

THE VOTE,
Nov. 3, 1922.
ONE PENNY.

OUR WOMEN CANDIDATES.

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

VOL. XXIII. No. 680.

(Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and transmissible through the post in the United Kingdom at the newspaper rate of postage, but to Canada and Newfoundland at the Magazine rate.)

FRIDAY, NOV. 3, 1922

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.

WOMEN PARLIAMENTARY VOTERS.
WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.
GREEN, WHITE, AND GOLD FAIR.

OUR PRESENT DISCONTENTS.
WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE MANIFESTO.
WOMEN DELEGATES FROM GENEVA.

GREEN CENTRAL HALL,
WHITE WESTMINSTER.
AND
FRIDAY, **GOLD**
NOVEMBER 10,
SATURDAY, **FAIR!**
NOVEMBER 11.

LADY RHONDDA, 3 p.m., Friday.

REBECCA WEST, 3 p.m., Saturday.

All the Fun of the Fair! Be sure to be there.

Come early and stay late.

THE WOMEN PARLIAMENTARY VOTERS.

What women can vote on November 15th?

Only those whose names are upon the Autumn Register, which came into force on October 15th, and relates to the last "Qualifying Period," the six months from January 15th to July 15th.

If for any reason I am qualified, but do not appear upon this Register, must I lose my vote?

Yes, at this Election, but take care to go to your Town Hall and apply to be put upon the next Spring Register, for another General Election may not be long delayed.

What qualifies me for a place on the Register?

You must be aged 30 or more on July 15th last, and be a British Subject.

And you must also be:—

either (1) Occupier during the last "qualifying period" of land or premises of £5 a year value, or for women joint occupiers of £5 a year each, or of a dwelling house or unfurnished rooms in the constituency. Only two joint occupiers are entitled to be put upon the Register, but any number of *bona fide* partners carrying on their trade, profession, or business on the land or premises are qualified.

or (2) Live as a condition of your employment in a house or rooms rent free, your employer not residing on the premises; this applies to some nurses, teachers, heads of institutions, etc.

or (3) Be the wife of a man who has occupied as owner or tenant, land or premises, or a dwelling house or unfurnished rooms in the constituency during the qualifying period, or lived in a house or rooms as a condition of his employment.

Women Graduates and Cambridge University women over 30 have a vote for their University Member.

At a General Election no woman can vote more than twice, once upon her own or her husband's residential qualification, with an extra vote for her University.

Peeresses in their own right are free to become qualified, and wives of disfranchised conscientious objectors are not disfranchised, and poor-law outdoor relief does not disqualify.

WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

More Women Parliamentary Candidates

Lady Terrington, wife of Lord Terrington, the solicitor peer, is standing as a Liberal candidate for the Wycombe Division of Buckinghamshire. Mrs. Rackham, wife of Mr. H. Rackham, tutor of Christ's College, Cambridge, is Labour candidate for Chelmsford. Miss Richardson, who took an active part in the suffrage agitation, has been adopted as candidate by the Acton Labour Party. Miss Wheeler is standing as a Labour candidate for Welsh University, the Hon. Mrs. Brodrick as a Conservative candidate for Denbigh, and Mrs. J. M. Hogge as an Independent Liberal for Glasgow, Springburn.

Women M.P.s Message to Women.

Lady Astor, Conservative candidate for Plymouth; Mrs. Wintringham, Independent Liberal candidate for Louth; and Miss Margaret Bondfield, prospective Labour candidate for Northampton, have signed a joint message to women as an introduction to one of the leaflets of the International Labour Office. The International Labour Organisation of the League of Nations, they state, has been most prominent in its achievements on behalf of women and children. They recommend that the organisation should be actively supported by the women of all countries and of all classes.

Women Solicitors.

Four women will sit for the Law Society's Final Examination on November 6th. They are Miss Carrie Morrison, Mrs. Crofts, Mrs. Pickup, and Miss Sykes. Miss Morrison and Mrs. Crofts are London women, and are articulated with London firms. Mrs. Pickup is articulated to her husband, a Birmingham solicitor, and Miss Sykes to her father at Huddersfield. All four women have University degrees.

Woman President for Germany?

Clara Zetkin, the Communist, has been nominated by the Berlin Communist Party as the next President of the German Republic.

Englishwoman as Conductor.

Miss Ethel Scarborough, novelist, poet, pianist, and composer, conducted the first performance of one of her own orchestral compositions, at a Promenade Concert, last week. Dr. Ethel Smyth is the only other Englishwoman who has conducted at the Promenade Concerts, but a young New York girl, Miss Amelia Naughton, was recently selected to lead a band of men musicians at public concerts in Carl Schurz Park.

Women and Divorce Law Reform.

According to the Divorce Law Reform Union, Lady Barlow, who is standing as a Liberal for the High Peak Division of Derbyshire, is the only woman Parliamentary candidate who has declared herself in favour of the majority recommendation made by the Royal Commission on Divorce Law Reform.

Married Women Teachers To Go.

Sunderland Education Authority have given notice to seventeen married women teachers to terminate their engagements on December 31st. Leicestershire education authorities have decided to dispense with married women teachers except in certain cases, and the employment as teachers of ex-Service men now in training is contemplated.

Future Lord Mayor of London?

Mrs. Julia Esmé Brooks, proprietress of the Red Lion Tavern, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, may possibly be a candidate for a seat on the Court of Common Council for the City of London. She will be the first woman to seek election to the Common Council, and, if elected, will be the first woman to sit on that authority, the oldest civil governing body in England.

Australian Women Preachers.

There is a prospect of women preachers occupying pulpits in New South Wales churches. A proposal that women be permitted to conduct church services under certain conditions is to come before the next Anglican Provincial Synod.

GREEN, WHITE, AND GOLD FAIR.

The Green, White, and Gold Fair will be held on Friday and Saturday, November 10th and 11th, in the Basement Hall at the Central Hall, Westminster, and will be opened on Friday, November 10th, at 3 p.m., by the Viscountess Rhondda, and on Saturday, at 3 p.m., by Miss Rebecca West. The Fair will be open each day from 3 to 9 p.m. The chair will be taken on Friday by Dr. Octavia Lewin, and on Saturday by Councillor Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P.

STALLS AND STALL-HOLDERS.

The stalls at present arranged for the League are:—
Hampstead Branch.—Handkerchiefs and Odds and Ends. Miss Goodliffe, Miss Lyndon, Miss Lane, and Miss Vibert.
Mid-London Branch (Half Stall).—Woollies and Children's Clothing. Miss Steven.
Montgomery Boroughs Branch.—Welsh Produce and General Stalls. Miss Alix M. Clark, Mrs. and the Misses Elias, the Misses Codd, Mrs. Dixon, Dr. Lillias Hamilton, and Miss M. Morris.
Portsmouth Branch.—Household. Mrs. Whetton and Mrs. Tanner.
South-Eastern Branches.—General Stall and Xmas Tree. Miss White, Mrs. Whellan, and Members.
Swansea Branch.—General Stall. Mrs. Thomas.
Antiques and White Elephants.—Mrs. Harverson, Miss Raleigh.
General Stall.—Mrs. Lloyd.
Overalls and Aprons.—Mrs. Ammon, Mrs. Mustard, and the Misses Underwood.
Pound Stall.—Miss Munro, The Misses Stutchbury.
Remnant Stall.—Mrs. Harvey James.
Stationery Stall.—Mrs. MacMichael.
Toy Stall.—Mrs. J. R. Knight, Mrs. Nettleton, Miss Finch, Miss Boyd, and the Misses Maud, Muriel, and Beryl Scott.
Literature Stall.—Miss Telling, Miss E. W. Kirby.
White Stall.—Mrs. Holmes and Mrs. Trafford Williams.
"Vote" Stall.—Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Northcroft, Mrs. Newsome, and Miss Reeves.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

The entertainments will be numerous and varied, the following members and friends kindly giving their services:—Mrs. Cunningham, Miss Marianne Elias, Miss Hawkins, Miss Jacob, Mrs. Harvey James, Miss Marjory May, Miss Newman, Mrs. Eric Richmond, Mrs. Sparrow, Miss Thomas, and Mrs. Van Raalte; Miss Grace Woollacott's pupils will give a dancing display on Saturday, November 11th. Character readings will be given by Miss Isabel Blackman, Mrs. Grace Goodall, and Mrs. Russell; also Phrenology by Mr. F. Sons, who was so much in request last year; and delineations in Numerology by Mrs. Westrup, who caused so much interest at the Pound Tea; also silhouette portraits will be taken by Mr. C. Beach.

Miss Berry will be glad to receive the names of any members or friends who are willing to give their services and help with the musical programme.

PLEASE HELP!

There are now only seven days before the Fair, and there is still much to be done, if all the stalls are to be well supplied with goods. Therefore, in spite of the approaching General Election, please do not slacken your efforts for the Fair.

Gifts are greatly needed for all the stalls, and especially for the following:—Household: Mrs. Whetton and Mrs. Tanner will be grateful for any gifts for this stall, namely, soap, kettles, brushes, pots and pans, dusters, tea cloths, towels, dishcloths, in fact, any gift will be welcome that is useful to the household. All sorts of Woollies are required by Miss Sparkman: ladies' jumpers, bed socks, children's frocks, little coats, vests, leggings, socks, baby shoes, etc. The White Stall is very important, and will be in charge of Mrs. Holmes and Mrs. Trafford Williams; every description of underclothing is needed for this stall. Mrs. Mustard, Miss Underwood, and Mrs. Ammon will much appreciate gifts of overalls, aprons, pinafores, etc. All members and readers of THE VOTE are especially asked to remember the Pound Stall, which will be in charge of Miss Munro; goods needed are currants, raisins, rice, tapioca, tea, packets of suet, sweets, etc. Remnants of material, either of cotton, woollen, or silk, also of ribbon, braid, lace, etc., are much needed for the Remnant Stall. Mrs. Harverson will

be glad to receive gifts for the Antique and White Elephant Stall; anything will be welcome, however small. Many toys are wanted—dolls, stuffed animals, boxes of bricks, balls, etc.; Mrs. Knight will gladly welcome any article for this stall. Gifts of handkerchiefs will be gratefully received by Miss E. Berry on behalf of the Hampstead Stall. Mrs. MacMichael will much appreciate any contribution towards the Stationery Stall: writing blocks, postcards, boxes of paper, Christmas cards, calendars, pencils, pens, paints, table stationery.

PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

Prizes will be offered for the best dressed doll, camisole, and made toys (elephants, dogs, cats, etc.), the cost of material not to exceed 2/6 or 3/-. The patterns for same can be obtained at *Fashions for All* Paper Pattern Department, 291A, Oxford Street, London, W.1. All communications relating to these competitions should be sent to Miss Berry.

The competitions have been undertaken by the Golders Green Branch, and are to be on an extensive scale, the part of the Hall reserved for them being decorated to represent Hampstead Heath on a Bank Holiday, with all the delights and wonders that visitors to this well-known spot are accustomed to, and will include hoop-la, dart-throwing, etc. There will also be competitions for Cockneys, and various other attractions. All who know Miss Van Raalte, Miss Dickeson, and Miss Freeman will look forward with anticipation to something striking and unusual in the competitions at the Fair this year.

Mrs. Legge and Mrs. Hawkins will be in charge of the Information Bureau.

SOCIETIES TAKING STALLS.

There will be an exhibition of labour-saving appliances and lace-making. The following societies, friends, and firms (for labour-saving appliances and lace-making) are taking stalls:—

The Catholic Women's Suffrage Society.
 The "Crusader."
 The Federation of Women Civil Servants.
 The Women's Freedom League Nine Elms Settlement
 Hartfield Hospital Home School.
 The Friends of Armenia.
 The Friends Relief.
 "The Russian Shop."
 Miss Basnett.
 Miss Burwood.
 The Bucks Cottage Workers' Agency.
 Messrs. Benetfits.
 Messrs. Beatty Bros., Ltd.
 Messrs. Manuel Lloyd and Co.
 The Portable Utilities Co., Ltd.
 The Staines Kitchen Equipment Co., Ltd.

Tickets, including tax, price 1/3 (9d. after 5 o'clock on the second day), are on sale at the Office.

All communications and gifts should be sent to Miss Elizabeth Berry (Hon. Fair Sec.) at the Office.

"THE VOTE" STALL.

Will readers of THE VOTE please also send something to Miss Reeves for THE VOTE Stall? The Directors rely on the proceeds of this stall to meet the "end of the year" expenses. If every reader would promise a contribution, the stall would be furnished and a great deal of correspondence would be saved. Please show that you do appreciate your paper, and send a postcard saying what you will do for the stall. Saleable articles of every description will be welcomed, also suggestions of novel ways of making extra money!

THE MINERVA PUBLISHING CO., LTD.

will also have a table for the sale of fountain pens, and will take orders for visiting cards, printed Christmas cards, stamped notepaper, and printing of all descriptions. Samples and styles will be there for inspection, so please save up your orders and give them to Miss Reeves at the Fair.

THE VOTE.

Proprietors: THE MINERVA PUBLISHING CO., LTD
 Offices: 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.
 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3rd, 1922.

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 a stamped addressed envelope be enclosed, but the Editor cannot be responsible in case of loss.

OUR PRESENT DISCONTENTS

The people of this country have a right to expect that the Acts which the Government initiate and carry through both Houses of Parliament should be so drafted that their interpretation in practice is easy and consistent throughout the land. The lawyers to whom is entrusted the drafting of such measures are paid many thousands of pounds each year for this work. Women, nevertheless, find that the objects of the two Acts in which they are specially interested, for the passing of which they have expended so much time and money through their organisations in recent years, are defeated because of their interpretation. The chief object of the Representation of the People Act (1918) was to grant the Parliamentary vote to women over thirty years of age. As soon as women tried to claim that vote they found innumerable difficulties in their way, and the only redress they had against the Town Clerks who refused to place them on the Register was the expensive one of getting a test case in the Courts to get a legal decision on the matter. Quite recently a woman living in one of the Metropolitan boroughs found, on inquiry at the Town Hall, that her name had been removed from the Register, although she had duly voted at the last General Election. She went to the Clerk of the Register, who argued at great length to prove that she was not an "occupier" within the meaning of the Act, because, notwithstanding the fact that she occupied an unfurnished room in her parents' house, she had meals with them! He also gave her the interesting information that the decision in such a matter was entirely at the discretion of the Town Clerk, and that, whereas the Town Clerk of one borough might admit every woman he could to the Register, the Town Clerk of a neighbouring borough could disqualify all cases open to any discussion. We do not remember any mention of meals in the Representation of the People Act, or of this extraordinary amount of discretion being allowed to a Town Clerk. In our opinion, any Government worth its salt would immediately sack any Town Clerk who held autocratic notions about his discretion. The tide of democracy cannot be swept back by ridiculous theories of their own importance held by Borough Council officials, and women will expect the New Government to lose no time in putting those officials right on that score.

Women have also a serious cause of complaint in regard to the ineffectiveness of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act passed in 1919 by the late Government. This Act distinctly states that a person shall not be disqualified by sex or marriage from being appointed to or holding any civil or judicial office or post, or from entering or assuming or carrying on any civil profession or vocation. Yet the Government has calmly acquiesced in the systematic dismissal by local governing authorities of married women doctors and married women teachers solely on account of their marriage. There was apparently a pact between our law-makers and law-breakers under the old régime when the interests of women were concerned. We shall certainly want to know what the new Government is prepared to do to safeguard women's interests under the law of the land.

THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Mrs. Whetton (of Southsea) presided at the meeting of the National Executive Committee held at the Women's Freedom League offices last Saturday, those present being Miss Berry, Miss Alix M. Clark, Councillor Miss Ballard Dawson, Mrs. Holmes, Dr. Knight, Mrs. Mustard, Miss C. Neal, Miss M. I. Neal, Mrs. Pierrotti, and the Secretary. Reports from the Hon. Treasurer, the Secretary, the Political Sub-Committee, the Organisation Sub-Committee, the "Fair" Sub-Committee, the Literature and VOTE Sales Departments were considered and adopted. A political Manifesto was issued by the Committee and circulated to the Press, and arrangements were made for the support of a number of women Parliamentary candidates. Leaflets were to be issued, and canvassers and speakers secured for the London constituencies. Our Crosby Branch, with Miss Brimson, was working in support of Mrs. Stewart Brown, and we were to send down workers to Sanderstead for the candidature of Mrs. Marjory Pease, J.P.

The Committee received reports from their representatives of meetings of the Consultative Committee, Employment of Married Women Committee, National Council of Women, and British Overseas Committee, and appointed Mrs. Mustard and Mrs. Holmes to represent us at the annual meeting of the Council for the Representation of Women in the League of Nations. The Committee also passed a resolution calling upon the Government to promote legislation making compulsory throughout the country the use of a mechanically operated humane killer in slaughtering animals for food, in the interests of public health and humaneness alike.

The Literature Department reported that orders can now be received for "The Wrongs of Married Women," by Mrs. Nevinson, J.P., 3d.; "The New Humanism," by Laurence Housman, 6d.; a Women's Freedom League Diary, 2/-; and a black-and-white picture Christmas card or postcard, 2d. This card has been specially designed by our old friend Miss Willis, of the Suffrage Atelier, and orders for it should be sent without delay.

NEW INFANTICIDE ACT.

The *Times* reports that at Lincoln Assizes, last Monday, a domestic servant of Coningsby, named Emma Temple, aged 19, pleaded "Guilty" to murdering her newly-born child at Tattershall, adding that at the time she did not know what she was doing. The Crown accepted the plea. Counsel said that this was the first case which came within the wise and merciful provisions of the new Infanticide Act. In sentencing the accused to four months' imprisonment in the second division, Mr. Justice Lush said he was most thankful that under the new Act, which was a most wise and humane piece of legislation, it was not necessary to put a girl on trial for murder. The Act marked a fresh step in the improvement of the criminal law, and he was glad to avail himself of its provisions. He felt great pity for the prisoner, and if one consulted one's own feelings one would be glad to have said she had suffered punishment enough. He must, however, take care that the way he dealt with her should be a deterrent to others. A young woman about to become a mother should make proper provision for her child. We should like to know why Mr. Justice Lush had nothing to say about the father's responsibility in such a case? The Women's Freedom League has always urged that, when a woman appears in the dock on a similar charge, the father should also be present in Court and closely questioned as to what provision he had made for the mother at the time of the birth of their child; and that he should be held equally responsible with the mother for its welfare both before and after its birth. There certainly should be an amendment to this Infanticide Act on those lines.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE MANIFESTO.

The National Executive Committee of the Women's Freedom League, at its meeting last Saturday, decided to send the following Manifesto to the Press, and the following list of Questions to Parliamentary candidates:

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE AND POLITICAL PARTIES.

The Women's Freedom League records its appreciation of the fact that the Manifesto issued by the Independent Liberals includes political and legal equality for men and women, and that the one issued by the Labour Party includes the removal of all disabilities affecting women as citizens, voters, and workers. It is deeply disappointed, however, that, so far, neither Mr. Bonar Law nor Mr. Lloyd George has expressed any intention of removing women's disabilities, if either of them is returned to power. We sincerely hope that, at the meeting of women in London whom Mr. Bonar Law is to address this week, he will set our minds at rest on the subject, by replying, at that meeting, to the following questions which the Women's Freedom League has sent to him:—

1. Will you kindly explain to this meeting of women what steps you are prepared to take to put into practice the Election pledge which you gave to women before the General Election, 1918—to remove all existing inequalities of the law as between men and women? We are specially anxious to know what action you propose to take to remove the franchise inequality, so that women may have the Parliamentary vote on equal terms and at the same age as men?
2. Will you kindly explain to this meeting of women what steps you propose to take to make the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act effective in so far as it concerns the employment of married women? How can the action of local authorities in dismissing married women from their employment, solely on account of their marriage, be reconciled with this Act, which enacts that neither sex nor marriage shall disqualify a person from the exercise of any public function, or from being appointed to any civil or judicial office or post, or from entering or assuming, or carrying on any civil profession or vocation?

Similar questions have been sent to Mr. Lloyd George, and he has been asked if he will kindly reply to them.

QUESTIONS TO MEN PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATES.

Will you, if elected, urge the Government to introduce legislation and to pass it through all its stages at the earliest possible date to secure:

1. (a) Equal political voting rights for women and men?
 (b) Equal eligibility for women and men to the Second Chamber?
2. Equal pay and equal opportunities as between women (whether married or unmarried) and men
 (a) in the professions?
 (b) in Civil and Local Government services?
 (c) in industries?
3. The raising of the Age of Consent for girls to eighteen years, with a similar protection for boys?
4. An Equal Status for married women with married men in regard to
 (a) the guardianship of children?
 (b) employment?
 (c) nationality?
 (d) separate assessment for Income Tax?
5. Provision for women as well as for men in any scheme for the training or relief of the unemployed?

OUR PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATES.

Up to the time of going to press, 33 women candidates are standing for election on November 15th, their names, parties, and constituencies being as follows:

Name.	Party.	Constituency.
Mrs. Wintringham, M.P.	IND. LIBERAL.	Louth
Lady Barlow		High Peak, Derbyshire
Mrs. Burnett Smith		Maryhill, Glasgow
Mrs. Stewart Brown		Waterloo, Liverpool.
Mrs. Corbett-Ashby		Richmond
Lady Currie		Devizes
Miss Alison Garland		Dartford
Mrs. Scott-Gatty		Huntingdon
Commandant Allen		St. George's, Westminster
Lady Lawson		Bedford
Councillor Mrs. Alderton		S. Edinburgh
Lady Terrington		Wycombe
Mrs. J. M. Hogge		Glasgow, Springburn.
Mrs. Coombe Tennant, J.P.	COALITION LIBERAL.	Forest of Dean
Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon		Canterbury
Miss Helen Fraser		Govan, Glasgow
Miss May Grant		S.E. Leeds
Hon. Mrs. Brodrick		Denbigh
Dame Helen Gwynne Vaughan, N. Camberwell	UNIONIST.	
Viscountess Astor, M.P.	COALITION UNIONIST.	Sutton, Plymouth
Lady Cooper		Walsall
Mrs. Oliver Strachey	INDEPENDENT.	Chiswick and Brentford
Miss Eleanor Rathbone, J.P.		East Toxteth, Liverpool

LABOUR.

Miss Margaret Bondfield	Northampton
Mrs. Ayrton Gould	N. Lambeth
Dr. Ethel Bentham	E. Islington
Miss Susan Lawrence	E. Ham, North
Mrs. Pease, J.P.	E. Surrey
Mrs. E. Picton Turberville	N. Islington
Miss Richardson	S. Acton
Mrs. Rackham	Chelmsford
Miss Wheeler	Welsh University

CO-OPERATIVE.

Mrs. Barton	King's Norton, Birmingham
-------------	---------------------------

The Women's Freedom League is specially supporting the women who are known to us as standing for the full equality of the sexes, and who have favoured us by replying to the questionnaire which we sent round to women candidates several months ago. We would therefore make a strong appeal to our readers who live in or near any of their constituencies to work for, and to support by any and every means in their power the following women:—Lady Astor, M.P., Mrs. Wintringham, M.P., Commandant Allen, O.B.E., Mrs. Corbett Ashby, Lady Barlow, Mrs. Barton, Dr. Ethel Bentham, Miss Margaret Bondfield, Mrs. Egerton Stewart Brown, Lady Cooper, Miss Helen Fraser, Mrs. Scott Gatty, Mrs. Ayrton Gould, Miss M. P. Grant, Miss Susan Lawrence, Mrs. Oliver Strachey, Mrs. Marjory Pease, Miss Rathbone, Miss Mary Richardson, Mrs. Burnett Smith ("Annie S. Swan"), and Mrs. Coombe Tennant.

WOMEN DELEGATES FROM GENEVA

The National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship arranged an informal Reception on Wednesday of last week, at the Plane Tree Restaurant, Great Russell Street, W.C., at which Mrs. Coombe Tennant, J.P., Great Britain's substitute delegate to the League of Nations, and Mrs. Dale, the Australian delegate, recounted some of their impressions of the work of the Third Assembly at Geneva.

Mrs. Coombe Tennant said she went to Geneva knowing a good deal about the League of Nations, as she had been a member of a Welsh branch of the League of Nations Union, and had done a good deal of public speaking on behalf of the League. Her first impression was the extraordinary complexity of the machinery of the League, and the necessity for a firm grasp of international politics, in order to understand the relationship of the various Councils within the League, and the post-war rearrangement of the map of Europe.

Fifty countries participated in the Third Assembly, and it was a most impressive sight, said Mrs. Coombe Tennant, to see the representatives of each of these countries taking part in the ballot as their names were called out. The order was alphabetical, and the extraordinary diversity of type in the individuals participating was most marked, representatives of Chili and China, Bolivia, and the British Empire, following one another in rotation. It should also be borne in mind that every one of these countries represented a different stage of mental development, with a different viewpoint and a different background on international affairs. These and kindred difficulties needed to be borne in mind, especially by those people who present an attitude of constant negative criticism towards the League.

Mrs. Coombe Tennant's principal work was on the Fifth Commission, which deals with Humanitarian questions. The Traffic in Drugs afforded her special interest, as her magisterial experience in Cardiff and Swansea had brought her much in contact with a network of cocaine smuggling which extended far into the Welsh mining valleys. Esperanto was another heated subject. The Eastern nations, roughly speaking, were favourable to its compulsory adoption, but France and Great Britain, being possessed of almost universal languages, were strongly averse. On the subject of the Traffic in Women and Children, Mrs. Coombe Tennant acted as reporter to the Assembly. This subject, like the Drug Traffic, is international, and, on this occasion, brought up the whole question of the State Regulation of Vice. Poland had just abolished the system, and had brought forward a very logical resolution, that, pending the entire abolition of the system, no foreign women should be given employment in houses of ill-fame. The debate which followed was electric. Poland, Australia, Great Britain, Greece, France, Yugo-Slavia, Czecho-Slovakia, Roumania, Bolivia, and some of the South American countries, all participated. Mrs. Coombe Tennant made it sufficiently plain in the Assembly that British women would never stand any attempt to reintroduce State Regulation into Great Britain, and Mrs. Dale followed with a courageous denunciation of *maisons tolerées*. The point of view of the various countries participating was widely divergent, but in the long run the Polish Resolution was passed by the Assembly.

Mrs. Dale, the Australian woman delegate, told her audience that, because all the six women delegates to the League of Nations had been placed upon the Fifth or Humanitarian Commission, it did not mean that they were not fitted to tackle more abstract subjects. As a matter of fact, Madame Bugge-Wicksell (Sweden), a noted woman lawyer, sits as well on the First Commission, devoted to Legal Questions, and is also a valuable member of the Permanent Mandates Committee, whilst Dr. Kristine Bonnevie (Norway), a distinguished zoologist, is a member of the Committee of Intellectual Co-operation. The women delegates in the Assembly, added Mrs. Dale, were commendably brief and practical in their speeches, as compared with some of the men delegates!

SHOULD THERE BE A WOMAN'S POLITICAL PARTY?

On Wednesday of last week, Miss Jessie March, of Bournemouth, gave an interesting address in the Minerva Café, on the desirability of forming a Woman's Party in politics.

Miss Underwood, who presided, said the question under discussion was one of special interest. The Women's Freedom League had always been a non-party Association, and had never represented any particular section in politics. The Independent Liberal Party had just published its manifesto, and, though she was glad to see that one of its articles of belief dealt with the full equality of the sexes, she also noted that this statement came seventh on the list! If a woman's political party were in existence, such a statement as the equality of the sexes would most certainly be put first!

Miss March, referring to the rumour of a Centre Party which was now prevalent, said this might well be a Woman's Party. The Criminal Law Amendment Bill, which was wrecked at the eleventh hour during the last Parliamentary Session, might not have been saved even if there had been 50 women in the House of Commons, but a Woman's Party outside the House might have been able to save it. The question was frequently asked whether women would ever be unanimous on any one subject. But the majority of women to-day were united on the subject of Peace, and such questions as Germany and Reparations, extension of the League of Nations, Reduction of Armaments, etc. Tolstoy said there should be a Minister for Peace, as well as a Minister for War, but this would probably never become an accomplished fact, unless a woman were appointed as Peace Minister. Very soon women of all countries would band themselves together to stamp out the traffic in women, the traffic in armaments, and the traffic in drugs.

In the last Election the "pure milk" candidates were twitted with being too domestic in their political outlook. The older parties waxed more eloquent on a "pure beer" Bill! No one who knows anything about the present control and supply of milk could think this subject was finished with. Divorce law reform was another urgent question for a women's political Party, and Equal Guardianship of Infants—a particularly sore point, since married women to-day had less control over their children than the unmarried mother over her child. A Bill had recently been drawn up in this country which aimed at the legitimisation of children by their parents' subsequent marriage. This was a long-delayed reform, as well as another special need of unmarried mothers, *viz.*, the father's equal responsibility, which should be enforced by the State.

Several questions, and an animated discussion for and against Miss March's proposition, followed the speaker's address.

YOUR CHANCE!

We have no money in hand, but in spite of that we are taking Committee Rooms and fighting for the Women Candidates.

We must have Women in Parliament and

YOU MUST SEND THEM THERE.

The Expenses of the "FAIR" must be all ready before the end of next week so that all our takings may be clear profit; and we must have generous donations at once for our Election Campaigns. Money may be sent to help any special Woman Candidate or to the Women-in-Parliament Fund, to be laid out by us to the very best advantage in their support.

E. KNIGHT,

144, High Holborn,
London, W.C.1.

Hon. Treasurer.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS W.F.L.

LONDON AND SUBURBS.



DARE TO BE FREE.

Wednesday, November 8th, at 3 p.m., Minerva Café, at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1. Public Meeting. Speaker: Miss Raleigh. Subject: "St Paul's views on Dress."

Friday and Saturday November 10th and 11th.—"Green, White and Gold Fair," Central Hall, Westminster.

Monday, November 20th, at 7 p.m., Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1. Debate on "Should Boys be Trained in Housecraft and Cookery?" Affirmative, Dr. Elizabeth Sloan Chesser. Negative, Mr. E. Clephan Palmer (of the *Daily News*). Chair: Miss Anna Munro.

Wednesday, November 29th, at 3 p.m., Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1. Speaker: Mrs. Gatty. Subject: "The Health of its Women, a National Asset to the State."

Saturday, December 2nd, at 10 a.m., 144, High Holborn, W.C.1., National Executive Committee Meeting.

Monday, December 4th, at 7 p.m., Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1. Speaker: Miss Helen Fraser (Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for Govan, Glasgow). Subject: "Domestic Drudgery; Woman's Failure."

PROVINCES.

Wednesday, November 8th, at 3.15 p.m., Portsmouth. Lecture Hall, 2, Kent Road. Speaker: Dr. Lillias Hamilton. Subject: "The Urgent National Necessity for Increasing Home-grown Produce."

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Wednesday, November 1st, at 8 p.m., Oak Room, Kingsway Hall. Women's League of Union. Speaker: Miss Sladen (N.S.P.C.C.). Subject: "The Work of the National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children."

Saturday, November 4th, at 8 p.m., New Guildhouse, Berwick Street, Westminster. Speaker: Mrs. Mustard, on behalf of Commandant Allen.

WORK FOR WOMEN M.P.s.

Last Monday evening, Mrs. Mustard addressed a meeting in the Minerva Café, on the necessity of working for the return of women to the next Parliament. She pointed out that women candidates were standing on their own feet, and were having a very hard fight to secure election. The ideal candidate of the Women's Freedom League was one who stood independent of Party, but we recognised that there were great difficulties in the return of an independent candidate, man or woman, and we were supporting and working for women candidates irrespective of their Party—Conservative, Liberal, or Labour. Women wanted justice as regards representation, and were determined that before another General Election came round, we should have votes for women at the same age and on the same terms as men. Women claimed full political equality with men. The women workers of the country wanted a better economic position than they have to-day. They claim equal pay for equal work, and demand that the Government and the local governing authorities shall pay their men and women employees equally. Mrs. Mustard asked how many men in the House of Commons to-day ask for political and economic equality for women? If more women were in that House, more men would be dealing with that subject, owing to the pressure and insistence of women Members. Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Bonar Law, and other politicians might not know where they were, but the Women's Freedom League knew exactly where women were in regard to the subject of the full equality of the sexes, and a few more women M.P.s would clear the present political fog. There might be another General Election next year, when even more women candidates would stand for election.

Miss Underwood appealed for canvassers and workers for Mrs. Pease, J.P. (East Surrey), Commandant Allen (Westminster), Miss Mary Richardson (Acton), Mrs. Ayrton Gould (Lambeth), and reported that our Edinburgh Branch was helping Mrs. More Nisbet, and our Liverpool Branch was working for the return of Mrs. Stewart Brown.

IN SYMPATHY.

The Women's Freedom League offers its sincere sympathy to Mrs. Ayres Purdie and Mrs. Lucas, on their recent bereavement in the death of their father.

WANTED—BOOKS FOR THE FAIR.

The Literature Department will be most grateful for gifts of books, new or secondhand, for the Bookstall at the Fair. Please address, Secretary, Literature Department, at this Office.

"THE VOTE" THANKS

Lady Cooper, Miss Montgomery, Mrs. Evans, Miss Ballard Dawson, Mrs. Milner, and Miss Farmer, for parcels received for the "Fair," and Miss Eva C. Washbourn and Mr. Bacon, for donations to THE VOTE Stall.

BRANCH NOTES.

PORTSMOUTH.

The first public meeting this season will be held on Wednesday, November 8th, at 3.15 p.m., at the Lecture Hall, 2, Kent Road. Dr. Lillias Hamilton, Warden, Agricultural and Horticultural College, Studley, Warwickshire, will speak on "The Urgent National Necessity for Increasing Home-grown Produce." Chair, Mrs. Whetton. Members and friends are earnestly asked to send a contribution to the Portsmouth Stall at the Annual Fair. Anything of use in the house—towels, soap, dusters, etc., will be gratefully acknowledged by the secretary. (Hon. Sec.) Mrs. WHITTON, 89, Festing Grove, Southsea.

HAMPSTEAD.

A members' meeting was held on Monday afternoon, October 23rd, at 53, Willow Road (by kind permission of Miss Lyndon). Arrangements were made for a meeting at Mrs. Harverson's in January, and it was decided to send the Women's Freedom League Questions for Borough Councils to all women candidates in the borough. Some charming gifts collected by Miss Lyndon for the Hampstead Stall at the Green, White, and Gold Fair were on view at the meeting. Miss Lyndon kindly entertained those present to tea. The Hon. Secretary gratefully acknowledges gifts for the Stall from Mrs. Sudd Brown, Miss M. Berry, Miss Harburn, Mrs. Lane, Miss Lane, Mrs. Mann, and Miss Jessie March. (Hon. Sec.) Miss E. BERRY, 16, Denning Road, N.W.3.

CANADIAN WOMEN IN POLITICS.

A delightful Dinner and Discussion Meeting, arranged by the British Dominions Women Citizens' Union, was held at the International Women's Franchise Club, Grafton Street, W., on Monday. The guest of the evening was Mrs. Rose Henderson, of Montreal, for ten years assistant to Judge Choquet in the Juvenile Court of that city, and a Labour candidate at the last Federal Election in Canada. The Chair was taken by Mr. F. Pethick Lawrence.

Mrs. Henderson, describing the recent progress made by Canadian women in politics, explained how, in earlier days, the women of Canada lived an arduous, open-air, pioneer life, just as their men did, and spent their days hewing a home for themselves and their families out of the wilderness. There was no time then for politics. But within a comparatively recent date towns and cities sprang into existence all over Canada, Montreal itself being the seventh wealthiest city on the American continent. Civilisation crept up to the doors of the houses, and women, released by means of labour-saving devices and other domestic implements, from much of their past drudgery, began to take stock of the larger world around them. Canadian women became politically enfranchised, on equal terms with men, in 1917, with the exception of Quebec, where women exercise the Municipal and Federal vote, but are not allowed the Provincial vote. Before 1917, however, Canadian women had been instrumental in obtaining Juvenile Courts, and, at a later date, mothers' pensions, which were now operating in eight out of the ten Provinces of Canada, and on the point of being still further developed and extended. A "Home and Schools Council" had also been established, by means of which parents and teachers come into closer contact with one another, and confer together over the children's education. Since 1917, Prohibition had come into force practically all over Canada, with the exception of Quebec, and a general determination to stamp out war was increasing in strength and volume.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

Mrs. Harrison Bell, writing in the *Labour Press Service*, says that the working woman wants a home which will not take all her life's energies to keep clean. This house should have bedrooms sufficient for the family, a living room, and a kitchen-scully. Recently the *Daily News* reported that the Bradford Corporation had decided to build houses without troubling about the Ministry of Health subsidy, and gave the following instances of the housing conditions there:—Three girls were sleeping in the same room as a mentally defective youth of 20. Two married couples were sharing one room. Eight people—father, mother, married daughter, and her husband and four children, aged 14 to 21—all living in one room. Father (a consumptive), mother, and four children living in a cellar dwelling, so damp that the paper was hanging from the wall. It was also stated that about 22,000 people were living in houses that had been condemned, and that ten thousand houses were needed. Under such conditions, and they are by no means the monopoly of Bradford, is it really any wonder that the latest annual report of the Chief Medical Officer of the Board of Education, Sir George Newman, discloses the fact that no less than 35 per cent. of the children going to school at the age of five start with physical defects and seeds of disease which require the attention of a doctor before the children can benefit from the attentions of the teacher; and the further fact that 40 per cent. of the total number of children examined—two and a half millions—during the year were suffering more or less from physical or mental defects?

MONTGOMERY BOROUGHS BRANCH.

A Monster Rummage Sale will be held in the Congregational Schoolroom, Newtown, on Saturday, November 25th. I hope all friends, members, and sympathisers of the Women's Freedom League will bring all the contributions they can towards this Sale, which is being organised in aid of Headquarters Fund.

(Hon. Sec.) ALIX M. CLARK.

FRIDAY,
NOVEMBER 3
1922.

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.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BUSY Women requiring Rest will find comfortable Board Residence at Miss TURNER'S, "Sea View," Victoria Rd., Brighton. Early Dinner. Tel. Brighton 1702

MISS NICHOLAS, Ex-transport Driver. R.A.F. Landaulette Car for hire. Tel. Hampstead 8341. Private address: 3, Christchurch Road, Hampstead.

CONVINCED Feminist (Practising Midwife) books lecturing engagements.—GATTY, 30 Retreat Place, Hackney

THE PIONEER CLUB has re-opened at 12, Cavendish Place. Entrance fee in abeyance *pro tem*. Town Members £5 5s.; Country and Professional £4 4s.

EDUCATIONAL.

PRACTICAL PSYCHOLOGY.

Free Entertaining Talks by

MRS. MAUD WESTRUP, D.P.
KINGSWAY HALL.

Nov. 2nd, Thursday, 7.30 p.m.—The Master Key to Success.
Nov. 9th, Thursday, 7.30 p.m.—Unemployment: the Way Out.
Nov. 16th, Thursday, 7.30 p.m.—Birth Control—Pre-Natal and Post-Natal Influences.
Nov. 23rd, Thursday, 7.30 p.m.—Training the Sub-conscious Mind of Children.
Nov. 30th, Thursday, 7.30 p.m.—The Money Consciousness—The Road to "Tons of Money."

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Guild-house, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, November 5th, 3.15. Music, Poetry, Lecture. Dr. Percy Dearmer. 6.30. Miss Maude Royden. "What do we mean by the 'Atonement'?"

"ROSEMARY NURSERY," The Causeway, Horsham. Special Education on modern lines for backward and nervous children. Term began Sept. 26th.—Apply Miss L. ARNOLD

MISCELLANEOUS.

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

WANTED.—Costumes, coats, furs, underwear, gentlemen's and children's clothing. House furnishings. Specially good price given for high-class goods.—HÉLÈNE, 361, New King's Road, Fulham, S.W. 6.

LADY desires temporary or permanent post as Housekeeper, Maid Companion, or Travelling Maid Companion. Or would take care small flat or Fowl Station—S.M., c/o VOTE Office.

FOUR LECTURES ON "THE SACRAMENTAL LIFE"

will be delivered by

MRS. FLORENCE DANIEL
(Co-Editor of "The Healthy Life" Magazine).

ON FOUR SUCCESSIVE TUESDAYS AT THE
MINERVA CAFE, HIGH HOLBORN
(near British Museum Tube Station, corner of Bury Street and Silver Street).
NOVEMBER 7TH, AT 7.30 P.M.

EATING AND DRINKING to Damnation or as a means of Grace.
What Food is and Does—Ancient Religious Systems and Food—Judaism and Christianity—Nutrition an act of Creation—Flesh Foods—Animal Products—Vegetable Foods—Crude Minerals—Medicinal Foods—Knd *versus* Quantity.

TICKETS 2s. for single lectures may be obtained in advance at Health Centre, 41, Margaret Street, W.1., or at Messrs. Bilson's, 88, Gray's Inn Road, W.C. Also on sale at Cafe before each meeting.

Suffrage Health Food Stores,

231-233, THE ARCADE, LINTHORPE ROAD,
MIDDLESBROUGH.

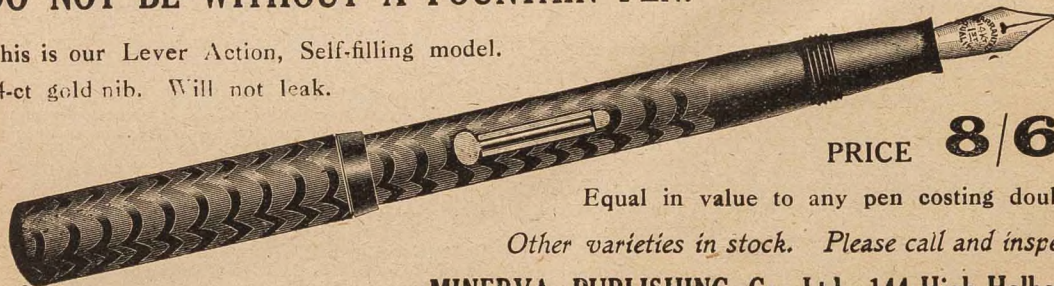
ALL VEGETARIAN SPECIALITIES STOCKED

Food Reformers experiencing any difficulty in obtaining Health Foods in their districts are invited to send for Price List. Orders over £1 carriage paid.

Manageress: Mrs. E. A. WALLACE.

DO NOT BE WITHOUT A FOUNTAIN PEN.

This is our Lever Action, Self-filling model.
14-ct gold nib. Will not leak.



PRICE **8/6**

Equal in value to any pen costing double.

Other varieties in stock. Please call and inspect.

MINERVA PUBLISHING Co., Ltd., 144 High Holborn.

Published by the MINERVA PUBLISHING Co., LTD., at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1, and Printed for them by PAGE & PRATT, LTD., 151-2, Gt. Saffron Hill, London, E.C.1.