

have branded her as "illegitimate" and have put her outside the pale of mothers. They have meted out to her, her deserts. She must bear the consequences of her sin without any material aid from them. They have ranged themselves on the side of the Pharisees of old, who suggested that a certain woman should be stoned—this, after nineteen hundred years of Christianity.

So much for our "humaneness." It does not amount to much when we analyse it. We cannot rise out of the beaten track, we cannot broaden our vision. Nevertheless, we would ask, "Is it too late to amend that Act? Is there no one on any platform with sufficient courage to take up the case, at least, of the deserted unmarried mother, who is making a noble effort to atone for her mistake? Will our women representatives devote their attention and energy to this question?"

The problem is bristling with difficulties, but that is no reason why it should be studiously avoided. Something can be done without legalizing sin.

We have taken two legal opinions and both agree that an unmarried mother cannot claim under this Act. There is a clause, however, which states that an application may be made by others than those specifically mentioned, to the Mothers' Pensions Board for consideration. But this does not apply to unmarried mothers, for there is absolutely no provision made for any other than married women in the application forms; consequently, the unmarried mother—whose child this humane government is so anxious to save and to bring up as a respectable citizen, posing as it does to give it an equal chance with the legitimate born child—must perforce cast herself upon charity. Such is the manner in which these things are managed and covered. It is on a par with the statement, "There are no illegitimate children," which is being used to deceive the people into believing that British Columbia has solved that most vexed question. There has only been one tiny part of it dealt with, the so-called illegitimate child still cannot claim its father's name, it still cannot inherit from the father; to be brief, it is, in great part, just exactly where it was before this new legislation for women and children was passed. The big broad question which the women of Europe, United States and Eastern Canada are taking up, has not been touched.

But it is all a part of the political game—each party making the most of its opportunities, one side underestimating, perhaps the work of the other; and that other, overestimating its own work, which is very natural after all.

Nevertheless, until the time comes when political opponents will play the game fairly, to continue to play it in its crudity is better than to sink into an apathy that will prevent the taking of any interest whatever in the affairs of the country.

When the Mistake is Yours, Help Correct it

Sometimes as soon as you give the operator a telephone number from memory, you realize you have called the wrong number. The first impulse is to hang up the receiver, but, you should wait and say to the other party, "Beg pardon for calling the wrong number." Then everybody feels all right about it.

If you hang up the receiver without acknowledging your error, the operator gets the blame when she tells the other party that "there's no one on the line."

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