

mill. Other manufacturers and merchants said that the women were running the country, but after trying it for a time they were all converted, for the output was the same and the health of the workers much better. Home work is forbidden now unless the worker is crippled and unable to get to the factory.

Of course we have compulsory education and our schools are the finest in the world. The children of the Governor-General and the laborer go to these schools together; we have no such system as the English private schools. Boys and girls are educated in the same classes and all learn politics just as they do history. The hotels have been reformed for the sake of the country teachers who have to live in them and each house must be in charge of a decent married couple.

The women know just as much about politics as the men and gradually certain departments of administration have been left to them. Our treatment of the dependents is considered the most advanced in the world. Idiots are no longer shut up in asylums, but are segregated on State farms, where they work in the open air. The words jail and asylum have been abolished in favor of reformatory and hospital. The word illegitimate has also been forbidden in Government documents and a father is forced to provide for his illegitimate child until it is 14 years old and also in his will.

There is no white slavery on the island, nor are there any houses of ill fame even in the cities. I do not mean that there is no immorality, of course, but commercialized vice is unknown. But, then, even in our cities there is no poverty.

Although the women take an active interest in politics they do little public speaking. But they talk about politics far more than the women in this country seem to do, and their influence is strong, if silent. A young statesman who stumped the country six years ago holding a series of wo-

men's meetings and promising them reforms, is now in the ministry. They watched him for a year or two, and then they gave him their entire support.

But because our women do take part in them, our elections are quite different from yours. Colonials are as conservative as Englishmen about the places where their women go, and the first thing they did was to change election customs. Hotels and public houses are closed on election day. For two days before election no newspaper is allowed to publish any biased opinion. As a result there is absolutely no election disorder."

SOUTH AFRICAN HUMOUR.

The medical men looked the postman (found unconscious on his round) over carefully, but were unable to find anything wrong externally. Finally, they decided to operate on him for appendicitis.

Later the coroner was called and a coroner's jury sworn. They searched his pockets for evidence, and found a bunch of stickers that the postman used in his official capacity. The coroner took one of these stickers from the bunch and pasted it on the coffin.

"I think this about expresses the verdict, gentlemen," he said. The label read:

"Opened by Mistake."

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For some reason or other the Savings Bank Department has been described as the dullest branch of the Post Office Service, but occasionally a flash of humour comes like a ray of sunlight to brighten up the dullness.

For instance, recently the department received a note from a lady depositor with reference to a change in her name.

"I am married," she wrote, "but wish to carry on as before."—*South Africa Post-Tel. Herald.*