

THE WOMAN'S LEADER

AND THE COMMON CAUSE

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NOTES AND NEWS.

The Coming Session.

Next week we propose, in a leading article, to discuss the possibilities of the coming session with regard to the objects for which this paper primarily stands. Mr. Baldwin's speech at Birmingham dealt with a fascinating and hopeful subject which we refer to later, and we cannot blame him for confining himself to a constructive scheme of development, though we should have liked to hear from him a little more about the possibilities of the new session in other directions. The most critical matter with which Parliament will have to deal will of course be the report of the Coal Commission and the Mines Bill. The public sittings of the Commission concluded last week, and the report is expected in about six weeks. Those who have followed the evidence closely cannot feel very hopeful about a speedy solution. The refusal of the miners' representatives to open their minds to ideas other than their own on the one hand, and the lame and reactionary proposals of the mineowners on the other, make the task of the Commission in producing a workable scheme for 1st May practically impossible. It is hardly to be wondered at that at the present critical stage Mr. Baldwin left the subject alone.

Women Police and the Next Session.

A Conference of Women's Organizations was called by the Six Point Group on Tuesday, 19th January, to consider whether they would ask Members of Parliament to ballot for a Private Member's Bill on the lines of Miss Wilkinson's Municipal Corporations Amendment Bill of last session. Several of the organizations represented were in favour of proceeding with the Bill. The National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, however, put forward an alternative suggestion, viz. that Members should be asked to ballot for a resolution on the following lines: "That this House notes with regret that only a small minority of Local Authorities have as yet appointed women police, although two Departmental Committees appointed by His Majesty's Government in 1920 and 1924 have declared their employment in large cities to be a matter of urgent need, and that the efficiency of the service has been improved by the employment of policewomen. This House therefore requests the Secretary of State for Home Affairs, whether by issuing Statutory Regulations or by promoting legislation, to make compulsory on Watch Committees the appointment of a sufficient number of Women Police as an integral part of the Police Force." The reasons given for this suggestion were, firstly, that in view of the fact that ballots for resolutions take place at the beginning of each month until April, there is more chance of obtaining a large number of promises than in the ballot for Bills; and, secondly, that a resolution would stand far more chance of being carried than the Bill proposed. A defeat would, it was argued,

be singularly unfortunate, as, although in fact it would probably be due to an objection to compulsion being imposed by *Statute*, it could be interpreted by Watch Committees as lack of support for the Women Police Movement. The Bill, it will be remembered, provided that it should be made compulsory by Statute on Watch Committees to appoint Women Police; the resolution suggests to the Home Secretary an alternative method concerning the appointment of Women Police by the issue of Statutory Regulations. We are delighted that the question is to be raised again in Parliament, as we feel that it is only by constant and determined efforts to keep the matter before the Government of the country that much can be accomplished.

Teacup—Second Storm.

Mr. Bingley has again been expressing his doubts and criticisms with regard to the Guardianship of Infants Act. He is now troubled by the omission from the Act of specific powers having been given to the father to apply for the custody of a child in a Court of Summary Jurisdiction. It appears to us, and apparently to those who drafted the Bill, that in view of the fact that a father has by Common Law the right to the custody of the child, it would have been superfluous in the new Act to give him the right to apply for it. If the custody of the child is taken away from him, whether by the mother or by any other person, he has and always has had his remedy—to fetch the child away. He has, moreover, always had the right to obtain a *Mandamus* in the High Court, in order that he may be given the custody of the child, and it is interesting to note that Mr. Bingley himself allowed the father in the case he was considering to make an application in the Court of Summary Jurisdiction. As our readers will remember, the 1886 Act was passed in order that the mother should be given the right to apply for the custody of the child, which she did not possess before, but it, like the 1925 Act, gave the father no new right. The 1925 Act leaves the law unchanged with regard to applications which may be made by the father with respect to the custody of the child, while the mother is still alive, but extends the right of application given to the mother in all cases and to guardians, including a father, acting after the death of one or both parents, to include applications to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction.

Electricity.

The Government proposals for the development of electrical power outlined by the Prime Minister last week, have been well received in different quarters. A Bill will shortly be introduced which will establish a new Executive Board with powers extending over the whole country. Greater unification and freedom from restriction will, it is hoped, lead under the proposed new scheme to a saving of many millions of pounds and provide employment for the industry and allied metal trades. Electricity should be available for business or household purposes at a uniform and reasonable price throughout the country. The Bill will be presented early in the Session, and after the second reading a Standing Committee will be appointed. The Government's proposals have been made public at the right time, for the future of the coal industry is bound up with the future of electricity. They have in addition to a national importance a special significance to the housekeeper who takes a scientific interest in her work.

An Experiment for Delinquent Children.

Some notes on a valuable social experiment in dealing with delinquent children coming before the Shorditch court have just reached us. The Stipendary Magistrate, Mr. Clarke Hall, and the probation officer have been anxious to find some alternative to certified Industrial and Reformatory Schools for promising boys convicted for minor offences who require special handling.

A cottage in the country near Haslemere was offered for the purpose, and there the boys live a normal free life, attending the village school or going to work locally if over school age. The experience of the first six months has been encouraging. One boy has gone on to the Grammar School and another who has been working as a garden boy has been sent at his employer's expense to train at a nursery garden with a view to being taken on as a gardener later on. It is hoped to extend the scheme on the boarding out principle with the cottage as a centre. We hope that this experiment has been brought to the notice of the Government Committee which is at present dealing with the problems of juvenile delinquency. While fully appreciating the excellent work carried on in up-to-date certified institutions, we welcome any attempt to give children more individualized care.

The Passing of the Postmistress.

In a recent number of the *Post*, the organ of Post Office workers, a reference is made to the suggestion which has once or twice been thrown out that the day of the Postmistress is over. We hope that the rumour is quite unfounded, and that the Union of Post Office Workers will, as the article quoted promises, uphold the rights of its women members to such an important avenue of promotion. The Post Office has become a social centre of great importance to the community. To a large proportion of the men and women of this country it is not only a place where one buys stamps or a postal order or sends off parcels and telegrams. It is their bank and a headquarters of information on many matters intimately affecting their lives. We have often admired the patience with which post office officials behind the counter, men and women alike, have dealt with inquiries and given answers and advice to the helpless. Only to-day a small boy was overheard asking for a "declaration form" for his mother, and the girl clerk was not too rushed to give him an assortment to take home to see which was the one required. While we consider that promotion in the Post Office is, as elsewhere, a question of merit rather than sex, we believe that women have special qualifications for the task, especially in the type of district where in addition to its primary purpose it fulfils secondarily the function of a national information bureau.

MR. BALDWIN AND THE POPULATION PROBLEM.

A fortnight ago Mr. Baldwin delivered to the Classical Association assembled in the Middle Temple Hall, an address which evoked considerable enthusiasm and was subsequently made the centre of much appreciative press comment. It was indeed, to judge from its press reports, a thing of elegance and scholarly sagacity, garnished at times with phrases of some beauty. It has indeed added its quota to the Baldwin legend, and to the public esteem in which our Prime Minister is held, and which Mr. J. M. Keynes has compared to that which surrounded the late Queen Victoria during the closing years of her reign.

But since, after all, our Prime Minister is, for all his simplicity of taste and delicacy of phrasing, a very eminent and responsible politician—something more, in fact, than the A. C. Benson of modern politics—it behoves us to inquire what he really did say to the Classical Association, and whether what he said, if anything, illumines in any way his attitude to problems over which he and all of us have a measure of indirect control. And it is in connection with his tentative yet significant references to the decline of the Ancient Roman Empire that we become aware of things said, and views indicated. Here, for want of a completer transcript, is *The Times* version of it: "We hear through these later centuries cries with which we are only too familiar to-day—cries against the burden of armaments and the weight of taxation. But, above and beyond these things, dangerous and symptomatic as they are, we detect a greater cause for anxiety. It would almost appear that the human stock is like the stock of fruit trees, where the best kinds tend to work themselves out after many generations of useful and productive service. Dr. Mackail, in one of his recent essays, has laid fresh stress on this point when he says there were not enough Romans left to carry on the work of Rome. There are fears among those who are responsible for government to-day, fears not yet gripping us by the throat, but taking grisly shape in the twilight, that the Great War, by the destruction of our best lives in such numbers, has not left enough of the breed to carry on the work of the Empire." Here is something which intrigues us. "Those who are responsible for Government to-day"—why, to whom can such a passage refer but to Mr. Baldwin himself and to his colleagues in the Cabinet? And they are afraid of something—

A Union of Housewives.

In next week's issue we print an article by Mrs. C. S. Peel, chairman of the recently formed British Housewives' Association, on what union might do for the housewife. The idea of co-operation among housewives has often been pressed on our readers by our contributor, Ann Pope, whose pioneer work in this direction is well known. A representative Council and Committee has been formed and a beginning in united action has already been made. Mrs. Peel is too well known to require introduction. It will be remembered that she was co-director with Mrs. Pember Reeves of the women's branch of the Ministry of Food during the War. She has done active work on various Government and other committees dealing with housing and labour-saving and has been for many years the editor of the Housewifery Department of the *Queen*. With Mrs. Peel as chairman, and such a strong and representative Committee, the new venture is assured of success.

Women at the Bar.

One woman, Lady Clifton, of Leighton Bromswold, finds a place among the lists of students called to the Bar. At the recent Bar examinations five women were successful in Roman Law; one of these, Miss Sophy Sanger, is well known for her work at the League of Nations. Seven were successful in Constitutional Law and Legal History; five in Criminal Law and Procedure, including two who took first class; two in Real Property and Conveyancing, including one first class. Two women were successful in the final examination, Vera Beatrice Marjorie Meiklejohn and Catherine Allison Morrison. The total number of women barristers is now 73.

Disfranchisement.

In a letter to *The Times* written on Thursday of last week, Sir Robert Newman protests against the suggested disfranchisement of persons in receipt of poor relief. He strongly deprecates any attempt to place such persons "in the category of lunatics and criminals" on the sole ground of their poverty. Alas!—he might well have written: "lunatics, criminals, and women under thirty."

but of what? They appear to be afraid that as a result of the depredations of the war there are at present not enough people (by "the breed" is presumably meant Britons) left to people, administer and economically develop the Empire. But can they really be afraid of this? The war, for all its vicious theft of human life and happiness, has nevertheless left us with a population which has increased during the intervening census period by something in the neighbourhood of two million, and is increasing now by an annual overplus of between 300,000 and 400,000. Of an insufficiency of "the breed" here at home there can be no question. Of an insufficiency of "the breed" in the Dominions—assuming "the breed" to be accompanied by its quota of capital and will to undertake a pioneer existence—there is possibly some question. But is this question the outcome of "the destruction of our best lives in such numbers" during the recent war, or is it rather the outcome of certain economic and social difficulties connected with the annual disposal overseas of even a quarter of an annual increase in the British Isles? If so, then though we are aware that Mr. Baldwin was addressing himself to a Classical rather than a Biological or Statistical Association, we cannot altogether acquit him of a certain misleading obscurity in his dealings with a number of innocent scholars. He and his Cabinet cannot really be afraid of this particular consequence of the Great War. If they are, then they are allowing themselves to be afraid of the wrong thing in a world where there are already a sufficiency of obvious and immediate things to be afraid of.

It is possible, however, that we have misunderstood his fears—that he is visualizing "the breed" in a qualitative rather than a quantitative sense and that he regards the depredations of the war as having fallen with disproportionate severity upon the "best kinds". Now if, by the "best kinds", Mr. Baldwin implies the social judgment of Dean Inge, applying his superlative to the class from which the liberal professions are habitually recruited, then there is conceivably some material basis for his argument; but not for his subsequent deductions. For it is not among the ranks of these classes that our emigrant Dominion pioneers are likely to be recruited—but among those of a class slightly lower in the economic scale whom the war

cannot be said to have depleted with disproportionate severity. So here again Mr. Baldwin's fears and those of his Cabinet would appear to lack precision. It is possible, of course, that what they are really afraid of is the future tendency of our differential birth-rate as indicated by the development of its immediate past, plus the technical difficulty of emigrating a section of the population which appears in addition to lack sufficient desire to embrace pioneer conditions. But that is not what Mr. Baldwin said to the Classical Association. He very definitely associated his fears with the vital depredations of the Great War. We can therefore only express our satisfaction that such fears are not yet "gripping" him and his colleagues "by the throat", but are merely "taking grisly shape in the twilight"—adding the hope that when they emerge from the "twilight" their shape may be, if not less grisly, at least more carefully and clearly defined.

IMPRESSIONS OF A SETTLER'S LIFE IN AUSTRALIA. II.¹

By LADY APSLEY.

(Continued from page 408.)

A woman's life on a Group is a very full one. I had wondered how in the world I should fill up the day in our tiny house with my husband away all day, but in practice I found I never had an idle moment, and that Mr. James generally returned for his dinner before I was ready. He was working two blocks away from ours with the other men of the Group, clearing, grubbing up stumps and burning. His day varied according to the weather like all agricultural labourers. He got up between five-thirty and six—the best husbands light the fire and boil the kettle before their wives get up. I began as I meant to go on, and did not put a toe out of bed till I heard the fire well under way. I always prepared breakfast overnight, so that bacon and eggs were soon cooked by me, wrapped up in a jersey and mackintosh, with only one eye open. At 7.15 he had gone to his work, and I dressed, washed up, did the housework, and prepared a hot dinner to be ready by 12.45. An hour off for dinner and back to work till 5. My afternoons I spent sometimes in visiting neighbours, sometimes in wrestling with intricate recipes for the last meal, sometimes experimenting with bread, sometimes having a washing day, once washing my own hair and another time the floor.

I had never done any cooking before, but with the help of a certain amount of theoretical knowledge and an excellent book, I got along well enough, and our appetites were such that tempting was not required.

We had brought about £25 worth of household goods, which is about as much as the average settler needs to spend to furnish his house in comfort, and if the husband is a carpenter and can make some of his own furniture, considerably less need be spent. We bought them in Perth, and it was interesting to find how much cheaper wooden articles are in Australia. An excellent kitchen dresser for £3 with drawers, shelves, and cupboards, a big solid kitchen table for 12s., and a solid, big comfortable armchair for £1 3s.

We took a certain amount of stores with us, and bought the remainder locally. Marketing is a problem for the woman with a young family as the local store is eleven miles away, and it takes all day to get there in the Group cart, which goes to fetch the stores twice a week for all the Groupies. The usual way is to write the orders to the butcher and the grocer, and tie them up in little sacks which return with what you have ordered if you are lucky and the storekeeper sends it. Of course in time one gets into the way of things and combines with other Groupies to purchase half a sheep or a pig at a time.

Flies are supposed to prevent one keeping things for long, but my husband, with an army training in Palestine, arranged to bury everything, so that we had no smells, no dirt, and no flies. We were not there long enough to get a cow or goats, so used tinned and powdered milk, of which there are many cheap and excellent Australian brands.

After working hours, and on Sundays, the husband usually chops the supply of firewood and does all the little odd jobs about his place, making shelves, digging the garden, etc.

¹ In a preceding article Lady Apsley tells how she and Lord Apsley in search of first-hand knowledge concerning conditions of life for Australian immigrants, secured an allotment of undeveloped land under the Group Settlement Scheme and proceeded to live on it under conditions approximating to those of genuine settlers.

We completely furnished two rooms, bedroom and kitchen, making curtains and rough cupboards, and used the third for stores, tools, and washing. Of course there are no taps, plugs, or press buttons in the Bush!

The settlers' wives all have to learn to make bread, and, what is more difficult, yeast. My first attempts were either useful additions to the rock garden or reminiscent of a hot-water bag, but eventually, with the aid of my next-door neighbours, I produced the elusive "staff of life" in an edible form.

All our neighbours were charming. They were of all types. There was an ex-submarine Commander, there was an ex-groom who had charge of the horses on the Group, and had a dear little wife with two nice children. There was an ex-Stock Exchange clerk with whom my husband was working, an ex-Lancer, whose wife had been a cook and who was doing splendidly. One of my neighbours who sold me eggs and gave me vegetables as our garden was not ready had been a factory girl in Birmingham, and had never been in the country before coming to Australia. She had settled down and just loved her garden, her cow, and her chickens. The leading man of our Group had been a well-to-do farmer in England, and had emigrated with a growing-up family who were beginning to take over blocks of their own. The most flourishing settler probably of us all was a Swede who worked like a nigger himself and expected his wife to work like two niggers. All I managed to do was to plant a few rows of onions in our garden, while the Swede's wife dug the ground and planted half the garden with cabbages.

The social side of the Group is helped by a Social Club run by the Groupies themselves. They meet once a fortnight for dances and concerts in the little school-house.

All matters relating to work are supervised by the Government foreman attached to the Group, and every now and then overseers come round to see how you are getting on.

Mrs. James was visited one day and was caught luckily with a tidy house, making curtains, but with her fire out which is a crime in Australia, as you cannot offer the unexpected guest the usual cup of tea. However, I registered a complaint about a crack in the bottom of the stove, which was quite true, and I hope will be mended for the housewife who came after me to Block 1913!

My husband saw a lot of the work from all points of view and has carefully compiled his opinions of how best to help.

We left with regrets on all sides saying that we were offered another job near Melbourne, which was true, as my husband was due at the Imperial Press Conference.

My experiences were probably typical, but in these short notes I have dwelt on the lighter side of things. There were things to grumble at and with a little more thought and care things could have been made easier very often, but Australia has no use for the grouser. All Australians are kind, hospitable, and, in any real disaster, will help you with their all. Every man will lend his neighbour his best axe and every woman will help another in distress. My husband and another man did all the work for a neighbour whose wife had died after an operation, and I am sure that my small knowledge of first aid to humans and animals would have been useful to the community sometime or other. There is a nice little Government Hospital in the neighbourhood, well equipped and run, but sometimes, owing to the state of the road, it would be difficult to reach it in a hurry.

Things change very quickly in Australia. A few years will change the tangled mass of jungle behind our house into well-fenced pastures; instead of a gaunt outlook on dead and dying trees there will be a pleasant vista of hilly country with a river, and the muddy, boggy track past our house will have become a main road, and our house with its neighbours will be a flourishing creeper-grown homestead with out-houses and a fenced garden, and probably a tennis-court!

We are both the better for having had this chance to see things from another point of view, and even if nothing very great comes of what was really a private adventure, we have the happy feeling that average people with no training or experience like ourselves get a warm welcome in Australia, and have a good chance to make good. It is on this note that I should like to close this brief account. I believe Australia must have a rosy future. She has much more to offer the average person than this country has at the present time. My final impression is that though no one should leave England who has a happy home in this country, to all those who have no prospects in the Old Country and nothing of their own but healthy minds and bodies, Australia offers a happy home and a future of their own making.

THE PROBLEM OF SOLICITATION.

In consideration of the importance of the subject at the present time we publish in full the correspondence which recently appeared in *The Times* between the National Vigilance Association and the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, especially as the letter of the latter organization appeared in a very abbreviated form:—

TO THE EDITOR *The Times*.

SIR,—We ask the courtesy of your columns for a reply to the letter on solicitation printed in your issue of 27th November. We dispute the implication that the laws are unfair to women. Professionals who publicly exploit vice are treated differently from persons who do not practise their habit as a profession. That is not unfairness. It merely implies the recognition of a public danger in the public advertisement of vice. Both men and women suffer special disabilities—the man being more severely punished than the woman. A man is equally liable to arrest if “in any public place (he) persistently solicits or importunes for immoral purposes.” There is equal treatment for men and women who are not professionally engaged in vice. The application of the law in any particular town rests on the local authorities. If the latter are negligent of their duty, and we would welcome evidence on the subject, local public opinion should be roused. This is not a question for Parliament to settle.

We dispute the inference underlying the words that “a woman becomes a common prostitute when she is thus described by the police.” A woman becomes a “common prostitute” only when she earns her living commonly by prostitution; and if and when she becomes such she is liable to be called such by the police. We do not believe that a prostitute walking as a normal citizen in the streets of London, giving no special encouragement to men, would run any risk of arrest. Such an inference is quite inconsistent with your correspondents' statement that they have nothing to say at all against the police. We agree that it would be horrible for an innocent girl to be mistaken for a common prostitute and convicted as such. The point is, are such mistakes made? Until evidence is forthcoming, we simply do not believe the danger exists.

Finally, we express our considered opinion that the Public Places (Order) Bill promoted by Lady Astor would result in an increase in solicitation in the streets. In this opinion we have the support of the higher officials of the police, according to a statement made by the Home Secretary. As we see the facts, we are extremely fortunate in England in that we have moral laws which can be applied according to the public opinion of the day, since public opinion is, after all, the final arbiter in matters of morals.

On behalf of the executive committee of the National Vigilance Association,

ANNIE BAKER } Secretaries.
F. SEMPKINS }

National Vigilance Association, 2 Grosvenor Mansions,
76 Victoria Street, S.W. 1.

SIR,—In its letter of 17th December, the National Vigilance Association denies that the solicitation laws are unfair to women and in support of this statement quotes the Vagrancy Act, 1898, whereby male persons persistently soliciting for immoral purposes are liable to be treated as rogues and vagabonds. This section is used only against men who solicit other men to certain offences which are crimes. Prostitution is not a legal crime and we shall be surprised if the N.V.A. can produce a single instance of a man being convicted under that section with soliciting women. We deny that men and women receive equal treatment under the existing law in regard to solicitation of one sex by the other.

The N.V.A. further states that “there is equal treatment for men and women who are not professionally engaged in vice.” Again, we deny the truth of this statement. Many girls and women, not alleged to be prostitutes, are arrested for “insulting words and behaviour” because they have accosted men, whereas very few men are arrested for mere accostation of women, although in London it is notorious that almost as many men accost women as women do men. The second time a woman is arrested for accostation she is liable to be charged as a “common prostitute.” No man is treated in this way for speaking to women. No male defendant in such cases has his moral character attacked in court and his past record

publicly proclaimed before he is convicted. Again, there is no proof ever brought forward that such a woman is, in fact, at that time, practising common prostitution. Even the policeman does not assert it. He merely states “I know this woman to be a common prostitute.” The result is that henceforth that woman, without one single iota of real proof being adduced, has fastened to her the terrible stigma of being a “common prostitute.”

Does the N.V.A. deny this? It must be well aware that the stereotyped evidence given by the police that certain unnamed and unknown men “appeared to be annoyed,” is admittedly a legal fiction. The law says—“common prostitutes” shall not annoy or obstruct passengers or behave riotously or indecently. Yet thousands of convictions every year are made against women who have not annoyed or obstructed anyone and whose only “riotous or indecent” conduct has been an occasional accostation of a man.

The N.V.A. may choose to believe that a “prostitute” runs no risk of arrest if she gives no special encouragement to men in the streets. As against that belief we set the following published statement of Mr. Waddy, for many years a Metropolitan stipendiary magistrate:—

“It is an everyday occurrence at the police court for an admittedly common prostitute, charged with soliciting, to allege that she was the party solicited, and the statement is often true, though the woman is prevented from substantiating it.”

We doubt if Mr. Waddy stands alone, even among magistrates, in holding this opinion.

The recognition that injustices occur is not necessarily an attack on the police. The police are placed in the unfortunate position of having to administer a law in which, as an Assistant Commissioner of Police told the Joint Select Committee on Criminal Law Amendment in 1918, “the clause has to be strained in order to make it cover the facts.” Even police may make genuine mistakes in such circumstances but a “common prostitute” rarely gets the benefit of the doubt.

We cannot enter here into a full discussion on the Public Places (Order) Bill which requires complaint by or on behalf of the annoyed person before either a man or woman can be taken into custody. The N.V.A. says it would result in an increase of solicitation. How, then, is it that a number of large towns in this country, with populations of 100,000 and over, manage to keep order without arresting these women at all? In regard to one city of half a million inhabitants we are informed that for many years the magistrates have refused to convict “prostitutes” except on the evidence of the party aggrieved and that since this course was adopted there has been no increase, but rather a diminution in street solicitation.

We invite the National Vigilance Association to tell the public if in its “considered opinion” any person, even women alleged to be “common prostitutes”, ought to be convicted of solicitation to the annoyance of passengers by means of a legal fiction, on evidence which is (as has been admitted by an Assistant Commissioner of Police to be) “extremely thin” and under a law where “the clause has to be strained in order to make it cover the facts”?—Yours faithfully,

HELEN WILSON, President.
W. C. ROBERTS, Chairman.
ALISON NEILANS, Secretary.

Association for Moral and Social Hygiene.

A TRUE STORY.

A lecturer was recently asked at short notice to explain to her class the Locarno treaties. She turned to her file of the *WOMAN'S LEADER* for 1925 and found the exact information she needed. She mentioned this to a friend, who said she had had a similar experience. Asked unexpectedly to speak on social insurance without access to material for reference she found all the facts she wanted in the same paper. A third person, this time a social worker, overhearing the conversation, stated that she found the *WOMAN'S LEADER* more useful than any other paper in keeping her informed on social questions.

A NEW AIR PILOT.

Mrs. S. C. Elliott Lynn, of the London Flying Club, took up her first passenger last week in a Moth light aeroplane—accomplishing on her return to the Stag Lane Aerodrome, Edgware, a perfect landing.

THE CENTRE OF TROUBLE.¹

“So to Moscow I went”, says Mr. Nevinson at a certain point in his story, “my happy fate as usual guiding me to the centre of trouble”: and if for “Moscow” one substitutes “X” to be evaluated according to context as Constantinople and the Balkans, West Africa and the slave islands, Georgia, Bengal, Morocco, Ulster, Trafalgar Square, Westminster, or Holloway Prison, the sentence will serve as an epitome of the book. In these and other places during the twelve years 1903–14 fate assisted Mr. Nevinson's unerring eye to find always the “centre of trouble,” and having found it, we may add to do what in him lay to see that the trouble did not cease until its cause or occasion was removed. Four such troubles form the main material of the narrative, the slavery of the African cocoa islands leading to the famous libel action brought against the *Standard* by Messrs. Cadbury, the abortive revolution in Russia which followed the Japanese war, unrest in India under the Morley-Minto régime, and the woman's suffrage agitation of the years immediately preceding the war. In the second Mr. Nevinson was nearly reduced to the rank of a mere spectator; but even here he was able to contribute his mite, by carrying himself the manifesto of sympathy to the dissolved Duma, which the 120 M.P. signatories were dissuaded with fears grounded and ungrounded and by pressure official and unofficial from sending in the hands of a deputation. In India it appears that Mr. Nevinson made speeches and accepted garlands of flowers from “native” admirers; and though the substance of the speeches is not given, we know too much of the speaker to think that it would have been wholly agreeable to the British Raj. In the other two cases it is notorious that Mr. Nevinson was himself an active participant: being himself a centre of trouble, he had not far to go to find it.

The record of these years, seen thus from their troubled centres, makes the most enthralling reading. The adventures stand out from a background of literary work in London (for a man must after all make a living); but even here the records of the *Daily News*, *Daily Chronicle*, and *Nation* will show that where Mr. Nevinson was, trouble and adventure were never far away. Every chapter is adorned with delightful sketches of friends and opponents (but especially friends), many of them still living and all alive in his pages. Here the temptation to quote is irresistible. Before going to India Mr. Nevinson had an interview with John Morley. The interview was somewhat marred (as might have been expected) with some slight differences of opinion. The Secretary for India became in fact, “very angry.”

“And we parted with benevolent neutrality—benevolent, at all events, on my side; for when I considered all that had passed within that shrunken head, all that those dimmed eyes had seen, and what excellent books that withered hand had written, I felt like the Gallic slave who finding old Marius glaring at him in a darkened chamber exclaimed, ‘I cannot kill Caius Marius!’”

The chapter on “Votes for Women” contains, together with a very just and accurate analysis of the strategy of the campaign, a series of excellent sketches of the leaders of the movement, sketches at once critical and appreciative. Two fragments dealing with Miss Christabel Pankhurst will illustrate this:—

“In stating the broad principles and aims of ‘The Movement’ she was not her mother's equal. . . . She had no more sense for abstract ideas and doctrines than I have. What she loved was the political tactic, the conflict with realities, with the tricks of statesmen and the evasions of party interest. In active conflict she was supreme. Her scent for political deception was like a bloodhound's hot on the murderer's trail, and no false assurance or specious compromise took her in.”

But why was it that every tumultuous London crowd would always call for her, and interrupt other speakers with the cry, “We want Chrissie!”?

“I always recognized that it was natural. Her smiling ‘sonsie’ face, her youthful elegance, her rapid wit and vehement repartees played more than music's charm upon the savage breast. And when the stormiest meeting was over, when she had thrown into her speeches and answers a wealth of vitality that I have never seen equalled, she would coil up in the corner of a railway carriage like a graceful kitten and go to sleep without another word.”

(Continued at foot of next column.)

¹ *More Changes More Chances*. By Henry W. Nevinson. (London: Nisbet, 15s. net).

THE DRAMA OF INSANITY.

A widely circulated publishers' advertisement describes Herr Schnitzler's recently translated novel¹ as “The most brilliant study of a modern girl's mentality yet published.” It is, as a matter of fact, nothing of the kind. It is a detailed imaginative analysis of the continuous workings of a mind on the border and over the border of mania. It is a pathological study of an individual girl, the victim (as the author shows with delicate and economical craftsmanship) of a peculiar heredity, and moral environment, whose mind is finally unhinged by domestic tragedy complicated by the obscene advances of a dissolute old man, whose mental derangement takes a sexual form, and who eventually commits suicide. Into that diseased mind the author inserts himself, and in company with him the reader looks out upon a distorted, fantastic world through the terrified eyes of its owner, continuously through those last terrible hours of life until the misty curtain of oblivion descends and blots out consciousness.

That insanity does take the outward forms which this particular case of insanity exhibited is a fact well known to many observers. That its inner workings are as Herr Schnitzler conceives them to be, is a fact which we are inclined to believe. Such is the skill with which he presents his case. There is of course nothing “modern” about it except the fact that it has during recent years been made the subject of exhaustive curative analysis. Indeed Herr Schnitzler's short chronicle would be more suitably confined to the library of the physician or professional psychologist, were it not for the fact that he has succeeded in doing what only a real artist can do: in presenting the consistency and inevitability of his event with sufficient dramatic force to infuse an element of high tragedy into a very sordid and painful theme. He has succeeded—by the skin of his teeth. Therefore the book is worth reading, by persons who have the sense not to take any notice of publishers' advertisements.

M. D. S.

“WOMEN UNDER ENGLISH LAW.”²

This useful book, written by Mrs. Crofts at the request of the National Council of Women and the Stansfeld Trust, will be reviewed more fully in these columns later. We wish, however, to give it a very warm welcome and to congratulate both Mrs. Crofts and the organizations at whose initiation it was published. The book is all the more valuable because of a section on women under Scots' law by Margaret H. Kidd. The issue of a book of this kind by a woman solicitor of the Supreme Court does indeed mark another milestone of progress.

PERSONAL.—MISS ELEANOR F. RATHBONE AND THE LABOUR PARTY.

The statement made by Dr. Dalton in an article in the *New Leader* last week that Miss Eleanor Rathbone had recently joined the Labour Party is incorrect. Miss Rathbone is a member of no political party.

(Continued from previous column.)

But the greatest charm of the book is the portrait of the author; and for this no quotation will serve. The book must be read: there is nothing else for it. He stands here clearer to view even than in *Changes and Chances*. Knight errant he will not be called, and prefers to die “*plebeius senex*, old and a member of the Labour Party.” We can afford to let him have the name he prefers, having long known him as one of the elect and a fruitful centre of trouble.

J. L. S.

¹ *Fräulein Else*, by Arthur Schnitzler. (A. M. Philpot, Ltd. 5s.)

² *Women Under English Law*. By Maud I. Crofts, M.A., LL.B. (Cantab.). National Council of Women, Parliament Mansions, Victoria Street, S.W. 2s. 6d. (post 3s.).

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THE ASSYRIAN CHRISTIANS.¹

Lady Surma Di Mar Shemun, the aunt of the present Patriarch of the Assyrian Christians, is now in England. She has been described as a fine example of the Woman Diplomat, and was the only woman delegate to the Peace Conference at Versailles. Dealing not with economic problems, but with the question of the Assyrian Christians, she has been addressing several meetings in London, amongst them one arranged last week by Mrs. Dixon Davis, when members of the Women's International League and other invited guests had the opportunity of hearing her views. For some time Lady Surma has acted as official representative of the Assyrian Christians, tending them and sharing their sufferings through the War. Their church she describes as the largest in the East, with traditions dating from the time of the Apostles, and its churches from the third century. The people amongst whom she has lived are a pastoral people, where the women work and the men spin, with primitive organization, partly independent of Turkey, and partly subject, according to the tribes to which they belong. From the Turks they had been subject to terrible oppression, and that was why they had sided with the Allies during the War, retiring to the mountains with little food, and almost no means of defence, the prey of disease and starvation, and forced to wander for months or else surrender. Ten thousand Armenians joined them, and with fighting, typhoid, and lack of food combined, the mortality was appalling, till at last they received protection under the British, who established camps for them. The British being in Iraq numbers of the Assyrians then went to Mosul, from which they were driven out last year. Then to other horrors was added a plague of locusts, which swept away every vestige of green and growing thing, except the acorns, on which they struggled to keep alive. Many of them were deported, and thousands were left in Mesopotamia. "We have no home, a broken people but still a nation." The line of the Brussels agreement was so drawn as to leave their land under the jurisdiction of the Turks, instead of under British protection as they had hoped. If the British Mandate were not taken, no place could be found for them, as they would not return. She would like the Government to buy an area of suitable land for the Assyrians, not leaving them to districts where they would be unsafe, or where there was such intense cold or intense heat that the children could not survive. There was such land north of Mosul, and the important thing to was find a boundary that was suitable, and would ensure lasting peace.

¹ Contributed by the Women's International League, 55 Gower Street, W.C.

Women in 1926

See *The WOMAN'S LEADER*. 1d. weekly.

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEWS.

By BERTHA MASON.

THE PRESERVATION OF THE COUNTRYSIDE.

Last August we drew the attention of our readers to the new Advertisements Regulations Act, which became law on 31st July, 1925.

The object of this Act is to amend the Act of 1907, which first gave to local authorities powers to protect rural scenery from disfigurement. The 1907 Act provided for the protection of "a landscape." Local authorities in framing by-laws have found it difficult to find a definition of a "landscape."

"At first," as Sir Albert Gray, the chairman of the Scapa Society, which for years had been working to secure the amendment of the 1907 Act, points out, "selected landscapes were defined by metes and bounds, but this did not meet the greater need, which is to protect from disfigurement the roadsides and the railway sides in all rural places. For a time the Home Office approved by-laws covering large parts of districts, without definition of particular landscapes." This did not meet the case. New legislation seemed necessary which is embodied in the 1925 Act, in which powers are given to local authorities to make by-laws for regulating, restricting, or preventing within their district or any part thereof, the exhibition of advertisements which may disfigure or injuriously affect (1) "the view of rural scenery from a highway or railway, or from any public place or water, or (2) the amenities of any village within the district of a rural district council, or (3) the amenities of any historic or public building or monument, or of any place frequented by the public solely or chiefly on account of its beauty or historic interest."

There has recently been issued by the Home Office a series of model by-laws for the guidance of those local authorities which intend to avail themselves of the powers given under the 1925 Act. It would appear that in framing these by-laws, the Home Office has experienced some difficulty in arriving at a correct interpretation of the meaning and extent of the powers conferred on local authorities by the new Act. As already stated, the Act gives powers to local authorities to regulate, restrict, or prevent the exhibition of advertisements likely to disfigure or injuriously affect "the view of rural scenery" from any highway or railway, etc. Local authorities found it difficult to define the word "landscape" used in the 1907 Act—now the Home Office finds it equally difficult to give an exact definition of the words "view of rural scenery," which appeared in the New Act, but is of opinion, however, that the power given to local authorities in the 1925 Act to protect "the view of rural scenery" is certainly wider than the power conferred under the Act of 1907, to protect "the natural beauty of a 'landscape.'" Whether the actual phrasing of the new Act is actually wider than the words of the 1907 Act, seems open to doubt. The intention of Parliament, however, was undoubtedly to give wider powers to local authorities in regard to the preservation of rural scenery.

If the interpretation of the Home Office is correct, viz., that power is given under the New Act to local authorities to protect by means of by-laws "the view of rural scenery" from a highway, etc., the next difficulty is, how is this to be done? By-laws must be definite if they are to be of use. "It would be of no use," says the Home Office, "to apply a general prohibition against advertisements throughout the whole of an area as such prohibition would be contrary to the intention of Parliament and would be open to other serious objections. By-laws framed on these lines would be difficult to enforce, and might give rise to numerous disputes. On the other hand, again to quote the Home Office, "it would be practically impossible or at any rate extremely cumbersome and inconvenient to all parties concerned, to schedule long lists of 'views of rural scenery' which it is desirable to protect. Therefore the Home-Secretary is prepared to act on the view that Parliament intends that a wide measure of protection from advertisements should be given to country scenery and that it would be a proper procedure for the local authority to schedule areas (whether by rural districts, parishes, or otherwise) which they regard and have defined as genuinely rural and suitable for protection in accordance with the intention of the Act."

It would be interesting and valuable if the local authorities which intend to take advantage of the new Act, would inform us of the results of their efforts. Local authorities will, we are sure, join with us in the hope that the day may speedily come when Acts of Parliament will be drawn in such a way that those who have to administer them need be under no misapprehension as to their meaning.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

President: Miss ELIZABETH RATHBONE, C.C., J.P. Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. SODDY.
Parliamentary Secretary: Mrs. HUBBARD.

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

ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING, 24th to 27th FEBRUARY.

HOSPITALITY.

A very large number of requests for hospitality for the Annual Council Meeting are being received. We appeal to our members and friends who have any room to spare to let us know as soon as possible if they are able to take any guests.

KING'S SPEECH.

The Executive Committee decided at its last meeting to urge the Government to announce in the King's Speech its intention to introduce legislation this session on:—

- (1) Equal Franchise.
- (2) The Right of Married Women in the Civil Service and under Local Authorities to continue their employment on marriage.
- (3) Legitimacy.

PRELIMINARY AGENDA.

The Preliminary Agenda has been posted to Societies and additional copies can be obtained by any members requiring them (price 4d.) on application to Headquarters.

CONFERENCE ON RESTRICTIVE LEGISLATION, 24th FEBRUARY.

A Conference on Restrictive Legislation for Women Workers is being arranged for delegates and visitors to the Council meeting, on Wednesday, 24th February, at 5 p.m. Miss Macmillan will be in the chair, and Miss A. Helen Ward will lay before the Conference the views of the N.U.S.E.C. on this subject, and Mrs. Abbott is being asked to speak on the Washington Conventions. The meeting will then be open for discussion. We hope that delegates and visitors attending the Council will make a point of keeping this time free.

PROXIES.

We shall be glad to have the names of those who are willing to act as proxies for some of the more distant Societies who are not able to send delegates. Proxies must be willing to attend all sessions of the Council, and written instructions will be sent them with regard to resolutions on which they are to vote.

CONFERENCE FOR OFFICERS OF AFFILIATED SOCIETIES.

Arrangements will be announced later as to when the usual Conference of Officers will be held.

COUNCIL EVENTS.

Wednesday, 24th February.—Council opens 2 p.m. Conference on Restrictive Legislation, 5 p.m., to be held in the Drawing Room, Y.M.C.A. Chairman, Miss Macmillan. Speakers: Miss A. Helen Ward and Mrs. Abbott.

Thursday, 25th February.—Luncheon at the Holborn Restaurant, 1 p.m. Speakers: Capt. Walter Elliot, M.P. (Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Health, Scotland), Sir Martin Conway (M.P. English Universities), Miss Gray (High Mistress St. Paul's School for Girls), Lady Keeble (Miss Lillah McCarthy), and Dr. Jane Walker. Reception given by Lady Astor to delegates to meet Members of Parliament, etc., at 8.45 p.m., at 4 St. James Square, S.W. 1.

Friday, 26th February.—Mass Meeting on Equal Franchise, Central Hall, 8 p.m. Chairman, Miss Rathbone, J.P., C.C. Speakers: Dame Millicent Fawcett, G.B.E., LL.D., Miss Maude Royden, and Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P.

Saturday, 27th February.—Council closes.

LETTER FROM MISS HELEN FRASER.

MADAM,—I should like to say to our branches through the WOMAN'S LEADER how much I regret that I shall not be able to be present at this next Council meeting. I arranged more than a year ago to go to the United States for January and February, expecting to be back in time for the Council meeting. It has been put into February this year and my engagements in the United States make my return in time impossible. If I could have changed my arrangements I would have done so in order to come.

HELEN FRASER.

UNIVERSITY WOMEN AND VOTES.

At a meeting of Convocation of the University of London on Friday, 15th January, Dr. Barlow brought forward the motion: "That Convocation desires to call the attention of H.M. Government to the anomaly whereby in this University Constituency graduates who are women are debarred from exercising the franchise until they attain the age of 30 years." Mrs. How Martyn, seconding the motion, recalled Mr. Baldwin's promise to set up a Conference to consider the franchise and urged Convocation to give the Conference a lead by passing the motion. Mrs. Anthony, formerly Assistant Secretary of the N.U.S.E.C., one of the under thirties, made the most effective speech of the debate. She stated clearly and forcibly the disabilities of the young women graduates as compared with the young men graduates. There was only one real die-hard opponent. The rest of the opposition was made up of those who considered it no part of the duty of Convocation to express any opinion on the question. The motion was carried by 35 to 16, and is to be forwarded to the Prime Minister, the Member of Parliament for the University, the Minister of Education, and the leaders of His Majesty's Oppositions.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WOMEN IN THE CHURCH.

MADAM,—I have received a copy of the WOMAN'S LEADER, and I am a little surprised at the scant reference in the article "Women in the Churches" to what the Free Churches are doing. Take our own organization—the National Free Church Council. Mrs. George Cadbury is our President—the first Woman President. During her year of office she has gone to and fro in the land and has exerted a great influence. She has addressed meetings during the past twelve months in Yorkshire, Lancashire, Durham, Sussex, Hampshire, Cheshire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Staffordshire, and is shortly going to Devonshire, Somersetshire, Cambridgeshire, London, etc. On Sunday evening, 24th January, she will simultaneously broadcast to all stations in England, Scotland and Wales. Our Women's Council shows a record of work of which we are justly proud, and is playing a big part in the "Church Militant."

THOS. NIGHTINGALE.

[We thank Mr. Nightingale for his letter. We have followed Mrs. Cadbury's work as President of the National Free Church Council with interest, and had the privilege of an Easter Message written by her in our Easter number last year.—Ed.]

WHEN CRIMES ARE NOT CRIMES.

MADAM,—*"Erna Reiss"* asks me to elaborate my statement that a man who had criminally assaulted girls in a house of ill-fame would never have been arrested. This statement is deduced from the fact that it is not considered wrong at all to be a client of a house of ill-fame. Consequently in this country, where brothels are illegal, the brothel-keeper may be arrested and those who aid and abet him or her, but never the clients anywhere in this world. So if clients are never arrested, who is to identify them and who is to give evidence against them? Certainly not the brothel-keeper, nor the girls whom they have criminally assaulted. How can these girls do so? And if they could, who would take the evidence of girls sold in a brothel against any men or boys? A girl under the age of consent was found in a brothel in Newport, Mon., some years ago, but no man was arrested for thus criminally assaulting her.

In addition, it is made very difficult to get evidence that such and such a place is a disorderly house.

In reply to laws quoted by *"Erna Reiss"* as, shall I say, regulating or not regulating houses of ill-fame in this country, it should be comprehended that houses of ill-fame exist solely for wicked purposes: brothel-keepers, and their clients, are not out to keep any laws, human or Divine. Witness, e.g. the storming last year in three successive nights of twelve official brothels in Strasburg by several thousands of boys, 16 to 18 and younger, as well as by other clients. What about the state of their victims, about 8 or so, perhaps, in one house! And what about the after results of thousands of degenerate men and boys being let loose in any country!

There is no need to imagine that people who criminally assault young persons and children are mentally abnormal, as what is right to buy is also right to have without buying, whether it is human beings or any other merchandise.

To protect young persons and children one must actively attack not only all houses of ill-fame but the trade of prostitution, by making it a crime to be a client in the trade of prostitution.

(Miss) F. K. POWELL,
Bristol.

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COMING EVENTS.

NATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP.

FEB. 26. 8 p.m. Central Hall, Westminster. Mass Meeting on Equal Franchise. Speakers: Dame Millicent Fawcett, G.E.E., Miss Maude Royden, and Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P. Chairman: Miss Eleanor Rathbone, J.P.

Barnsley S.E.C. JAN. 22. 5.30 p.m. St. Mary's Parish Room. Miss Helen Ward on "The Woman Citizen of Today and Equal Franchise." Chairman: The Rev. H. E. Hove, M.A.

Birkenhead W.C.A. JAN. 22. 3 p.m. Lady Balfour of Burleigh on "Equal Franchise."

Chester W.C.A. JAN. 22. 8 p.m. Lady Balfour of Burleigh on "Equal Franchise."

Dunfermline S.E.C. JAN. 20. 7.30 p.m. New Row Masonic Hall. Mrs. Corbett Ashby on "Woman's Share in the World of Today." Chair: The Right Hon. W. Adamson, M.P.

Edinburgh W.C.A. JAN. 26. 5.15 p.m. 27 Rutland Street. Study Circle. Miss Helen Ward on "Women and the Constitution of the International Labour Office."

JAN. 28. 8 p.m. St. Cuthbert's Hall, King's Stables Road, Edinburgh. Public Meeting. Mrs. Corbett Ashby on "World Opinion and National Armaments." Chairman: Professor Wilson.

Portsmouth W.C.A. JAN. 26. 7.30 p.m. High School, Kent Road, Southsea. Public Meeting arranged in conjunction with other societies. Miss Eleanor Rathbone on "What Women Want for Parliament."

Saffron Walden S.E.C. JAN. 29. 3 p.m. Mrs. Hubback on "The Parliamentary Work of the N.U.S.E.C."

SOUTHAMPTON SISTERHOOD.

JAN. 31. 3 p.m. Mrs. White on "The Parliamentary Work of the N.U.S.E.C."

WOMEN'S ENGINEERING SOCIETY.

JAN. 25. 2.30 p.m. Visit to Research Laboratories of General Electric Company at Wembley.

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BED-SITTING-ROOMS, with breakfast. Gentlewomen (professional, business, students), permanent or temporary. Gas fires, meters, etc. Quiet, select.—10, Edsleigh Street, Tavistock Square, W.C. 1.

CHRENSIA—FLAT to let (sitting-room, bedroom, kitchen, use of bathroom), furnished, from March.—Apply, Box 1,213, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

LADY would like another to join her in her small comfortable flat; 22s. weekly, with breakfast; other meals by appointment.—Apply, Box 1,218, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

HERTFORD HOUSE, 65 Albert Bridge Road, Battersea Park.—Single and double BED-SITTING-ROOMS; with breakfast and bath, for professional women or students; central heating; other meals by arrangement; £2.

BED-SITTING-ROOMS (two), south aspect, every convenience, without board or attendance; very moderate terms; lady's quiet homely house, large garden; good road, near Brixton Station.—Box 1,219, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

COUNTRY COTTAGE wanted from about the middle of March for several months. Three or four bedrooms, garden, attractive country; garage near; convenient distance from London, preferably north or north-west.—Apply, Box 1,222, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

SMALL HOUSE in central part London to let, furnished, for spring and summer. Two sitting-rooms, four bedrooms, telephone, wireless; easy to run; good housekeeper if desired.—Apply, Box 1,221, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

WELL-FURNISHED SITTING-ROOM, two BED-ROOMS, use of bath, kitchen, gas stoves, to let to professional women in lady's flat; 23 guineas weekly.—Write, C., 5/12 St. Stephen's Square, Bayswater.

EBURY STREET, S.W. 1.—Gentlewoman will let two or three rooms, furnished or unfurnished; gas fires, use of bathroom. Phone Kensington 3047.—Box 1,220, THE WOMAN'S LEADER, 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. 1.

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FOR SALE AND WANTED.

SALE.—PILLOW LINEN BARGAINS.—Remnant bundles of superior quality snow-white pillow linen, sufficient to make six pillow-cases, size 22 x 30 ins., 20s. per bundle. Write for January Sale Catalogue Today. HUTTON'S, 41 Main Street, Larne, Ulster.

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

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POSTS VACANT.

THE BIRMINGHAM SETTLEMENT, 318 Summer Lane.—The WARDENSHIP will be vacant in September. Candidates for the post (women) must be prepared to undertake the practical training of students for the University Social Study Diploma, and to supervise the varied activities of the Settlement. University Degree or Diploma desirable.—Applications, with copies of three recent testimonials and three references, to be sent to the Hon. Secretary before 1st March.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE, 45 Marsham Street, Westminster. Secretary, Miss P. Strachey. Information Bureau. Interviews, 10 to 11, except Saturdays. Members' Centre open daily. Restaurant open to 7.30. (Not Saturdays.)

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES, Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, 24th January: 3.30, Music. The Hon. Ivor Montagu on "The Reform of the Cinema." 6.30, Maude Royden: "Rich and Poor."

C.B.C. Society for Constructive Birth Control and Racial Progress, and the Free Clinic originally founded by Dr. Marie Stopes and Mr. H. V. Roe in Holloway. New central address: 108 Whitfield Street, Tottenham Court Road, London, W. 1. Social workers anxious for local instruction, but without funds for independent Clinics, can obtain the services of a C.B.C. certificated Nurse for one day weekly or monthly from above.

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