

textually with names and dates. These advertisements, probably well paid for, are, alas! a stronghold for the trade. A child is offered for adoption with a goodly "dot" from £200 to £300; then all persons applying are to send 5s. to cover cost of "inquiries." From the 5s. of the many who hope to win the prize, enormous profits are reaped.

"Many of the dupes of such schemes have complained to the police of Berlin," says Sister Henriette, "and yet the traffic in children increases steadily." Well does she say, "The small swindlers are arrested, while big ones go free."

In 1911 a German paper published a letter written privately by one of the children traffickers, in which he assured a client that his office had, in six months, had about 300 children with "dots" to dispose of and added, "The Police Department of this city will readily confirm my statement, if you so desire."

After showing in the most circumstantial manner a great variety of documentary evidence of this trade in children, Sister Henriette says, "one of the 'Vermittlungsbureau' (placing office) in Berlin wrote to me in answer to an inquiry made by my elf that it could supply me every month with 3,000 'diskrete' children (*i.e.*, illegitimate children) from Germany, France, Belgium, Holland and Switzerland, each one with a 'dot'!"

3. In another book\* Sister Henriette has gone thoroughly into the ruin of children for immoral purposes. She there tells how she came upon the trail of a trader who sold German children to the keepers of houses of ill-fame; how, after this criminal had served a prison sentence for this crime, he took up the same trade again, even while he was still under the surveillance of the police. She also there described the active trade going on in sending German children to America.

In "Kleine Weisse Sklaven" she gives many terrible details of this branch of traffic in children, which are too shocking for an English review to reprint. In a Berlin Intelligence Office Sister Henriette was told by the manager, in the presence of a friend whose name she gives (both were, of course, disguised and pretending to be other than they really were) that the office supplied foreign and Berlin children to other countries, especially to Russia, for all sorts of purposes, at prices ranging from £15 to £500. According to her statements, neither the police nor the Orphans' Court (Gemeinde Waisenrat) nor the Court of Guardianship for minor children (Vormundschaftsgericht) nor the child-saving associations gave her the smallest trouble. When Sister Henriette, in her assumed character, told this woman she wanted to take a child out of Germany, she was advised to select a foreign child, and was offered the little girl of a Galician maidservant, with the remark that "it was as easy to get it over the frontier as a German child."

Various midwives whom Sister Henriette, always in her assumed character, interviewed in regard to buying little girls for foreign countries, told her that £15 was the usual sum for a Berlin working-class child. Children of better birth and parentage might be worth as high as £500. Of these sums the middlemen get half.

Sister Henriette's investigations in child-slavery in Berlin were made in 1911, under the auspices of the German Association for the Legal Rights of Mothers and Children (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Mutter und Kindesrecht). The Police Department, she says, had naturally no knowledge of a traffic in children, and when she applied to it for police protection whilst making her investigations (which were naturally of a most perilous nature) she received a curt reply saying that her request could not be complied with.

4. On the final theme, selling children to beggars, &c., Sister Henriette's pages make reading almost too agonising to pursue.† Also we may pass over the verified facts on all points which she has accumulated from other countries, such as England and America.

We have dwelt on the German revelations, because they have been her own discoveries, proved by many personal visitations to make which she literally took her life in her hand. Her book closes with a number of definite proposals for amending and amplifying the laws and for adopting new and adequate legislation. But chief and most urgent comes her plea for women to take their place in Government and sweep away these wrongs against children. Women must strive for enfranchisement, that they may make their power felt through prevention.

It is no wonder one feels, after reading this book, that Sister Henriette is detested by police and bureaucrats, even though no shade of corruptness attaches to them. In the United States it would be quite certain that the police shared the unholy profits; in Germany it is quite certain that they do not, yet the supreme arrogance of man will not tolerate the interference of women in his ordinances. Sister Henriette is regarded as a nuisance, but her power is also recognised. "Be absolutely polite to Sister Henriette, and give her *no* information," is the order that has gone forth. As to the evil powers, what they think of her is shown by the fact that at three different times, when dealing in disguise with child slaves, she has been warned against herself!

Nearly 1,200 children have been rescued so far by Sister Henriette, and she always has a group in her own care and expense, while waiting to find good homes. It is good to know that an International Society has been formed to combat child slavery.

L. L. Dock.

\* Menschen, die den Pfad verloren: Publisher, Kielman, Stuttgart.

† It should be noted that such data come from countries of Southern Europe, not from Germany, where there is no evidence of the occurrence of this traffic.

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