

The Woman Clerk

The Organ of the Association of Women Clerks and Secretaries.

Vol. I.—No. 1.

DECEMBER, 1915.

Monthly, 2d. ^{per} _{ann}

EDITORIAL.

THE birthday of the *WOMAN CLERK* marks an epoch in the history of the Association of Women Clerks and Secretaries, for it signals the public appearance of the Union amongst the forces to be reckoned with in the world of labour. The membership of the Association is now sufficiently numerous and solid to support its own paper, and that means that it is sufficiently numerous and solid to improve its needs and aims upon the clerical world and so upon the wider world beyond.

The *WOMAN CLERK* exists primarily for the sake of the Association, of which it is the official organ, but we are glad to be able to serve the needs of one sister association, the Temporary Women Tax Clerks, whose news and notes will appear regularly each month on a special page, and will be of interest to both associations.

Special attention should also be given to the doings of the Women Clerks and Secretaries' Friendly Society, which will be chronicled from time to time. The Society is the daughter of the Association—a fact not always realized by the members of one or the other. It is working its way towards the solution of the special insurance problems of women, problems which vitally concern every woman clerical worker, however little she may appreciate the fact. We are fortunate in securing an article on the subject from Miss Charlesworth, whose name and reputation at least are known to all members of both societies.

We cannot leave the insurance question without tendering to Miss Florence our warmest congratulations on her appointment as one of the two women on the Insurance Advisory Council of the Ministry of Health, and our assurance of support in

the discharge of the very important public duties thus placed upon her. It is not too much to say that this appointment of the Secretary of the Friendly Society and late Secretary of the Association, is, for the woman worker in general, one of the most important events noted this month.

As already stated, our appeal is primarily to the woman clerk, to the woman, that is, who is or should be a member of one or other of the clerical unions. But we look out as well as in, and we shall watch and comment on the doings of women workers of all grades and conditions, not in our own country only, but throughout the world. To these fellow-workers the clerks send their message of sympathy and encouragement through this paper, and they look to them for support in the struggle which will end only when women are so organized as to secure for every woman the opportunity to take her full share, without let or hindrance, in the work of the better world of the future.

It is hoped to deal in future issues with the openings available for clerical workers in other professions. The series of articles on this subject, which will begin in our next issue, will touch upon the training and method of entry for each of the several callings; the incidental expenses, and the sources from which more detailed information can be secured. Some of the branches, notably the War Office, have already been making enquiries in this direction in the interests of their demobilized members.

The details of our literary competitions will be announced in the January number.