

THE VOTE.
JAN. 28, 1927.

WOMAN GUARDIAN WINS.

THE VOTE

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

VOL. XXVIII. No. 901. (Registered at
the G.P.O.)

ONE PENNY.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 1927

OBJECT: To secure for Women the Parliamentary vote as it is or may be granted to men; to use the powers already obtained to elect women in Parliament, and upon other public bodies, for the purpose of establishing equality of rights and opportunities between the sexes, and to promote the social and industrial well-being of the community.

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS.

EQUAL POLITICAL RIGHTS MEETING IN HOLBORN.

MORE ABOUT WOMEN POLICE.

WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

BACK TO WORK.

WOMAN GUARDIAN WINS.

WOMEN IN INDUSTRY.

NOTES FROM THE FOREIGN PRESS.

BOOK REVIEWS.

EQUAL POLITICAL RIGHTS MEETING IN HOLBORN.

A crowded meeting to demand equal voting rights for women with men was held by the Women's Freedom League in the Minerva Café, Thursday, January 20th, and was supported by the following Societies having members in the Holborn Parliamentary Division: Association of Women Clerks and Secretaries, British Commonwealth League, British Federation of University Women, International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship, League of the Church Militant, London Labour Party, London Teachers' Association, London Young Liberal Federation, National Union of Teachers, National Union of Women Teachers, National Women Citizens' Association, St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance, Women's Co-operative Guild, Women's Engineering Society, Women's International League, Women's National Liberal Federation, and the Young Suffragists.

Dr. Knight occupied the chair, and explained that this meeting was part of the campaign being carried on all over the country by women's organisations like the Women's Freedom League, which are affiliated to the Equal Political Rights Committee. She then read the Resolution which was to be put at the close of the meeting: "**That this meeting calls upon the Government to include an Equal Franchise measure in the King's Speech at the opening of Parliament on February 8th, granting the Parliamentary vote to women at 21 years of age and on the same terms as men.**"

Letters were read from Lady Smith, J.P., and from Councillor Frankland regretting their inability to be present, and wishing success to the meeting. Col. Sir James Remnant, the Member for Holborn, who also had been invited to attend this meeting, sent the following letter, which Dr. Knight read:—

16th January, 1927.

DEAR MADAM,—I will endeavour to attend your meeting on Thursday next, but in the event of my being away and unable to attend you may count on my continued support. I see no reason why, if men have the vote at 21, women should not be given the same right. I should like to see some measure passed which would make it necessary for all who have the vote to use it.

Yours faithfully,

JAMES REMNANT.

In supporting the Resolution, MISS BUTLER-BOWDON (St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance) said that England claimed to be a democracy, but what was more undemocratic than leaving more than 5,000,000 women in the country over 21 years of age voteless? No one could be perfectly free until all were free, and we were at present a democracy only in name and not in reality. We should only get the best results when men and women were equally free to co-operate in working for the Nation's good.

MRS. GODFREY, representing the London Labour Party, said that women between the ages of 21 and 30 were considered fit to pay their rates and taxes, to obey the laws of the land, to earn their own living, to bear children for the State, even to stand as candidates for Parliament, but they were not considered fit to vote for a candidate for Parliament. She urged that the Government should extend the vote to every woman at 21, and that it should not seek to disfranchise any present voters, and she ridiculed the present franchise laws under which women over 30 in this country could only secure a Parliamentary vote if they happened to possess furniture or a husband.

The REV. W. C. ROBERTS, Rector of St. George's, Bloomsbury, who received a very cordial reception, in supporting the resolution said that a great many women belonging to the *intelligentsia* lived in Bloomsbury, but could not claim a vote because they lived in furnished rooms. He urged that the vote should be given at 21 years of age and on the same terms as men. When it was said that there was little interest shown by young women in politics, he was convinced that it was because they had to wait so many years before they could exercise any political power. They were outside the political arena, and therefore not interested in politics. The vote was the starting-point of interest in public life.

MISS MARGARET HARVEY (Women's National Liberal Association) said that she had a furnished bed-sitting-room in Bloomsbury, and for that reason could not exercise a vote. There were a great many other women in that position earning their own living and paying income-tax, who yet could not take any part in the representative Government of their country. She knew of a hostel in Bloomsbury having 49 women, but only one of them, the warden, had a vote. She urged that constitutional liberty was the right of every woman as well as of every

man; and pointed out that if women were to have equal voting rights with men before the next General Election the time was now very short, and there must be immediate legislation early in the Session, for, owing to the Economy Bill, the Register was now only made up once a year, and if women did not get their voting rights settled before next October's Register was compiled, they would probably be voteless at the next election.

SISTER ANNIE (West London Mission), who also supported the Resolution, said she was a New Zealander. In New Zealand women had had equal voting rights with men for the past 34 years, and nothing but good had resulted from the women's vote. Moreover, the Maori women had been granted the vote as well as the white women. Since women had had the vote in New Zealand the drink evil had been considerably lessened, and the age of consent for girls had been raised from 13 to 16 years. In this country, if women had the vote at the same age and on the same terms as men, the moral forces of the country would be greatly strengthened.

MRS. LAWRY (Association of Clerks and Secretaries) supported the Resolution, and pointed out that although women as well as men contributed to the Health Insurance, Unemployment Insurance, and Old Age Pensions Insurance, men could, through their vote, have a say on behalf of those measures at the age of 21, but women could not do so until they were 30. Women had to pay, but had no say in the matter. She also referred to the Factories Act and the Lead Paint Act, which imposed restrictions on women's work which were not imposed on men's work, yet no woman under 30, and very few over 30, could have any political influence in those matters. Her Association had 300,000 members, yet they could not manage to get the Bill through Parliament which would improve office conditions—the great majority of women clerks having no vote! Women were really getting to the end of their patience in regard to their political inferiority with men.

MISS GODWIN (Young Suffragists), in supporting the Resolution strongly dissented from the view that young women were not keen about the vote. They did care about it, but politicians by depriving them of it until they were 30 had done their utmost to take away all their enthusiasm for politics—they had told them, in fact, that politics was no concern of theirs. She declared there was no need for a Conference which would only create fresh difficulties in the path of women's equal enfranchisement with men. All that was wanted was a simple measure on the Statute Book, and at an early date, granting the Parliamentary vote to women at the age of 21 and on the same terms as men.

MISS RODGERS (League of the Church Militant) said that her Society had been working for the past 15 years for the equal enfranchisement of women with men. The State was composed of men and women, and men and women should work together in it on equal terms. She urged that this matter of equal franchise should be settled only on the lines of the Resolution. Miss Rodgers herself had been disfranchised simply because she sat on someone else's chair, for which she paid, instead of on her own. That was a ridiculous position. What was wanted, and wanted immediately, was a clear, simple measure granting votes to women at 21 years of age and on the same terms as men.

DR. KNIGHT put the Resolution to the meeting, which was carried unanimously and with acclamation. She then put another Resolution which was also carried unanimously: That Sir James Remnant should be asked if he would kindly receive a deputation from members of his constituency on the subject of equal franchise, to discuss with him the best way of getting an equal franchise measure on the Statute Book in time to ensure that women should vote at the age of 21 and on the same terms as men at the next election.

A collection was taken for our equal franchise fund; literature and copies of THE VOTE were sold.

MORE ABOUT WOMEN POLICE.

In THE VOTE, dated January 21st, we reported that the Exeter Watch Committee decided to give further consideration to the subject of women police. Last week the Watch Committee met, and one of the members moved that the matter be not discussed. Councillor Mrs. Browne pointed out that the matter was on the agenda, and that she wished to have it discussed. Eventually it was decided by a majority that women police were neither needed nor advisable; and that if women police were to be employed and patrol the city as a whole, the Chief Constable would need at least six women, and he did not think Exeter would be justified in appointing them at the present time.

It was also recorded that in Worcestershire the proposal for women police had been dismissed by the Chairman stating: "It would be a great mistake to have a lot of women going about gossiping and saying they were policewomen."

At a meeting of the Worcestershire Federation of Women's Institutes, reported in the *Daily Express*, Lady Georgina Vernon urged that the Chief Constable should appoint women for special duties. She pointed out that policewomen could do excellent work safeguarding conduct in open spaces. Miss Hingley, the chairman, said: "The question of the cost has been raised as an obstacle to the appointment of policewomen. But, isn't crime costly? Isn't it lowering to the morals of men and women? Surely women can perform their duties in preventing crime and protecting little children!" Miss Farmer, another member, said that the appointment of policewomen would result in economy in infirmaries, workhouses, industrial schools, Borstal institutions, and kindred places. "Worcester has made a laughing-stock of itself by the refusal to recognise the special gifts of women for certain types of police work," declared a prominent member of the Federation to an *Express* representative. "Worcestershire lags behind Gloucestershire with its four women police. The sentiments of the Chairman of the County Standing Committee are a little behind the times."

The *Yorkshire Herald* reports that policewomen are apparently not wanted in Lincolnshire. When a Home Office letter touching their employment was read at a meeting of the Holland Standing Joint Committee at Boston, the Chief Constable, Captain Mitchell-Innes, demurred. "The truth of the matter is," he said, "that if you gave me a policewoman I would not know what on earth to do with her."

The suggestion by the Home Secretary that consideration should be given to the advisability of employing a number of policewomen has also been turned down by the Wigan Watch Committee.

We once again urge that an Amending Bill to the Municipal Corporation Act be passed, enacting that Watch Committees of Borough Councils and of Standing Joint Committees shall from time to time appoint a sufficient number of fit men and fit women to be constables.

WOMEN PROPERTY MANAGERS.

According to the *Daily Express*, Miss Moor looks after the property of the Walworth Estate, in the Borough of Southwark, which belongs to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The property comprises 800 houses, with a total income of £25,000 a year, and yields a return of more than 5 per cent. of the capital outlay.

Miss Jeffery, who has managed the Regent's Park Estate, belonging to the Commissioners of Crown Lands, has recently been appointed by the Chesterfield Town Council to manage houses occupied by tenants removed from an unhealthy area which is being demolished. There are 850 houses on this estate, with 2,000 tenants, and the total rents and rates collected are about £70,000 a year. The cost of management amounts to about 4 per cent. of the total collected.

WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

A Practical Woman.

The Duchess of Atholl has been down two coal pits in the West of Fife coalfield, the Aitken Pits Nos. 1 and 2 at Kely. She spent some hours in studying the mining conditions in these pits in her constituency. Pit ponies have been superseded here by automatic machinery.

Our only woman in the Government has also lately stated that if women predominated in the House of Commons they would insist on having more windows open there. We entirely agree, and have always urged as one reason for sending women to Parliament that they would call for the healthy conditions so necessary for the best work.

In Memory of Elizabeth Fry.

Elizabeth Fry, the prison reformer, will figure in stained glass in a Bayswater church.

Women's Thirst for Knowledge.

Each year there are 10,000 more adult students at the London County Council education classes. At present there are 100,000 students in London evening institutes; 50,000 in evening technical classes, and 7,000 in day continuation classes. There is a great demand for education on the part of women in the poorest areas of London.

Woman Commissioner of Immigration.

President Coolidge has appointed Mrs. C. M. Tillinghast Commissioner of Immigration at Boston. She is the first woman so honoured.

Women Members of City Companies.

Mrs. Cyril Turner, who, as Miss Pryke, was Lady Mayoress of London last year, has received the honorary Freedom of the Plumbers' Company, of which her father, Sir William Pryke, is a Past Master.

Dr. Maud Sellers, the York city archivist, sometime Fellow of Newnham College, Cambridge, and lecturer at Leeds University, is the only woman merchant adventurer. She is a full livery member of this City Company, wrote the history of the Company, and has for seven years been its honorary Curator.

Another Woman Pioneer.

Mrs. Rosalie Harrison has for some years been working as manager and traveller for the Hull branch of Messrs. Fleming, Birkley & Goodall, Ltd., leather and textile belting manufacturers and mill furnishers. Her husband, who previously held this post, was left without an assistant in 1915, and Mrs. Harrison offered her services temporarily. For three months she worked as her husband's assistant, and when he died suddenly Messrs. Flemings very willingly appointed her to the post. Mrs. Harrison is now arranging to take over the Hull depot on her own account.

Woman Insurance Broker.

Miss Phyllis Moscrop Robinson is the only woman who has qualified by examination as an Insurance Broker. She is a partner in H. Moscrop Robinson & Co., of which her father is the head. Miss Robinson was educated at Brentwood School, Southport, and at Hanover and Dresden, and was admitted an Associate of the Brokers' Corporation in 1925.

Woman Architect's Prize.

The Royal Institute of British Architects have awarded the "Owen Jones" Travelling Studentship and £100 to Miss Ruth Ellis, of Holland Park.

Women in State Legislatures, U.S.A.

According to *Equal Rights*, organ of the National Women's Party (Washington), there are now 122 women sitting in the legislatures of thirty-four States, 86 being Republicans, 31 Democrats, and the rest belonging to no party. Eleven of these women were elected to State Senates. Connecticut leads all other States with 16 women. Wyoming, the first State to grant suffrage to women, has only one woman legislator. The Eastern women legislators outnumber the Western.

Our Youngest Air Pilot.

Mrs. Ranald (19), England's youngest air pilot, astounded the experts with the ease with which she took her certificate, quickly attaining an altitude of 7,300 feet and making very neat landings.

Woman Motorist's Success.

Mrs. Mildred Bruce was the only British prize-winner in the motor car endurance tests at Monte Carlo. She came sixth in the rally, out of 66 starters. She also won the Coupé des Dames race and was the first in the Mont-des-Mules endurance climb. Her prize-money amounted to 5,000 francs.

Women Athletes.

Equal Rights also reports that Frau Schleider, of Dresden, is the first woman to win the German "Golden Band," awarded for excellence in athlete proficiency. The golden band is the highest athletic award given, and can be won only by persons above 40 years of age who have kept up for a long period of years a record for faithful training and successful participation in contests. Frau Schleider is a member of the Dresden Woman's Swimming Club, "Dresdensia."

Miss Halina Konopacka, Poland's famous woman athlete, has been decorated with the "Cross of Merit" by the Polish Government. Miss Konopacka broke the record for women's discus throw at Gothenburg, Sweden, last summer, where she flung the "pancake" 37.71 metres.

Woman Awarded Heroism Medal.

Edna B. Drake, who is employed in the Pendleton shops of the Cincinnati (Ohio) Division, has been awarded the heroic service medal by Professor W. W. Atterbury. These medals are given for extraordinary acts of heroism beyond the line of duty. Miss Drake succeeded in pulling an unknown man from in front of an onrushing passenger train.

WOMEN'S PUBLIC LODGING HOUSES.

Mrs. Cecil Chesterton is to be warmly congratulated on the success she has won for her Women's Public Lodging Houses Scheme. The Queen has sent a gift of £100 with her best wishes. The sum of £4,200 has been raised, at a cost of £110, and the gift of Mr. Bernhard Barron of £1,000 will enable the first House at 35, Devonshire Street, W.C., to be opened free of debt at the end of next month. A meeting in support of the Women's Public Lodging House Fund will be held at the Mansion House, February 2nd, at 3 p.m., presided over by the Lord Mayor, and among the speakers will be Lady Violet Bonham Carter, Lord Hugh Cecil, Viscount Burnham, the Bishop of Woolwich, and Mr. J. A. Cairns. This meeting is open to the public, but seats can be reserved on application to the Hon. Secretary, 8, Polebrook House, Golden Square, W.1.

HOUSEWORK FOR MEN STUDENTS!

Why not? What is there in housework to make it solely and unalterably a woman's job? According to *The Christian Science Monitor*, Home Economics for men is the ideal of the Dean of Ohio Wesleyan University. He says: "Men are realising that they ought to have a part in home planning. They are beginning to know something about foods, textiles and budgeting. The time is here when the man is asking questions about the management of the home. He isn't leaving it all to his wife. A man runs a business on an economic basis. Why shouldn't he know something about planning for himself, his children and his home?" The *Monitor* explains that the Dean, in advising Ohio Wesleyan men to study home economics, does not infer that the male must eventually do the darning and the dusting; (again we ask why not?)—but he does feel that it is a man's place to be at least intelligent concerning household affairs. Our opinion is that it is just as necessary that he should be useful in household affairs.

THE VOTE.

Proprietors: THE MINERVA PUBLISHING CO., LTD.
Offices: 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.
FRIDAY, JANUARY 28th, 1927.

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, Museum 1429, London."
Telephone: MUSEUM 1429.

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.

BACK TO WORK.

The new Session of Parliament opens on Tuesday, February 8th, and the Cabinet now, presumably, are considering the contents of the King's Speech, the legislation which the Government intend to get through Parliament before they make their appeal to the country. This year, 1927, is really the testing year for the Government; for 1928 will be too late to get through any legislation of first-class importance. Women in every constituency are asking: "Will the Government fulfil the Prime Minister's pledge to women and concede equal political rights to women with men before the General Election?" Earlier in the life of this Parliament, when reminded of this pledge, the Prime Minister brushed it on one side with the statement that Parliament was still young! Youth is no longer on the side of this Government and cannot any more be pleaded as an excuse for letting things drift. It is now, in the early days of 1927, or never, for this Government to redeem the explicit pledge made to women. Owing to the recent Economy Act, the Register is made up only once a year, and if an equal franchise measure is not on the Statute Book in time for women to get on the Register next October, it will be too late for women to vote at the same age and on equal terms with men if a General Election is held in 1928. It is certainly too late to submit the question of equal franchise to any Conference, and any attempt on the part of the Government to do so at this late hour would meet with the gravest suspicion from women, who expect an honest and serious effort to be made by the Government to carry out the pledge given to women. Women do not expect the Government to shelve its responsibility for women's constitutional rights by relegating the subject to a Conference! Men and women suffragists throughout the country should at once get in touch with their local Members of Parliament and make it quite clear to them that what women demand is immediate legislation—a simple franchise measure on the Statute Book early in the Session, granting the Parliamentary vote to women at the age of 21 and on the same terms as men. There is, and must continue to be, increased activity on the part of all women's organisations for women's equal voting rights with men. They must make the Government understand that the Prime Minister's pledge to them must be honoured, not shelved. In London, we urge all our readers to make a special effort to attend the Equal Political Rights Meeting, organised by our Minerva Club Branch, Monday evening, February 7th, the day before the opening of Parliament, when a resolution will be put to the meeting, demanding immediate legislation for equal franchise; and also the meeting to be held the next evening at 39, Gordon Square, W.C.1 (by kind permission of the National Union of Women Teachers), which will be organised by the Equal Political Rights Committee, and attended by members belonging to the women's organisations affiliated to this Committee. The King's Speech will then be discussed, and it will be seen what concerted action can be taken by these societies in order to secure an early settlement of the equal franchise question.

WOMAN GUARDIAN WINS.

About two years ago a member of the Kingston Board of Guardians met with an accident and was taken to Kingston Hospital, which is also the Infirmary. He paid full fees for his treatment, but when he came out of hospital he was told that his stay in it had disqualified him as a Guardian. The Ministry of Health was appealed to, but gave no help in the matter. Questions were asked in Parliament, with no satisfactory result. Last week a test case with reference to a woman Guardian came before Mr. Justice Salter and Mr. Justice Talbot, in the King's Bench Division. Mrs. Ellen Moira Pyne, of Erith, since her election as Guardian had become a private patient in the King Edward Avenue Hospital, Dartford, which was maintained by the Guardians out of the rates. Although she paid the whole cost of her maintenance and treatment, it was claimed that she was technically in the position of a pauper, and a ruling was applied for, on behalf of a ratepayer in the Dartford Union, under which the Guardians of the Dartford Union would be directed to declare vacant the seat of Mrs. Pyne, on the ground that she was disqualified from membership of the Guardians because she had been in receipt of union or parochial relief. Mr. Justice Salter, giving judgment, said that as the Guardians had been paid in full for every privilege and advantage received by Mrs. Pyne at the hospital, there was no evidence on which it could be said that she had received "union or parochial relief within the meaning of the Act of 1894, and that in his opinion the application should be dismissed. We congratulate Mrs. Pyne on her victory, proving that the law can sometimes override official stupidity. This ruling affects also the case of Mrs. Chanter, a woman Guardian of Bristol. While motoring in the district she met with an accident, was rendered unconscious, and taken to the nearest hospital, which happened to be Southmead Poor Law Institution. There she remained a paying patient until she recovered. She was then told that she had forfeited her seat by becoming chargeable to the Guardians, and although the Board appealed to the Ministry of Health, the Ministry declined to interfere, and a man was elected in her place. Mrs. Chanter cannot now be reinstated; but she will stand again at the next election.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE

The next International Labour Conference will be held in Geneva on May 25th, and on the agenda the two following items appear, which are of special interest to women: (1) *Health Insurance*, the careful study of which has shown that the laws of the various countries show sufficient similarity to allow of the question being dealt with on the basis of international regulation; and (2) *A Minimum Wage Standard* for certain unorganised industries in which wages are exceptionally low. We are again urging our Government to include a woman as an official delegate to this Conference, so that these two important questions shall not be dealt with by men only and from only the view point of men. We also urge that women should be sent as technical advisers by our Government. Paragraph 2 of Article 389 of the International Labour Organisation declares: "When questions of special interest to women are to be discussed at the Conference, one at least of those appointed as technical advisers should be a woman." These two questions are of very special interest and importance to women, and in our opinion more than one woman technical adviser should be sent to Geneva with our own Government delegation.

We do not, however, want only women technical advisers. When subjects to be discussed concern women so directly, it is necessary that a woman should hold a post more important than that of technical adviser. That is why we urge that the Government should send a woman as a fully accredited delegate.

WOMEN IN INDUSTRY.

Whitehall Charwomen.—The *Daily Express* reports that the charwomen in Government offices, Whitehall, are in revolt. They receive 28s. a week, and complain that their working week amounts to 40 hours, although the official view is that they actually work a good many hours less. They scrub and clean floors, walls, corridors and stairs, and polish the furniture and carry coals. Brooms abound, but there is a shortage of vacuum cleaners and feather brushes. The London County Council pay their charwomen 28s. 7d. for 29 hours a week. Recently the superficial area to be covered by the Whitehall charwomen has been increased by about 500 square feet, and some of them say they are expected to clean 4,500 square feet daily, while the London County Council charwomen have to clean only 2,000 square feet. A case has evidently been made out for the need for inquiry into the whole system of the cleaning of Government offices.

Women and Unemployment Insurance.—A report on Unemployment Insurance, recently issued by the Ministry of Labour, shows that unemployment among laundry, dyeing and dry cleaning workers has been extraordinarily small. The cotton industry shows 82.2 per cent.; but among laundry workers the figure is 24.6 per cent. The number of weekly contributions paid by men is nearly double the number of days on which they drew benefit. For women the payments were more than double. Payments for men averaged 233 for each contributor, against 122 days of benefit for women the figures are 161 and 69 respectively. Women, too, change their particular kind of job less frequently than men, partly owing to their reluctance to leave a locality and partly owing to there being fewer industries in which women are employed.

Unemployed Women in Preston.—There are over 7,000 women at present on Preston's unemployed register, the majority of whom are cotton mill workers. The accommodation for women on the premises of the Employment Exchange is so limited that only 100 can find shelter at one time, and many complaints have been made locally about women being obliged to stand waiting for several hours, without shelter, in wet and bitter weather, for their turn to draw unemployment benefit. A representative of the *Lancashire Daily Post* visited the Exchange and saw a queue of over 1,000 women waiting outside the premises for their turn to draw the unemployment benefit. The situation is being met by a rigid system of timing the card of each applicant, and efforts are being made to secure new premises at once.

In Blackpool last week there were 763 women and 44 girls on the unemployed register. Application has been made to the Ministry of Labour for a women's training centre at Blackpool for unemployed women, but this has been refused.

Unemployed Belfast Women.—The *Belfast News-Letter* states that at the monthly meeting of the Women's Sub-Committee of the Belfast Local Employment Committee it was reported that on 20th December last the number of women totally unemployed was 6,399, being a decrease of 905 as compared with the previous month. On the other hand, the number on temporary stoppage, 2,691, showed an increase of 426. The number of vacancies notified through the Exchange was 780, and the number placed was 742. It was also reported that during the month 46 women were placed in domestic employment. Of these, 15 were placed in resident service in private houses, hotels, etc.; 10 were placed in regular daily work in private houses, cafés, etc.; 2 were placed as barmaids; and 19 were placed as casual daily workers in private and business houses and cafés.

Need for Technical Training.—The *Irish Independent* (Dublin) reports that the question of technical training for girls was discussed last week at a sitting of the Technical Education Commission by Miss Louie Bennett, of the Irish Workers' Union. Miss Bennett suggested the raising of the school-leaving age to 16, with a subsistence grant to all pupils between 14 and 16. Technical education of a domestic character should be given to all girls. She recommended that classes in domestic economy on lines similar to those of day trade classes in dressmaking be made compulsory, and said she would rank domestic service as a highly skilled trade, requiring a specialised training in its every branch, including the care of babies and children. In a city like Dublin domestic training should be given in a hostel run in connection with the Employment Exchange. This would serve the purpose of a training school, an employment bureau, and a place of residence for daily or unemployed domestics; and in a special department hotel and restaurant workers could be trained. The establishment of residential schools for training girls in outdoor work was another suggestion made by the witness, who said that those schools should be outside, but not very far from towns. The instruction should be in dairy work, poultry farming, market gardening, fruit growing, bee-keeping and domestic work. There was, she said, a tendency to run industries by juvenile labour. That was a very serious question in Dublin, where it was the practice to employ girls between 14 and 16. She urged a proportion of juvenile to senior workers in an employment, but in fixing the ratios they would have to be reasonable. General knowledge of machinery, electricity, etc., and instruction in industrial welfare should also be afforded to girls.

Miss Helen Chenevix agreed with Miss Bennett's evidence.

NOTES FROM THE FOREIGN PRESS.

By MARIAN BERRY.

Le Mouvement Féministe of December 31st includes two articles of special interest: one dealing with the work of the International Organisation for Emigration, the other with the rise of women's education in Switzerland.

The first school for girls' secondary education was established in Zurich by Leonard Usteri in 1774, and it was followed by the foundation of similar schools in Basle and other towns. The rise of women's education in Switzerland was mainly due, however, to the work of Alexander Vinet, philosopher and theologian, who from 1821 lost no opportunity either in the Press or in his work as a lecturer and professor at Basle University to plead for State education for girls as well as for boys. He pointed out that the teaching in the existing private schools for girls was insufficient

and on an unscientific basis, and tended to dilettantism instead of concentration on serious subjects. Vinet maintained that such educational methods were detrimental to women's character and *morale*, and in pleading for their wider education, he wrote: "It is not necessary that education for women should be a *varnish* and that of young men a *strength and power*; a woman's mind no more than a man's is consecrated to lightness and superfluity. Mothers form the characters and morals of the next generation, and it is the duty of the State to give them a liberal education."

In 1836 a private school for the secondary education of girls was opened in Geneva; this school was not officially recognised until 1847. The town was already noted for the appointment of a woman professor in

1826. A further school, of which Vinet was the President, was founded in Lausanne 13 years later, and this was followed by a second school in 1841.

The movement for women's education gained ground and schools were opened at Fribourg (1848), Locle (1855), La Chaux-de-Fonds (1856), and Neuchâtel in 1859.

We gain some insight into Vinet's educational ideals by the following extracts from his address to the pupils on the third anniversary of the foundation of the Lausanne school: "You are not here, young girls, to learn only languages, history, drawing and painting, but to prepare for life. Duty has its beauty and grace, and nothing is more serene or pleasing than a life of frank and generous obedience. We owe our mothers more than our fathers. Men secure their prizes, and it is essential that women should secure theirs also. A boys' school is a small miniature of the State; a girls' school a large one of the family."

Four women have been elected to the Lithuanian Parliament. Three are members of the Christian Democrat Party, and the fourth is a Social-Democrat.

THE FEMALE MIND!

Dr. Bernard Hollander, a distinguished physician in mental cases, recently gave an address to the Ethnological Society on "The Female Mind." He discussed the missing five ounces of a woman's brain, and the argument that a woman was mentally inferior to a man because the average weight of a man's brain was 49½ ounces, while that of a woman was only 44 ounces, and pointed the moral by adding that when Bischoff, who was rather fond of using that argument, died, he was found to have a brain weighing just over 43½ ounces. The smaller brain size and weight in women, therefore, did not indicate inferior intellect. Dr. Hollander, however, came to a good many general conclusions: woman possessed a more elaborate sympathetic system than man; she had deeper affections, was more subject to fear, more readily roused to joy and sorrow, and suffered more intense grief. But he pointed out that her increased sensibility could be checked by an active life and physical training, and that modern women were less subject to hysteria than their great-grandmothers. Is it not therefore rather open to question whether the minds of men and women are radically different? May not education, training and environment be the real causes of the apparent difference between the minds of men and women? Dr. Hollander said that women's brains atrophied earlier than men's because of their own neglect. Women, when they married, lost all incentive to further culture and had their intellectual sphere narrowed down to the small events of the household, while men went on learning and gathering experience. We do not think that this applies universally. It certainly does not when women have other careers besides household drudgery. The lecturer said that when man reached home after a day's work he sought relaxation and quiet, whereas the domestic woman, when her work was finished, desired and needed stimulation and excitement. That is very often true, and in the majority of cases the woman has been called upon to sacrifice her desire and need for her husband. Dr. Hollander then declared that man was greatest in conquest and achievement, and woman in self-sacrifice. Is not this, perhaps, because men have always been encouraged to go out and conquer, while self-sacrifice has been imposed on women. At any rate, women hitherto have had little choice in these matters, but we cannot be so sure that this kind of self-sacrifice will be woman's greatest achievement in the future. "The failings of men are those of strength, the failings of women those of weakness" declared the doctor. Well, when women have achieved equality of opportunity, rewards and responsibilities with men in every branch of life, the accuracy of that statement may be entirely disproved.

BOOK REVIEWS.

The House of Three Windows. By Eva Gore-Booth. (Longmans, Green & Co., Ltd.) Price 3s. 6d. (Can be obtained from this Office.)

This attractive, little book, with a beautiful portrait of the author, has been warmly welcomed by all who delight in the mystical poetry of Miss Eva Gore-Booth.

In a valuable introduction, Miss Evelyn Underhill explains the supreme function of the poet "to make the spiritual world more homely to us, and the homely world in which we live, more spiritual," but to our poet both worlds were one. Artist as well as mystic, she saw and loved beauty everywhere, in nature and in human life, and was equally repelled by the ugliness of misery, cruelty and injustice. From her vision of infinite goodness, mercy and beauty grew her busy life of practical work for the poor and oppressed.

From the three windows, Life, Truth and Love, come the knowledge of the House and the Builder.

"Love is the strong, upright beam,
Truth and Life the cross-bars;
Strangely, oh, strangely, these seem
To hold up the sun and the stars."

E. K.

The Women's Side. By Clemence Dane. (Herbert Jenkins, Ltd.) 2s. 6d. net. (May be obtained from this Office.)

Miss Clemence Dane's new book is addressed not so much to the suffragist as to the unawakened woman, of whom there are still plenty in our midst. They may wear short skirts and shorter hair—at the bidding of Dame Fashion—but they still accept the standards and conventions of an earlier day. To them comes Miss Clemence Dane, with her wit and humour, and "stabs their spirit broad awake" with her lively pen, compelling them to sit up and take notice of the problems which should have been engaging their attention long ago. In a series of brightly written chapters she deals with Equal Franchise, Sex, Marriage, Education, Religion, and other matters which every intelligent woman should take time to think over and make up her mind about.

On Equal Franchise Miss Clemence Dane is, of course, perfectly sound, and on most other subjects our readers will probably agree with her, though perhaps in discussing Marriage and Religion she touches debatable ground. In her chapter on "A Problem in Education," Miss Dane deals with the subject of the "Vampire Woman," which she treated so strikingly in her first novel, "Regiment of Women." Undoubtedly the vampire woman does exist, more especially, perhaps, in girls' schools, though some of us have met her elsewhere, and it must certainly be a temptation to a woman who has missed both marriage and motherhood to accept and exploit the devotion of one who is half lover and half child. Miss Dane's remedy is co-education, and she is probably right, though perhaps sport and open-air games have also an important part to play. Surely there is less silly sentiment in girls' schools since athletics became the rage! One would rather see a girl a "football fan" than breaking her heart over the whims of a too beloved teacher.

Miss Dane's explanation of the fact (?) that genius is so rare among women is interesting, if not quite convincing. She holds the "inspiration" theory—that every work of genius is produced by the marriage of two minds, and that she who inspires is as much its author as he who creates. Personally, I refuse to believe that Fanny Brawne was the spiritual counterpart of Keats, or that the Dark Lady of the Sonnets was as great a genius as Shakespeare!

From the suffrage point of view this little book is excellent propaganda, and we wish it all success. Our only regret is that the author or her publisher did not choose a more arresting title, but no doubt the magic of the writer's name will recommend the volume to the non-feminist and the "Anti," and it will do them good!

W. M. S.

Women's Freedom League.

Offices: 144, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.1.

Telephone:—MUSEUM 1429.
Telegrams:—"DESPARD, MUSEUM 1429, LONDON."
Colours—GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD.
Hon. Treasurer—Dr. E. KNIGHT.
Hon. Organising Secretary—Mrs. WHETTON.
General Secretary—Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD.

WHERE TO GO.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

LONDON AND SUBURBS.

Wednesday, February 2nd, at 6.45 p.m.
Mid-London Branch. Members' Meeting at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.
Monday, February 7th, at 8.15 p.m.
Equal Political Rights Campaign. Minerva Club Branch. Public Meeting at Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Speakers: Miss Collison, Miss Edwardes, Miss Froud, Miss Reeves, Miss Ida Samuel. Chair: Mrs. Dexter.

Wednesday, February 9th, at 4 p.m.
Political Sub-Committee at 144, High Holborn.
Friday, February 11th, at 5.30 p.m.

Organisation Sub-Committee Meeting at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.
Friday, February 11th, at 8.15 p.m.
Reception to Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence at the Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1, informal dinner at 7.30 p.m. Tickets 3/6.

Saturday, February 12th, at 10 a.m.
National Executive Committee Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.
Thursday, February 17th, at 8 p.m.

Equal Political Rights Campaign. Hampstead Branch. Public Meeting in the Small Town Hall, Haverstock Hill, N.W.3. Speakers: Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence, Mrs. Costello (Conservative and Unionist Women's Advisory Committee), Miss L. Pierotti (National Union of Women Teachers), Miss Myra Sadd Brown, Mrs. Joyce Pollard (League of the Church Militant), Mr. Joseph Clayton, F.R.H.S. (St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance), Miss B. Godwin (Association of Women Clerks and Secretaries). Chair: Dr. E. Knight.
Monday, February 21st, at 3.30 p.m.
"Fair" Sub-Committee, at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Tuesday, March 8th, at 7.30 p.m.
Equal Political Rights Campaign. Mid-London Branch. Public Meeting at the Central Library, Holloway Road, N. Speakers: Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence, Mr. A. S. Comyns Carr, K.C., Dr. Ethel Bentham. Chair: Mrs. Mustard.

PROVINCES.

Friday, January 28th, at 3 p.m.
Ashford Branch. Members' Meeting at Hempsted Street Hall.
Wednesday, February 2nd at 3 p.m.

Portsmouth Branch. Members' meeting at 2, Kent Road.
Monday, February 7th, 4-6 p.m.
Hastings Branch. Whist Drive at the Glenroyde Hotel (by kind permission of Mrs. Sparkes).

Thursday, February 24th, at 8 p.m.
Hastings Branch. Equal Political Rights Campaign. Public Meeting in the Ball-room at the Queen's Hotel. Speaker: Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence.

SCOTLAND.

Monday, January 31st.
Dunoon Branch. Public Meeting. Speakers: Miss Eunice Murray, Baille Millar, Councillor Mrs. MacPherson. Chair: The Provost of Dunoon.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Friday, January 28th, at 1 p.m.
International Council of Women. Luncheon at the Lyceum Club, 138, Piccadilly, W.1.

Friday, January 28th, at 8 p.m.
Demonstration for Equal Franchise (organised by the N.U.S.E.C.), in the Central Hall, Edinburgh.

Saturday, January 29th, at 3 p.m.
Speech Club. Discussion on "Co-Education." Opened by Miss Alice Jackson, M.A., at the Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1.

Sunday, January 30th, at 11 a.m.
Hampshire House Discussion Circle, Hog Lane, King Street, Hamme Smith. Speaker: Miss F. A. Underwood. Subject: "The Aims and Work of the Women's Freedom League."

Monday, January 31st, at 8 p.m.
Fabian Women's Group. Lecture at the Parliamentary Labour Club, 11, Tufton Street, Westminster, on "The Need for More Sanitary Inspectors," by Miss M. E. Davies (Public Health Department, Borough of Poplar).

Tuesday, February 1st, at 4 p.m.
British Commonwealth League. Dr. Henderson Ruthvan (President of the W.E.L. Johannesburg), at 17, Buckingham Street, Adelphi Tea 9d.

Monday, February 7th, at 3 p.m.
Six Point Group. Dr. Isabel Turnadge (late Headmistress of Twickenham Secondary School) on "Marriage or Career."

Tuesday, February 8th, at 8 p.m.
Equal Political Rights at 39, Gordon Square, W.C.1. Discussion on the King's Speech.

BRANCH NOTES.

MINERVA CLUB.

The Minerva Club held its annual Children's Party last week, when the little relatives and friends of the Club members were invited. It was a merry afternoon, and the grown-up folk enjoyed it every bit as much as the children.

There was a well-laden Christmas tree, which yielded several gifts for each child, and everyone voted the party a great success.

EDINBURGH.

On Saturday, March 12th, there will be a public meeting in the Philosophical Institution, 4, Queen Street, at which Miss Nina Boyle will be the speaker, and Lady Dobbin will preside. Further details will be announced later.

GLASGOW.

A public meeting has been arranged to take place in the McLellan Galleries, Glasgow, on Wednesday, February 16th, when Miss Eunice Murray will preside, and Miss Nina Boyle will speak. As with Edinburgh, further details will be announced later.

Miss Eunice Murray, President of the Glasgow Branch, both amused and impressed a huge audience of some thousands by her spirited address in support of Women in the Ministry, when speaking by invitation of Mr. Freer at one of his popular Pleasant Sunday Evenings in the St. Andrew's Hall on January 16th.

She successfully dealt with the usual arguments brought forward against the ordination of women, giving special attention to those advanced by the Rev. Boyd Scott, who surely will regret that he ever expressed such absurd, old-fashioned views.

After the meeting, the audience, which beforehand had looked coldly upon us, clustered round us to buy copies of THE VOTE containing an article by Miss Murray on the same subject, so that it was obvious that we could have sold many more than the 200 we had with us.

It is hoped that Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence will speak at one of these meetings in March. (Organiser) LILIAN LENTON.

EQUAL POLITICAL RIGHTS CAMPAIGN.

All who believe in the justice of granting equal political rights to men and women are cordially invited to come and bring their friends to the following meetings:—

Monday, February 7th, at 8.15 p.m., at the Minerva Club, 56, Hunter Street, Brunswick Square, W.C.1, the speakers being Miss Chave Collison, M.A. (Sydney), Miss Elisabeth Edwardes (prospective Liberal Parliamentary candidate for the S.E. St. Pancras Division), Miss E. E. Froud (National Union of Women Teachers and Vice-Chairman of the Equal Political Rights Committee), Miss Marian Reeves (Hon. Sec. Minerva Club Branch of W.F.L.), and Miss Ida Samuel. The Chair will be taken by Mrs. Dexter.

Tuesday, February 8th, at 8 p.m., at Gordon Square, W.C. Equal Political Rights Meeting (by kind permission of the National Union of Women Teachers. Discussion on the King's Speech.

Friday, February 11th, at 8.15 p.m., at the Minerva Club, Reception to our President, Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence, on her return from India. Mrs. Lawrence will speak on the immense progress made by Indian women, who now have the vote at the same age and on the same terms as men, and will also discuss future plans on behalf of our Equal Political Rights Campaign. The Chair will be taken by Dr. E. Knight. The Reception will be preceded by an informal dinner at 7.15 p.m. Those who wish to join us at dinner should get their tickets beforehand (price 3s. 6d. each), either from the W.F.L. Office, or Miss Reeves at the Minerva Club. Admission to the Reception is free, but there will be a special Collection for our Equal Political Rights Campaign Fund.

Thursday, February 17th, at 8 p.m., in the Small Town Hall, Haverstock Hill, N.W.3. Speakers: Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence, Mrs. Costello (Conservative and Unionist Women's Advisory Committee), Miss L. Pierotti (National Union of Women Teachers) and Miss Myra Sadd Brown. Mrs. Joyce Pollard (League of the Church Militant), Mr. Joseph Clayton, F.R.H.S. (St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance), Miss B. Godwin (Association of Women Clerks and Secretaries). Chair: Dr. E. Knight.

Wednesday, February 23rd, at 8 p.m. at Fulham Town Hall, arranged by St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance. Speakers to be announced later.

Thursday, February 24th, at 8 p.m. (arranged by the Hastings Branch of the W.F.L.), in the Ball Room at the Queen's Hotel, Hastings. Speaker: Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence.

Tuesday, March 8th, at 7.30 p.m., at the Central Library, Holloway Road, N. Speakers: Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence, Mr. A. S. Comyns Carr, K.C., and Dr. Ethel Bentham. Chair: Mrs. Mustard.

Equal Political Rights Meetings are also being arranged by our Portsmouth, Edinburgh, and Glasgow Branches, particulars of which will be given later.

THE TEACHING OF PERSONAL HYGIENE.

A meeting will be held at 25, Wimpole Street, W. (by kind permission of Dr. Lewin), Saturday, February 5th, at 10 a.m., on the "Teaching of Personal Hygiene." The discussion will be opened by Dr. Lucy Naish, of Sheffield. All who are interested in this important subject are cordially invited to this meeting, especially teachers in schools.

FRIDAY,
JAN. 28,
1927.

THE VOTE

ONE
PENNY
WEEKLY.

Please send me THE VOTE every week, post free, for 6 months, for which I enclose 3/3.

Name

Address

THE VOTE, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

REST AND HOLIDAYS.

BRIGHTON.—"Sea View," Victoria Road. Midday dinner. Gas fires in Bedrooms. Wireless. Vegetarians catered for.—Hostess: MISS TURNER.

RYE, SUSSEX.—OLD HOPE ANCHOR. Ideal Guest House. Modern comforts; good cooking. Separate Vegetarian cooking a speciality. Write for booklet.

CLUBS.

ISIS CLUB, 79, Fitzjohn's Avenue (2 minutes Hampstead Tube Station). Magnificent Reception Rooms. Central heating. Sunny bedrooms. Sandy soil. Lectures, dancing, listening-in. Telephone: Hampstead 2869.

MINERVA CLUB, 56, Hunter Street, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Open to non-residents. Restaurant. Smoking Room. Papers. Library. Bedrooms available at holiday times. Membership, £1 1s. Entrance Fee suspended during present year. All particulars from the SECRETARY. Telephone: Museum 4791.

FAMOUS FOR ITS 1/6 LUNCHEON. 10/6 First Fifty Members Join. The Owls Club in the 16th-century "Wig & Pen," 230, Strand. Open till midnight. Very cosy Writing Room, etc., for people of literary and kindred pursuits. Excellent Devonshire cooking. Founded by H. & F. Ames.—Apply Secretary, Owls, 230 Strand.

HOTEL.

MONTAGUE HOTEL, Montague Street, Russell Square, London, W.C. First-class accommodation; room, breakfast and attendance from 7s. 6d. En pension from 3 guineas.—Phone: Museum 4660. (Highly Recommended.)

TRADE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

64-PAGE BOOK ABOUT HERBS AND HOW TO USE THEM. 2d. Send for one.—TRIMNELL, The Herbalist, 144, Richmond Road, Cardiff. Est. 1879.

TO LET.

OFFICE OR STUDIO. Well-lighted room in High Holborn.—Apply "M.E.G.," THE VOTE Office, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

BOARD-RESIDENCE in small comfortable home at Leamington Spa. Suit business woman, or lady requiring care.—Box J.M.F., THE VOTE, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

H AVERSTOCK HILL, HAMPSTEAD, N.W.3 (opposite Belsize Park Tube). Pleasant bed-sitting-room in private flat, electric light; gas stove with ring and check-meter. 35/- weekly including electric light, breakfast and baths. Recommended.—THE VOTE Office, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

FOR SALE.

OLD OAK TILED HOUSE, 8 rooms. Indoor Sanitation. Coy.'s Water. Phone. Garden. £450. Possession.—OWNER, "Hornash," Shadoxhurst, Ashford, Kent.

MEDICAL.

PARK LODGE NURSING HOME, Bath Road, Reading. For Medical, Nerve, Chronic, and Rest Cure Patients. Terms moderate.—Phone: Reading 1948.

"MUSICAL PLAYTIME!"
GIANT MUSIC STAVES AND
ATTRACTIVE TOYS.

Intelligent, organised play.

CHILDREN LOVE IT!

MISS GLADYS WAREHAM,
Wigmore Hall Studios, Wigmore St., W.1.
Tel.: Mayfair 5672.

NOTICES.

INCOME TAX RECOVERED AND ADJUSTED.—Consult Miss H. M. BAKER, 275, High Holborn, W.C.1. Income Tax Returns, Repayment Claims of all Descriptions. Telephone: Holborn 0377.

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Sunday, January 30th, 1927. 3.30. Music. Lecture. The Rabbi Dr. I. Mattuck, of the Liberal Jewish Synagogue. 6.30. Maude Royden: "Great Britain and China."

MISS CONSTANCE CONNOLLY, 37, Norfolk Street, W.C.2. Specialises in circularising, printing, duplicating, and verbatim reporting. Rapid Secretarial Course for Gentle-people.

PUBLIC SPEAKING.—Lectures, classes, and private lessons. Saturday Speech Club.—Miss LUCY BELL, Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Tel.: Museum 4791.

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN CITIZENS.—The Edward Wright and Cavendish-Bentinck Library contains sections on current political and social problems, including the Woman's Movement, Family Allowances, and League of Nations. Book Boxes of 20 books available for Study Circles.—Apply Librarian, N.U.S.E.C., 15 Dean's Yard, Westminster.

SUFFRAGETTE DINNER, February 6th. Restaurant, Craig's Court, Whitehall, 7 p.m.—Tickets 5/-, from Miss HODGSON, 27, Grove Terrace, Highgate Road.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CLOTTED CREAM, 3/- lb., post free. Furnished House to let at NEWQUAY, 5 rooms.—Apply SELSEY, St. Stephen's, St. Austell, Cornwall.

GOOD'S CAMEO CORNER

SPECIALISE IN

ANCIENT INTAGLIOS RUSSIAN ENAMELS
ANTIQUÉ CAMEOS OLD IVORIES
STONE CARVINGS GEORGIAN SILVER
ORIENTAL JEWELS RARE SNUFF BOXES

Etc., etc.

1, NEW OXFORD STREET, W.C.1.

We buy entire collections or single specimens to any amount for cash.

Phone: Museum 4296.

Membership Application Form.

To be returned to the Secretary, 144, High Holborn, London, W.C. 1.

Please enrol me as a Member of the Women's Freedom League.

Name

Address

I enclose £ : s. d. as my first Annual Subscription.

Minimum Annual Subscription, 1/-