

Industrial Recreation Clubs to Study Labor Standards

Y. W. C. A. Club Leaders to Meet in Washington Before the Labor Conference

By ELEANOR TAYLOR MARSH

THIRTY thousand women workers in thirty-three industries, ranging from housemaids to arsenal workers, are to be represented at the first national industrial conference called by the Y. W. C. A. for October 20 to 22 in Washington.

The conference is to take place just before that called by the National Women's Trade Union League and will discuss practically the same problems—those affecting women and children in industry.

The industrial work done by the

communities under severe restrictions necessary for their safety.

Took Place of War-Time Centres

Since these workers, many of them women, were thus deprived of almost all recreation and amusement, the government felt that it should attempt to find substitutes for the normal amusement the girls had to do without. The Y. W. C. A. was asked, therefore, to organize and conduct industrial war-service centres in each of the twenty-two cantonments.

So successful were these centres in bringing fun and companionship to large groups of industrial girls that the Y. W. C. A. determined when peace came to adjust them to the reconstruction needs of the country. Industrial women's service clubs have been the result.

Already in Richmond, Va., Pittsburgh, Penn., Cincinnati and Columbus, Ohio, Kansas City, Mo., St. Louis and New Orleans, clubs known as demonstration centres have been organized and are now successfully demonstrating the fact that they fill a big place in the life of the average working girl.

friends. They are attractively arranged; in fact, one of the objects of the Y. W. C. A. has been to make



Florence Sims, head of the Industrial Department of the Young Women's Christian Association

the clubrooms as beautiful as possible.

"If the girls of the neighborhood

like blue rugs," it is explained, "they have them. Sometimes there are bowls of goldfish and birds in the

appearance as well as in purpose, stand for the bringing of gayety and cheer into the lives of the workers."

The girls in each club can join just as many classes and undertake as many activities as they desire. For most of the classes, or for the use of the gymnasium, a small fee is charged. Membership in the club itself is free and need not entail even membership in the Y. W. C. A. Sometimes the club members want a cafeteria, and one is opened, at which good food may be obtained at a low price.

Study as Well As Play

Recreation, although one of the chief purposes of the clubs, is by no means their only end. Study groups in which topics of civic and industrial importance are discussed are one of the chief features of the clubs. Perhaps the city's need for an additional playground will be brought up at one meeting and consideration given to it by the girl members of the club. The problems of the women in industry come in for their full share of discussion.

Last summer the Industrial Committee of the War Council of the Y. W. C. A. prepared a statement outlining what is called "Vital Problems of To-day," recommended for the consideration of the industrial classes. In that statement it said:

"The Y. W. C. A. is as obligated to help the Government in maintaining labor standards as in safeguarding the social and moral health of the country."

Some of the labor standards in

"Welfare Measures" To Be Discussed With Women Who Guide the Good Times of Working Girls

dorsed by the association are an eight-hour day, abolition of night work for women, one day's rest in seven, a living wage, equal pay for equal work, abolition of child labor, collective bargaining, especially for women workers, some form of social insurance, and some measure of industrial democracy. The industrial clubs are urged to study such reconstruction problems as that of the British Labor party.

Vacation Time Camps

In connection with the industrial clubs, and also in various states in which clubs have not as yet been formed, industrial camps have been

established by the Y. W. C. A. In some cases employers, as a purely business proposition, offered to pay the expenses of their employees at the Y. W. C. A. recreation camps.

All sorts of picturesque spots have been selected for the vacation camps. In New Orleans a lovely old French home, overlooking the bay, was turned over to the girls. In another state an abandoned amusement park was transformed into a camp, the ice-cream stands being made into bungalows and the merry-go-round into a gymnasium. In New England the association bought a perfectly fitted out girls' camp in the woods, and in another section of the country put up shacks on a charming island.

A Pioneer Newspaper Woman in Japan

By FRANCES GARSIDE

ONE would never surmise it from her years, but Miyo Kohashi, in New York for the purpose of studying English and journalism, is ranked in Japan among the pioneers. She will be here two years, going from this country to Europe for a year's study there, before returning to her native land to continue in her work of blazing a trail for her sex.

She has almost literally blazed a trail, for when she was graduated from the Nippon Girls' College, in Tokio, that institution had no college paper. When the "Alumni Weekly" was published for the first time she was its editor, and the men, who had had so close a monopoly of all that pertained to journalism that college girls had been denied such rights, turned their heads away and smiled.

Conducting a Department of News

A few years later her success brought her an offer from the "Yomiuri Shimbun," the leading paper in Tokio, and when Miss Kohashi took charge of a woman's page on that paper it was the first time in the history of Japan that so much as an inch in a man's paper had been devoted to the interest of women. She is the first woman to hold a position of authority in a newspaper office in Japan.

The "Yomiuri Shimbun" is the first newspaper published in Japan. "Yomiuri Shimbun," literally translated, means "Reading-selling newspaper," so called because in the early days of journalism in Japan the man who could read stood on a street corner and read the news out loud to all who cared to hear. The "Yomiuri Shimbun" is very conservative. That it should be the first to break down tradition and establish a precedent by putting a woman into a position of authority is a most important straw in showing which way the wind is blowing the cherry blossoms.

Against Loveless Marriages

The woman's page conducted by Miss Kohashi is similar to that in the New York papers. There are discussions of current events, a department devoted to recipes for cooking and another department devoted to the latest way of embroidering a Japanese garment; hygiene, best ways for feeding the baby, questions

In Crowded Neighborhoods

The clubs are usually established in thickly populated neighborhoods of industrial cities where many girls and young women are living in space too restricted to allow them to entertain and where the usual recreation is a movie. The clubhouses are large enough to give these girls meeting places with their

Women Breaking Into Commerce

College Classes in World Trade for English Girls

By ELEANOR K. McDONNELL
Special Correspondence London, England

ENGLAND has planned to train her women for commerce. In the trade war that began almost before the armistice was signed John Bull was made to realize that not only his men but his women as well would have to be better equipped if he was to make anything more than an empty pretence of getting back his pre-war claim of being the most successful international merchant.

As a result of pressure brought by big business men the University of London has announced that a course in commerce has been carefully mapped out and that women as well as men are to be admitted. The first degree of Bachelor of Commerce is to be followed by the higher one, M. C.—Master, or Mistress, of Commerce.

Daughter to Carry On the Business

The decision is fraught with great possibilities. No longer will the king of some great industry stand disconsolate over the cradle of his first-born and bemoan the fact that it is not a boy on whose shoulders he can place the mantle of commercial responsibility. I can see him now gauging the broad brow of little Sylvia May, taking in the potentialities of a bulldog jaw, sizing up a rosy mouth for a promise of initiative and decisiveness.

women the first chance they have had of refuting the time-worn charges that the female of the species has "no head for figures"; is too petty in outlook to make a good executive; lacks the vision necessary for large trade enterprises; exercises a niggardly economy that is inimical to business expansion. All these odious charges the future Mistress of Commerce will have a chance to disprove, for she is to be entered on exactly the same footing as the future Masters. Her training and her opportunities will be the same.

Two Years of Practical Work

The course starts with theory and ends with practice. The M. C. degree will not be given without two years of actual experience in a commercial house. Some of the subjects included in the curriculum are foreign languages, banking, finance, an analysis of colonial, general and distributing trades, a study of trade in a specific area such as Brazil, the industrial as-

pect of the engineering and metal trades, factory management, the study of shipping and transport questions and those dealing with public utilities, practical geography, commercial art and advertising.

It is not quite clear yet just how the prospective queen of industry is to gain the two years' practical work necessary for the degree. If her father is a business man the problem is solved, but if he is not the future female Rothschild, Morgan, Rockefeller or Lipton may have to "jimmy" her way into the granite fortress of big business via the well known American routes of stenography and salesmanship.

INSTEAD of going at her commercial career from the school end, as her English sister is doing, the American woman is entering the field of commerce through a practical training school, the various Chambers of Commerce throughout the country.

In many cities the women are members of the local Chambers of

American Women Organized in Field of Commerce

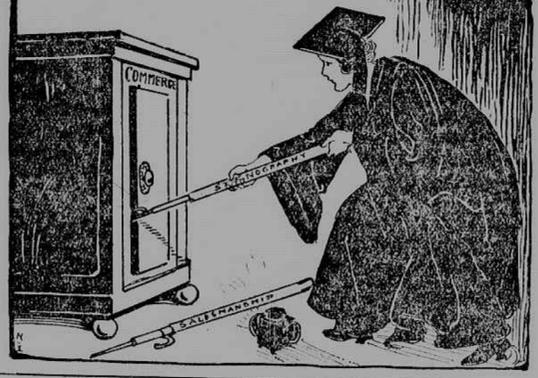
Commerce in full standing with the men. There are several local organizations composed solely of women which function as commercial organizations. We have two national associations of women: one the Woman's Association of Commerce, with headquarters in Chicago; the other the Woman's Chamber of Commerce, with headquarters in New York.

In America the same courses for studying economics and commerce and world trade have been open for years to women students as well as men. These classes always had a larger enrolment of men, but the ratio of sexes shifted during the war.

At an International Trade Conference to be held in Atlantic City, October 20, American women will urge the affiliation of European women with the various trade associations of their respective countries. Mrs. Sophia Delevan, of Chicago, president of the Woman's Association of Commerce, said recently that the aim of the delegation of her association to the International Trade Conference was to promote an interchange of commodities between the women of Europe and the women of America. She said:

"We wish to urge the foreign men delegates attending the Atlantic City conference that women should be affiliated with their trade organizations. The women of America would never have gone so far in business if they had not had the support and encouragement of American men."

While English girls are working for their degrees in commerce, their American sisters are saving a seat for them at the council table of world trade.



"American War Mothers" Foregather in Washington

By LILY LYKES ROWE
New York Tribune Washington Bureau

WHEN the American War Mothers arrived in town recently for their second annual convention all thoughts of the gray-haired, bent figure so often portrayed rising feebly from her chair by the fireside to welcome home her soldier son were sent a-wandering. The women who gathered at the New Willard Hotel as the only organization of the country limiting its membership to actual motherhood of the American Expeditionary Forces were young, quite young enough to prove the claim of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance that this last war was fought by a young man's army.

They were women wearing wide picture hats and one-piece Jersey frocks. They were young enough to like to have their pictures taken

by the photographers sent around by the local newspapers. They protested against the background of fireside isolation in one breath and talked of their granddaughters in the next. It may not be generally known, but these young grandmothers have limited their official existence to the next twenty years. After that period has elapsed their charter will expire and pass into the hands of the daughters of the sons of the American War Mothers. This will create a kind of direct blood line inheritance, according to Mrs. Alice French, of Indianapolis, president and founder of the national body.

No Members That Are Not Mothers

Perfection of the organization, which is just two years old, was one of the objects of the convention. It alternated its business sessions with sightseeing trips, such as a

pilgrimage to the tomb of Washington and an afternoon at the Capitol. One point the members continually emphasized was that no woman could belong who was not the mother of a soldier, sailor, marine or nurse in the fighting forces of the recent war. They will not permit the stepmother or the foster mother of any of the men of the expeditionary forces to affiliate with them, not to mention the sister or aunt or cousin of the boys.

"There are many things yet for us to do," said Mrs. French, in discussing the peace-time status of mothers whose boys have returned from war. "The boys still have problems for us to aid them in solving. But the biggest thing that we can do is to make it impossible for there ever to be another war. I believe that the most important contribution the War Mothers can make, next to the giving of their own sons for the defence of the country, is the establishment of a

Indiana the Headquarters

Vice-President Marshall, as a native son of Indiana, the state where

the American War Mothers originated, gave the address of welcome to the convention. The first shot fired by the American forces into Germany was sent by a soldier from South Bend, Ind., and among the first three Americans to give their lives in the war was James B. Gresham, of Evansville, Ind. The War Mothers have kept their headquarters in Indianapolis. Mrs. French says that the plan of organization to be followed is similar to that of the Daughters of the American Revolution—chapters in each state and representation on the national executive board.

The board of directors is com-



Mrs. Alice M. French, President

posed of Mrs. R. B. Hutchcraft, of Kentucky; Mrs. J. H. Nave, of Idaho; Mrs. Oliver Harriman, of New York; Mrs. Elizabeth Carr, Mrs. Edith Mettlin, Mrs. Jean Millieson, of Pennsylvania; Mrs. Grace Fable, of Kansas; Mrs. H. R. Gould, of Louisiana; Mrs. Emilie Hendricks, of Oregon; Mrs. Harriett Pullen, of Alaska; Mrs. John R. Patterson, of North Carolina; Mrs. H. Juge, of Alabama; Mrs. R. I. Manning, of South Carolina; Mrs. H. O. Garvey, of Kansas; Mrs. J. T. Oliver, of New Jersey, and Mrs. Roscoe Outley, of Washington, D. C.

The chapter for the District of Columbia was formally launched just prior to the convention, with Mrs. Outley as the president. In addition to Mrs. French, the official personnel includes Mrs. Emily Hendricks as first vice-president; Mrs. Richard M. Coleman, of Indianapolis, as corresponding secretary; Mrs. Carrie Hughes Gibbs, of Cleveland, Ohio, as recording secretary; Mrs. Robert Kirkwood, of Lawrenceville, Ill., as treasurer, and Mrs. Mary Roberts Rinehart, of Pittsburgh, as national historian.

The organization came into being at the time the food administration of Indiana was seeking some way of gaining the active cooperation of the women for enforcing its recommendations about the conservation of food. The state chapter was the outcome of the spread of the idea throughout Indiana, and finally the Governors of each of the other states were asked to name "war mothers" if none already existed. The first national convention was held in Indianapolis August 16, 1918.

A touch of pathos was given the convention by the presence of the "gold star" mothers, those whose sons lie buried in France, and for some of whom there will be no granddaughters to inherit their fractional share of the organization's charter.

The Tribune Institute .. The New Citizen