

THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S NEWS

JUS SUFFRAGII

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THE BOARD MEETS IN HOLLAND.

March 14—17.

The Hague and Amsterdam vied with each other in showing generous hospitality to the members of the Alliance gathered in Holland in connection with the Codification Conference.

Our warmest thanks are due the the Joint Committee, Miss Macmillan, Mrs. Bakker-Nort, Miss Van Eeghen, Miss Manus and the indefatigable and charming secretary, Mrs. van der Schalk Schuster, for the admirable preparations.

Nationality appears on the surface to be a dull and technical subject, and the Hague is surfeited with international gatherings and eloquent orators, so that the local committee must have done wonders to ensure the magnificent success of the public Demonstration, which was attended by many of the delegates to the official Conference, the hall being packed with a distinguished gathering. The following spoke in support of the resolution: That a woman, whether married or unmarried should have the same right as a man to retain or to change her nationality.—

Professor Winifred Cullis, (International Federation of University Women).

Dr. Lüders, M.P. (Germany).

Mademoiselle Ciselet, advocate (Belgium).

Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P. (Great Britain).

Miss Ingeborg Hansen, advocate, (Denmark).

Mrs. Maude Wood Park, (U.S.A.)

Mrs. Bakker-Nort, M.P., advocate, (Holland).

Mme. Verone, advocate, (France).

It is too soon to speak of the actual outcome of our work, as the Conference will sit till Easter at least, and the points which particularly concern us come towards the end of the agenda. One thing is certain, the position of the married woman has been made a live subject of debate and discussion. The Conference realises that women really care for their country in the same degree as men. The delegates of the progressive States are eager champions of her liberty to choose her nationality and of her duty to take a real oath of allegiance should she decide to change it.

Our greatest obstacle is, as usual, the amazing conviction of old-fashioned men that if a woman is not legally bound and hampered she will use the smallest degree of liberty to destroy the family, and in this particular case will frivolously desire to be different from her husband. One wonders what the family and social experiences of such opponents can be.

The request of the great international organisations to be received by the Conference was granted reluctantly, and we were received by the President M. Heemskerck; the two Vice-Presidents and M. Polotis, chairman of the Nationality Commission; Mr. Buero and M. Daniels, General Secretary and Assistant Secretary. Sir Eric Drummond was also present. Miss Macmillan and Mme. Verone, doyenne of the French women lawyers, were our chief spokesmen, and both set out the case quite admirably. Miss Hansen of Denmark and Mlle. Ciselet of Belgium, both lawyers, added one or two points, and Miss van Eeghen and I spoke briefly from the point of view of the woman who is not a lawyer.

The President is well-known as an anti-feminist, and his cavalier treatment of the deputation was no doubt due to this, but we learnt that the result had been to stimulate general interest in our contestation.

The Memorandum presented, (see under), was officially circulated among all members of the delegations; and the delegate from Chile has already presented an amendment in our sense.

The Dutch Foreign Minister, Jonkheer Boeland van Bockaerts invited some of us to his reception, and

later on we were entertained by the Mayor of The Hague. Meeting delegates on such friendly occasions enabled us to appreciate fully the remarkable qualities of the women attached to the various delegations.

Unfortunately, the Commission on Nationality has decided to sit in private, but there is a ghost of a chance that we may be allowed an observer when points 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20 are discussed, and it is quite likely that the Commission may itself desire to hear our views and may invite our legal representatives, Miss Macmillan and Mrs. Bakker-Nort, M.P. (Holland) and Mme. Verone to a discussion.

Mr. and Mrs. van den Bergh entertained us in their lovely house, where beautiful flowers and cakes named like birthday cakes after the members of the committee, were a background to speeches and to delicious songs by a Hungarian artiste.

Mme. Klekampf was unfortunately ill on the day of her tea-party and the honours were done by her daughter-in-law.

On Saturday we were the guests of the Hague branches of the Unie voor Vrouwenbelangen and the Staatsburgeressen, the two suffrage societies now working for equal citizenship. Mme. Chen Tervaeot welcomed us and Mme. Kappayne wished us success in our work.

On Sunday evening the Youth Movement of Amsterdam were our hosts at the Vrouwen Club where speeches were followed by keen discussion. The President, Miss Ruyter, is well-known to us for her work at the Berlin Congress and her friends all over the world will send her their warmest good wishes on her approaching marriage.

On Monday we were received by the Amsterdam branch of the two societies. Miss Manus as President of the Staatsburgeressen took the chair, deserting for once the International for the National post, and Mrs. Polack brought a successful meeting to a close by a most apt comment on the speeches in four different languages.

A delightful supper party with speeches from three men supporters gave us the impression that our Dutch Auxiliary will continue to be one of the most energetic and helpful of our national societies.

MARGERY I. CORBETT-ASHBY.

MEMORANDUM.

Joint Conference and Demonstration of the International Council of Women and the International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship on the Nationality of Married Women, held on March 13th, 1930. Addressed to the First Codification Conference of the League of Nations at the Hague.

Married Women's Nationality.

The right of citizenship is the most fundamental political right. For a woman to have her own nationality taken from her, or her husband's imposed upon her without her consent, is to refuse her the status of an adult. It is treating nationality and allegiance as matters of little importance, if nationality may be changed without the consent of the individual concerned.

We recommend therefore:—

That a woman whether married or unmarried should have the same right as a man to retain or to change her nationality; and in particular

- (a) that the nationality of a woman shall not be changed by reason only of marriage, or a change during marriage in the nationality of her husband.
- (b) that the right of a woman to retain her nationa-

- lity or to change it by naturalization, denationalization or denaturalization shall not be denied or abridged because she is a married woman.
- (c) that the nationality of a woman shall not be changed without her consent, except under conditions which would change the nationality of a man without his consent.

The essential point in these proposals is that the woman should herself have the same right to choose as a man; that she should be treated as an adult and not as a subordinate entity because she is married; that she should not have a nationality taken from her or imposed upon her without her consent.

Article 18 of the Bases of Discussion drawn up by the preparatory Committee, is in accordance with this principle.

With regard to proposals re statelessness on the one hand or double nationality on the other, it has to be remembered that to prevent a woman being stateless by imposing on her a nationality for which she has not asked or to prevent her being of double nationality by taking from her a nationality she may wish to retain is no substitute for the right to decide for herself what her nationality should be.

Unity of the family is a common argument against giving a choice of nationality to a married woman. But that is really the argument that the woman ought to be the subordinate partner in marriage. In so far as this argument concerns the children it assumes that facts are other than they are, for under many existing systems of law it is possible for a child to have a different nationality from a parent.

Derivation of Nationality from a Parent.

Under many existing legal systems it is also possible for a child to have double nationality and it is a common practice to give such children the right to choose between these nationalities at the age of a majority or at the age for military service.

We recommend that with respect to the derivation of nationality from a parent the nationality of one parent should have no preference over that of the other and that any provision on the Convention to be adapted by the First Codification Conference should be consistent with this principle.

The Spirit of the Codification.

We remind the Conference of the Resolution of the League of Nations Assembly of 27th September 1927 that the spirit of codification

should not confine itself to the mere registration of existing rules but should aim at adapting them as far as possible to contemporary conditions of international life.

As the Preparatory Committee of the Codification Conference points out

"the work of codification involves a risk of setback in international law if the content of the Codification instrument is less advanced than the actual existing law."

(Bases of Discussion Volume I, page 9.)

Since in the world of to-day in the last 12 years, 13 additional countries, and these with a population of hundreds of millions, have given a right of choice to the married woman, it is clear that the tendency of progressive legislation is with us.

Equality between the sexes is in line with modern thought.

Let the Convention adopted by this Codification Conference, look forward and not backward. Let it be in accordance with enlightened thought and inspired by human justice.

NOTE.—A Brochure on this question published by

the International Federation of University Women is appended for the information of delegates.

PENAL REFORM BECOMES INTERNATIONAL.

International co-operation is the keynote of the future if the world is to be saved from disaster, and so even prisoners and prison reform have become part of the work of the League of Nations. It therefore behoves us all to look into our own national systems of Penal Administration and to find out our weak places. We should carry on research work and find out what other countries are doing to tackle this difficult problem.

In the past, there has been a sinister silence as to what has gone on in prisons, and that this silence is still maintained in many countries is largely the fault of public opinion, which, through ignorance, allows cruel punishments to continue, and cares little for the fate of those unfortunates who may have been the victims of circumstances, of bad up-bringing, of bad parentage, etc., etc. Happily, the old conception is passing, and in most civilised countries we hear of proposals for the establishment of institutions run on university lines for those prisoners able to make use of them by reason of their high grade of intelligence and their will to make good. In England we have had inspiration in the past from our two great international pioneers, John Howard and Elizabeth Fry, and the latter should be of special interest to women, inspiring them to work for the good of women and children.

In many countries we still find the delinquent child thrown in among adult criminals, thereby losing every chance of becoming a good citizen. We still find such dreadful places as children's prisons, where they are kept under lock and key, and mix with those adults who have already become hardened. In many countries, women are put under the charge of male warders, who are allowed to ill-treat and misuse them. These cases of maltreatment have often proved a source of international friction where prisoners have been of alien nationality, differing in race and in language or religion from the majority of the population of the State of their imprisonment.

The Council of the League of Nations, which met in January, 1930, passed the following resolution:—

"In view of the fact that the improvement of penal administration is at present occupying the attention of many of the peoples of the world, and that there are certain international aspects to the question, the Council requests the Assembly to place the question on its agenda, with the object of deciding the best way in which the League of Nations can co-operate with the International Prison Commission and other interested organisations in their efforts to assist in the development of prisons in accord with modern economic, social and health standards."

This resolution was supported by the Federation of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, the Federated Societies of the League of Nations and other organisations. The Council of the League of Nations has requested the International Prison Commission and the Howard League for Penal Reform to send in memoranda of the work they consider could be usefully done by the League, such as, for example, the exchange of prisoners from one country to another. The deportation of prisoners, which is often accompanied by real hardship, where there is no machinery to carry them back to their homes when they are put across a frontier, is often the means of ruin to young folk, who might under proper conditions become useful citizens. The question of prison-made

goods is another international question, such goods at present compete unfairly with the productions of free working people.

In the countries where women prisoners are under male warders, we would make a strong appeal that all the women's organisations should insist on their own Governments adopting the rule of civilised countries of putting them under the care of women warders. Could we not appeal to educated women to take on this work as a labour of love? The results would soon show that they were engaged in one of the finest works for humanity and one most truly appropriate for women to do.

In conclusion, now that this subject has become international and will develop into a part of the work of the League of Nations, we feel that the women of each country will want to see that the prisons of their own country are the very best in the world and that no prisoner, whether political or criminal or alien, is treated otherwise than humanely and every opportunity given them to make good. We would, also, plead that until a person be proved guilty he should be deemed to be innocent and that no one should be allowed to force confessions from him before he is tried.

GERTRUDE EATON,
International Director,
Howard League for Penal Reform.

THE SUFFRAGE IN BERMUDA.

The members of the executive of the Bermuda Woman Suffrage Society have presented a Memorial to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, asking him to consider the Constitution of Bermuda, and whether by means of a Commission of Inquiry steps cannot be taken to secure the extension of the Parliamentary, Municipal, and Parochial Franchise to the women of Bermuda 'on such terms and conditions as shall be deemed advisable.'

The Franchise in Bermuda presents various interesting points. There is a property qualification for voters, and although the Married Women's Property Acts gave to married women control of their own property, it expressly preserved the right of their husbands to qualify for the Parliamentary franchise on their wives' real estate. The Memorial points out that the total area of the Islands of Bermuda is only 19½ square miles, and that as large tracts are held by the Colonial Government, by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty and by His Majesty's Principal Secretary for War, as well as by aliens and other corporate bodies, the residue of land available for qualifying voters is now very limited and rapidly shrinking. Bermuda also suffers under the system of plural voting, 216 persons being registered in respect of 540 votes, the total number of voters being 1701. The number of women freeholders on the islands are 486 white, and 299 coloured. The women are liable for customs duties as well as for direct taxation imposed by the Legislature of Bermuda.

The Women's Suffrage Society has had several bills brought before the Assembly for the amendment of the suffrage, but they have always been defeated either by the Assembly or the Legislative Council. The members who voted against the last bill brought in on Oct. 30th, 1929 refused to take part in the debate, or to give any reasons for voting against the bill. The Memorialists therefore feel that they have now exhausted their means of obtaining any justice from the House of Assembly, as at present constituted, and they are forced to approach the Secretary for the Colonies in the hope of getting assistance in gaining those rights which have already been granted to women in most parts of His Majesty's Dominions and Colonies.

THE SUFFRAGE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

On March 6th, General Hertzog, the Prime Minister, moved the second reading of the Bill which, if passed, will give the franchise to the European women of the Union of South Africa. It is regarded as a private measure and is to be left to a free vote. General Hertzog strongly recommended Nationalists to vote for the Bill, and General Smuts supported it on behalf of the South African Party, though regretting that the vote would not be given to women in the Cape on the same terms as those governing male suffrage (coloured men have the right to vote at the Cape). This is the nineteenth time that votes for women has been raised as an issue in the South African Parliament, and South Africa is the only British Dominion where the women are still disenfranchised. It is almost certain that the Bill will pass the Assembly this time, but it is not so certain that it will go through the Senate successfully. It is likely at all events to be a near thing, and will be won or lost on a narrow majority. But as General Hertzog remarked, "every European woman must be presumed to be civilised," we hope the Senate will concur in this moderate estimate of the qualifications of South African women to become enfranchised citizens and that the long and energetic fight of feminists in that country will have its reward this year.

A WOMAN IS NOW A "PERSON" IN PALESTINE.

A notable feminist victory was won here, when on February 15th, the Supreme Court ruled that the word "Person" in the Advocates Ordinance applied to men and women alike.

Mrs. Rosa Ginzberg pleaded her own case before the Supreme Court in Jerusalem, demanding the right to become a full member of the Palestine Bar. She, a native of Palestine and a graduate of the Paris Law School, applied several years ago for permission to take the Foreign Advocates Examination and to practice law. Finally permission was given, and the profession of law was henceforth open to women.

The question of the practice of law was raised as far back as 1922 by the Palestine Feminist Women Equal Rights Association. Some Moslem sheikhs objected, as they thought it unbecoming for women to appear in the Courts. Later on, a demand was put before the Colonial Office through the intermediary of the I.A.W.S.E.C. who in January 1926 received the following reply: "Regarding the admission of women to the practice of law in Palestine, I am to inform you that on the recommendation of Lord Plumer (then the High Commissioner) it was decided not to proceed with legislation on this question for the present."

The victory was commented on sympathetically in the Press. We are proud to count Mrs. Ginzberg among our members.

She is the daughter of the Hebrew poet, Hilla Ha Cohen, the wife of the Secretary of the Hebrew University, and the daughter-in-law of the celebrated philosopher, Achad Haam.

ROSA WELT STRAUS,
Palestine Jewish Women
Equal Rights Association.

MEMORIAL TO DR. ALETTA JACOBS.

The Dutch Women's Societies affiliated to the Alliance are organising a Memorial to Dr. Aletta Jacobs, which they hope will eventually take two forms. First, it is hoped that the City of Amsterdam will name a Square after Dr. Jacobs, and it is proposed to erect there a Memorial Seat, which will serve to perpetuate

the deep gratitude which women feel for her pioneer work for women in so many fields.

Secondly, it is thought that an international travelling scholarship, in connection with the scholarship scheme of the International Federation of University Women, would be a particularly suitable form in which to honour her memory, if funds permit of the addition of this second memorial.

Dr. Jacobs was so well known in the international woman's movement that doubtless many of our members and readers would like to make some contribution to one or other of these schemes. Contributions should be sent to: The Committee for the Dr. Jacobs Memorial, Rotterdamsche Bankvereniging, Office for Women Clients, Rokin 23, Amsterdam, Holland.

AN ALL-ASIAN CONFERENCE OF WOMEN.

The Women's Indian Association is proposing that a Conference of All-Asian women shall be held next year, and to this end is circulating a leaflet to Women's Associations, prominent people, and the Press in India with the request that those in favour of holding such a Conference will co-operate in forming a joint All-Indian Committee in whose name the invitation to Asian women of other countries to meet in India would be sent out. This seems to be an excellent idea, and it is to be hoped it will meet with an immediate response. "None hold to the oriental idea of civilisation more tenaciously, more authentically than the women of the Orient, but the Chinese woman sees more of her American sister than of her Burmese neighbour, the Hindu woman knows more of her British sister than of her Arabian or Afghan relative."

The tides of western influence are pouring in on the oriental woman from all sides. They are already putting a modernist veneer over Japan. They have swept away cultural landmarks of Turkestan women. They seek to cast a glamour over India. The power to sift what is essential, what is appropriate for India from this surging life can only be wisely gained if Asia as Asia meets to take stock of her own assets of civilisation.

How can Asia's gifts be preserved? By bringing together the closest custodians of her inherent life, the women of Asia, that they may discuss their problems, and through a better knowledge of their fundamental differences from women of other lands may be able to solve their own difficulties, appreciate, at its legitimate value the interchange of gifts with other lands, and through keener appreciation of human relationships, be the better fitted to help to preserve the peace of the world."

NEWS IN BRIEF.

The International Council of Women will hold its Quinquennial Council Meeting in Vienna under the Presidency of the Marchioness of Aberdeen and Temair from May 26th to June 7th of this year.

Miss Kathleen Chevasut, of Westminster Hospital, has, she thinks, discovered the cause of disseminated sclerosis, one of the commonest chronic diseases of the nervous system. If the discovery is confirmed it will rank among the foremost achievements of bacteriology.

Miss Emily Ford, a pioneer of the women's suffrage movement, has died at Adel Willows, Leeds, at the age of 79.

The Quebec legislature has rejected by 44 votes to 24 a bill to give women the vote in provincial elections.

REVIEWS,

Tariff Walls. By Sir Clive Morrison-Bell, Bart., M.P. (Murray, 7s. 6d.)

Sir Clive Morrison-Bell's book appears opportunely at the time of the Geneva Tariff Conference, for it is an account of his journeys in Europe and America with the now famous map which he had made in order to demonstrate to the public at large the height of the walls raised by the various European countries against one another's trade. He was convinced that the interest of the general public could not be enlisted by any abstract argument in support of the League's Economic Conference resolution, calling for a move away from the high tariffs of the post-war period, and his map—the outcome of a sleepless night induced by the perusal of an article in the *Times Commercial Supplement*—is intended to bring home the meaning of "trade barriers" in the simplest form to the Man in the Street. With this end in view, Sir Clive has spent three years travelling all over Europe, and made one visit to America, to show his map. Without himself advocating any particular policy, he merely displays the map, indicates the relative heights of the different walls, and leaves his hearers to draw their own conclusion. That this is not the same in all cases he himself admits, and indeed it is the supreme merit of a purely objective demonstration that it does not press any particular explanation. "Over here in England," he says, "it can be used with equal advantage on either side of the question . . . for instance, both the arguments, (a) our utter defencelessness when the wall is so low round Great Britain, or (b) the shocking example of tariff-ridden Europe with the exception of common-sense free trade England, I have heard put forward with much eloquence and vigour when the speaker is declaiming in the presence of the Map." Exhibition of the map has not been confined to the Man in the Street, for among the august bodies which have requested a demonstration are the French and Czechoslovak Senates, the Hungarian Chamber of Commerce, the Swiss Federal Council, and the Inter-Parliamentary Commercial Conference at Versailles. On the last-named occasion the spot chosen for its exhibition was at the feet of Napoleon's statue.

An interesting part of the book is that describing the bases on which the height of different countries' tariffs are calculated. From a rather haphazard series of visits to different London firms who gave him information on the practical difficulties which they met with in exporting their goods, Sir Clive went on to examination of the Balfour Report of 1926, the Layton-Rist report on the Economic Position of Austria, the report of the Austrian Economic Commission on the tariff situation in Europe as a whole, a similar report of a Hungarian Commission, and, last but not least, the documents compiled at Geneva for the use of the World Economic Conference. The Austrian report was based on "calculations referring to fourteen different European countries on no less than 402 commodities," the Geneva report only on seventy-eight, but these are handled with a degree of minuteness which commands assent to its conclusions. The memorandum by Mr. Loveday of the Economic Section of the Secretariat, which Sir Clive has inserted in his book, illustrates the extraordinary difficulty of working out satisfactory bases for comparing tariffs and the number of factors which have to be taken into account in order that a valid comparison may be made.

Sir Clive made it his mission not to suggest remedies but merely to call attention to the existing situation. Any satisfactory remedy for the present economic plight of Europe must, as he points out, lie in a gradual and probably complex development; no simple formula will solve the problem. It is to his credit, however, that

he was one of the earliest advocates of the tariff holiday which, even if it has now receded into the background, was the original aim of the present Geneva Conference. His chapter on the subject, written in August 1929, before the last Assembly of the League, describes a campaign, initiated in Vienna in March 1927, and followed up at a conference organised by the League of Nations Union at the Guildhall in December of that year, for the institution of a three years' "tariff holiday" analogous to the "naval holiday" offered by Mr. Churchill to Germany before the War. Sir Clive's original proposal referred only to Europe, while that made by Mr. William Graham at the Assembly in September of last year was intended to include the whole world. Both proposals in their simple form invite the objection that merely to stabilise existing rates of tariffs for a period of three years would impose intolerable disadvantages on those States which have at present relatively low tariffs. This objection was dealt with faithfully by Mr. Graham at an early stage of the Conference which is at present in session, and it is this, of course, which makes the work of the Conference difficult. Stabilisation, if it could be agreed to, would be a simple matter enough; but to establish the point that not only are existing tariffs not to be raised, but that genuine efforts are to be made during the truce period to lower them, is much harder, and the outcome of the Conference is likely to be a Convention which will leave very wide discretion to the individual States on this point. But in any concrete result which is achieved, Sir Clive's missionary appeal to public opinion will undoubtedly have played an important part.

LUCY MAIR.

White and Black in Africa. J. H. Oldham. (Longman Green & Co., 2s.).

General Smuts has undoubtedly aroused fresh intellectual interest in some standing problems of International and Imperial affairs, which so often tend to become stereotyped and dreary, by the lectures which he gave during his recent tour of Europe and America. Mr. Oldham, while agreeing with much that General Smuts has said, especially from the international point of view, differs from him profoundly about the problem of Africa and the Africans, and gives in this book a detailed criticism of the lectures. The main point of difference between Mr. Oldham and General Smuts is, that while the latter advocates the theory that the advance of Africa is possible only through the introduction of a higher civilization in the form of white settlement, Mr. Oldham thinks that this has done comparatively little in the past (much more, he points out, has been done through missionaries and capitalistic enterprise), and that the whole problem is far too complicated to be settled by a simple slogan. Different situations calling for different treatment. The country is so varied that any economic policy must take into account what is most appropriate for each area. "But there are certain guiding principles which emerge from experience and which can be applied in ways appropriate to varying conditions. The first is that the task of white civilization in all its manifold activities is educational . . . on the successful accomplishment of the task of developing the peoples of Africa the whole future of the continent depends."

Mr. Oldham has some interesting ideas on the constitutional side as to the possibility of creating a supreme Imperial Court or Commission, of an entirely impartial nature, to settle the complicated questions between the black and white races to which no mere enfranchisement can offer a solution.

When one authority gives really thoughtful and well substantiated reasons why he differs from another authority, the lay reader has one of his best opportunities of arriving somewhere near the truth of a problem, and that is why this little book is a valuable contribution to what is, as General Smuts says, one of "the most interesting and enthralling problems of the twentieth century."

D.R.M.

How to Speak in Public, by C. F. Carr and F. E. Stevens, with a Foreword by the late Rt. Hon. T. P. O'Connor, M.P. (Pitman, 3s. 6d.).

The authors of this volume have followed their own precept—"Service, in whatever form, is the more valuable if it is allied to the gift . . . of clear and lucid expression." Consequently, they cover their field in surprising detail in a comparatively small space. Their advice on the preparation and delivery of speeches, on the Parliamentary and Civic spheres, taking the Chair, and so on, is supplemented by definite directions for those who wish to take up Public Speaking as a career: there is, for instance, a chapter on "The Broadcast Talk."

Dr. Johnson's great reputation is said to have been gained by his habit of consciously giving his best in conversation, no matter how small the company. Probably we are all judged more than we realize by our conversation, and "How to Speak in Public" may be equally well commended to those who in either public speech or private talk wish to avoid "a reputation for shallowness of thought which is not deserved."

G.M.P.

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THE ELIZABETHAN HOME.*

"Ho, Francis, rise and get you to school, you shall be beaten, for it is past seven"—poor Francis, he seems to have been rather a sluggard, a bad fault in an Elizabethan. Every one was up betimes; the young ladies' French master came to give them their lesson at 7-30 in the morning, and was gently chid by them and told to "come timlyer to-morrow." The Lady herself made a terrible fuss because she had been allowed to sleep until 7-30—and there was Francis with his clean shirt not aired, unable to find his girdle, inkhorne, gyrtin of Spanish leather, socks of linnen, his cap, his mittaynes, slippers, handkerchief, poyntes, sachill, penknife, books, in fact, as he says, "Where is all my geare?" No wonder he had to carry an invitation to his master to come and dine with his father to save him from a beating.

It must have been dark in their houses, so that they naturally rose with the sun and got all the daylight they could. Even the outsides of most Tudor houses give a strong impression of darkness with the overhanging storeys, the small windows and heavy timbering; their candles could not really light a room, and the passages must have been cold and black, for carrying a candle to light the way seems always rather to show oneself to the darkness than to lighten one's path. Elizabethan

*A reprint of two Elizabethan school-books, intended for translation into French. Discovered in Dialogues. By Claudius Hollyband and Peter Erondell. Edited by M. St. Clare Byrne. (Cobden-Sanderson, 5s. net.)

clothes, too, have a dark look, in spite of the rich and sumptuous stuffs they were made of. It is hard to believe that there is a body underneath it all—under the stiff puffed sleeves, arms, under the ruff, a neck, the legs, at all events of the men, were reassuringly free, but the body must have felt like the kernel of a nut. And to think that the small bodies of children grew while so covered in—so tightly clothed, so, apparently, often whipped, so inappropriately fed, they yet grew up and wrote Hamlet and Macbeth, sailed round the world, discovered new countries, built palaces and cathedrals, and in odd moments played and sang most ravishingly upon the lute and viol. Those little dark-eyed, white-faced ale-drinking children were the seedlings which grew into these astonishing plants, so there cannot have been much amiss with the régime. But then I had forgotten, the seedlings were so often nipped off—so many babies' tombs bear witness that the ale-drinking, the whippings, the dirt were too much for some of them. But we are faced with the fact, when we begin to smile superiorly at their food and their habits, that our own cleanliness and healthy clothes, our vitamin foods, do not, from what we can see, produce finer plants, but only preserve a greater number—the standard of individual excellence is no higher. Out of that strange dark soil, nourished by such a variety of rich foods, grew magnificent plants, and even those who never sailed and never wrote could delight their neighbours with such rare singing and playing of flutes and viols, that though they played and sang all night and Gossip was quite unable to get to sleep, he did not write an angry letter in the morning, but pitied his heavy-sleeping friend who had missed the music.

Raleigh's reward for discovering Newfoundland was £10, and one is always told—ah, yes, but the value of money was different then, but we find the lady Remeleine, described at a morning's shopping, buying ten yards of cloth of gold at £3 the yard, as well as linens and ribbons, etc., and jewels, up to the amount of a hundred pounds, or more. Of course, the lists of things bought are to teach their names in French, exactly as in Hugo and such books to-day. But it seems clear that finding Newfoundland was only worth the price of two or three yards of velvet or gold cloth.

At the jeweller's, one gathers some interesting information: that "the Topaze is good for the lunaticks, appeaseth wroth and sorrowfulness and preserveth from sodain death; the Diamond hath vertu to reconcile and renue (yea, rather increase) love in them that are married; the Emrode queneth lasciviousness, increaseth riches and beautifieth the speech; the Agate stirreth up stormes, giveth the intrepertation of dreames, and maketh the person agreeable, the Amethyst is good against dronkeness, taketh away evil thoughts, and giveth good understanding"—and so on. The Lady listens to all their properties and then replies firmly: "As for me I will fortifie myself with no other stone than with the true Corner Stone, the lively rocke, our Saviour Jesus Christ, only conqueror of devils. Let us goe. They tarie for us at Dinner." And so they do, and what a dinner,—though, of course, the number of dishes are mentioned not as a true list of an average meal, but to teach the pupil all their names in French. Still, one learns a good deal of what the custom must have been; they ate the fish after the meat, apparently, and oranges with capons, and grated cheese with sage and sugar. And, then as now, in England, they spoilt the "Cabeges." "Ah, what pitie is that? It is the meate that I love best, and it is marred: they say commonly in England that God sendeth us meate and the Devill cookes."

Their habit was apparently to dress first and then to wash and comb the hair, and this surprising and un-

pleasant order was probably due to the cold, which must have been severe. If you were rich, faggots and billets and a "baven" were brought to your chamber door, and a fire kindled for you to dress by, but if you were poor you must have blown on your fingers as you hurried on your stiff clothes and then hastily washed the little bits of you that could still be reached, and all the while your mistress was calling: "Fetch my cloathes . . . Give me my peticoate . . . where be my stockens . . . why doe you not set my great looking-glasse on the table? . . . call my Taylor to bring my gowne, not the close one, but my open gown of white Sattin layd on with buttons of pearle . . . Methink it is now time you should know how to serve."

M. T. BROOKER.

THE DANGER OF PATENT MEDICINES

"Four years' martyrdom ended in ten days."

"Wash away fat; no dieting or exercising."

"Cures colds, influenza, diarrhoea, pains in the stomach and bowels, headache, cold feet, bad circulation, sore throat, etc."

It is almost impossible to pick up a periodical without having the eye caught by statements like the above; and, extravagant though these may seem, thousands of people must believe in their claims, to judge from the enormous sale of patent medicines, and the widespread advertisement of some of the better known. A clear distinction must here be drawn between the patent medicines whose formulae are kept secret and which often contain substances specially introduced to render analysis of their composition difficult, and the proprietary medicines manufactured by reputable firms, who are perfectly willing to give information about the ingredients used, indeed these are often clearly stated on the package; many of the latter are excellent, and are frequently used and recommended by the medical profession.

It is to the first class that the highly-coloured advertisements refer, and it is difficult, at first sight, to believe that people can be so credulous as to take them seriously; but on thinking matters over, one can understand why these remedies are so popular. Even among the so-called "better-educated" section of the community, there is a marked tendency to believe anything that is seen in print, particularly if it be seen often enough, and presented in emphatic and arresting terms. Also, the apparent cheapness of these remedies is an inducement to their use; to pay the initial cost of a shilling or so, with the promise of certain cure, would appear to be both less troublesome and less expensive than to consult a doctor, who may possibly be more guarded in his promises; and there will usually be found some friend or neighbour who has used the particular nostrum who will recommend it strongly. Numbers of people obtaining medical advice feel themselves cheated unless they are given "something to take"; one may give the most careful directions as to diet and general hygiene, with the assurance that attention to these is all that is necessary; yet they are dissatisfied unless they are given some concoction, and the more unpleasant and "searching" it is, the more faith will they have in its efficacy. This trait is fully recognised by the vendors of patent medicines.

Again, one can well understand that a sufferer from an incurable disease will try any means of cure; there are, of course, cases which have been wrongly diagnosed, and possibly some of these patients have tried certain quack remedies, to which naturally their recovery is attributed.

Further, these remedies can be obtained secretly,

and taken without the knowledge of the sufferer's family, which in certain cases doubtless adds to their popularity.

The makers of patent medicines are not limited to the contents of the pharmacopœia for the ingredients used; many of them pride themselves on the discovery, or re-discovery, of wonderful herbs from Africa, Ancient Egypt, and elsewhere, "unknown to the medical profession," possessed of marvellous curative powers; so marvellous indeed that they are in no sense specific, but can cure almost anything and are naturally kept very secret. Needless to say, analysis reveals only the most ordinary ingredients, thus one cure for "gout, rheumatism, headache, earache and toothache," said to be the discovery of a Hindu doctor in the Himalayas, consisted merely of a mixture of oils of rosemary, lavender, camphor, oleo-resin of capsicum and a trace of soap, in alcohol.

Many of the remedies are quite harmless in themselves, so negative that they could not possibly effect a cure of any sort, unless through faith; but their use prevents the patient seeking early medical advice and proper treatment, and when finally such advice is sought, it may well be too late.

Some, however, are harmful; thus thyroid extract has been found to be present in certain remedies for obesity, and this is a substance which should certainly not be used save under medical supervision.

Again, a widely-known soothing syrup contains potassium bromide, not a drug to be given indiscriminately to infants.

Many of the cures for gout and rheumatism contain relatively large amounts of aspirin and phenacetin, and the headache powders almost all contain acetanilide, none of which are drugs which can be called harmless; indeed fatal results have followed self-treatment with acetanilide.

So-called "female medicines" form a large proportion of these patent remedies; some of these are useless equally to harm or cure, but many are very thinly-disguised abortifacients containing irritants, which, while they may not produce the desired effect, yet cannot fail to give rise to harmful results.

A much-advertised cure for alcoholism, "gentle, safe home treatment by which any drinker will completely lose all desire for alcoholic drinks within three days," costs two guineas, and consists of powders and tablets containing only tartar emetic and milk sugar, the total cost of which, exclusive of wrappings and printing, would be a few pence.

An ointment for "bad legs," said to be devised by "a staff of bad-leg specialists" (whatever they may be), and to cure "with certainty when doctors and hospitals have failed," consists of prepared chalk and soft paraffin with some colouring matter.

Another cure for poisoned wounds, said to be a vegetable preparation, and to do away with any necessity for "amputation, lancing or cutting," consists of lead plaster blended with resin and wax. The estimated cost is about 10d. per lb., and the ointment is sold at 1s. 1½d. per oz. Such examples could be multiplied indefinitely; but enough have been given to show the absurdity of the claims made for these nostrums; and also to show the enormous profits made by their sale, when the difference between the cost of production and the selling price is so great.

Some of them have a certain medicinal value; thus a well-known tonic pill is a variant of the formula of an iron pill found in the pharmacopœia, but the composition and dosage of all these drugs is very variable, due to careless mixing and weighing, so that the proportions vary not only in different packages of a remedy, but also in the contents of the same package. Again, the composition may be altered by the proprietor at any time without warning. This careless prepara-

tion is also found in the ointments, which are doubtless manufactured without due regard to avoiding contamination; I have seen a case of a badly septic hand following the application of one of these products to a broken chilblain.

A less obvious objection to the use of these patent medicines is the fact that almost all deal merely with symptoms. Indigestion can certainly be temporarily relieved by taking some form of bismuth or magnesia, just as headache and rheumatic pains can be relieved by taking acetanilide or aspirin, but these conditions are not diseases in themselves, but are merely the outward signs of some more deeply seated trouble which, of course, remains untouched.

Anyone who has once applied for information about some of these cures, is liable to be dunned with letters and circulars, foretelling the dire consequences of ill-health if the remedy is not bought; the price may be reduced as an inducement to purchase; if the first remedy does not cure, the use of a second "specially strong" (and probably specially expensive) is advocated and this may be followed by a third, until the sufferer's patience or pocket is exhausted.

Some concerns send out a diagnosis-form to be filled in, and claim to be under the direction of fully-qualified (but not registered!) medical practitioners who give advice by letter and direct the case. Many of them give testimonials from "West-End doctors" and "well-known practitioners," but these gentlemen are always anonymous.

Others do not hesitate to vilify the medical profession; one circular enclosed in a remedy for kidney trouble states that "Bright's disease is one of the harassing complaints which physicians in family practice seldom have the patience to investigate and manage with sufficient care."

As in the case of most social evils, the only way to deal with this is by educating public opinion. Information should be widespread as to the composition and true value of these remedies. "Truth" published a cautionary list of many of them, but it is long ago, and the appearance of a further up-to-date list would be an excellent thing. The British Medical Association have published two excellent booklets, "Secret Remedies" and "More Secret Remedies," which deserve to be widely known, and to which I am indebted for many of the facts stated here.

The trouble is, however, that the vendors of these remedies advertise so extensively that it is difficult to get non-medical papers to publish the facts concerning them and face the consequent loss of the advertisements; but reputable dailies and reviews, which contain very few such advertisements, and thus stand to lose little, would do much good if they were to expose some of the more flagrant frauds.

An Act, such as they have in France, to ensure that the ingredients are stated plainly on every package, would also be a further safeguard, since even the most credulous person would pause before paying 1s. 1½d. for a cake of marvellous skin soap which contained merely a mixture of hard and soft paraffins, with a trace of colouring matter and a little cheap perfume.

D. M. ANNING, M.B.

MRS. PANKHURST'S MEMORIAL UNVEILED BY MR. BALDWIN.

On March 6th the Memorial to Mrs. Pankhurst was unveiled in the Victoria Tower Gardens by Mr. Baldwin. The Band of the Metropolitan Police played, under the conductorship of Dame Ethel Smyth, a work which she composed while in prison during the militant campaign. Over five hundred veteran militant suffragettes attended, and the ceremony aroused wide interest and comment in the Press.

REPORTS FROM AUXILIARIES. AUSTRIA.

Nationality of Married Women.

According to the recommendation of the Committee on the Nationality of Married Women, constituted by the Alliance, the Association of Austrian Women Citizens and the National Council of Austrian Women submitted a petition to the Government concerning the inclusion of an Austrian woman in the delegation to the Codification Conference at the Hague, and also concerning other demands in connection with this Conference. As no answer was vouchsafed to this petition, the demands were repeated and two delegates from the Associations made inquiries at the Chancellor's Office as to what the Government intended to do in the matter. They were informed that two male delegates only would attend the Conference, and that the inclusion of a woman delegate would not be considered, on grounds of expense. But the Associations were invited to see Generalconsul Schagula, who was nominated as expert delegate by the Government to attend the discussions on the question of the nationality of married women. Consequently, Frau Fürth and the writer of this report interviewed Generalconsul Schagula and explained the woman's point of view. They used the opportunity to point out the special conditions obtaining in Austria, a country in which a great many marriages between Austrians and foreigners take place, as it is the former State of many who now possess the nationality of one of the Succession-States and who still live in Austria. The Generalconsul appreciated the strength of the arguments, and promised to advocate the admission of an expert from the combined women's associations to the Conference, and also that he would not oppose any proposal in favour of the women's demands.

Women as Judges.

Some weeks ago the Austrian Minister of Justice, Dr. Slama, referred in Parliament, during the debate on the Budget, to the great number of petitions recently made by women, asking that the office of Judge should be opened to them. He made it clear that he was not personally opposed to the idea of female Judges. On the other hand, the Board of the Association of Austrian Judges resolved at their last meeting to protest against the admission of women, and stated in the same resolution that there was an alarming reluctance on the part of young men to be Judges.

The first Woman Amtsrat (Office Councillor) in Vienna.

Felizitas Kohler, an employee of the Post Office in Vienna, was recently promoted to the position of Amtsrat. She has worked in the personnel Department of the Post Office since 1909.

A Federation of Business Women.

A Federation of Business Women has recently been founded in Vienna. This organisation will bring professional women into contact with each other, to the benefit of their work. It will be affiliated to the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs of the United States.

GISELA URBAN.

GERMANY.

Frau Regine Deutsch, a pioneer of the Woman Suffrage Movement in Germany, has just completed her seventieth year. An account of the main events in the life of this brave and tireless fighter may be welcome to readers of *Jus*.

Regine Deutsch was born in Berlin, and her first entry into public life was in connection with one of the most interesting men that Imperial Germany can boast of. Between 1880 and 1890 Moritz von Egidy, at that time a Colonel in the Imperial Army, proclaimed in public writings his strong sympathy with the disinherited classes. He pleaded for justice based on true Christianity, the motto which he chose being: "We must not have religion apart from our daily lives, but our life itself must become religion."

In our day, and especially in England, where many men and women belonging to the exclusive classes of society have professed and profess a faith far more daring than Egidy's, it may be difficult to believe that his campaign was looked upon as a criminal affair and felt as a blow in the face by the ruling caste. But Colonel Egidy would not withdraw his contention or be silenced. He left the Service and up to the time of his premature death he continued to preach his ethical gospel.

One of the first women to offer co-operation and help was Frau Deutsch, at that time a young woman of independent means. She became a close friend of Egidy and his family—his widow, now over eighty, and his daughters, still speak with admiration of the work done in common with Frau Deutsch, who helped to support the movement for years with the most perfect unselfishness.

As soon as German women began to organise for Suffrage, Regine Deutsch took up the cause, and she was for many years President of the Prussian Union for Woman Suffrage, and a keen writer and speaker.

Owing to her knowledge of the movement, the Alliance asked her to write the Jubilee Pamphlet: "Twenty-five Years' Alliance for Woman Suffrage." She has taken part as German delegate in many international congresses, and at the Berlin Congress she was among the honoured pioneers.

After the enfranchisement of German women, Frau Deutsch was elected Town Councillor, and she can look back on a long period of successful municipal work. She has written the history of German women in Parliament and her three little volumes on the subject are indispensable to us.

German readers who appreciate Frau Deutsch as author and journalist are grateful to her for her translation of Ramsay MacDonald's book in memory of his late wife, Ethel Margaret MacDonald, as well as for the German version of Margaret Sanger's book, "The New Motherhood," so well known and so much discussed in the United States.

Frau Deutsch is spending her birthday in Italy. The Deutscher Staatsburrerinnen-Verband is preparing a festival in her honour which will take place after her return on April 5th.

ADELE SCHREIBER.

GREAT BRITAIN.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

Annual Council Meeting.

The chief event of the past month as regards the activities of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship has been its Annual Council Meeting, held in London from 5th to 8th March, and attended by nearly 250 delegates representing over 70 Societies in all parts of Great Britain. In spite of the fact that the previous year had seen all women over 21 able to exercise their votes at a General Election, the Council had to face, as it was reminded by Mrs. Corbett Ashby in her

Presidential Address, the still precarious position of women in salaried occupations of every kind, professional and industrial, and the need for a continued fight for equality in all its aspects, as well as the full co-operation of women as citizens in national and international matters. With this end before it, the Council passed resolutions on a variety of subjects of first-class importance, including naval disarmament, equality in the Civil Service, women in the Ministry of Religion, nationality of married women, status and welfare of women in India, Africa and other parts of the British Empire, the need for the equal participation of women in Local Government affairs, the Factories Bill, women police, housing, etc. Other subjects which led to interesting discussions included the employment of young persons, and the censorship of films.

The various social functions which have now become an inseparable part of the Council Meeting, also deserve mention, particularly the Public Luncheon, attended by 400 delegates and visitors, when the National Union was honoured by the presence of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Rt. Hon. Philip Snowden, M.P., as principal guest, and two other Members of Parliament who had rendered service to the causes for which the Union stands, Sir John Withers, M.P., and Dr. Burgin, M.P. On the first evening of the Council Meeting, a delightful reception was held at Bedford College for Women, and on March 6th Miss Eleanor Rathbone, M.P., and ex-President of the National Union, gave a party at the House of Commons to 120 of the delegates, who were given an opportunity of meeting almost all the women Members of Parliament, who made charming informal speeches.

Nationality of Married Women.

The National Union, with other women's organisations, is watching with interest the proceedings of the Conference on the Codification of International Law at the Hague, and welcomed the appointment of Dr. Ivy Williams, whose name had been put forward by the N.U.S.E.C. and certain other organisations, as one of the technical delegates in the British delegation. We were fortunate in being able to send as one of the British representatives to the Joint Demonstration at the Hague one of our foremost women Members of Parliament, Miss Ellen Willkinson. The National Union was also represented by Miss Acland Allen, and, of course, by Mrs. Corbett Ashby, who is also our own President.

The Naval Conference.

The National Union, with many other organisations who have the cause of peace at heart, is anxiously awaiting the results of the London Naval Conference, and was one of the co-operating Societies in the deputation to the Conference organised by the Women's Peace Crusade, a report of which was contained in the last issue of this paper.

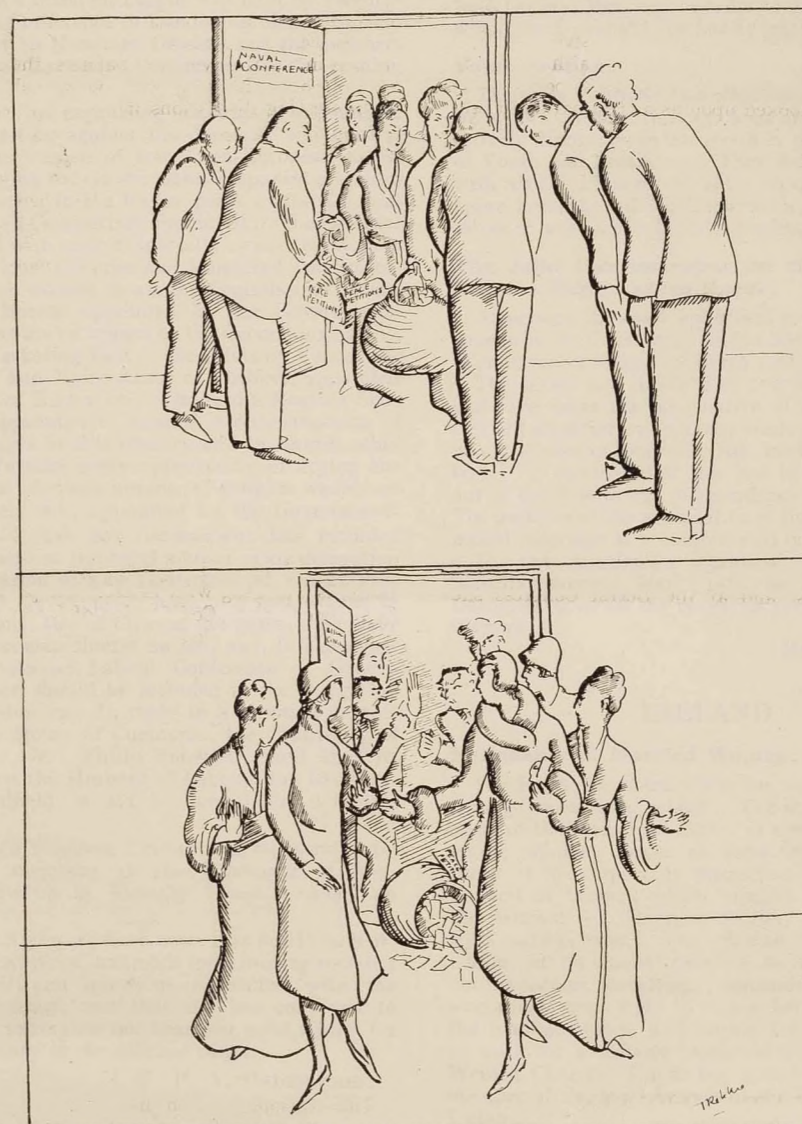
Women in the Civil Service.

The National Union has been heard in evidence before the Royal Commission on the Civil Service on points which include the exclusion and compulsory retirement of married women, the exclusion of women from certain branches of the Service, such as the Diplomatic, Consular and Indian Civil Service, the appointment and promotion of women in certain departments, and equal pay for equal work accompanied by a system of family allowances such as is in force in all other European countries except two.

Women Police.

An interesting comment on the deputation on women police taken by women's organisations to the Home Secretary at the end of last year, is the announcement that the number of women police in the Metropolitan Police Force, which is directly under Parliament, is to

JUS CARTOONS: NUMBER THREE.



The Women's Peace Deputation: I wonder if we were right to leave the gentlemen? They do not seem nearly so peaceful now.

be increased from 50 to 100. Following on this announcement came the appointment of Miss Peto, who has for some years been director of the Liverpool Women Police Patrols, to the post of adviser at Scotland Yard (the Headquarters of the Metropolitan Police Force) on the organisation and training of the new women police.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

The Women's Freedom League will hold its Twenty-Third Annual Conference in London on May 24th, and will then elect its Honorary Officials and the members of its National Executive Committee for the ensuing year.

Our Branches are organising meetings in and outside London, protesting against the domestic and marital slavery of the women of some non-European races, and we are urging the Government to appoint a certain number of women to the higher posts in the Colonial Office and on all Committees appointed by the Colonial Office, to deal with matters specially concerning women in the Dominions, Colonies and Mandated Territories. We want to see women on all the Commissions, Committees and Boards appointed by the Government. At present there are no women on the Economic Council, the Empire Marketing Board, the Advisory Committee on the Means and Maintenance of Children appointed by the Board of Education, or upon this Board's Sub-Committee, appointed to inquire into the teaching of foreign languages in this country and in certain other countries. We take every opportunity of urging the inclusion of an adequate number of suitable women on all Committees, etc., appointed by the Government.

We are glad that our Government has included Dr. Ivy Williams as technical adviser in its delegation to the Codification of Law Conference at The Hague, and that other Governments have also sent women in their delegations, two of them as delegates. We have urged that a woman should be sent as a full delegate to the International Labour Conference at Geneva and that women should be included in the delegation as technical advisers. In reply to a question on this subject in the House of Commons, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Philip Snowden, said that he anticipated that the Minister of Labour, the Rt. Hon. Margaret Bondfield, would be one of the delegates this year.

The Women's Freedom League was represented by many of its members at the Unveiling of Mrs. Pankhurst's Statue in Victoria Tower Gardens on March 6th.

From South Africa we have news that our President, Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence, has made some rousing speeches in that country on questions connected with the women's movement, and that she has conveyed to South African suffragists our heartiest good wishes for their early victory in the suffrage cause.

F. A. UNDERWOOD.

ST. JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE.

The Annual Meeting was held on March 15th. Miss C. M. Gordon presided over a large attendance. The Annual Report showed great activity and the Financial Statement an increase of income over last year. Miss Gordon was re-elected Chairman, Miss Barry, Hon. Sec., Mrs. Laughton Mathews, Treasurer, and Miss de Alberti, Editor of the "Catholic Citizen," which this year came within £3 of balancing its budget. Miss Douglas Irvine was appointed Hon. Press Secretary.

HOLLAND.

Union of the Two Feminist Organisations.

For the last two years we have been carrying on negotiations for the union of the two Auxiliaries, the Vereeniging van Staatsburgeressen, (Society of Women Citizens) and the Unie voor Vrouwenbelangen (Union of Women's Interests). The local branches of both organisations have received the proposals for union favourably, and on May 3rd both organisations will hold General Meetings in order to discuss the question, when it will probably be finally settled.

Youth Section.

There is a Youth Section which is doing very interesting work. A short time ago some of its members started a lively discussion in our monthly paper on the subject of Youth and Feminism. They did not entirely agree with all the ideas of the older organisations, but they appreciated the value of their work, and intend themselves to work actively for feminism.

The Joint Demonstration on the Nationality of Married Women at the Hague.

At present the most important event which concerns women is the Conference on the Nationality of Married Women which began on March 14th.

The actual law in Holland now is that a woman on marriage takes the nationality of her husband. The difficult situations which may ensue, not only in time of war, but also in every-day life, must be clear to everybody. It is clear that this law is old-fashioned, and out of touch with the independence of modern women. The problem of the nationality of the children born of a mixed marriage is a complicated one.

The two Auxiliaries organised a large reception on Saturday evening, March 15th, for the Boards and the Delegates from all the countries present, and for other visitors.

MARION HOLLANDER.

IRELAND.

Nationality of Married Women.

The Hague Demonstration has roused great interest among feminists in Ireland. The action of the Government of the Irish Free State, in appointing a brilliant young woman lawyer as substitute delegate, as a result of the important deputation from the National Council of Women which brought the matter before the Minister of External Affairs, has been received with satisfaction. The Belfast Women Citizens' Union, at its annual meeting on Feb. 27th, carried two important resolutions, demanding for the married woman the same right to choose her nationality which the man possesses, and urging the Naval Conference to work for a definite reduction of armaments. The Women Citizens' Union has now become a corporate member of the local branch of the League of Nations' Union.

The Young Women.

The Junior Branch of the Women Citizens' Union is now about to celebrate its first birthday. The record of the year's work is most hopeful. Meetings dealing with such subjects as the League of Nations, Peace and Disarmament, Higher Ideals of Education and other matters, have been held regularly. One of the meetings dealing with the work of the League of Nations at Geneva was addressed by a young pupil from a local secondary school, who had qualified for a course at Geneva, and, having spent a fortnight there in August, she gave her fellow juniors the benefit of what she had

learnt there. Though rather ancient history, an election meeting held by the Juniors before the General Election in May last is worth notice, as they departed from the usual method by asking representatives of every party to speak from their platform. A meeting held in January this year was addressed by Councillor Mrs. McCoubrey on the work of the City Council, and great interest was taken in the subject. Altogether it is felt that these young women, who are all working or preparing to work, have shown during the first year of their existence as an organisation, that they mean to support the woman movement with all their hearts.

A Deputation and Its Moral.

The ladies representing the Advisory Council sat in a semi-circle. Facing them in formidable array sat the principal members of the Ministry of Home Affairs. The points were simple:—The Age of Marriage Act, the Equal Guardianship and the question of Child Welfare. These did not present much difficulty. The Ministry had, of course, to be told that women did not consider marriage at the age of thirteen or so could "put right" anything whatever, far less criminal assault. The published order from the War Office and Admiralty, warning chaplains in the Army and Navy that the law of marriage in Northern Ireland differed from that in Great Britain was quoted with effect, and finally the Minister promised reconsideration of the whole question, a promise which was also given by the Attorney General, who in October last, speaking in the Northern Parliament, "saw no reason why any action should be taken."

Child Welfare, of course, was easy, in fact: "ladies, you are knocking against an open door,"... "With nothing behind it," murmured a satirical member of the deputation. Consideration was promised to this also. But Equal Guardianship!—Very seriously the deputation were warned "not to drag these questions into the vitiated atmosphere of the Courts"—an echo of something; surely, one has heard the phrase before. Again—"Do not try to erect a barrier of legislative machinery between husband and wife." a sentence which recalled the line: "A sound of little meaning, though the words be strong." Finally, nothing was promised, except that a summary of the legal position will be received and reviewed.

"It's this way," summed up a member of the deputation afterwards, "Them ones, they minds only what means votes. Now the weemen, they understand rightly about childher gettin' married and babies dyin' for want of milk and the likes of thon. But what you call Equal Guardianship and the like, well, they just think if weemen managed right, there wouldn't be no call for anything of that, and so they won't worry the men the like they will for the rest of it." In a tiny area of only one million population, there may be some truth in this. In 1927 five measures were asked for. Three of these have since been carried. The first two, Equal Guardianship and Reform of the Separation and Maintenance Laws still wait and apparently will have to go on waiting.

DORA MELLONE.

SWEDEN.

The Celebration of the 80th birthday of Ann Margaret Holmgren.

A reception was held in the large hall of the Grand Hotel and tea was served in all the reception rooms. The President of the Swedish Women Citizens' Association handed over to Mrs. Holmgren the silver plaque made by the famous sculptor, Carl Elsh, and offered to her with the homage of the women of Sweden. Many speeches by distinguished speakers were made.

A deputation from the Board of the Northern Museum presented Mrs. Holmgren, as a member of honour for fifty years, with its medal.

Mrs. Thulin presented the medal of the London Association, and Mrs. Erich, the wife of the Finnish ambassador in Stockholm, an address from the women of Finland. Mr. H. Wollebaer, ambassador for Norway, invested Mrs. Holmgren with the order of St. Olav on behalf of the King of Norway, and Mrs. Wollebaer, his wife, gave a silver bowl from the women of Norway. There were hundreds of goldgrams and letters. There was a family dinner-party, and of Mrs. Holmgren's fifty-six descendants in three generations only a few were unable to attend.

The anniversary was celebrated in the Press by leading articles, biographical sketches, interviews and photographs.

NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN.

Great Britain.

As an indirect reply to one of the questions put by the deputation of women's organisations which waited on the Home Secretary in January this year, the following letter, received by the Six-Point Group from the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, is of interest.

"His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom are, in principle, in favour of the policy with regard to the nationality of married women, with which Mr Ramsay MacDonald expressed his agreement on the occasion of the deputation of women's societies received by him in April last, and that the Delegation of the United Kingdom will be instructed to endeavour to obtain the adoption of this policy by the Conference. I am to observe, however, that many practical difficulties are likely to be encountered."

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SECTION FRANÇAISE.

NOUVELLES INTERNATIONALES.

AUTRICHE.

Nationalité de la femme mariée.

L'Association des Electriciens et le Conseil national des femmes d'Autriche ont soumis à l'approbation du Gouvernement une pétition demandant l'inclusion d'une femme parmi les délégués à la Conférence internationale de Codification de la Haye. Il leur fut répondu que l'état des finances autrichiennes ne permettait l'envoi que de deux délégués déjà désignés. Frau Fürth et Gisela Urban obtinrent alors une interview du délégué Consul General Schagula et lui représentèrent le cas spécial de l'Autriche où les mariages entre individus de nationalité différente sont nombreux. C. G. Schagula déclara n'être point opposé au point de vue des associations féminines et promit d'appuyer le projet demandant l'admission d'un expert nommé par leur Alliance internationale.

Les Femmes au Palais.

Les associations de magistrats autrichiens sont toujours hostiles à l'entrée des femmes dans leur profession en dépit du fait que les candidatures de jeunes hommes se restreignent de jour en jour. Le ministre de la justice Dr. Slama, remarquant au Parlement la fréquence des pétitions féminines à ce sujet, déclara que pour sa part il n'était point opposé à l'entrée des femmes dans la magistrature.

Un Succès.

Signalons que Felizitas Kohler, employée à l'administration des postes de Vienne, est la première femme nommée à l'emploi de "Amtsrat" (Conseiller).

Un Fédération professionnelle de Femmes

Vient de se fonder à Vienne dans le but d'établir un contact entre les femmes employées dans les affaires ou les professions libérales. Cette association sera affiliée aux Clubs professionnels de femmes des Etats-Unis.

ALLEMAGNE.

FRAU REGINE DEUTSCH.

Une pionnière du mouvement suffragiste en Allemagne, Frau Regine Deutsch, vient d'atteindre sa soixante-dixième année.

Née à Berlin, libre et indépendante, Regine Deutsch entra d'abord dans le vie publique comme collaboratrice du célèbre Colonel Moritz von Egidy, qui se déclarait vers 1880 le champion des classes déshéritées, et dont le christianisme efficace était constamment battu en brèche par la caste gouvernementale.

Dès le début de la campagne suffragiste Regine Deutsch combattit pour la cause, et elle fut pendant plusieurs années Présidente de l'Union prussienne pour le Suffrage des Femmes. Depuis le succès définitif Frau Deutsch a été élue Conseillère municipale. Nous lui devons plusieurs livres sur le mouvement suffragiste et parlementaire féminin, aussi bien que des traductions d'ouvrages anglais tels que la vie de Ethel Margaret MacDonald par son mari Ramsay MacDonald et le livre de Margaret Sanger "Nouvelle Maternité."

SUEDE.

La Suède vient de célébrer le quatre-vingtième anniversaire de la naissance de Ann Margaret Holmgren.

Une réception organisée par l'Association des Femmes électrices de Suède eut lieu au Grand Hotel de Stock-

holm et la Présidente offrit à Mme. Holmgren une plaquette d'argent, œuvre du sculpteur Carl Elsh.

Mme. Holmgren reçut aussi une médaille commémorative offerte par le Bureau du Musée de Nord dont elle est depuis 50 ans membre honoraire. La députation finlandaise lui adressa ses compliments par l'organe de leur ambassadrice Mme. Erich, et le représentant de La Norvège la décora de l'ordre de St. Olaf tandis que sa femme offrait une coupe d'argent au nom des femmes norvégiennes.

Un banquet de famille termina la fête où trois générations des descendants de Mme. Holmgren se retrouvèrent presque au complet. La presse entière s'intéressa à cet anniversaire et publia plusieurs appréciations éloquentes de l'œuvre et de la personnalité de Mme. Holmgren.

IRLANDE.

Nationalité de la femme mariée.

La députation du Conseil National des Femmes au Ministre des Affaires étrangères a eu pour résultat la nomination d'une brillante avocate comme déléguée suppléante à la Haye. Nous nous félicitons de ce succès.

A sa réunion générale de février l'Association des Electriciens de Belfast réitéra sa motion d'égalité en matière de nationalité, et manifesta son désir extrême de voir la conférence navale arriver à un résultat tangible sur la question du désarmement.

Section juvénile.

Cette même Association de Femmes électeurs a constitué une Section juvénile qui compte un nombre croissant d'adhérents et qui vient de célébrer son premier anniversaire.

GRANDE-BRETAGNE.

Union nationale des Sociétés pour l'Egalité Civile.

L'événement du mois dernier a été le Congrès annuel de notre société, tenu à Londres du 5 au 8 mars et qui réunit 250 déléguées représentant plus de 70 sociétés sur tout le territoire de la Grande Bretagne. Dans son discours d'ouverture Mrs. Corbett Ashby, la présidente, rappela que si la campagne pour l'égalité du suffrage était arrivée à ses fins l'année dernière, puisque les femmes sont désormais électrices à l'âge de 21 ans, la situation économique de la femme est toujours précaire, car rares sont les emplois et professions qui l'acceptent sur un pied d'égalité avec l'homme.

Les nombreuses résolutions votées par l'Assemblée se rapportent à des sujets d'importance primordiale tels que la question du Désarmement, la nationalité de la femme mariée, le statut de la femme dans l'Inde, l'Afrique, etc., la loi sur la main d'œuvre féminine dans les usines, l'habitation et l'hygiène, l'emploi de la main d'œuvre juvénile, la jeunesse et le cinéma, etc.

Le dernier jour de la conférence un lunch public, présidé par Miss Eleanor Rathbone, M.P., réunit 400 personnes dont Mr. Philip Snowden, Chancelier de l'Echiquier qui apprécia dans son discours l'aide apportée par les femmes à la politique et à l'économie du pays. Deux autres membres du Parlement, Dr. Burgin et Sir John Withers, vieux amis de la Cause, unirent leur voix à celle de Mr. Philip Snowden. Le 6 mars Miss Rathbone, membre du Parlement, donna une réception dans un Salon de la Chambre des Communes où 120 déléguées purent s'entretenir avec les femmes députées élues l'an passé.

Nationalité de la femme mariée.

L'Union nationale se félicite de la nomination de Dr. Ivy Williams comme déléguée technique à la Conférence de Codification de la Haye. La Grande Bre-

tagne a été représentée au meeting public par une des plus actives députées aux Communes, Miss Ellen Wilkinson, ainsi que par Miss Allan et la présidente, Mrs. Corbett Ashby.

La Conférence Navale est surveillée auxieusement par l'Union nationale. Coopérant avec d'autres sociétés elle organisa le mois dernier une croisade pour la paix qui envoya une députation à la Conférence.

Les femmes dans les Administrations de l'Etat.

L'Union Nationale signale les inégalités criantes et l'exclusion des femmes des Services diplomatiques, consulaires et coloniaux. Elle demande le retrait de la loi sur la démission obligatoire des femmes mariées et affirme une fois de plus le principe: Travail égal—salaire égal.

Femmes agents de police.

Les organisations féminines envoyaient l'année passée une députation au Ministre de l'Intérieur réclamant un plus grand nombre de femmes dans la police. Nous apprenons que leur nombre dans la Police Métropolitaine va être porté de 50 à 100. Miss Peto, Chef de la Police féminine de Liverpool, vient d'être nommée conseillère à Scotland Yard et va surveiller l'entraînement des nouvelles policières.

LE COMITE EN HOLLANDE.

Mrs. Corbett-Ashby nous envoie un compte rendu du travail du Comité en Hollande et des délégations à la Conférence de Codification du Droit international de la Haye.

La Haye a rivalisé avec Amsterdam pour la chaleur-euse hospitalité offerte aux membres de l'Alliance. Les plus vifs remerciements sont dus au Comité composé de Miss MacMillan, Mme. Bakker Nort, Miss Van Eeghen, Miss Manus et l'infatigable et charmante secrétaire Mrs. Van der Schalk Schuster.

Une mosaïque de nationalités se rencontre à La Haye, en ce mois de mars, et avec toutes les réunions et tous les orateurs, le Comité a dû accomplir des prodiges pour mener à bien notre démonstration publique qui a eu un succès retentissant.

Prof. Winifred Cullis pour la Fédération Internationale Universitaire.

Dr. Luders, députée, Allemagne.
Melle. Cizelet, avocate, Belgique.
Miss Ellen Wilkinson, députée, Grande Bretagne.
Miss Ingeborg Hansen, avocate, Danemark.
Mrs. Maud Wood Park, Etats-Unis.
Mrs. Bakker Nort, députée, Hollande.
Mme. Maria Vérone, avocate, France.

ont parlé en faveur de notre motion d'égalité en matière de nationalité.

Le plus grand obstacle est la mentalité surannée de certains juristes qui imaginent qu'un peu plus de liberté individuelle pour la femme détruira l'unité de la famille, la concorde entre époux, etc.

Ce doit être l'avis de l'antiféministe président de la Conférence, M. Heemskerck, qui a reçu la députation à son corps défendant et l'a traité fort cavalièrement.

Notre mémorandum n'en a pas moins circulé parmi tous les membres des délégations et le représentant du Chili a déjà présenté un amendement en notre faveur.

Malheureusement la Commission des Nationalités a décidé de délibérer à huis clos mais nous espérons nous glisser, au moins comme auditeurs à la discussion des points 16, 17, 18, 19, qui nous concernent particulièrement.

Nos amis hollandais, Mr. et Mrs. Van den Bergh, Mme. Klekamp, Mme. Tervaert, Miss Ruyter nous ont reçus d'une façon généreuse et charmantes.

Mémoire sur la Nationalité de la Femme Mariée présenté au nom du Conseil International des Femmes et de l'Alliance Internationale pour le Suffrage et l'Action Civique et Politique des Femmes.

A la Première Conférence pour la Codification du droit International.

RÉUNIE A LA HAYE EN MARS, 1930.

Nationalité de la Femme Mariée.

Le droit de nationalité est le fondement même du droit politique.

Faire perdre à une femme sa propre nationalité ou lui imposer celle de son mari sans son consentement, c'est lui refuser la qualité d'adulte.

Le fait de changer la nationalité sans le consentement de la personne intéressée c'est considérer la nationalité et le droit d'allégeance comme de peu d'importance.

Nous demandons en conséquence.

qu'une femme mariée ou non ait le même droit qu'un homme de garder ou de changer sa nationalité et spécialement

- que la nationalité d'une femme ne puisse être changée par la seule raison, 1° du mariage, 2° du changement de nationalité du mari pendant le mariage.
- que le droit pour une femme de garder sa nationalité ou d'en changer par naturalisation, dénaturalisation ou dénaturalisation ne puisse pas être contesté ou restreint par la raison que cette femme est mariée.
- que la nationalité d'une femme ne puisse pas être changée sans son consentement, sauf dans les mêmes conditions qui permettraient de changer la nationalité d'un homme sans son consentement.

Le point essentiel de ces propositions, c'est qu'une femme ait le même droit qu'un homme de choisir sa nationalité, qu'elle soit considérée comme un adulte et non comme un individu mineur parce qu'elle est mariée; qu'une nationalité ne lui soit ni retirée ni imposée sans son consentement.

Ce principe est conforme à l'article 18 des Bases de Discussion élaborées par le Comité préparatoire.

Quant aux propositions relatives soit au défaut de nationalité, soit à la double nationalité, il convient de ne pas perdre de vue que d'empêcher une femme de se trouver sans nationalité en lui imposant une nationalité qu'elle n'a pas désirée ou l'empêcher d'avoir une double nationalité en la privant d'une nationalité qu'elle pourrait désirer garder n'équivaut par au droit de décider elle-même quelle doit être sa nationalité.

L'Unité de la famille est l'argument communément employé contre la possibilité donnée à la femme mariée de choisir sa nationalité. Cela revient à dire que la femme doit être en état de subordination dans le mariage. En tant que ce raisonnement concerne les enfants il implique que les faits sont autres qu'ils sont réellement, car dans beaucoup de législations actuelles un enfant peut avoir une nationalité différente de celle de l'un ou de l'autre de ses parents.

Nationalité Dépendant de Celle des Parents.

Selon beaucoup de législations actuelles un enfant peut avoir une double nationalité et dans ce cas il est d'un usage courant de donner à ces enfants, à l'âge de la majorité ou à l'âge du service militaire, le droit de choisir entre ces deux nationalités.

Nous demandons que lorsque la nationalité de l'enfant dépend de celle de ses parents on ne lui attribue pas la nationalité de l'un plutôt que celle de l'autre et que toute clause dans la Convention qui sera adoptée par la première Conférence pour la Codification du Droit International soit d'accord avec ce principe.

La Tendance de la Codification.

Nous rappelons à la Conférence la Résolution de l'Assemblée de la Société des Nations, tenue le 27 Septembre, que la tendance de la Codification

ne devrait pas se borner à l'enregistrement pur et simple des règles existantes mais devrait tendre autant que possible à les adapter aux conditions actuelles de la vie internationale.

Comme le souligne le Comité Préparatoire de la Conférence

le travail de codification entraîne le risque d'une régression du droit international si l'acte de codification est moins avancé que la loi existant actuellement.

(Bases de Discussions Volume I, page 9).

Dans le monde d'aujourd'hui, puisque depuis 12 ans 13 nouveaux pays comptant des centaines de millions d'habitants ont donné à la femme mariée le droit de choisir sa nationalité, il est évident que la législation est en progrès dans le sens que nous désirons. L'égalité entre les sexes est conforme à l'idée moderne. Puisse la Convention adoptée par cette Conférence pour la Codification du Droit International se tourner vers l'avenir et non vers le passé. Puisse-t-elle être inspirée par les pensées éclairées de l'humaine justice.

NOTE.—A titre d'information nous transmettons aux déléguées une brochure sur cette question de la Nationalité publiée par la Fédération Internationale des Femmes Universitaires.

LE FEMME DE PALESTINE EST DESORMAIS UNE "PERSONNE."

La décision récente de la Suprême Cour de Jérusalem que le mot "personne" s'applique à la femme aussi bien qu'à l'homme marque une victoire décisive pour la femme en Palestine. Ce succès est dû principalement à Madame Rosa Ginzberg, avocate à la cour de Paris qui née en Palestine, femme du secrétaire de l'Université Israélite, plaida avec éloquence devant la Haute Cour de Jérusalem pour le droit de s'inscrire, elle et ses con-sœurs au barreau de Jérusalem. Depuis 1922 les femmes réclamaient ce droit, mais l'opposition des sheiks musulmans renforcée par l'indifférence du Colonial Office et de Lord Plumer, dérouterait constamment leurs efforts.

L'Association des femmes Israélites est fière de compter Madame Ginzberg parmi ses membres.
d'après ROSA WELT STRAUS.

PROJET D'UN CONGRES FEMININ INTER-ASIATIQUE.

L'Association féministe de l'Inde propose de convoquer l'année prochaine, une conférence inter-asiatique et à cet effet se préoccupe déjà d'envoyer une circulaire à toutes les Associations féminines de l'Inde, aux personnalités connues du monde politique et de la presse afin de former une commission préparatoire pour l'organisation de ce congrès, qui tiendra ses réunions dans l'Inde même.

Un fait digne de remarque est que les femmes d'Asie, si elles connaissent parfois fort bien leurs sœurs d'Europe, s'ignorent entre elles. Conservatrices de nature, c'est par elles que la tradition orientale se perpétue, et nulle ne s'accroche plus désespérément aux anciens usages et à la vieille civilisation que la femme asiatique, cela au moment même où la vague européenne de culture et d'industrialisme menace de les submerger.

Il est donc temps que la Chinoise et la Birmane, que l'Arabe et l'Afghane, voisines et pourtant étrangères, se tendent la main. Ce Congrès les réunira aux femmes de l'Inde et toutes ensemble, tenant compte de leurs tradi-

tions, mettant en commun leurs aspirations, discuteront les problèmes du temps présent et élaboreront un plan d'action pour l'avenir. Cette discussion leur permettra sans doute d'apprécier les différences fondamentales qui marquent les femmes des autres races, et tout en les comprenant, de resserrer les liens qui unissent les femmes d'Asie à leur civilisation propre. Appréciation, compréhension mutuelles: la paix du monde est à ce prix.

LE REFORME DES PRISONS.

Miss Gertrude Eaton, "International Director, Howard League for Penal Reform," nous communique un article à ce sujet.

Le Conseil de la Société des Nations a donné à la Réforme du Système des Prisons une place dans son agenda "afin d'étudier de quelle manière il pourra collaborer efficacement avec la Commission pénale Internationale dans le but de mettre le régime des prisons de tous les pays en accord avec les idées modernes d'hygiène, d'économie et d'humanité."

Miss Eaton nous apprend en effet que dans certains pays retardataires le régime des prisons est une honte pour la civilisation. L'opinion publique est à peine informée et ne se doute pas des traitements cruels infligés aux délinquants, dont la responsabilité criminelle est certainement atténuée par leur hérédité ou les conditions du milieu dans lequel ils ont vécu. En Angleterre des apôtres tels que John Howard et Elizabeth Fry ont par leur charité immense et leur incessant effort rendu le régime des prisons moins punitif que réformatrice, mais dans bien des pays la prison ne fait qu'endurcir et ruiner définitivement le condamné. On y voit des enfants jetés parmi des criminels adultes invétérés et par là perdant tout espoir de devenir un jour des citoyens honnêtes. Il y a des prisons de femmes entièrement soumises au contrôle de gardiens hommes qui ne se gênent pas pour maltraiter leurs pensionnaires ou même en abuser.

La Commission se propose aussi d'améliorer le sort des prisonniers échangés ou rapatriés, de sorte que ceux-ci ne se trouvent pas sans ressources et livrés à eux-mêmes et à de nouvelles tentations, lorsqu'ils auront passé la frontière.

Miss Eaton exhorte les femmes de tous les pays à s'intéresser au régime des prisons, dans leurs contrées respectives, et de travailler dans le sens de la Commission internationale de la Société des Nations.

LE DANGER DE CERTAINES "SPECIALITES MEDICALES."

Il faut signaler le danger de certaines préparations patentées, vendues dans le commerce pharmaceutique en Grande Bretagne et accompagnées de commentaires superlatifs attestant leur vertu infaillible et leur efficacité générale. Ces spécialités dont la composition est tenue secrète trompent non seulement l'acheteur ignorant qui croit avoir réalisé une bonne affaire en s'assurant un remède pour un shilling, lorsqu'un simple conseil de médecin coûte beaucoup plus, mais aussi le client plus instruit qui s'abandonne à ce charlatanisme en désespoir de cause lorsque la cure prescrite par le médecin semble avoir fait faillite.

Telles substances comme l'extrait de thyroïde employé dans les remèdes contre l'obésité, ou le bromure de potassium donné aux enfants nerveux, ou les poudres antinevralgiques sont souvent dangereuses si en les emploie sans discernement. Enfin, il y a des remèdes dont la vente est un vol manifeste, comme cet emplâtre curatif des plaies septiques "sûr de vous guérir quand les médecins et les hopitaux ont échoué," qui se compose de mine de plomb mélangée avec de la résine et de la cire.

Le prix de revient de cet ingrédient est à peu près 5 francs par livre, mais on le vend dans le commerce 6 francs les 20 grammes. On voit par là les bénéfices scandaleux réalisés par les propriétaires de ces spécialités.

Cet état de choses continuera en Angleterre tant que l'opinion publique ne sera pas éclairée à ce sujet. Il nous faudrait un Acte du Parlement, qui, à l'instar de la loi française, exige la description minutieuse des matières employées dans la composition du remède. Si l'acheteur se laisse alors tromper, c'est au moins sans mystère.

D'après D. Anning.
A. M. REES.

FRANCE.

Position des femmes de la classe laborieuse. Pourquoi nous espérons que les femmes en général verront plus que jamais la grande nécessité de réclamer leurs droits de citoyens.

En France la femme de la classe ouvrière fournit un travail très souvent excessif, parce que la plupart du temps elle travaille dehors, à l'égal de son mari, et qu'elle a, en outre, son ménage à tenir, et des enfants à soigner. A l'égal de ses sœurs d'Amérique, qui elles aussi travaillent dehors, elle devrait avoir une certaine indépendance; mais ici, le travail, (quoique ne manquant pas), est moins bien rétribué, d'où il ressort (pour les femmes d'employés plus que pour les femmes d'ouvriers, car ceux-ci gagnent bien leur vie) que les deux salaires permettent la plupart du temps juste de "joindre les deux bouts." Tout ceci donne à la femme française de la classe laborieuse ce souci de la lutte pour l'existence qui lui confère une certaine responsabilité. A l'égal de l'homme, elle gagne durement sa vie; en général, elle s'en tire fort bien, elle est active, économe, adroite, bref, elle est déjà préparée à son rôle futur dans l'économie du pays. Seulement, elle n'est pas familiarisée avec ces questions-là. Il lui semble très souvent que cela doive lui donner un surcroît de tracas, et quoique très souvent ces femmes (la plupart intelligentes) voient la nécessité d'une collaboration entre les "deux portions" de l'humanité pour le plus grand bien de la Société, elles ne cherchent pas à revendiquer leurs droits. C'est une habitude acquise, une coutume subie depuis des siècles, elles laissent "cela aux hommes" comme elles disent, prétendant que c'est "leur affaire." D'autres femmes, qui se sont occupées de bien des choses d'ordre général, ont pu, malgré cet état d'esprit, persuader à un bon nombre qu'elles avaient non seulement le droit, mais aussi le devoir de réclamer leurs droits. Nous avons ici comme partout des femmes de coeur et d'action: Madame Camille Du Gast, ex-présidente de la Société protectrice des animaux vient d'obtenir un beau résultat. Le président d'un groupe parlementaire et cent soixante dix adhérents de tous les partis viennent de se grouper récemment pour soulager la misère des animaux. Cette association vient de prier Mme. du Gast de l'aider dans l'élaboration d'une nouvelle charte plus remplie de pitié et de douceur à l'égard de nos frères inférieurs. Nous avons donc l'espoir, voyant de tels exemples d'énergie féminine, que la femme de France s'intéressera plus efficacement que jamais aux questions de bienfaisance publique, qu'elle ne laissera pas tout cela, à l'homme entièrement; parce qu'il y a des questions qui sont bien plus de son ressort; et le jour où la majorité des femmes d'ici seront convaincues de cette vérité, ce jour là, nous verrons en France l'égalité des droits de citoyens. Jusqu'à présent, les femmes de notre pays tout en admirant l'énergie et la persévérance de leurs sœurs d'Angleterre, n'ont pas, en majorité, formulé le grand désir de s'occuper des choses publiques. Récemment l'opinion Française féminine a fait un mouvement en avant, et nous savons que, dans un pro-

chain avenir, l'intelligence, la logique, et le courage, feront le reste.

A. ASSIER.

BUREAU INTERNATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHIQUE.

Situation Budgétaire.

Par suite de la détermination prise au Congrès de Berlin de demander à toutes les Auxiliaires une contribution annuelle de 400 francs, la lettre (en annexe "A") a été expédiée à chacune d'elles, en date du 1er Octobre 1929.

Ont répondu favorablement les Auxiliaires dont les noms suivent:

Deutscher Staatsbürgerinnen-Verband	Fr. 400,
Mme. Maria Vérone, "Le Droit des Femmes," France	100,
Mme. Grütter, "Association Suisse pour le Suffrage Féminin," Suisse	491,40
Mme. Widebeck, "Swedish Committee for International Suffrage Work," Suède	135,
Miss Belle Sherwin (personnellement), Etats-Unis	\$50
Mme. Ciselet, "Groupement Belge pour l'Afranchissement de la Femme," Belgique	100,
Frau Wiechowski, "Deutscher Verein Frauenfortschritt. Prag," Tchécoslovaquie	100
Mme. Cervena, "Vybor Pro volebni pravo zen," Tchécoslovaquie	400
Mme. S. Schleimer-Kill, "L'Action Féminine," Luxembourg	100,
Mme. Efszayish Suat "Union des Femmes Turques," Turquie	10/-
Mme. C. M. Meijers, "Vereeninging van Staatsburgeressen," Hollande	200,
Mrs. Spooner, "Women's Social Service Association," Jamaïque	10/6
Froken Bertha Tabelle, "Federation of Auxiliaries," Finland	400,
Froken Ingeborg Walin, "Kvinnors Medborgarförbund," Suède	140,
Mme. Brunsvicg, "Union Française pour le Suffrage des Femmes," France	400,

Le 23 Janvier 1930, nous avons dressé une seconde circulaire aux Auxiliaires qui n'avaient pas répondu (voir Annexe "B").

Se sont excusées de ne pouvoir donner leur contribution, en raison de leur budget limité, des dépenses déjà trop élevées auxquelles elles doivent faire face, etc., etc., se réservant pourtant d'apporter leur participation plus tard si leurs finances sont plus florissantes, les auxiliaires ci-après:

"Palestine Jewish Women's Rights Association," Jérusalem.

"Verein für politische Fraueninteressen," Vienne, Autriche.

"Women's Franchise Union of Ceylon."

"Feministak Egyesulete." Budapest, Hongrie.

"Federazione Nazionale pro Suffragio femminile," Italie.

"National Council of Women of Ireland," Dublin, Irlande.

"Fédération belge pour le Suffrage des Femmes," Uccle, Belgique.

"Associatia pentru Emanciparea civila si politica a Femeliilor Romane," Jassy, Roumanie.

Activité du Bureau.

Le manque de publicité fait au Bureau, par les journaux féministes, explique fort bien qu'il ne nous soit encore parvenu que peu de demandes. Nous n'avons reçu, depuis le Congrès de Berlin, que 21 demandes de renseignements (Grèce, Hollande, Belgique, France, Roumanie, Russie, Etats-Unis, Egypte, Suisse, Angleterre).

Il semble qu'à l'heure actuelle ont été mises sur fiches à peu près toutes les oeuvres publiées dont il a été possible de trouver trace dans les bibliothèques, ainsi que les listes bibliographiques internationales qu'on a pu se procurer. Il est noté, au jour le jour, ce qui paraît en librairie, ou dans les journaux féministes reçus au Bureau; mais il nous manque des éléments de l'étranger. S'il est en effet possible de consulter tous les catalogues français ou étrangers de livres récemment parus, ou d'avoir le sommaire des grandes revues, il est par contre pratiquement impossible de savoir ce qui est écrit dans les revues de moindre importance et dans les grands journaux quotidiens de l'étranger.

Les correspondantes ne témoignent d'aucune activité, sauf en ce qui concerne les Etats-Unis. Si la nouvelle organisation de "Jus Suffragii" comprend un service de renseignements bibliographiques, il faut naturellement qu'il y ait une liaison entre ce service et le Bureau.

En ce moment, le B.I.B., entreprend la recherche de tous les éléments biographiques ayant paru sur les féministes les plus notoires dans chaque pays, et sur les philosophes et sociologues qui se sont intéressés au féminisme. Les biographies ainsi établies ne pourront pas être éditées, mais elles seront néanmoins à la disposition des Auxiliaires de l'Alliance. (Il pourrait être fait un prix de 2 frs. par biographie fournie). Il faudrait, pour réaliser une collection aussi complète que possible, et s'étendant au monde entier, la collaboration des Auxiliaires de chaque pays.

Conclusion.

Actuellement le Bureau possède 14.095 fiches.

Le travail de compilation est extrêmement intéressant pour les découvertes qu'il fait faire, et il semble vraiment que la continuation de l'existence du Bureau soit, au point de vue féministe, une absolue nécessité. Il ne s'agit au fond, pour permettre le Bureau de fonctionner, que d'un petit sacrifice financier par les Auxiliaires, et de l'intérêt que pourraient apporter deux ou trois personnes par pays à envoyer des renseignements. Il est donc à souhaiter que ce concours soit généralisée chez nos Auxiliaires.

Annexe A. 1er Octobre 1929.

Madame la Présidente,

Je me permets de vous rappeler que, lors du Congrès de Berlin, il a été décidé par les Congressistes que le budget du Bureau International Bibliographique, qui fait le travail de concentration de l'histoire du féminisme, serait indépendant du budget général de l'Alliance et que, dans ces conditions, chaque Auxiliaire aurait à faire parvenir annuellement, pour l'entretien du Bureau, une somme de 400 francs français, c'est-à-dire un peu plus de 3 livres sterling.

Le Bureau est à l'heure actuelle sans ressources. C'est pour quoi je me permets de venir vous demander de faire votre versement, *dès que possible, indépendamment du versement de votre cotisation.* Miss Sterling, Trésorière de l'Alliance, m'a chargée de recevoir directement les fonds.

J'espère, Madame la Présidente, que vous voudrez bien entendre mon appel, pour ne pas que nous nous trouvions dans l'obligation de fermer le Bureau.

Si le budget de votre Association est florissant, ou si certaines personnes autour de vous s'intéressent au mouvement féministe international sont généreuses, peut-être pourrez-vous nous faire la joie de nous envoyer plus que la somme fixée par le Congrès. Si, au contraire, le budget de votre Association ne peut pas faire l'entier effort de l'envoi, voulez-vous nous envoyer ce qu'il vous sera possible de nous donner, afin que le B.I.B. soit vraiment considéré comme l'oeuvre de toutes.

Avec mes remerciements anticipés, etc.

Pr. le Conseil d'Administration,
S. GRINBERG.

Annexe B.

le 17 Janvier 1930.

Madame la Présidente,

Nous nous permettons de vous rappeler notre lettre du 1er Octobre 1929, par laquelle nous nous avions priée de bien vouloir envoyer au Bureau International Bibliographique le montant de la contribution que chaque Auxiliaire doit verser au Bureau, selon la décision du Congrès de Berlin.

Cette contribution annuelle est de 400 francs français. Dans le cas où l'état budgétaire de votre Association ne vous permettrait pas d'envoyer cette somme, nous comptons que vous voudrez bien nous adresser une envoi moindre, mais qui témoignera ainsi cependant de l'intérêt que vous voulez bien apporter au Bureau.

Avec nos remerciements anticipés, etc.

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