

THE VOTE,
JULY 13, 1928.

SPECIAL DOUBLE VICTORY NUMBER.

THE VOTE

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

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TWO PENCE.

FRIDAY, JULY 13, 1928

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

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MRS. DESPARD'S VICTORY SMILE.



MONDAY, JULY 2. Mrs. Despard leaves the Palace of Westminster after hearing the Royal Assent in the House of Lords to the Representation of the People (Equal Franchise) Act 1928.

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH LEAGUE.

FOURTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

Last Friday, under the auspices of the British Commonwealth League and the chairmanship of Mrs. Corbett Ashby, women delegates from Australia, South Africa, Canada, India, Bermuda, and the Bahamas met together in conference with British women, at the Royal Society of Arts Hall, to discuss "Some Problems of Government in Relation to Women within the British Empire." The previous evening they were present at a reception at Crosby Hall, the beautiful home of the International Federation of University Women, where they were cordially welcomed by Lady Astor, our first woman Member in the House of Commons.

In her chairman's address, Mrs. Corbett Ashby referred to tributes paid by women throughout the British Empire to the growing usefulness and helpfulness of the British Commonwealth League, the object of which is to secure equality of Liberties, Status, and Opportunities between men and women in the British Commonwealth of Nations; and she said how glad they all were not only to welcome to this country women who had done public work overseas, but to know that Miss Maude Royden was carrying a message from the women of this country to the women in so many other parts of the British Commonwealth. No woman was so well qualified to do this as Miss Royden.

The first resolution on the agenda, thanking H.M. Government for granting Equal Franchise to the women of Great Britain, was proposed by Miss Harriet Newcomb, seconded by Miss Clegg, and carried with acclamation; so also was a resolution moved from the chair, claiming for a woman the same right as a man to retain or change her nationality.

A resolution of far-reaching importance was that on *Women and Representation*, which was proposed by Miss Ruby Rich (Australia), seconded by Miss Emilie Solomon (South Africa), and supported by Mrs. McDonnell, J.P., the alternate Australian delegate to the League of Nations Assembly next September. It read as follows: "This Conference urges—(1) That women be appointed as Delegates and as Technical Advisers and Assessors accompanying Ministerial groups attending Imperial and other conferences; (2) that women be included in Commissions, Boards, and other Groups dealing with Empire policy; (3) that in any plans for the establishment of an Empire Secretariat or Consultative body—all positions under, or in connection with it, shall be open equally to men and women, thus carrying out the principle established in Article 7 of the Covenant of the League of Nations." This resolution, including an amendment that in all positions in the proposed Secretariat there should be equal pay for women and men, and equal opportunities for promotion, was carried.

Then followed resolutions urging the removal of the anomaly of women's continued disfranchisement in South Africa, Quebec, and Bermuda.

A discussion took place on Marriage, Maintenance, and Divorce Laws in the different countries throughout the Empire, and it was decided that the British Commonwealth League should consider the desirability of securing the co-ordination of these laws throughout the Empire.

During the morning session, Miss Emily Phipps, B.A. (Barrister-at-Law) gave a very able address on "Existing Legal Inequalities between Men and Women in Great Britain." She said women now had equal voting rights with men, and since 1918 the Guardianship of Infants Act had given married women almost, but not quite, equal rights with men in the custody and guardianship of their children. Divorce could now be secured on equal grounds by men and women, and the Law of Property Act had given men and women equal rights if a relative died intestate; and the professions, with the exception of the Church, were now open equally to men and women. But in industry

women workers were forbidden by law to engage in nightwork, and they were not allowed to do any decorating when lead paint was used. With regard to the married woman, Miss Phipps dealt with her position under our nationality laws, in regard to business and bankruptcy, and to Income Tax law. She showed how out of date was the law under which a husband was responsible for his wife's torts; and, in dealing with the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, pointed out how the main provisions of that Act were defeated by Orders in Council, under which the Government refused to employ married women in the Civil Service, or any women at all in the Diplomatic, Consular, or Trade Commissioner Services. Moreover, no woman, not even a peeress in her own right, was allowed to sit in the House of Lords. In her opinion, the House of Lords had acted illegally, and had actually broken the law in refusing this right to qualified peeresses.

The afternoon session was devoted to discussions on women in industry—their opportunities of employment, restrictions on their work, and a comparison of men's and women's wages—to women in professions, and to the consideration of women as employers. Mr. Bakhle, Hon. Assistant Secretary of the Trades Union Congress of India, gave particulars of women and girls working in Bombay, and their employment throughout India in various mines and other occupations. Only an infinitesimal number of them belonged to a trade union, and their wages were almost invariably less than men's.

Miss Elliot, Great Britain, gave very interesting figures relating to women's work and wages in the textile and other great industries in this country.

Mrs. de Gray Stewart, of Canada, said that in that Dominion 135,000 women were employed in domestic service, and 106,000 in factories. There was great opportunity for women as well as men in agriculture. The wages of women were less than those offered to men.

Dr. Grace Boelke (New South Wales) said that, with the exception of the Church, the professions were all open to women, but women could not be slaughterers or miners in her country. Nor could they be jurors. Women had no legal claim to any part of their husband's income, but the husband was obliged to make provision for his wife and children commensurate with his income. Dr. Boelke said that women in New South Wales had the vote 25 years ago. But the vote did not bring the millennium. Women must still wage a hard fight to get women into all higher executive positions.

Miss Ferguson, of Canada, said it was difficult in that country also to get higher paid posts for women. There were many women on the staffs of Canadian Universities, but in Quebec few women entered any except the teaching profession. In Quebec women were not admitted to the Bar, although they were employed as clerks in lawyers' offices. There were few women architects in Canada, but there were 200 women physicians, and one of them was chief of the Children's Department in the Health organisation. Women teachers received less salaries than their men colleagues. Women in Canada, as well as elsewhere, could only win better conditions by co-operation and concentration of purpose.

Mrs. Abbott gave a comprehensive survey of women's opportunities contrasted with men's in the medical profession, the legal profession, the Civil Service, and the teaching profession in Great Britain, and compared their rates of pay with those granted to men. She said that the Government was a great sinner because it did not give equal opportunity and equal pay for women in the Civil Service. She urged that there should be more women solicitors; otherwise how could they hope to keep and help women barristers? Mrs. Abbott stood for the complete freedom of women

to enter any occupation they chose, with no restriction which was not also imposed on men, and in regard to the recent International Labour Conference, moved a resolution declaring that it had acted *ultra vires* in adopting a Convention concerning the minimum wage-fixing machinery, without incorporating in it the principle of equal pay for equal work, and calling upon each Government to lay before the International Court of Justice the question of the competency of the International Labour Organisation to disregard that principle. This Resolution was passed.

After tea and talk with the delegates in the delightful Library of the Royal Society of Arts, there was a very interesting Session on *Women as Employers*. Mrs. Cameron Swan, a South African farmer, gave instances of many women who had been successful as farmers in South Africa. Success depended on the individual, and on her willingness to train and learn from others' experience.

Mrs. Willson gave an account of the work she had done as a builder in Great Britain. She would soon have completed her 500 houses. Common sense was, in her view, the greatest asset in the business world. She had not found it difficult to get men to take orders from a woman. Any woman who took up building must realise that it was a full-time job.

Miss Stewart, a wholesale and retail manufacturer in Australia, started business for herself in 1911. She had earned her living as a tailoress since she was thirteen. Her view was that if a woman puts the right price on herself she will find men in the business world ready to pay it. She had found many difficulties, but in the end had won through. Her staff did not work for her. She and her staff all worked together.

Miss Partridge, electrical engineer, Great Britain, also emphasised the importance of getting the staff to have confidence in the employer and so work together for success. If a man took up the attitude that he did not like working for a woman, that man was not worth anybody's employing.

WORKERS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS.

Miss Marion Fearnside, of the Leeds Branch of the National Union of Women Teachers, has an interesting letter in the *Yorkshire Post* on Teachers' Salaries. After regretting the statements of Alderman Owen, of the Leeds City Council, that, "Whereas a man needed a family wage, a single woman required only an individual wage; and that, while it was true that sometimes a single woman had dependents, still if they began to legislate for hard cases, they would soon go wrong," Miss Fearnside quotes the following statistics by Professor Bowley, of the London School of Economics to show that all men do not "need" a family wage:—

Of English male workers over 20,
27 per cent. are bachelors or widowers without dependent children;

24.7 per cent. are married without children, or without dependent children under 14.

Of the remainder, 16.6 per cent. have one dependent child;

13 per cent. have two dependent children;
8.8 per cent. have three dependent children;
9.9 per cent. have more than three dependent children.

To prove the "need" of women for a family wage, the following statistics are quoted from evidence given before the Royal Commission on the Civil Service:—

Of women with—
Over 7 years' service, 37 per cent. had dependents;
Over 10 years' service, 41 per cent. had dependents;
Over 15 years' service, 43 per cent. had dependents;
Over 20 years' service, 84 per cent. had dependents.

Miss Fearnside submits that payment according to sex is an injustice all round.

MR. & MRS. STRICKLAND'S
GOLDEN WEDDING.

Our cordial congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Strickland, of Hastings, who reached their Golden Wedding Day on July 3rd, and our very best wishes for their good health and continued happiness.

Mrs. Marshall Hole, of South Rhodesia, said that their main industries were mining and agriculture. One woman owned a mine there, and there was no reason why a woman should not succeed as a mine-owner. Some women had done extraordinarily well in farming; the chief difficulties were that the farms were isolated, transport was difficult, and only native labour available. In the towns women had chances to run nursing homes, boarding-houses, shops; and a secretarial college would, she thought, do well.

Mrs. O'Regan, decorator, Great Britain, said that house decorating was a specially suitable occupation for women, and complained of the Lead Paint (Prevention of Poisoning) Act, which prohibited fresh women from working with lead paint, and thus shut them out from a great deal of house decorating work.

Mrs. Clegg, a farmer in Australia, declared that nothing was so uncertain as the position of an employer of labour in Australia or New Zealand at the present time. In the country all produce had to be home-grown; a woman may have to go out and look at a lamb, choose it, decide that it will keep the household in food for five days, and then cut it up. A woman has often to be her own butcher; indeed, any woman who employs labour must be able to take the place at any time of any of her employees, who often leave without notice to get a change, an easier time, or higher wages. Wages are high, labour most often unskilled. Any woman who wants to succeed as an employer must have expert knowledge, a great capacity for work, infinite patience and wide domestic knowledge. She thought all young men, and young women too, should take a short course of domestic economy, so as to be able to cook their food properly.

The Conference concluded with a hearty and cordial vote of thanks to the chairman, Mrs. Corbett Ashby. In the evening delegates again met each other at a dinner at the Criterion Restaurant, and the following day at a Garden Party (by kind invitation of Mrs. Percy Bigland) at Jordans, Beaconsfield.

LADY HEATH'S NEW SUCCESS.

Last Tuesday, Lady Heath, accompanied by Miss Sicele O'Brien, made the first attempt at an altitude record in a light all-metal seaplane at Rochester. After one hour and fifty minutes in the air, Lady Heath came down, and the sealed barograph showed that she had ascended 13,400 feet, or more than two miles above ground level. Lady Heath's feat enables Britain to establish the first world's record in a new light seaplane class, just instituted by the International Aeronautical Federation.

WOMEN ACCOUNTANTS.

Of the 896 candidates who presented themselves for the recent Incorporated Accountants' examinations, only 479 satisfied the examiners. Of the ten women who sat, seven passed either the final or the intermediate examinations, Miss Dorothy May Slaymaker, of Cardiff, taking the sixth place certificate in the intermediate examination. Since 1919, thirty-six women have qualified as incorporated accountants, and those in practice are reported to be doing well.

WIT AND WISDOM.

"Women have been pioneers since the beginning of time. Did not Eve take the first bite of the apple?"—Lady Houston, at the May Fair Hotel, in honour of Women Pioneers.

* * * * *
"Sometimes, when I hear Members talking in the House of Commons about these strange new voters that are to be added to the roll, I want to say: 'My dear man, haven't you ever seen a young woman?'"—Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P.

THE VICTORY BIRTHDAY FUND.

If your own name is not in the list on the other page, please let me have it at once with your cheque, P.O., etc.

E. KNIGHT, 144, High Holborn.

THE VOTE.

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FRIDAY, JULY 13th, 1928.

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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.

OBJECTS OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

The first object of the Women's Freedom League—to secure for women the Parliamentary vote as it is or may be granted to men—has been achieved. Women have now the chief tool with which they can work for full equality with men in every branch of our national and international life. Having won Equal Franchise, we have now to use our political power to get more women into Parliament and upon all public bodies. At the present time, there are 615 Members of the British House of Commons, but only eight of them are women. Seven of these women are from constituencies in England, which sends 492 Members to Parliament, and one woman is from a constituency in Scotland, which sends 74 Members. Wales, which sends 36, and Northern Ireland, which sends 13, have no woman Member for any of their constituencies. At the next General Election, which is expected to take place next year, the women electors will be in a majority in most constituencies, and it is essential that there should be a great many more than eight women Members of Parliament to represent the interests of women electors. Every year it becomes increasingly important that women should be in the House of Commons (and also in the House of Lords) in order to deal with the immense amount of legislation which affects the lives and well-being of women as well as of men. Men and women are now equally important as citizens in the State, and they should both be equally represented in the Legislature. To have them so represented in Parliament is the quickest way to secure real equality as between the sexes in the State, and this real equality is absolutely necessary if we are to have a well-balanced and not a lop-sided national and international policy. How to get more women into Parliament is a question of immediate and national importance, and women in every constituency should be considering it. Wherever there is a woman with a good record of public service, if she belongs to any political party, the women in that party should press her claims for candidature. At present, the parties' machinery and the parties' finances were almost exclusively in the hands of men, and very few women get on to the parties' Selection Committees. Women who join these parties must work together solidly for an alteration in each of these particulars, and if they cannot effect these alterations and ensure the full consideration of women's claims to political power and political careers, they may have to take independent action, acquire their own political machinery, and work it themselves. There are now at least two independent men Members of Parliament. Why should there not be in the future independent women Members? The important thing is to get more women Members without delay, and this is a problem which should engage the present thoughts and work of all women who are interested in politics. The Women's Freedom League not only wants more women Members in Parliament; it is just as important to get women on to all local governing bodies. Borough Council elections throughout the country will be taking place in the Autumn, and all public-spirited women should work together to get suitable women on to those Councils. If we had

three hundred women in the House of Commons, women in fair numbers in the House of Lords—and we shall get women in the Upper House when women electors insist upon this reform—and women in equal numbers with men on all local governing bodies administering the laws passed by Parliament, can anyone believe that it would take any length of time to establish in this country equality of rights and opportunities between the sexes? With a live woman electorate, all things are possible, both nationally and internationally; and the promotion of the social and industrial well-being of the community will be safe in their keeping.

WOMEN'S INCOME TAX.

In the Debate on the Finance Bill, on July 3rd, Mr. Pethick-Lawrence moved an "Amendment of law as to separate assessment of husband and wife." He said that, in 1914, the Finance Bill gave, for the first time, a general right to husbands and wives to have separate assessments for the purposes of Income Tax. It did not alter the total amount that the married couple had to pay, but it enabled each member to have a separate assessment for dealing with his or her own income separately, and the total tax was apportioned between them according to certain rules. The Finance Act of 1914 fixed May 6th as the date by which the claim for the separate assessment had to be made. The Act of 1919 postponed the date until July 6th, and Mr. Pethick-Lawrence in his new clause proposed to extend the period still further until September 6th, as being more convenient. Mr. Churchill said he could not accept the proposal, as he was advised that it would cause a great deal of difficulty in the ordinary administration of the tax. He added: "This question of the date when husband and wife should elect to be assessed separately to Income Tax is bound up with the much larger question of the pooling of the incomes of husband and wife, and that is a very large question. Undoubtedly arguments could be adduced to show that, whereas men and women living together in the bonds of holy matrimony have to pay on the joint income, they could sometimes escape part of the burden if they were not married. No doubt there are cases of hardship, but that change would cost a very large sum of money to the Revenue." The Chairman (Mr. Dennis Herbert) said he thought their labours would be prolonged if hon. Members were tempted to go into those considerations, which he did not think arose under the clause. Mr. Churchill apologised, and said that the only reason which led him to mention it was to show how very small was the hardship which the clause sought to remedy, as compared with the much larger issue. They could not accept the proposal, which was then negatived.

We claim that the hardship of taxing the joint incomes of husband and wife is a great one. We were told by a former Chancellor of the Exchequer that to tax the incomes of husbands and wives separately instead of jointly as at present would involve a loss to the revenue of £20,000,000—the measure of its injustice to married people! What we have always urged is that this injustice should be removed, by assessing and taxing the incomes of husbands and wives separately, making each responsible for his or her own income tax. Further, we urge that women should not be required to apply for separate assessment; every woman, married or single, should receive her own Income Tax Form to fill up, as a matter of course, and without having to apply for it.

Last Tuesday an income tax defaulter had 50 items claimed against him in the King's Bench Division. The assessments were for his wife's property. Mr. Justice Rowlatt said he was afraid the husband was responsible, and that was why one should be careful whom he married because he might be marrying income tax instead of income! Judgment was given for the Crown, and the Revenue Authorities were instructed to see that the right thing had been done. But isn't it absurd to make anyone responsible for the tax on property which does not belong to him?

THE VICTORY BREAKFAST.

HOTEL CECIL CELEBRATION.

By nine o'clock on Thursday morning, July 5th, the Grand Hall of the Hotel Cecil, which had been brilliantly and beautifully decorated the day before by Miss E. Berry, in the Green, White and Gold colours of the Women's Freedom League, was filled with some 250 guests sitting down to our Victory Breakfast. Some of them had travelled overnight from Scotland and Wales, and others from the North, South and West of England, and several friends from the Dominions were with us. It was a great reunion of old workers in the suffrage cause, and of members of all societies working for equal suffrage. Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence, in joyous mood, presided, and the company included first and foremost Mrs. Despard and Dame Millicent Fawcett, G.B.E., who were outstandingly honoured by all present, the Viscountess Rhondda, the Rt. Hon. J. Ramsay MacDonald, M.P., Sir Robert Newman, M.P., Mr. Frank Briant, M.P., Mr. Pethick-Lawrence, M.P., Mrs. Runciman, M.P., Miss Margaret Bondfield, M.P., Mr. Ammon, M.P., Mr. Ben Riley, M.P., Dr. Graham Little, M.P., Mr. Ernest Brown, M.P., Mr. Laurence Housman, Mr. E. G. Clayton, the Rev. W. C. Roberts, Mrs. Corbett Ashby, Dr. Annie Besant, Miss Esther Bright, Lady Balfour of Burleigh, Miss Eunice Murray, Dr. E. Knight, Mrs. Zangwill, Mrs. M. W. Nevinston, Miss A. B. Jack, Lady Heath, Miss Anna Munro, Mrs. Pierotti, Miss Marian Reeves, Miss Alix Clark, Miss F. A. Underwood, Mrs. How Martyn, Mrs. Billington Greig, Miss Barry, Miss K. D. Courtney, Miss Floyd, and Miss Williams.

Letters of regret for unavoidable absence were read from the Prime Minister, the Home Secretary, the Viscountess Astor, M.P., Major Hills, M.P., Lord Lytton, Lady Iveagh, M.P., Mr. George Lansbury, M.P., Mr. C. P. Scott, Editor of the *Manchester Guardian*, and Miss Elizabeth Robins. Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P., who had, unluckily, just missed the midnight train from South Devon, sent a telegram expressing regret that she could not be with us.

From the chair, in the name of all present, and in the name of the whole country, MRS. PETHICK-LAWRENCE expressed the very warmest thanks to the Prime Minister, the Home Secretary, the whole Government, and the Members of all parties and both Houses of Parliament for defeating the opposition to the Equal Franchise Bill and carrying it to victory with an overwhelming majority. Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence said it had not been the habit of suffragists to thank Governments. Our relationship with Governments resembled the inscription on a tombstone erected in memory of a man and his wife: "We have fought a good fight!" To-day, however, we were very good friends with the Government and with the Members of all the parties who had helped to bring about this great Victory. Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence said that on entering the Hall someone had said to her, "Oh, here you are, in at the death!" She had replied: "In at the death? No; I'm at the birth!" This Equal Franchise Victory was the beginning of women's achievements, not the finish. The speaker said that on this morning of rejoicing, thoughts not of sadness but of solemnity arose. There was no one present who could do otherwise than remember workers who had not lived to see this Victory, and she paid the tribute of all present to Mrs. Pankhurst, who, by the curious irony of fate, had been laid to rest on the very day that the Equal Franchise Bill had passed its final stage in the House of Lords; to Mrs. Cobden Sanderson, to Miss Emily Wilding Davison, and to Lady Constance Lytton. For a brief interval, all present stood in silence as an expression of remembrance and gratitude to those workers in our cause who had not lived to see this Victory.

MR. RAMSAY MACDONALD, M.P., who was greeted with much applause, said he really could not miss the opportunity of being present that morning and partaking in a sort of sacramental breakfast. He

expressed his sympathy with the Prime Minister and others who could not be present, and declared that the occasion was one which could never happen again in the history of our country. He reminded his audience that the day on which the Equal Franchise Bill had received the Royal Assent had come and gone almost unnoticed. It was one of those curious incidents so common in English history. The fight was over, and no one acclaimed the victory. That had its bad as well as its good side. Speaking for the Labour Party, Mr. MacDonald stated that, whatever differences Members had on other questions, they were all agreed on the justice of the enfranchisement of women. Its members had come from homes in which their mothers had been their nurses and their sisters their companions, and they had had the blessing of co-education without knowing they were getting any special advantage. Equal Franchise had been won by the irresistible claims of humanity; it was won by conviction, and Mr. MacDonald concluded by congratulating all on a great victory.

SIR ROBERT NEWMAN, M.P., who was received enthusiastically, said he did not pretend to represent anyone but himself, yet he could claim to be one of those humble people—important twenty or thirty years ago when Members who held responsible positions were afraid of committing themselves to a dangerous policy—who did something towards bringing about this Victory. Sir Robert wondered if younger people realised the difficulties of those years, when suffragists had to look for support to humble men like himself, and not to Front Benches? He declared that the vote was not a privilege; it was a right. The fact that no political party can claim the credit of unanimous support among its members for women's enfranchisement, which had found supporters in all parties, was its highest testimonial and the greatest encouragement for the future.

MR. FRANK BRIANT, M.P., who was also received with great enthusiasm, said that to him this was a day of joy. In the past he had had to convert Members of his own party to the cause of Equal Franchise, and he had been looked upon as a foolish, if amiable, faddist, on that particular issue. He was happy to say that at his first introduction to public life thirty-two years ago he was chaperoned by Mrs. Despard. He congratulated the nation on the enfranchisement of women. This did not remove all inequalities as between men and women, but it was a weapon by which obstacles to women's progress could be removed. It was not for men to argue as to whether women would vote, or how women would vote. A great injustice had now been rectified; out of justice the best must come. He did not imagine that the walls of the New Jerusalem would spring up at the waving of a fairy wand—although it was noteworthy that good fairies were always of feminine personality. In the architecture, the planning, and in the building of the State, we should now have the inestimable advantage of the help, guidance, and inspiration of the whole citizen community.

THE VISCOUNTESS RHONDDA, J.P., who had a great reception, said it had fallen to her lot to express the deep appreciation of suffragists to their men supporters. She almost felt that it was an impertinence to thank them. But men had helped them, and in the old days it had needed both courage and vision on the part of men to take up the cause of women's political enfranchisement. The prick of discontent at their own position had urged women to see the necessity for their enfranchisement. Men had not that same prick of discontent to cause them discomfort, and we owed a debt of gratitude to those men who, although they did not suffer the discomfort, had the wisdom to realise what was needed and the courage to help women to get it. It had at times been more difficult for the men than for the women, and she offered to those who faced

unpopularity in their support of the women's cause our heartfelt thanks.

MR. PETHICK-LAWRENCE, M.P., who was greeted with enthusiastic shouts of "He's a jolly good fellow," in reply, said it seemed very appropriate that we should have a breakfast of rejoicing. It recalled the breakfasts we used to have in the old days when the prison gates were unbarred. This Victory itself was a greater unbarring of prison gates. He greatly appreciated the thanks which Lady Rhondda had tendered to the men who had supported the women in their fight. It was a case of mutual congratulation between colleagues who had worked together. We were rejoicing in a victory which had come to us all. The liberty of all is enhanced when the liberty of one section is secured. Liberty must embrace the whole human race. Men and women must unite to protect and glorify life as we know it on this planet.

At the special request of the Chairman, DR. ANNIE BESANT said just a few words on the position of women in India. In that country, she said, there were no laws against women, only customs. Mr. Montague had thought he ought not to give the vote to the women of India, but he gave the men of India the right to extend the franchise to women, and the men had placed the women on an equal political footing with themselves. A woman was the Deputy Speaker of the Madras Legislative Council. The Children's Court was administered by women. Everywhere women in India were doing valuable public work, and were working side by side with men as in the ancient days.

MRS. STEDMAN, as one of the newly-enfranchised women, offered thanks to the pioneers. She said that some of those pioneers who had watched the movement grow little by little were present that morning. She also wished to thank those who had worked unobtrusively; and she urged that the work of the pioneers must be carried on for the benefit of all mankind.

DAME MILLICENT FAWCETT, who had a truly wonderful reception, said they had all had a joyful time and did not need commiseration. Year after year their work had been punctuated by victories of one sort or another. She expressed gratitude to the Labour Party for its support, but said that less gratitude was due to the Liberals because they were so behindhand in their support. Gratitude was due to the present Government for standing by its promise to women. "We expect great things of the women of the future," continued Dame Millicent; "they are not pledged to us; we are pledged to them." She recalled a meeting at the Albert Hall some years ago, when a speaker was having a very lively reception. Being on the platform, she said to him: "Go on—go on—go on." He drew out the big organ stop of his voice and succeeded in making himself heard. "To the women of the future," said Dame Millicent, "I say, 'Go on—go on—go on!'"

MRS. DESPARD, who was acclaimed with prolonged cheers and musical honours, said she had seen many great days, but this was by far the greatest. She recalled the founding of the Women's Freedom League by a small group of women with empty coffers in a little room, twenty-one years ago. Mrs. How Martyn, the League's first Hon. Secretary, and Mrs. Billington Greig, its first Hon. Organising Secretary, were among those present to-day. Mrs. Despard paid a tribute to Dame Millicent Fawcett for presiding—many years ago—at a dinner to women prisoners, although she did not approve of their methods. "It is only in unity, and in holding together, that we shall ever accomplish great things," said the speaker. Mrs. Despard thanked with all her heart her comrades and friends in the struggle for women's enfranchisement; above all, because they had given her their love. The present was an occasion not for speeches, but for rejoicing, for looking back and looking forward to the future. Mrs. Despard concluded: "I can see the spirits of those who have gone, present with us, and I have a vision of a world yet unborn. Work in the best way you can. Stand together! Fight on!"

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HOME SECRETARY & EQUAL FRANCHISE.

The following letter was received from the Home Secretary and read at our Victory Breakfast:—

July 4th.

Dear Madam,—It was with great regret that I found myself unable to accept the invitation to the Breakfast organised by the Women's Freedom League to mark the occasion of the passage into law of the Equal Franchise Bill. The Bill, which received the Royal Assent a day or two ago, has now been removed from the arena of politics, and both parties in the fight must wait for events to justify either their hopes or their fears. For myself, I have no doubt whatever that the gloomy prognostications of those who, heartened by the more irresponsible newspapers, have reviled the Bill, will be confounded, and I am confident that the newly-enfranchised women will bring to the discharge of their new function, common sense, soundness of judgment, and a proper appreciation of their civic responsibility.

My confident expectations are, I am sure, shared by the vast majority in the country, and it is matter for amazement that in less than twenty years the public attitude should have veered round from one of active opposition to the grant of the franchise to women in any form to one of general support of the grant of the franchise to women at twenty-one. The war—and the part played in it by women—is, of course, in part responsible, but much of the success in educating public opinion can only be ascribed to the tenacious efforts of those who have given most of their lives to further the objects now attained in the new Act, and I would like to add my word of congratulation to them for the work they have done.—Yours very truly,

(Sgd.) W. JOYNSON-HICKS.

Miss Florence Underwood.

THANKSGIVING CELEBRATIONS.

Before the Breakfast last Thursday, a company from the Women's Freedom League and the League of the Church Militant were present at the Daily Eucharist at St. George's Church, Bloomsbury, to give thanks for the victory of our cause. St. George's is the Parish Church of the League, and the church where the funeral service for Emily Wilding Davison was held.

Last Sunday morning, at the invitation of St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance, Dame Millicent Fawcett, G.B.E., Mrs. Despard, and representative members of the Women's Freedom League, the International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship, the National Union of Women Teachers, and the Open Door Council attended a special High Mass at Westminster Cathedral to celebrate the Victory of Equal Franchise. After the service, a Procession made its way to the shrine of Joan of Arc, on which a wreath was placed by Miss Gabrielle Jeffery, who was assisted in this ceremony by the two-year-old daughter of Mrs. Laughton Matthews.

At the invitation of the League of the Church Militant, many members of the Women's Freedom League attended the special service arranged at St. Martin-in-the-Fields last Tuesday evening. Dr. Knight and Mrs. M. W. Nevinson represented our League officially in the church, Mrs. Pierotti and Miss E. Berry carried our chief banner, and a large number of our members were present. Banners of many women's societies were taken in procession to the altar and arranged around it. The service was specially arranged to celebrate women's victory by the passing of the Equal Franchise Bill into law, and the Rev. Claud Hinscliff, whom all suffragists, and particularly the Women's Freedom League, remember with gratitude as a staunch and tried friend of the women's cause in the days of its unpopularity, gave the address. At the close of the service banner bearers received their banners from the clergy in attendance, and carried them through the church to an organ accompaniment of Dame Ethel Smythe's triumphant March.

MRS. DESPARD'S VICTORY BIRTHDAY PARTY.

A TRIUMPHANT GATHERING.

It is significant that Mrs. Despard's Birthday Party took place in the middle of the week when suffragists of all societies were rejoicing together in the final victory which had crowned their long fight for enfranchisement. The record rally at Caxton Hall was a fine tribute to the part played by our First-President in the great campaign. A great number of floral offerings were presented to Mrs. Despard, including the League flowers by little Christine Ebdell, and a bouquet by the N.U.S.E.C.

After the reception by Mrs. Despard, a delightful little programme of songs was given by Miss O'Brien and Miss Bromley.

MRS. PETHICK-LAWRENCE, President of the Women's Freedom League, who was in the chair, gave a rousing speech. She spoke of the present gathering as a happy and memorable occasion, and said that the time we were now living through seemed too good to be true. The promise made to Mrs. Despard last year that when she came over from Ireland to celebrate her birthday with us in 1928, the Government would make her a present, had been fulfilled. Long ago she had realised that the dream must come too; now the miracle had happened. The formulated dream of a mere handful was so much stronger than the unformulated opposition of the multitude. Now, we must dream again! Women have won the vote; they have not yet achieved freedom. There were not only inequalities from the economic point of view, but women were still denied spiritual freedom, in that when they heard the Divine voice calling them to fulfil a specific vocation, they were denied the right to answer it. If a man will die for the love of his work—as a noted scientist had done recently—a woman would also. We are not at the end of our work, but at the beginning. We must form a conception in our minds as to what the future of woman is to be, and we must draw it as clearly as an architect. If conceived on the mental plane, the design will come.

"There is nothing in this world that needs more regeneration from top to bottom than the police system," said Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence. "It is thoroughly rotten and degenerate. The Police Court is not a Court of Justice. Men and women are arrested, and, unless rich, are sent to prison on the evidence of the police. The moment has arrived when we, as militant suffragettes, have to speak out. We suffragettes remember acts of kindness and courtesy from individual policemen. It is not the men; when you come to the system behind the men, it is absolutely rotten. The truth is never told. There is something preventing it from ever being uttered. Our other Courts are Courts of Justice; the Police Court is not. I know; I've been in them all. The object of the Police Court is to get people quickly into prison. It mainly touches the poor, and women in particular. It is the duty of the Women's Freedom League to take up this matter of the police system, to bear witness against it, and work. This is one illustration of what we have to do all along the line."

Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence then spoke of the inspiration Mrs. Despard had been to the militant movement, and said that this year we would make her another promise. We were going forward because the strength of the Women's Freedom League was drawn from the motto: DARE TO BE FREE, and we would not cease from mental fight until full equality had been achieved for the women of the country.

MISS NEW thanked Mrs. Despard, on behalf of the younger members, for the work she had done, and said it was a great joy to combine Mrs. Despard's Birthday with the Victory Celebration. She felt that men and women working together could bring the ship to harbour better than they could do separately. We have fought hard to get on an equality, so that we can pull together. There was plain sailing ahead, but much hard work. She expressed heartfelt thanks and

undying gratitude to the pioneers, and a promise that we will carry on.

DR. KNIGHT (Treasurer of the League) said that the Birthday Party was the nicest time of the year, a time when members and friends met together. Funds were coming in "much as usual." She would like them to come "in a record stream." Dr. Knight then read out the list of subscribers to the Birthday Fund, and handed the gift to Mrs. Despard.

MRS. DESPARD'S SPEECH.

Rising to her full height, in a firm, clear voice, Mrs. Despard declared:—

"I'm full to the brim. I have thought about the past and the present. We tried to do our bit, to do what we each thought right." She then thanked all who had contributed to the Birthday Fund, and presented it to Dr. Knight. She said it made her exceptionally happy to think that the Birthday Fund would help the Women's Freedom League in continuing the work still before it. Mrs. Despard recalled the day when the Women's Freedom League was founded and took for its motto, "Dare to be Free," and continued: "I think we all have. I don't think we're of any use unless we take risks." She then admitted that she was in bed with a temperature of 100 degrees, and the doctor forbade her to go to London. "I'm going!" replied Mrs. Despard, with characteristic determination. To-day we realise more than ever that those risks we took in the past were well worth taking.

"This is only the first victory in the battle before us," said Mrs. Despard. "The Women's Freedom League have recognised this. In these memories of the past, one woman in particular rises before me this evening—that wonderful woman, Mrs. Pankhurst. I heard of her passing—I won't say death—on my landing in England, and then there came back my memories of the past. I wish we had her with us. As we have not, we think of her and love her. Other women rise before me, especially our dear Mrs. Cobden Sanderson and Mrs. Juson Kerr.

Mrs. Despard went on to speak of the police—with whom she is well acquainted. Even now they stop her in the street and say, "I haven't seen you for a long time." Mrs. Despard recalled an occasion outside the House of Commons when an inspector told a young constable to arrest her. He gripped her by the wrist, but when she said "That hurts," he dropped her hands as if they had been red-hot poker! He then said angrily, "What did you do it for?" Mrs. Despard replied: "We want justice." "You won't get justice in this world," he retorted. She is happy to think the police system is going to change.

"We must not only look back to the past, but think of the future," Mrs. Despard continued. "I realise there is still much to do. We are working for all, to bring freedom to this country and make this country know what freedom is. Take the unemployed, for instance. So long as a man or woman can be turned out at a week's notice, there can be no freedom. These things must be altered, and many of the present laws swept away."

Mrs. Despard then stated that she had received no education, and that, although she was possibly the oldest member of the audience, those approaching her own age would know that what she said was true.

"I am very, very proud of the young generation," said Mrs. Despard. "I like to see these young girls with their long legs and short skirts. When I was a girl, we were not allowed to show our ankles. When I was a young woman, we always apologised for being present. To-day, unless a girl was very nicely and carefully brought up, it was the exact opposite! Women have discovered one another; they are no longer rivals, but comrades."

Mrs. Despard then went on to speak of the days when she toured the country in a caravan. Once the caravan was almost knocked to pieces, but a meeting

of apology followed. During the suffrage campaign in the villages, they came across two unmarried women who were rather scorned. These women said that the coming of Mrs. Despard and her friends was like a new life to them. "This is a very great occasion," continued Mrs. Despard. "I feel with Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence that we must go on dreaming the impossible dream. In the past I did not think the vote would come in my day. The things that are impossible to-day, are possible to-morrow. Then we go on to another impossible dream. The true unity between man and woman, woman and man, is one such dream. The time will come, but not in my time." Another dream was that there should be no more war and torn treaties. "The dream must be dreamed until it takes a spiritual hold. We shall build up a world of happiness, of happiness for all. We are not so happy as we ought to be. I can say that of my own country. The people are literally starving. I look forward to the day when that sort of thing will be impossible. There is enough work, and enough produce in the world for every living man, woman and child. To distribute this fairly is the kind of thing we women are dreaming of. As Mrs. Billington Greig had said, woman has to deal with *life* all her time; therefore, life is dear to her. It breaks my heart that there should be war. If war continues, it will be worse in the future than in the past. We all feel to-day that we have our work cut out. It is for those who have worn themselves out in the fight for enfranchisement to inspire the young. I prophesy for them that they will do a great work; they will build up the country."

MISS PEARSON said that after the inspiring speech made by Mrs. Despard, she felt she wanted to think, not speak. With the giving of the vote, the fight for freedom had just begun. People do not realise that you go on fighting because you must. There are innumerable inequalities still in existence well known to the Women's Freedom League. Miss Pearson then said that the Victory of the Equal Franchise Bill had given the vote to four members of her family, so one family at least had got justice. The vote must be used for the benefit of humanity. Justice can be secured if we believe in it and go on.

The Women's Freedom League offers its thanks to all artistes, stallholders, and assistants for their valuable help in adding to the success of the Birthday Party. Special thanks are due to Miss Clare O'Brien and Miss Bromley, who entertained us so delightfully with songs and duets; to the Minerva Club, who were responsible for the catering; to Miss Minnie Culverwell, Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. Williams, Miss Webb, and Miss E. Berry, for their delightful flower stall, and to the many kind friends who sent flowers, including Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence, Mrs. Lloyd, Mrs. Waller, Miss Perry, Miss Underwood, Mrs. Fisher, Mrs. J. R. Knight, Mrs. Standen, and a basket from Cambridge; to Mrs. J. R. Knight, Miss O'Reilly, Mrs. Keelan, Miss Edith Thompson, and Miss D. Elias-Pritchard, for the strawberry and cream stall; to Miss Alix Clark, the Montgomery Boroughs Branch, Mrs. Elias-Pritchard, and the Misses Codd, for the Welsh produce stall; to Mr. Elias-Pritchard, for the very welcome ices; and to Mrs. Pierotti for the literature stall.

A WOMAN LORD GREAT CHAMBERLAIN?

The Sex Disqualification Act makes it possible for a woman to discharge, in person, the duties appertaining to the office of Lord Great Chamberlain.

The right to this office follows the rules of a barony by writ, in which priority of birth gives no co-heiress right over any other co-heiress. The four surviving daughters of the Marquess of Lincolnshire and the representatives of the late Viscountess Bury must decide who shall hold this office during the remainder of His Majesty's reign. That the holder of the office has always had a seat in the House of Lords does not make it obligatory, but rather strengthens the case for the admittance of women to the Upper House.

WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Epsom By-Election.

We offer our congratulations to Miss Keynes for polling 3,719 votes at the hotly-contested Epsom by-election.

An Ideal Parent.

Mrs. Childs, of Barrow-in-Furness, has won the first prize in the Council's competition for essays on "Ideal Parents."

Women Jockeys.

For the first time in France, women jockeys have appeared on the race course. There were six starters for the first event, a trotting match. It was won in splendid style by Mme. Marie Feraud, who led from the start of the race to the finish. The second contest, for horse-drawn vehicles, was won by Mme. Gaston Brunet.

A Woman Expert on Labour Law.

Miss Sophy Sanger, barrister, who was for five years chief of a section of the International Labour Office at Geneva, has been called to the Bar. Miss Sanger is an expert on Labour Law.

America's Leading Woman Publisher.

Mrs. Alfred Knopf, now the leading woman publisher in America, is still in her early thirties. The great firm of publishers, of which she is the head, is the result of a dream of fourteen years ago, when she and a young clerk decided to chance their fortunes as publishers.

A Danish Liberal M.P.

Madame Munch, a delegate to the International Liberal Conference and a Member of the Danish Parliament, shares with Mrs. Runciman the distinction of sitting in the same Parliament as her husband.

BIG JOBS NOT FOR WOMEN.

The following letter, which appeared in a recent issue of the *Daily News*, should discourage women who imagine that, with the franchise victory, the fight for equality is won:—

To the Editor of the DAILY NEWS.

Sir,—I was sorry, but not altogether surprised, to note that in the discussion of the possibilities of advancement for "youth" in big jobs you have published only the opinions of men who have confined themselves to young men's prospects. Very probably you did not ask them to do so; they did it instinctively.

This attitude goes to prove that only women of absolutely extraordinary ability (or influence) get chances at all, even meagre, and not always those, while women who are as good as, or somewhat better than, young men of promise, are not even considered when big jobs come along.

P. FRIEDMAN,

Association of Women Clerks and Secretaries.

CHILDREN AND THE POLICE.

The *Observer* reports that Middlesex Justices, at a meeting last Saturday, decided to ask the Home Secretary to receive a deputation on the matter of employing women police officers to take the statements of children and young girls in cases of sexual offences. The Home Office had written, pointing out that two women were available for the work throughout the Metropolitan Police District, but Miss Smea (Acton) said that it was the rarest event for a woman to be so employed in Middlesex, and a sufficient number of trained women ought to be employed in this work.

PRAISE FOR WOMEN POLICE.

The Chief Constable of Birmingham, Sir Charles Rafter, in a report recently issued by him, gives high praise to women police, and says he looks forward to an addition to their number shortly.

THE VOTE AND THE SAVIDGE CASE.

The publication of the two Savidge Reports is expected in a few days. Buy next week's VOTE to see what the Women's Freedom League has to say about them!

IN PARLIAMENT.

Hotel and Boarding House Employees (Hours of Work).

MISS WILKINSON (Lab., E. Middlesbrough) asked the Minister of Labour whether he is aware of the long hours worked in hotels and boarding-houses; and whether any steps can be taken to bring this employment under similar protection to that given by the Factory Acts? SIR W. JOYNSON-HICKS: My right hon. Friend has asked me to reply. Complaints of long hours are received from time to time, but I have no definite information. Waiters and others who are employed wholly or mainly in serving customers in the public restaurants of hotels come within the scope of the Shops Acts, 1912 and 1913, and have the benefit of the weekly half holiday and other provisions contained in those Acts. The ordinary domestic work carried on in these establishments stands on quite a different footing, and, while I should be prepared, of course, to consider any evidence of unsatisfactory conditions that might be brought to my notice, I do not think it would be practicable to deal with this class of employment on the lines of the Factory Acts.

Hyde Park (Prosecutions).

MR. DAY (Lab., Central Southwark) asked the Home Secretary whether he can state the number of charges for indecency or soliciting brought by the police under the Hyde Park Regulations during the month of June; whether any convictions were recorded; and, if so, how many; and how many of these cases were supported by uncorroborated police evidence? SIR W. JOYNSON-HICKS: The answer is "None."

MR. DAY: Does the right hon. Gentleman think that police activities in Hyde Park have been hampered by any recent investigation? SIR W. JOYNSON-HICKS: I would sooner not make an answer in regard to that matter. I did make a statement last week on the subject, in reply to a question. I think the less said, the sooner normal activity will be resumed.

MR. HAYES (Lab., Edge Hill) asked the Home Secretary the nature of the recommendation of the Director of Public Prosecutions in respect of the papers forwarded to him in the case of the two constables who arrested Sir Leo Money and Miss Savidge in Hyde Park? SIR W. JOYNSON-HICKS: I do not think that I should answer this question until the Report of the Tribunal has been published. Perhaps, therefore, the hon. Member will not press it, but will put it down again on this day week.

MR. HAYES: Does the right hon. Gentleman recognise that the reason for this question is not the Savidge Tribunal which, we understood, was set up entirely apart from what transpired in Hyde Park; and is it not the case that normal conditions are much more likely to be resumed if and when the officers know how far they are to receive the measure of justice which is, apparently, being meted out to other people? SIR W. JOYNSON-HICKS: I am exceedingly anxious, in the interests of these officers themselves, to arrive at a decision, but I do not think it would be right, in deference to the Commission, that I should express publicly any opinion with regard to these officers until I see whether or not the Commissioners make any remarks concerning them.

CAPT. ARTHUR EVANS (U., Cardiff, S.): In view of the right hon. Gentleman's observations, may the House take it that there is no truth in the newspaper report of a decision having been already arrived at? SIR W. JOYNSON-HICKS: No. My hon. and gallant Friend must know that I would not state to the House that I was postponing my decision awaiting the Report if I had received the Report. I have not received it.

MR. HORE-BELISHA (Lib., Devonport): When does the right hon. Gentleman expect to receive the Report of the Tribunal, and will it be published immediately on its receipt? SIR W. JOYNSON-HICKS: I hope to receive it this week. I am sure my hon. Friend will

allow me time to read it before I publish it. I will read it as soon as possible and publish it immediately afterwards.

MR. JOHNSTON (Lab., Dundee): Has the right hon. Gentleman's attention been drawn to the steady stream of tendentious propaganda, alleged to issue from someone in connection with the Home Office, the worst form of which appears in this morning's papers, in the reference to which the right hon. Gentleman has just given an emphatic denial? SIR W. JOYNSON-HICKS: I have noticed, of course, in the Press cuttings an enormous amount of references to the police and to myself—which I should gladly have escaped, within the last few days. I inquired at the Home Office as to whether anyone there was responsible for the particular article, and I am assured they were not.

London Lock Hospital.

MR. PETHICK-LAWRENCE (Lab., Leicester, W.) asked the Minister of Health how many meetings have taken place of the Committee appointed by him last March to inquire into the management, administration, and staffing of the London Lock Hospital, with special reference to the arrangements for the medical treatment of patients, and for their moral, social, and material welfare; and whether he can indicate when the Report is likely to be forthcoming? SIR KINGSLEY WOOD (Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Health): I understand that the Committee have held six meetings and have, in addition, visited a number of institutions. I am informed that the inquiry is approaching completion, but that the Committee are not yet able to say when they will conclude their labours. MR. PETHICK-LAWRENCE: If I put down a question immediately before the rising of Parliament, will the right hon. Gentleman be able to give me a date then? SIR K. WOOD: Perhaps the hon. Gentleman will take that course. I am not able, of course, to give him a definite reply.

League of Nations (British Delegation).

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON (U., Derbyshire, W.) asked the Prime Minister whether he can give the names of the British Delegation at the coming Assembly of the League of Nations? SIR AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN: I have been asked to reply. The delegates of His Majesty's Government in Great Britain to the forthcoming meeting of the Assembly of the League of Nations will be Lord Cushendon, Sir Cecil Hurst, Sir E. Hilton Young, Dame Edith Lyttelton, Mr. Duff Cooper, and myself.

Juveniles (Guide).

MR. KELLY (Lab., Rochdale) asked the Minister of Labour whether it is the intention of his Department to arrange for the issue to the public of the book prepared by his Department and the Juvenile Advisory Council as a guide to employment for boys and girls; and will this book be available to Members of the House of Commons? MR. BETTERTON (Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Labour): The "Guide to Employment for London Boys and Girls," compiled by the London Advisory Council for Juvenile Employment, to which no doubt the hon. Member's question refers, has now been issued as a Sale publication by the Stationery Office, at the price of 2s. Members can obtain a copy by applying to the Controller, His Majesty's Stationery Office, in the usual way. MR. KELLY: Is there any possibility of this book being published at a cheaper price than 2s., and will the attention of the people engaged in the various industries be called to this publication? MR. BETTERTON: The first supplementary question should be addressed to the Treasury. With regard to the second, I have read the Report, and it is a publication of the greatest possible value, and I hope that the utmost possible publicity will be given to it.

MRS. DESPARD'S (VICTORY) BIRTHDAY FUND. SEVENTEENTH YEAR. FIRST LIST OF CONTRIBUTIONS.

Table with columns for Branches, £ s. d., and names of contributors. Includes entries for Hampstead, Mid-London, Minerva Club, and various individuals.

£259 15 11

Women's Freedom League.

Offices: 144, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.1. President—Mrs. PETHICK-LAWRENCE. Hon. Treasurer—Dr. E. KNIGHT. Hon. Organising Secretary—Mrs. WHETTON. Hon. Head Literature Department—Mrs. PIEROTTI. Hon. Head Vote Sales Department—Miss RODGERS. General Secretary—Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD.



WHERE TO GO.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

DARE TO BE FREE. LONDON AND SUBURBS.

Wednesday, July 18th. No Tea and Politics-up-to-date Meeting. Wednesday, July 18th, at 8.30 p.m. Minerva Club Branch. Miss Edith Rodgers will give a Greek Reading (conclusion of series) at the Minerva Club, 56, Hunter Street, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Friday, September 28th, at 5 p.m. Organisation Sub-Committee Meeting at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1. Saturday, September 29th, at 10 a.m. National Executive Committee Meeting at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

PROVINCES.

Saturday, July 21st, at 3.30 p.m. Hastings. A Garden Meeting will be held at "Rossiana," Pine Avenue, Ore (by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Prelooker). Miss F. A. Underwood will speak on "The Life of Josephine Butler." Saturday, July 21st. Portsmouth Branch. Garden Meeting at Rowland's Castle. Hostess, Miss Whitehead. Saturday, July 28th. Ashford Branch. Garden Meeting at Grammar School Woods. Hostess, Mrs. Lamprey.

SCOTLAND.

Saturday, July 14th, at 2.30 p.m. Edinburgh Branch. Garden Fair at Heriot Hill House, Canonmills, to be opened by Mrs. Blair, of Hoprig Mains, Macmerry. Clyde Coast Campaign. From July 14th to August 11th. Meetings at Rothesay Pier Head, Dunoon, Millport, Largs, etc.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Friday, July 13th, at 8 p.m. Women's Indian Association. Public Meeting in the Caxton Hall, Westminster, on Indian Women in National and Social Life. Speakers: Dr. Annie Besant and Mrs. Dorothy Jinarajadasa. Chairman: Dr. Marian Phillips. Saturday, July 14th, at 3 p.m. Kensington and Paddington Society for Equal Citizenship. Garden Party (by kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Adrian Corbett) at Pembroke Lodge, Edwards Square, W.8. Tea, 1s. Sale of Work, Flowers, Fruit, etc. Speaker: Dr. Stella Churchill, L.C.C., on "Women's Right to Continue Work after Marriage." Chairman: Mrs. Corbett Ashby. Wednesday, July 18th, 3.30 to 8.30 p.m. National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship. Garden Party at Cliveden, Taplow, Bucks (by kind permission of the Viscountess Astor, M.P.). Tickets 5s. each, including entrance and tea, from the Women's Freedom League Office. Saturday, July 21st, at 3 p.m. Conference on "The Eleventh International Labour Conference at Geneva." To be held in the Drawing Room, London Central Y.M.C.A., Tottenham Court Road, W.C.1. Speakers: Mr. E. L. Poulton, O.B.E., J.P., Mr. J. E. Herbert, I.L.O. Staff, Geneva, and Captain L. H. Green, M.A. Chairman: Sir Atul C. C. Natterjee, K.C.I.E., High Commissioner for India.

HOW TO ESTABLISH YOUR FUTURE ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE BY SETTING UP A RETIRING FUND.

Write or Telephone to— MISS W. MARY NEW, (Women's Section) SCOTTISH EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY 13, CORNHILL, E.C.3. Phones: AVENUE 1672 and 2253.

Tickets 1s., including tea. Apply Mr. G. A. Innes, London Regional Federation, L.N.U., 43, Russell Square, W.C.1. Wednesday, July 25th, at 8 p.m. British-American Women's Crusade. Public Meeting at Queen's Hall, in support of the Kellogg Peace Proposals. Friday, July 27th, to Friday, August 10th. Women's International League. International Summer School in Westhill Training College, Selly Oak, near Birmingham.

BRANCH NOTES.

EDINBURGH.

On Thursday, July 5th, by kind permission of Sir John Gilmour, the Women's Freedom League joined with the Vegetarian Society in a very enjoyable ramble round the famous grounds of "The Inch," Liberton. On Saturday, July 14th, at 2.30 p.m., the Woman's Suffrage Reunion and Victory Sale will be opened by Mrs. Blair, of Hoprig Mains, in the garden at Heriot Hill House. This will be preceded by a Workers' Party from 6 to 10 p.m., on Friday evening, at the same address, to make final arrangements, when Mrs. MacLeod Easson will be pleased to see all who can be useful in any way. Admission to the Garden Fête is by ticket, price 6d., to be obtained at the gate, or in advance from Heriot Hill House, at which address also goods for the tea or any of the various stalls will be gratefully received. We are relying on members and friends to do all they can to make this event a great success.

LILIAN LENTON.

OUR OPEN COLUMN.

Dear Madam,—I think all women voters and readers of the Vote should unite to prevent the militarism of the Police Force. The safety of the community depends largely upon the type of police we have, and the Department should be a civilian, not a military one. Women have now a voice in all these matters; let them use their power to preserve the country from any attempt at substituting military dominion for civil dominion in this department. Let them demand a proper supply of Women Police in every grade of the service. Meetings should be organised for this purpose, and deputations arranged to those in authority.—I am, yours faithfully, EUNICE G. MURRAY.

GARDEN PARTY AT CLIVEDEN.

The National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship are having a Garden Party to celebrate the Passing of the Equal Franchise Bill, and to meet Dame Millicent Fawcett, G.B.E., at Cliveden, Taplow, Bucks (by kind permission of the Viscountess Astor, M.P.), on Wednesday, July 18th, from 3.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. Tickets, 5s. each. All-weather motor coaches are being specially chartered from Central London at an inclusive return fare of 3s., or cheap Day railway tickets to Taplow, price 2s. 10d. return, can be obtained from the N.U.S.E.C. Office beforehand.

VICTORY CLYDE COAST CAMPAIGN.

This Saturday our 1928 Campaign will be in full swing. Miss Lenton is the organiser in charge, and she will welcome offers of help from friends in the neighbourhood. Rothesay is again our Headquarters, with meetings every evening at the Pier Head. Afternoon meetings will be held at Dunoon, Millport, Largs, etc. Look out for the reports of the "Victory" Campaign!

INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL.

The Women's International League are arranging an International Summer School in Westhill Training College, Selly Oak, near Birmingham, from Friday, July 27th, to Friday, August 10th. The subject to be discussed is "New Theories of Government (Socialism, Bolshevism, Fascism, etc.), and their Relation to International Peace."

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/-

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JULY 13,
1928.

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HAMPSTEAD.—Pleasant Bed-sitting-room in private flat, opposite Belsize Park Tube. Gas stove with ring, 25/- weekly, or 35/- including breakfast, baths, electric light. Seen by appointment. Recommended by Society of Friends, —Box "T 169," THE VOTE, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

PROFESSIONAL or Business Lady required to share well-furnished first-floor Flat. Large bedroom, vacant end of June, suitable for one; or two sharing; use of kitchen, bath, and large sitting-room, electric light. Splendid position, overlooking Finsbury Park.—324, Seven Sisters Road, N.4. Close Tube station. Trams and buses to all parts. Apply after 5 p.m.

HOTELS.

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

ATTRACTIVE and really comfortable Private Hotel, in quiet gardens, Kensington. Bed and breakfast 8/6, 7/6, other meals as desired. Very hot water. Same people return time after time, others reside years. Close tube, District Railway, and buses. Wire or phone Frobisher 6693 or write Box "G. J.," "THE VOTE" Office, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

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FREEHOLD, grass farm 7½ acres, new house, 2 reception, 3 bed-rooms, bath (h. & c.). Garage and building, close, village main road. Price £950. Ashford 4 miles.—MOCKFORD, "Rosecote," Kingsnorth, Ashford, Kent.

SMALL Freehold Bungalow—3 rooms, 1 acre land, garage, etc. Company's water. Kingsnorth near Ashford, Kent. All at £95; bargain.—Write "L.C." 20, Sutherland Avenue, W.9.

COMPACT BUNGALOW in Surrey Hills, Pine and Heather, 400 feet up. Sandy loam gravel; 4 miles Hindhead and Haslemere; secluded, good view over extensive country; living room, two bedrooms; ½-acre. Cash sale, £275.—ARCHDALE, Moordell, Brier Avenue, Witley, Surrey.

REST AND HOLIDAYS.

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

FRENCH ALPS.—Furnished Chalet to let. View Mt. Blanc, Seven beds, bath, inside sanitation.—"E.C.F.," 31, Meadhurst Road, Leicester.

YORKSHIRE MOORS.—Apartments. Sitting and 1 or 2 bedrooms; inside sanitation; bath; garden.—ROBINSON, 6, South View, Eldwick, Bingley, Yorks.

NEAR FOLKESTONE.—Three friends offer a charming holiday home; large garden; tennis; garage.—MISS HASLAM, The Grey House, Lyminge, Kent.

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BATH.—2 miles, ¼-hour by tram. Vegetarian Holiday Home. Parties taken. Cubicles 30/- week; single rooms £2 5s.; shared rooms £2 2s. 6d.—Batheaston Villa, Bath.

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CHILTERN.—Attractive little house, fine view, 3 bed, 2 sitting-rooms. Modern conveniences. Electric light. July-August.—COBB, Chinnor, Oxon.

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HAMPTON COURT (near to).—Paying Guests required. Golf, river, railway station, 5 mins., Waterloo station, 33 minutes.—APPLEBY, Wolsley Road, E. Molesey, Surrey.

CORNWALL.—Well-furnished kitchen and double bedroom to let in farmhouse. No attendance; every convenience. Garage, if required. Good motoring centre.—SELSEY, St. Stephen's, St. Austell.

TRADE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

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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.

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

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Guild-house, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Sunday, July 15th, 1928. 6.30. Miss Margaret Bondfield, J.P., M.P.: "The Fellowship of the Holy Ghost."

QUEEN'S HALL, Langham Place, W.1 (Sole Lessees, Messrs. Chappell & Co.), DR. ANNIE BESANT, Sunday next, July 15th, at 7 p.m. "A VISION OF THE FUTURE." Admission free. Tickets 6d, 1/-, 2/6, 5/-. Box Office, Langham Place, W.1.

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