensive publicity given to the appeal.

Sweden. The Swedish Committee of Action, appointed by the Joint Committee for Peace Questions, has sent to the President of the Conference a Declaration from which the following is an extract:

"With regard to the stress of the situation in the world we beg to express the definite expectation, that the Disarmament Conference leads to the passing of a General Convention, wherein amongst other will be stated:

1. that Total Disarmament is a goal, in order which to soon attain the states now pledge themselves to take a first step towards real diminution of their Armaments;
2. That this diminution shall include the abolition of those weapons of war, which according to the Peace treaties are prohibited in Germany, Austria, Hungary and Bulgaria.

This opinion of ours is shared by an overwhelming majority of those citizens in Sweden, who are entitled to vote. The seventeen organisations represented in the above mentioned Swedish Joint Committee for Peace Questions number alone about 350,000 grown up members. Hereto must be added amongst others the Labour organisations with about 600,000 and the organisations of the Free Churches with about 300,000 registered members."

The United States of America. The National Committee on the Cause and Cure of War took immediate action by cable to Mr. Gibson and by letter to the President.

The President of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs wrote on May 28th to Secretary Stimson protesting against the delay caused by the experts. "Any obstacle," she said, "created by what seems to be a lack of goodwill on the part of these technicians is a matter of concern to the organised womanhood of the world. We know that you share our desire for disarmament and world peace and organised womanhood will appreciate a continuance of your efforts towards these ends."

The National Council of Jewish Women immediately sent a cablegram to Mr. Henderson at Geneva which reads:

"Fifty thousand members National Council of Jewish Women in United States and Canada urge elimination aggressive armaments, abolition big war ships, submarines, tanks, bombing aircraft for protection peaceful nations and economy. Please record our position in Conference bulletin."

The Council of Women for Home Missions have signed a petition which has gone to the President of the United States from the Peace Groups representing the Inter-organisation Council on Disarmament:

"asking the President to instruct the U.S. delegates at the Conference to advocate the abolition of

aggressive weapons of war, the list of such weapons to include at least heavy mobile artillery, tanks, capital ships, submarines, bombing airplanes, and all instruments pertaining to the employment of gases or bacteria.

We have sent a like petition to our delegates at Geneva, and are doing all we can to urge church groups to do the same. The church bodies are represented in the National Committee on the Cause and Cure of War and we try to carry out all the proposals of that group.

WORLD'S WOMEN WELCOME HOOVER PROPOSALS.

Representing 45 million women in 56 countries the Women's Disarmament Committee enthusiastically welcomes the concrete and far-reaching proposals submitted by the United States and supported by Italy in a burst of spontaneous applause. We are deeply grateful for this stimulus to the Disarmament Conference. We urge that these proposals be given immediate public discussion.

Without reference to details, we approve the plan in its broad outlines, specifically the proposal for the reduction of all national armaments by approximately one-third, and we urge its acceptance in principle upon all the other delegations as a foundation upon which an effective treaty can be built, providing for the abolition of aggressive arms.

Furthermore we believe that this magnificent step towards a satisfactory Disarmament Convention must include provisions for budgetary limitation, for control of the manufacture of and traffic in arms and for a permanent Disarmament Commission with adequate authority. We believe such disarmament to be an essential element in effective collective action for the organisation of world peace. As women we plead not only for ourselves, but for the race.

APPEAL FOR FUNDS.

We have been asked again to appeal to our readers to make a continuance of this remarkable work possible by contributing to the funds of the Women's Disarmament Committee. Unless contributions come in, the work may have to stop and this, the greatest collective effort ever made by women, will fail of complete fulfilment.

Contributions however small—or however large!—may be sent to the Editor of the International Women's News, 190 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London, S.W.1., for transmission to Geneva.

LITERARY INFORMATION.

A notable new illustrated annual likely to make a world-wide appeal is "*The Women's International Calendar*," to be published towards the end of the year. It is conceived on somewhat novel literary and artistic lines, calculated to make the work an attractive wall or mantelpiece ornament in mansions and cottages alike. The literary part claims to deal impartially and scientifically with the main aspects of the sex problem, and, on the basis of incontrovertible facts and statistics, throws a strong light on the question:—*Are Women wanted as Legislators and Administrators?*

The artistic part contains many illustrations, including wit, humour, truisms, aphorisms, etc.

The literary editorship is in the hands of the polyglot Anglo-Russian litterateur, M. Jaakoff Prelooker, whose six public lectures on "The Comparative Position of Woman in Judaism, Christianity, Brahmanism, Buddhism and Mohammedanism" were suppressed by the Czar's censorship as far back as 1890, an event

which made him renounce the Government position he held in Russia, and emigrate to England in 1891. Since then M. Prelooker has been indefatigably active in the Women's Emancipation Movement, lecturing and writing on it in several languages, and officially representing the Men's International Alliance for Women's Suffrage on various occasions. The Editor's own contribution is entitled: "She and He," and forms a booklet which will adorn the artistic frontispiece of the Calendar, but easily detachable from it. We quote the following extract:—

"The world's sweetest, most beautiful and, indeed, perfect woman for all time was undoubtedly our Mother Eve. She is the only woman who emerged in all her pristine glory direct from the hands of the Almighty Artist Who designed, fashioned and painted in ever changing colours the whole Stellar, Solar and Planetary Universe. Yet Adam, in his blindness and ingratitude, blamed her for the love she had bestowed on him, without which the Human Race could never have developed.

This story, undoubtedly the fruit of imagination of a pious male, invoking Divine sanction for the subjection of Woman, has become the excuse during ages for manifold injustice and cruelty towards the Mother of the Race. I have ventured, therefore, to rewrite it in the light of modern knowledge and impartial investigation, giving incontrovertible facts and statistics of the case.

The sex problem is as old as Creation itself, but is bound to remain eternally young. The new version of the story opens up a wider and brighter horizon, and carries a promise of greater peace and harmony to every human home."

Any suggestions from men and women alike as to desirable items to include in the Calendar, or any other points, would be gratefully received by the Editor, and may be written in any language, though preferably in one of the European group.

Address: Women's International Calendar, Rossiana, Pine Avenue, Hastings, England.

OPEN DOOR INTERNATIONAL.

Besides the Meeting of the Alliance Board, London has been the scene of another international executive meeting this week, the Open Door International holding its committee meeting on July 18th and 19th. Such meetings of course are for the transaction of the business of the organisation, but at a reception given by Dr. Jane Walker several of the members spoke on different aspects of economic equality for women which is the basic principle of the organisation.

Mme. Plaminkova, a member of the Czechoslovakian Senate and who needs no introduction to Alliance readers, gave a warm invitation to all those present to come to Prague for the next Conference of the O.D.I. which will be held there next year. Miss Ingeborg Walin, equally well known to all of us, spoke of the ever-present need for watchfulness in Sweden over the right of the married woman to work in the Civil Service. So far every attempt made to force the resignation of married women had failed. She also spoke of the illogical fact that though legally all positions except in the Army and the Church are open to women equally with men, women are not permitted to take the training and examination in technical matters which is necessary for them to qualify for the higher posts in the telegraph service.

Miss Anna Westergaard, Assistant Chief of the Bureau of the Danish State Railways, of whom we wrote when she was in London a few months ago, told an encouraging story of how women had secured the re-instatement of several married women civil servants who had been

dismissed, and the repeal of the order permitting such dismissals, on the ground that it was contrary to the constitution. Finally Mme. de Craene van Duuren of Belgium spoke of the lasting effect on women's character of the education and training they receive from their earliest days. Boys are trained for responsibility and action, girls for obedience and service: is it great matter for wonder, therefore, if women tend to lack ambition and to suffer from what is nowadays called an inferiority complex. One striking phrase remains in the mind: self-sacrifice which is voluntarily offered may be a noble thing, but the sacrifice which is forced upon anyone is a degradation.

REVIEWS.

Women's Place in Industry and Home, by Sylvia Anthony. G. Routledge & Sons, London. 10/6.

This is an interesting study of the present economic position of women and of the way in which that position has developed and how it affects the economic life of the state as a whole. Perhaps the most striking fact which emerges from this survey is the failure in any way to assess or value in economic terms the work done by women as housewives, the technically speaking unpaid work, which is nevertheless woman's largest contribution to the economic structure. The last chapters deal with "The Direction of Change" and seek rather to indicate how the future is shaping and what elements in the change are to be encouraged, than to indicate theoretical solutions. With those views, moderately and temperately stated, we may not be in agreement but here is an effort on the part of a woman to see how economic justice and freedom for women may be combined with the discharge of those functions of motherhood and wifehood which are in part laid on them by nature, and in part by society and in which, the fact must be admitted, they for the most part acquiesce and acquiesce gladly. Perhaps some of us may think that a solution of that problem may come in other ways and be a better one but every effort to recognise the problem and deal with it must be welcomed.

The chapters showing the distribution of women workers, the comparative rates of remuneration for men and women, the Trade Union attitude towards the woman worker, and the place played by industrial legislation give an excellent survey in an extremely convenient form. There is a chapter on women workers in the war which brings out yet again the wide adaptability of women to almost every occupation, the beneficial effects on their health of the better material conditions and more varied occupations, and leads one to the conclusion that when a woman is the breadwinner on a scale which makes it possible for her to feed and look after herself properly, i.e., when the special consideration of the physical needs of the male breadwinner is transferred to herself, her physical capacity and general economic value tend to approximate closely to that of a man.

The suspect attitude of the male trade unionist to special industrial legislation for women again comes out, when alongside the avowed sentimental and racial motives, we see the ever-present fear of undercutting and competition. One of the definitely bad aspects of such special legislation or prohibition of women's work on health grounds, is shown to be that when once the women have been eliminated by law, the bad conditions from which men and boys equally suffer are left untouched. The point is also made of how much special legislation was a well-meaning effort on the part of kind-hearted reformers to protect women from the evils of unfettered industrial competition, though little was done to secure

their life and health, or that of their children in their alternative work-place, the home. "Victorian laws might be sincerely devised *for*, but never *by*, women." Again and again we see that where they are easily, get-at-able by the legislator, where they also present a possible danger to men workers, women are to be compulsorily cared for as the mothers or potential mothers of the race. Where they are segregated in that "Englishman's castle" the so frequently insanitary little home, their "alternative workshop" indeed and the scene of the performance of that sacred function of motherhood, they are left to manage as best they can. Again we have quoted for us the figures of maternal mortality, showing that motherhood is the most dangerous occupation of all; we see the scant attention paid in medical training to the field of obstetrics, the low pay and low status of the midwife. We see the wretched rates of pay for such work as the married woman is most generally permitted to do, we see the constant under-feeding of the mother and next of the children in the paramount interest of the breadwinner who must be kept fit for work at all costs. What an indictment of muddled sentimentality and what a proof of the sad truth that work which is not visibly paid receives scant recognition.

There is much of interest in the chapters which deal with the home-maker, with the resentment felt by many women, even though apparently happily situated, of the economic dependence on their husbands which is so often forced upon them. There is also something said about marriage, its old laws and conventions and the modern controversy and discussion which centres round it. But this review has already overstepped its limits, and we can only recommend our readers to read this book for themselves, sure that they will find in it much information and much food for thought.

Bibliographie der Frauenfrage und Frauenbewegung. August Hopfer Buchdruckerei, Burg bei Magdeburg. Subscription price RM. 18.

The German Federation of University Women in co-operation with the Prussian State Library and with the support of the Associations and Unions named below, has been working for almost five years on the task of going through and mastering the contents of the whole literature on women's questions and the woman's movement from the year 1790 till the present-day which has appeared in the German language. A brief summary of the contents is attached to every title, so that every one who uses this Bibliography can judge as to the content and character of each book mentioned. About 7000 titles are given, arranged under the following subject headings:—

1. Bibliography; 2. The Physiology and Psychology of Women; 3. Woman and Intellectual Life; 4. Woman in Cultural History; 5. Woman and the Law; 6. Woman and the Economic System; 7. Personalities; 8. Organisations; 9. Congresses and Conferences; 10. Exhibitions; 11. The Sociology of the Woman's Movement; 12. History of the Woman Question and the Women's Movement; 13. General Information on the Woman Question and Women's Movement; 14. Opposition to the Women's Movement and how it was met; 15. The Woman Question and Religion; 16. The Woman Question and Racial Problems; 17. The Woman Question and social-revolutionary movements; 18. The Woman Question in Poetry; 19. Marriage, Motherhood and the Family; 20. Sexual Ethics and Reform; Marriage Reform; 21. Prostitution and Traffic in Women; 22. Temperance Movement; 23. Education and Training; 24. Learning; 25. Professions and Salaries; 26. Social Work for Women; 27. Physical Fitness; Reform and

Fashion Changes in Dress; 29. Women and the Churches; 30. Women and the State, Women and the Community; 31. The Woman Question and the Women's Movement abroad.

This Bibliography is the first and only one of its kind, as neither in Germany or elsewhere has such a collection been previously undertaken. It is the basis for every future scientific work in the domain of Women's Questions and the Women's Movement, and is an indispensable aid to a knowledge of the existing literature on every aspect of this important and far-reaching subject. This book ought to be in every public library and in every collection of books made by women's organisations and those which deal with women's questions. Moreover it should also be in the library of every man and woman who is concerned with cultural, social and political-economic questions.

In order to facilitate the publication of this book of some 700 pages, the under-signed organisations have opened a subscription list so that all the members of their branches may obtain it at a price of RM 18., or at an even lower price if subscriptions exceed expectations.

Federation of German University Women.
Union of German Evangelical Women's Organisations.
Union of Women Employees in Commerce and Offices.
German National Council of Women.
German Catholic Women's Union.
Union of German Women's Professional Organisations.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: A copy of the letter below having been sent to the Editor marked "For the International Women's News" it is presumed that it was intended for publication. Mrs. Ashby's reply is appended.)

New York,
June 17th, 1932.

My dear Mrs. Corbett Ashby:

This letter is intended to cancel my subscription for *The International Women's News*, the June, 1932, number having just been received. On page 110, there is an article entitled "Women in Soviet Industrial Life," published from the Press Service of the Soviet Union Year Book. This article is sympathetic, naturally, because it is a Soviet production. While I have not been in sympathy with the feminist tone of many of the articles in your paper for some time, I continued to take it for the purpose of being informed on the feminist movement, but the use, as authentic information, of the Press Service of the Soviet Union Year Book is going too far. Certainly in England you have had evidence on the part of Soviet Russia of its sinister efforts to undermine the Government of Great Britain and it seems to me nothing short of disloyal to issue in England an article so misleading and so pro-Soviet.

We enjoyed meeting you when in this country and entertaining you in our home, but I am extremely sorry to find that you are lending yourself to any such propaganda publicity.

Very truly yours,
GERTRUDE BEERS EASLEY.

Geneva,
July 12th, 1932.

Dear Mrs. Easley,

Thank you for your letter of June 17th, which was forwarded to me here. I am most grieved to hear that you feel obliged to cancel your subscription to the INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S NEWS and hope that it may be possible for you to reconsider your decision to do so.

As our paper is a feminist paper, its main object is to further the cause of equality for women, and though you express yourself as personally out of sympathy

with the tone of many of the articles contained in it you will, I am sure, admit that they are highly suitable in such an organ.

As regards the article in question (page 110 of the June, 1932, number) our policy has always been to include authentic articles on the work and activities of women no matter from what source they may emanate. It is an incontrovertible fact that Soviet Russia has granted a very large measure of equality, legal and otherwise, between the sexes and our Editor saw no reason to boycott information on this subject, because the vast majority of our readers are out of sympathy with other aspects of the Soviet régime.

With regard to your charge of disloyalty, I would point out to you that there exist in England ample legal measures for prosecuting those who publish any matter likely to disturb the peace. In fact our authorities know that the stability of our institutions is not likely to be menaced by the publication of legitimate information about other systems of government, whatever may be the case in other countries.

Yours very truly,
MARGERY I. CORBETT ASHBY.

GERMANY.

National Socialism and the Woman Question.

The growing influence of National Socialism (the Hitler movement) in Germany accentuates the problem of the situation destined for women in an eventual "Drittes Reich" (the first Reich being the mediaeval one, the second the one since 1870). It is understood abroad that the rights and privileges of German women are to be abolished or restricted, but the underlying motives are less clearly seen.

It must be understood that Hitlerism is a strictly anti-democratic movement. It aims at dictatorship, following here as in other details Italian Fascism. The idea is that "the masses" will never be able to see the real interests of the nation, which in the end comprise all individual interests, and must consequently be forced by those who claim to have this insight to elect them as leaders with full and absolute power in those interests. Furthermore, general political uniformity is considered unnatural. The real and organic grouping of a people calls for professional representation, thus going back to the "Stände" (états-généraux, "estates of the realm") of the middle ages, but also accepting the practical importance of trade unions, agricultural representation, trusts, economic organisations, etc. These ideas, which are based upon principles of importance, are strengthened by the actual situation; the effects of the loss of the war, the perilous position of Germany between highly-armed nations, the economic difficulties, seem to call for an essentially "male" government; the nation is to be trained towards Spartanism with all its possible consequences.

It stands to reason that in such a political system women's function is primarily to be that of creating sons (vide the Italian parallel). As far as circumstances permit, certain professions, especially teaching and social work, will be open to them. If a system of professional representation is adopted, the possibility remains of a Woman's Chamber. Considering the purely advisory capacity of all Chambers, it is difficult to imagine what their influence would be.

Needless to say there exists a vast literature on general prospects in the "Third Commonwealth." Imagination exceeding all bounds, has framed plans in minute detail, as for instance for the educational system, because the Party itself has up to now refrained from any but a quite general programme. It is open to everyone to hope for everything.

The National Socialist Party comprises, as its title

indicates, the nationalist and socialist elements. These circles by no means coincide. As long as the party can remain in opposition—an opposition made easy by the drastic economic measures to which every German Government is forced—these circles are kept united. Should the Party be called to power it is likely that the detailed programme which will then become inevitable will clear the situation. It will do so also for the civil and political position of the women of Germany.

D. v. V.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

Austria and the U.S.A. Perhaps it looks a little odd to couple together these widely separated countries, but it is of interest to find that in Austria Frau Rudel Zeynek has for the second time been called to preside over the Federal Council, the Upper House of the Austrian Parliament. In the Senate of the United States, the only woman member, Hattie W. Araway, was the first woman to preside over the deliberations, when she occupied the Vice-President's Chair at a session in May.

Porto Rico. The University of Porto Rico has awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Philosophy to Dona Ana Roque de Duprey, a veteran feminist and a well-known educationalist, writer, and scientist, this being the first time that a woman has received this honour. At the age of 79 she celebrated the victory of the suffrage struggle by registering her vote, in spite of the fact that she is an invalid.

Russia. Riatozeva Demme, a woman biologist, has been appointed chief of the Soviet Arctic Observation Station in North Land.

Siam. It is stated that women will be entitled to vote under the new constitution recently granted in Siam.

Hong Kong. The Secretary of State for the Colonies in the British Parliament stated that the system of *muitsai* has been abolished in Hong Kong. This is a system by which children are bought for domestic service and has given rise to great abuses. The girls are now to be free, paid domestic workers, and three inspectors, two of whom are Chinese women, have been appointed by the Government to see that the regulations are observed.

Cyprus. After this long-worked for reform in Hong-Kong, comes news that a not so entirely dissimilar system exists in Cyprus, where little girls from six years old are employed as domestic servants, without wages. As a result of the interest taken by the Governor and his wife in these children, there is now a system of registration and certain police powers of inspection. But obviously this is not enough to prevent abuses, and what is wanted is an awakening of public opinion among the upper classes, which mainly employ such children, and an easing of the poverty among the mass of the people which leads them to send their children to this quasi-slavery.

Great Britain. A Committee of representatives of women's organisations, and of many influential people who have known and admired Miss Eleanor Rathbone's public work, has been formed to present her with her portrait as a tribute to that work, which has included as our readers know, the office of assessor representing women's international organisations on the Child Welfare Committee of the

League of Nations. Miss Rathbone represents the Combined Universities in Parliament.

The death of John Scurr, recalls the days of the suffrage struggle. He was a convinced champion of woman suffrage, and he not only spoke for the cause but also with some of the men of the Dockers' Union, of which he was President, provided a body-guard at some of the open-air meetings in Hyde Park when women learnt so well to know exactly what was the value of the "chivalry" on which they were asked to rely. It is old history now, but friends in need are not forgotten when the need has passed.

France. The decision that women though they may sit for the examinations for the diplomatic service, are not eligible to serve in responsible posts in embassies and consulates abroad has been confirmed again. It appears that so many were successful in these examinations that the officials were frightened!

The "militant" suffragists in France took advantage of the recent National Fête in honour of Equality (save the mark!) for suffrage propaganda, by means of a game invented by Mme. Verone's husband, called "The Luxembourg Geese." The goal for the winner is Woman Suffrage and it is played on a board with a series of satirical pictures forming a skit on the Senate's attitude.

India. The State of Mysore provides free education, from the primary to the university stage, for girls, and the number of educational establishments for women has reached the figure of 624.

Nigeria. A Bill amending the Labour Ordinances is to be introduced into the Legislative Council to apply such international conventions as are not already in force, including prohibition of night work for women. It looks as if the legislature of Nigeria was determined to restrict women's work *in advance*, since presumably there is not much industrial night work as yet.

EGYPT.

We are glad to be able to report that penalties for infraction of the law fixing the minimum marriage age, have now been laid down, six months' prison sentence or a fine not over 100 Egyptian pounds for those who by giving false evidence or falsifying documents facilitate such marriages. The penalties for civil officials who connive at such frauds are much heavier. It is hoped that now it will be possible to enforce the law.

A Bill has been introduced to regulate women's work, which reproduces the usual restrictions on hours of work, including the prohibition of night work except for certain categories of workers. It lays down provisions for rest periods, and for compulsory interruption of work before and after childbirth. The "Egyptienne" from which the above information is taken, points out certain dangers in these proposals, but does not criticise them in detail. On the face of it, it would seem regrettable that most of these quite moderate provisions should not be laid down for workers of both sexes, excluding of course those relating to maternity. It is a pity that in a country where labour legislation has not, we believe, yet gone very far, that it should follow the lines of that adopted in other countries, instead of being based from the beginning on just and non-discriminatory lines for both sexes.

WOMEN IN POLISH NATIONAL CULTURE.

The scientific training of women was recognised at an early date by the feminist movement in Poland as one of the active means for success. Therefore in a short time, within the limits of only one generation, women have acquired qualifications, which have enabled them to occupy various offices.

The truth of this statement can be proved by some exact data.

There are about 52 thousand girls in infant schools, 1,801,200 in elementary and 77 thousand in middle schools. Having attained higher education, the Polish woman at the beginning of the present century tried her gifts in nothing but teaching and medicine. The university chronicles recorded in 1910-11 only 111 medical girl-students and 1405 reading philosophy. At present, women study all branches of science at universities and special schools, as can be seen from the following table.

The number of girl-students amounted in the years: 1923-24, 9,293; 1924-25, 8,899; 1925-26, 9,296; 1926-27, 10,294; 1927-28, 19,762; 1928-29, 11,798; 1929-30, 12,595.

The classification according to different sections was as follows:—

	1910-1	1923-4	1924-5	1925-6	1926-7	1927-8	1928-9	1929-30
Theology.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Law and Political Sciences	—	1021	794	759	872	914	1185	1458
Medicine.....	111	873	751	629	634	640	686	699
Pharmaceutics	—	208	250	308	321	330	394	515
Veterinary-Surgery	—	6	8	7	6	9	17	20
Dentistry.....	—	225	293	284	298	335	355	365
Philosophy	1405	5879	5679	6136	6868	7002	7386	7401
Agriculture	—	204	233	245	274	332	314	376
Communications and Engineering	—	24	22	19	20	16	23	24
Architecture	—	102	91	85	74	74	75	82
Mechanics & Electrotechnics	—	34	26	23	24	12	16	21
Chemistry	—	148	129	128	128	114	126	132
Geodesy and Gen. Technique.....	—	4	9	20	19	18	32	41
Mining and Foundry	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Fine Arts.....	—	193	196	238	240	245	254	266
Commercial Sciences	—	240	311	346	447	638	922	1098

We can establish four groups in women's professional activity. To the first one belong professions pursued by women exclusively; to the second those, where women are either in a majority or form a considerable part; the third is the one with a predominance of men, and the fourth with a very low attendance by women.

1. The following professions form the first group: teaching at infant schools (2390 women in all), midwifery (9,554), nursing in hospitals and institutions for the protection of mother and child.

2. The second is formed by such professions as teaching, law, medicine, dentistry and pharmaceutics.

The teaching profession and medicine have long proved sympathetic to women. The philosophy sec-

tion at the university mainly contributes to the supply of teachers. In 1929-30 the girl-students of that section formed 57.7% of the whole number of all philosophy students and 57.8% of the entire number of girl-students. To-day we have more women than men teachers. Women are mostly teaching in elementary schools; their number decreases in the middle ones, and reaches scarcely 4% in higher schools. In recent years the number of women teachers in schools of higher type is rapidly growing. Every month brings new nominations of women to responsible posts. The schools for higher education in Warsaw such as the University, the Higher School for Country Management and The Free University recorded in 1930-31 120 women among their professors, assistants and lecturers. They are all graduated Doctors or Engineers. The number of women teaching at the Higher Commercial Schools and Polytechnical schools is considerably smaller.

A comparatively smaller percentage of women is studying law. During recent years their number fluctuated between 800 and 1000. However actually out of the total number of 4,656 barristers, there are only 40 women, 30 of whom are practicing in Warsaw and only 10 in country districts. Such a striking disproportion between the number of girl law-students and practising

lawyers can find a plausible explanation in the lack of confidence in a woman-lawyer and in certain difficulties obstructing the way of women applying for official posts. This is the principal reason why many trained women lawyers are compelled to work in other fields, for instance administration, banking, ministries, etc., where they sometimes attain high positions. In recent years a growth of confidence in women lawyers can be noticed, and their working number is continually augmenting. In 1928 there was not a single woman judge. A fortunate beginning was made by Mrs. Wanda Grabinska, who has found general acknowledgement as a judge for minors. At present we have already 7 women judges and 85 Court Applicants.

For a long time women have tended toward the medical profession. In 1910 there were 111 medical girl-students at the universities. Their number rose in 1923-24 to 873 and has remained until now at the same level. According to the official list of physicians in 1931 out of 10,395 physicians in the whole country 1,512 are women. Women mostly devote themselves to internal diseases and pediatry. The number of women physicians pursuing scientific work in clinics and other university establishments is growing from day to day.

The dental profession is gradually becoming feminised. Men constitute only 1/5th part of dentistry students. Out of 2,885 of practicing dentists—1,990 are women. Women are to-day occupying leading posts among professors of dentistry.

According to the latest list of graduated pharmacists out of the total number of 3,369—there are 628 women, which is 18.6%. There are 15 women pharmacists working scientifically in universities.

A considerably smaller percentage of women is studying commercial sciences, however a certain growth in their number can be observed during the last years.

3. Passing over to the third group we must mention chemistry in the first place. The number of chemistry girl-students is steadily remaining at the same level (100-150). Out of the total number 1,936 of graduated chemists there are 245 women, forming 12%. In that number 91 women possess the title of Engineers and 52 of Doctors. Their work mainly finds application in the manufacturing of artificial silk, pharmaceutical products, perfumery and cosmetics, rubber wear, paints, ink etc. The directors of Establishments for Investigation of food products at Łódz and Wilna are women.

Agriculture, which was studied in 1929-30 by 376 women can also be placed in the third group. Of all branches of agriculture, gardening is the most studied by women. Diplomas of Gardening Engineers in 1929-30 were awarded to 31 women and 4 men only. Many women are working as specialists in Higher Gardening schools and institutions.

4. To the last group belong such professions as engineering, communications, mechanics and electro techniques, geodesy, foundry, etc. The number of women in these lines does not show any increase. It testifies to the fact, that in these professions only those especially gifted or goaded by some exceptional ambition are employed. One or two diplomats, a few pilots, one woman working in a foundry cannot be taken into consideration in the professional sense. Neither do many women devote themselves to veterinary-surgery.

There exist also professions directly connected with no special training, and only based on general higher education. These are: library work and journalism. The number of women registered in the Joint Union of Polish Librarians amounts to 283. That number is much higher in fact, as the Union does not comprise all librarians. Women-librarians in general are highly appreciated.

The above information cannot give a complete picture of all the efforts of the Polish woman, but only sketch her many-sided endeavours and illustrate the dimensions of her part in general social work in Poland.

ALINA TRUSIEWICZ.

GREAT BRITAIN.

There are at the moment under discussion several points connected with the status of married women, which call for reform. A new organisation has been formed, known as The Married Persons Income Tax Reform Group. For purposes of income tax, the wife's income is still regarded as the property of her husband, and he is responsible for her income tax and super tax, even though he may have no personal income of his own

whatever! Moreover, for assessment purposes, the two incomes are aggregated and pay a consequently higher rate of tax than each would be liable to, taken separately.

Then there is the question of the husband's liability for his wife's torts, assault, libel, etc., and, above all, for her debts. This is a real grievance for traders, as the husband is liable only to the extent of expenditure

BALTIC WOMEN

What are the women of Finland, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania thinking about?

In a brilliant series of four articles in *The Christian Science Monitor*, dated October 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th, a Special Commissioner will tell you about the National aspirations of the women of those countries.

So little has hitherto been written about these small countries which have acquired independence for the first time in many centuries! The articles are fascinating studies of little-known conditions to the majority of Europeans.

The issue of *The Christian Science Monitor* containing the first of these articles will be on sale in Great Britain on the 18th October, and in Finland and on the Continent during the week ending the 22nd October.

The price in Great Britain is 2d. per copy; in Germany 20 pf., and in other countries relative to 5 cents. per copy.

In Great Britain *The Christian Science Monitor* is on sale at all bookstalls and most newsagents. If any difficulty in obtaining copies can be obtained from the European Bureau, 2, Adelphi Terrace, London, W.C.2. All women will find *The Christian Science Monitor* of extraordinary interest. Every issue contains something of vital importance to them.

The

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incurred by his wife for necessities suitable to their style of living, and that obviously may be a matter for argument. But a greater grievance exists in that where a married woman contracts debts beyond that liability of the husband, though she can be sued and damages recovered against her separate property, it is difficult to enforce the judgment. She may not be committed to prison for failure to comply with an order, as a man would be, execution cannot be levied on her property, except on furniture and jewellery, and she cannot be made bankrupt. These provisions no longer apply for the most part to the married woman trader, but they still "protect" a wife as such.

It is these things which sometimes cause men, and especially lawyers, to refer to women as the "spoilt darlings of the law," and certainly all feminists would desire, in the interests of justice and of the dignity of their sex, to see them swept away. Nevertheless, as regards the husband's liability for reasonable expenditure on a wife's part, it must not be forgotten that as long as every obstacle is put in the way of the economic independence of the married woman, and as long as the only right the most hard-working housewife possesses is the right to maintenance, some legal claim she must have on what in such a case is the family rather than simply the husband's income.

It is this consideration of the position of often complete economic independence which social custom forces on the greater number of married women, which presumably lies at the root of the demand now being made that the Government should bring in a Bill to give a widow a right to one-third of her husband's estate when he dies, or at any rate of some fixed proportion. Such a provision exists in Scotland and in most other countries, but in England complete freedom is possessed by every testator to leave his estate, when not entailed, to whomsoever he likes. If such a law is adopted it ought to work both ways, that is to say, that a man should equally have a right to a fixed proportion of the wife's estate, otherwise it would be another piece of sex discrimination in law, which is just as unjustifiable and just as harmful to the dignity of women even when it appears to be giving them a favoured position.

PETITION ON THE NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN.

The following petition has been addressed by the Nationality of Married Women Pass the Bill Committee to the Conference of the British and Dominion Governments of the British Commonwealth of Nations at Ottawa, Canada, July 1932. It has been signed by 120 societies in the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, the Irish Free State and the British Crown Colonies and represents their unanimous opinion.

The Petition of organisations within the British Commonwealth of Nations sheweth

1. That at the Assembly of the League of Nations held in Geneva in September, 1931, in the face of the forty-eight States there represented the British Government through its delegate, Dame Edith Lyttelton, made the following declaration of policy on the nationality of married women: "The British Government considers that it is right that all disabilities of married women in matters of nationality should be removed, and that in so far as nationality is concerned a married woman should be in the same position as a man—married or unmarried—or any single woman."
2. That the above declared policy is right and just.
3. That the present laws within the British Commonwealth of Nations are not in accordance with this policy of justice, inasmuch as under them a married woman is classed with minors and lunatics as under a disability: she is denied the right to her own independent nationality since in general her nationality is made to depend on that of her husband.
4. That it is desirable that the Laws of Nationality in the British Commonwealth of Nations should be brought into line with this policy of justice.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that the British and Dominion Governments shall come to an agreement to adopt this policy of justice and to recommend to these Governments to introduce into their respective legislatures and to pass into law measures to give effect to this policy of justice so that throughout the British Commonwealth of Nations a woman—married or unmarried—shall have the same right as a man to enjoy independent nationality in her own person and the same right as a man to retain or change her nationality.

BELGIUM.

The Groupement Belge pour l'Affranchissement des Femmes has just issued and sent to every member of the Belgian Parliament a very effective manifesto on woman suffrage, which has also received the support of the Belgian National Council of Women and of the Groupement professionnel féminin. We cannot quote here the full text of the Manifesto which meets and refutes all the old arguments against woman suffrage. The arguments are divided into such headings as: Women have their interests to defend, just as men have, and since they have duties to the State, they should also have rights; Women have an important social role to play; the exercise of political rights tends to develop women's intellectual capacities; justice and logic demand that women should have the suffrage.

When one sees the old threadbare objections set out, how extraordinarily weak and old-fashioned they appear; but they are patiently dealt with one by one, and the point is made that women are equally blamed for tamely accepting the restricted opportunities and the narrow life which has been forced upon them, or for making efforts to obtain a wider field. In the one case they are an obstacle in the path of progress, in the other they are imperilling the social order.

This is a useful document which would no doubt suggest some valuable points for those in other countries who are carrying on a campaign for the vote.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Women's Freedom League.

We have had a very strenuous summer. Mrs. Despard, our First-President, the 88th anniversary of whose birthday we celebrated by a Party at Caxton Hall, on July 6th, to which came representatives from all women's organisations, has visited all our branches in and around London urging them to carry on with renewed vigour our work for the full emancipation of women. Outside London, our branches have held special public meetings to discuss the position of, and the problems confronting, Indian women, and also the New Health Insurance Bill, which so adversely affects the interests of women workers.

In Scotland, we are running a Clyde Coast Campaign, holding daily and nightly open-air meetings at Rothersay, Largs, Millport, Helensburgh and Dunoon, when our speakers deal with various aspects of the women's movement.

Captain Cazalet, who formerly brought in a Nationality of Married Women Bill which provided for the right of a British woman who married an alien to retain her own nationality, but which was opposed by the Government of the day on the ground that there must first be agreement in the Dominions on this question of nationality before it can be dealt with in this Country, has now brought in a British-Born Alien Women's (Civil Rights) Bill, which would secure to British women married to foreigners certain elementary rights of citizenship, such as freedom from the necessity of registering as foreigners, the advantages of the social services and the right to vote at local and parliamentary elections. We have no enthusiasm at all for this Bill which does not attempt to give women equality with men in the matter of nationality; but merely makes a British woman married to a foreigner an alien responsibility of the Government in her own country.

We have protested because no women have been included in the British delegation or in any of the delegations from the Dominions to the Conference at Ottawa. Time and again we have pointed out to the Government that as women equally with men suffer

from the prevailing economic depression, women equally with men should be consulted as to what efforts should be made to improve our economic position. It is absurd at this time of day to pretend that there are no sufficiently trained business women, women economists, and women financiers, whose knowledge, initiative and experience would be of value and assistance in the consideration of remedies for the world's present economic situation.

On October 21st we are arranging a one-day Conference of representatives of Women's Organisations at Caxton Hall, Westminster, to consider "The Position of Married Women" from the point of view of the Law of Coverture, Nationality, Employment, restrictions on work, etc. Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence will preside, and we hope to have a frank and full discussion on this subject.

FLORENCE A. UNDERWOOD.

FRANCE.

After a debate lasting for a fortnight, the Senate has shelved the question of the Woman Suffrage Bill by a vote of 253 to 40 to send it back to the Commission, which means that it cannot be discussed again this session, but may be brought up again during the next session. It is not clear whether the demand made by some of its supporters that an early date in that session should be fixed was agreed to. In any case, neither side can claim a victory at the moment and the women are to wait yet again for a real decision. It appears that the bill's supporters were in a dilemma, since, if the vote was actually taken, the Bill might have been killed outright, while they now have a further period for propaganda. The vote for postponement is not therefore a strict indication of the amount of support the measure may receive.

The situation is thus 'obscure'. It is clear that the Senate fears to grant the vote and fears to refuse it.

Both the Conseil Général de la Seine and the Conseil Municipal de Paris have passed resolutions in favour of giving women suffrage and eligibility at the age of 25.

The struggle for the vote has attracted much attention in the press of other countries, and, as showing something of the effect produced by the debate, we may perhaps quote the following extract from a long article in the *London Times*: "It was generally assumed by the opponents of the measure that the votes of all Frenchwomen would be conservative and reactionary, though some Senators feared the exact opposite, and hesitated before the prospect of radical demagogues riding to victory on the votes of brainless girls. It seemed as though every enfranchised Frenchwoman would be either a religious ecstatic or a pétroleuse."

OBITUARY.

Miss Penelope Lawrence, the founder of Roedean School for Girls, has died at the age of 75. The three sisters, Penelope, Dorothy and Millicent Lawrence, started the school 47 years ago on a capital of £50 borrowed from their brother, with ideas about girls' education which were certainly revolutionary, since they laid emphasis in the first place on the importance of physical education and outdoor exercise and the development of independence and self-reliance.

Now Roedean is a magnificent building on the cliffs near Brighton, standing in 118 acres of grounds, with all the most modern appliances, and it has a famous name and 300 pupils.

Miss Lawrence retired from the headmistress-ship in 1924, but she retained her interest in the school till the end. She was indeed a pioneer, and her faithful and courageous pursuit of health, happiness and freedom for women has been of incalculable benefit to many generations.

IRELAND.

Mrs. Mary S. Kettle, T.C., was the recipient at the Gresham Hotel, Dublin, on Saturday, May 21st, of a municipal robe and hat to be worn as member of Dublin City Council on ceremonial occasions and in connection with the Eucharistic Congress functions. The robe is of Irish cloth, cherry coloured and fur trimmed, lined with white poplin. The City Arms are inserted on the Tricorne. Both robe and hat are Dublin-made. On the inside of the robe is embroidered by the Dun Emer Guild an inscription stating that the robe was presented to Mrs. Kettle as a tribute for her unfailing loyalty and devotion to women. A group of feminists, numbering over 100, took part in the presentation, including representative women of all shades of political opinion, women workers, artists, doctors, nurses, a woman senator, teachers, librarians, writers, journalists, social welfare workers, civil servants, women on various public boards and in the Universities.

Professor Mary Hayden, who presided, stated that it gave her great pleasure to be associated with this presentation by women to a woman. Progress in feminism had been made everywhere, even in Ireland where, at one time, the field for women's development was practically non-existent. The gift of this robe is a symbol and a gesture to honour a woman who has upheld the dignity of her sex in public affairs and who has ever been a consistent feminist.

Formerly it used to be said by medieval male cynics, *Femina feminae Lupus* (Woman is a wolf to woman). This is entirely untrue of women as a body, and this assembly demonstrated the falsehood of such a saying and its sex prejudice.

In Ireland we have a saying for a wearer of new garments: "Long may you wear it!" We wish that to Mrs. Kettle. May she long wear with dignity and to the benefit of women these robes of office.

Mrs. Cahalan Burns felt it a privilege and honour to be associated with this tribute to a fellow-woman. In honouring her they were honouring womanhood. Mrs. Kettle is one of the few feminists in our public life to-day, where though there are so many women of talent and ability there are but few in public life. A woman's centre, a club and gathering place is sorely needed in Dublin. She hoped that this meeting might be the nucleus of such. For Mrs. Kettle she wished that when next they met it would be to greet her as Lord Mayor of Dublin (Applause).

Miss Barrett paid warm tribute to Mrs. Kettle's work as member of the Vocational Council for Women Teachers and for education generally. For her work in the Union she does not spare her time nor her energy; no trouble is too great for her to take and she is specially devoted to the claims of the poorest of the poor.

Miss R. Jacob said it gave her keen delight to see for once recognition given to the work of a woman. How often work of this kind, work for civilisation in the true sense is slurred over for the showy, the superficial. She regretted that men who so often passed over so slightly the claims and merits of women were not there to see how women appreciated these; she hoped something higher than the Lord Mayoralty would be Mrs. Kettle's; some post of power where her gifts would have even greater scope, and how needed these were in a State where there is, as at present, *not a single woman in the Government, only two women deputies (and these party women solely) where on public boards there are but a few, where the right to serve on juries has been taken away, where women do not possess equality of opportunity in spite of having attained the right to vote.*

Mrs. Kettle, speaking with emotion, said she was overwhelmed at the tribute paid to her and bereft of words to reply adequately. Those who trust us educate us, it has been truly said, and this expression of

trust by women in me will educate me in the way I should go. I hope you will look to my aspirations rather than to my achievements. My aim has been, as I have stated when entering public life, "to give children a square meal and women a square deal." The latter has been much harder than the former! The way of the transgressor is hard, doubly so where women are concerned. For if a woman in public or private affairs fails, if she is unpunctual, incompetent, we are told by our critics, "Oh, women are like that! What did I tell you?" and so forth. If, on the other hand, a woman makes good and wins distinction in any sphere by her own unaided efforts what is the average male comment? "Oh, she is an exceptional woman!"

We are glad to say that Mrs. Kettle was present, in her robes of office, with her colleagues of the Dublin Corporation at the formal opening of the Eucharistic Congress, at the Pro-Cathedral, by H. E. the Cardinal Legate.

—The Catholic Citizen.

NORWAY.

Extracts from a speech made at the International Labour Conference by Miss Betsy Kjelsberg.

In the autumn of 1931 a great meeting of men and women interested in social affairs was arranged on the initiative of the churches. Unemployment was one of the chief items on the agenda of that meeting. Instead of following the usual procedure and adopting resolutions requesting that this or that should be done, the meeting decided, on the proposal of a clergyman, that the clergy should take the lead and start the work. This is the first time in our country that the clergy has taken up such a practical work as this, an attempt namely to organise concrete assistance to promote self-help by means of paid labour.

The seven bishops of the country immediately joined the movement and a Central Committee was set up in Oslo under the chairmanship of an exceptionally able clergyman. This Committee includes further three farmers, the Director of the State Unemployment Office, and representatives of the Factory Inspectorate and leaders of commerce and industry.

It was the young people we wanted to help, and, accordingly the age limit was fixed to not more than 23 years. For, as we all know, there is a great danger for the young people—sound, strong and willing to work as they are—when they are left without work year after year. The result is a distaste for work and all the various moral evils resulting therefrom.

Money was necessary in order to start the work. We knew that it was useless to go about it the usual way and apply to the State; the Budget was already sufficiently laden, and the State had to do its utmost in the first place to start public works to relieve unemployment among married workers.

An appeal was made to the public all over the country. The press was at once unanimous in helping. We knew that if we could obtain money, work could be procured for thousands of persons.

The first contribution of 10,000 Kroner was given by the King and the Queen, both of whom are particularly interested in the work. This is also true of our Minister of Social Affairs who is himself a farmer. Further contributions came from the big banks, out of their surplus. Insurance companies, larger industrial undertakings, and, last but not least, private people contributed. Collections were made in the churches, house to house collections were made by students and money was also raised by the sale of special stamps for sealing letters.

A young architect designed a very attractive stamp, showing a young worker looking out in despair over the country; the sun peeping out from behind the clouds and the word "Work" appearing in the sky. Money has come in and more is coming in every day.

And now, what kind of work can we provide? Well, there is now a special organisation in every episcopal see and local committees have been set up in every parish in the country. In order to simplify the administration these committees co-operate with other institutions already existing locally.

First of all there is the cultivation of land. We have thousands and thousands of hectares of uncultivated land waiting for labour. Drainage work, clearing of forest lands, plantation work on grounds now without woods, but where we know there were big forests in former days. Distillation of woodtar and burning of charcoal are means of procuring work and of utilising waste wood. Help is also necessary to enable small farmers encumbered by debt to buy implements, cattle and fertilizers.

If the young persons are not employed near their homes, rooms are found for them with farmers in the vicinity of their place of employment. The work is paid and the young people therefore have the feeling that they are earning their living by their own work. This gives them courage, despair gives way to confidence, the miracle has happened: they have obtained work.

For other young people courses have been organised where they are taught to make easily-sold objects of various kinds. Schools, gymnasiums, public halls are used as workrooms. For women there are courses in cooking, weaving, etc.

Lecture courses are arranged all over the country in order to rouse interest in the good cause. A good means of making uninterested people think has been a splendidly got-up film called "The Outlaw." This film has been made in Sweden, the artistes being really unemployed men and women. It shows in a stirring way how things go when the horror of unemployment gains ground. The whole family, the whole race is destroyed. The film belongs to the Norwegian Federation of Trade Union which has lent it to us.

In order to help young unemployed persons from the towns, who often have their homes far away, we have asked for free tickets on the State railways and for reduced prices on the steamers. In these difficult times it is always best to obtain work for the young person at or near his home. In the towns temptations are many and the power of resistance is not strong when one is hungry and tired.

I have told you about this little positive enterprise because I thought it might be useful for other countries too. We hope to provide employment for several thousand young persons by this new temporary organisation set up under the name "Help for Youth."

THE WORLD'S CHILDREN

ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY MAGAZINE

Edited by Edward Fuller.

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SECTION FRANCAISE.

UN CENTRE FEMINISTE INTERNATIONAL A GENEVE.

Comme toutes les années précédentes, l'Alliance Internationale pour le Suffrage des Femmes ouvrira à Genève, au moment de l'Assemblée plénière ordinaire de la Société des Nations, un Bureau temporaire sur lequel on nous prie d'attirer tout spécialement l'attention de nos lectrices. En effet, toutes celles qui se rendent dans cette ville, soit au cours d'un voyage, soit, et c'est surtout le cas, pour participer à la vie internationale intense de cette période, sont toujours heureuses de connaître un local où peuvent se rencontrer des féministes de tous pays, où on leur fournit des adresses, des renseignements, des cartes d'entrée à l'Assemblée, où sont organisées des réceptions familières et des causeries sur les problèmes d'actualité féministe qui se posent au travers du monde. Le succès toujours grandissant de ce Bureau temporaire de l'Alliance est d'ailleurs la meilleure preuve qu'il correspond à un réel besoin.

Cette année, c'est dans les locaux du Club International, 4, rue de Monthoux, qu'il a élu domicile, et le fait d'avoir ainsi pris ses quartiers dans un centre actif de vie internationale, et tout près du Secrétariat de la S.d.N., et du bâtiment de la Conférence du Désarmement est un nouveau gage de succès pour lui. Il sera ouvert toutes les après-midis de 3 h à 7 h., mais en dehors de ces heures d'ouverture, il sera toujours possible d'obtenir du Club des renseignements pressés. Comme d'habitude ce Bureau fonctionnera toute la semaine avant l'ouverture de l'Assemblée, soit dès le 29 août si celle-ci entre en séance le 5 septembre; mais au cas où cette date d'ouverture serait retardée de trois semaines comme il en est question au moment où ces lignes sont écrites, la période d'ouverture du Bureau serait également reportée à trois semaines plus tard. Pour cette raison, il ne nous est pas encore possible de donner déjà ici les noms des membres du Comité de l'Alliance, qui se trouveront à Genève à cette date; mais la présence de la Présidente, Mrs. Corbett Ashby, et celle de la Secrétaire, Mlle. Gourd, étant déjà assurée, on peut promettre ainsi une belle activité pour la saison féministe internationale de 1932.

LE SUFFRAGE FEMININ REJETE A GENEVE.

Il semble à peine croyable que, dans cette Suisse qui s'honore d'être la plus vieille démocratie du monde, dans cette ville qui est le siège de la Société des Nations, on puisse encore annoncer un événement comme celui-ci! Et pourtant cela est malheureusement le cas: le 25 juin dernier, le Grand Conseil (Parlement) du canton de Genève a par 51 voix contre 36 refusé d'entrer en matière sur un projet de loi qui lui était présenté depuis bientôt trois ans, et qu'il a de la sorte enterré dans une demi-heure de discussion hâtive et superficielle.

Ce n'est pourtant pas la première fois qu'il est question de vote des femmes au Grand Conseil de Genève: en 1917 déjà, un député catholique avait présenté un projet de loi reconnaissant aux femmes le droit de vote en matière municipale, qui fut lestement écarté en une seule séance de discussion en juin 1918. En 1920, les suffragistes de Genève usant du droit d'initiative inscrit dans la Constitution recueillirent près de 3,000 signatures d'électeurs en faveur des droits politiques complets pour les femmes. Le Grand Conseil accepta cette réforme à une voix de majorité, mais lors de la votation populaire inévitable, puisqu'il s'agit d'une révision de la Constitution, les féministes furent battues par 14,000 voix contre 6,000 environ. Elles

avaient pensé recommencer quelques années plus tard, mais ce fut la période de la pétition pour le vote des femmes sur le terrain fédéral, qui recueillit à Genève seulement plus de 22,000 signatures d'hommes et de femmes, mais qui une fois remise au Parlement fédéral sommeilla paisiblement depuis trois ans bientôt dans des cartons. En 1930 enfin, vint le projet de loi présenté par M. Albaret député dont nous venons d'annoncer l'échec.

Il serait décevant de constater qu'en dépit d'un travail suffragiste ininterrompu, les idées suffragistes n'ont pas avancé à Genève depuis dix ans, et ont au contraire reculé, si l'on ne se rendait pas compte que la platitude des arguments des adversaires (arguments que l'on aurait honte de répéter dans un journal comme celui-ci, lu par des femmes citoyennes de tant pays!) prouve à quels mauvais raisonnements ils sont obligés de recourir pour cacher leurs craintes. Au fond, ces messieurs ont peur de nous parce que nous sommes beaucoup plus nombreuses qu'eux, et craignant d'être majorisés par nous se servent contre nous de tous les prétextes possibles. Il faut aussi dire qu'en période de réaction politique et sociale comme celle que nous traversons, en pleine crise économique et financière, tous les éléments modérés ont une crainte effroyable des partis avancés, et ne veulent pas comprendre que les femmes ayant des opinions politiques aussi différentes entre elles que les hommes, elles ne voteraient pas en bloc toutes d'un seul côté, et que la balance des partis ne risquerait pas davantage d'être déséquilibrée chez nous que dans aucun autre Etat.

Quoiqu'il en soit, c'est un travail à recommencer. Nous ne savons pas encore ce que nous ferons, mais nous savons que nous ferons quelque chose. Nous sommes en effet révoltées et indignées, car il devient inadmissible que dans une ville comme la nôtre on nous assimile encore politiquement parlant à les mineures et des incapables, quand nous voyons constamment autour de nous des femmes parlementaires, députées, sénateurs, etc., et que nos députés auraient ainsi, s'ils voulaient ouvrir les yeux, l'occasion de se renseigner. Et nous remercions d'avance ici toutes celles de nos amies internationales qui nous aideront dans cette tâche, comme l'a fait notre Présidente, Mrs. Corbett Ashby, lors de notre Assemblée de protestation en déclarant qu'à l'inverse des personnages des contes de fées, qui se réveillent au bout de cent ans dans un monde nouveau, elle avait cru revenir en arrière de cinquante ans en apprenant ce qui venait de se passer chez nous!
E.G.D.

COMITE DU DESARMEMENT CREE PAR LES ORGANISATIONS FEMININES INTERNATIONALES.

Ce comité qui existe depuis dix mois a connu trois périodes d'activité distinctes.

La première période est celle de la collecte de neuf millions de signatures qui ont été présentées à la Séance plénière du 6 février.

La deuxième période a établi les bases d'un programme de travail commun. La "Communication" publiée au mois de mars a été distribuée dans le monde entier par milliers d'exemplaires. Elle a été discutée et commentée dans tous les pays et en concentrant l'attention sur des demandes de résultats concrets, a débarrassé le chemin pour une action concertée efficace. Il est à noter que les organisations féminines se sont prononcées pour le désarmement qualitatif avant même que la Conférence n'en adopte le principe—et un membre du Congrès des Etats Unis a appuyé l'un des vœux de la

Communication par sa proposition d'interdire le vente et l'exportation des armements à toute nation étrangère en état de guerre.

La troisième période de travail a commencé au début du mois de mai. Le rôle principal du comité est maintenant de suivre le développement des discussions de la Conférence et d'envoyer des rapports contenant des suggestions mûrement considérées, aux groupes internationaux et nationaux afin de les guider vers une action concertée dans les différents pays. Cette période se caractérise par une activité intense dans le domaine national, et une pression de plus en plus accusée sur les gouvernements et les délégations pour obtenir des résultats concrets le plus tôt possible.

ACTIVITÉS NATIONALES.

En Allemagne la situation politique, qui rend le travail pour la cause du désarmement particulièrement difficile n'a pas empêché nos adhérents de redoubler leurs efforts. Différentes organisations féminines ont pris l'initiative de grands meetings publics, d'articles de presse où sont discutées les assemblées de Genève, l'attitude allemande et les possibilités du mouvement en faveur du Désarmement.

Le Conseil national des Femmes d'Australie a prié Mr. Latham, délégué à la Conférence, d'apporter leurs vœux pour la solution d'un problème angoissant. Deux associations féministes du Canada nous écrivent que notre appel a été entendu et la Y. W. C. A. a organisé un grand meeting public à Toronto le 6 mai. Au Danemark la propagande est si bien organisée qu'en réponse à notre appel, nous avons été inondés de messages de toutes les parties du Danemark.

L'Union Chrétienne des Jeunes filles d'Esthonie a adressé au Président de la Conférence du Désarmement un message demandant l'abolition des armes d'agression.

Aux Etats-Unis d'Amerique, la Présidente de la Fédération Internationale des Femmes dans les carrières libérales et commerciales a écrit le 28 mai au Secrétaire Stimson protestant "contre le délai causé par les experts." Le Conseil des Femmes juives et le Conseil des Femmes missionnaires ont envoyé l'un, un télégramme à Genève, l'autre une pétition au Président des Etats Unis pour l'abolition des armes d'agression.

En France la Section de la Ligue des Mères et des Educatrices pour la paix a répondu généreusement à notre appel. Une circulaire dont voici un extrait a été envoyée dans tous les départements. "Il est nécessaire que ne soit pas annihilée par la timidité craintive du gouvernement français la volonté de paix que notre peuple vient de manifester si magnifiquement. C'est la plus sérieuse chance de salut qui reste au monde. Aussi nous vous demandons de participer aux manifestations organisées par les cartels de la Paix, au besoin de provoquer les manifestations. Il faut que tout le monde sache que si la Conférence du Désarmement n'aboutit pas à un résultat sérieux, il ne fait de doute pour personne que ce sera le signal du réarmement de l'Allemagne. Nous aurons ainsi créé par nos hésitations, nos reculs, nos atermoiements le plus terrible des dangers qui puissent menacer la paix.

En Grande Bretagne l'activité a été très grande pendant les dernières semaines. Le Joint Peace Council a organisé plus de 300 meetings et une résolution fut adoptée par acclamation au Queen's Hall le 13 juin dans une vaste réunion organisée par The Women's Peace Crusade. En Hongrie le Conseil National des Femmes a fait parvenir au Comte Apponyi, président de la délégation hongroise et à Mr. Henderson, une requête insistant sur l'abolition des armes agressives.

En Irlande le Comité International de Désarmement a écrit au Gouvernement, à la délégation irlandaise et au Président de la Conférence et s'efforcera de faire

adopter une résolution par l'Association Nationale des Instituteurs.

Le Conseil National des Femmes d'Irlande réclame particulièrement l'abolition de la guerre chimique et bactériologique. Les Conseils Nationaux des Femmes de Lithuanie de Norvège, de Pologne, ont fait une publicité intense à notre appel.

La Section neerlandaise de l'Alliance pour le Suffrage a adressé une lettre au Ministre des Affaires étrangères où l'on lit ces mots de M. de Brouckère: "On ne saurait tolérer que les peuples soient déçus dans leur espoir de paix par des experts qui se perdent dans un labyrinthe de questions techniques qui, avec de la bonne volonté pourraient être liquidées en quelques heures."

En Suède le Comité d'Action pour la Paix a envoyé une déclaration au Président de la Conférence où il est dit entre autres choses "que la diminution comprendra l'abolition des armements qui sont défendus à l'Allemagne, à l'Autriche, à la Hongrie et à la Bulgarie par les Traités de Paix." Cette opinion est partagée par la très grande majorité des citoyens adultes en Suède.

En Tchécoslovaquie les membres du groupe de l'Union mondiale de la Femme, la Ligue des Femmes pour la Paix et la Liberté ont rédigé et envoyé une lettre aux Commissions techniques de la Conférence. Des appels ont également été envoyés au Gouvernement par l'entreprise du Premier Ministre et ceux-ci ont été publiés dans les journaux et les périodiques.

Outre toute cette activité en relation avec la Conférence elle-même, le Travail d'Education pour la paix continue et prend des formes nouvelles. En particulier des efforts intéressants ont été faits parmi les enfants en Hongrie et au Danemark—et une représentation de la Conférence du Désarmement a été donnée aux Etats-Unis, dans l'Etat de Connecticut, devant un vaste auditoire qui n'avait aucune idée préalable du travail accompli à Genève.

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à GENEVE

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COMITE D'EXPERTS POUR L'ESCLAVAGE DE LA S.d.N.

Le Comité d'experts composé de M. Angoulvant (France), Mme. de Castro e Almeida (Portugal), M. Gohr (Belgique), M. Neytzell Le Wille (Pays-Bas), Comm. Zedda (Italie) et M. Julio Lopez Olivan (Espagne), s'est réuni à Genève du 4 au 11 mai. Il avait été chargé par l'Assemblée de la S.d.N., "d'examiner la documentation sur l'esclavage fournie ou transmise par les gouvernements depuis la signature de la Convention de 1926, et de présenter des suggestions sur les mesures d'assistance que la S.d.N. pourrait prêter aux pays qui sont convenus d'abolir l'esclavage et qui demanderont cette assistance." Le Conseil a précisé cette tâche et demandé au Comité d'examiner dans quelle mesure la Convention de 1926 avait contribué à l'abolition de l'esclavage et d'élucider quels sont les obstacles qui s'opposent à l'abolition complète. Il lui a demandé aussi de suggérer les modifications à apporter aux rouages dont dispose actuellement la S.d.N. dans ce domaine.

Le Save the Children Fund avait préparé en collaboration avec notre Secrétariat un document de 12 pages reproduisant une partie des informations sur

l'esclavage recueillies à l'occasion de la Conférence internationale pour l'enfance africaine,—esclavage proprement dit, et esclavage de fait: travail forcé dans l'intérêt de particuliers, tradition des enfants en garantie d'un emprunt (mise en gage) ou en paiement d'une dette, adoption, esclavage en relation avec le mariage et avec le travail industriel. Le Gouvernement suisse a obligeamment accepté de transmettre officiellement ce rapport. Nos représentants n'ont pu malheureusement assister à aucune séance, toutes ayant eu lieu à huis clos. Le président du Comité, M. Gohr, a cependant déclaré que les données contenues dans notre note, et qui entrent dans le cadre de son rapport général sur les travaux du Comité y seraient incorporées.

Lord Noël Buxton, président du Save the Children Fund, qui est également l'un des présidents de la Société anti-esclavagiste de Grande Bretagne a fait au mois de février dernier, sur l'invitation du Negus Taffari un voyage en Abyssinie afin d'y étudier la question de l'esclavage en vue de son abolition. Le résultat de ce voyage a été tout à fait encourageant, le Negus ayant déclaré qu'il ferait son possible afin que l'esclavage ait complètement disparu de l'Ethiopie dans un délai de dix ans. Le témoignage de Lord Noël Buxton a été entendu par le Comité d'experts dans une de ses séances.

Le Comité se réunira de nouveau le 20 août pour adopter le rapport à l'Assemblée.

La note de l'U.I.S.E. sur l'esclavage des enfants sera envoyée gratuitement aux personnes qui en feront la demande.

LISEZ.

LES FEMMES DANS LE VIE PUBLIQUE

par BARBARA BARCLAY CARTER dans le numéro d'août de

RES PUBLICA

Revue d'Etudes politiques internationales, Bruxelles. En vente chez toutes les Messageries Hachette en France et chez Hachette, 18, King William Street, London.

TCHÉCOSLOVAQUIE.

Le Club des femmes tchèques.

Le dimanche 29 mai le Club des femmes tchèques a ouvert sa propre maison qui marque l'accomplissement des vœux et travaux de son existence de trente ans. Ce sera un digne foyer où se concentreront les efforts intellectuels et l'hospitalité offerte aux visiteuses étrangères.

L'ouverture du Club des femmes tchèques a été solennelle. Après le chant d'un chœur, interprété par la Chorale des institutrices de Praha, la présidente Mme. Dedinová a pris la parole pour tracer l'histoire de l'origine et du développement du Club. Elle a indiqué en même temps les raisons qui exigeaient la construction de la maison du Club dans les conditions aussi défavorables que celles du temps présent. Mme. Plaminková, sénatrice, a relevé ensuite l'importance du Club des femmes tchèques pour le mouvement féminin. On lui doit en grande partie les résultats obtenus dans l'oeuvre féminine, car il servait de lieu de réunion aux premières pionnières du suffrage et permettait aux premières conférencières de se faire entendre.

La maison du Club est située au centre de Praha, dans la rue appelée Smecky No. 26; outre sa situation favorable, elle offre encore d'autres avantages. Elle est munie d'une salle de conférences qui pourra être facilement transformée en salle de danse ou de théâtre, d'un café, d'un restaurant, d'une salle de lecture etc. Les étages supérieurs sont destinés aux logements des femmes qui séjournent à Praha d'une manière per-

manente ou temporaire. Les étrangères désireuses de visiter la capitale de la Tchécoslovaquie et d'y rester quelques jours, trouveront dans la maison du Club un logement confortable et dans son restaurant une bonne cuisine à des prix modiques.

Congrès International des classes moyennes.

Le Congrès International des classes moyennes s'est tenu à Praha les 5-7 mai dernier. Sa troisième Section, intitulée "la Femme et la classe moyenne," devait résoudre le dur problème de la participation de l'épouse au travail de son époux qui prend souvent la forme d'une collaboration tacite et anonyme.

Les débats ont abouti à la formulation des vœux principaux suivants: La situation matérielle et les droits de la femme qui collabore avec son mari devraient être réglés par une législation internationale. La période de temps, qu'une femme divorcée a passée dans le commerce ou l'industrie de son mari, devrait être considérée, après la séparation, comme une période d'apprentissage l'autorisant à un exercice indépendant. L'instruction féminine devrait comprendre la connaissance des sciences commerciales, du code civil et de la législation économique.

Le Congrès a remporté un succès considérable, mais il faut désirer que les initiatives et propositions qu'il a apportées soient étudiées à fond pour pouvoir être réalisées.

Congrès des ménagères tchécoslovaques.

La société centrale des ménagères tchécoslovaques a organisé le 22 mai dernier son congrès annuel, consacré cette année à la propreté et à la conservation des denrées alimentaires dans le commerce et le ménage. La question de l'emballage du pain et du refroidissement des denrées alimentaires a été également traitée.

Les débats ont porté sur les possibilités de collaboration des ménagères avec les commerçants et les autorités afin d'obtenir une plus grande propreté des denrées alimentaires dans la vente. On a demandé en même temps une application plus méthodique des mesures d'hygiène existantes et l'élaboration d'une loi sur la construction des halles dans les villes de province.

Droits égaux?

L'Assemblée Nationale Tchécoslovaque vient d'adopter une importante loi aux termes de laquelle les maladies résultant de l'exercice d'un emploi dangereux seront considérées comme accidents et donneront droit à une rente d'accident. Il y a assez de tels emplois qui ont pour résultat une incapacité de travail permanente ou même invalidité. La législation internationale (convention adoptée en 1925 par la Conférence du Travail à Genève) et celle de l'Etat indemnissent les hommes qui accomplissent les travaux de ce genre et appliquent en même temps une interdiction de ces travaux aux femmes. Est-ce juste? Est-ce l'égalité promise des droits?

L'Open Door Tchécoslovaque s'élève énergiquement contre l'interdiction des travaux dangereux aux femmes qui ne marque aucun progrès et aucune égalité des sexes. Au lieu de protéger les femmes il vaut mieux les exclure.

Faits divers.

L'un des trois prix du fonds Rieger, destinés à récompenser les actes de dévouement, a été décerné à la directrice Anna Tesarová qui a assisté longtemps le commissaire de police Drasner dans les questions sociales. Cette femme remarquable s'est proposée la tâche la plus difficile qui existe: ramener les prostituées à une vie honnête. Elle a fondé, il y a dix ans, un petit asile dont elle est directrice et qui héberge aujourd'hui 40 femmes. Les résultats de son travail sont admirables.

Plus de 80% de femmes de mauvaise vie sont devenues sous sa direction bonnes épouses et mères, ou gagnent honnêtement leur pain. C'est sans aucun doute pour la directrice la meilleure récompense de l'oeuvre accomplie.

Mme. Thérèse Vansová, écrivain populaire slovaque, a atteint le 18 avril dernier l'âge de 75 ans.

L'un de ses nombreux livres, la Kliatba (Malédiction) lui a valu, il y a peu de temps, le prix de l'Etat, rarement décerné aux femmes. Au point de vue national et féministe, Mme. Vansová n'a pas été moins active comme rédactrice de la Dennica qu'elle dirigeait et remplissait souvent elle-même.

Milena Hanusová, docteur en droit, est la première femme en Tchécoslovaquie qui ait passé avec succès son examen de juge et a l'espoir d'être nommé juge.

—Zenska Rada.

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EGYPTE.

Nous avons la satisfaction d'apprendre que les amendes pour infraction à la loi de l'Age minimum de mariage ont été fixées à 100 livres Egyptiennes ou 6 mois de prison contre les auteurs de faux témoignage, et que la punition est encore plus lourde pour les fonctionnaires qui se prêtent à des falsifications.

Un projet de loi est annoncé pour la réglementation du travail des femmes qui reproduit les restrictions habituelles au sujet des heures et du travail de nuit. Le travail est obligatoirement interrompu avant et après l'accouchement. 'L'Egyptienne' souligne la tendance dangereuse de certaines propositions mais ne les critique pas en détail. Il semble à première vue regrettable que ces provisions, excellentes en elles-mêmes, ne soient pas—sauf évidemment en ce qui concerne la maternité—identiques pour les deux sexes. Il est fâcheux qu'un pays dont la législation du travail a été jusque là rudimentaire, commence par imiter les pays d'Europe dans leur discrimination entre les sexes.

ALLEMAGNE.

LES NATIONAUX SOCIALISTES ET LA QUESTION FÉMINISTE.

L'influence grandissante du mouvement hitlérien en Allemagne accentue le problème de l'avenir du féminisme dans l'éventuel Troisième Reich (le 1er étant le Reich médiéval, le 2e. postérieure 1870). On a compris à l'étranger que les droits et privilèges des femmes allemandes seraient abolis ou restreints, mais les motifs de cette tendance anti-féministe sont moins facilement discernables.

Le mouvement hitlérien est en son essence anti-démocratique. Son but est la dictature et son modèle le fascisme italien. La "Masse" amorphe ne peut comprendre les réels intérêts de la nation, aussi il appartient à ceux qui par tempérament sont des chefs de persuader les électeurs de remettre le pouvoir absolu entre leurs mains.

La fonction organique d'un peuple ne peut être réalisée que par des groupements professionnels et corporatifs qui s'adjoignent à cause de leur importance actuelle, les syndicats, les trusts, les organisations industrielles ou agricoles. Cette idée bien que médiévale en son principe s'accorde avec la situation actuelle, les conséquences de la défaite, les difficultés économiques et la position périlleuse de l'Allemagne au milieu de

nations plus fortement armées. La crise semble demander un gouvernement "mâle" et la nation s'entraîne à la façon spartiate. Toutes les conséquences sont possibles.

Dans un tel système de représentation il n'y a pas de place pour les femmes. Certaines professions comme l'enseignement ou les services d'assistance leur resteront sans doute ouvertes. On peut même envisager la possibilité d'une Chambre féminine mais il est douteux que son influence soit marquée.

Le programme du Parti est tellement vague que ses adhérents peuvent se permettre en détail, toutes sortes de spéculations. Le parti national socialiste comporte comme son nom l'indique des éléments nationalistes et socialistes. Mais leurs milieux rarement coincident et l'apparente homogénéité du parti n'est due qu'à son opposition aux mesures gouvernementales, qui frappent toutes les classes. Si le Parti hitlérien est appelé au pouvoir, il lui faudra mettre son programme en pratique, par le détail. Cela sans nul doute éclaircira la situation et aussi l'avenir de la position civile et politique des femmes en Allemagne.

d'après D. v. V.

NORVEGE.

Miss Betzy Kjelsberg au Congrès International du Travail a fait le rapport suivant sur l'organisation du Contre-chômage en Norvège.

A l'automne de 1931 un grand meeting d'hommes et de femmes qui s'intéressent au service social s'est réuni, sous l'égide des Eglises, et un pasteur énergique prit la tête de l'organisation. Les sept évêques de Norvège immédiatement adhèrent au mouvement. Le comité, outre le président comprenait trois agriculteurs, le Directeur de l'Office d'Etat pour l'organisation des chômeurs, des inspecteurs d'usine et des notabilités du commerce et de l'industrie.

Comme l'aide doit s'adresser surtout aux jeunes gens, afin de leur empêcher de contracter des habitudes de paresse ou de vice, la limite d'âge fut arrêtée à 23 ans.

Les ressources de l'Etat étant déjà amplement drainées par des travaux publics pour l'allègement du chômage, aucun appel de fonds ne fut adressé au gouvernement. La presse fit un appel au public, par toute la contrée. La première contribution de 10.000 Kroner vint du Roi et de la Reine; puis s'inscrivirent les banques, les compagnies d'assurance, les entreprises industrielles. Individuellement, chacun apporta son obole. Des étudiants quêtèrent de porte en porte, les églises firent des collectes. Un timbre artistique conçu par un jeune architecte se vendit spécialement pour la Cause. La caisse s'emplit tous les jours.

Et maintenant, quelle sorte de travail procurons nous?

Il y a désormais un centre dans chaque siège épiscopal et des comités locaux dans chaque paroisse. Ces comités coopèrent avec les organisations déjà existantes.

Il y a d'abord la culture du sol: Des milliers d'hectares sont incultes. Il faut assainir, drainer, défricher, replanter les forêts détruites. La distillation de l'alcool de bois, la combustion lente du bois pour charbon sont aussi des moyens de procurer du travail et d'utiliser le bois superflu. Les comités fournissent aussi de l'aide aux fermiers endettés pour leur permettre d'acheter des instruments de culture, du bétail et des engrais. Si les jeunes gens ne sont pas employés près de leurs familles, on leur trouve des chambres près des fermes où ils travaillent. Leur labeur est payé et ils ont le sentiment qu'ils se suffisent à eux-mêmes, au lieu de l'attente stérile et du désespoir qui était leur lot, quand ils étaient abandonnés à leurs propres ressources.

D'autres jeunes gens sont occupés à la fabrication d'objets simples, aisément vendus. Les écoles, les gymnases, les salles publiques servent de lieux de

travail. Les femmes suivent des cours de cuisine, tissage et autres arts domestiques.

Une propagande par des conférences et par l'écran est organisée à travers tout le pays. Un film "The Outlaw" qui appartient à la Fédération Syndicale de Norvège a montré aux plus indifférents et égoïstes, quels ravages le chômage produit dans les familles et la communauté.

Notre organisation demande des billets de chemin de fer ou des passages gratuits pour faciliter le mouvement des jeunes travailleurs bien que tout soit mis en oeuvre pour leur procurer un emploi près de leurs foyers.

C'est là une entreprise d'un caractère positif que nous appelons "Aide à la Jeunesse." Nous espérons que notre expérience en Norvège pourra servir d'encouragement et d'exemple aux autres pays.

LE MOUVEMENT CULTUREL NATIONAL PARMILLES FEMMES DE POLOGNE.

Madame Alina Trusiewicz nous envoie un article (publié dans la section de langue anglaise) qui montre l'immense effort accompli en Pologne pour l'éducation des femmes.

Le succès de cet effort est rendu manifeste par le tableau statistique adjoint à son article. On y voit le progrès fait par les femmes dans toutes les sections universitaires et par suite les carrières libérales. A noter que la section dite Philosophie, se rapporte en réalité à l'Enseignement. Le chiffre énorme de 1458 pour le Droit et les Sciences politiques ne signifie pas qu'il y ait 1458 femmes exerçant la profession d'avocates, loin de là. Il n'y a que 40 avocates en Pologne, dont 30 à Varsovie. Il est encore difficile à une femme de se faire accepter, soit par ses collègues mâles, soit par ses clients. Mais leur connaissance du droit sert à ces mêmes jeunes femmes dans les professions industrielles ou commerciales qu'elles embrassent par la suite.

GRANDE BRETAGNE.

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

La travail des mois précédents a été particulièrement ardu, mais nous avons en le plaisir de célébrer le 88ème anniversaire de notre présidente Mrs. Despard le 6 juillet au Caxton Hall et elle nous a inspiré son ardeur de travailler à la pleine et entière émancipation de la femme. En dehors de Londres les sections ont tenu des réunions publiques sur différents sujets tels que les problèmes qui confrontent les femmes de l'Inde, la nouvelle loi d'Assurance sociale qui affecte adversément les intérêts des ouvrières. La Campagne sur toute la côte d'Ecosse est particulièrement active.

Le Cap. Cazalet, M.P., n'ayant pu réussir à faire adopter par le Gouvernement notre projet de loi sur la Nationalité de la femme mariée à cause, paraît-il, de l'assentiment indispensable des Dominions, a introduit un nouveau Bill qui assurerait aux femmes de nationalité britannique, mariées à des étrangers, certains droits civils élémentaires dont le droit de vote. Cette proposition qui n'est qu'un pis-aller ne nous enthousiasme guère.

Nous avons protesté contre le fait que la délégation impériale à la Conférence d'Ottawa n'inclut aucune femme. Maintes fois nous avons signalé au Gouvernement, que les femmes souffrent comme les hommes de la crise actuelle et qu'il est absurde de les ignorer—d'autant que leur connaissance spéciale de certains problèmes pourrait être d'un grand secours.

Le 21 octobre aura lieu au Caxton Hall une Conférence des Organisations féminines pour discuter la Position de la Femme Mariée. La réunion sera présidée par Mrs. Pethick Lawrence.

d'après FLORENCE A. UNDERWOOD.

NOTE DE CORRESPONDANCE.

Une associée de New York Madame Gertrude Beeks Easley, écrit à Mrs. Corbett Ashby qu'elle arrête sa souscription à l'International Women News—parce que "le numéro de Juin a publié comme information authentique, un extrait du Service de Presse de l'Union des Soviets." Cet extrait, nos lectrices se rappellent, commentait la part prise par les femmes dans le travail industriel pour le plan quinquennal.

Mrs. Corbett Ashby répondant à Mrs. Easley, regrette sa décision mais maintient le droit de Jus Suffragi de publier tous articles authentiques sur le travail et l'activité de la femme dans tous les pays. C'est un fait indiscuté que la République des Soviets traite le sexe féminin sur un pied d'égalité avec de sexe masculin. Un journal féministe doit reconnaître ce fait, quand bien même la majorité de ses lectrices n'aurait aucune sympathie pour les autres aspects du régime.

REUNION DU BUREAU DE L'ALLIANCE.

Du 19 au 22 Juillet le Bureau de l'Alliance s'est réuni à Londres pour discuter de l'avenir de notre organisation. Il est en effet très difficile dans une période de dépression comme celle que nous traversons d'assurer l'état de nos finances, d'autant que le Congrès, qui d'habitude nous fournissait les fonds, a été remis à une date ultérieure et la Commission Leslie qui nous donnait un si généreux concours a cessé d'exister. Nous restreignons les dépenses, le personnel, et avons réalisé toutes les économies possibles. Au moment de mettre sous presse, les discussions ne sont pas terminées sur l'issue que va prendre la situation. En plus des membres britanniques Mrs. Corbett Ashby (retour de Genève) Miss Sterling et Miss Neilans, nous avons eu le plaisir de souhaiter la bienvenue à: Mme. Plamin-kowa, Sénateur de Tchécoslovaquie, notre infatigable Secrétaire Melle. Gourd, une de nos vice-présidentes Miss Manus, Mme. Grinberg de France, Miss Ingeborg Walin, de Suède et Miss Ingeborg Hansen du Danemark.

Le sérieux travail du Bureau a été interrompu par une émouvante réception publique, organisée par l'Union des Guildes des Electriciens et présidée par Mrs. Corbett-Ashby, à la Y.W.C.A. de Londres. Miss Helen Keller, la fameuse Américaine, sourde-muette et aveugle a été reçue par des centaines d'admiratrices enthousiastes et avec l'aide de sa secrétaire et amie Miss Thompson a parlé et répondu aux questions de l'auditoire. On sait que Miss Keller, grâce au dévouement de son institutrice Miss Sullivan a appris à entendre le langage par l'attouchement des lèvres de ses interlocuteurs. En plus des méthodes de lecture habituelles aux aveugles, un alphabet a été constitué par divers mouvements des doigts dans la paume de la main. Par ces procédés, Miss Helen Keller peut entendre ou lire le journal et elle a pu préparer le diplôme universitaire de Radcliffe College, Harvard. Miss Sterling qui remercia Miss Keller d'être venue parmi nous, la présenta comme un exemple de travail et de persévérance, propre à nous inspirer et à nous encourager dans les moments difficiles que nous traversons.

INFORMATION LITTÉRAIRE.

Nous sommes en mesure d'annoncer dès à présent qu'une publication annuelle d'un vaste intérêt, Le Calendrier International de la Femme apparaîtra vers la fin de l'année.

La conception en est à la fois littéraire et artistique. Les illustrations alternent avec des légendes, des aphorismes pleins d'esprit et d'humour. Le mérite de cette publication revient entièrement à Mr. Jaakoff Prelooker, un Anglo-Russe polyglotte émigré en Angleterre depuis 1891. Dès 1890, le pro-féminisme

de Mr. Jaakoff Prelooker s'était signalé en Russie par six conférences publiques, sur la Position Comparée de la Femme dans le Christianisme, le Brahmanisme, le Bouddhisme et le Mahometisme, conférences d'ailleurs supprimées par la censure du Tsar, ce qui le força à démissionner de son poste et à quitter la Russie. Depuis cette époque Mr. Prelooker a été un inlassable propagandiste de notre Cause et il a notamment représenté l'Alliance Internationale des Hommes pour le Suffrage des Femmes en plus d'une occasion. Sa propre contribution littéraire au Calendrier a pour titre "Elle et Lui" et forme un petit livre qui ornemente le frontispice du Calendrier mais peut en être aisément détaché. Mr. Prelooker rappelle que le thème de l'infériorité et par suite l'assujettissement de la femme est basé sur une conception religieuse et cosmique de l'origine du sexe. A ce problème, vieux comme le monde, l'auteur apporte la contribution de la science moderne et d'une investigation impartiale. Sa version nouvelle ouvre un horizon plus vaste et prometteur de paix et d'harmonie pour chaque foyer humain.

Mr. Prelooker sera enchanté de recevoir de nos lecteurs des suggestions qui lui permettront d'augmenter l'intérêt et l'originalité du Calendrier à l'adresse suivante: Calendrier féminin International Rossiana, Pine Avenue, Hastings, Angleterre.

NOUVELLES BREVES.

Autriche et Etats-Unis. Dans deux pays si éloignés et si différents, deux femmes ont été appelées au même honneur de présider aux délibérations de la Chambre Haute, Mrs. Hattie W. Caraway comme vice-présidente du Sénat et Frau Rudel Zeyneck comme Présidente du Conseil Fédéral autrichien.

Porto-Rico. L'Université de Porto-Rico a décerné un Doctorat Honoraire de Philosophie à Dona Ana Roque de Duprey, une notable féministe, fort connue pour son travail dans les sciences et l'enseignement. Infirme, à l'âge de 79 ans, Dona Roque de Duprey se fit transporter aux urnes pour célébrer la conquête du vote des Femmes.

Russie. Riaotzeva Demme, une femme biologiste a été nommée chef d'une Station soviétique de l'océan Arctique.

Siam. Il est dit que dans la nouvelle Constitution du Siam, les femmes pourront voter.

Hong-Kong. Le Secrétaire d'Etat pour les Colonies vient d'annoncer au Parlement que le système du Mui-tsay vient d'être aboli à Hong-Kong. On sait que ce système permettait l'adoption de fillettes qui devenaient ensuite des servantes non payées.

Un salaire est désormais de règle et trois Inspecteurs, dont deux Chinoises ont été nommés pour surveiller l'application du règlement.

Chypre. La nouvelle nous arrive de Chypre qu'une coutume similaire à celle de Hong-Kong est en usage parmi les familles riches de l'île. Des petites filles de 6 ans sont employées comme servantes, sans gages. Le gouverneur et sa femme qui se sont intéressés à certains cas ont fait adopter un système d'inscription qui devrait limiter les abus. Mais cet abandon d'enfants par les parents est dû sans nul doute à la pauvreté intense de la masse de la population Cyprote.

Grande-Bretagne. Un comité vient de se former dans le but de réunir des fonds pour offrir à Miss Eleanor Rathbone, M.P., son portrait comme gage d'appréciation de son travail aux Communes et à Genève où elle a représenté les organisations féminines internationales au Comité pour la Protection de l'Enfance.

Les ex-suffragettes anglaises déplorent le décès de John Scurr, Membre du Parlement, un champion convaincu du suffrage, qui non seulement parlait pour la cause des Femmes mais sut à l'occasion les défendre

matériellement en amenant à Hyde Park un certain nombre de dockers pour leur servir de gardes du corps.

France. Les femmes ont bien le droit de passer l'examen des services diplomatiques et consulaires, mais cela ne leur sert de rien, puisqu'elles ne peuvent être nommées à des postes de responsabilité dans les Ambassades ou les consulats à l'étranger.

Inde. L'Etat de Mysore a un système d'éducation pour les filles, de l'Ecole primaire à l'Université et le nombre des établissements d'enseignement atteint déjà le chiffre de 624!

Nigeria. Un Bill, amendant l'ordonnance du Travail doit être présenté au Conseil législatif, pour l'application des conventions internationales et en particulier, l'interdiction du travail de nuit, pour les femmes. Nous déplorons que la discrimination soit introduite à l'avance dans un pays où le travail industriel est encore à l'état embryonnaire.

Irlande. Le "Catholic Citizen" nous apprend que les femmes de Dublin ont particulièrement honoré Mrs. Mary Kettle la seule femme membre du Conseil municipal de Dublin, par une cérémonie où assistaient une centaine de féministes et dont l'objet était d'offrir en cadeau à Mrs. Kettle, la robe officielle de drap rouge bordé d'hermine qui est le costume d'apparat des membres de la municipalité.

PUBLICATIONS DE LA SOCIÉTÉ DES NATIONS.

Nous attirons l'attention des lectrices de JUS sur les publications suivantes de la Section Sociale de la S.d.N. qui présentent un réel intérêt pour toutes celles que préoccupent ces problèmes, et qui y trouveront une documentation de première main.

LISTE DES PUBLICATIONS.

Traite des femmes et des enfants.		Francs suisses
Actes de la Conférence Internationale de la Traite des Femmes et des Enfants, Genève, 30 juin au 5 juillet 1921. (C.484.M.339.1921.IV)*	.....	10.—
Convention Internationale pour la Suppression de la Traite des Femmes et des Enfants, Genève, le 30 septembre 1921. (A.125(3).1921.IV)*	.....	0.50
Comité de la traite des femmes et des enfants.		
Procès-verbaux de la Première à la Dixième Session (1922-1931), publiés à ce jour, dont le prix varie entre.....	.....	3 et 10.—
Rapports sur les travaux du Comité.		
16 Rapports Différents (1923-1931), publiés à ce jour, dont le prix varie entre.....	.....	0.10 et 1.25
Enquêtes spéciales.		
Rapport du Comité spécial d'experts sur la question de la traite des femmes et des enfants.	.....	.....
Première partie. (C.52.M.52.1927.IV). (Sér. P.S.d.N. 1927.IV.2/I).....	.....	2.50
Deuxième partie. (C.52(2).M.52(1).1927.IV) (y inclus C.592.1927.IV). (Sér. P.S.d.N. 1927.IV.2/II).....	.....	10.—
Emploi des Femmes dans la Police. (C.374.M.144.1927.IV). (C.T.F.E.331). (Sér. P.S.d.N. 1927.IV.7).....	.....	0.30
Résumé des Rapports des Gouvernements sur le système des maisons de tolérance en tant qu'il intéresse la traite des femmes et des enfants. (C.T.F.E.336(1)). (Sér. P.S.d.N. 1927.IV.14).....	.....	2.50
N. B. — Les documents dont le titre est suivi d'un astérisque (*) contiennent à la fois les textes français et anglais.		
Maisons de Tolérance. Résumé des rapports des gouvernements sur le système des maisons de tolérance en tant qu'il intéresse la traite des femmes et des enfants. Informations complémentaires communiquées par les gouvernements des pays qui ont aboli le système des maisons de tolérance. (C.T.F.E.336(2)). (Sér. P.S.d.N. 1929.IV.2).....	.....	4.—
Étude des lois et Règlements propres à protéger l'ordre et la santé publics dans les pays où le système des maisons de tolérance a été aboli. (C.T.F.E.466(1)). (Sér. P.S.d.N. 1930.IV.5).....	.....	4.—
Étude sommaire des lois et Sanctions Relatives aux souteneurs. (C.441.M.188.1931.IV). (C.T.F.E.418(1)). (Sér. P.S.d.N. 1931.IV.10).....	.....	1.50

Traite des Femmes et des Enfants: Rapport sur les associations internationales féminines par Mme. Avril de Sainte-Croix. (C.T.F.E.234).....	0.30
Rapport de Mme. Avril de Sainte-Croix, déléguée des Associations féminines internationales. (C.T.F.E.370). (Sér. P.S.d.N. 1928.IV.7).....	0.75
Comité de la protection de l'enfance.	
Procès-verbaux de la Première à la Septième Session (1925-1931), publiés à ce jour, dont le prix varie entre.....	3 et 7.50
Rapports sur les travaux du Comité, etc.	
14 Rapports Différents (1926-1931), publiés à ce jour, dont le prix varie entre.....	0.10 et 1.25
Enquêtes spéciales.	
Enquête sur les Tribunaux pour Enfants, proposée par le Comité de la protection de l'enfance. Rapport du représentant de l'Empire britannique, adopté par le Conseil le 2 septembre 1926. (A.40.1926.IV). (Sér. P.S.d.N. 1926.IV.8)*.....	0.10
Services Auxiliaires des Tribunaux pour Enfants. (C.P.E.238.(1)). (Sér. P.S.d.N. 1931.IV.1).....	6.—
Age Légal du Mariage et Age Légal du Consentement. (C.P.E.90(1)). (Sér. P.S.d.N. 1927.IV.8).....	1.—
Age Légal du Mariage et Age Légal du Consentement. (C.P.E.90(2)). (Sér. P.S.d.N. 1928.IV.20).....	1.50
Rapport sur les Travaux du Comité de la Protection de l'Enfance dans la Question du Cinématographe, présenté par M. F. Martin, rapporteur. (C.P.E.149). (Sér. P.S.d.N. 1928.IV.9).....	0.50
Protection des Enfants aveugles. (C.P.E.144). (Sér. P.S.d.N. 1928.IV.4).....	1.—
Cinématographe. (C.P.E.134(1)). (Sér. P.S.d.N. 1928.IV.21).....	1.50
Étude sur la Situation de l'Enfant illégitime d'après les Renseignements Communiqués par les Gouvernements. (C.P.E.141(1)). (Sér. P.S.d.N. 1929.IV.5).....	4.—
Convention Modèle sur le retour au foyer des Enfants et Adolescents. (C.264.M.119.1931.IV). (Sér. P.S.d.N. 1931.IV.5).....	0.50

Répression de la circulation des publications obscènes.

Actes de la Conférence Internationale pour la Répression de la Circulation et du Trafic des Publications Obscènes, tenue à Genève du 31 août au 12 septembre 1923. (C.734.M.299.1923.IV).....

On peut se procurer toutes ces publications, comme d'ailleurs toutes celles qu'édite en d'autres domaines la S.d.N. chez les dépositaires officiels, dont voici la liste.

LISTE DES DÉPOSITAIRES.

DES PUBLICATIONS DE LA SOCIÉTÉ DES NATIONS.

Afrique du Sud (Union de l') Maskew Miller, Ltd., 29, Adderley Street, Le Cap.
Allemagne Carl Heymanns Verlag, Mauerstrasse 44, Berlin W.8.
Argentine Libreria "El Ateneo," calle Florida, 371, Buenos-Ayres.
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Autriche Manz'sche Verlags-und Universitätsbuchhandlung, Kohlmarkt 20, Vienne I.
Belgique Agence Dechenne, Messageries de la Presse, S. A., 16-22, rue du Persil, Bruxelles.
Brésil Livreria Vieira Souto, 91, Av. Rio Branco-7 ^o -s. 11, Rio de Janeiro.
Bulgarie Librairie Française et Etrangère, J. Carasso & Cie, Bd "Tsar Osvoboditel," No. 8, Sofia.
Canada League of Nations Society in Canada, 389, Wellington Street, Ottawa.
Chili Carlos Niemeyer, Libreria Universal, Cas. 293, Valparaiso.
Chine Commercial Press, Ltd., 501, Paoshan Road, Chang-Hai.
Danemark Levin & Munksgaard, Publishers, Nørregade, 6, Copenhague.
Dantzig (Ville libre de) Georg Stilke, Buchhandlung, Langgasse 27, Dantzig.
Équateur Victor Janer, Guayaquil.
Espagne Libreria Bosch, Ronda, Universidad, 5, Barcelone. Libreria Internacional de Romo, Alcalá, 5, Madrid.

Estonie J. G. Krüger, Ant.-Ges., Rütli t., Tartu.
États Unis d'Amérique World Peace Foundation, 40, Mt. Vernon Street, Boston 9, Mass.
Finlande Akateeminen Kirjakauppa, Helsinki.
France Librairie universitaire J. Gamber (S. A.), 7, rue Danton, Paris (VIe).
Grande Bretagne, Irlande du Nord et Colonies de la Couronne George Allen & Unwin, Ltd., 40, Museum Street, Londres, W.C.1.
Grèce "Eleftheroudakis," Librairie internationale, place de la Constitution, Athènes.
Guatemala Goubaud & Cia., Ltda., Guatemala.
Haiti Librairie-Papeterie, Mme. D. Viard, angle des rues du Centre et des Casernes, Port-au-Prince.
Hongrie Librairie Grill, Dorotya utca, 2, Budapest.
Inde The Book Company, Ltd., College Square, 4/4A, Calcutta.
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Irlande (État libre d') Eason & Son, Ltd., 79-82, Middle Abbey Street, Dublin.
Islande Peter Halldorsson, Reykjavik.
Italie S. A. Treves-Treccani-Tumminelli, Direzione Generale, Via Palermo, 12, Milan. Succursales: Florence, Gènes, Naples, Padoue, Palerme, Pavie, Rome, Trieste, Turin.
Japon League of Nations Tokio Office, Marunouchi-C-13, Tokio. Maruzen Co., Ltd. (Maruzen-Kabushiki-Kaisha), 6, Nihonbashi-Tori-Nichome, Tokio. Mitsukoshi Limited, Surugacho, Nihonbashi, Tokio.
Lettonie Valters & Rapa A/S., Operas laukuma, Riga.
Lithuanie Librairie de la Société Lithuano-Française, Laisvės Aleja, 22 Kaunas.
Luxembourg (G. D.) Librairie M. Hagen, anct J. Heintzé, 17a, avenue de la Porte-Neuve, Luxembourg.
Norvège Olaf Norli, Universitetsgaten, 24, Oslo.
Nouvelle-Zélande The Clarté Bookshop, Walter Nash, 126, Vivian Street, P.O. Box, 310, Wellington.
Panama Isidro A. Beluche, Apartado 755, Avenida Norte, No. 49, Panama.
Paraguay Libreria Internacional Santiago Puigbonet, Casilla de Correo, 581, Asunción.
Pays-Bas Martinus Nijhoff, Boekhandelaar-Uitgever, Lange Voorhout, 9, La Haye.
Pologne Gebethner & Wolff, ulica Zgoda, 12, Varsovie.
Portugal J. Rodrigues & Cia., Rua Aurea, 186-188, Lisbonne.
Roumanie "Cartea Româneasca," 3-5, Boul. Academiei, Bucarest I.
Sarre (Bassin de la) Gebr. Hofer A.-G., Sortimentsabteilung, Sarrebruck.
Suède C. E. Fritze, Hofbokhandel, Fredsgatan, 2, Stockholm.
Suisse Librairie Payot & Cie, Genève, Lausanne, Vevey, Montreux, Neuchâtel, Berne, Bâle. Librairie Dr. H. Girsberger & Cie, Kirchgasse, 17, Zurich.
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Yougoslavie (Royaume de) Librairie internationale François Bach, 8, rue Knez Mihailova, Belgrade. Librairie de l'Université et de l'Académie Yougoslave, St. Kugli, Ilica, 30, Zagreb. Knjigarna "Schwentner," Presernova ulica, Ljubljana.

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THE Y.W.C.A. AND SOCIAL SERVICE.

From its earliest beginnings the Y.W.C.A. has regarded social service as an essential element in its work, both as an expression of the Christian convictions of its members and as a means of leading girls and women through the love of their neighbours to a clearer vision of God than they have ever known before. When the Association was founded in England in the middle of the nineteenth century this service was rendered mainly by older women to younger ones by such means as hostels, restaurants and employment bureaux, and it is well known that these same activities are still characteristic features of Association work in many parts of the world. But it is not so widely realised that with the passing of years there has been a growing emphasis on the value of service to those who give as well as to those who take, on the enlisting of the "service of young women for young women." Association members, even the youngest, share in social work of many and various kinds. Sometimes a piece of work has developed to such an extent that it has seemed wiser not to keep it within the control of the Y.W.C.A.; in this way the Travellers' Aid Society, "Time and Talents"—a society formed in England to encourage and direct social work by educated girls—and, much later, the International Migration Service owed their initial impulse to the Association and afterwards became independent organisations.

There are many smaller pieces of work which are more or less closely linked with the Y.W.C.A. or for which it is partly responsible in co-operation with other groups. Perhaps the most interesting of these are to be found in Oriental countries, where social work is in its infancy and where the full scope and powers of women in this respect have still to be discovered.

At Nagoya in Japan a building was opened by the Y.W.C.A. not long ago, known as Tomo no Ie (the Friendly House) which was intended to be a centre of

educational work for industrial girls. But the secretary in charge was soon faced with unexpected needs. "No one had foreseen when the house was opened," she wrote in a report last autumn "that it would become the only refuge centre for working women in the whole of the district, and that women and girls, homeless and unemployed, would be flocking in increased numbers to the large industrial city of Nagoya, looking for work, without money or place to stay. Someone had to look after them and the harassed government office turned to the Friendly House and asked the secretaries to live up to their name and take care of the girls until jobs were found or they could be returned to their homes if they had one." The report tells of a variety of cases, mostly young girls but sometimes quite elderly women, who have come with introductions from the Government employment bureau or from ministers and social workers, and have found both practical help and friendly advice.

An interesting experiment was made last summer in a

village near Nagoya with a Farm Nursery School, established at the request of the provincial authorities. At the busiest season for farming, from the middle of June to the middle of July, everyone works in the fields, and as the older children are still at school at that time the care of the younger ones becomes a great problem. Volunteers carried out this piece of work under the direction of the two Y.W.C.A. secretaries, one Japanese and one American, who are in charge of Tomo no Ie. The village priest and his wife were most willing to co-operate and the temple was used for the school. At the end of the period of one month the parents were not only grateful, but amazed at the change in their children and at what they had been taught in so short a time, and there seems no doubt that this object lesson had an influence which did not end when the nursery school, for the time being at any rate, was closed.



School Group, Lahore.

This year a Child Health Centre has been opened in Nagoya itself by a group of graduates of the Women's University in Tokio. The Y.W.C.A. secretaries could not undertake the work themselves, but one of them writes: "It is interesting to know that it came out of the contact of this group of college women with the work of Tomo no Ie. They had formerly raised a considerable sum of money which they gave to the Social Work Department of the Government, but inspired by our Japanese secretary they decided they ought to be actually doing the work themselves."

Turning to India, we find an interesting Social Service Centre in Naigaum, an industrial quarter in Bombay. This Centre was originally planned by a Y.W.C.A. secretary and though the responsibility for it does not now rest on the Association, several Y.W.C.A. leaders serve on the Committee, and members of the Bombay Association help by leading clubs, making children's clothes, etc. But the original idea that the Naigaum Centre should be Indian in character has always been kept in view, and it is from among Indian women that Committee members and staff, as well as volunteer helpers, have been chiefly drawn. The Nursery School at this Centre, under a trained teacher, meets a great need, as so many parents work daily in factories. Training in self-reliance and helpfulness is given to many children who would otherwise run wild; and there has been a marked improvement in their health owing to the careful attention it has received. A daily school offers the rudiments of education to young married women who have never had any opportunity of learning, and who make persevering efforts to attend regularly in spite of the difficulty of sparing time from the care of their homes. A text book in Marathi, based on an improved system of teaching reading and writing which had been used in Gujerat, was specially written for the Naigaum Centre, but has now been printed for wider use. Various other classes for women and clubs for children are held in the Centre, but some valuable work is also done in the *chawls*, or tenements, where the families live. Education in home craft is given to a group of sixty older girls, whose rooms are visited every morning so that their efforts to preserve standards of hygiene and order may be followed and encouraged. Yet another group in one *chawl* is made up of small children up to ten years old; they are not only trained in personal cleanliness and tidiness, which are made a condition for attendance, but are also taught simple and useful knowledge—about home nursing, for example—through play with dolls and action songs. Parents who were at first suspicious and unwilling now help to direct the older girls, and where they will resent a direct appeal to them to change their habits, they will adapt themselves to new ideas where the children are concerned. Education in the broadest sense is the basis of all the work—not an attempt to impart knowledge in bulk, but an effort to help people to use their observation and initiative.

In Lahore a school for children was opened not long ago by a Y.W.C.A. member, a trained kindergarten teacher. The servants' children attend in the early morning, the upper class children later, but the photograph here reproduced shows them all together. Some mothers wearing veils are also to be seen; they are invited to come and watch the children, not without the hope that they may themselves absorb some new ideas. This is again a piece of work for which the

Y.W.C.A. as such is not responsible, though its initiation was largely due to the influence of members of the Association staff, and they show interest and help in every possible way.

These are only a few examples, which could be paralleled in many other places, of the arousing of interest in social service by practical demonstration. In a number of countries definite preparation for social work is offered in training schools under the auspices of the National Y.W.C.A. Such a school, established a few years ago in Roumania—to name only one instance—is carried on in co-operation with the State. To the past and present students of this school the Government has entrusted the charge of social work in one district



Children at Play, Naigaum Social Centre.

of the city of Bucarest, and it is their responsibility to see that the public relief provided is made available for the most needy cases among the unemployed, the sick, the children and others. The provision of short training courses in social and industrial work, the supply of material for study and of information in answer to particular enquiries are among the functions of the Association's headquarters staff at Geneva. A growing sense of corporate responsibility for social conditions has been reflected in the records of the World's Y.W.C.A. during the last twenty years, and finds clear expression in a recommendation adopted by an International Commission at Champéry in 1920:—

"We recommend that the Young Women's Christian Association as a body of Christian women exercising an ever-widening influence in many lands, recognise their share of responsibility for the mal-adjustments in the social order of to-day and make it their concern to inform themselves fully as to existing social conditions, and to apply the principles of justice, mercy and the equal value of every human life to national and international as well as to personal relations."

While direct work for those outside its actual membership is done by the Association in many cases where no other organisation is ready to undertake it, the aim of the Y.W.C.A. is most truly fulfilled by developing the social conscience of individual women and girls, and building up in them a sense of responsibility towards their neighbours and a readiness to serve in any field to which they are called by their circumstances and capacities. Enough has been said to show that the importance of sound methods as well as good intentions has been fully recognised.