

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.
NON-PARTY.

VOL. XXX. No. 1,036. (Registered at the G.P.O.) ONE PENNY. FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 1929

OBJECTS: To use the power of the Parliamentary vote, now won for Women upon equal terms with men, to elect women to Parliament, and upon other public bodies; to establish equality of rights and opportunities between the sexes; and to promote the social and industrial well-being of the community.

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TRAVELLING IN THE DOG DAYS.

BY E. ZANGWILL.

"Can't Laird go home with you? It will be too hot and tiring for him on our walking tour, poor darling." This is how the matter opened.

I looked dubious. Five stone of pink bull-terrier is an appreciable addition to one's responsibilities. "But I am not going straight home," I demur. "I am staying a night at Hastings to speak at a meeting."

"What sort of a meeting?" The dog's young master and mistress are evidently disconcerted.

"Women's Freedom League. 'What we expect from the New Parliament.' Pacifism——"

There is a shriek of joy. "But that is just the place for Laird. He will sit on the platform as a shining example. Isn't he a prince of pacifists?" They chant in unison:—

"Cowers at a cat,
"Frightened of a frog,
"Races from a rat,
"Dithers at a dog."

"That is not being a pacifist; it is merely being a coward," I reply coldly. Indeed, my granddog, although alarming in aspect, is without doubt, the most timid creature on the face of the earth. So far, we have contrived to hush it up. By whistling to him frenziedly, just as he is starting to flee to us for protection, we have created for him a character of extreme ferocity coupled with implicit obedience. "How can I take Laird?" I continue pettishly. "He will run about at my meeting."

The objection is treated with the scorn it deserves. "Does Laird ever run about? You know that he will sleep right through your meeting."

"And that will be a nice example! Besides, my speech will be drowned by his snores." I relate a painful experience of my youth. A friend was being married, and her dog, an Aberdeen, followed her unperceived into the church. Equally unperceived, I picked up the little beast and hid him under my skirt—skirts were skirts in those spacious Edwardian days. Then the service began. "Wilt thou have this woman

to be thy wedded wife?" A loud snore came in unexpected response. Every person present turned and glared at me as I sat in my pew of incriminating solitude. What was to be done? An awakening kick might produce an unseen yelp and brand me with hydrophobia. Even the unmerited charge of aggressive slumber seemed preferable.

The recollection serves to harden my present decision. "No, Laird cannot come to the meeting," I announce firmly. I would, if they wished, take him to Victoria and send him off home before catching my own train to Hastings. Thus things are arranged.

When the sweltering day arrives, I regret even this modified complacency. For I have had an early journey, followed by a lunch-party in town. Now the dog has to be fetched from a distant Northern suburb. His pleasure at seeing me makes amends. I am not the rose but at least I am of the same genus. If I do not smell as sweet, my odour is satisfyingly familiar. Poor Laird, his erstwhile concave profile shows a distinct convex tendency. He has been fretting, they tell me. Absence has made the form grow thinner.

His lead is put in my hand, a tasty affair in steel and scarlet, the parting gift of his mistress. Thus linked, we board a bus. It is none too easy. For dogs, I am informed, can only travel outside, and the stairs are steep for one of Laird's full habit. Valiantly he struggles up, with a turtle-like gait, while I shove at the rear. At last we reach the summit. Here he sprawls in panting content, completely blocking the gangway.

This cannot be permitted, so I call him closer. A pleased comprehension dawns upon his face. Five stone odd surges suddenly upon my knees. "I did not know I'd become a lap dog," he wags. I extricate myself, gasping, and Laird, innocent of all offence, again proves a stumbling-block. "Thinks he oughter have the whole bus to himself, don't he?" the conductor comments good-humouredly.

Nor is the tube stage more facile. "No dogs allowed on the escalator unless carried," I read with grim

amusement. Emergency stairs are the sole alternative; our monopoly of them brings a certain alleviation, for the ordinary passage-ways are seething with an approaching Bank Holiday crowd. Threading them would be arduous, even without Laird's determination always to pass everyone on the opposite side to the one I have chosen. Many an unwary pedestrian finds himself suddenly skipping in a scarlet lead. "Don't mention it," Laird intimates wagglingly. British good-nature accepts this point of view. "That's a nice dog of yours," I hear. Some of his victims even stop and pat him. Laird smiles on them benignly. He is a little worried by the absence of his master and mistress, but surely we must be going to the country home, that haven of all delights.

There is a long, hot queue at the Victoria booking-office, and we take up a patient stand. Presently, the policeman who had directed me there, seeks us out. "If the dog's travelling unaccompanied, it's the Parcels Office you want," he informs me.

We thank him and disentangle ourselves. Some searching and more stairs bring us to the new objective. Again there is a delay, but a less formidable one. "Can't take him, no muzzle," is snapped at me suddenly. I brandished one triumphantly. "Can't take him, no chain."

"But this is half a chain," I plead, displaying the steel and scarlet lead. "And he is such a gentle dog." The clerk is obdurate. Half a chain is not better than no lead. I am instructed to buy one. An opportune memory comes to me of a neighbouring trunk shop. We charge down Buckingham Palace Road.

The trunk shop that I have known all my life has turned into a wireless depot. My mental momentum carries me in. "I want a dog's chain." The elegant young man behind the counter stares at me apprehensively. Bursting out again, Laird and I plunge down Victoria Street scattering the traffic. There are no trunk shops. There are no shops at all. Everything is closed. It is a nightmare.

I will buy an ordinary dog ticket, occurs to me suddenly, and a platform ticket for myself. Then how will they know that the dog is "unaccompanied"? We again take our places in the booking-office queue. On reaching the train, Laird is given over to the guard and a shilling pressed into his hand. "The dog will be met on arrival. Here is his ticket," I add hurriedly.

AUSTRALIAN WOMEN IN PUBLIC POSITIONS.

We are indebted to *Dawn*, the official organ of the Australian Federation of Women voters, for the following information:—

Another Woman Elected.

Miss May Holman, M.L.A., recently won the Labour selection ballot for her constituency (Forrest) from three men by a three to one majority. It is noteworthy that Forrest is a large timber-working district where the voters are almost entirely men. Miss Holman's father was the Member for Forrest a few years ago and on his death, in 1925, she won the seat at a bye-election. At the next State election, in 1927, Miss Holman won the Labour selection ballot and was returned to parliament unopposed. The constituency which she has been selected to contest is regarded as a stronghold for her party.

Miss Holman takes a prominent part in the public life of Western Australia. She is president of the Labour Women's Interstate Executive of the West Australian Labour Women's Central Executive, and holds many other high offices. Australian Women are proud to own her as one of the little triumvirate of women representatives of Australia. The other two are Mrs. Cowan (W.A.), and Mrs. Longman (Queensland).

The man's face falls. "An unaccompanied dog should go through the Parcels Office," he announces. I smile ingratiatingly. "Well, I don't mind if you'll just mention it to the station-master." He secures Laird's lead.

A search follows up and down crowded platforms for the Great Man, but it proves unavailing. When I return, the train is still there and the guard has apparently repented of his momentary weakness. Laird is untied and thrust definitely out upon the platform. "You'll have to take him to the Parcels' Office."

At this moment, Fate suddenly brings before me the searched-for referee. The Station Master of Victoria is a less terrifying personage than I had anticipated. He evidently considers the guard has been an undue stickler for etiquette. Still, as he points out, he cannot authorize a breaking of the rules. "Unaccompanied dogs should be taken to the Parcels Office." The phrase rings in my jaded ears.

I explain despairingly that the dog has already been to the Parcels Office. Only there they disapprove of his lead. "And it is such a pretty lead and he is such a gentle dog," I lament.

The Station Master of Victoria himself accompanies me back to a now deferential Parcels Office. "This is a very gentle dog," he announces, "and he can travel with that lead."

But there is a new difficulty. The train must by now be gone, for it is long past the hour. There seems to be no other train. There is certainly no other through train. An enterprising porter comes to the rescue. He can still "make it," he opines. To-day two "reliefs" have to go out first. He takes hold of the reprehensible scarlet lead.

Unfortunately, Laird has had no previous experience of travelling as a parcel. He does not want to be a parcel, formulates itself in his mind. He put his foot down suddenly—all four feet. The porter is sitting upon the Parcels Office floor.

The only solution is that I also should temporarily become a parcel and thus reconcile Laird to his new rôle. Together we are shot down luggage lifts, trundled round corners. The train is still there, a heavenly vision, Laird is tied by the same lead, to the same hook, in the same van, with the same guard. There is a whistle. I leap out. The parcel has been despatched.

Women Special Magistrates of Children's Courts.

Mrs. John Jones, a vice-president of the Australian Federation of Women Voters, has been appointed a special magistrate at the Children's Court, Victoria; Mrs. Julie Rapke, hon. secretary of the Victorian Women Citizens' Movement, has recently been appointed a special magistrate of the St. Kilda Children's Court; and Mrs. E. M. Robertson Thomas, J.P., is a special magistrate of the Camberwell Children's Court, Victoria. Mrs. Thomas who has for many years been in touch with Children's Courts as probation officer, justice of the peace and special magistrate, advocates a "Family Court" as an addition to the Children's Courts in Australia. Courts of this kind which have proved successful in France and America—place definite legal responsibility upon the parents of defaulting children, and Mrs. Thomas attaches great importance to home influence.

Women on Film Censorship Board.

Mrs. Andrew Glencross and Mrs. Liddell have been appointed by the Federal Government to the Film Censorship Board and the Board of Appeal respectively.

CUBAN WOMEN SUCCEED.

The passage of the new nationality law in Cuba, which provides that a Cuban woman who marries a foreigner shall retain Cuban citizenship unless she voluntarily has herself naturalised in her husband's country, is a great triumph for the International Commission of Women.

THE POSITION OF WOMEN IN KABYLIE.

By CARLA WYSS-BECHT (formerly Carla Romen Becht), Geneva.

"A woman has no legal right of succession."
"A woman does not own any property whatsoever, with the exception of the clothes she is wearing."

"MARRIAGE. A girl is sold by her father, and when there is no father, by her next male relative, who receives the purchase money for her (literally: 'qui mangent d'elle,'—who are having the benefit). Her consent is not asked. The male, being in authority over her, may compel her, even by the use of force, to conclude the marriage."

"A woman is not entitled to refuse the husband proposed to her and she cannot, in any case, appeal for divorce. She might however leave her husband's home and return to her father, providing that he is willing to take her. In this case a woman may declare herself as being in revolt against her husband."

"The husband is entitled to repudiate his wife, whenever he likes, without being obliged to give reasons for his action."

"In repudiating his wife, the husband may declare that he puts a ransom on the head of his wife. In this case the woman, while still remaining repudiated, cannot become married to another man, unless the latter pays the full amount of the ransom to the former husband. Until matters are settled, the woman in question is an outcast (retirée de la circulation)."

"The husband feeds and cloths his wife as he thinks fit. No complaints from the wife are admitted."

"The children belong to the father. While the marriage is in force, the woman has to take care of the children, but if she is repudiated, she becomes a stranger to her own children."

"If a married man dies, his wife forms part of his estate, and is handed over with the same to his heir."

(The above laws are translated from "Thamila," by F. Duchêne, Edition Albert Michel, Paris.)

WOMEN IN THE NEW RÉGIME.

(Reprinted from the *Poor Law Officers' Journal*.)

The position of women in connection with the forthcoming changes in Poor Law administration continues to excite a good deal of interest. It is true, of course, that provision has been made in the new statute for the co-optation of women on the Public Assistance and Guardians Committees; it is equally true that a considerable proportion of the present women Guardians cannot be co-opted on the Committees under the new régime. The Poor Law administration will in future be the poorer in consequence. But it would seem that in some parts of the country, at least, a move may be made with the object of securing the election of a greater number of women directly upon the County and County Borough Councils. This, for instance, was one of the suggestions mooted at the recent conference of the Devon Council of Women serving on public authorities—a body which has shown a commendably progressive spirit in its deliberations on matters of public policy. Miss Keynes, of Cambridge, who gave an address on Poor Law work, mentioned that there are some 2,300 women on Boards of Guardians, but the number of women who are members of Councils is very small. She estimated the total number elected on County Councils and County Borough Councils at less than 300. It may be recalled in this connection that the Association of Poor Law Unions, some time ago, gave some interesting figures. Of the 3,313 women serving in local government in 1926, 4 per cent. were on County and Urban District Councils, 11 per cent. on Borough and Rural District Councils, whilst 70 per cent. were on Boards of Guardians. 17 of the 62 County Councils had no women; more than half of the Urban District Councils and a greater proportion of the Rural District Councils were composed solely of men; while very few Boards of Guardians were without women members. As the majority of provincial County Council constituencies are single-membered, the Association pointed out that it would be increasingly difficult for women to secure election on those bodies. Alluding

to this aspect, Miss Keynes emphasised the importance of getting more women elected on these Councils. A point urged against the possibility of success in that direction is that women are averse to electoral contests.

Miss Keynes disagreed with that view; she thought that women were now-a-days equally as keen as men for an electoral fight, but she predicted that they would not be elected without a struggle, and they must be prepared to fight. Whatever may be the future of women's service, so far as direct election is concerned, it is gratifying to note that steps are being taken in Devon and elsewhere to secure, as far as possible, an adequate representation of women on the new Committees. After all, a large part of the work which will be undertaken by these Committees will be work for which women are pre-eminently fitted. Of recent years there has been an increasing disposition on the part of women to enter the public service and render their share of the work for the benefit of the community; and it is to be hoped that under the new régime no impediments will be placed in the way of the healthy growth of that public-spirited service.

WOMAN POSTER ARTIST.

According to the *Daily Herald*, Miss Clare Leighton is the first woman to have posters issued by the Empire Marketing Board. She has first-hand knowledge of the subjects of her posters. One of them depicts farm workers. These she takes direct from life, for she has lived among them in Dorsetshire. Miss Leighton has also done ploughing in France; has trod the wine-press in the Pyrenees; has picked fruit in the Balkans, and has worked on a fishing smack in the Adriatic: these experiences form excellent subjects for her posters. The *Daily Herald* also states that Miss Leighton's wood engravings are now eagerly sought by collectors all over the world, and that she is readily admitted to be much the best interpreter of Thomas Hardy's novels.

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 30th, 1929.

NOTICE.—Letters should be addressed as follows:—
To the Advertising Manager—on advertising.
To the Secretary—on all other business, including VOTE orders,
printing, and merchandise, etc.

Telegrams: "DESPARD, Holborn 9301, London."

Telephone: HOLBORN 9301.

EDITORIAL.

The Editor is responsible for unsigned articles only. Articles, paragraphs, or cuttings dealing with matters of interest to women generally will be welcomed. Every effort will be made to return unsuitable MSS. if stamped addressed envelope be enclosed, but the Editor cannot be responsible in case of loss.

CHEERS FOR ROUMANIA!

We are delighted to give our readers the following letter sent from the Roumanian Suffragists to our President.

Août, 1929.

Madame President and dear Colleague,

I have the satisfaction of informing you of the great victory that has been won by Roumanian women, who have obtained both the Vote and also eligibility for the Commune for the Municipality and the Councils. They will take part in the election in November, 1929.

The Law carried on the 3rd of August, 1929, on page 142, Article 375, says that all women of twenty-one years belonging to the following categories have the right to vote and to be elected. (1st.) Those who have followed the courses of study, secondary and primary, and ordinary and professional schools. (2nd.) All women officials of the Nation and Commune or the Councils. (3rd.) War widows. (4th.) Women decorated for exceptional service. (5th.) Those who on the date of the promulgation of the present law are conducting philanthropic or educational societies. The repercussion which this law will have in the political structure in Roumania is considerable. The ability and the zeal with which Roumanian women have achieved this immense victory proves their maturity and also proves how they estimate the great responsibility which has now become theirs. It is a success without precedent. Nearly ten years ago Feminism in Roumania was non-existent; to-day, owing to the activities of the Association, La Solidarité, Roumanian women have obtained in part their political rights, and in November a law will be voted giving them complete civil rights. La Solidarité has followed its mission, and we are proud of being able to discuss this brilliant victory of Roumanian women. The fact that Universal Suffrage on the same terms as men has not been given is due to the resistance from the country districts and peasant husbands categorically refusing all participation in the political life to their wives, also to the fact that many of the peasant women do not yet know how to read or write. In the near future these restrictions will also cease. It is incumbent upon us from this time forward to work to prepare these women and to make enlightened and conscientious citizens.

Hoping, dear colleague, that you and all your Association will participate in our great satisfaction, we ask you to comment upon these important facts in your newspaper, and at the same time to believe in our very warm regards.

President.

(Princesse Alexandrina Cantacuzene.)

We rejoice with our Roumanian fellow suffragists who have worked so splendidly in their association that at last the Roumanian woman is to be recognised as a person and a citizen. Though only a partial franchise, at present, the age limit is equal, and those who vote next November will pave the way for the women still unfranchised to enter into their heritage at no distant

date. This result from less than ten years' work seems marvellous to us who struggled so many years to win the Vote, but the progress of women is now sweeping forward with ever-increasing speed to our goal of equality.

Each successive victory is hailed with cheers all along the line and success in any one country echoes throughout the world.

We congratulate Roumania, too, on the expectation of complete civil rights for her women next November, and shall start our Autumn campaign more than ever determined to obtain for women in our own land the full equality of rights, opportunities and rewards for which the Women's Freedom League came into being.

THE NEWEST WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

THE MADAME CURIE HOSPITAL, FITZJOHN'S AVENUE,
HAMPSTEAD.

In connection with the fact, upon which we commented in last week's VOTE, that no woman's name appears upon the list of eminent physicians and surgeons, who help to constitute the National Radium Trust, it is well to note that a new hospital for the treatment by radium of women suffering from cancer, expects in a week's time to welcome its first patients.

This hospital will be entirely run by women; the medical staff consists of 17; the architect, Miss Elizabeth Scott (of the new Shakespeare Memorial Theatre at Stratford-on-Avon), has planned the internal alterations needed to produce an efficient modern hospital from the beautiful mansion of an artist (John Pettie); the spacious, oak-floored studio ward will accommodate fifteen patients and smaller rooms another ten. Later on it is hoped to increase the number of patients, carry out structural additions and make it possible to treat forty women in the building.

Radiology is more and more attracting the attention of medical women, and the provision of this additional centre will be of the greatest assistance to them in surmounting the worst obstacles to the work—shortage of beds and scarcity of radium.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH IN 1928.

By SIR GEORGE NEWMAN,

Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health.

The annual report for 1928, just published "On the State of the Public Health," is on the whole very satisfactory.

1928 was a very healthy year.

The Infantile Mortality rate 65 per 1,000 births was the lowest yet reached, only $\frac{1}{3}$ of the rate in 1901, but the Maternal-death-rate (death in confinement) is the highest recorded, 4.42 per 1,000 births, and higher than this in some counties and large towns. In 1911 this rate was 3.87, and the fact that it increases instead of lessening is the chief failure of our Health Service. Much is being given to this subject and two committees are examining it.

The report states that many local authorities "are not vigilantly engaged in perfecting each of the various branches of their maternity service and are not closely co-ordinating its branches into one unified attack upon this problem."

BEST WISHES FOR MISS BONDFIELD, M.P.

All our readers will join with the Women's Freedom League in expressing sympathy with our First Woman Cabinet Minister and Privy Councillor in the painful and unfortunate accident which has befallen her. Miss Bondfield was enjoying a short holiday at Treyarnon Bay, Cornwall, and whilst crossing the rocks on Monday for a swim, slipped and fractured her right ankle. She is at present in a nursing home, and all our best wishes will go out to her for the speedy and complete recovery of our Minister of Labour.

MEMORIES OF THE SUFFRAGE CAMPAIGN IN IRELAND.

By H. SHEEHY SKEFFINGTON.

The votes for women movement here received, as in England, a new impetus and inspiration from the suffragette or militant phase. When the staid form "Woman Suffrage," so ladylike and so academic, merged into the war-cry, "Votes for Women!" we of the younger generation in Ireland—now in our turn growing old, but not forgetful of pioneer dreams and adventurous, crowded hours—took up the cry and flung ourselves joyously into the fray. The suffragists of earlier days—the venerable Mrs. Haslam, that Quaker pioneer who did so much to shape feminism in Ireland as far back as 1860 or thereabouts, and who lived to vote when she had almost attained her century—did much in Ireland also to break ground. But their methods of very peaceful and rather slow penetration did not do more than touch the fringe of things. They concentrated on drawing-room gatherings, on lobbyings, petitions, deputations, on the use of the local government franchise, and on returning women for local bodies. Much they accomplished in educative work and, as for local government work and the like, why, men (and Irishmen are quite human in that respect as in others) had never any great objection to women doing spade-work, provided they had no direct power and that they were interested in ameliorative and limited reforms having to do with children, poor law, and the like—the kind of things that men generally "really have not time for." These women suffragists, too, were mainly Conservative, or at best mildly Liberal. They did not touch the people and were in the mass even opposed to Home Rule or to any nationalist advance. They were frankly unprogressive, and one of the favourite arguments used for suffrage by them was, "My gardener and my butler have the vote. Why shouldn't I?"

Then votes for women came and militant methods. Following the example of the Women's Freedom League and the Women's Social and Political Union, the Irish Women's Franchise League came into being in 1908. Offices were taken, a paper started (the *Irish Citizen*, founded in 1912 by James Cousins and F. Sheehy Skeffington), meetings were held, not now and then, but weekly, almost daily, not in drawing-rooms, but in Phoenix Park, in O'Connell Street, on soap boxes at street corners, everywhere. Protests against the exclusion of Irishwomen from votes in the Home Rule Bill ended in jail, Government buildings had their glass shivered, and politicians who shelved or derided were heckled and harried. Those M.P.'s who used to tell women year after year that they were our "best friends" and "had always voted" for our Bill, began to see that this was not nearly enough unless their party pulled its weight. And both John Redmond and Sir Edward Carson were alike in one thing—namely, their opposition to votes for Irishwomen. And how angry they were when reminded of the fact and opposed accordingly! In Dublin we used to be told that votes for women was a Tory device to spoil Home Rule and that we were "playing the Tories' game," while in Belfast, during a meeting

I spoke at in Ormeau Park, the Orange crowd drowned our voices with the strains of "God Save the King" (always a party tune in Ireland) and scornfully told us to "go back to Dublin," as one might tell someone to go to Hades!

But militant methods, especially "agin' the Government," won us Irishwomen much sympathy and support, especially among the revolutionaries. James Connolly was always a friend of women, as all his writings show. He never failed us even when some of his own right-wing supporters tried to trim. He believed, as he used to say, that as long as women were "the slaves of slaves," there could be no real freedom for men. He was one of those all too rare revolutionaries whose doctrines of freedom apply all round. It was James Connolly who wrote into the proclamation of the Irish Republic in 1916 the enfranchisement of women, and the document, signed by the seven men who afterwards gave their lives for Irish freedom, is the corner-stone of our liberty. It is the only instance I know of in history where men fighting for freedom voluntarily included women. The French revolutionaries, for all their prating of the Rights of Man, meant thereby only the Rights of Males, so the Americans in their Declaration of Independence forgot to make their women—citizens, and the great George Washington owned slaves. It was left for James Connolly to write Equality for Women upon his tricolour—had it been recognised and allowed to function peacefully, the Irish Republic would have been the first to give its women votes; Britain only did this in 1918—partially.

Workers, men and women on the Clyde and elsewhere, should not forget James Connolly. Were he alive to-day he would be in the forefront of the Equality campaign.

These are but a few stray jottings of our earlier campaign in Ireland that may have interest for feminists to-day. They are intended as a tribute to the spirit of militant feminism, whose campaign is still being conducted and whose struggles will go on until the equality of men and women is fully recognised all the world over. For, as long as there is a single woman unfree, so long we all remain enslaved.

MEN AS PASSENGERS ONLY!

As an answer to the embargo placed on women by the Motor Cycling Club, which organises the famous London-Edinburgh, London-Exeter and London-Land's End Trial, women motorcyclists and motor car drivers have formed a Women's Automobile and Sports Association, with an executive committee including many famous sportswomen. The intention is to organise a London-Exeter motor and motorcycle trial for women only—to be held on October 4th and 5th.

Men who wish to take part in the event may do so as passengers only!

It is anticipated that there will be a large entry. Valuable prizes have been offered, the chief being the Sir Charles Wakefield Trophy.

Preliminary Notice.

AFTERNOON MEETINGS AT THE MINERVA CLUB.

AT 4.30 P.M.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17th.

Speaker: MISS JENNER (Organising Secretary of the Women's Enfranchisement Association of the Union of South Africa, and Editor of the *Flashlight*).
Subject: "THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE WOMAN'S MOVEMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA."

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24th.

Subject: "WOMEN UNDER THE NEW GOVERNMENT ACT."

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31st.

Speaker: MRS. BIGLAND. Subject: Part I. "THE RECENT ASSEMBLY."

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7th.

Speaker: MRS. ARCHDALE (Chairman, Woman Peers Committee). Subject: "WOMEN AND THE UPPER HOUSE."

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21st.

Speaker: MRS. POLLARD. Subject: "WOMEN IN THE MINISTRY."

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28th.

Speaker: MRS. BIGLAND. Subject: Part II. "THE RECENT ASSEMBLY."

Tea 4 p.m.

Collection.

OUR BOOK REVIEW.

The Women of the Gospel. By A. Christitch. Published by Burns, Oates and Washbourne. Price 2s. 6d. (Can be obtained from this Office.)

We warmly commend this beautifully written little commentary to all those who are interested in the part women take in the religious life of the community. In re-telling some of the Gospel stories, Miss Christitch places a new emphasis on the rôle played by women who came in contact with Christ, and she says: "We may safely conclude that women were not of those that scoffed, derided, blasphemed, and demanded His death. They alone wept over Him on His royal road to the Cross, and remained faithful whilst His apostles durst not acknowledge Him." The stories selected take on a fresh interest and make a more direct appeal because of the author's change of emphasis. Miss Christitch shows courage when dealing with the story of the woman taken in adultery. She states that the passage in which it is found (John viii.: 2-11) is altogether wanting in many of the older and most reliable manuscripts. Research and criticism have, however, fully established its authenticity. Augustine gives a highly illuminative explanation for the suppression of the vexed passage from the earlier documents. He suggests that the account of the Master's mercy to the adulteress was eliminated lest it be falsely interpreted by women as leniency towards their sex for sins of this category. Miss Christitch's comment is: "No doubt Augustine is right. The masculine mind of those days was prone then, as it is to-day, to envisage but one aspect of social problems, naively putting the blame of sin and evils on the so-called weaker sex." Later, she says: "Jesus did not actually pronounce on the position of women. He did far more: He acted. Thus: He counted women among His friends; He discussed theology with them; He marked them out for special apostleships; He selected them to be the instruments of communicating the fundamental truths of His mission; and, above all, it was upon the fiat of a woman that He made the salvation of the human race dependent."

In reading "The Women of the Gospel" one is led to regret that early Christian history and early Christian writings were left entirely to the Fathers of the Church and that the Mothers of the Church in those days had no such opportunity of giving expression to their experience and to their vision.

F. A. U.

WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Women Better Fliers Than Men?

That women apparently have a greater aptitude for flying than men is suggested by the piloting tests which were recently carried out in a dummy aeroplane at the Olympia Aero Exhibition. The charts of six women selected for the final tests were definitely superior to those of the six men, and Miss A. M. Macdonald, of Egham, Surrey, and Mr. W. L. Selkirk, of Grays, Essex, were declared winners of the second flying competition.

Daughter and Father Preach in Stockton.

Recently the Sunday morning service at the Brunswick Wesleyan Church, Stockton—one of the best known Wesleyan churches in the North-east—was taken for the first time by a woman local preacher, Miss A. Beswick. The same evening her father, Mr. Wilfred Beswick, preached in the Yarm Road Wesleyan Church, Stockton, the second principal Wesleyan church in the town. Both father and daughter take keen interest in religious matters.

Woman Insurance Broker.

The *Liverpool Daily Courier* states that Miss Marguerite Bowie is the only woman insurance broker in London. Before she went in for insurance she was Senior Inspector in the Board of Trade Department.

Women's Local Government Successes.

Mrs. Sarah Laski, in a by-election in the Cheetham Ward of Manchester, recently gained a seat on the City Council.

Mrs. Mary Larnach has recently been elected the first woman member of Willington Urban District Council. Mrs. Larnach is also the first woman to represent Willington on the Durham Board of Guardians.

Woman Wins Cycle Race.

Miss Winnie Stansell, of Stoke Newington, the winner of a twelve-hour cycle race covered 195½ miles.

Woman Wins Speed Trial.

The prize cup in the handicap class at Kent and Sussex light car club's speed trials at Lewes was won by Miss D. M. Burnett.

Woman Receives Training License.

Mrs. M. L. Barnes has received a training license from the National Greyhound Racing Club. She is the first woman to whom a license has been issued.

Sailor Women.

The *Morning Post* reports that the auxiliary motor-barque "Alcyon," belonging to the Deauville Casino Company, arrived at Cowes last week from Deauville with twelve women pupils, who are being taught sailors' work. They keep the vessel clean, help to work it when at sea, and do their own cooking. They have no servant. A French ex-naval officer and his wife are in charge of the vessel.

Indian Girl's Success at Cambridge.

Miss S. Paranjpye, daughter of a member of the India Council, is the only successful woman in the Cambridge Mathematical Tripos, Part II, Junior Optime.

Belgian Women Suffragists' Protest.

A poster protesting against their municipal disfranchisement has been displayed in Brussels and other towns by the Belgian Federation for Woman Suffrage, the Belgian National Council of Women, the Belgian League for Women's Rights, and other women's organisations.

GERMAN WOMEN'S ATHLETIC SUCCESSES.

In a recent contest at Dusseldorf, which was regarded as a rehearsal for the third Women's Games at Prague in 1930, the German Athletic team defeated the British by 53½ points to 45½. Miss Hatt knocked a tenth of a second off the world's record time for the 80 metres, and Miss Christmas beat the British record for the 800 metres. Fräulein Grieme set up a new German record for the long jump.

WOMEN'S AVIATION "GROUP."

We learn from *The Daily News* that the Forum Club has started an Aviation Group under the presidency of Lady Bailey, and the chairmanship of the Hon. Mrs. Forbes-Semphill.

The inauguration of this new section is to be celebrated on Oct. 21st by a big dinner at which Lord Thomson, the Secretary of State for Air, has promised to be present.

WOMEN DELEGATES AT THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Women delegates who are about to attend the League of Nations Tenth Assembly at Geneva, which opens on September 2nd, include:—Mrs. H. M. Swanwick and Mrs. Hamilton, M.P. (Great Britain), Dr. Roberta Jull (Australia), Miss Macphail (Canada), Miss Henni Forchhammer (Denmark), Madame Ingeborg Aas (Norway), Countess Apponyi (Hungary), Madame Ciurlionis (Lithuania), and Mlle. Hélène Vacaresco (Roumania).

Women's Freedom League.

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WHERE TO GO.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

DARE TO BE FREE. LONDON AND SUBURBS.

Friday, August 30th, at 5 p.m.

Kew and District Branch. Meeting at 32, Gloucester Road, Kew.

Monday, September 2nd, at 3 p.m.

"Fair" Sub-Committee at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Thursday, September 5th, at 7.30 p.m.

Brentford and Chiswick Branch. Meeting at 56, Harvard Road, Gunnersbury. Speaker: Miss Nina Boyle: "Marriage and Slavery." The meeting will be followed by a Dance at 8 p.m. Tickets 1/3, in aid of Branch funds.

Wednesday, September 11th, at 7.30 p.m.

London Members' Meeting at the Minerva Club. Speaker: Miss Underwood. Chair: Mrs. Pierotti.

Friday, October 4th, at 7.30 p.m.

Dinner at the Minerva Club, 56, Hunter Street, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Speeches by Delegates to the Berlin Congress. Tickets 3s. 6d. each, from the Secretary, Minerva Club.

Saturday, October 5th, at 10 a.m.

National Executive Committee Meeting at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Tuesday, October 8th, at 7.30 p.m.

North Kensington Branch. Meeting at 14, St. Quintin's Avenue, North Kensington (by kind permission of Miss K. Raleigh).

Wednesday, October 9th, at 7.30 p.m.

London Members' Meeting at the Minerva Club. Speakers: Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence and Miss Underwood. Chair: Dr. E. Knight.

Thursday, October 17th, at 4.30 p.m.

Afternoon Meeting at the Minerva Club, 56, Hunter Street, W.C.1. Speaker: Miss Jenner (Organising Secretary of the Women's Enfranchisement Association of the Union of South Africa, and Editor of the *Flashlight*). Subject: "The Development of the Woman's Movement in South Africa."

Thursday, October 24th, at 4.30 p.m.

Afternoon Meeting at the Minerva Club, 56, Hunter Street, W.C.1. Subject: "Women under the New Government Act."

Thursday, October 31st, at 4.30 p.m.

Afternoon Meeting at the Minerva Club, 56, Hunter Street, W.C.1. Speaker: Mrs. Bigland. Subject: Part I. "The Recent Assembly."

Thursday, November 7th, at 4.30 p.m.

Afternoon Meeting at the Minerva Club, 56, Hunter Street, W.C.1. Speaker: Mrs. Archdale (Chairman, Woman Peers Committee). Subject: "Women and the Upper House."

Thursday and Friday, November 14th and 15th, 3 to 9.30 p.m. Green, White and Gold Fair, at Caxton Hall, Westminster.

Saturday, November 16th, at 10 a.m.

National Executive Committee Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Thursday, November 21st, at 4 p.m.

Afternoon Meeting at the Minerva Club, 56, Hunter Street, W.C.1. Speaker: Mrs. Pollard. Subject: "Women in the Ministry."

Thursday, November 28th, at 4.30 p.m.

Afternoon Meeting at the Minerva Club, 56, Hunter Street, W.C.1. Speaker: Mrs. Bigland. Subject: Part II. "The Recent Assembly."

PROVINCES.

Saturday, September 14th (Proposed date).

Middlesbrough Branch. Picnic for members and friends.

Monday, October 14th.

Middlesbrough Branch. Whist Drive, at the Grey House.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

September 2nd to 15th.

Women's International League. International Summer School in Lepence-Visegrad, Hungary. Subject: "Effects of Public Economics on the Interior and Foreign Politics of Different Countries."

Sunday, October 13th, at 11 a.m.

The Hampshire House Discussion Circle, Hog Lane, King Street, Hammersmith. Speaker: Miss Marian Reeves, on "Equal Pay for Equal Work."

October 14th to October 18th.

National Council of Women. Annual Meeting and Conference in the Albert Hall, Manchester.

Thursday, October 17th, at 3 p.m.

Women's International League. Reception to the two women delegates of the British Government to the Geneva Assembly, at Aubrey House, Aubrey Walk, W.8. By kind permission of the Misses Alexander. Tickets 2/6 each, which will include tea.

Wednesday, October 23rd, at 3 p.m.

Women's International League. Meeting at Friends' House, Euston Road, to discuss the report of the work of this year's Assembly.

Wednesday, October 30th to Saturday, November 2nd.

National Council for Mental Hygiene. Conference at the Central Hall, Westminster, on "Mental Health."

Wednesday, November 13th.

Women's International League. All-day Conference on "Opium."

JOTTINGS FROM THE PRESS.

Business Women Receive a Tribute.

In the opinion of Sir Sidney Skinner, the chairman of Barker's, women in positions of trust and responsibility have much to do with the development of present day business. He is reported in the *Daily News* to have said last week at the Drapers' Summer School, at Oxford,

"If brains constitute the qualification of a business man, why should they not do so for a woman, who often surpasses man in intuition and vision? Some of the best people in my business are women."

AN UNQUALIFIED STATEMENT.

According to Mr. J. L. Martin, the Reading Coroner, women motor drivers are nothing short of a disgrace to the roads. "They talk and chatter like monkeys whilst driving, and do not give a thought to what they are doing." As men motor drivers—who, presumably, are prone to no such weaknesses—figure in the large majority of road accidents, in our opinion Mr. Martin's sweeping statement needs some qualification.

WORLD'S CONFERENCE ON ADULT EDUCATION.

"WOMEN'S PROBLEMS."

At the World's Conference on Adult Education, held at Cambridge, on Saturday last, "Women's Problems" found a place among the wide range of subjects discussed. In presiding, Miss Amy Wesselhoft von Erdberg, of the German delegation, appealed for individual treatment in women's problems on account of the differences between men's and women's points of view in economic, social and political questions.

The educational handicaps of women industrial workers in the United States were dealt with by Miss Hilda Smith, director of the Brynamawr Summer School—an institute which aims at lessening these handicaps by co-operation between college women and industrial workers.

Mrs. C. D. Rackham, of the Cambridgeshire County Council, gave a brief outline of the work being done in England through various organisations to provide adult education for women.

In reviewing the position of adult education in Holland, Miss Ida Van Dugteren, of the Volksuniversiteit at Rotterdam, paid tribute to the teaching of languages, which enables working men and women to tour other countries and enjoy their literatures.

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