

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

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NOTES AND NEWS.

Economy.

Mr. Snowden's economy speech last week was a brilliant performance; yet to the more optimistic of us, its brilliance seemed to reveal "not light but rather darkness visible." Its main emphasis was directed to his own back-benchers, and its sombre warning fell like a wet blanket upon those who still cherish expansive hopes for the social services. "Schemes involving heavy expenditure, however desirable," said Mr. Snowden, "will have to wait until prosperity returns." Maternity and child welfare, housing, slum clearance, education, family allowances—such phrases seem to stick in the throat under the lash of the Chancellor's stern dictum. As to present economies, looking through the major items of national expenditure—only two among the larger figures seem to offer any hope of successful cutting: Armaments, with their nine-figure total—but that, of course is not wholly under Mr. Henderson's control—and far more dubiously, Unemployment Insurance. And yet—and yet—to return to those future economies which Mr. Snowden invokes with such finality, we are left with the old question unanswered, *what really is economy?* Is it spending as *little* as possible? If so there is small enough hope for the perfection of our social services for many years to come. Is it spending as *well* as possible? If so, in spite of Mr. Snowden, there is much to be said (especially during a phase of restricted production) for diverting as large a proportion as possible of our lessened resources to those essential and regenerating human services. But there is further sinister import in Mr. Snowden's speech. Economy to him seems to mean something more precise than spending *little* or even spending *well*. It means spending less national revenue and raising less taxation. "Any increase of taxation now under present conditions which fell on industry would be the last straw." So that economy would here seem to imply as little *public* expenditure as possible. Why? At first sight it would seem as though what mattered from a national point of view was how the money was spent rather than who spent it. But Mr. Snowden has his answer. We find it in the assumption that taxation must fall on industry and in so doing paralyse enterprise. But must it? Mr. Snowden has told us much, but he has not told us enough. He has not told us why a form of taxation cannot be devised which shall fall and rest upon the spendable incomes of individuals rather

than upon the production costs of industry. Indeed, he really does owe us an explanation of why it cannot, because a very eminent committee of economists under the chairmanship of Lord Colwyn has assured us that it can!

Unemployment Insurance and the Minister of Labour.

Miss Bondfield's lot is an unenviable one; she had on the Monday to face an irritable House of Commons, sensitive in every direction to the various implications of the results of increasing the money to be spent on unemployment insurance, without the backing of any interim report from the Royal Commission on Unemployment, and yet with the certain knowledge that without the grant for which she was asking, the present commitment of the Government with regard to insurance benefits could not be met. She enunciated the doctrine that the Government does want to re-establish the unemployment insurance fund on a three-party contributory self-supporting basis. But when challenged by Mr. Buchanan as to whether this did not involve leaving a certain proportion of the unemployed to the Poor Law, she indignantly denied the allegation. We, however, find it difficult to understand how a self-supporting scheme can be returned to, without referring those who cannot keep up their contributions to the charge of Public Assistance Committees.

Unjust Wills.

The Testamentary Provision Bill will be coming up before Parliament the day this issue appears. One or two modifications have taken place in its form since last referred to in these columns. The only one of importance is that the provision allowing a spouse one-third of the movable, together with one-third of the real estate, has been changed to one which provides him or her with one-third of both movable and real estate together with half the personal chattels and one-half of the fortune or £1,000 down, whichever is the smaller. The Bill has received support of eminent lawyers, including Mr. Norman Birkett, Dr. Leslie Burgin, and Sir John Withers and others, and should meet with a good reception. A leaflet entitled "Unjust Wills" has been published by the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship in which are briefly described the present Law in this country regarding inheritance of property and the maintenance of the family, and the main terms of Miss Rathbone's Bill.

Nigerian Women in Revolt.

An astonishing series of events is revealed by Lord Passfield's dispatch to the administration of Nigeria, regarding the report of the Inquiry into the disturbances in 1929. He suggests that the situation with which H.M. officers were faced—"demonstrations by hundreds, or even thousands, of native women, developing in some cases at any rate, into definite attacks on the property of Government—was unprecedented in the history of the Empire, and, of course, not easy to handle." Lord Passfield finds himself, therefore, reluctant to apportion praise or blame for specific acts of repression. But as regards the wider causes of the outbreak he is more definite. The trouble originated in an attempt to impose direct taxation on the natives, and this on the heels of a native census. *Post hoc, ergo propter hoc.* A new census being taken, and women being for the first time included, a new dose of strict taxation seemed imminent, the victims of which would, of course, be women. This the women were not disposed to tolerate. Hence the revolt. And hence the unhappy result which precipitated the foregoing inquiry: the killing of 54 women and the wounding of 57, and this in an area of the British Empire noted for the skill of its administration and the enlightenment of its native policy. It is indeed in regard to the skill of administration in its preventive aspect that Lord Passfield's dispatch has something definite to say. He is convinced that insufficient attention was paid to the social

and economic organizations and to the queer susceptibilities of the natives. He has even something to say concerning the value of anthropological training for administrative officers. How great the value of this might be in matters of practical African administration, will be evident to anyone who has traced through the mythology of primitive religion, the peculiar significance attaching to the taking of a man's name. Indeed, as regards the technique of statistical inquiry, our Imperial administrators may find that they have more to learn from the adventures of Jacob and the mistakes of King David than from the methods of our present Registrar-General.

Lady Astor and Plain Truth.

When Lady Astor speaks in public, there sometimes emerges from her lips a quality of unvarnished undiscriminating truth which must cause dark despair to discreet and loyal political partisans. Then, on occasions, she finds herself cheered by all three parties, including the Labour Party, and execrated by all three parties, including her own. Just such an orgie of truth does she seem to have enjoyed on Friday of last week in the course of the debate on Mr. Scrymgeour's Prohibition Bill. Opposing prohibition, she advocated local option; but this, she said, was held up by the power of vested interests. The drink interest was, she pointed out, strong in the House of Commons but, stronger still, in the House of Lords—which might, she added, be appropriately called the *beverage* on account of the number of peers who are interested in the trade. True indeed—but on the face of it, not the truth one would naturally expect to hear voiced by a Conservative Peeress. Continuing, Lady Astor pointed out that all parties had "wet sections", but that the Liberals were the least wet. True again—and having said so, we await the inevitable correspondent who will accuse us of pro-Liberal party bias. But, added Lady Astor, the trouble is, that the Liberals had never had a dry leader. As to the Labour Party, she believed that "the drink trade could count on fifty members voting how it wanted them to". At this point there appears to have been "Labour interruptions"—and perhaps it was unwise of Lady Astor to express her belief in figures. She has expressed this last truth more aptly on other occasions by saying that the Labour Party is afraid of licensed clubs. It is indeed, and it is likely to grow more so as the years roll by and the clubs dig themselves in.

Unemployment of Women.

During the debate on Unemployment in the House of Commons on Wednesday, 11th February, Lady Astor drew the attention of the House to the need for establishing more training schemes for unemployed women, and especially for their training in agriculture. While the twenty-one farm institutes under the Board of Agriculture as at present existing are wholly filled by men students, the scheme advocated by Mrs. Wintringham for training women under the Small Holdings (Land Utilization Act), has been referred to the Minister of Labour, an inevitable duplication and delay. Lady Astor further stated that though unemployment among women has increased by 100 per cent, and that there are now over 600,000 unemployed, all that the Minister of Labour has got for the training of women is £25,000.

The Slaughter of the Innocents.

It is rather surprising that the Home Secretary, answering a question in the House regarding road accidents, had to confess that before 1926 no statistics of the numbers of killed and injured had been kept, but only the number of accidents. Obviously, there are many accidents in which there is more than one victim. Since 1926 the number of killed and injured have exceeded the number of accidents by 15 per cent, and on the basis of that percentage, and including an estimate for 1930, for which full figures are not yet available, one arrives at a grand total of 1,432,500 killed and injured in Great Britain since the War, and of that number about 300,000 were children under fourteen. According to Whitakers' Almanack the losses of Great Britain and Ireland in the Great War were 2,436,964, so that the toll of the road in Great Britain alone since the War must be about two-thirds of Great Britain's War losses. Every thirteenth car placed on the road either kills or injures a human being in the course of its career. These figures make the efforts in other directions to prolong human life and to reduce the infantile mortality rate seem rather puny. What are women's organizations doing?

A Lead from South America.

Mr. Mander at Question Time last week, asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to give the terms of the resolution

on the Nationality of Married Women adopted by the Council of the League of Nations at its recent sitting. This resolution was printed in full in an interesting article by Mrs. Corbett Ashby in our issue last week, appropriately called "The League Consults Women." As Mr. Henderson pointed out, the Secretary-General was requested to prepare a report on this subject to submit to the Assembly of the League after consultation with women's international organizations. This is, we think, the first time that women's organizations have been definitely recognized and consulted by the League. The resolution even going so far as to propose the setting up of a Committee consisting of two representatives of each organization to formulate proposals to be attached to the report to be submitted to the Assembly. This is progress, but it is a curious fact that this resolution was put forward by three South American countries which have not yet given women the vote.

An Honour for Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon.

The Geological Society of Vienna, at their annual meeting on 13th February, unanimously elected Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, D.Sc., Ph.D., J.P., as a Member of Honour of the Society, in recognition of her contributions to geology. Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon's recent work, published in 1927, has already established itself as a standard work on the mountain districts of the Dolomites in the Eastern Alps. This is the first occasion on which the Vienna Society has conferred this high distinction on a woman. The existing list of members of Honour had comprised only six names of living geologists, all men of world-wide repute such as Heim of Switzerland and Walther of Germany.

Japan Honours an Englishwoman.

On Saturday of last week *The Times* published a letter from the General Secretary of the Church Missionary Society, stating that His Majesty the Emperor of Japan had conferred a rare honour on one of their missionaries, Mrs. E. A. S. Tristram, the honorary Principal of the Poole Girls' School, Osaka. She was awarded the Ranju Hōshō medal (the Blue Ribbon Medal for Distinguished Service) as a mark of the gratitude felt by the authorities of Osaka for her outstanding services in educational and social work for the past forty-two years. This is, we believe, the first time that an Englishwoman has received this distinction from the Emperor of Japan.

Controversy.

We print the third of a short series of articles on controversial subjects which will be the subject of discussion at the annual Council meetings of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, which take place from 11th to 13th March. To-day's article deals with sterilization of the unfit—a new subject to many. For this very reason we propose in a forthcoming issue before the Council Meeting, to print an article on the other side, dealing with arguments against sterilization.

QUESTIONS IN PARLIAMENT.

Wednesday, 11th February.

BERMUDA (WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE).

Captain Cazelet asked the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies whether he will lay upon the Table of the House the whole text of the dispatch sent to the Governor of Bermuda in connection with the memorial of the Bermuda Women's Suffrage Society.

Dr. Shiels: My noble Friend is in communication with the officer administering the Government of Bermuda with regard to the publication of the dispatch in Bermuda, and in this country, and it is hoped that a decision will be reached shortly.

Thursday, 12th February.

NIGHT WORK (CONVENTION).

Mr. Freeman asked the Minister of Labour whether her attention has been called to a recent decision of the governing body of the International Labour Office to revise the convention on night work and to permit women to be so engaged, and whether the British official delegate supported this resolution.

Miss Bondfield: The governing body decided that the International Labour Office should consider the desirability of introducing two modifications into this convention, first by inserting an exception for supervisory workers, and secondly by allowing Governments to fix the prohibited period either between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. or between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. The first of these proposals originated with His Majesty's Government, and their representative on the governing body supported it, but he voted against the consideration of the second proposal by the conference.

THE SUFFRAGETTE MOVEMENT.

By RAY STRACHEY.

The account of the militant movement for women's suffrage, which has been written by Miss Sylvia Pankhurst and which was published last week by Messrs. Longman (21s.) is a most absorbingly interesting book, at any rate to those of us who remember the exciting days of the struggle. It is a very long book, and is crammed with drama and incident, with personalities, prejudices, enthusiasms, and quarrels, and is, in its way, as complete a revelation of its author's character as the most exacting student of psychology could desire. There is much bitterness and misrepresentation in its pages, much inaccuracy and misstatement, and an evident and undisguised animus against Mrs. Pankhurst and Christabel which is almost tragic in its intensity. But after all bitterness, inaccuracy, misstatement and animus all lay on the fringes of the militant movement, so that they are in a sense appropriate to its historian; and though they do not tend to edification, neither did these aspects of the suffragette campaign itself.

This criticism is not to say that the militant movement comes out badly from this record. On the contrary, the heroism, the self-devotion, the desperate enthusiasm, and the passionate idealism which underlay it are very clearly shown; and if the folly, the waste and the wild political judgment are there too, it only makes the picture the more lifelike; for the movement included all these elements.

As a historical document, indeed, this book is invaluable; but as a contribution to history itself it is worthless. Its omissions are as noticeable as its injustices, and its onesidedness of view is as apparent as the progressive turbulence of the movement itself, and although this book does much to explain and describe the Women's Social and Political Union and its offshoots, it does little to show them in their place in the history of the time.

Miss Pankhurst attributes the rise of the women's movement to the same political unrest which led to all the radical and revolutionary movements of the end of the last century. She sees it in its early days as inextricably tangled up with republicanism, Home Rule for India, the abolition of the House of Lords, and all the other things which arrogated the title of progressive or reform movements, just as in its later stages she found it inseparable from "human suffrage", pacifism, and the "rank and file" movements of the extreme left wing. Any other way of looking upon the question seemed to her "timid", "conservative", and futile, and she consequently assumes, in this book, that none but genuine revolutionaries (and only a select few of them) were of the least use or importance to the progress of events. Of course it was not so. Political changes do not come, in this country, through mass turbulence, and still less through the occasional rioting of small groups. The change of opinion which carried women's suffrage through to victory was a much larger and more important thing than Miss Pankhurst describes, and was solidly based upon the assent of the whole people. But it was true, of course, that the extremists had contributed to produce this assent; it was true that without

NOTES FROM WESTMINSTER.

If the debates in Parliament the week before last were suggestive of the peaceful countryside to which they in fact referred, those of last week can be better symbolized by a tournament ground, with mounted knights in armour caracoling and charging each other with lifted spears, cheered on by the applause of their several partisans. There have been, it is true, other Agricultural debates since I last wrote. One of these was made notable by Miss Megan Lloyd George's second speech on the floor of the House, listened to by nearly as great a crowd and with as deep an attention as her maiden effort. Apart from their rarity, her interventions in debate have a piquancy which accounts for their popularity. She is such a very small "chip of the old block" or "spark from the accustomed anvil" (as other speakers acclaimed her). Yet the chip or spark has some of the qualities of its origin—a clarity of intonation, a felicity of phrase, a natural play of humour. Above all, she has that quality which makes it difficult not to love Mr. Lloyd George, even when one hates the views he happens for the moment to be espousing—complete absence of "side", of pretentiousness, a natural sympathy with the ordinary wants and woes and vanities of ordinary men and women. It was a charming speech and would have been charming still if she

them things might have been longer and slower, and that the vast advertisement and notoriety which they attracted to the cause played a part in its ultimate triumph.

But we cannot, and we need not look in this book for reliable judgments of the value of the militant movement, or even for an unbiased account of its doings. What we can find, most vividly and even luridly described, are its details—the horrors and agonies of the hunger strike, the rough rioting of crowds, the glorious excitement of huge demonstrations and the blind devotion of the martyr. These things Miss Pankhurst describes at first hand, as also the arrogant autocracy, the recurrent disagreements, and the "little insurgent movements" which were inseparable from it. The tale, indeed, includes what cannot but seem now a list of petty and irrelevant acts of damage, with all the sordidness of rowdy police court proceedings and scuffling in the streets. But it is all lit up in this book, as indeed it was at the time, with a glow of pure enthusiasm, and the blind fanaticism of a devotee.

When she turns to politics proper, Miss Pankhurst is a very erratic guide. Many details in the story of which I have personal knowledge are incorrectly described, and her comments upon the non-militant movement, and upon the Labour Party, are as unjust and as misguided as they well can be. She describes the National Union in 1913 as "incorrigibly lazy" and speaks of Mrs. Fawcett in terms which are ludicrously wide of their mark, while for the Labour Party she appears to have little but contempt. Ramsay MacDonald, Philip Snowden, and Henderson are almost the villains of the piece, beside whom Asquith is almost helpful; and even Lansbury, for all his devoted support for the militants, comes in for some scathing contempt. Miss Pankhurst, indeed, appears to believe that nothing but her own activities in the East End was of any political significance, though she admits that when the first suffrage Bill came forward her society was the only one of them all which opposed it.

This aspect of the book, however, is relatively unimportant, for it is as a human document that it has its value. And, from that point of view, it is absorbing. Two figures, besides that of the author herself, stand out in its pages, namely Dr. Pankhurst, her father, and Keir Hardie, his friend. These two are sympathetically described, and they appear coloured perhaps with hero worship, but nevertheless strong and devoted as they were, two passionate idealists, striving in a very turbulent world to establish a new heaven and a new earth. As for the other figures in the book, Miss Pankhurst shows little charity. She gives a picture of her own childhood which is in many ways distressing, and her treatment of the characters of her mother and sister is anything but kind. No doubt that was how she saw and felt it all; but it can hardly have been how it actually was.

Yet still, for all one may feel of doubt as to its accuracy, and for all one may know of error in its statements, this book remains profoundly interesting, and any reader who can remember the great fight will not lay it down unfinished.

had been plain Miss Mary Ann Smith, though whether there would have been equally general recognition of its quality is much more doubtful.

In the debates on the Conservative Motion of Censure, and on the Liberal Motion on Unemployment (11th and 12th February), the House could be seen and heard in its most entrancing mood, though not perhaps at its oratorical best, when the speeches are read in cold blood. I was unlucky enough to be absent when Mr. Snowden made his famous speech on economy. But I can well imagine the scene. From the point of view of most of his followers, it was indeed a devastating speech. His financial "orthodoxy" is so well known that there was nothing unexpected about his endorsement of the Treasury view as to the extreme gravity of the present position. What appalled his followers was not merely his warning "that drastic and disagreeable measures will have to be taken if Budget equilibrium is to be maintained and if industrial progress is to be made"; nor even his statement of belief that "an increase of taxation in present conditions which fell on industry would be the last straw. Schemes involving heavy expenditure, however desirable they may be, will have to wait till prosperity returns". This was bad enough. But it only reiterated more specifically and

emphatically words used in his Budget speech last year. But that he should actually have twitted the Conservative Party with having extended expenditure by their Widows' Pensions Act, and that in words which lent themselves to the interpretation—which I do not believe he intended—that he included this particular bit of expenditure among the "reckless pledges" given by all parties before a General Election, this really made not merely his followers above and below the gangway, but many in other parties, gasp. Perhaps it was partly his invariably quick perception of the dramatic possibilities of a political situation that made Mr. Lloyd George next day couch his own speech in so completely different a vein. Anyhow, he could not have chosen a better means of conveying to the Socialist Party the impression that "Codlin was their friend, not Shortt". Peals of applause from the Labour benches greeted nearly every sentence of his blazing attack on the City of London. The City was always wrong, always had been, since the days of Mr. Asquith's Chancellorship, when proposals for Health Insurance, Old Age Pensions, an increased Income Tax and Super-Tax were "received by the City magnates with frigid and flapping silence, as if they were a row of penguins in the Arctic Ocean. Neither Mr. Asquith nor I took any notice of them. We went on with Old Age Pensions and with Insurance." And then followed the inimitable passage in which he besought the Prime Minister not to abandon his vision of the City of God planted on a hill because he is told that "there are no lots available because the site is occupied by the City of London". I could not resist remarking to a neighbour on the Cross benches that "this speech will go down in history as the Lombard Street speech and will be as famous as the Limehouse speech". Sure enough, when we went out into the streets the word Limehouse was already flaming on the posters, while the posters of the previous day had announced the "Storm over Snowden"—a very pretty hit that, considering that the hills of the North, if not of the West, were literally scenes of snow and storm.

Since these two notable debates, there has been the flatness which always follows special efforts in Parliament. The debate on Monday, 16th February, on the Financial Resolution accompanying the new Unemployment Insurance Bill was obviously expected by the Government to require a special effort. Ministers were clustered thickly on the Front Bench while Miss Bondfield made her demand for another £20 million, instead of the usual £10 million, to meet the needs of the Unemployment Insurance Fund and the newspapers had foreshadowed a great effort of resistance. Miss Bondfield was at her best. She spoke with more fire than usual, especially when roused by Earl Winterton's repeated and really unnecessary interruptions, demanding to know figures which were obviously about to follow, and above all describing as "a dishonest figure", her statement that a conservative estimate of the unemployed in America put the total at more than 6 million. Dishonesty is really about the last word that can fairly be applied to Miss Bondfield's transparently straightforward efforts to put complicated statistics lucidly before the House—efforts which are inevitably spoiled by repeated interruptions which break the thread of the statement. The Labour Party itself is often guilty of this kind of interruption, but "a belted earl" might be expected to know better, and there was a good deal of sympathy on all sides with Miss Bondfield's unwonted outburst: "If the right hon. Gentleman had not been so determined to be insolent. . . ." But when her speech was followed by the rising of a mere Sir Henry Betterton and from the Liberal benches by Sir Robert Aske, it became clear that the big guns were not going to shoot that day. The House rapidly emptied and Mr. Snowden, who had been crouched on the Treasury Bench in obvious readiness to come to the Minister's rescue if need be, slipped silently away.

CROSS BENCH.

MRS. UNDERHILL'S LANTERN LECTURE.

British Commonwealth League members and their friends are looking forward with great pleasure to the lantern lecture by Mrs. Underhill on the 25th February. Mrs. Underhill, who is better known as Mrs. Starr, and the rescuer of Miss Ellis in 1923, is a brilliant lecturer, and will speak on her medical work in Kashmir, Lesser Tibet, and on the Afghan Frontier. It is hoped she will touch on her wonderful rescue, but she is very modest about it. The Hon. Mrs. Franklin has kindly lent her spacious drawing-room at 50 Porchester Terrace, W. 2, for the lecture, which will commence at 5.15 p.m., and a large audience is expected. There are a few tickets still obtainable from the Secretary, British Commonwealth League, 17 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, W.C. 2, at 2s. each.

EUGENIC STERILIZATION.

By C. B. S. HODSON, F.L.S.

Few people realize that the now rather frequent discussions on sterilization only concern the question whether or not this operation should be performed eugenically, that is on grounds of heredity. For their own health, persons are having operations which make reproduction impossible, every day of the week. This is true not only of the well-to-do, who can quietly and privately secure the very latest that surgical science has to give, but also of those individuals who rely on hospitals or rate-aided institutions for medical care; and it should be noted that in numerous cases a sterilization operation is performed on a married woman where pregnancy endangers life or health. I have never heard the objection raised that this "therapeutic" sterilization is immoral save amongst the most strict Roman Catholic medicals.

On the other hand, those who recommend that sterilization for the protection of posterity should be made so clearly legal that it can be generally offered to poor persons at the public charge, encounter first and foremost the objection (whether latent or expressed) that there must be something wrong in making sex intercourse possible in such cases without procreation. I will not advance any arguments for or against, believing that a clear realization of the position now existing will help those who desire to consider the matter seriously. This number includes, probably, all the more thoughtful women citizens. The National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship is about to discuss the matter; the National Council of Women did so last November, and the Women's Co-operative Guilds passed a resolution eighteen months ago on the matter.

I would like to introduce some of the broader considerations which underlie the contention of students of racial progress that eugenic sterilization is the most effective instrument, and possibly the only sure instrument, for saving our present civilization. Despite our rapidly extending knowledge of the number of fine civilizations preceding this era, people are inclined to think there is something automatic about evolution and progress—a wholly erroneous idea. Our own Western civilization is, as far as we can learn, the least stable of all. Its most characteristic and beautiful feature lies in the philanthropic ideals which secure that each advance in mechanical, economic, and medical aids to the ease and richness of life are, as a matter of course, given as far as possible to the under, as well as the upper, dog.

This means that the major factor in evolution, natural selection, has been largely put out of court. The evolutionary process, of course, includes heredity, but this factor works perpetually and inexorably. The neglect and oblivion with which we commonly treat it is simply disturbing our reckoning; the law goes on working unaffected.

Many people still ignore the gross facts with which we must reckon. For forty years and even longer, conditions of life (including even housing) for the poorest, have risen steadily; even where unemployment hits hardest this raised standard stands. Nevertheless, we have a steadily rising toll of morbidity, mental and physical. Here are figures for recruiting for public services. For Army recruits under a progressively lowered standard, 4 men out of 5 have to be rejected; for the Navy, 9 out of 10; for the Police, despite urgent needs for more men, and the fact that recruits are already a selected group, only 5 out of 100 come up to the mark.

The most striking of all is the clear statement of the Chief Medical Officer to the Ministry of Health and the Board of Education, that we cannot expect sound constitution and stamina in our school children. A lowered infant mortality rate means that weakly babies are saved, on the one hand, while the vital statistics on fertility show that the annual increase of the population is wholly recruited from that part worst endowed, physically and mentally, viz. casual labour and the rate-aided. Indeed, the mentally sub-normal (included in this group) have reached the alarming figure of 10 per cent.

If we face the fact of heredity seriously, it is clear that this position must be reversed if civilization is to be saved. Our heavy bill for the social services, as indeed the major part of our total national expenditure, falls on the income-tax paying part of the community with such weight that responsible parents are unduly limiting their families. A knowledge of heredity is the prime stimulus to the sacrifice entailed in having the family of four, which is shown to be the needful number to prevent a stock from extermination.

Poor health and, above all, poor mental health and feeble-mindedness, entail not only a national debit, but an incalculable

amount of personal suffering. Why should a suffering woman be doomed to bear children whom she does not want (legitimate or illegitimate) only to prolong into future generations this same toll of unavoidable misery? She would gladly avail herself of an operation which would not affect her personality, her health, nor her normal married life had we the practical common sense to make it available for her at the public charge.

The experience of California has shown that the acceptance by the community of its responsibility for posterity does not weaken humane concern for the happiness of the unfortunate to-day; indeed, the sense that the State can effectively tackle a root cause of distress has proved a fine stimulus to rapid progress in the most enlightened and progressive type of social work.

The Eugenics Society is working full steam ahead for the legalization of voluntary Eugenic sterilization. It may appear, at the first glance, an expensive remedy, but any area which takes the trouble to assess its expenditure on maternity amongst the very poor will see that the operation costs would not be larger than those of one unwanted confinement, without taking into calculation the subsequent expense of proper care and training of individuals incapable of contributing their quota as producers. We forget that to-day every six producers are carrying one non-productive unit in addition to 1 in 120 certifiable feeble-minded, and more than 1 in 200 insane. Heredity is generally recognized as the major factor in four out of five cases of mental deficiency, and for the mental diseases classed under idiopathic epilepsy, schizophrenic group, and manic depressive insanity, in fact, the more common types of lunacy.

Further information and a pamphlet on Eugenic Sterilization, can be supplied gratis by the Eugenics Society, 20 Grosvenor Gardens, S.W. 1.

REVIEWS.

MY EXPERIENCE AS LEGISLATOR.¹

Dr. Mrs. Reddy has given in this small book a vivid picture of the day-to-day activities of a woman reformer in India. The Women's Indian Association which worked for woman's suffrage in India, was fortunate in achieving not only a victory for suffrage, but as its officers state in the preface, "had the rare good fortune of finding an ideal woman member for the position of the first woman member of a legislative Council in British India."

Mrs. Reddy has written this account of her work first to stimulate other women to follow her example, and secondly to show the readiness of Indian menfolk to support and second their efforts.

Mrs. Muttuilakshni Reddy was nominated by the Madras Government in 1926, and served until June of last year. She seems to have found time and opportunity to press for almost every feminine reform, beginning with urgent and successful efforts to have women nominated to the District Boards, Educational Councils, and municipalities in the Presidency. Time after time she rose to press for proper medical provision for women and children, townswomen and the voiceless women of the villages, travelling medical women, school doctors, clinics, midwives, trained dais, research centres, V.D. centres, special hospital for children, and specialized courses for men and women medical students, each and every practical form of help occurred to her.

Education shared with health her deepest and most constant attention, and again her wide and catholic interests come out clearly in her speeches, on elementary, secondary, and university education, women's institutes, and homes for training widows as teachers. Again and again she drives home the stern and terrible statistics of illiteracy and mortality among women and girls. It is no surprise to find her in favour of prohibition.

Her attitude towards the British Government is dignified, courageous, and friendly. It is impossible to summarize the speeches, but those who wish to supplement Miss Caton's admirable survey² cannot do better than to get this first-hand evidence of women's work. Mrs. Reddy was indefatigable in fighting against the immoral system of the Devadasis and against the scourge of child marriage, and that in the face of organized and unorganized abuse.

Our homage goes to the brave pioneer whose work has smoothed the path for those who follow.

M. I. CORBETT ASHBY.

¹ *My Experience as a Legislator*, by Dr. Mrs. Muttuilakshni Reddy. (The Current Thought Press, Triplicane, Madras. Price, 2 rupees.)

² *The Key of Progress*. (Oxford University Press. 7s. 6d.)

"BOYS IN TROUBLE."

A book¹ with the above title has just appeared from the pen of Mrs. Le Mesurier, who is in charge of the work among the lads at Wormwood Scrubs. It is to be hoped that it will be widely read as it is written from an abundance of experience and covers the whole field of the treatment of criminal youths. So many points, indeed, emerge that it is difficult to know on which to comment.

Careful examinations, mental and physical, are made of the lads at the Scrubs, and it is stated as a result that 85 per cent are found to be normal in body and mind; of the remaining 15 per cent a considerable number are classed as "inefficient"; a slightly smaller number certified as "mentally defective"; and a very small residuum as actually insane. The inefficient often have to be sent to Borstal and present a real problem. It is a question whether the sub-normals would not do better in a separate institution if one could be provided.

The writer is no believer in corporal punishment, and makes the recommendation that judicial whipping should be abolished, adding the very wise comment that "prompt physical chastisement at the hands of a justly indignant parent or teacher, may be a very natural reaction, appreciated as such by the offender, and sometimes fraught with excellent results. But the case of a judicial whipping, carried out by an official of the Court in cold blood, long after the offence was committed, comes into quite a different category." This recalls the epigram of Sanderson of Oundle, "Never punish except in anger."

But the bitterest criticism is reserved for the practice of sending lads between 16 and 21 years of age to prison. Mrs. Le Mesurier would abolish this altogether except in cases where the Court certified that no other course was available. It will be generally agreed that the atmosphere of prison is as bad as anything can be for the youth of either sex. In fact, what is said here about prisons, the dangers of contamination, the criminal companionship, the deadening monotony, and their total unfitness as schools of character—make the reader uneasy at the thought, not only of the adolescents, but of the adults that are sent there, and make one sceptical as to the benefits which we are told are conferred by a long as compared with a short sentence.

It is rather surprising, in view of what has been said, to find it urged that, where a remand is necessary, "there are innumerable cases where bail cannot and ought not to be granted." Of course, the writer pleads for Remand Homes for all offenders between 16 and 21, but one knows the practical difficulties in getting these (Remand Homes for children up to 16 are still far from satisfactory), and the danger is lest remands in custody should be too readily granted while prison continues to be used.

As regards the use of prison for adolescents we are up against the old difficulty that some method of treatment between prison and Borstal is essential, and what is it to be? An interesting suggestion is made for work centres where a lad could attend in the evenings or at off times and so avoid fine or imprisonment. Probation Homes and Hostels also provide an alternative, but the latter are still few and far between. Nothing could be fairer than the description of Borstal in the book. While the good features of the system are plainly set out, the weaknesses, especially the very serious overcrowding of the Institutions and the months of waiting in Wormwood Scrubs before the lad ever gets to Borstal, are not minimized. It is difficult to exaggerate the unfairness of this latter practice described in the book as deplorable, "a mean and miserable policy." The lad is probably told at Assizes or Quarter Sessions that he is to be sent to Borstal for training instead of being sent to prison; he then finds himself for two or three months or even more in a gloomy London prison with his three years Borstal sentence (looking like eternity to a boy in his 'teens) still in front of him. One of the weaknesses of the long time spent at Borstal is also dealt with, namely the sheltered existence with everything provided as a matter of course contrasted with the struggle of the outside world. Some most interesting ways are suggested as to how this difficulty could be overcome, such as a "Labour Exchange" in the Institution where the lad would seek work, and the payment by tokens of wages on which he would maintain himself. Fresh difficulties again would arise under this system. We are faced with the fact that Institutions are not life, and the inherent artificiality of existence passed under compulsion behind walls is one that can never be overcome.

CLARA D. RACKHAM.

¹ *Boys in Trouble*, by L. Le Mesurier. (John Murray. 7s. 6d.)

CONFERENCE OF WORKING GIRLS' CLUBS.

On Saturday, 14th February, the N.U.S.E.C. organized a Conference for members for Working Girls' Clubs on "How London is Governed," held at the Y.W.C.A. headquarters in Regent Street. Mrs. Corbett Ashby presided, and representatives from the Y.W.C.A., the Federation of Girls' Clubs, the Association of Jewish Youth and the Social Institutes Union for Women and Girls, filled the room. In opening the Conference, Mrs. Corbett Ashby drew attention to the responsibilities which women now had in regard to civic welfare and the importance of their using the vote which had been won through so many years of work and struggle.

Miss Bright Ashford, a member of St. Marylebone Borough Council since 1921, spoke of the fascination of London's history, and gave a picturesque account of the growth of the City's boundaries. She then dealt with the work of a Metropolitan Borough Council, giving apt illustrations from her own experience on the Marylebone Council. She pointed out that certain services needed a larger area than the borough, and that therefore main drainage and the fire brigade, for example, were under the care of the County Council. Referring to the various committees which carry on the Council's work, the speaker mentioned the steps taken to secure clean food, a good service of electricity, and the difficult problem of providing an efficient service for the removal and disposal of household and trade refuse. The work of the Finance and Assessment Committees was of great importance as the former provided the funds for the work of the other committees.

Miss Ida Samuel, J.P., member of the Stepney Borough Council, and a candidate for the L.C.C. in North Lambeth, dealt with the work of the County Council, laying special emphasis on its work for education, housing, and public health. The County of London covered 117 square miles, the rateable value was £54,000,000, and a 1d. rate produced £227,000. Dealing with the work of the Education Committee, on which she serves, Miss Samuel spoke of the need for smaller classes so that greater attention could be given to the individual child. Additional playing fields were also wanted. Large housing estates had been established by the County Council, some of them beyond the county's area. Many people found, however, that a weekly rent of 25s. with an extra 4s. for transport, was more than they could afford, and that houses nearer their daily work were wanted. The L.C.C.'s work had been largely increased since last April, when the work of the old Boards of Guardians was taken over, together with the institutions under the charge of the Metropolitan Asylums Board.

Miss Caton spoke of the apathy that she had found when making investigations in connection with public health and housing. The ugliness of our cities was appalling, and there was need for a better standard of town and regional planning. Several questions were asked and answered, and the Conference closed with a vote of thanks to the speakers and Chairman.

WOMEN AND ARMY CANTEENS.

As everyone will have seen, the feeling has run high in Stalybridge about the suitability of canteen work for unemployed girls. Antagonism to the suggestion that girls should be asked to undertake such work was expressed before the report of the special Committee appointed by the Ministry of Labour was published. While the Ashton-under-Lyne W.C.A. did not commit itself either way, it was anxious that every opportunity should be given for a fair discussion of the subject. It organized, therefore, a public meeting which was held in the Court Room of Ashton Town Hall on the evening of Wednesday, 28th January, Mrs. E. D. Simon, Chairman of the Committee of women which had investigated the conditions of work in canteens, Miss Emily Hoctor, member of that Committee, and Mrs. Florence Jagger, of Oldham, were the principal speakers. Mrs. Simon pointed out the fallacy, accepted by many, that those in receipt of unemployment benefit had in fact paid for it. The size of the unemployment fund debt was clear evidence that this was not so. She argued strongly in favour of army canteen work for girls, which she considered not only suitable work for them, but work that was best done by women. Miss Hoctor, herself of Stalybridge, and a member of the Weavers' Association, had rather a riotous reception. She was followed by Mrs. Jagger, who urged the young women of the district to be courageous and adventurous and welcome the opportunity of finding work elsewhere. Miss Cochrane, manageress of the army canteen at Ladysmith barracks, also made a brief speech; but there were many interruptions, and Mrs. Mamourian, who was in the chair, closed the meeting, which was packed, without further discussion.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

President: Mrs. CORBETT ASHBY.
Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. VAN GRUISEN. Hon. Secretary: Mrs. RVLAND.
General and Parliamentary Secretary: Mrs. HORTON.
Offices: 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1. Telephone: Victoria 6188.

ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING.—11th-13th MARCH.

The programme for the Annual Council Meeting will be as follows:—

Wednesday, 11th March: 2 to 5 p.m., *Business Session*; 8.45 p.m., *Reception*.

Thursday, 12th March: 10 a.m. to 12.45 p.m.; 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., *Business Sessions*.

Friday, 13th March: 10 a.m. to 12.45 p.m., *Business Session*; 1 p.m., *Public Luncheon*; 3 to 5 p.m., *Conference for Townswomen's Guilds Delegates* (by request).

At the *Public Luncheon*, as usual, we take the opportunity of showing our appreciation to some of those who have given special help to some aspect of the work of the National Union during the year. The Countess of Iveagh, M.P., who has shown a great interest in the Townswomen's Guild movement, and is a Vice-President of the Appeal, will be one of our principal guests. Another of the chief guests will be Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P., whose active support of many of the reforms for which the National Union stands is well known, and in particular the question of the Nationality of Married Women, in which we are specially interested at the present moment. Tickets for the luncheon, which will be at the Criterion Restaurant, may be obtained from the Secretary, at 15 Dean's Yard (price 5s. members, 7s. 6d. non-members); as seats are allocated in order of application, orders should be sent in as soon as possible.

At the Reception on the Wednesday evening, which is to be held at King's College for Women, Campden Hill (by kind permission of the Authorities), Madam Milva has very kindly consented to entertain us with groups of songs. The Reception affords a very pleasant opportunity for delegates and friends to meet, and we shall be very glad to supply tickets (price 2s. 6d.) to any who would like to be present.

LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

Among the candidates standing for election this spring are a number of old friends of the National Union, and we believe that members in London, who have some time to spare, might be glad to help by canvassing or in other ways. We shall be very glad indeed to receive such offers of help at Headquarters; we should then be able to put them in direct touch with the candidates. The three women candidates most closely associated with the N.U. are Miss Enid Goulden Bach (L.), Manager of THE WOMAN'S LEADER, Miss Ida Samuel, J.P. (L.), member of our Local Government Committee, and Miss Monica Whatley (Lab.), Chairman, St Pancras S.E.C. We should very much like to send helpers to all these.

CONFERENCE FOR WORKING GIRLS' CLUBS.

Elsewhere will be found a short report of a very interesting Conference organized by the National Union, specially for delegates from Working Girls' Clubs. The subject chosen was "How we govern London." Miss Bright Ashford and Miss Ida Samuel very generously came to speak on the work of Metropolitan Boroughs and the London County Council respectively.

NEWS FROM SOCIETIES.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE W.C.A.

At a recent meeting of this Association, Mrs. Richard Howroyd, of the Liverpool Women Police Committee, gave an address on the report of the Royal Commission on Police Powers and Procedure; she dealt specially with police work that women should do. The following resolution was passed:—"The members of the Ashton and District Women Citizens' Association respectfully draw the attention of the Watch Committee of Ashton-under-Lyne Borough to the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Police Procedure in the matter of the appointment of women police. We also further suggest the desirability of the appointment of a woman on the Watch Committee."

PRESTON W.C.A.

Mrs. Pimblett, the only woman member of the Preston Watch Committee, addressed a meeting of the Association held in the Orient Cafe on Monday, 7th February. She described the work and powers of the Committee, making special reference to its control over the local cinemas. She referred to the reputation Preston had for the strict supervision of the films shown in the town. Canon A. J. Morris, who presided, expressed regret that the Watch Committee had no power to prevent the exhibition of certain posters.

MILL HILL W.C.A.

The first meeting of the year was held on Tuesday, 27th January, at the Primary Hall, when Mrs. Harold Laski spoke on Birth Control. Mrs. Laski gave the following reasons for her support of the Birth Control Movement:—(1) Because she was a feminist and she wished working women to-day to have a freer and better time than the women of the past generations. (2) Because, as a citizen, she wished to see a healthier and finer race of men and women than was now existent. An interesting discussion followed her address, for which she was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN.

MADAM,—With reference to Miss Helena Normanton's statement in the issue of THE WOMAN'S LEADER for 13th February in regard to Rev. Joyce Daplyn that "as a direct result of a conference of women ministers she called and organized, there now exists the Interdenominational Group for complete opening of the ministry of religion to women", may I say that while it is true that Rev. Joyce Daplyn organized a Fellowship of Women Free Church Ministers, the Society for the Ministry of Women (Interdenominational) did not result either directly or indirectly from that Fellowship. The facts are these:—

The League of the Church Militant (the Anglican League for pressing for the admission of women to the ministry, which had been in existence for a great many years, came to an end in 1928, whereupon several former members of that League and members of various Church Churches (including Rev. Joyce Daplyn) got together to consider the possibility of forming an Interdenominational Society to press for the ministry of women. It was felt that the question affected the entire Christian Church—a question of principle was involved, and the great need was to get people to recognize this. A Constitution was drafted at these informal conferences and submitted to a larger Conference of about 100 people who had been specially invited to meet at the Central Hall on 3rd May, 1929. The Society was then formed (with Miss A. Maude Royden as President), and a Public meeting was held the same evening to launch the Society.

The Rev. Joyce Daplyn, whose enthusiasm and practical help were of great value in our preliminary informal conferences, was invited to serve on the Executive Committee, and although ill-health prevented her attendance at most of our meetings, she was always keenly interested in our cause.

May I take this opportunity of saying that all who are interested in the cause for which we stand are invited to attend a Conference for Members and friends of the Society, which is to be held at Denison House, Vauxhall Bridge Road, on Saturday, 7th March, at 3 p.m. The subject will be the Report of the Lambeth Conference as it affects the ministry of women. Miss Maude Royden will preside, and the speakers will be the Rev. A. E. N. Simms, B.D., Rector of St. Mary's, Bryanston Square, and the Rev. Claud Coltman, B.Litt. (Joint Minister with Rev. Constance Coltman, B.D., of Cowley Road Congregational Church, Oxford). Mr. Coltman will give "A Free Church View of the Lambeth Report as it affects the ministry of women".

IVY L. PRYKE,
Hon. Secretary.

Society for the Ministry of Women
(Interdenominational),
1 Catherine Street, S.W. 1.

"A DEAD CONTROVERSY."

MADAM,—I read with interest the article in THE WOMAN'S LEADER of 6th February on "A Dead Controversy," in which the writer speaks of Mrs. Lynn Linton and the controversy her scathing articles provoked. Mrs. Lynn Linton was a frequent visitor at our house, and I as a child can recall the arguments and conversations between her and my father who as a literary man held out the hand of friendship to more than one clever woman writer and author of his day. I can still recall the personal charm and grace of Mrs. Lynn Linton who was able to fascinate those with whom she conversed—even when opinions differed. She used to pay frequent visits to lodgings not far from our home, where, as she said, she could write in undisturbed peace. I can remember the very original plum cakes which we children invariably received from Mrs. Lynn Linton whenever she came to Cornwall; she would get her lady to make them, and as she presented them to us would whisper, "look at the bottom," and there she had cut a little trap door which concealed tiny paper packets containing a bright silver coin for each of us! As I grew older, I heard of Mrs. Lynn Linton writing, and especially of her articles on "The Girl of the Period." I believe others besides my father were puzzled as to why a woman so full of womanly charm should write so bitterly of her sex. It was easy to see how retrograde was her attitude and her outlook where women were concerned.

I remember hearing of her unhappy marriage—she married the famous artist and engraver, James Lynn Linton, and I believe

after their separation Mrs. Lynn Linton had to face the world, and gain her livelihood by her pen. Herself so well educated and so determined to make her way in an "advanced" line of life, it was strange she should have advocated the very restricted unenlightened life for women which she did. Yet, though she lacked so much of spiritual force and could conceive of no very enlightened ideal of womanhood, I like to remember that the impression she has left upon my mind from those far-off days is one of graceful charm.

MARY LONG.

Weston-super-Mare.

FROM LAMBETH TO ROME.

MADAM,—On the publication of the Lambeth Report, Cardinal Bourne took the opportunity to insult our Anglican Bishops for what he called their "crooked ingenuity." Cardinal Bourne was challenged by me in the *Saturday Review* wherein a long correspondence followed. A letter of Father Davis, S.J., in which he libelled me, saying I was "guilty of an equivocation" because I called the use of the "safe period" a method of birth control! was reprinted in the *Tablet* directly followed by these words in italics:—

"The Bishops of the Lambeth Conference, preferring innuendo to precise statement, meanly associated themselves with a false charge against the Catholic Church; so this matter will often crop up. Catholics, therefore, should keep Father Davis's letter handy for reference and citation."

Now, in the Pope's Encyclical we see that the Pope himself does permit the very thing which our Anglican Bishops implied he did, namely the use of the so-called "safe period"! The Pope's words are:—

"Nor are those considered as acting against nature who in the married state use their right in the proper manner although on account of natural reasons either of time or certain defects, new life cannot be brought forth."

This permission for the use of the birth control method of the "safe period" is the acme of Jesuitry, so subtly veiled that ordinary folk reading this Encyclical fail to notice it, as apparently have almost all the newspaper Press men of the world who all claimed that the Encyclical "entirely condemns birth control." Nevertheless these words of the Pope corroborate the remark of our Bishops.

MARIE C. STOPES.

Heatherbank,
Hindhead, Surrey.

FASHION AT THE COUNCIL MEETING.

MADAM,—I regret to read that a resolution "deploring the return of long skirts" has been placed on the Agenda of the N.U.S.E.C. Council Meeting. It is unnecessary as well as undignified. We are not going to hamper ourselves in sport or work with long skirts; what we wear for ceremony does not matter.

But if the Council desires to deal with fashion, let it attack serious evils which are really undermining the nation's health.

Lately you have published many letters on the dangers of maternity, but those arising from fashion have never been mentioned. Why not attack the high heel? Many women are hobbling about on pegs two or three inches high, which tilt and strain the spine, thus causing nervous disorders, and alter the balance of all the internal organs. I have known cases of difficult or fatal maternity which were ascribed to this cause.

Again, why not attack the present type of corset, specially designed to compress the hips, and therefore one cause of the narrow pelvic ring which is so dangerous?

There are fashions in food too—such as "fine" white bread, "polished" rice, and other "refinements" which deprive people of nutriment without their knowing it.

I hope sincerely that the "skirt" resolution will be withdrawn (without getting derisively reported in the Press), and that for next year's Council the Executive will prepare some serious schemes, in concert with other women's societies, for educating both public and official opinion with regard to some of these stupid and dangerous fashions.

There is work of vital importance waiting for us organized and educated women; let us not waste our time or our influence by dwelling on trivialities.

JANE O. S. ELGOOD.

29 Stretton Road,
Leicester.

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATION IN PARLIAMENT.

MADAM,—As so much is being heard in favour of retaining University representation in Parliament, I should like to support the view given by Helen G. Thompson in your last issue in regard to London University.

I go further and regard the abolition of the University franchise as a step towards political equality. After spending nearly twenty years in trying to get one vote I now have four, but shall regard the abolition of plural voting with satisfaction.

EDITH HOW-MARTYN.

38 Hogarth Hill,
N.W. 11.

COMING EVENTS.

B.B.C.

Tuesdays: 10.45-11 a.m. "Family Budgets," by representative Housewives. 24th February: "A Professional Man's Wife."

Tuesdays: 4.15 p.m. Miss Macadam, "Social Service."

Tuesdays: 7.25. The Census. 24th February: Professor Greenwood "Before Census-taking."

Wednesdays: 10.45-11 a.m. 25th February: The Week in Westminster, Mrs. M. A. Hamilton.

Wednesdays: 7.25 p.m.: "The Health of the Worker."

Fridays: 6 p.m., "Yesterdays and To-days." 20th February: Lady Sanderson.

Saturdays: 10.45-11 a.m. Mrs. Oliver Strachey: "Books about People."

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH LEAGUE.

25th February. 5.15 p.m. 50 Porchester Terrace, W. 2 (by permission of Hon. Mrs. Franklin), Mrs. Underhill (Mrs. Starr): "Medical Work in Kashmir, Lesser Tibet, and Afghan Frontier." Lantern lecture. Tickets from 17 Buckingham Street, W. C.

C.B.C.

25th February. 8.30 p.m. Essex Hall, Strand. Dr. Marie Stopes "The Lambeth Resolutions and the Papal Encyclical."

LITTLE THEATRE.

8.30 p.m. "Happy and Glorious," a Suffrage play.

MORLEY COLLEGE FOR WORKING MEN AND WOMEN.

61 Westminster Bridge Road, S.E. "Science To-day and To-morrow." *24th February.* 8 p.m. Prof. Levy: "The Machine and its Future."

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR MENTAL HYGIENE.

26th February. 5.15 p.m. 11 Chandos Street, W. 1. Dr. Rees, "Psychology of Dreams."

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

11th-12th-13th March. Annual Council Meeting, King George's Hall, Great Russell Street, W.C. 1.

Wednesday, 11th March. 2-5 p.m. Business Session. 8.45 p.m., Reception King's College for Women, Campden Hill.

Thursday, 12th March. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Business Session.

Friday, 13th March. 10 a.m.-12.45 p.m., Business Session. 1 p.m., Public Luncheon, Criterion Restaurant. 3 p.m.-5 p.m., Townswomen's Guild Conference. Tickets from 15 Dean's Yard. All sessions open to the public.

Acton W.C.A.

27th February. 8 p.m. Schoolroom, Baptist Church, Newton Avenue, W. 3. Miss Pemberton, "The Housing Problem."

Glasgow S.E.C. and W.C.A.

25th February. 3 p.m. Drawing Room meeting, 37 Regent Street, Shawlands.

8 p.m. Y.M.C.A., Cowan Cross. Miss Helen Fraser, "The inter-Alliance of Business and Professional Women."

Petersfield S.E.C.

24th February. 7 p.m. Sandylea, Heath Road. Miss Nina Boyle: "Slavery."

Preston W.C.A.

24th February. 7.30 p.m. Orient Cafe, Friargate. Miss Margaret Beaven, C.C., J.P.: "Child Welfare Work."

PERSIAN ART EXHIBITION.

To 28th February. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Royal Academy.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

26th February. 4.30 p.m. Minerva Club, Brunswick Square. Miss Ivy Pinchbeck, M.A.: "Rationalization."

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ART CLUB EXHIBITION.

From 23rd February. Royal Burlington Art Gallery, W. 1.

TYPEWRITING.

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TO LET AND WANTED.

VEGETARIAN Guest House; $\frac{1}{2}$ hour by tram from centre of Bath; central heating; large garden; fine views; boating and bathing in River Avon.—Misses Tollemache, Bathaston, Bath.

ENGLISHWOMAN offers ideal home in charming country villa; every comfort; central heating and English fires; large garden and park; terms moderate; excellent references.—Villa "La Fauvette", Petit Saconnex, Geneva.

WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA.—Premier Private Hotel (Mrs. Farnsworth), 114 Hamlet Court Road. Highly recommended.

BLOOMSBURY.—Furnished or Unfurnished Bed-Sittingroom or Suite of three Rooms; service and partial board if required.—Box 1,614, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Tufton Street, Westminster, S.W. 1.

SUPERIOR Bed-Sittingrooms, with full or partial board; good cooking, comfort, cleanliness; phone, bath; Notting Hill district.—Write, Box 1,615, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Tufton Street, Westminster, S.W. 1.

CORNISH COAST.—To let for Easter holidays, charming modern house, facing magnificent sea view; 5 bedrooms, 2 sitting-rooms, bath, w.c.; rent £5 5s. weekly (including plate and linen).—Box 1,618, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 4 Tufton Street, Westminster, S.W. 1.

COMFORTABLE Apartments near sea; sheltered valley; every convenience.—Gregory, "Lynwood," Combe Martin, Devon.

MRS. HUBBACK recommends furnished house, beautiful part Skye coast; 5 bedrooms, 2 sittingrooms; bathing, fishing, walking; very low rent.—Write Campbell, Table View, Cudmore, Hartosh, Dunegan, Skye.

WEST DULWICH.—Accommodation for young business lady; private house; convenient town; meals as desired; moderate terms.—Phone, Brixton 6019.

ST. JOHN'S WOOD, close to Regent's Park and bus route.—Furnished bed-sittingroom with attendance; own gas ring, use of bathroom and common room; without meals 20s., with breakfast 27s. 6d., with dinner also 2 guineas; warmly recommended by Miss Catherine Marshall. Telephone, Mrs. King-Harman, 0738 Primrose Hill.

POST WANTED.

AU Pair.—Mrs. Corbett Ashby would like to hear of English family willing to take French girl (18) for three months (June-August); Professor's daughter; anxious to learn English; French in exchange.—Write, Mme Professeur Laville, Lycée Perier, Boulevard Perier, Marseille.

PROFESSIONAL.

INCOME TAX RECOVERED AND ADJUSTED. Consult Miss H. M. Baker, 275 High Holborn, W.C. 1. Income Tax Returns, Super Tax Returns, Repayment Claims of all descriptions. Telephone: Holborn 0377.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

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

MISCELLANEOUS.

RECOMMENDED by Mrs. Oliver Strachey. Swiss family receives paying guests. Large comfortable house and garden near Lake of Geneva. French lessons arranged if desired, Mlle Reitzel, le Prieuré, Tour-de-Peilz (Vevey).

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON AND NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 27 Marsham Street, Westminster. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey, Members' Library, books on Suffrage, Sociology, and Economics, Hansard, latest Government Publications, Periodicals, Newscuttings. Information given to non-members 10-8 (except Saturdays).

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 22nd February: Miss Maude Royden.

HOME HELPS BUREAU, 190 Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W. 1, requires and supplies educated women for all domestic work. Holiday engagements. Registration: Employers, 2s. 6d.; workers, 1s. Suiting fee: Employers, 10s. 6d.; workers, 2s. 6d. (Victoria 5940.)

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