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Dr. Summerskill
Dr. Smith

The Times (London

50851 28.Aug. 47

WORLD FOOD SCARCITY

DR. SUMMERSKILL ON BRITAIN'S EFFORT

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

GENEVA, AUG. 27

The contribution by the United Kingdom to the solution of the world food problem was described here to-day by Dr. Edith Summerskill, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Food, in a statement to the first committee of the Food and Agriculture Organization.

Britain's financial difficulties, said Dr. Summerskill, were shared by most of the countries represented at the conference, and the United Kingdom had been forced to take action which would inevitably have repercussions on other countries trading with it.

They regretted such action, she continued, because it put a check on some of their ambitions regarding multilateral trade, but they had no alternative, though they did not intend to allow temporary difficulties to shake their confidence in international organization. The overriding programme for every country was how to provide adequate and increasing supplies of food for its people. So far as British efforts were concerned, the shortage of oils and fats was being attacked through the East African groundnuts scheme and the floating factories for whale oil, but there were other foods of high nutritional value which would be scarce for some time. The United Kingdom Government, however, recognized its duty to play its full part in overcoming these shortages. It would shortly set up the Overseas Food Corporation, and a colonial development corporation would be established to initiate a wide range of schemes for the economic development of the Colonies. A mission had been sent to the West Indies to investigate the possibility of increasing the production of oil seeds, and technical missions would shortly investigate the possibilities of developing food, particularly rice, in the British territories in the Caribbean and in South-East Asia.

As a food-importing country Britain was fully aware of the need to secure greatly increased production throughout the world. Full employment would eventually result in a higher effective demand for food, and consumption in Asia and Africa would reach levels considerably higher than the present one. Greater efforts, she concluded, were needed in every country to secure enough food.

Pakistan was elected a full member of the F.A.O. at a plenary session of the conference, but the election of Burma was delayed for a few days on technical grounds.

P Summerskill
Dr. bshh
17. Feb. 1950

The Manchester Guardian

No 32242

WOMAN'S WORK

Dr. Summerskill Differs from Early Feminists

From our London Staff

FLEET STREET, THURSDAY.

A reasoned—unfeminist, one might almost say—case for the women's movement is put by Dr. Edith Summerskill in an article published by the Six Point Group, of which she is president. Though there are, she admits, few fields still closed to women, she points out that there are at the same time few in which women are on the same level and have the same opportunities as the men with whom they work. On the other hand she, like other leaders of the movement, strongly deplores any tendency to foster deliberate competition between the sexes, and she would not advocate, for example, that women should undertake heavy work in the docks any more than that men should take to lace-making for a livelihood.

This is a far cry from the claims of the early feminists that women should be allowed to try their hand at everything that men could do. On the other hand, the accepted principle that women should be able to "fulfil themselves" outside the home is not, as many have found, easy to put into practice, for, as Dr. Summerskill says, the man who goes out to work can take it for granted that his bed will be made and his clothes washed and mended when he returns, whereas an office girl has to do all this herself. As long as there is discrimination against women, declares Dr. Summerskill, she will take part in the women's movement.

*P. Summerskill
Edith Clara
9. März 1950*

Interpress (Hamburg)

dkr. 44

Summerskill, Edith Clara

britischer Staatsmann

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(Interpress) - Geb. 19. April 1901 in London als Tochter des William Summerskill und seiner Ehefrau Edith. Besuchte das King's College in London und das Charing Cross Hospital. 1924 Promotion zum Doktor der Medizin. Mitglied der Labour-Party. 1924 Vizepräsidentin der Socialist Medical Association, 1934 Kandidatin der Labour-Party bei Parlamentswahlen in Putney, und 1935 bei den Parlamentswahlen im Wahlkreis Bury. 1934-41 Abgeordnete des Middlesex County Council. Seit 1938 Unterhausabgeordnete (Labour-Party) für den Wahlkreis West Fulham, Wiederwahl am 23. Februar 1950. 1942 Mitglied des Komitees des weiblichen Hilfsdienstes. Mitglied des weiblichen Besatzungskomitees im Arbeitsministerium und des Women-Power Committee. Präsidentin der Married Women's Association. Seit 1945 Parlamentarischer Unterstaatssekretär im Ernährungsministerium. 7. Juni 1949 in die Gewerkschaftssekktion des Exekutivkomitees der Labour-Party gewählt. Nach der Kabinettsumbildung am 28. Februar 1950 Minister für das staatliche Versicherungswesen im Kabinett Clement Attlee.- Verheiratet seit 1925 mit Dr. E. Jeffrey Samuel, ein Sohn und eine Tochter.- Veröffentlichungen: Women, Fall In, 1941; Babies without Tears, 1941.- Anschrift: Flat 1, 69 Ennismore Gardens, London, S.W. 7.
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