

THE  
WOMAN'S LEADER  
AND THE COMMON CAUSE

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NOTES AND NEWS.

Heads in the Sand.

The coalowners' proposals for a new wage agreement in the mining industry appeared, in outline, simultaneously with our issue of last week. They embody, as we surmised they would, some ferocious wage-cuts in a general rate already inadequate to meet the minimum efficiency needs of a "standard" working-class family. Their main feature is a proposal for the allocation to profits of a certain proportion of the proceeds of the industry, whatever those proceeds may be. This involves the abandonment of any attempt to make the subsistence needs of the worker a first charge on the product of industry. When one considers the recent history of the coal industry in connexion with the capacity or incapacity of the world's markets to absorb British coal at a remunerative price, the ferocity of these new proposals are not difficult to understand. There is a limit to the period during which business men will voluntarily carry on business without profit to themselves. But easy as it is to account for the nature of the new terms offered, it is still easier, when one considers the conditions of human life to-day in the mining areas, to account for their summary rejection by the men. On the day of this paper's appearance the miners' leaders will be in consultation with the leaders of the Trade Union Congress. The grouping of forces for the coming struggle will be under discussion. Meanwhile, the Government is anxiously watching events with a view to intervention at the crucial moment. Doubtless, arrangements are already under consideration for the performance of necessary emergency services should negotiations fail to produce a compromise agreement between now and 31st July. But even under pressure of these desperate and thought-provoking developments we have as yet no indication that any of the three parties to the dispute—Government, masters, or men—have grasped the simple arithmetical truth that the only equitable and economical way of distributing a painfully limited industrial product among persons with varying family needs is to do it along the lines of Family Endowment.

Women and the Pensions Bill.

It is inevitable, and right, that this week and subsequent weeks this paper will be somewhat overloaded with the Pensions Bill at the expense of reviews and lighter articles. To-day we publish a valuable criticism of the finance of the Pensions Scheme, contributed by Mr. J. L. Cohen, and a report by a correspondent of the proceedings in Parliament up to date, as well as the two following notes on special points. Readers of these and of our leading article last week should be in an excellent position to follow the Bill through the remainder of its Committee stage. The two most important clauses from our point of view still remain to be discussed (Clause 13, which relates to voluntary contributors and *at present excludes all married women*, and Clause 21, which provides that a widow's pension may be taken

away if she has been convicted of an offence in a court of law. It is not too late for women's organizations and individual voters to communicate their views on these subjects to their Members of Parliament.<sup>1</sup>

Hearts just as Pure and Fair.

Mr. Lansbury has rendered such splendid service to women in the past that we regret the more the unfairness and perversity of his attitude in the House last Wednesday towards the amendment promoted by the N.U.S.E.C., which would exclude from pension a widow whose marriage has lasted less than five years and been childless. The case for the proposal, our readers will remark, rests partly on the desire to effect a small saving which would facilitate doing fuller justice to the unmarried women contributors who are dealt with so hardly by the Bill, but more on a desire to avert the risk that a few women might be tempted to contract marriages with men who were not expected to live long, and that fresh life might be given to the old mischief-working view that, for a woman, the best or only hope of economic security lies in dependence on a man. Mr. Lansbury, while admitting that there are well-to-do courtesans of the upper classes who make sordid marriages, chose to resent as an insult to the working people of the country the suggestion that any woman belonging to the elect classes would do so base a thing as to marry for "the paltry pittance of 10s. a week." Does he suggest that if the bribe were larger there would be less degradation in accepting it? Frankly, we are tired of this kind of class prejudice. Mr. Lansbury really must bring himself to believe that

Hearts just as pure and fair  
May beat in Belgrave Square  
As in the lowlier air  
Of Seven Dials.

And when Mr. Lansbury adds to his assumption that the wage-earning class have a wholly peculiar excellence and moral grace not shared by others the further accusation that the Pensions Bill is a piece of class legislation, we give him up in despair. It is a piece of class legislation exactly in so far as it finds its application among those whose incomes fall below a certain level. By just such a standard all our Education Acts are class legislation; all our Factory Acts; all our Workmen's Compensation Acts.

"The Beam that is in thine own Eye."

One word more before our irritation is calmed down by the memory of all that Mr. Lansbury and his party have done in the past for the causes in which we are interested. We think that in this matter of Widows' Pensions the Labour Party as a whole has played a somewhat equivocal part. Turning to our issue of precisely a year ago (4th July, 1924) we find a leading article written in some perturbation at certain words by Mr. Philip Snowden—then Chancellor of the Exchequer—words which suggest very plainly that he was contemplating the introduction of a combined mothers' pensions and old age pensions scheme on a contributory basis. The same article contains reference to a statement by Dr. Marion Phillips that Mr. Snowden's attitude had "raised a feeling of absolute consternation" among Labour women. To-day members of the Labour Party speak as though their leaders had never even given ear to the suggestion of a contributory scheme, never at any rate let slip one golden opportunity of introducing Widows' Pensions in the form which they are now designating as the only acceptable form. And what stranger listening to last week's debates in the House of Commons would have gathered that at no time in their long

<sup>1</sup> Copies of the Bill and a Memorandum on the Bill by Miss Eleanor F. Rathbone (price 1s.), may be had at 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

and vigorous championship of widows' pensions has the Labour Party ever suggested the desirability of extending such benefits to any class of widows without dependent children, or that during the early stages of the present Government's proposals grave concern was expressed by members of the Labour Party regarding the possible presence in the Labour market of partially subsidized childless widows?

#### Women's Bills in the Upper House.

Three Bills in which our readers are specially interested appeared on the Order paper of the House of Lords on Tuesday of this week. The Lord Chancellor moved the second reading of the Married Women (Torts) Bill, which removes the liability of husbands for torts (civil offences, such as libel, etc., for which damages may be claimed) committed by their wives before or after marriage. Lord Buckmaster, although supporting the Bill, regretted that while removing this inequality, which bears hardly on husbands, the Government did not examine and amend where necessary the whole question of the legal relations of husbands and wives. This is a point of view that we heartily endorse. The Guardianship of Infants Bill and the Separation and Maintenance Orders Bill passed their third reading, and now have only to return to the Lower House for consideration of the Lord's amendments.

#### Separation and Maintenance.

As was foreshadowed in these columns an amendment giving the Court power to make Orders to divide the furniture in the home between husband and wife when a Separation Order has been granted was moved by the Lord Chancellor, in place of that moved by Lord Askwith and passed by a majority of one when the Bill was in committee. The amendment introduced no change in the substance of Lord Askwith's proposal. We hope that it need not be regarded as ominous that when the Lord Chancellor in his personal capacity proposed the Amendment he stated "that he must reserve his freedom of action with regard to anything that may happen in another place." Two other important amendments were also passed, one moved by Lord Danesfort providing that it should be a ground for a wife's separation, that her husband knowing himself to have venereal disease, has enforced cohabitation, and one by Lord Strachie providing that interim Maintenance Orders should be payable by a husband in cases where a delay arises between the application for an Order and the hearing of the case.

#### Summer Time.

We imagine that the majority of our readers, whatever may be their individual preferences, are in favour of a Summer Time period extending over six months, for the good of the greatest number. A few months ago the prospects of the Bill were supposed to be safe, but the opposition has become more vocal, and the question of the length of the period is now regarded as highly controversial. The Government have now agreed that the report stage and third reading of the Bill shall be taken on Friday, 17th July, when the dates of the beginning and end of "Summer Time" will be left to a free vote of the House. If the third reading cannot be completed that day there is apparently no prospect of any further time before the autumn. It is, therefore, up to those who have strong views on the subject to communicate with their Members, before 17th July, to urge them to oppose any obstruction. We understand that the Early Closing Association is actively at work on behalf of the six months' period. The arguments in favour of this appear to us to be almost incontrovertible. The additional evening hour of daylight gives opportunities of healthful recreation to thousands, besides effecting a great saving of lighting. Further, the fact that Belgium and France have adopted the longer period is almost in itself a sufficient plea. Travel across the Channel is no longer the prerogative of the rich, and the inconveniences of a different time standard appear to be quite unnecessary.

#### The Dangerous Occupation.

The unsolved problem of maternal mortality was vigorously dealt with on Saturday by Dr. R. A. Lyster, County M.O.H. for Hampshire, speaking at a conference held at 117 Piccadilly in connexion with the National Baby Week. He urged, as we have ourselves repeatedly done, the striking antithesis of recent years between the decline in infant mortality and the obstinate persistence of maternal mortality. And he indicated a three years' training for midwives and the far more adequate provision of ante-natal treatment for mothers as two necessary conditions for reform. We heartily agree with all that was

said with regard to the better training of midwives and the more adequate equipment of the public health services in this respect. But we would go further, and add that until married women living in small houses on low wages are provided with the means (other than noxious drugs and self-induced miscarriages) for deciding when and how often they will incur the physical strain and economic burden of parenthood, so long will that most important of occupations continue to be carried on wastefully and unhappily by many of those who are called by vocation or forced by circumstances to carry it on.

#### Ca marche.

At the fifth Annual Congress of French Associations for pooling the Cost of Family Allowances, held recently at Rouen, the Director gave figures showing the growth of the system. As compared with the previous year, the number of associations has increased from 152 to 176; the adherent firms from 9,300 to 11,200; the wage-earners affected from 1,100,000 to 1,210,000; the allowances distributed from 125 to 132 million francs. Adding the family allowances paid by public authorities and large companies to their employees directly through equalization pools, the number of workers covered in France last year was over 3½ million, and the family allowances distributed were 1,017 million francs, representing in spending power say, roughly, £12,500,000. This is no inconsiderable sum, though it represents, of course, only a contribution to the cost of rearing the children of French wage-earners.

#### A New Deputy Chief Inspector of Factories.

A new appointment has recently been made to the post of H.M. Deputy Chief Inspector of Factories to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Miss Constance Smith, O.B.E. Miss Hilda Martindale, O.B.E., who has been promoted to this position after a distinguished record of public service in the Factory Department of the Home Office, brings to her new duties a long experience of factory conditions. We may rest assured that not only will the interests of women be safe in her hands—this goes without saying in regard to a daughter of Mrs. Martindale of Brighton, whose work for the Education of Women, for Suffrage, and for all women's causes should never be forgotten by readers of this paper—but that her recent experience as Superintending Inspector in charge of a staff of men will stand her in good stead in dealing with the many problems relating to men's industry which come within the purview of the Chief Inspector of Factories and his deputies.

#### A Lead from New York.

It was reported from New York last Saturday that the Episcopal Church in the United States proposes, among other major alterations, to exclude the word "obey" from the Marriage Service.

#### Women and the Ministry—For and Against.

*The British Weekly* has just had an interesting prize competition on "Should the Churches ordain women to the ministry?" The prize editor, writing this week, states that the affirmative and negative replies balance each other almost evenly. It is interesting to hear that ministers of religion who have contributed their views are in almost every case favourable to the ordination of women, and that the opposition comes chiefly from "the pew." One of the obstacles to any change that clashes against traditional usage is that it is so difficult to gauge the opinion of the average man and woman. *The British Weekly* is therefore to be congratulated on having ventilated this question in its columns, and the admirable summary of the prize editor should be widely read by all concerned in this matter.

#### Questions in Parliament.

THE FACTORIES BILL.—On 2nd July, Mr. Robinson asked the Home Secretary whether he is now able to give the date when it is proposed to introduce the Factories Bill. Sir W. Joynson-Hicks said he was not yet in a position to fix a date for the introduction of the Bill.

CHARITABLE SOCIETIES.—Mr. Briant asked the Home Secretary on 2nd July if he was aware that there was nothing to prevent any one from starting a charity and living on the proceeds, and if he would appoint a Committee to inquire as to what steps can be taken to prevent misuse of the gifts of the charitable. Sir W. Joynson-Hicks referred to his reply on 18th June. A very strong Committee was appointed a month ago to investigate the methods of raising funds for charities.

#### MORE LIGHT ?

In an earlier issue we announced the publication by the National Council of Public Morals of a report drawn up by a Special Committee on the Ethics of Birth Control. The report, together with the evidence submitted orally and in writing to the Committee, is now in our hands,<sup>1</sup> and we hasten to discharge—somewhat reluctantly—the duty of reviewing it. Reluctantly—because, alas, this painstaking contribution really adds nothing new to the literature of the subject. And we are inclined to think that the root of this inadequacy lies in the Committee's strangely inept selection of witnesses. Many of these witnesses are eminent men and women whose views upon the ethics of birth control are of public interest; only, in the case of the great majority, their views are already perfectly well known. We all know what Lord Dawson of Penn thinks about the matter, though every time he states his case we are re-impressed with the extraordinary wisdom and sympathy of his statement. We all know what Lady Barrett thinks—and Bishop Gore—and Mr. Harold Cox—and Miss Royden. If we do not, existing publications offer us ample opportunity for learning. We all know what Mr. Bertrand Russell thinks, although there is a certain piquancy in the appearance of this eminent philosopher as the selected mouthpiece on this delicate subject of several thousand married working women with whose daily experiences he must be wholly unfamiliar. But where are the married working women themselves, whose motives, sufferings, and fears should properly have provided the raw material of this report? Where are the slum doctors, the representatives of the Women's Co-operative Guild, the day-to-day workers at Infant Welfare Centres and Birth Control clinics, whose first-hand knowledge should have informed the makers of the report? Where is even one single witness who has experienced the process of child-bearing? Nowhere. A report based upon such evidence is clearly foredoomed to sterility from the very start.

But to revert to the report itself. "Self-control," by which members of the Committee mean complete abstinence from intercourse between man and wife, is in their opinion "the ideal method of birth control." Here they directly join issue with those, including Lord Dawson, who regard such intercourse as a thing physically, psychologically, and spiritually desirable in itself. They are not, however, dogmatic with regard to other forms of birth control. They do not for instance condemn contraceptive practices as "unnatural." In certain medical cases they admit that their use may be inevitable. Indeed, their whole discussion of this particular aspect of the question is so indeterminate that—taken together with the drastic individual

reservations of various signatories to the main report—well-intentioned citizens in search of moral guidance will come empty away from its perusal.

A similar report<sup>2</sup> published by a group of members of the Society of Friends carries us a long step nearer to the view propounded by Lord Dawson—the view already held, we venture to think, by the great mass of those persons who are directly concerned with the problem. This may be due to the much larger proportion of married women represented on the committee. Or it may be due to the freedom of the signatories from ecclesiastical tradition. However, the fact remains that the Friends' Committee does not regard "self-control" (to use the question-begging phrase of the first report) as "necessarily right for most married people"; it admits that there is "some evidence for the view that the attempt to follow the method of complete abstinence involves unhealthy nervous strain"; and though it recognizes that grave moral dangers may be connected with the practice of contraception—one among them being over insistence upon the importance of the physical act—it does not find itself "able to endorse the absolute condemnation of the practice as in itself immoral."

We would add one word, spoken from the woman's point of view, to both these documents. The "self-control" which the first report exalts and which the second recognizes as a high standard obtainable by a few, is, we believe, a matter of very easy virtue to large numbers of married women, especially those whose desire for motherhood has already been met. They are able to find adequate emotional satisfaction in other forms of self-expression and prolonged abstinence from sex-relations involves no self-control other than the fear that they are making a demand which involves strain and self-repression for a well-loved companion. To bring them face to face, as the first report would do, with the alternative of undesired motherhood or the denial (in some cases the ineffective denial) of something which they believe that companion to desire very insistently, is to place upon them a very unhappy responsibility. We believe that "self-control" places directly a far greater strain upon the man than upon the woman, that it is therefore a counsel of perfection which if preached at all, should be preached by men to men, and that the married woman who for reasons of her own does not desire motherhood, should be delivered by free access to sound contraceptive knowledge from the invidious task of imposing a burden whose weight she cannot wholly gauge upon someone whose happiness affects her happiness and whose peace of mind is bound up with her own.

#### THE FINANCE OF THE PENSIONS SCHEME.

By J. L. COHEN.

Thanks to ten years of active propaganda the country is ripe for a scheme of Pensions for Widows and Orphans. It has long been ready for a reduction of the age at which Old Age Pensions are to be granted. All political parties accept these facts. And after twenty years' experience of Pensions and Insurance schemes there have resulted certain conclusions which should guide future action. And yet, with this exceptional opportunity for introducing a satisfactory piece of legislation, the present Government's scheme does not only not gain for it the support of other parties, but has lost for it the support of many of its own party. Why? Because it proposes to finance the scheme in the worst possible way.

Finance is the essence of a scheme of insurance. The raising of the money, the contributions and benefits, are not merely small incidents in the matter; they are fundamental. There are three ways in which the scheme could be financed. It could have been done on a non-contributory basis. As a rule this is the most popular method, and certainly would have been so to-day. It is advocated by the Labour Party, and if Sir Alfred Mond and Sir Robert Horne's speeches mean anything, they mean that the Government ought to find the total costs of the scheme.

The second method of financing the scheme could have been the contributory method, with the Government, the employer, and the worker sharing the costs of the scheme. Unemployment and health insurance are being financed in this country in this way. The Government can make its insurance scheme part of a bigger plan for dealing with some social malady.

<sup>1</sup> *The Ethics of Birth Control.* (McMillan & Co., Ltd., price 2s. 6d.)

<sup>2</sup> *Marriage and Parenthood.* The Problem of Birth Control. Obtainable from the Friends' Bookshop, 140 Bishopsgate, London, E.C.2. Price 6d.

But the Government has chosen the third method of financing the scheme, viz., that of placing the whole burden on the workman and the employer. All Government grant is to be withheld, when the scheme really gets going. Moreover, so enamoured is the Government of this method of finance that it needlessly proposes to revise the finances of the existing Old Age Pensions Act at seventy. This scheme has been working well for some seventeen years, and the burden of financing it is "unfelt and unseen." The Government means to introduce a new method of financing social Insurance measures, which ignores the immediate conditions of unemployment and depressed trade in which the country finds itself, and has little to commend it in the long run. It is thus in danger of making a colossal mistake.

Let us note briefly what alternatives were available to the Government, and which it ought carefully to consider. It is in the very lucky position of being able to establish a non-contributory scheme in one of three ways. It is not yet too late for extra parliamentary pressure to save the Government scheme from the folly of those who planned it!

The Budget showed a surplus of £26,000,000. This would be sufficient to pay for the costs of the new scheme for the next thirty years, a sufficiently long time for which to finance it. But this surplus is to be dissipated amongst the income tax payers, which include the idle investor, and the total burden together with the costs of the older scheme are to be borne by the workers and employers. This reckless "statesmanship" can only go through if members of Parliament are ignorant of its effects.

The second source from which the costs of the scheme can be financed is known to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, but not sufficiently used. The War Pensions scheme is a dwindling

liability. Let the Government declare that it will devote any amount under £70,000,000 a year towards the cost of the Widows', Orphans', and Old Age Pensions scheme.

The third source from which a harassed Chancellor may take money would require some courage to attempt. By transferring workman's compensation and burial insurance from private companies to a State department he could save some £15,000,000 a year, an amount sufficient to pay for Widows' and Orphans' Pensions for many years.

It is almost unbelievable that the culpable folly of adding to the taxation of employers and workers will be attempted when these three sources of providing revenue for the scheme are available.

But assuming that the Government is determined on a contributory scheme why throw away the device of the State contribution? Here is a departure which the sponsors of the scheme have made no attempt to justify. There is considerable danger indeed that the Government will avoid an explanation and justification of many of its proposals on the ground that the whole edifice which they are endeavouring to construct is huge, and must stand together. A scheme worked out for eighty years ahead is in itself somewhat absurd. Surely no one really believes that whatever decisions this Parliament arrives at future Parliaments will not alter the amount of benefits and, in consequence, the method of finding the funds. But it would be folly indeed to meet criticisms and suggested amendments with the statement that the scheme must be accepted as a whole because the alteration of any one part involves revising the whole.

What are the grounds for the view that the State should be asked to contribute permanently towards the cost of the new scheme?

First, the State has always in the past taken care of the needy, widow and orphan, and of the aged. Should Parliament now endeavour to divest if of a duty borne at least since the days of Elizabeth?

Second, the Government contribution buys and justifies Government supervision. It strengthens its hands in dealing with the powers concerned. This is very significant if the administration or any part of it is to be left to the Approved Societies.

Third, it enables large sums to be raised quickly and with comparative ease.

Fourth, the two other national schemes of insurance are financed in this way, and it is desirable that we should run all our schemes on the same lines. There is at least as much reason for the withdrawal of the Government contribution from the health and the unemployment insurance schemes as from the Old Age and Widows Pension schemes. In short, in this respect the scheme runs counter to all the professions of faith in unification indulged in by all parties.

Lastly, the withdrawal of a Government contribution means increasing the burden on the employers and workers. Thus, if the Government is determined to oppose a non-contributory scheme, at least let it adopt a contributory scheme with the Government finding permanently, and not only in the early stages, a considerable part of the costs.

#### THIS WEEK AND NEXT.

We regret that this week's instalment of "Two Spring Visits to Palestine," owing to pressure on our space, has been held over to next week's issue. This series is approaching its close, and our readers will greatly miss the weekly personal contact with Dame Millicent which her delightful articles afford. For the same reason we have been obliged to hold over our comments on the Unemployment Insurance Bill, with which we hope to deal next week.

### The Faith of a Modern Churchman.

#### CONFERENCE AT OXFORD

24th to 31st August.

MEETINGS AT THE UNION.

Board and Lodging at Somerville and St. Hugh's.

Further information from the Hon. Secretary, Miss Nussey, Upper Ewe Croft, Ilkley.

## A WEEK ON THE PENSIONS BILL.

BY A CORRESPONDENT.

### DEFECTS IN PROCEDURE.

Those who have been reading the new *Life of Parnell* by St. John Ervine must have been struck by resemblances between the methods of procedure in the House of which he was a member and the present House of Commons. The tactics both on the Government and Opposition benches in the late seventies appear to have been almost identical with those adopted last week, including a series of all night sittings with arrangements on the Government side for relays of Members to ensure a majority during the small hours of the night. Certainly the onlooker on Wednesday and Thursday nights last week came away more convinced than ever of the necessity of reform in the present Parliamentary system. The weariness of the all night sittings, the meaningless repetition and mechanical tramping through division lobbies, did not tend (to quote a Conservative member writing in *The Times*) "to enhance the reputation of the House and the system of representative government." Practically a whole week was given to the Widows' Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Bill. For four days and two long nights the House wrestled painstakingly with detail after detail of the Bill, with the result that by Friday afternoon clause 9 out of the forty-five clauses of the Bill was reached. It is true that most of the wrestling was on one side of the House. The Government benches were for the most part silent, and the debate consisted mainly of Opposition speeches with brief rejoinders from the Minister of Health and his Parliamentary Secretary. Whatever views one may hold as to the excellence or the reverse of the Bill, it was impossible not to admire Mr. Chamberlain's admirable patience, good temper, brevity of speech, and most of all his conciliatory attitude towards those who genuinely sought to improve his Bill. But from the angle of an outsider much valuable time was quite unnecessarily lost on the first night by the Government's refusal to tell the House the extent of the additional payments to be imposed on employers and workers to bear the cost of the new pensions schemes.

### SOME CONCESSIONS GAINED.

This Bill is probably the largest and hardest nut that women's organizations have ever been called upon to crack, as it involved no small knowledge of health and unemployment insurance and difficult actuarial statistics. Possibly that is the reason why—with the exception of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, which was actively promoting certain amendments—no representatives of women's non-party societies were to be seen in the lobbies of the House. The efforts of such organizations as were at work on the Bill have not been altogether in vain, as the week's results show. One important concession was touched on in a footnote to the leading article in this paper last week. It extended the age up to which pensions for children should be granted to any age not exceeding 16, up to which the child remains in full time attendance in a day school. Another valuable concession was to make the pension in the case of orphan children at a flat rate of 7s. 6d., no differentiation being made between the eldest child and the other children. Further, if children are taken from their mother's care for any reason specified in the Bill, pensions on their behalf will be payable at the same rates as for orphans.

### FAIR PLAY FOR THE WIDOW.

Mr. Chamberlain himself moved an amendment in the interests of justice to the widow. After the subsection dealing with the transference of children's allowances from the mother to some other person in cases in which the mother is disqualified from receiving her pension, or has abandoned or ceased to support the child, he inserted a proviso that—

"Provided that where the widow or other person to whom the additional allowance or orphan's pension is payable has not had an opportunity of presenting her case personally to the local authority, or a person appointed for the purpose by the local authority, the Minister, except in such cases as may be prescribed, shall, before giving any such direction, give the widow, or such other person as aforesaid, an opportunity of so presenting her case to a person appointed by him."

Mr. Chamberlain greatly strengthened the value of his amendment by accepting the words "or through some person appointed by her" after the word "personally." This will enable a woman to appoint someone to state her case for her if she should be too frightened or ignorant to do so herself.

### A FEMINIST HOUSE—A SUBSECTION WITHDRAWN.

Feminists, if there were any in the galleries, must have rejoiced to find so many kindred spirits on both sides of the House in the debate which took place on subsection 4 of clause 6. The deletion of this section, which provided, subject to the Minister's approval, that pensions and additional allowances for children shall be paid to the Local Authority, or someone approved by him, to be administered on behalf of the widow, was moved in a singularly able speech by Miss Wilkinson. The widow's right to be treated as an adult and not as a child was upheld in a rapid flow of speeches from the Government as well as the Opposition benches. Among many who eloquently pleaded for fair play were Lady Astor, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, Lieut.-Commander Astbury, and Sir Robert Newman. There was much satisfaction when Mr. Chamberlain agreed to withdraw the subsection for further consideration on the report stage.

### THE PERMANENT SPINSTER.

A discussion of peculiar interest arose on Friday on clause 8 of the Bill which deals with the statutory conditions of old age pensions. Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, Sir Alfred Mond, Mr. H. Williams, Sir John Marriott, and other speakers on both sides of the House pointed out the hardship which arose from the fact that a man or woman may not be able to remain in industry until the age of 65, and may therefore lose a right to the old age pension unless he or she can remain a voluntary contributor, which is out of the question for many on account of the high rates of contributions (1s. 6d. for a man, 1s. 1d. for a woman weekly). Mr. Chamberlain was obviously impressed by the arguments raised, and though obdurate on the point which has been urged in these columns, viz. that voluntary contributors should be able to insure for purposes of health insurance and for the purposes of this Act separately, he has promised to see what he can do in clause 13 on the lines suggested by Mr. H. Williams to enable those who are not able to remain in insurance until the age of 65 to receive a correspondingly lower rate of pension after that age.

In spite of defects in procedure alluded to above, those who followed the events of last week in the House, or in Hansard, or in the Press must have realized that much hard thinking and solid work lay behind the proceedings, and women who have been striving for this reform for many years must feel grateful to those who are fighting its battles on both sides on the floor of the House of Commons. Many names might be selected, but perhaps here it may be fitting to single out the names of Lady Astor on the Government and Miss Wilkinson on the Opposition benches, who seemed to be always in their places like Immortals untouched by the physical fatigues of mere human beings.

## WOMEN CO-OPERATORS IN CONGRESS.

### TOWARDS PEACE AND PROGRESS.

A thousand women or more—members of the Women's Co-operative Guild—met at Cambridge last week for their annual Congress. In so doing, Mrs. Rackham, J.P., who has worked for twenty-three years to build up the Cambridge branch, said that one of the dreams of her life had been realized.

It was, indeed, a splendid gathering. There were women present from all parts of Great Britain and Ireland, whose banners covered most of the Guildhall's available wall space. One banner displayed a fine portrait of the first and great leader of this movement, Miss Margaret Llewelyn Davies.

Were the members of the Congress to try to reduce to essentials the abundant discussions of their hot but happy days, they might find that what they had mainly been striving towards was the ideal of world peace. Were that attained, then the march towards progress would be faster. Meantime, the Guild moved forward in no hesitating manner, but expressed itself definitely concerning its immediate objects.

### EQUAL FRANCHISE.

Further and fuller education was one of these objects. As one of the men speakers truly said, the Women's Co-operative Guild is in a sense the "University" of its members. The meetings of the Guilds, separately and in Congress, enable women to hear public questions explained from one side and sometimes from more than one; and they encourage these women to shape their own vague thoughts into clear speech—for most people's thoughts are cloudy till they have been shaped for other people's hearing.

But the members were not encouraged to think that education is solely talk about current political matters. They were delighted to hear the Workers' Educational Association extolled on the opening night by the Vice-Chancellor (Professor Seward, Master of Downing), who added that the University of Cambridge hoped shortly to develop its "extra-mural" teaching still further. They were eager to see some of their daughters enabled to share in a Cambridge education, and they were specially pleased to be welcomed to Cambridge by a Girtonian, in the person of Mrs. Hartree, the first woman Mayor of Cambridge. In the discussion on education several of the speakers pressed that, by means of grants, secondary education should be brought within the reach of a larger number of girls.

The note of the Congress—good or bad as one may regard it—was its practical unanimity on the big general questions. On matters of co-operative organization and government there were many little cleavages. The unanimity on general questions which is most valuable to thinkers asking for the support of the Guild, tends none the less to make the discussions on these points somewhat tame and the trend of voting a foregone result. For Equal Franchise there was absolute solidarity—grievous had it been otherwise—and time was happily allowed for an admirable speech from a Walsall delegate (Mrs. Dewsbury), reminding Mr. Baldwin and the Government (who have hinted at votes for all at 25) that to raise the age for men's enfranchisement was unthinkable, and that women (who are not too young to rear children at 21) should have the vote at the age of legal majority.

### PENSIONS AND FAMILY ALLOWANCES.

Similarly brief was the time spared for Family Allowances on which Alderman Rose Davies spoke effectively. The motion urged that "careful consideration should be given to the schemes of family allowances which have been successful in other countries," and resolved that "the Guild give special study to the question during the coming year." A member asked for further information concerning the schemes desired, but did not press the point; and with only a few dissentients, the resolution was carried.

There were items on the programme dealing with Widows' and Old Age Pensions and children's allowances which were welded together in the form of the following omnibus resolution demand which met with unanimous acquiescence:—

"This Conference expresses its profound disappointment at the character of the Pensions Bill now before the House. It declares its conviction that no contributory scheme of Widows' or Old Age Pensions will be acceptable to the nation, and re-affirms its demand that these pensions should be provided out of State funds. It further demands (a) that the proposed scale of pensions to widows and allowances to children should be raised to at least War Pensions standard, (b) that the children's allowances should be continued till their dependency ceases, (c) that spinsters who are unable to support themselves should be brought within the scope of the Bill, (d) that no woman should have her pension taken away or suspended unless she is being otherwise maintained at the public expense, or be deprived of her children's allowances except on the recommendation of a local Pensions Committee, (e) that Old Age Pensions should be payable at sixty."

The nation's housing grievances found many an exponent. There was much complaint about unoccupied houses, and the Government were pressed vigorously to have houses built within the means of wage-earning people, and suited to the needs of the present time. Questions affecting the care of mothers and babies, the protection of young people, and the increase in the number of women police were only a few of other topics treated with intelligence and zeal.

### INTERNATIONAL CORDIALITY.

Messages of goodwill were brought by women from Scotland, Ireland, Cape Town, Sydney, and even from Soviet Russia. But one of the most charming speeches was that delivered in German by Frau Greetz who expressed the same longing for peace and horror of war that animated her British hearers.

### FORCE OR JUSTICE?

These and other meetings, under the genial chairmanship of the Guild's President, Mrs. Matthews, paved the way for the climax—a thronged public demonstration on "Force or Justice among Nations." Cambridge men and women came with enthusiasm to hear Miss Bondfield. There was, however, first

a speech on the Chinese problem, as seen by a young Chinese student, Mr. Hu. He put the Chinese anti-foreigner side with ability, and supported a resolution, which the Congress accepted, protesting against the presence of British military forces in China during the labour dispute, expressing horror at the conditions under which children are employed, and demanding the revision and abolition of the whole system of extra-territoriality.

Then came Miss Margaret Bondfield, clear, statesmanlike, and impassioned. She did not shrink from facts. She reminded men and women of this country that the long chapter of time when the world's markets could purchase unlimited products from Great Britain had come to a close. The nation had to face the economic pressure arising from years of unemployment. She deplored the breaking down of standards. On the employers' side there was the beating down of wages. On the workers' side there was sometimes a tendency to forget that such power as they had attained had been the result of fifty years' labour for the Trade Union movement and of another fifty years' work for the minimum wage and protective legislation. She begged members of the Guild to bring up their children to value the principles of trade union organization. The trade union movement could only be effective if it became international. There must be an eight-hours' day, for instance, in the textile industries of the East as well as the West. In India and Japan they were making a beginning to regulate child labour. But greater than industrial and all other evils was war. Miss Bondfield drew a terrible picture of the possibilities of city-destruction by airships and of the murderous power of man's ingenuity. It was all-important to fight as hard to secure peace as the nation had fought in the war. We must ask ourselves were we going to end human life on the globe? If not, the "Will to Peace" must be fostered at all costs. In the ultimate result, refusing to take part in war, we might have to give our bodies to be destroyed in order to save our souls.

This was at once the highest and deepest note of the Congress.  
M. H.

### THE TORTOISESHELL CAT.

*The Tortoiseshell Cat* is a rather creepy book. But not as creepy as it would have been had Miss Royde-Smith blown a breath of genius into her cleverness, brought her variegated characters to life, and given us a real participation in their sorrows and their attachments. When Tannhäuser drowns himself in the seductive materialism of his *Venusberg*, we can, if we shut our eyes to the physical distractions of his hostess, and open our ears to the emotions which Wagner reproduces for us, capture some of his transitory delight in the sensation of spiritual drowning. But never for a moment does Miss Royde-Smith admit us to a personal apprehension of her Venus' charm, nor vouchsafe any convincing analysis of the peculiar satisfaction which her novel's heroine derives from that vulgar, brainless lady's ministrations and caresses. Such things do happen of course—we have seen them happen. But it is the business of the novelist to do something more than simply transcribe the improbabilities of real life on to the printed page, and leave them at that. For the rest—and the keynote of the book is the *Venusberg* incident to which we have referred—Miss Royde-Smith tells us a ramified and vivacious tale of London life. Her characters are as stylized as the dancers in the Russian ballet, and almost as neatly fitted to their pattern. It is, on the whole, not a very good novel, yet it leaves us with the hope that its author will write another.

One word more added to this ambiguous dispraise. Unique among London's literary showmen, Miss Royde-Smith recalls, in passing, the beauty of the Lots Road Power House. She is wrong, of course, to compare it to anything so elegant as a sailing ship with its sails furled—it resembles rather a troopship of the twenty-first century built for a Robot army. But she is right to call our attention to it, for it is one of London's most haunting buildings. Have you ever seen it, oh reader, from the Chelsea Embankment, with a sunset in the western sky behind it? Or crossing Battersea Bridge from the Surrey side in an early morning mist? It stands out in the tidal flow of the river as though on a peninsular all its own, its four stupendous chimneys towering like sentries over their roof's austere majesty, while they turn, chameleon-like, from blue to grey, from grey to sombre black. . . . But we wander from the point. M. D. S.

<sup>1</sup> *The Tortoiseshell Cat*, by Naomi Royde-Smith. (Constable, 7s. 6d.)

## NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

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### WIDOWS', ORPHANS', AND OLD AGE CONTRIBUTORY PENSIONS BILL.

An account is given in another column of the progress of the above Bill in Committee. Several of the amendments referred to in this column were initiated by our Headquarters—in particular the amendments to Mr. Chamberlain's amendment to Clause 6 and the deletion of sub-section 4 of the same clause, moved by Miss Wilkinson. Of the other concessions, that raising the age up to which children's allowances can be given to sixteen in the case of children attending school was supported by the N.U.S.E.C., as were several others put forward but not carried. It was clear during the course of the debate that the memorandum written by Miss Rathbone, which had been circulated to all the Members, had been read, and the arguments noted by many of them.

### SUMMARY JURISDICTION (SEPARATION AND MAINTENANCE) BILL.

An account is also given in another column of the amendments which were added to this Bill during its Report Stage in the House of Lords. That relating to the division of furniture, moved on this occasion by the Lord Chancellor, was, as our members will remember, advocated and worked for for a considerable time by the N.U.S.E.C.

### SUMMER SCHOOL FOR MAGISTRATES AND CITIZENS, 25th August to 8th September.

We are glad to be able to announce that Lord Astor has promised to speak on the Bishop of Oxford's Bill, if he can possibly arrange to do so, on Wednesday evening, 26th August. Applications are now coming in very well, and those who wish to have a room reserved at St. Hilda's are asked to write as soon as possible, especially if they wish to come for the first week, to The Secretary, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

### GARDEN PARTY IN HONOUR OF DAME MILLICENT FAWCETT, G.B.E.

The Entertainments Committee will be very grateful for any contributions of cakes, biscuits, etc., towards the tea at the Garden Party to be given in honour of Dame Millicent Fawcett, G.B.E., on 23rd July, at 3.30 p.m., at Aubrey House, Kensington. Will those who kindly contribute in this way specify the nature of their gift, before 20th July, to Mrs. Claude Taylor, 1 Pembroke Gardens, W. 8.

### NEWS FROM SOCIETIES.

#### CARDIFF WOMEN'S CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION.

On 2nd July, a Garden Party was held at "Hillside," Pen-y-lan, by kind permission of Mrs. Robinson.

The chair was taken by the Lady Mayoress, Miss Alice Pethybridge, who is president of the Association. Miss Clare Howard, Ph.D., of Columbia University, New York, in a most interesting address, contrasted the civic life of the great American city with that of Cardiff and other British towns. She said that America had much to learn from Britain with regard to municipal and political affairs. She had been much impressed by the zeal and steady interest shown by Cardiff women in public matters, and she wished that the women of New York could enter as fully into the life of their city.

Votes of thanks were proposed and seconded by Mrs. J. T. Richards, J.P., Miss Barke, Professor Barbara Foxley, and Miss Marshall. Tea on the terrace was followed by music and by Folk Dances by the Maypole Dancers from Rhubina.

## THE WOMAN'S LEADER

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### SAVE THE CHILDREN.

The Save the Children Fund has issued an appeal for refugee children with a covering letter from the Duke of Atholl. The appeal is written by Mr. Percy Alden, Chairman of the Council of the Save the Children Fund, who has recently visited the Near East and seen for himself the condition of the refugees in Greece. Mr. Alden's touching little pamphlet, with its illustrations of child life, is all the more convincing because it portrays the hopeful side of the relief work carried on rather than its unspeakable horrors. The Greek Government and the Settlement Commission are doing miracles in the way of settlement. About 40,000 families are now settled on tobacco farms, and thousands of houses have been built, but charitable aid cannot be given from public loan funds, and food, clothing, and drugs are desperately required for the widows and orphans who are not so readily absorbed into the life of the towns as families with male wage earners. Is it true that we are returning to the spirit of the luxury-loving days before the war, and becoming callous, after so many years, of the trail of misery left behind by the War? It may be true, but we think even the most horror hardened will be moved by Mr. Alden's appeal. No woman, however poor or overburdened with claims, who reads his description of the suffering among the child refugees of Greece, Bulgaria, Armenia, Russia, and Turkey will be able to refuse some form of response, however small, in the shape of money or clothes to the Save the Children Fund or other kindred organizations which are struggling with shortage of resources to meet the crying needs which confront them.

### "THE SON OF HEAVEN."

There is still time to get seats for Mr. Lytton Strachey's play *The Son of Heaven*, which is being performed at the Scala Theatre on Sunday evening and Monday afternoon for the benefit of the London Society for Women's Service. It is hoped that everyone will seize the opportunity of being present at what will undoubtedly be one of the great dramatic and artistic occasions of the season. We understand that Miss Gertrude Kingstom will surpass herself as the Empress of China, and that Mr. Duncan Grant's scenery and dresses will be worthy of the artist who designs for Mme. Lopokova; Mr. Walton, too, composer of the incidental music, has an European reputation.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### "THE SON OF HEAVEN."

MADAM,—May I beg the courtesy of a few lines of your valuable space to clear up some slight confusion which has arisen in regard to Mr. Lytton Strachey's Chinese play, which is being produced by the Civic and Dramatic Guild at the Scala next Sunday and Monday. The play has been passed by the Lord Chamberlain, and the only reason that those who desire to be present on Sunday must enter their names as members of the Guild is in order to comply with the law affecting all Sunday dramatic performances. It may be of interest to your readers if I recall how the Guild was founded in 1909, when Mr. Bernard Shaw wrote *Press Cuttings* for the London Society for (as it then was) Women Suffrage, which was censored because Mr. Shaw introduced Mr. Asquith, disguised as Balsquith, as one of the characters, and it therefore became necessary, within ten days, to have a membership performance. Lord Gladstone, speaking a few days ago at Women Service House, on the work of the Home Office, reminded us of the Lord Chamberlain's ban upon *The Mikado*, lest a play dealing with the internal affairs of Japan should offend the representatives of that country. Though Mr. Strachey deals in his play with the internal affairs of China, public opinion has moved on since the days of *The Mikado*, and his play is blessed by the censorship, but only the Monday performance may be booked at the ordinary agencies. It is still, however, open to anyone who desires to be present on Sunday to apply at the offices of the Guild, Women Service House, for membership, which entitles, without further formality or expense, to a seat. The address is 35 Marsham Street, S.W. 1. Telephone, Victoria 129.

A. HELEN WARD,  
Treasurer, Civic and Dramatic Guild.

#### WHEN REGULATION IS NOT REGULATION.

MADAM,—In reference to the mobbing of the tolerated brothels of Strasburg (Alsace), commented on in your issue of 26th June, surely it would be a matter of congratulation if no British girls were at the time in these houses!

If a nation permits young girls to be shut up in these licensed brothels for no purpose too vile (see *Les Maisons de Tolérance*, by Louis Fiaux, a standard work), the British nation, at any rate now, should do whatever it can to directly prevent British girls being found in them.

Those who oppose the Sokal resolution brought before the Permanent Advisory Committee for the Suppression of Traffic in Women to the League of Nations, that no foreign girls should be on sale in the licensed brothels, fail to see that this resolution put into practice is not a regulation for carrying on these official houses of vice, but a regulation for destroying them. And the plight of any girls, let alone foreign girls, in these maisons tolérées with, e.g., iron spiked doors with eye holes, closed shutters, and huge numbers outside advertising their sale, must be terrible.

This regulation would undoubtedly save many foreign girls. Is it not worth while, too, making some attempt to attack the licensed houses, to make a breach in their walls? France, anyhow, has just agreed to carry out this regulation.

F. K. POWELL.

### TEMPERANCE REFORM.

MADAM,—It may be of interest to the readers of the *WOMAN'S LEADER* to learn some of the reasons why the vast majority of women, who are organized in the National Temperance Societies (such as the B.W.T.A. and W.T.A.U.) are opposed to any further extension of the Carlisle Scheme of State or Public Ownership of the Liquor Trade.

Grant for the sake of argument that in Carlisle (1) Drunkenness has decreased; (2) that numbers of public houses have been closed; (3) that houses for the supply of food have increased. But bear in mind that this is true of the whole country, and in some towns (industrial centres, with dense populations) without State ownership, the improvement has been more marked even than in Carlisle.

We all know that there were special War conditions in Carlisle, due to the influx of many men of the heavy drinking type, followed by a large number of women and girl workers, when it became one of the great munition centres, which makes it very difficult to draw conclusions, to be applied to the rest of the country. Lord D'Abernon, the Chairman of the Control Board, speaking of the high administrative ability of the officials, said: "I rate their work so highly that I doubt if similar results could be obtained if the same system were extended to the whole country. Great caution should be observed in working from the particular to the general." In pre-war days, there were very few cafés or restaurants in Carlisle. Any private company would have found the provision of meals or cooked foods, a paying concern. The café habit in Liverpool, for instance, has greatly increased within the last decade, but when an application was made last year to the licensing authority for permission to sell intoxicating liquors in some of the cafés, the citizens strongly opposed and the magistrates refused the application. What would have happened had there been a Control Board in Liverpool one wonders?

Mrs. Rackham's account of the Carlisle houses was given in the *WOMAN'S LEADER* in the column "The Law at Work." One of the objections to the working of the Carlisle experiment is, that the Control Board abrogated the Law. When the Licensing Magistrates, in other parts of the country, have an application for a new licence, they consider the needs of the neighbourhood, and hear the views of the local residents.

If the application is granted, the residents have a second chance to oppose when the licence comes up for confirmation. The Carlisle Board took over a house in a residential neighbourhood, in order to convert it into an "improved Licensed House." The local residents were strongly opposed, but the Board opened it for the sale of intoxicants, and there was no appeal from their decision. Again, when they took over the Maryport Coffee Tavern, a house frequented by many young people on half-holidays, intoxicants were introduced, in spite of local opinion, and there was no appeal from the Board's decision.

All Social workers recognize the need for more provision for the social needs of the people, especially for the young. When the Carlisle Scheme was first mooted, there was talk of providing counter attractions to the public house, out of the proceeds. As yet nothing has been done in this respect in the Carlisle Area. As a matter of fact, the Board closed the only temperance house in Longtown. Experience in Carlisle has followed along the lines of the liquor licences under the Government in India. The official mind is the same everywhere.

For five hundred years public authorities in this country have endeavoured by legislation and restriction to control and regulate the sale of liquor. Each generation sees some scheme for improving the management or removing the temptation to drink. The Temperance Women have long ago recognized that the root of the trouble lies in the nature of the commodity sold, not in the conditions of the sale. Their opposition to the extension of the Carlisle experiment is not merely a negative one. Their constructive policy is: (1) Education as to the true nature of the drug alcohol, which unlike other commodities, creates a demand for more. This simple physiological fact, viz., that even small doses affect the nerves controlling the blood vessels, so that their diameter is increased, accounts for the large quantities of alcoholic liquor which an individual can consume. (2) Provision of places for social life apart from the supply of alcohol. (The local authorities provide open spaces for bowling, cricket, tennis, etc., for the all too short summer months, why not supply indoor accommodation for the winter months, in our densely populated areas?) (3) Giving the power to the residents, in those localities where they desire to try the experiment of doing without the open and unlimited sale of intoxicants, of saying for themselves, by the ballot, whether they desire licensed premises or not. (4) Making this ballot as simple as possible, viz., no third option to split the vote of those desiring to make some reform, but a simple for or against the provision of the supply of a narcotic drug which no healthy body requires.

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## COMING EVENTS.

## BRITISH COMMONWEALTH LEAGUE.

JULY 10, 10 a.m. and 2.15 p.m. Second day of Conference at Caxton Hall Council Chamber, Westminster, S.W. 1, on "The Citizen Rights of Women within the British Empire." 1 p.m., Luncheon at Criterion Restaurant. Tickets, 5s. 6d.

JULY 13, 4.30 p.m. Garden Party at Bedford College, Regent's Park, N.W.

For further particulars, apply Miss Collisson, 17 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, W.C. 2.

## GUILDHOUSE W.C.S.

JULY 20, 3 p.m. Visit to Westminster Abbey.

## LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE.

JULY 12, at 8.15 p.m., and JULY 13, at 2.30 p.m. Performance of "The Son of Heaven," by Lytton Strachey, at the Scala Theatre, Charlotte Street, in aid of funds of L.S.W.S. For particulars, apply the Hon. Secretary, Civic and Dramatic Guild, 35 Marsham Street, S.W. 1.

## NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

JULY 15, 5 p.m. Drawing-room Meeting at "Westbury," Hornsey Lane (by kind permission of Miss Alexander. Speakers: Miss Helen Fraser, Miss Monica Whately. Chair: Lady Pares.

JULY 23, 3.30 p.m. Garden Party in honour of Dame Millicent Fawcett, G.B.E., at Aubrey House, 11a Aubrey Walk, Kensington, W. 8 (by kind permission of the Misses Alexander).

Croydon W.C.A. JULY 29, 3 p.m. Miss Beaumont on "All-in Insurance."

Kensington and Paddington S.E.C. JULY 11, 3.30 p.m. Garden Party at Pembroke Lodge, Pembroke Gardens, Kensington, W. 8 (by kind permission of Mrs. Adrian Corbett). Speaker: Miss Helen Fraser, on "The British Commonwealth Equality League."

St. Pancras S.E.C. Inaugural Meeting, JULY 14, 8 p.m. Drawing-room Meeting at 11 St. George's Terrace, Regent's Park, N.W. (by kind permission of Mrs. Seymour Seal). Speaker: Mrs. Hooster, on "The Work of the N.U.S.E.C." Chair: Lady Balfour of Burleigh.

## SOUTHALL WOMEN'S LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

JULY 13, 3 p.m. Mrs. Walter Layton, on "Widows' Pensions."

## WOMEN'S ENGINEERING SOCIETY.

JULY 15-17, British Empire Exhibition, Wembley. International Conference of Women in Science, Industry, and Commerce. President: H.R.H. The Duchess of York.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 35 Marsham Street, Westminster. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Information Bureau. Interviews, 10 to 1, except Saturdays. Members' Centre open daily. Restaurant open to 7.30 (not Saturdays).

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 12th July, 6.30 p.m., the Rev. Harold Anson.

TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS.—A few vacancies in September in attractive house opened at 100 Grosvenor Road, Westminster, for girl students and women workers requiring a London home. Supervision if required by trained educationists.—Apply, 100 Grosvenor Road, S.W. 1.

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