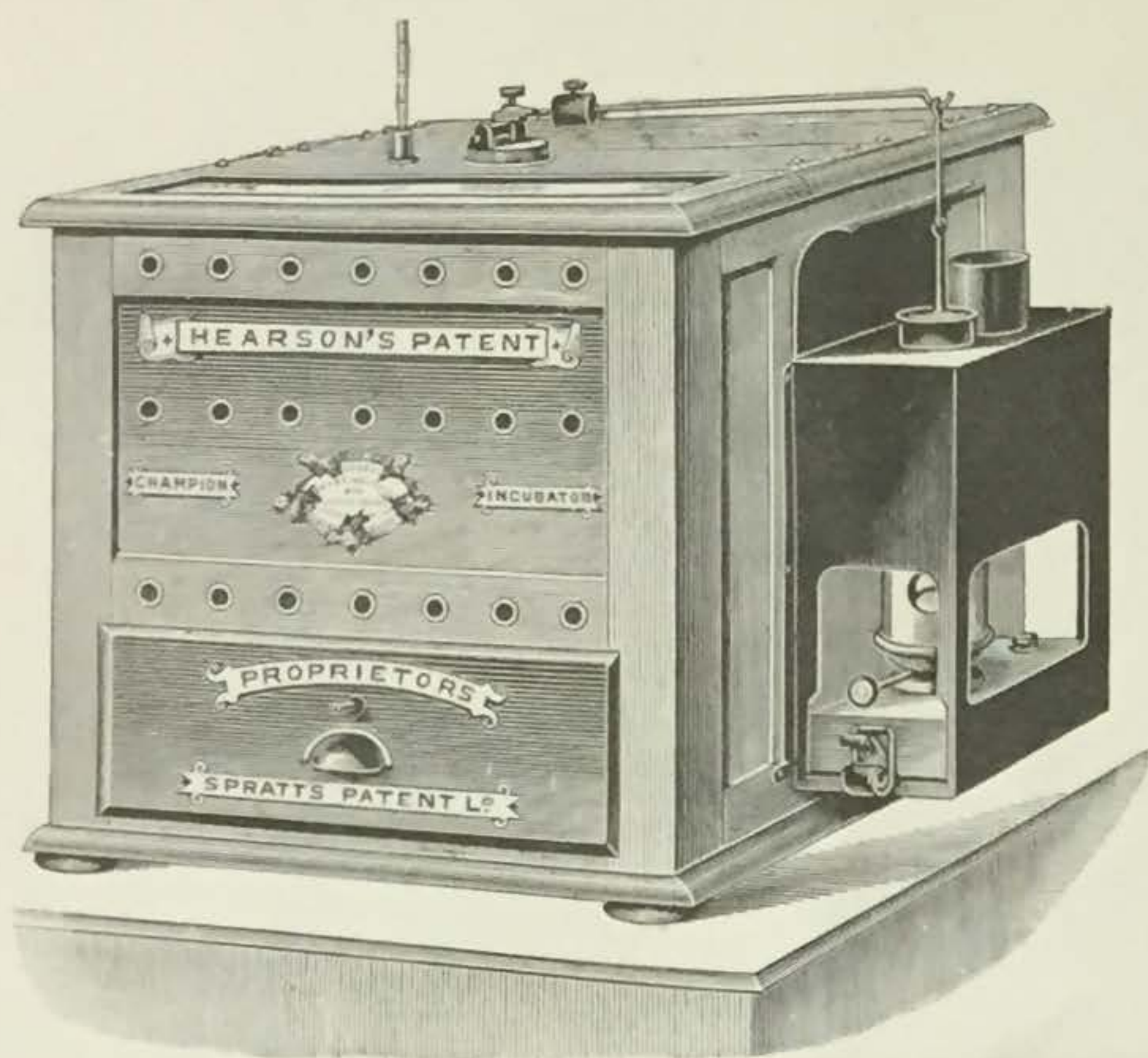


The LANDSWOMAN

JANUARY 1920 *Price*
No. 25 ❖ Vol. III 3d





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THE LANDSWOMAN

The Journal of the Land Girl and Every Country Woman

Editorial Office: Stone Field, Kidbrook Grove, Blackheath, S.E. Advertising Offices: W. H. Smith & Son, Stamford Street, S.E.1

Our Farewell Rally



H.R.H. Princess Mary has Supper with us

[*"Daily Sketch."* Photo Alfieri.]

I ALWAYS did think the Land Army managed things better than anyone else, and after our affair at the Drapers' Hall, I am sure of it.

I'll tell you all about it.

The City is pretty well hardened to the incursions of its L.A. daughters by now, and everybody took us quite calmly when we began to arrive in droves and swarms and battalions at the great hall of the Drapers' Company.

The bus conductor who put us down near the door implored us not to get run over, "as our lives were too precious, specially to-day." (Nice man! You see, he knew our destination and the reason therefor.)

When we were safely inside, on giving in our names, each of us received a red carnation, just the dear little personal touch for which our Chief Welfare Officer (who is also our Editor) is famous. Thus decorated, and relieved of rain-

proofs and luggage—having prinked a bit for the glory of the Land Army—we were assembled in the main hall upstairs and instructed in our duties of garland bearers, doorkeepers, and so forth . . .

(Those dots mean suspense!)

At last the moment came for which we were all in a quiver of expectation—the Princess arrived!

Down the great hall she passed to the platform beneath our long canopy of flowers, smiling, youthful, and, I think, a little shy. And there she was presented with one of our own special rush baskets, containing two bound volumes of THE LANDSWOMAN, while we all sang "Come, Lasses and Lads," at the tops of our voices. The Land Army group who presented it were gaily crowned with little wreaths of red and green, and certainly did us justice in the matter of looks. After came wonderful

THE LANDSWOMAN



Presenting the D.S.B.'S

["Bystander"—Central Press.

speeches from the great men of the Board of Agriculture and our chief, Miss Talbot; speeches which filled us with pride, a curious chokey pride that England should think so much of our work and repay us with such generous gratitude. Then the ceremony began which was our crowning triumph—our bravest and best received their awards. The Princess decorated fifty-seven Land Girls with the "Distinguished Service Bar," while the deed by which each Bar was won was read out by our Chief. Such deeds they were, of steadfast endurance, of selfless courage, of continuous cheerful labour in the face of difficulty and danger.

What caused our hearts to swell the most was the knowledge that these our heroines were only a part of the many others whose deeds were as noble, though unknown.

The Drapers' Company—kind souls!—then bore us all off to supper, a real Land Army supper, which was highly appreciated, winding up with ices and crackers (don't you wish you'd been there?)

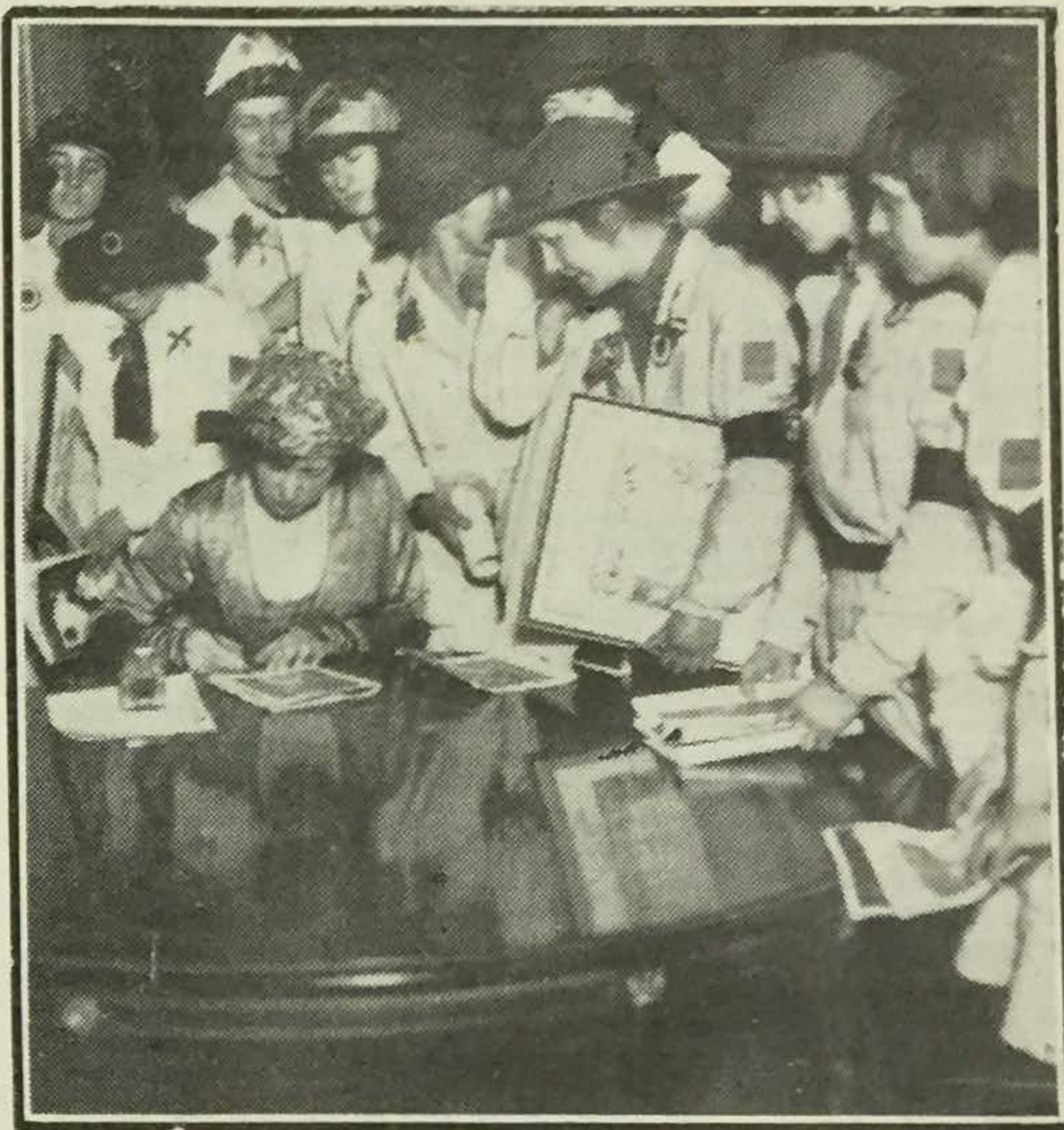
The Princess did not desert us, but sat down too, and later pulled crackers right and left with anyone she could reach. By this time we were thinking of her as "Our Princess"—so much so that she had to be rescued from us when supper was over, flushed, smiling, highly amused after signing everything we pressed upon her.

Back to the great hall we went, and settled down to the last part of the evening, a Land Army entertainment—you all know what that is like, but I think it came as a surprise to the Princess—a rather pleasant surprise.

We had lots of dancing (funny how fond we Land Girls are of it!), "Morris" and "Country" and real "ballet" too, songs and recitations, and a violin solo, and mouth-organ music, all the latest airs.

Meanwhile the newspaper people were terribly busy catching one group after another,

making pictures of each with startling flashlight accompaniments. The end came all too soon, to the thundered strains of the National Anthem our Princess went away, bearing with her as the echoes of our cheering died the heartfelt affection of the Land Army. I think she knows that the love we gave her that night was not only the affectionate respect due to the daughter of our King, but a stronger, warmer thing, a regard won by her own personality—



The Princess signs her photograph in our Christmas "Landswoman" [D. Mirror

who had been for us all those happy hours, a girl among girls.

M. B. P.

Competition

DEAR EDITOR,—I am offering two prizes, of 10s. each, for what I consider to be the best photo, in each class, of a Land Girl ploughing, (a) with horses or (b) with tractor.

All photos to be sent to me by March 1st, 1920, at my address below. Open to all readers of THE LANDSWOMAN.

GERARD PLATTEN.

22, Albany Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex.

What the Press said about it

THE TIMES.

It was one of the prettiest ceremonies the City has ever seen. The Land Girls, healthy and brown and gallant-looking in their white overalls, their corduroy breeches, their high boots, and their gay little felt hats, came like a breath of clean country air through the oldest streets of the City. Each of them had a crimson carnation in her buttonhole and bore the sleeve badge of the army. The Lady Mayoress lent the flowered wands from the Lord Mayor's Show and the girls made an avenue that looked like nodding hollyhocks for the King's daughter to go by. And she looked as happy as she always does when occasion brings her among young girls, and as rosy cheeked as any of them.

It was a great night for them when they supped with the Princess, and there was a gorgeous supper such as a *débutante* at her first ball enjoys, and hundreds of crackers that popped off at the end. And then before they broke up there was a concert at which two Land Army Girls sang and several girls from Cumberland danced old country dances while one of their number played a mouth organ. It was a wonderful evening, and every one of the Land Girls from all parts of England and Wales carried the Christmas number of THE LANDSWOMAN away with her, for it had a new photo of Princess Mary specially taken for their magazine.

THE DAILY MAIL.

*Come out of the towns,
And on to the downs,
Where a girl gets brown and strong,
With swinging pace
And morning face
She does her work to song.
The children shall not starve,
The soldiers must have bread,
We'll dig and sow and reap and mow,
And England shall be fed.*

It is the Land Army song, and lasses of the army opened their country throats and sang it to Princess Mary last night till the painted roof of Drapers' Hall, London, rang, and only the kings and queens of England on the panels between the marble pillars were not moved.

The Princess, with whom walked Lord Lee and Lord Ernle, Miss Talbot, Mrs. Lyttelton, and Miss Dorothy Yorke, had a triumphal pathway through the middle of the hall when she arrived.

Forty of the girls stood with long wands crowned with roses held to make an arch of flowers, and as the girlish figure, in grey *crêpe de chine* with a silver hat, passed under it the girls sang "God Save the King."

But when she stood on the dais and faced them and they raised their own song, the pretty pink of her cheeks flushed a deep rose. She wore the country colour. She became a maiden of open-air cheeks like themselves, and ready to share the joys of the evening to the full.

A bevy of girls whose heads were wreathed with green leaves and red berries walked to the dais and handed to the Princess a beautiful rush basket ornamented with needlework fruits wrought by themselves, and in it two volumes of THE LANDSWOMAN tied with their colours. With a smile of delight and a pretty bow and "Thank you," the

Princess took the gift, and immediately the long tale of heroines {who gained the Distinguished Service Bar was unfolded by Miss Talbot, while one by one the girls strode under the roses to have the bar pinned on their breasts.

What clapping there was! The Princess listened, spoke sisterly words to all, and gave each brown hand a warm grip.

And then to supper—to tables loaded with baked meats and delicacies and piles of crackers—laid in two of the Court rooms.

Princess Mary caught all the merriment as well as the colour of the occasion. She leaned across the table this way and that continually to snap crackers with the girls, she signed their autograph albums, and one came back with her book, saying: "Isn't she just sweet, and she is going to keep with us to the end." But the Princess's merriment reached its height when she turned and saw Lord Ernle at her side wearing a tall and tasselled fool's cap, and on the other side Canon Dalton, master of the Drapers' Company, graced with a purple cocked hat. There were shouts of laughter on every hand.

DAILY TELEGRAPH.

The National Anthem the City is accustomed to, but "Come, lasses and lads," sung in a City company's ancient hall by 500 rosy-cheeked lasses, with strong, clear voices that told of the open-air life, had the surprise of novelty. The first greeted Princess Mary when she entered Drapers' Hall, in Throgmorton Street, last evening, and the country lilt followed. This was, indeed, no ordinary occasion. The Women's Land Army is being demobilised. This was its last rally, and Princess Mary, as Lord Ernle gracefully said, brought the warm sunshine of her sympathy into grey November days—come to bid them farewell. Not in all its long history has London City known such a gathering. They were war workers, strong, well-set-up girls, with bronzed faces and bright eyes, and the prettiest picture imaginable the groups of them made, dressed in their white smocks, each set off with a red carnation—the feminine touch—and farm hats and gaiters; the youth of English womanhood at its best. The passage-way was made an embowered avenue, bright with tall garlanded wands held by the girls, and through this the Princess passed. A strange scene in the old City, but welcome.

DAILY CHRONICLE.

There was something of the glad spirit of Harvest Home last night in the heart of the grey old City, where men traffic in crops so far away from the fields that produce them.

Princess Mary presented bars to Land Girls who had won them for courage and devotion to duty as detailed in yesterday's *Daily Chronicle*.

One felt a thrill as the deeds were read out, and the girls, often slight and dainty little things who walked shyly up the gangway, came forward to receive the prized decoration—stopping runaway horses, rescuing cattle from burning sheds, tackling ill-tempered bulls and saving the lives of fellow-workers, and the like.

And after seeing something of military decorations won splendidly under fire, one remembered that

these acts of heroism by the girls were performed in lonely fields and farms, far away from the hot blood and comradeship of the fighting line.

THE DAILY MIRROR.

The Princess among her lasses!

After you have called last night's reception at the hall of the Drapers' Company a farewell rally of the Women's Land Army, it really remains simply that — the Princess among her lasses.

Nobody could have believed that it would develop just as it did.

Then word came that the Princess was approaching, and everybody stood while the National Anthem welcomed her.

When she reached the platform we saw a young lady, very simply dressed, looking down at us very kindly and blushing.

She stood and smiled with Lord Ernle next to her and Lord Lee not far away, while the Land Army song was sung to the tune of "Come, Lasses and Lads." Then the nervousness lessened; something seemed to have happened, and everyone became more neighbourly.

It was quite a family party. No formal waiters or footmen about, so everybody helped herself and her neighbour.

Supper over, crackers began to yield their surprises, and then we found out how charming and jolly is our Princess.

Lord Ernle and the Master of the Drapers entered into the fun of the moment, and soon each had a cap atop of a reverend head!

The Princess could scarcely move, as all the Land Girls crowded towards the upper table, literally taking her by storm with requests for her autograph.

She must have signed over 100 photographs of herself before she took refuge in the drawing-room.

But even there Her Royal Highness knew no respite. Pen and ink were brought, and within a few minutes the Land Girls were clustering about her again.

And still she laughed and chatted happily, pulling a cracker now and then to vary the humour of the moment.

"Isn't she a sport, a real good sport?" I heard a lassie from Yorkshire say to her neighbour, and in the Land Girls' vocabulary there is no higher term of praise.

The wonder of it was its spontaneity. It all seemed to come straight from the heart.



The Archway of Roses.

[Alfieri.]

The L.A.A.S. who presented the Landswoman Basket.

[Sport & General Press.]

The D.S.B. Group.

[Sport & General Press.]

Why we Need an Association of Landswomen

The Land Girls' Reasons

WE need an Association of Landswomen to help us in many ways—national and personal—that every woman working on the land may joyfully take her part in the great schemes of rural reconstruction and betterment of agricultural industries.

With Browning we believe that "collective man outsteps the individual." An Association safeguards each individual, ensuring just treatment by employer and employee. Help would be given to those who wish to settle on the land in our own country and those starting work in our Dominions overseas. By ordering uniforms and other requisites collectively, it would be possible to obtain them at a lower price. Girls wishing employment would be given advice and training facilities in all branches of agriculture and horticulture. The unemployed would be assisted in finding new work; the sick, homeless and disabled would be helped by special subscriptions. We would meet together at socials and entertainments, voicing our ideas, and gaining knowledge from the experience of others. The great object of this National Association is the raising of agricultural efficiency among women; and to form a link between all those at home and throughout the Empire. On demobilisation, if there were no Association, Land Girls would feel lonely and helpless—one tiny unit in a big cold world—but now we shall be part of a large warm-hearted family, held up with that comfortable support given by a widespread society. The farmers and the workmen have their unions, so that the Land Girls must not stand alone. An Association knits everyone together. The war has taught us that rich and poor, of whatever breed, colour or clime, may fight side by side for their King and Country. So the call of the land may bring us together in peace, on Mother Earth. An Association gives everyone an ideal, something to strive to attain; it stands on a high pedestal, to which we raise our thoughts and attune our motives. "Ideals are the very soul of life." We are not content with a low standard of work, we must all give our best. We all share the responsibility; we all work to uphold the honour of the Association. If one of us falls, the whole community suffers. When an individual member does some noble deed the others all rejoice. We not only give each other practical help, but also sympathetic interest: the strong supporting the weak, the dull learning lessons from the quicker intellect, while being an inspiration herself in patience and perseverance. By co-operation and a high aim, we may realise our ideal. "Our only greatness is that we aspire."

Thus we see the need of an Association to link together all Landswomen, and put them in the best possible position to take their full part in their country's work.

"But it rests with the women of England,
As they think of the sons she has lost,
To see that their homes and their country
Are worthy the price it cost."

STELLA M. PALK.

TO realise the need of any association we should anticipate the effects of its formation.

I have here attempted to point out the advantages of an Association of Landswomen.

The workers who have co-operated during the past four years for the purpose of food production should have a keen interest in each other's welfare. An Association of these workers will undoubtedly enhance this good-fellowship, one of our best and chief national characteristics, and which as British subjects we should do our utmost to uphold. This is one of the lessons of the war.

Good-fellowship in a community leads to social and recreative benefits for its members. Of all people, landworkers can fully understand the needs and aspirations of landworkers. Any organisation whose object is the promotion of social intercourse amongst those belonging to it must surely be encouraged, and if loyally supported should result in national and colonial comradeship. None can exaggerate the advantages of this; and, above all, let us guard against narrowness. The memory of what we have accomplished in the past, as our Editor reminded us in November, must stimulate us to continued efforts and renew the enthusiasm with which we commenced our labours.

Public opinion regarding this labour has undergone a change in recent years. Now is our opportunity, through the Association, to keep our standard raised and to improve the status of landworkers by increasing their efficiency in agriculture.

"The prosperity of a people is proportionate to the number of hands and minds usefully employed . . . every being that continues to be fed and ceases to labour takes away something from the public stock."

An important item in increasing general efficiency is advice as to conditions and possibilities of employment in agriculture and horticulture. We are promised these in connection with the suggested organisation, and also increased training facilities. It is obviously to the interest of all working on the land to co-operate in support of such an organisation.

Settlement on the land at home will be much simplified and more satisfactory if controlled by a society whose sole object is to assist women landworkers. Then in connection with settlement overseas, one cannot estimate too highly the advantage of an Association of Landswomen to intending women emigrants.

At the present time of labour unrest it is expedient that employer and employee should be on good terms; no means is better calculated to ensure this end than a clear understanding regarding the conditions of labour and a reasonable view of the subject from both standpoints. Our Association is out to secure and uphold goodwill between master and worker, and to prevent unfair treatment when necessary by safeguarding our interests. We can then by using this opportunity preserve the sense of security which has been so precious to us as members of the Land Army.

And here may I add a byword which indirectly bears upon the subject in question. The Association, by increasing the advantages of and providing facilities for women agricultural workers, will increase the number of those workers. It is agreed in the majority of cases that the general health of women has improved under the open-air conditions attending landwork. England should benefit by this in future generations, and appreciate her landworkers accordingly.

All agricultural workers know the need of suitable equipment, especially in footwear. Our Land Army boots have prevented many colds, and I think have been generally successful. We shall all welcome an Association which provides us with good boots at a reasonable cost, the necessity in a landworker's outfit.

We all like to be independent, and a self-governing and self-supporting organisation appeals to that spirit of independence which our land work has developed in us. And we shall welcome the opportunity to have a voice in its concerns.

This is one way in which, having through a common cause been brought together, we may be kept united, and primarily the Association of Landswomen is to keep landswomen united, for 'Unity is Strength.'

E. E. S. NICHOLAS, L.A.A.S.
(Warwickshire).

LAND ARMY! Somehow to me these two words have a good, wholesome sound. I seem to see a band of healthy, white-smocked girls "doing their bit" in lonely country places, with an honest purpose in their hearts not only to help to win the nation's bread but to keep up the high standard of merit which the first members of the Land Army had won.

I rarely see another Land Girl, and never since my training have I had one working with me, and yet I always feel that we are all working together, happily and enthusiastically, and for their sake as well as my own I always try not to do anything which might lower our good name.

Were we working individually, without this feeling of unity, I am afraid we should not trouble very much what happened to us, and one by one this happy army of farm girls would dwindle until probably in quite a short time there would never be seen a girl about the farm, giving the animals all those little extra attentions which they so appreciate. Think of it! Ask the dear gentle cow if she wants us to be demobbed, and ask the big strong horse if he wants to lose this person who seems to have discovered that horses don't want so much whipping and shouting at as folk thought they did at one time.

No! If we asked all the animals to vote, I know they would want us to carry on, and join the Association which our kind friends at headquarters (who, by the way, seem to have a genius for thinking of schemes for our good) are forming for us. They have taken such a keen interest in the past, encouraging all our efforts to do our best, that if in the future we have no one—except, of course, the farmer—to buck us up and help us, naturally our work would be rather void of interest compared with what it has been. Therefore if we want to be in the future what we have been in the past, we must have our hearts and heads joined together by an Association which will enable us to enjoy all the best things of life and at the same time encourage us to do our very best when at work.

Apart from the necessity of it, it seems to me our duty, for the sake of the good times we have had in the Land Army, to join up once again with the same good purpose in our hearts to keep ourselves a jolly, reliable gang of girls, scattered all over the countryside of dear old England.

G. B. (L.A.A.S.).



The Basket we presented to the Princess

[The Fruitgrower

The Weather

THE weather is the spoilt child of the British Nation, and the sooner people treat it as such the better it will be for everyone concerned.

Now I have not the slightest intention of talking about the weather; in fact, that is what I am about to exhort you not to do.

Most of us know that the best way to treat a spoilt child, one who has been made too much of and is inclined to indulge in tantrums, is to ignore it, and it will automatically behave better.

Why not try this dodge on the weather?

Instead of doing this we often make it the main subject of our conversation, with dire results.

Doubtless we set about managing the weather in entirely the wrong way. But let me explain. The first thing in the morning we say "Good morning," no matter what the weather, as if we were a bit afraid and were trying to propitiate it, just as we say "Good dog" to a strange dog who has forgotten to wag his tail.

Why not stick to the old-fashioned "God be with you" and defy the weather and all his works. Why attempt to kill two birds with one stone?

We say "Good morning" and the weather immediately feels it is important. "Am I good? We'll see what a few fireworks will do," and the net result is that we get a thunderstorm or something equally choice and have to hump our umbrellas about all day until we decide to "risk it" or, peradventure, leave the said umbrella in the train. That is one way in which we go wrong. Then, again, when we get one of our typical days, we say "What filthy weather!" "It's cold enough for snow," or something equally tactful. "Why not have some," thinks the fractious child, and immediately gives us a sample of his finest.

You remember the hot summer of a few years ago. Well, what happened then? Why, just this. All of our old know-alls put their signs and blunders together and got the answer out in cold. No chilliness here, in a short time this jolly island of ours would be an arctic region (judging from the statistics they had before them) and we, as a dominant race, would die out. Hadn't the Gulf Stream formed a combine with the O.C. weather, and between them both they could wipe out any country they pleased. The Gulf Stream was already showing its nasty temper and, ignoring all precedent, had actually failed to keep to the left of the lamp-post when leaving the Gulf of Mexico, and, consequently, people who wished to remain hot were awfully cold, and the cold folk were feeling very warm and couldn't understand it a bit. (Their scientists were not so advanced as ours and hadn't enough figures to work on.)

Having successfully put the wind up the British Nation and decided where the seat of the Government ought to be and how soon it really ought to be removed, what happens? Why, the weather says "And where do I come in, I wonder where I put my billion candle-power searchlight of '99?" John Bull is getting cold feet, I think I'll warm him up a bit.

The machine is put into action, and for a few weeks John Bull enjoys one of the finest spells of perfect weather on record. But the fool boasts about it and makes foolish remarks about "our summer," as if he kept it in his backyard. The O.C. weather

gets annoyed and sets his machine seventy times hotter.

People fall dead in the streets, the hay crop is ruined and the poor overworked, underpaid railway-men come out on strike, and incidentally our scientists feel very small beer.

Now for those people who believe in signs and wonders.

Perhaps they are right and perhaps they are not. But seeing what an irritable person the weather is, why anticipate trouble.

Somebody's corns plunge, or the smoke from the chimney does not go up straight, or the distant hills look near, or the ducks quack loud, or the peacocks screech, or, perhaps, the sun goes pale to bed, and on the strength of this they immediately proclaim from the house-tops that it is bound to rain. Mind you, all these suppositions may be accurate but no rain has actually fallen.

Fuss round a child and say it looks pale and is going to cry, and you will get the crying right enough.

The same thing applies to the weather.

The weather is too egotistical, and it is our duty to try and get it out of its bad habits.

SELAH.

"Jumperitis"

TO-DAY I walked with Isobel
To view the country side:
She likes to tramp for miles and miles,
Though I would rather ride;
But Isobel's the only girl
In all the world for me,
So when she says she'd rather walk,
I hastily agree.

We often talk of scenery,
And cows, and pigs, and things;
For Isobel's a clever girl
Who draws, and paints, and sings:
To-day, I don't know what it was,
She didn't seem to care
When, walking down a country lane,
I swore I saw a hare.

She only murmured "Purl and plain,"
And puckered up her brow;
And asked me if I'd like a "stripe"
The colour of a cow.
I looked at her with wondering eyes,
She didn't seem to see,
But asked me if I liked "four pli,"
She rather fancied "three."

I said, "My dearest Isobel,
Whatever does this mean?"
She said, "My newest one is fawn,
With little stripes of green."
I mopped my brow, and felt my pulse,
To see if it was me,
And turned to gaze at Isobel,
To see if it was she.

We reached her house without a word,
I saw her to the door:
She said, "I've just got half a pound,
D'you think I'll want some more?"
I said, "I think the wisest thing
Would be to go to bed:
And see the room is nice and dark,
Then you can rest your head."

I sent the doctor round to her,
'Twas all that I could do;
I think perhaps she's going to have
A nasty time with 'flu.
Her mother thinks she'd like a change,
I think perhaps she might;
P'raps Brighton for a day or two,
If she gets on all right.

MARGARET YOUNG.

A Proper Sort o' Lass Be Nancy

YES, I'm walkin' out wi' Nancy, for
I knowed her durin' days o' war,
An' she's a spankin' lass;
Can 'tend the heifers, milk a cow,
An' at a pinch handle the plow,
Do it all—first class.

Clever! there's naught that Nance don't know
'Bout money makin', how to grow
Best payin' crops—an' fine
At ketchup, pickles, home-made cheese,
Preserves, she's wholly good at these,
So elderberry wine.

Lovely! just as the dawin' light,
Wi' cheeks like rosy pippins bright
Through happiness set fast;
Straight as a willar-wand, an' spry—
The boys cast many a longin' eye
When Nance an' I go past.

Now Nan's demobbed we're goin' to wed
An' run a little snug homestead
On co-operative plan;
So hand-in-hand we mean to make
Success a certainty, an' take
Respect o' every man.

Nan mean to wear the breeches, for
She worn 'em durin' days o' war,
An' say she don't feel
drest
In fal-lals, there's no
sense in they
Allus a floppin' in the
way,
'Sides—tothers suit her
best.

CLARISSA ALCOCK.

Cosy Corner Chorus

Give me a little Fordson
Tractor and a nice field
to plough,
Somewhere with nobody
there, exit every cow.
Give me a morning in the
daylight with the cold,
grey sky above,
And I'll get as dirty as a
mud-lark on the Fens
with the dust I love.

D. PAPWORTH.

The Tractor Plough

SOME folks there are who solemnly avow
That true Romance is found in following the
plough.

Why, then, scenting Romance, do they so blatantly
eschew it?

If they love ploughing so, why don't they come
and do it?

But pity the poor Land Girl,
When farmers (deeming the plough but poorly
sped

Behind a poor weak quadruped),
Closely co-operating to distract her,
Put her to plough behind a bally tractor!
Four furrows lie at her command, four levers and
two hands;

You guess the rest!

Her days are spent in weariness and dread,
Trying to keep the thing from standing on its head.
And should her eyes wander even momentarily,
Perhaps to watch a squirrel leap from bough to
bough,

Perhaps to trace a rabbit scudding before the
plough.

She'll hear a voice above the tractor's din,

Yelling like sin

(Just as the scurrying rabbit gains his burrow).

"Hi! can't you keep that wheel in the blinking
furrow?"

Her hand springs leverwards with zealous verve.

Too late! behind her lies a sickening swerve.

God speed the plough.

I would not for a thousand pounds decry it,

Only suggest

That those who think it fun should come and
try it.

JEAN COLMER.



Horses and Calves in Wilts and Devon

National Association of Landswomen

The First Council Meeting, December 18th, 1919

THE first Council Meeting of the National Association of Landswomen was held in the Board Room of the Agricultural Wages Board, 80, Pall Mall, on December 18th.

Almost every county in England and Wales was represented, and the delegates evidently came filled with the right Association spirit, for the meeting was a complete success and criticism of the destructive sort was entirely absent. Helpful suggestions came from all parts of the country and were pooled at this meeting for the benefit of the Association as a whole.

The following delegates were present:

ENGLAND.—Bedfordshire, Mrs. Potter; Berkshire, Miss Lockley Smith; Bucks, Mrs. Macdonald; Cambs, Miss Grant Edwards; Cheshire, Miss Lindon; Cornwall, Miss Trenear; Cumberland, Miss Andrews; Derby, Miss C. Donald; Devon, Miss Calmady Hamlyn; Dorset, Miss Gildea; Durham, Mrs. Fraser; Essex, Miss Osborne; Gloucester, Miss Ackers; Hants, Miss Cooke; Hereford, Mrs. Kevill Davies; Hertford, Miss Beck; Hunts, Mrs. Rose; Isle of Ely, Mrs. Barker; Isle of Wight, Mrs. Dudgeon; East Kent, Mrs. Truscott; West Kent, Miss Cobbold; Lancashire, Mrs. Rawstone; Leicester, Mrs. Morris; Lincs (Holland), Miss Maples; Lincs (Kesteven), Miss L. Stewart; Lincs (Lindsey), Mrs. Brackenbury; Middlesex, Lady Margaret Boscawen; Norfolk, Miss Kinder; Northampton, Mrs. John Woods; Northumberland, Mrs. Middleton; Notts, Miss Gordon; Oxford, Miss E. Pott; Rutland, Mrs. Morris; Salop, no representative appointed; Soke of Peterborough, Mrs. Strong; Somerset, Hon. Mrs. Aubrey Herbert, alternative; Miss Trotter; Staffs, Mrs. Shaw; East Suffolk, Miss L. Brock; West Suffolk, The Marchioness of Bristol; Surrey, Miss Baker; East Sussex, The Countess of Chichester; West Sussex, Mrs. Clifton Brown; Warwick, Lady Ilkeston; Westmorland, Miss Coward; Wilts, Miss Olivier; Worcester, Miss Williams; Yorks (East Riding), Miss Morrison; Yorks (North Riding), Miss Riddell; Yorks (West Riding), Mrs. B. Taylor.

WALES.—Anglesey, Miss Matthews; Brecon, no representative appointed; Cardigan, no representative appointed; Carmarthen, Mrs. Jones Davies; Carnarvon, Miss Williams; Denbighshire, Flint; Glamorgan, Mrs. Brain; Merioneth, no representative appointed; Montgomery, Miss May Luxmore, alternative; Mrs. Bryce; Monmouth, Lady Mather Jackson; Pembroke, Mrs. Owen Williams; Radnor, no representative appointed.

THE CHAIRMAN.

The meeting started with a vacant chair, and it was the first duty of the delegates to elect a chairman to fill it. Miss Pott proposed and Lady Margaret Boscawen seconded that Mrs. Deane Streatfeild, of West Kent, be asked to take the chair. This was carried unanimously and the businesslike character of the proceedings, together with the thoroughly friendly spirit in which they were conducted, showed that no better choice of chairman could possibly have been made.

Mrs. Deane Streatfeild avoided the usual chairman's speech and merely intimated that this was a business meeting, and that we must, therefore, confine ourselves to facts as there was a lot of work to be done. She hoped that we should have a free and full discussion on all points of the agenda, so that we might arrive at the best solution of all difficulties, and launch the Association on a happy and prosperous career.

Miss Talbot then formally introduced the delegates from the Farm and Garden Union, with which society it was suggested the National Association of Landswomen should affiliate. She pointed out to the Council that these delegates were here as guests, willing to give such information as might be required of them, but with no power to vote. This applied also to five members of the Provisional Committee, with the Chairman and Secretary, who attended in order to present the report of that committee, which had been responsible for bringing the Association into being. She wished to remind the Council that all draft schemes drawn up by the Provisional Committee for the purpose of starting the Association were now dead, and that it was for the delegates themselves to settle among themselves exactly on what lines the Association was to be run.

The Chairman then read the report of the Provisional Committee, and announced that the number of members enrolled to date was 6,100. This number is believed to be an underestimate, but the final reports had not yet come in.

It was proposed by Miss Osborne, of Essex, and seconded by Miss Baker, of Surrey, that the report of the Provisional Committee be accepted. This was carried unanimously.

The next business of the Council was to decide as to the aims and objects for which the National Association of Landswomen was being formed. These are:

- (1) To form an Association of women interested in agriculture and horticulture for the purpose of encouraging and developing upon sound, economical lines the part they take in the industry.
- (2) To voice the needs and opinions of women engaged in agricultural and horticultural pursuits.

Proposed by Miss Trenear, of Cornwall, and seconded by Miss Matthews, of Anglesey, that these be the aims and objects of the Association. This was carried unanimously.

In the same way the benefits to be derived from membership—

- viz.:
- (a) Co-operation among women in the agricultural industry.
 - (b) Agricultural and educational information.
 - (c) Co-operative purchase of clothing.
 - (d) Social and recreative facilities—

were agreed to.

Several counties were anxious to add to the benefits and increase the subscription proportionately in order to cover the cost. These suggestions included sickness benefit, reduced railway fares, permanent employment bureau, savings-bank schemes, etc., but it was decided that it would be wiser to leave the arrangements of these additional benefits in the hands of the county branches of the Association, as it was obvious that they would vary according to the local needs of each county.

The Council then proceeded to discuss the constitution. The Chairman stated that there were three possibilities:

- (a) National basis with a central council and a branch in each county.
- (b) A county basis, each county forming a local association without a centre.
- (c) That the Council should accept the proposals of the Women's Farm and Garden Union, to which reference will be made later.

The meeting decided that some sort of centre was absolutely necessary, with only one dissentient. It then became necessary to discuss what form this centre should take, and there was a very general feeling that it should be run as economically as possible, as it was obvious that it would be to the advantage of the counties to keep as much as possible of the subscription money in the county. The least expensive form of central office was certainly that suggested in the proposals of the Farm and Garden Union, which were as follows:

- (1) Where County Associations of Landswomen are formed they will do so on their own lines.
- (2) The County Associations will raise their own funds.
- (3) Each county will affiliate to the W.F.&G.U., thereby obtaining the benefits which can be offered by a central office.

Correspondence between the central office and the county members will be carried on through the county secretary, except in the case of specialised workers.

The benefits thus obtained will include:

- (1) Co-ordination of work in the counties by:

(a) *Annual Conference.* The Women's Farm and Garden Union will convene an annual conference of members from each affiliated county association. This conference will elect eight persons, members of county associations, to serve on the W.F. & G.U. Executive Committee.

A sub-committee will be formed consisting of these eight representatives and three members of the W.F.&G.U. to deal with all business connected with the county associations and to report to the Executive Committee.

After a great deal of discussion, more particularly with reference to the possibility of a central clothing store, these proposals were accepted on the understanding that a limited sum of £5 per county or federation of counties of not more than 100 members be the recognised affiliation fee to the Farm and Garden Union. As the Chairman wisely pointed out, the advantages of affiliating with a well-known society, which has been established for twenty years and whose aims and objects were very similar to our own, were invaluable. Further, that the Farm and Garden Union having made the suggestion that the work of the Association should be carried out by the sub-committee, consisting of eight members of the National Association of Landswomen and three members of the Farm and Garden Union, it was obvious that the National Association of Landswomen would be entirely free to manage its own affairs, provided, of course, they did not involve any expenditure of money from the funds of the Farm and Garden Union. This arrangement would provide us with a centre, a meeting place for the committee, and a certain amount of clerical assistance, and in addition to this the inestimable advantages derived from co-operation with a society with the traditions and reputation of the Farm and Garden Union.

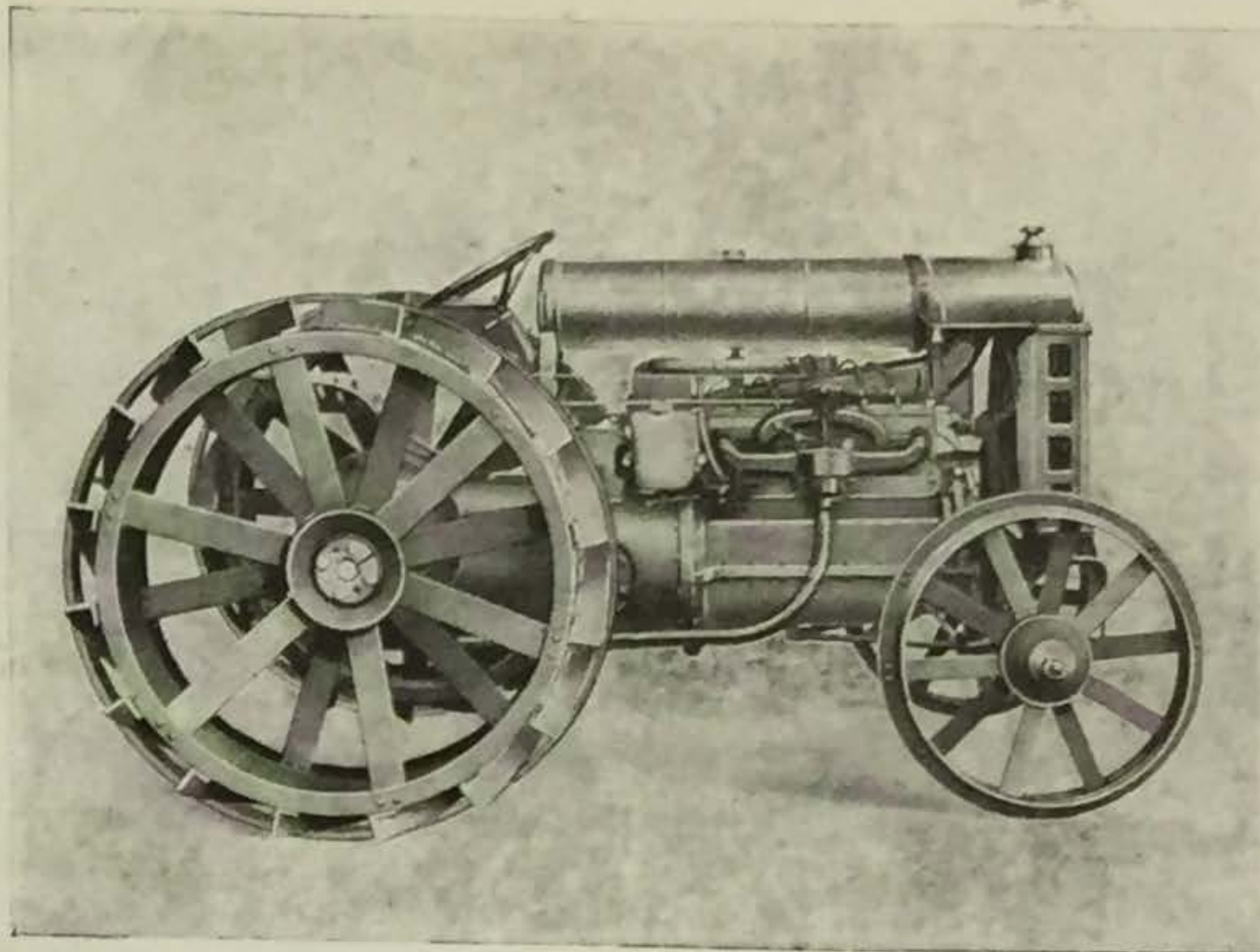
The Chairman then asked Miss Talbot to make a statement as to the present position of the residue of the clothing now held by the Women's Branch of the Board of Agriculture. Miss Talbot stated that after the free gift of a complete outfit to every member of the Land Army remaining on the land, which had been so generously accorded by the Government, a considerable stock would still be available. She had much pleasure in informing the Council that the Board of Agriculture had consented to allow the National Association of Landswomen to be the agent for the sale of this surplus stock to members of the Association.

The next subject of discussion was the flat rate of membership

Continued on page 15

The Fordson Tractor

An honest job believed in, not a collection of after-thought, an amply powered

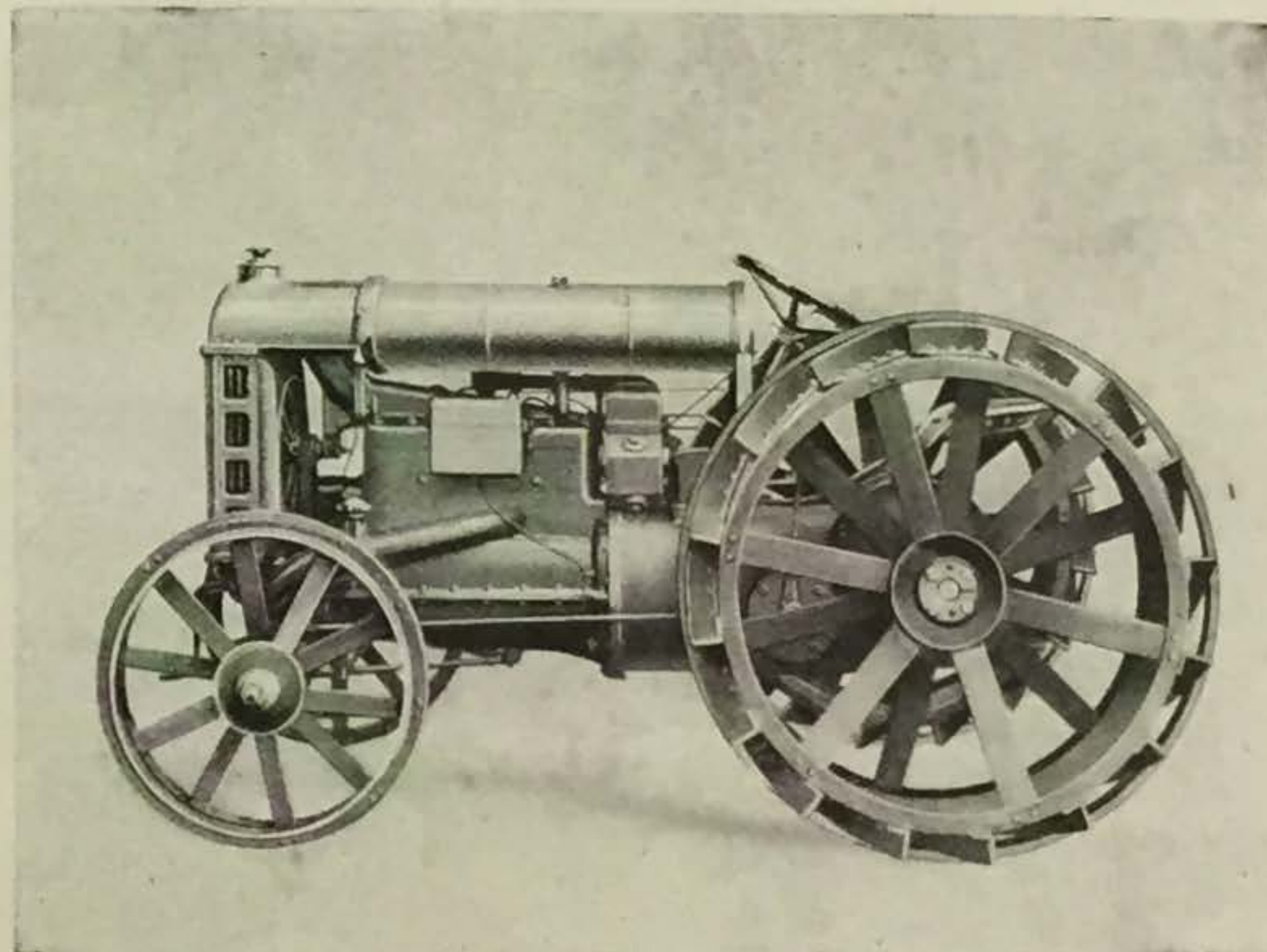


durable machine sold at a low price, because so many farmers want a simple, reliable tractor.

THIS IS IT.—Solid, well knit, workmanlike. Every part well protected. Nothing to deteriorate in the weather. 22-h.p., which is ample for all purposes. No frame.

"The work accomplished by this machine was a revelation."—*Liverpool Post*.

The Fordson though light, gives great power. It is adapted for use on large

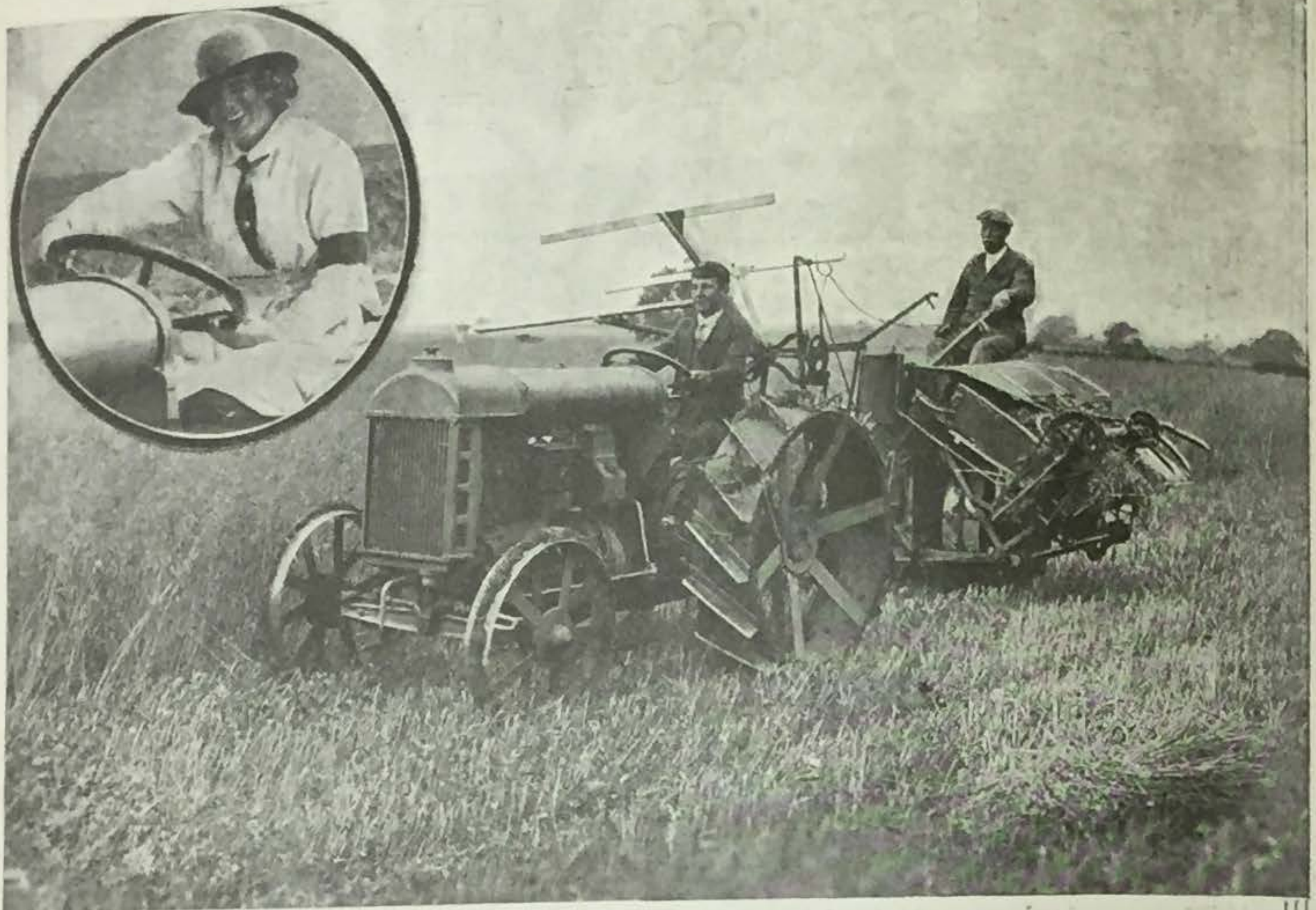


as well as small farms. It is built of "Vanadium Steel"—the finest in the world.

THE OTHER SIDE.—Confirms the impression of "utility all compact." Illustration shows temporary rim to protect cleats or strakes of driving wheels when tractor is being delivered by road.

Henry Ford & Son, Ltd., CORK, IRELAND

"SIMPLICITY ITSELF."



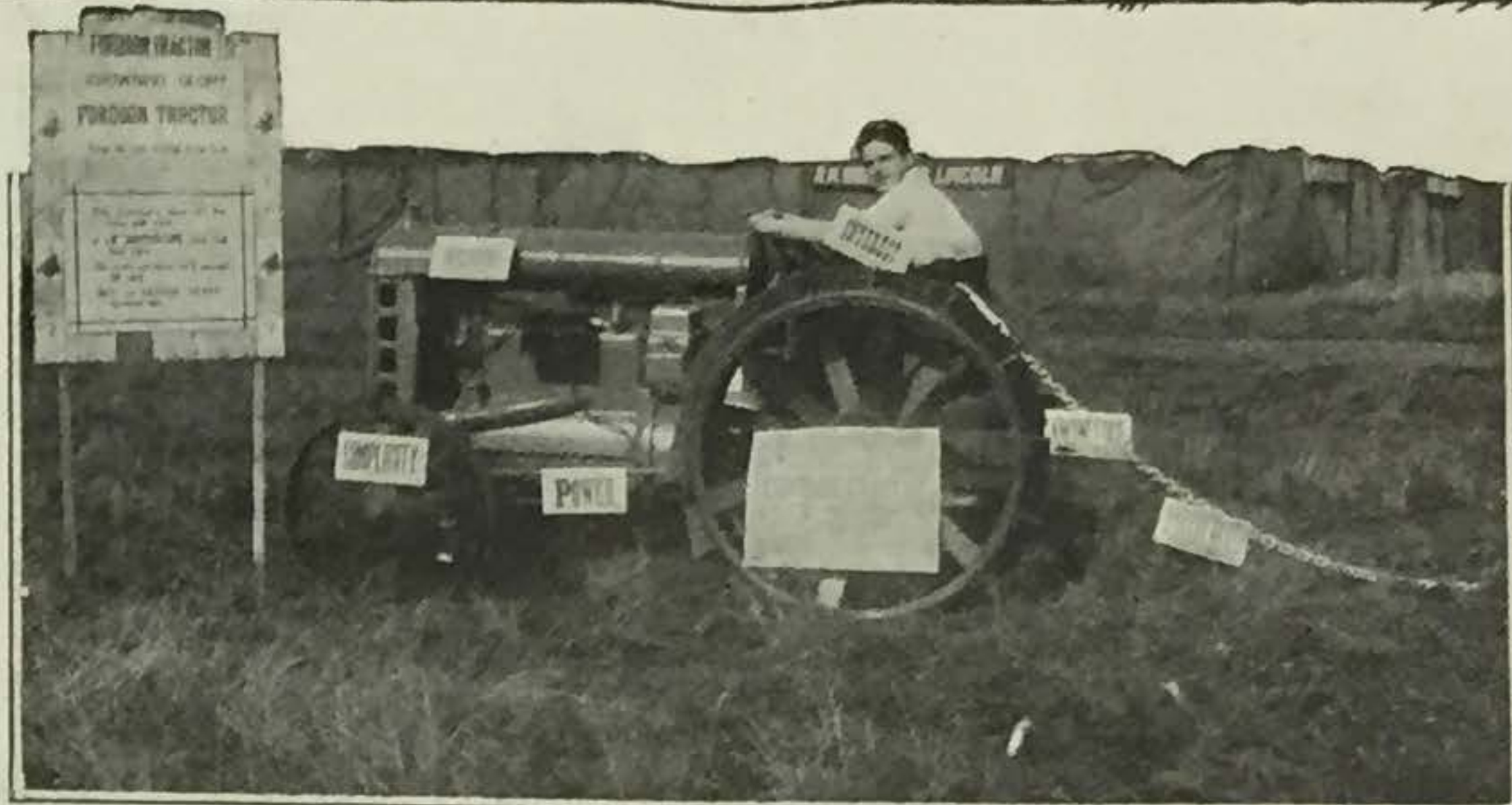
The FORDSON stands for the well-known "HENRY FORD" ideas of :—
 (a) Simplicity, (b) Accessibility, (c) Light Weight, (d) Power,
 (e) Reliability, (f) Service to the Owner *after the sale.*

The Fordson Tractor is so simple to handle that anyone — man, woman, or child can work it easily without any previous



knowledge of motor-ing or motor cars. There are but six points to think about and these can be mastered in as many minutes.

BEGINNING THE FURROW.—The Fordson Tractor, equipped with 2-furrow plough, having self-lift operated by the driver which lifts the shares 6 in. off the ground, leaving a clean headland, makes a complete "one-man outfit."



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The FORDSON TRACTOR is just the thing to keep the farmer's son at home. To keep him interested the whole year round. To cut out the humdrum drudge of old-fashioned methods. It lifts farm work into line with the up-to-date, go-ahead thought of the young generation.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT BELT PULLEYS FOR STATIONARY WORK

As a stationary power unit the Fordson is ideal. To this end a special fibre belt pulley has been evolved, and *is now available* through Fordson dealers.

The fitting of this pulley enables the Tractor to operate practically all stationary Farm Machinery—

Threshing Machines, Hay Balers, Feed Grinders, Circular Saws, etc.

The pulley is made of special paper fibre, which requires no refacing and prevents belt-slip. It is slightly crowned to ensure the belt running in the centre of the pulley all the time.

Ask your local Fordson dealer for full particulars.

Price of Pulley complete, £12 : 10s.

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Speak to
the earth

and it will
teach thee.



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Ask your local Fordson Dealer for full particulars.

Price £12 : 10 : 0 Complete

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CORK IRELAND

Speak to
the earth

and it will
teach thee.

Association News

Farewell Parties and N.A.L. Meetings in the Counties

Bedfordshire

Before the final demobilisation of the Land Army on November 30th the Women's War Agricultural Committee on Friday entertained the members in the county at Messrs. Dudeney and Johnston's Central Restaurant, in Bedford.

After tea, to which 89 sat down, Mrs. Whitbread, the chairman of the committee, spoke. She said how much the girls' work had been appreciated in the county, and how grateful she was to the members of the committee for their loyal and enthusiastic support during the past four years.

She then presented twenty Good Service Badges, and after three cheers had been given to the chairman, the room was cleared for dancing, games, and competitions.

Berks

GOOD-BYE, LAND GIRLS.

An interesting and successful meeting to mark the close of the work of the Women's Land Army in Berkshire was held in the Council Chamber at the Assize Courts, Reading, on Tuesday. The Council Chamber was crowded with girls representing all branches of farm and garden work. Miss Gladys Pott (of the Women's Branch of the Board of Agriculture) took the chair, and there were also present:—Mr. J. Herbert Benyon, Lord Lieutenant and chairman of the Women's Sub-Committee; the following members of the committee: Mr. Job Lousley, Miss Lousley, Miss Elsie Lousley, Miss Osmond, Mr. E. W. K. Slade, Mrs. Sturges and Mr. S. R. Whitley, with Miss M. O. Gregg and Miss Maude F. Weight (staff of the Land Army Office), and Miss Lockley Smith, the efficient county secretary.

Mr. Benyon presented Good Service Badges to the following Land Girls of the county:—Amy Bowman, Esme Burrell, Emily Carey, Gladys Cooper, Ethel Drew, Elsie Edmunds, Muriel Gammons, May Gibbons, Daisy Girdler, Kate Green, Gertrude Greenwood, Alice Hatherall, Queenie Hellmuth, Mrs. James, Mrs. King, Kate Kinge, Mary Laney, Alice May, Mrs. Mead, Rhoda Newell, Kathleen Peard, Ivy Powell, Agnes Queenan, Lucy Richardson, Fanny Rogers, Bessie Stacey, Alice Taylor, Elsie Thomas, Emily Thame, Ethel Wagstaffe, Isabel Wilkins, Ellen Wilkinson, Maggie Wilkinson, Alice Williams, Mrs. Woodley and Hannah Wornham.

There was a pleasant interruption at this point, when Miss Maureen Shaw, representing the Land Army girls of the county, asked Miss Lockley Smith to accept a solid silver tea service as a token of love and appreciation for her unfailing kindness to them during the last three years.

Miss Lockley Smith arose (amid deafening applause) and in a graceful little speech showed her intense appreciation of the charming gift, which, she said, would be one of her most treasured possessions and would constantly remind her of three busy but happy years. She referred in glowing terms to the generosity and kindness of her chairman and committee, and to the excellent services rendered by Miss Gregg and Miss Weight. (Applause.)

Miss Pott then explained the scheme for the formation of an Association of Landswomen.

The girls appeared unanimous in supporting this scheme, and 143 promptly enrolled as members, and proceeded to elect their committee as follows:—Mrs. Sturges, Miss Lockley Smith, Phoebe Biggs, Hattie Day, Maureen Kendall, Maureen Shaw, Marjorie Wake Walker (forewoman of Government Land Settlement Farm), and Florence Whiting (forewoman of forestry gang).

The enrolled members unanimously proposed Miss Lockley Smith as their representative on the General Council, the first meeting of which is to be held in London on December 18th.

Cheshire

Those attending were representatives of the women gardeners, farm servants, and members of the Land Army. The organising secretary, Mrs. Lavington, read the draft scheme of the constitution, and fully explained the aims and objects of the Association. All those present signified their intention of enrolling.

It was decided to call the Association the Cheshire Branch of the National Association of Landworkers. The draft scheme was adopted in full, with two exceptions:—

1. The paragraph relating to the County Committee of Management be deleted, and that only one Committee be formed, to be called the Executive Committee.

2. That members might be enrolled on the recommendation of one associate.

The following names were then put forward for election as members of the Executive Committee, and passed:—

District.	Representative.
Stockport ..	Mrs. Barton, L.A.A.S.
Disley ..	Miss Alcock, L.A.A.S.
Macclesfield ..	Miss Goldsmith, L.A.A.S.
Nantwich ..	Mrs. Carrington, L.A.A.S.

District.	Representative.
Wirral ..	Miss Lindon, gardener.
Northwich ..	Miss Ammons, L.A.A.S.
Runcorn ..	—
Congleton ..	—
Bucklow ..	—
Tarvin ..	—
Chester ..	Miss Milner, L.A.A.S., seed tester.
Malpas ..	Miss Ireland, L.A.A.S.
Capenhurst ..	Miss Goodier, farm domestics.
Spital ..	Miss Richardson, women gardeners.

It was especially asked that four business men and farmers should be asked to sit on the Executive Committee. The names proposed were:—Mr. Beecroft, A.E.C.; Captain Wright; Mr. Shepherd, A.E.C.; Mr. Bell, farmer.

The two latter gentlemen have already kindly consented to act in this capacity.

Mrs. Barton, L.A.A.S., a smallholder, was then elected as representative for Cheshire for the Central Associate Council held on December 18th, in London.

Bangor

On November 29th, the eve of the demobilisation of the Land Army—the Anglesey and Carnarvonshire Women's Agricultural Committees gave a farewell party at Bangor to all the members of the Land Army who are still working on farms and market gardens in the two counties.

There were 52 landworkers present and almost all of them are remaining in their present employment.

The girls arrived in Bangor from various directions about 3 o'clock and were met by the Group Leader, Mrs. Mallalieu, and marched up to the College grounds where they and the officials were photographed.

They then proceeded to the Y.M.C.A. rooms, where a meeting was held to inaugurate a Branch of the National Association of Landswomen, which starts with a membership of 125. Miss K. Williams, Penlan, whom we all know very well at the Office, was appointed Hon. Treasurer.

The Land Girls were all very disappointed that Miss Talbot and Mrs. Hughes were unable to be with us, but very much appreciated their letters expressing their regret that they were not able to be present "to meet those who had shown such a fine spirit and done such skilful work on the farms of Wales."

Colonel Cotton spoke appreciatively of the work women had done for food production during the war, and wished every success to the National Association of Landswomen.

First Council Meeting.

Continued from page 10.

subscriptions, and it was the almost unanimous wish of the delegates that this should be at the rate of a penny per week, paid in advance. It was resolved that the question of additional levies for county purposes should be left to the county branches to decide.

The Council then proceeded to its final task of electing eight representatives to sit on the sub-committee suggested by the Farm and Garden Union. The Chairman asked for twenty-four nominations and the following names were then proposed by the delegates: Miss Fawcett, Oxford; Mrs. Harrison, Staffs; Mrs. Sherbrook, Notts; Lady Trustram Eve; Mrs. Ashton, Lancs; Miss Usborne, Essex; Miss Simpson, Northants; Lady St. Aubyn, Cornwall; Mrs. Deane Streatfeild; Miss Baker, Surrey; Mrs. Hobbs, Gloucester; Mrs. Clifton Browne, West Sussex; Lady Mather Jackson, Monmouth; Miss Olivier, Wilts; Lady Chichester, East Sussex; Mrs. Charles Sample, Northumberland; Mrs. Howard Coote, Hunts; Miss Beatrice Chambers, Pembroke; Miss Vidal, East Suffolk; Mrs. Lyttelton, London; Miss Cook, Hants; Mrs. Roberts, Bucks; Miss Calmady Hamlyn, Devon; Mrs. Hughes; Miss Burgess, Norfolk.

These were balloted for and the result was announced in the following order.

- (1) Miss Baker, Surrey.
- (2) Mrs. Deane Streatfeild, West Kent.
- (3) Miss Simpson, Northants.
- (4) Mrs. Hobbs, Glos.
- (5) Miss Fawcett, Oxford.
- (6) Mrs. Hughes, Editor of THE LANDSWOMAN.
- (7) The Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton, Deputy Director, Women's Branch.
- (8) Mrs. Harrison, Stafford.
- (9) Mrs. Assheton, Lancs.
- (10) Miss Beatrice Chambers, Pembroke.

In consequence of the subsequent withdrawal of Mrs. Lyttelton and Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Assheton and Miss Chambers became members of the sub-committee.

With a hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Deane Streatfeild for the really wonderful way in which she had conducted this the first Council meeting of the National Association of Landswomen the proceedings came to an end.

For He's a Jolly Good Farmer



His Majesty the King at the Smithfield Cattle Show

[Daily Mirror

Isle of Wight

A farewell rally and *café chantant* for L.A.A.S. was given at Newport, L.W., on Saturday, December 13th, at which friends could also be present on payment of a small sum for admission. About 150 attended in all.

Proceedings were opened by the Rev. Dr. Tugwell, Chairman of the Women's Sub-Committee, who congratulated the L.A.A.S. on the splendid work they had done. Miss Moens explained the National Association of Landswomen, which it was hoped they would all join.

At 4.30 an excellent tea was served, followed by a short concert and a dramatic sketch entitled "Mechanical Jane," acted by Miss Farmer and Miss Nutt, joint registrars for Ryde. The hall was then cleared for dancing, which was much enjoyed. Refreshments were served in the interval.

At 8 o'clock, after hearty cheers for Miss Hills, who had acted as Hon. Sec. since the beginning for Mrs. Dudgeon, the welfare supervisor, who had made all the arrangements for this most successful evening, the entertainment was brought to a close with "God save the King."

Cornwall

The Cornwall Committee duly sat on November 24th. They elected Miss Trenear, chairman; Miss Bennett, vice-chairman; Mrs. Courtis, hon. secretary; and Miss E. Radford, delegate, and co-opted on to the committee Lady Molesworth St. Aubyn and Miss Fenwick.

Since then Miss E. Radford has notified us that she is going abroad, and Miss Trenear has been elected to take her place.

Cumberland

The Land Army girls have held four farewell parties—at Cockermouth, Keswick, St. Bees, and Santon Bridge.

The proceedings included a supper, competitions, games, and dancing. Each ended by singing "Auld Lang Syne" and wishing joy to the new National Association of Landswomen, eight branches of which have been started in the county.

The inaugural meeting of the N.A.L. will be held at Cockermouth at 11.30 on Monday, December 22nd.

Derbyshire

On November 26th a meeting of all the girls was held in order to inaugurate the National Association of Landswomen. It was very successful, there being about 60 odd girls present, and we have up to date received 80 names for enrolment, and nearly all have paid their subscriptions in, and we think we can say 30 per cent. for a whole year. The officers appointed were an ex-group leader, Mrs. Bennett, as chairman, Miss Donald, Instructress at the Midland Agricultural College, as secretary, and Miss Burton, Bailiff-secretary to Trent College, Long Eaton, to act as treasurer. Everyone seemed most keen to join, and the Women's Sub-Committee are willing to assist in every possible way.

Miss Gresley took the chair on the occasion, and made some very appropriate remarks. Eight committee members were appointed and three co-opted, leaving a vacancy of one to be co-opted later. As far as one can see the idea is well received in Derbyshire, and I hope that every facility will be given to them later to continue a strong body of energetic workers.

Durham

The girls all assembled in the Market Square and were photographed around the monument. Afterwards they proceeded to a hall, where they all sat very attentively, and listened to a speech of appreciation by the Mayor, who also evoked shrieks of laughter. After the Mayor's speech, Mrs. Jolliffe, of Newbus Grange (a member of the Women's Sub-Committee), presented thirty-three Good Service Badges. After the presentation she made a very touching speech to the girls regarding their future and the return of the men. After Mrs. Jolliffe's speech Mrs. Fraser addressed the assembly, which not only consisted of Land Army girls but a few members of the N.A.L. Mrs. Fraser explained to them the draft scheme and what had been done in the county, and she was elected secretary to the N.A.L. so long as she could manage to do the work, with Miss Marshall, of Spennymoor, as assistant secretary.

After this the floor was quickly cleared, and the pianist struck up dance music, whereon the girls immediately commenced dancing until five o'clock, when tea was served. During the

serving of tea selections were rendered on a gramophone. After tea and until eight o'clock a programme of dancing, games, songs and recitations was carried out and greatly appreciated. In all, it was an entirely satisfactory day, and, we think, without exception, was enjoyed by all.

Essex

A meeting to explain the National Association of Landswomen was held on November 27th for the Essex L.A.A.S. and all others interested in the matter. We were most fortunate in having Miss Talbot to speak to us, and enthusiastically proceeded to form an Essex Association and to elect a committee.

Miss Talbot addressed the meeting on the subject of the Association, explaining its objects, etc.

The meeting was then open for discussion. The question of subscription being raised, the larger majority expressed themselves in favour of a subscription of 6s. a year, should additional benefits be forthcoming for this sum. Smaller numbers voted in favour of 4s. and 10s. respectively.

The following resolution being put, it was passed unanimously: "That this meeting approves the formation of an Essex County Branch of the N.A.L., on the lines indicated in leaflet N.A.L. 1."

A County Committee was then appointed to act for Essex:—Miss Sutton, secretary; Miss Crome, L.A.A.S., and Miss Grimston, assistant secretaries; Miss Bowen-Colthurst, Miss Pegram, Miss Curd, Miss Potter, Miss Skeats. Miss Parker was appointed president and Miss Osborne delegate to the Central Council.

The business meeting was followed by a party. About 140 L.A.A.S. and many members of committees and other friends were present. Miss Talbot presented Good Service Ribbons, diamonds and stripes; we hope our cheers showed her how proud we were to have her with us. Next came a presentation from the members of the Land Army and office staff to our C.O.S., Miss Macdonald. How we cheered and how we clapped! Was ever C.O.S. so patient and kind and understanding? This presentation was our surprise to her, but she and the committee had a surprise for us, for when we had tea each of us was given a tiny black pig, accompanied by a poem specially written for our farewell party by a member of committee. Crackers and dancing brought our "sad-happy" party (as someone called it) to a close, and our poem expressed our feelings as we said good-bye. It was headed:—

"TO EVERY L.A.A.S. IN ESSEX.

"To say good-bye is always sad,
Yet finished work may leave us glad;
So take this lucky pig to-day
To bring good fortune on your way.
Just don't forget that in your hands
The flag of England's honour stands;
Just bear in mind the need immense
For honest work and common sense,
And proudly wear your laurels won,
Content that England says 'Well done!'"

Gloucestershire

A general meeting to discuss the formation of a branch of the National Association of Landswomen in Gloucestershire was held at the Shire Hall on Thursday, November 27th, when about 60 were present. Mrs. Hignett gave a clear outline of the aims and proposed constitution of the Association, and after discussion the meeting decided unanimously to form an Association in this county. The committee were elected, and immediately held their first meeting, appointing their officers and delegate to the London Council. Nearly everybody who was present signed an enrolment form and paid her subscription. The hon. secretary of the Association for this county is Miss Ackers, Huntley Manor, Glos., who will also act as treasurer. Miss Malleon was appointed chairman of the committee, which also consists of Mrs. Hignett, Miss Townley, Miss Frost, Miss Mills, Miss Flux, and Miss Daft. The committee have the power to co-opt other members as the need arises.

Hampshire

On November 29th, the eve of demobilisation, the Hants L.A.A.S. were invited by the Women's Agricultural Committee to a luncheon and meeting at the Guildhall, Winchester.

Punctually at 12.30 over 200 L.A.A.S. sat down to an excellent lunch. They were waited on by the members of the committee, while the chairman, the Countess of Northbrook, who had come on from another engagement, had lunch with them at the head of one of the tables. Lunch was followed by much cracker pulling, till a be-capped assembly was marshalled off to the great hall for the business part of the afternoon proceedings.

The Countess of Northbrook opened this informally by welcoming them all, and Miss Cook, after an enthusiastic reception, explained the scheme for the National Association of Landswomen, and went on to tell them of the special scheme it was hoped to organise in the county, by which Mrs. Chambers would be retained as welfare officer of the Association. This was greeted with loud applause.

Described by Lady Northbrook as "feeling rather shy," Lord Northbrook then made a speech which was greeted with much laughter and applause, congratulating them on the work which had been done, and wishing them all prosperity in the future.

Miss Lily Smith, who had been successful in winning a fourth prize in the milking competition at the recent dairy show in London, was then presented with a crocodile leather dispatch case, and after hearty cheers for Lord and Lady Northbrook and for the committee the audience adjourned for the serious business of enrolling some 180 members and of electing a representative to attend the Council meeting and a committee.



The King's Highland Steer.

[Daily Sketch

This over, Miss Edmeades came to the piano, and after a few rousing choruses the hall was cleared for dancing.

At four o'clock tea and buns were served, and the guests, once more adjourning to the big hall, joined hands in a gigantic circle and sang "Auld Lang Syne." Cheers followed for all the members of the office staff, the welfare officer, and the matron of the hostel, and then the very successful afternoon was brought to a close with "God Save the King."

Herts

The Herts members of the Women's Land Army were all entertained on November 26th at a farewell party at the Passmore Edwards' Settlement in London. A large number of the Women's Agricultural Committee and of district representatives and registrars and of others who have interested themselves in the Land Girls during the last few years were also amongst the guests.

Lady Hampden was supported on the platform by Miss Bradford, Mrs. Cooke, Miss Hay, Lady Saltmarsh, Miss Stone, and Miss Ward, and after a few words of welcome to the girls she presented the Good Service Ribbon to 26 members. She then introduced Miss Talbot, who had kindly come to explain the outlines of the Association of Landswomen, which it is proposed to form on the demobilisation of the Land Army. Discussion was afterwards invited, and the girls were unanimously in favour of starting such an organisation, and promised their whole-hearted support. A hundred members were enrolled, and a Provisional Committee was elected. A meeting of delegates from every county being fixed to take place in London in December to discuss the details of the scheme, the girls were asked to elect their representative, and Miss C. Beck was chosen.

After tea there was dancing, and the party broke up about 6.30.

Huntingdonshire

On November 29th, the eve of the dispersal of the Land Army, the Land Girls of Hunts assembled at the Town Hall, Huntingdon, by the kind permission of Mr. Coxon, the Lord Mayor, for a "Demob. Party."

There were 40 girls present, all of whom are staying on the land—farmers having refused to part with them in the majority of cases—so we decided to christen it a "Demob. Party," and

After hearty cheers for Miss King, who had organised the party with the help of Miss O. A. Carey, and the committee ladies who had subscribed the funds, we broke up with "Auld Lang Syne" and best wishes for the National Association of Landswomen.

On Saturday, November 29th, a meeting of all Land Girls remaining on the land after demobilisation, together with all enrolled members of the N.A.L., was held, by kind permission of Mrs. Rees, at Queen Elizabeth's Club (Y.W.C.A.), Canterbury, at 3 p.m. The weather over 60 were present.

at 3 p.m. In spite of very stormy, wet weather over 60 were present, including the Hon. Mrs. Rice, who presided, Mrs. Prescott Westcar, Mrs. Truscott, the officers of the East Kent Women's Land Army, and several proposed members of the N.A.L. Executive Committee.

Mrs. Rice welcomed the girls, and told them how glad she was to know that although the Land Army was just about to be demobilised, a new Association was being formed to look after the interests of those remaining on the land after November 30th. Mrs. Rice strongly urged all present to become members and to enlist the sympathy of as many more as possible.

Mrs. Prentice, who for over twenty months acted as hon. assistant organising secretary in East Kent, spoke to the girls briefly on the aims and objects of the N.A.L., dwelling particularly on the advantages arising from co-operation.

Mrs. Moyes, county organising secretary, after explaining the Land Settlement clause in the Aims and Objects of N.A.L. 3, told the girls that all who had been passed by the various committees would get instructions either from their N.A.L. secretary or London headquarters when suitable vacancies occurred.

Mrs. Moyes also explained that at present N.A.A.L. membership funds were not sufficient to guarantee the establishment of a hostel for those who were ill or who were out of employment, but that arrangements had been made with Mrs. Rees to take such girls in Queen Elizabeth's Club at the same charge as the Y.W.C.A. members.

The constitution of the East Kent Branch of the N.A.L. was then explained, and names for an Executive Committee read out and approved unanimously. This committee is composed of:—A chairman, Mrs. Prescott Westear; an hon. secretary, Mrs. Sidney Truscott; 3 elected members, Mrs. Baker, Mrs. de Pass, 1 not elected; 3 land girls, Miss Dykes (also member of Farm and Garden Union), Miss Cooper Smith, Mrs. Cork; 1 part-time worker, Miss Smith (also member of Farm and Garden Union); 1 small holder, Miss Mitchell (also registrar, Land Army girl, and area secretary, N.A.L.), 1 Federation of Women's Institutes, Mrs. Burrows; 1 National Council of Women, Mrs. Lewis; 1 Y.W.C.A., Mrs. Rees; 1 Employment Exchange, not elected.

Added to these, not more than four members may be co-opted. Mrs. Truscott was then elected as representative from East Kent on the Central Council, London.

Before taking tea, those present were all requested to enrol as members and pay their subscriptions, with the result that over 80 members had signed on before the end of the meeting.

Mrs. Moyes intimated that Lord Erule had granted the presentation of a free outfit to every Land Girl remaining on the land after November 30th, and girls were therefore asked to send kit bags to the office without delay.

Miss Keating reported having already received several donations and many offers of help throughout the different areas. The area then reported that the

Tea was then served, and the noise and laughter caused by the pulling of crackers, kindly supplied by the Hon. Mrs. Rice, finished a most enjoyable afternoon.

The inaugural meeting of the W. Kent N.A.L. was held at Maidstone on November 25th.

Miss Simpson came down and explained the object of the Association. Nearly every L.A.A.S. in the area was present and also a fair sprinkling of part-time workers and registrars. Everybody present joined the Association.

The meeting was very enthusiastic and showed the keenness with which the girls have "caught on" to the idea of the Association.

Mrs. Deane-Streatfeild, who has worked tirelessly for the good of the Land Army, was elected President; and Mrs. Watson, who

described herself as "something in the office," but who has done an enormous amount of spade work, both on the Welfare and Releases Committees as well as on the Executive, to the chairmanship of the Committee which is being formed.

Miss Cobbold was elected as delegate to the London Conference amidst loud applause.

The proceedings closed with tea for the girls given by the officers.

The long delayed presentation of Good Service Ribbons took place at the farewell party held on November 18th at the County Offices, Preston. A hundred and fifty girls assembled, all looking very smart and workmanlike, and all determined to enjoy themselves. The happy, healthy faces were a good advertisement for life on the land, and the L.A.A.S. seem to realise this, for 134 are determined to remain as land workers after demobilisation.

A hundred and three girls were decorated, and 39 who were prevented from attending had the Good Service Ribbon sent to them, with a letter of thanks from the committee.

After speeches from the chairman of the Lancashire Agricultural Executive Committee, our own chairman, and several members of our committee, Mrs. Assheton, wife of the High Sheriff of Lancashire, presented the ribbons. The proceedings then ended with a vote of thanks to Mrs. Assheton, and then a verse of the National Anthem sung as the Land Army *can* sing. Afterwards the girls were photographed in two big groups, and then—headed by some members of the committee, the organising secretary, and group leaders—marched through the town to the White Horse Café, where the committee entertained the girls to an excellent tea.

The National Land Association was talked about and explained. The L.A.A.S. were very much in favour of having a Lancs branch. Ninety L.A.A.S. joined, and more are "thinking about it."

None of us will ever forget our farewell party in Leicester on November 28th, 1919. It was simply hilarious, and at the same time full of goodwill and happiness.

The members of the Rutland L.A. were asked to join us, and altogether about 120 invitations had been sent out, practically all of which were accepted.

The afternoon began by two hours at a picture palace, then tea, with crackers, sweets, flowers, and the very best cakes and sandwiches that the café could produce. Every girl found in her place a framed photograph of the county staff, the photo being given as a memento from the staff and the frames were given by the committee.

After a speech from the chairman and votes of thanks to Mr. Morris, who had paid for all the girls' tickets at the picture palace, to Mrs. Fielding Johnson for the crackers, and to Mr. Fox for the sweets, Miss May Brennan, on behalf of the L.A.A.S. of both counties, presented Mrs. Morris, the county secretary, with an oval oak table, and we shall none of us forget the scene that followed—everyone seemed to be shouting and clapping and making as much noise as possible in a vain attempt to show the gratitude and affection they were feeling.

Mrs. Morris then spoke. She praised the girls for the wonderful work they had done, and stated that not the least part of their achievement was having converted the farmers of Leicestershire from direct antagonism to woman farm labour to real appreciation of the work women could do in agriculture.

Miss Rose Dixon then presented Miss Nugee, assistant secretary since 1917, with a leather week-end case from the L.A.A.S.—to the accompaniment of more noise!

After this the serious work of the evening began. Ballot papers were given to each girl who had joined the National Association of Landswomen, and it was explained to them that on each paper would be found the names of all the 124 members of the N.A.L. in the county, together with a qualification as to their work for the Land Army in the past. Each girl was to mark with a cross the names of the ten people she considered would make the best committee of the Association. The papers were then sealed up in an envelope given to each girl for the purpose.

National Association of Landswomen

If not, DO IT NOW.

The Editor regrets that the photograph of the King's Bull which appeared in the December issue was not acknowledged to the *Daily Sketch* and *Topical Press*.

It is rather remarkable that of the 124 voting papers returned to the office only three had to be destroyed as disqualified for voting for more than ten members—a fact that speaks well for the future of the woman elector.

Practically all the L.A.A.S. who had not yet joined the Association became members that evening, and Leicestershire now has a branch of 158 members, whereas Rutland are pluckily beginning a branch of their own with 33 members.

We all felt especially pleased that Daisy Lardner, D.S.B., was present, as she belongs to Leicestershire, although she has been working in Northamptonshire, and three huge cheers were given for her before the close of the evening.

Lincolnshire (Holland)

The farewell Rally of the Land Army Girls in the Holland Division of Lincolnshire took place on Saturday, November 22nd, 1919.

An afternoon performance at the cinema was the initial item on the programme, followed by a goodly high tea at the Y.W.C.A. Hut, Spalding. When the animal appetite had been satisfied, the gay throng with its ludicrous head-gear, secured from the many crackers, being constrained to orderliness, a few belated Good Service Ribbons were distributed to the following:—A. Mockett, K. MacDougald, M. Evison, F. Milnes, E. Burrows, D. Keal, and Mrs. I. Griffin.

Lincs. (Kesteven and Lindsey).

A farewell Rally of the Kesteven and Lindsey L.A.A.S. was held in Lincoln on November 25th, when 120 members of both divisions assembled in the Lindum Restaurant at 11.30 in the morning.

Mrs. Laughton Brackenbury (chairman of the Lindsey Women's Sub-Committee) presided, and was supported by Mrs. Quirk (vice-chairman) and Mrs. Walker (vice-chairman of the Kesteven Sub-Committee). Lady Ancaster, the chairman, being prevented by illness from attending. Miss Talbot, O.B.E., Director-General of the Women's Branch, and members of both Women's Executive Agricultural Committees were also present.

Mrs. Brackenbury, after expressions of regret at the cause of the absence of Lady Ancaster, referred to the excellent work done in the county by the L.A.A.S. and its officials, those who were at present working with them and those who had worked and gone on to take up duties elsewhere.

Miss Talbot, after receiving a rousing reception, said she was very sorry to say that this was the last time she would address the Women's Land Army in Lincolnshire, and then went on to speak of the aims and objects of the National Association of Landswomen, which will carry on the functions so ably performed by the Land Army in the strenuous days of war, and when the history of the war was caused to be written the success of women on the land would occupy an honourable place.

On the motion of Mrs. Walker, a very hearty vote of thanks was passed to Miss Talbot, following which a resolution to support and join the new organisation was unanimously carried, and over 120 members were enrolled.

The "Army" then formed a procession to the cathedral, where a short special service was held. After singing of hymns, the Dean addressed the girls, basing his remarks on "Whatever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might."

After the service, the girls formed against the west entrance of the cathedral and, with the Dean, officials, and members of committees, were photographed.

They then formed in procession and returned to the Lindum Restaurant, where they were entertained to lunch by the committees. This was followed by a concert, afterwards votes of thanks being passed to members of committees for their kindness, to Miss Talbot and officials for all they had done for them. The singing of the National Anthem brought an enjoyable and memorable day to a close.

Monmouthshire.

A Rally of the Monmouthshire Corps of the L.A.A.S. was held at the Wrenford Memorial Hall (kindly lent by the Vicar of St. Paul's), Newport, on Friday, November 21st, 1919.

L.A.A.S., part-time workers, members of the committee and village registrars, assembled in force at 2.30 p.m.

Lady Mather Jackson addressed the assembly, and then presented Good Service Badges, Diamonds and Stripes.

In her address, Lady Jackson said that although we had to bid farewell to the Land Army we loved, we could still band ourselves together, keep in touch with one another, and promote the interests of women in agriculture by forming a County Branch of the Association of Landswomen.

The objects of the Association were discussed, and, after due consideration, the Executive Committee was formed and a scheme put forward for the district organisation. All those wishing to join the Association were then asked to sign the enrolment form which had been distributed.

After hearty votes of thanks and lusty cheering, about 160 hungry people did full justice to the tea provided by the committee.

The Parry Party and E. C. Redman contributed an entertaining musical programme, and the proceedings ended with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" and "God Save the King."

Later in the evening, it was found that 91 had enrolled as members of the Association.

Continued on page 23

Harrods

GREAT ONE WEEK SALE

FARM - OUTFIT BARGAINS!

During next week only, these soundly-made and highly-practical Farm Outfits will be offered at truly remarkable price-concessions. Not for many a day will such a splendid buying-opportunity come your way again. Be advised to ORDER EARLY!

COAT & BREECHES (F.O. 416). In strong Bedford Cord, Drab shade. Complete suit, in 2 sizes, medium and large. Usual Price, 49/6

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KHAKI TWILL COAT & BREECHES (F.O. 382). Strong and durable, approved pattern. Coat in three sizes, 38, 40 and 42 in. Usual Price, 21/-

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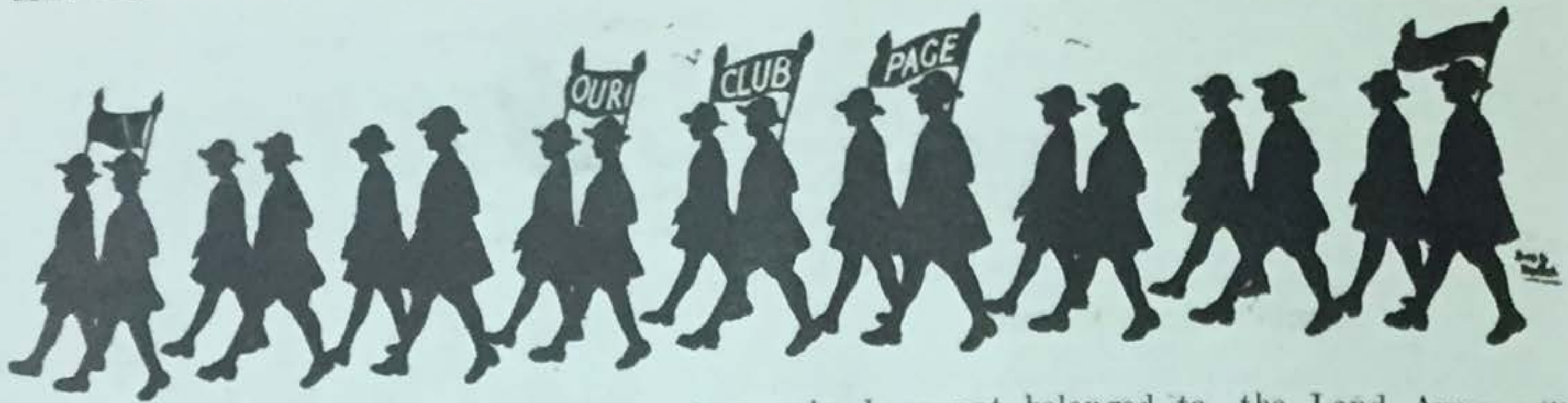
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THE LANDSWOMAN



DEAR GIRLS,—This is our very first number entirely on our own, and I want you to realise all that means. For the last two years we have received help in various ways from our very good friend the Board of Agriculture, and when on November 30th the Land Army passed away everybody thought that THE LANDSWOMAN would disappear with it. But they forgot that the Magazine has become such a real friend to a great many of us, that we simply can't get on without it, and so many and so extremely pressing were the letters which I received begging me to carry on THE LANDSWOMAN at all costs, that I just couldn't bear it, and I made up my mind to put cost out of the question altogether and to be responsible for the carrying out of all the editorial work, at any rate, on a voluntary basis. Of course, there must be certain very heavy expenses, and they will have to be met, which they will certainly not be by the sale of the magazine at 3d. per copy. So that it may be necessary to raise the price for the next three months, viz., February, March and April, just to tide us over this difficult transition period. I am fighting tooth and nail to avoid it, but if you find your February number has price 6d. on the cover, I hope you will forgive me and believe that it is not my fault. I am sure that after that short time it will be all right again, and, after all, I can't think that those of you who write to say you hope THE LANDSWOMAN will go on for ever, will object to paying just an extra 9d. on your yearly subscription. Hundreds of you have already sent me your six months' subscription of 2s., and I want to tell you not to worry to send the extra money. If the price has to be raised we will let you know when your subscription has run out. Also, I must ask those of you who want answers to your letters to the Editor to enclose a stamped envelope for reply, and I hope very much that this will not stop you writing to me, for I think you know by now how I love to have your letters, and I love to answer them. Please send just as many as ever, because now that my welfare work at the Board is over I shall have much more time for letter writing. I am quite sure that in the future THE LANDSWOMAN is going to be a great success; but until we can make people realise that the Land Girl is a permanent factor in the agricultural industry and has not disappeared with the other women's war services, it is difficult to persuade them that THE LANDSWOMAN has come to stay. I am so delighted that many of you are really working hard for the Magazine, and have sent me in the names of new subscribers. That is the sort of help we want, and we can't have too much of it. Now that THE LANDSWOMAN is to contain all the Association news—and I hope you have noticed that this is a very special Association number, members of the N.A.L.

who have not belonged to the Land Army will want to hear about it. Will you tell them? Will you see to it that *every* member of the Association in your county branch is also a subscriber to THE LANDSWOMAN, and has sent in her subscription. Don't forget we are together in this adventure, and it is an adventure and a very exciting one, and if we all put our backs into it we are going to win. When that time comes I know you would be sorry not to have had a share in it, and that is why I am taking you into my confidence and telling you all our difficulties, so that you may have a chance to help.

And now after all this rather serious talk let us go back for a moment to our wonderful Farewell Party. It was the most glorious success, and everyone was just bubbling over with our real Land Army spirit. Our charming Princess caught it too, and her lady-in-waiting has since written to Miss Talbot to say that the Princess "has seldom enjoyed herself so much." And we knew it, for she couldn't possibly have been so perfectly sweet and have joined in the fun as she did if she hadn't been happy. Our beautiful garlands, which had been very kindly lent to us by the Lady Mayoress, gave the Drapers' Hall quite a country look, and when we sang our Land Army song, "Come, Lasses and Lads," the lilt of it was irresistible, and we all accepted its invitation to forget we were in London, where everything is stiff and formal, and we "bied" to the country where we all felt comfortable and thoroughly happy. The feelings of all of us at the end of the evening were absolutely expressed by the little L.A.A.S., who was heard to say: "How I wish I were younger, so that I should have a longer time to remember it." It is impossible adequately to express our thanks to our kind friends of the Drapers' Company. We can only say that the happy success of that evening would have been quite impossible anywhere else. A large number of photographs were taken, and if any of you would like copies of those which appear in this number, and will write to me, I will try to get them for you. They cost about 1s. 6d. each.

CORRESPONDENCE CLUB

I do hope we shall be able to keep on our LANDSWOMAN, we all look forward to it so. Even the men, who at first were rather inclined to jeer at us and our work, shout at dinner-time when it arrives, "Sharp there, lasses, pass it along, let's see what you have been doing this month," and by the time it gets back to its owner it is very much thumbed and creased.

What a glorious time we had at the Drapers' Hall. It was so nice to meet the girls from other counties, and the Princess was so sweet and nice; also all the officers and people from headquarters.

It was such a pleasant surprise to see that you were young like ourselves, because most of us thought of headquarters people as elderly folk.

I have just returned from my leave. I spent five days in London and four in Gloucester. I had such a nice time, but,

worse luck, we couldn't see for fog in London; I was really glad to get back in the country again. I thought of you so many times. How monotonous to be in an office all day. I think I should run away. I shouldn't like living in London at all.

How lovely to think we shall still be bound together in one big happy family, through our splendid Association.

Now about the Magazine. Well, first of all I must say how very, very delighted we are with the perfectly splendid Christmas Number, which surpasses all previous ones. It's absolutely lovely. I can't express how very much we appreciate it, and love it, in fact, all the dear, nice numbers we have had and still hope to—of course we all want it to continue, as we really can't exist without it, and simply must have it. And, oh, we do so want you to be our Editor for ever, I mean as long as the Magazine lasts, which I hope will be a *very long time*, as it's quite indispensable to all the girls, I am sure; everything is lovely in it, and helps one to live aright and appreciate all God's good gifts, and live up to a high standard.

Here is a letter from Australia:—

At last I am settled to write a few lines as promised. We sent you a P.C. from Cape Town, so hope you received it. Well, we had a good trip out here and a lovely big ship, but I was unlucky, sick all the way, but making up for it now and getting quite fat again. I am enclosing a cutting out of the paper, to let you see what a good welcome we got the first Thursday after we landed. Last Friday we went to another welcome home, and a great time they gave us and a huge crowd of people. We are trying for the next block of land from here, 80 to 90 acres, with a house on it. They want to know if I know anything about farming, so I was very pleased to say yes and what I had been in England. Jim is away on the milk round at present. When he comes back he is busy with his horses. His mother gave me a cow and four hens for a wedding present, so it is a very good one, and Jim the use of ten of her cows for three years, to get a good start, so we are very lucky. We are going to a football match, the last of the season, to-day. I never thought of going to one at home, but the people here are all for sport. Well, I hope to see my LANDSWOMAN arrive soon.

And another from a girl who is going out to New Zealand:—

My fiancé, writing from "Our Farm," New Zealand, says that he has several colonies of bees on the farm, which belonged to the late owner. He goes on to state that as he knows nothing whatever about them, except that they sting, I shall have to look after them. I have vague childish recollections of a cousin swathed in net and gloves, sallying forth to the bees, but that is as far as my knowledge takes me. Behold me now studying a very abstruse book on bee-keeping, and all I have learnt is that if you love them you can work among them unafraid. That is very good as far as it goes, but the most lovable person is rather a nuisance when you haven't the faintest idea what they are doing.

One of the most delightful things about the new Association is that it will include among its members hundreds of those splendid land workers, the village women. They were the pioneers of land work for women, and we are proud to welcome them to the N.A.L. I hope many of them will become readers and correspondents of THE LANDSWOMEN, and will not hesitate to tell me if its contents do not please them. Only I hope, too, they will say what sort of things they *would* like to find in its pages. Here is an account of the work of a gang largely composed of village women:—

The farmers about this part wanted a gang of about fifty women, so you can see we had quite a lot of canvassing to do. We managed to get about forty girls and women—some girls who had been working on the land before, and others.

We cannot sing praises high enough of our gang, for we have never in our lives seen a gang of women work so comfortably together. We can honestly say that we did not have one disagreement the whole time, and that's saying a lot, you know, for about forty women.

Our work lasted for three months, and during that time we visited six farms, and pulled, tied and shocked about 70 acres, with an average of two acres a day. Some of the fields were just terrible that we had to pull, for you could not see the flax for thistles and rubbish. Really, we did pity the women, but still every morning we used to give an encouraging word and smile, and they would work all the harder.

Must end by saying that the farmers round this part are so pleased with our gang that should flax be grown next year we and our *same* gang are already booked right up, so we weren't too bad a gang, were we?

SEWING CLUB.—We were very proud of our Landswomen Basket which we presented to Princess Mary, and we hope when you look at its photo-

THE BOOT FOR Lady Land Workers

We are now in a position to again supply the Ladies' Field Boot which has so delighted thousands of Women Agricultural Workers.

To those who have never seen this famous model we make the following special offer. Simply send us your full name and address and we will send a sample boot for your personal inspection and fitting, on four days' free approval.

SEND NO MONEY until you have seen the boot for yourself, then, and only then, if you are satisfied, remit the price and the fellow boot will be sent at once. On the other hand, return the boot to us carefully packed and be free from obligation.

This popular model for country wear has withstood the most severe test in the hardest weather, and is universally recognised as the finest "bad weather" hard wearing boot obtainable. At our "All British" FACTORY price you will make a distinct gain in both money and quality.

Single Sample Boot sent on Free Approval for Four Days.



We have a limited number of Ladies' Land Outfits which we are offering at an attractive price. Particulars application.

Carriage
Paid to
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Size 8
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SPECIFICATION.

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The uppers are of a magnificent quality of hide—smooth, stout, and exceedingly pliable. Its durability is extraordinary, and the stitching and workmanship throughout are of equally high grade. The "leg" is high cut as illustrated, there is a watertight bellows tongue reaching above lace holes, leather lined quarter, carefully machine-stitched and well reinforced—enabling it to resist heavy strain. "Field cut" pattern, with adjustable straps as illustrated. The soles and heels are of extra stout solid leather of the very best quality, nailed flush with steel slugs, which enormously increases the "life" of the sole. Stocked in all usual Ladies' sizes, full fitting only. **26/-** Carriage Paid. Size 8 1/6 extra.

"Model de Luxe" Field Boot. A further style of our field boot—just a little more elaborate and of a distinct style, specially made for best wear. Description: Uppers, dull calf, fully chrome tanned; full bellows tongue to top; long jockey outside back strap. Made on the hand sewn principle, giving ease and pliancy. Soles of best quality leather 3/4 in. substance. Price **31/6**. Size 8 1/6 extra.

Illustrated Catalogue Free on receipt of a post card.

ERNEST DRAPER & CO., LTD.
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THE LANDSWOMAN

graph, which you will find on another page, that you will be proud of it too. I think that it was a not unworthy gift from the Land Army to the King's daughter. Oxford had the proud distinction of making the actual basket, and we gathered together for its decorations fruit made by Land Girls in over twenty different counties in England and Wales.

Our Christmas rush is nearly over, and after the end of December we shall be able to turn our attention to various orders which we have not been able to accept, owing to our promise to keep up the supply of some of our best customers for their Christmas market. Also, we are going to invent all sorts of new shapes and designs which shall find an equally ready market even when Christmas presents are not in demand.

Those of you who are not interested in our basket making must not think that it monopolises the whole time of the Sewing Club to the exclusion of all other needlework—and particularly the making of our own clothes—that most fascinating of all sewing. I am always ready to cut out patterns for you, purchase materials, or give advice, so don't hesitate to ask me.

SHOPPING CLUB.—The January sales will be in full swing by the time you read this, and if any of you would like me to shop for you in London, remember I am only too pleased to do so. Messrs. Harrods, whose advertisement you will find in this issue, are selling a lot of their land outfits at special prices, which will, I know, interest a great many of you. Their corduroy coats and breeches always wear so extremely well. I have one that has been in daily use for the last eighteen months—has paid

five visits to the cleaners—and when it came home for the fifth time it looked just as good as new. I don't think that everybody knows that corduroy washes very successfully. Those almost white trousers of the farm labourer in this material, which are inclined to look most unsuitable for his work, have become that colour by being constantly washed.

Don't forget to write to Spratts for their wonderful booklet on winter eggs.

Now that our County Secretary, who has been such a friend to each one of us, no longer exists, it will not be always easy to know how to set about finding work on the land. The Labour Exchanges will, of course, always help us—but they are sometimes far away and unget-at-able. We are therefore going to start a Posts Vacant and Wanted Column in THE LANDSWOMAN, which we hope will prove equally useful to Land Girls and to farmers. Ex-L.A.A.S. will have the right to insert their notices free. To all other folk a minimum charge of 5s. will be made. I think this will be a great help to everybody, and in time THE LANDSWOMAN will be recognised as the paper in which you will always find either a farm job, or a Land Girl wanting one.

We shall publish a list every month on the Club page of those counties which have obtained additional subscribers to THE LANDSWOMAN during the month. Also the county which has the largest number of readers on June 1st, 1920, will receive a prize of £5 towards the funds of its County Branch of the Association. The name of the county with the greatest number will be published monthly.

Remember I am relying on your help.

A Happy New Year to you all.

Your sincere friend,

THE EDITOR.

Exchange Column

Crochet bedroom slippers made in best quality wool, trimmed ribbon, 6s. 6d. per pair.—D. Luxton, Shepherd's Drove Farm, Boroughbridge, Bridgwater, Somerset.

Hatbands, 1s. 9d.; ties, 2s. 6d., post free.—J. Hewitt, Kiln Bank, Seathwaite, Broughton in Furness, Cumberland.

Hatbands, hairbands, neckbands, in black velvet decorated with pen painting; also table centres, cushion covers, etc.—M. G. J., N.A.L., Yew Tree Close Farm, Yeovil.

The U.S.A. Department of Agriculture is collecting a series of photographs illustrating women's work on the farms. Mrs. Hobbs, Kelmscott, Lechlade, Glos., would be glad of any such photographs, however small, to send to America, so that our sister Landworkers over there may see what we are doing.

A few LANDSWOMAN Christmas cards are still available (price 2d.) from the Editorial Office.

Posts—Vacant and Wanted

Wanted, Second Housemaid and Kitchenmaid for Ladies' Residential Club of 16 members. Five servants kept and help. Good home for superior class girls.—Apply Miss Jeffreys, 1, Cromwell Place, London, S.W.1.

Ex-L.A.A.S. requires work on a poultry farm not too far from London.—I. H., 42, Chatsworth Avenue, Wimbledon.

Landworker wanted, good milker and general worker, willing to help with dairy work. Live in as family with another landworker who has been with me for three years. Wages £40, all found. Age 21-25.—F. C. Green, Moon's Hill Farm, Stoke St. Michael, Bath.

Will any other ex-L.A.A.S. Girl help me to secure a milking job on a farm in, or near, any of the following counties: Middlesex, Hampshire, Wiltshire, or Kent. Would be willing to accompany another girl.—Please write Miss Alice Scariott, "Lodge Farm," Kirton, nr. Ipswich, Suffolk.

Ex-L.A.A.S. as farm servant. Strong girl, able to milk. No cooking.—E. Denzil Ede, King's Heath Farm, Birmingham.

Can recommend a thoroughly capable and conscientious woman worker for farm or garden.—Address, Registrar, Cromeen, Langton Green, Kent.



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Farewell Parties—Continued from page 19.**Oxford**

The members of the Women's Land Army assembled outside the Blue Triangle Club in St. Giles's and marched through the city for the last time. The procession proceeded to the Town Hall, where the farewell gathering took place. The Mayor (Col. Stanier Waller, C.V.O.) presided, and the speakers were Miss Talbot, C.B.E. (Commandant of the Women's Land Army, and Director of the Women's Branch, Board of Agriculture), and Mrs. G. H. Morrell (Chairman, Oxfordshire Women's Agricultural Committee). Amongst those present were the Earl and Countess of Jersey, Ald. Sir Robert Buckell, Miss Pott, Miss Gladys Pott, the Hon. Mrs. Eastwood, Mrs. James Morrell, Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Fry, Miss Fawcett, etc. Many farmers were present, including Mr. F. Young (vice-president of the Oxfordshire Branch National Farmers' Union).

Before the commencement of the meeting the Land Girls' Choir sang Elgar's "Land of Hope and Glory," the soloist being Mrs. Moir (the Rectory, Marsh Baldon). Mrs. Moir also recited some verses written by an anonymous admirer of the Land Women.

Mrs. G. Herbert Morrell recalled the first meeting in 1915 in connection with the Land Army projects, in the days before the Land Army was recognised. Difficulties then surrounded them on all sides. No one thought that women's health would fit them for the work, girls were not inclined to come forward, and farmers did not believe that women could do the work of the men. They had to alter things, they had to show what women could do—and they did it.

THE RIGHT KIND OF PRIDE.

Miss Meriel Talbot referred to the many occasions she had been to Oxford, and among the many scenes she singled out in her memory was the procession of the Land Army on a very hot day when Princess Mary visited the city.

They could understand what the look of happiness meant on the faces of the landswomen, to which the Mayor had referred. It meant that, after all, old Mother Earth was the best employer of labour—they got close up to the real things of life. They were full of buoyant hope for the future. There were 100 members of the Land Army in Oxfordshire staying on the land, and 79 were not only remaining in their present jobs at their own wish, but at the express desire of their employers, who had decided to keep them. This, she ventured to say, was an example

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of the changed attitude. Not one of them wanted to occupy the place of a returned soldier, but if the land was to be properly cultivated there was plenty of room for both men and women.

Miss Talbot said the "poor old Government" had been criticised hardly, but it had brought the Land Army into being. It had given them their now famous uniforms, their badges and decorations—their farm boots. It had given them Mrs. Fry and Miss Fawcett. She hoped they would keep their badges and souvenirs, and when they had large families and many grandchildren—when they sat in the cosy corners of the farm-houses—no longer able to get about freely in the fields and had taken to slippers, they would bring out their badges and tell of all they stood for in the days of the Great War. She wished them every success, and, in conclusion, would ask them to let her know if she could do anything for them at any time. She would always be ready.

A GIFT.

A basket of fruit was presented to Miss Talbot, and a bouquet of flowers and a leather dispatch case to Miss Fawcett, the Welfare Officer, who has enjoyed immense popularity with the members.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LANDSWOMEN.

Miss Gladys Pott referred to the formation of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LANDSWOMEN and the officers elected. They included Lady Jersey (president), Mrs. G. H. Morrell (vice-president), Miss Ashurst (secretary), Miss Pott, the Hon. Mrs. Eastwood, and Miss Gladys Pott (employers). Miss Radcliffe (Women's Institute), Miss Fawcett and Miss Prior (Land Workers). Miss Fawcett, she remarked, headed the list with the vote.

Yorks (North Riding).

A farewell gathering of L.A.A.S. was held at the Dorman's Girls' Club at Middlesbrough, on November 29th, 1919, the demobilisation of the Land Army. Invitations to attend this gathering were sent to all councillors and registrars, but very few were present.

In the course of the afternoon the chairman of the Sub-Committee, Mrs. Guy Graham, gave a short address on the subject of the National Association of Landswomen, as a result of which 20 new members were enrolled, bringing the total up to 53. A decided enthusiasm was shown by the new members, who evidently appreciated the spirit of the movement, apart from the idea of material benefits to be derived from the membership of this Association.

THE LANDSWOMAN

At the close of the meeting a very generous tea was partaken of, kindly provided by the members of the Women's Sub-Committee.

Miss L. Dorman kindly undertook all the arrangements for this gathering. There was dancing and music, and all the girls appeared to thoroughly enjoy themselves.

Surrey.

A rally of the members of the Land Army working in Surrey was held at Guildford, the arrangements for which had been made by the Surrey Women's Agricultural Committee, under the superintendence of Miss Noeline Baker, the hon. secretary.

The first meeting of the Surrey Branch of the newly-formed National Association was held at the Congregational Hall in the afternoon, Mrs. Horne presiding, when Miss Franklin, of the Women's Branch of the Board of Agriculture, gave an address in which she stated that up to the present the Surrey Branch had the largest membership of any county in England.

Miss Bunford Samuel, of Kingston, was elected hon. sec., Miss Sutherland hon. treasurer, and the following committee was elected for the county:—Miss Noeline Baker, Miss Edgeley, Mrs. Ewing, Miss Frith, Mrs. W. E. Horne, Dr. Helen Moss, and Miss Reynolds. A representative was also elected to attend a meeting of the Council of the Association to be held in London on December 18th to decide on the policy of the Association.

Shortly after five o'clock, about 200 women and girls paraded outside the Congregational Hall. Attired in their land dresses, and carrying Chinese lanterns, they marched in procession through the town, returning to the Congregational Hall, where they sat down to an enjoyable farewell supper. After the meal there was a musical programme, arranged by Mrs. W. E. Horne, the artistes being Mr. Stephen Trevor, Madam Strahle, and Miss Goatley, with Miss Sinclair at the piano.

During an interval Good Service Badges were presented by Miss Franklin to 45 women and girls. Miss Baker, Miss Reynolds, Miss Sutherland, and Miss Edgeley were also the recipients of farewell gifts from the members of the Land Army.

Several employers of the women workers were present during the evening.

West Sussex.

I think that November 28th, the day fixed for our final Land Army party at Horsham, was keenly looked forward to by every



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L.A.A.S. in West Sussex. Anyhow, a crowded Town Hall of enthusiastic faces spoke of the real interest that was felt in the N.A.L., which Mrs. Lyttelton explained to us so clearly.

Both Mrs. Lyttelton and our chairman, Mrs. Harvey, paid tribute to the splendid work done by the L.A.A.S. in the past, and the news of the Government's gift of a complete new outfit to those remaining on the land was, needless to say, received with loud acclamations of approval.

Members of committee, village registrars, L.A.A.S., and others were enrolled as members of the N.A.L., and then all voted for a delegate to sit on the Central Council, and while the votes were being counted Mrs. Lyttelton presented Good Service Ribbons to those who had earned them, 39 in all.

After some more speeches, all the L.A.A.S. marched for the last time together from the Town Hall to the Albion Hall, where every sort and kind of comfort had been provided, even down to tickets for their mackintoshes.

A real bang-up tea was provided in a flag-hung hall, and with extraordinary rapidity the endless dainties disappeared—no pressing required. With one of Aladdin's quick changes the hall was transformed into a concert hall, where we all sat down to enjoy a most amusing entertainment provided by L.A.A.S., one of whom, the ghost, had travelled all the way from Northampton to say "good-bye" to her old county.

Dancing followed, and, in the intervals, further items on the stage, until the sad hour came for saying good-bye; even then the overflowing talent was not to be subdued, and those who had a long railway journey in front of them beguiled each other most of the way home with a strange variety of songs, till, one by one, heavy eyelids began to droop, and sleepy voices murmured sweet nothings about cowsheds and milking pails.

Farewell, L.A.A.S., but not good-bye. We hope rather to say "Au revoir," and to meet you all again as members of the N.A.L.

NOTICE.

Owing to lack of space several Farewell Parties, the Good Service Ribbon Lists, D.S.B. Photographs, Technical Article and Short Story are unavoidably left over till next month.

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