

# THE VOTE

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

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ONE PENNY.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 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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## XLI.—WHEN I AM M.P.

COUNCILLOR MARY KINGSMILE JONES, Prospective Conservative Member for Ardwick.

Most of us who aspire to become members of Parliament probably have already spent some years in public service as social workers, or holding such positions as Poor Law Guardians, Town or County Councillors or Magistrates.

In any case it seems likely that the very same reason which in the first instance urged us into the strenuous path of public service, will continue to urge us on our way through the House of Commons. The same ideals will persist; the same vision will beckon us.

Each of us has our own special inspiration. In my own case I have always felt that the three great principles of Conservatism as laid down by Mr. Disraeli, and so faithfully followed by our present Prime Minister, Mr. Baldwin, express for me my faith and my ideal of public service.

These three articles of my political creed are:—

- (1) To uphold the constitution of the country.
- (2) To maintain the Empire.
- (3) To elevate the condition of the people.

Any departure from the whole of this or any reservation from it makes one's political faith and public service a poor maimed thing, instead of something which, rising above all the petty annoyances and small dis-

comforts of public life, reaches out confidently and surely towards the larger vision and the brighter day.

Translating one's ideals into the cold hard facts of every-day life, in what way would one work for these ideals? Taking the third article first, for my part I

would like to see more done for the housing of the less well-paid worker. It is impossible to avoid feeling that this problem, so far from being successfully dealt with, has scarcely yet been touched.

We who represent industrial areas on public bodies know how pressing it is and how necessary for the well-being of the whole community that some speedy solution should be found. I am not indicating any particular way; many are suggested, some more satisfactory than others. Experts have solved problems far more intricate than this, and yet of less vital interest to the community as a whole.

The clearance of slum areas and the re-conditioning of old houses are two useful items in the programme of the present Government, and now that the housing of the better-paid worker has been successfully accomplished, the rest should proceed quickly.

In matters of Public Health every woman must necessarily feel a deep interest in the endeavour of the Minister of Health to reduce maternal mortality and would feel it incumbent on her to render every assistance possible.

In this as in other branches of Public Health money spent is real economy, since the health of a nation is the

wealth of a nation. Money spent in the prevention of disease will return to us in added work and therefore in added wealth far more than the traditional sevenfold.

It seems likely that the future of Public Health administration will develop upon gradually increasing



COUNCILLOR MARY KINGSMILE JONES.



lines of prevention. The day perhaps is not so far distant when the ordinary citizen will be inoculated against Small-Pox, Tuberculosis, Influenza, Cancer, and the various other diseases which may have overtaken us by that time. But before we can reach that stage a vast amount of educational work has to be accomplished. The public conscience still remains extraordinarily insensitive on the subject of spreading disease.

In Education what should be one's aims? Amongst other things, smaller classes and free places in Secondary Schools for all who are capable of profiting by prolonged education, more generous maintenances for needy cases, enabling them in greater numbers not merely to prolong their school life but to proceed to the Universities, using their opportunities and developing their talents with

benefit alike to themselves and to the State. For these and many other aims one would work, remembering always that Education, in its best and widest sense, means the development of character.

Finally, to uphold the constitution of the country and to maintain this great Empire. With these aims before them, the men and women of our country in the past have lived, suffered, and died. We would be false to them and to our great charge if by word or deed we did violence to these two articles of our belief. It is our share, being, in Disraeli's words, "the trustees of posterity," to keep intact, with its honour undimmed and undiminished, our great heritage, handing it on in trust as we ourselves have received it.

## A FIRST FLIGHT.

By MARIAN OLIVER.

It really was quite an adventure for two staid, middle-aged people like ourselves. D. had always had a keen desire to go up in an aeroplane, and now—here was an opportunity: an opportunity not to be missed.

"Well," I said, "if go you must, I intend to come too. I have no wish to be left all alone in a strange country, so we may as well get killed together."

We were staying for a fortnight in Heidelberg, Beautiful Heidelberg, where we had spent many happy days some thirty years ago, but we had never revisited it until now. We were only seven miles from Mannheim, the nearest air-station, and a German friend volunteered to arrange the expedition. We did the seven miles there by train, and during the short railway journey, my mind was busy with speculations as to the coming flight. What would it be like—up there in the sky—I wondered; and what guarantee had I that our venture would not end in disaster. Was it possible that I could, later on, be making the return journey by train, whole and uninjured? Of course one knew one was bound to come down again, but how.....!

Then I thought—what should I have said, those thirty years ago, had such a possibility as this on my next visit been suggested to me. After that my thoughts flew back, further still—to the advent of trains. Perhaps, I said to myself, just one hundred years ago, some ancestress of mine had quaked in her shoes at the prospect of a first railway journey. How ridiculous it all seemed to one's present enlightened outlook.

At the same time it did appear a somewhat terrifying monster—that huge, ungainly machine—dragged and pushed from its shed like some unwilling beast; and what an absurdly small space there was in which to deposit ourselves. Just a deep little well—only large enough to take in the two of us—with diminutive round wooden stools on which to sit.

Thanks to the long straight take-off at the station, the actual rise from the ground was scarcely noticeable, and the motion of the plane was smooth and even, but oh! the buffeting, and the force of the wind flung back by the propeller! And the noise! I tried hard to believe I was enjoying myself in much the same way as I should, were I taking a ride behind Aunt Susan's twenty-two-

year-old in the country lanes at home, but I found it a decided strain on my imagination. As things really were, not only was it impossible to open one's mouth without running a grave risk of having anything one might possess in the form of artificial teeth blown away, but it would have been equally impossible to hear each other speak had we attempted to do so. Did one relax—if only for a moment—a strict endeavour to keep lips firmly closed, one's cheeks were immediately puffed out in a way which could only bring to mind the infantile practice of blowing soap bubbles.

What a novel experience it was, too, to find oneself right off the face of the earth; an object in the sky to those beneath us, while they, to us, were mere crawling midgits. We had stipulated for a flight over Heidelberg, and the half-hour we were allowed gave ample time for a contemplation of old haunts. On our arrival from England we had spent a whole morning searching in vain amongst countless new buildings for the house we had occupied more than a quarter of a century ago. And presently, as we gazed down over the sides of our chariot, D. touched my arm and pointed—pointed to a small white section in a block of dwellings mapped out beneath us. There was no mistaking it from where we were.

But I think what appealed to me more than all was a clear-cut shadow of the aeroplane on the earth beneath. It seemed to follow and ensure protection, like a guardian angel, and really I had some excuse for this fancy. The day was a beautiful one, with not a cloud in the sky, and therefore, I knew well this shadow could only disappear with a crash to the ground.

However, as may be supposed, or I should not be here to tell the tale, my fears as to the climax of the trip were quite groundless. We reached *terra-firma* again none the worse for the adventure, and, before leaving the station, were fortunate enough to witness the arrival of an air-liner.

That air-liner was a revelation. We took in every detail of its luxuriously-fitted cabin. We noted with admiration every contrivance for the comfort of a passenger, and I made up my mind there and then, without the slightest hesitation that—on the very first opportunity—I would take a ride in one of these.

Other issues of the series, "When I am M.P.":—Miss JESSIE STEPHEN, August 17, 1928; Dr. MARION PHILLIPS, August 10, 1928; Mrs. C. D. RACKHAM, J.P., M.A., June 15, 1928; Miss ENID LAPHORN, June 1, 1928; Miss H. M. KEYNES, May 25, 1928; Mrs. HAMILTON, February 17, 1928; Miss F. B. WIDDOWSON, January 6, 1928; Mrs. TOWNSEND, September 16, 1927; Mrs. MASSINGHAM, August 19, 1927; Miss RUBY PART, June 3, 1927; Miss ELEANOR STEWART, May 13, 1927; Mrs. BEATRICE A. BAYFIELD, April 29, 1927; Mrs. PANKHURST, February 25, 1927; Miss MONICA WHALEY, January 21, 1927; Miss ELISABETH EDWARDES, January 7, 1927; Miss MARY RICHARDSON, September 24, 1926; The Lady RATHCREEDAN, August 27, 1926; Mrs. CECILIA STREETEN, April 2, 1926; Dr. STELLA CHURCHILL, March 12, 1926; Mrs. MURIEL MATTERS PORTER, September 12, 1924; Mrs. ANNE CORNER, August 29, 1924; Mrs. LOUIE SIMPSON, J.P., August 15, 1924; Councillor ELLEN C. WILKINSON, M.A., July 4, 1924; Miss MINNIE PALLISTER, July 6, 1923; Miss C. PICTON-TURBERVILLE, September 8, 1922; Mrs. HAMILTON MORE-NESBITT, August 18, 1922; Mrs. BURNETT SMITH, June 30, 1922; Lady CURRIE, April 7, 1922; Mrs. STEWART BROWN, March 31, 1922; Miss HELEN FRASER, March 24, 1922; Lady COOPER, March 17, 1922; Commandant MARY S. ALLEN, O.B.E., February 17, 1922; Miss MARY P. GRANT, January 6, 1922; Mrs. MARJORIE PEASE, J.P., October 28, 1921; Mrs. AYRTON GOULD, October 21, 1921; Dr. ETHEL BENTHAM, October 7, 1921; Mrs. WINTRINGHAM, M.P., September 23, 1921; Mrs. ELEANOR BARTON, August 26, 1921; Mrs. SCOTT GATTY, August 12, 1921; Mrs. CORBETT ASHBY, July 15, 1921.

## WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

### Mrs. Masterman as Liberal Candidate.

Mrs. C. F. G. Masterman, widow of the Rt. Hon. Charles Masterman, and daughter of General Sir Neville Lyttelton, has been adopted as the Liberal Parliamentary Candidate for the Salisbury Division of Wiltshire. Mrs. Masterman helped her husband in all his political contests, and is a very able speaker.

### Another Woman Parliamentary Candidate.

Miss Helen Schilizzi, daughter of Mr. Stephen Schilizzi, of Guilsborough Court, Northamptonshire, has been adopted as Prospective Liberal Candidate for Northampton. Miss Schilizzi is 24 years of age, and is a niece of the Greek Minister, Venizelos. Her family has been settled in England for four generations.

### Dame Ethel Smyth Conducts Festival Performance.

At the Three-Choir Festival at Gloucester last Wednesday, Dame Ethel Smyth directed her Mass in D, and appeared in the Academic dress of a Doctor of Music, with mortar-board and robes of cream and scarlet. This is the first time in the history of the Three-Choir Festival that a woman has conducted a festival performance.

### Dame Ethel Lyttelton on Opium Committee.

Dame Edith Lyttelton has been elected to the League of Nations Committee dealing with the question of the control of opium smoking in the Far East.

### The First Forewoman at the Old Bailey.

For the first time a woman acted as foreman of a jury at the Old Bailey on Tuesday. She is said to have delivered the verdict in crisp, businesslike tones.

### A Famous Butter Maker.

Mrs. Mary Featherstone, of East Black Dene, an octogenarian exhibitor, was awarded two first prizes for butter at the recent Weardale Show. Mrs. Featherstone has been a competitor at shows all over the country, and has won numerous prizes.

### Europe's First and Oldest Woman Doctor.

Dr. Mathilde Theyssen, who claims to be the first and oldest woman doctor in Europe, has just celebrated her goth birthday in her home near Freiburg. During the Franco-German war, she attended the wounded on the battlefields and was herself twice injured. Dr. Theyssen is still strong and active.

### Girl Swimmer's Fine Championship.

Miss Babs Baker has won five championships at the Inter-Insular Swimming Gala at Jersey.

### Two Women Candidates for Congress.

Charlotte Anita Whitney has been nominated by the Workers' Communist Party of America as the candidate for California, and Ruth B. Pratt, who was the first woman member of the New York City Board of Aldermen, by the Republican Party.

### From Stenographer to Manager.

Miss Olive E. Frank, of Buffalo, began work twelve years ago as a stenographer in an engineering and heating undertaking. She now manages a similar enterprise of her own, and has designed and patented some special engines and condensers.

### A Woman Mathematician.

Dr. Dorothy Wrinch, M.A., F.R.A.S., sometime Fellow of Girton College, has been elected as a representative of the University of Oxford at the International Congress of Mathematicians at Bologna. A few years ago Dr. Wrinch married Dr. J.W. Nicholson, M.A., F.R.S., Fellow and Tutor of Balliol. They have one small daughter.

### Girl Breaks World's Altitude Record.

Miss Eleanor Smith, aged seventeen, has broken the world's altitude record for a woman solo pilot by ascending to a height of 11,663 feet at New York.

### A Chinese Girl Aviator.

A Chinese girl, aged eighteen, has recently been appointed flying instructor to the Chinese Nationalists.

### Woman Professor of Chemistry for Turkey.

Mrs. Lindbergh, the mother of the airman, has sailed for Turkey to teach at a Woman's College. She has accepted an appointment as Visiting Professor of Chemistry.

### CHELTENHAM BY-ELECTION.

The writ for the Cheltenham by-election, caused by the death of Sir James Agg-Gardner, has been received at Cheltenham. Nominations are fixed for to-morrow (Saturday), and polling will take place on September 26th. The candidates are Sir Walter Preston (Conservative), Sir John Brunner (Liberal), and Miss Florence Widdowson (Labour), to whom we send best wishes for her success.

### WOMEN ON FACTORY INSPECTION INQUIRY.

The Home Secretary has appointed a Committee to consider and report what additions to the factory inspectorate are required, whether any changes in the organisation are desirable, as a result of the new Factory Bill. The members are Sir Vivian Henderson, M.P. (chairman), Sir Gerald Bellhouse, Mr. R. Bannatyne, Mr. Kenneth Lee, Miss H. Martindale, and Mrs. C. D. Rackham.

### WOMEN SUFFRAGISTS IN CEYLON.

*The Ceylon Indian* of August 19th reports that a public meeting for the formation of a Women's Franchise Union was held the previous week at the Town Hall, Kandy (formerly the native capital of Ceylon). There was a large and representative gathering. Mrs. Rambuckwella, who presided, in a speech full of historical references, opened the proceedings of the meeting. Mr. Webb, who spoke next, laid emphasis on the difficulties the country has to meet in working the new reforms. He called on his audience to co-operate with each other in making the New Constitution a success. He made an appeal to his audience to sink all petty differences for the welfare of the country. Mrs. Rajaratnam, who was elected president of the Women's Franchise Union, Kandy, then followed with a brilliant speech. If the suffragettes continue their activities with such vigour and brilliance, it will not be a surprise to see some of them in the Reformed Council. They receive enough encouragement from the politically articulate section of the community in all parts of the island. Organisation and an intensive propaganda can alone make this movement a success. Soon the electoral registers will be got up, and women all over the island will take the opportunity to exercise their rights of citizenship.

### WHERE WOMEN EXCEL MEN.

#### THE GREAT INTERNATIONAL ENDURANCE RIDE.

The three famous women motor-cyclists—Mrs. McLean, Miss Marjorie Cottle, and Miss E. Foley—who won the International Vase for this country last year, comprise Britain's premier team in this year's contest for the trophy in the International Six Days' Trial, which began at Harrogate on September 10th. The men who form the reserve team—F. W. Giles, Grahame Walker, and L. Crisp—are each of them famous riders.

Over one hundred riders are taking part in the contest, in which England, Ireland, Sweden, Denmark and Holland are competing. Every team, with the exception of the British team, is composed of men.

Miss Cottle, who has many gold medals to her credit, and Miss Foley—an expert hill climber—have toured over 5,000 miles through Europe this year.

This year the course has its headquarters at Harrogate. The total length of the route, which includes 160 hills of more than 1-in-7 gradient, is 880 miles. We hope next week to record another victory to these world-famous women motor-cyclists.



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NOTICE.—Letters should be addressed as follows:—  
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 To the Secretary—on all other business, including VOTE orders,  
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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.

### WOMEN IN POLITICAL LIFE.

We are pleased to see that more women are being adopted as candidates for the next General Election, and, whatever their party colour, we wish them every possible success. We cannot believe that the 14,500,000 women electors in this country will be content with only eight women in the House of Commons, only one woman in the Government, and no women at all in the House of Lords. It is true that the three political parties are traditionally male—they were founded by men at a time when women were excluded from all political power, they have been and still are practically financed by men, and their machinery has been made and worked almost exclusively by men. The fact, however, that all women over twenty-one now have the Parliamentary vote, and that women form the majority of voters in so many constituencies, must inevitably make some difference to these parties, and the party which can win the greatest amount of support from the new electors will surely be the party returned to power. Parties, like people, must adapt themselves to the requirements of the age in which they live. What is the chief requirement of the new women electors? Briefly, it is to be placed on an equal footing with men. The present Parliament has given them equal voting rights; now women want to gain political as well as economic equality with men. They have no desire to be legislated for by men only in our Houses of Parliament, or in international bodies like the League of Nations or the International Labour Organisation. Women want to see members of their own sex among the legislators; they ask for a fair field and no favour in every branch of our national and international life. At present, there is no woman in the Cabinet, and only one woman in the Government. With eighty women, better still, with three hundred women in the House of Commons, instead of the present eight, how many posts in the Cabinet and the Government might not women expect to fill? But before women can have a chance of getting into the House of Commons, they must be adopted as candidates in the constituencies. In this matter local women must take a hand in their own affairs, see that women get on to their parties' Selection Committees, press uncompromisingly for the adoption of a woman as a candidate whenever there is a suitable woman available in their party, and work ceaselessly for her return to Parliament. With more women in Parliament it would be so much easier to secure the removal of the injustices and disabilities under which women now suffer. How could women Members of Parliament vote against equal pay for women with men, when they themselves receive the same salaries as their men colleagues in the House of Commons? How could married women Members oppose the right of married women teachers, doctors, or any other kind of woman worker to work for payment outside their homes? Is it likely that women Members of Parliament would deny to fully-qualified peeresses the right to membership of the House of

Lords, or that they would oppose the opening of the Diplomatic and Consular Services and other high posts in our Civil Service to women? Men do not see the necessity for women's advance in these directions; they simply ignore women's claims to equal opportunities with themselves. Last week the Press was discussing possible changes in the Cabinet in the near future. It was stated that a few highly-placed members of the Government would not be available for office after the General Election, and, assuming that Mr. Baldwin would again be asked to form a Government, we were given a list of likely men who might fill their places. Only one paper, and that rather grudgingly, suggested the possibility of Lady Astor being offered a Government post. We want to see women of all parties in sufficient numbers in the House of Commons, so that whichever party has the greatest success at the polls, it will be necessary for that party to reserve some of its seats in the Cabinet and in the Government for its women supporters.

### A MARRIED WOMAN'S FIGHT FOR INDEPENDENCE.

Mrs. Doris Bent, the young Lancashire teacher, who has been asked to resign her post on the ground that she is a married woman, is continuing her duties despite the fact that she is still receiving no salary. The National Union of Teachers have taken up her case. Mr. Goldstone, the secretary, points out that when Mrs. Bent was appointed to her present post there was no regulation of the local authorities which would prevent a woman who had married from teaching in their schools, and that the regulation was made after her appointment. He adds that the Union are determined to support the school managers to enforce the payment of the salary to the teacher and their claim to retain her services. It has been laid down that marriage is not an "education ground" on which a teacher can be dismissed from a non-provided school, and it is incomprehensible to us why the Education Authority should have interfered in this matter. The managers of the school in which Mrs. Bent taught were evidently well satisfied with her work. Why should an outside body, because of its ridiculous prejudice against married women working for money, be allowed to upset the managers' arrangements, and, incidentally, throw a woman out of employment? There is an Act on the Statute Book—the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, 1919, the first Clause of which enacts that "a person shall not be disqualified by sex or marriage from the exercise of any public function, or from being appointed to or holding any civil or judicial office or post, or carrying on any civil profession or vocation." How much longer are local authorities to be allowed to defy that law with impunity?

### WOMEN'S JOBS.

A few weeks ago we reported that the Scarborough Town Council had decided to appoint two women as estate managers. We now learn that this Corporation runs seventeen cafés in its parks and open spaces, and that they are controlled by Mrs. Whitfield, a former Mayoress of the town, the only woman member of its Council. The Corporation entered into the business because private persons complained that they could not make the cafés profitable, but under the management of Mrs. Whitfield they have had a turnover of £25,000. Mrs. Whitfield has renounced all amusements to give her attention in a voluntary capacity to the cafés. To an interviewer she said: "I find it practically a whole-time job, seven days a week, during the season. It is essentially a woman's job." We are reminded that a good many years ago the late Lady Dockrell, elected to one of the Dublin City authorities, mastered the subject of finance—till then unknown to her—and effected such helpful economies that her grateful co-workers made her their chairman.

## OUR CHANNEL CHAMPION.

On Thursday, September 6th, the Women's Freedom League had the honour of entertaining their celebrated member, Miss Ivy Hawke, at the Minerva Club.

Miss Ivy Hawke's health was proposed by Dr. Knight and drunk with enthusiasm. We greatly appreciated our guest's kindness in coming to us that evening after crossing over from France in the morning and receiving a big Civic Reception at Folkestone in the afternoon.

Mrs. Nevinson, J.P., in congratulating Miss Hawke, said she regretted having been born too soon. As a child she was a better swimmer than her brothers, but was not allowed to swim in canals or ponds because they were not for "young ladies." Shortly after her marriage she suggested that the Hampstead Ponds should be opened to women and a terrible uproar arose. However, the swimming baths were shortly afterwards opened to women one day a week, and eventually the big pond at Highgate tried the experiment. Mrs. Nevinson recalled an article she had written at the time, showing the absurdity of the idea that fresh water swimming was immoral and only salt water swimming decent where women were concerned, and said she was as proud of that article as of anything she had ever written.

In reply Miss Hawke said that nothing could have given her greater pleasure, now that she had done something to make her "an equal to man," than to be the honoured guest of the Women's Freedom League. She hoped shortly to accomplish something more for her sex in being the first woman to swim from England to France, and she also hoped to swim the Straits of Gibraltar. The encouragement she had received from women had been most helpful, and in future she would have the credit of the Women's Freedom League to uphold.

Brief speeches were then given by various members of the League, including Mrs. Jay, Miss Raleigh, and Miss Hurry. Mrs. Flowers, who described herself as "a born sinker," wished success to Mrs. Nevinson's excellent work in trying to secure greater swimming facilities for women at the Public Swimming Baths, and said that when opportunities for visiting the Baths are increased, she hoped to become more courageous, and perhaps, eventually, swim the Channel!

Miss Tooke, J.P., spoke of the endurance, courage and optimism displayed by Miss Hawke in fighting on when the current was holding her back. She quoted the case of the two frogs who fell into some milk—the one, a pessimist, said: "I shall surely be drowned," and he was; the other—an optimist, resolved: "I must get out of this," and he was finally discovered smiling on a pat of butter! Miss Hawke's triumph was due to tenacity of purpose.

It was with great pleasure that the Women's Freedom

### OUR BOOK REVIEW.

*The Vision Expressed, or The Soul of Public Speaking.* By E. Esdaile. Price 3s. 6d. (Published by the Marshall Press Ltd.) Can be obtained from this office.

This is a pleasing and useful book on the art of public speaking. Mr. Esdaile insists that all speech is expressed vision. He points out that the whole object of speaking is persuasion, but unless the speaker himself be persuaded he cannot hope to persuade his auditors; and he reminds the would-be speaker that work, hard work, is absolutely essential if he wishes to obtain any measure of success. *The Vision Expressed*, however, is not a dissertation on the art of elocution, but chiefly consists of selections from speakers, including the King, the Prince of Wales, the Prime Minister, Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, and others, and from writers and poets of to-day. Readers will be delighted to find among these Selections "A Message to Youth—Courage," the famous Speech by Sir J.M. Barrie to Scottish University students.

The influence of the speaker was never greater than it is to-day, and to those who wish to acquire that influence and to become speakers in public, this little book will be really helpful.

League listened to the tribute paid to the Channel champion by her mother. Mrs. Hawke said that the patient endurance shown by her daughter in training had been a lesson to herself. It was to the patient work of women like Josephine Butler that women owed their present level. Mrs. Hawke said she remembered the day when for a girl to take off her shoes and stockings to paddle in a stream was considered "unladylike." She was glad to say that woman had at last got on an equal footing with men.

In response to the request made by Mrs. How Martyn, we had the unexpected pleasure of hearing Miss Hawke relate some of the experiences of a channel swim. "The most important thing of all," said Miss Hawke, "is the training." A Channel aspirant must spend one and a half hours each day swimming, must take a daily 5-mile walk, and every week must take at least one 5-hours' swim. On the night of her great adventure there was no moon, and the light on the pilot vessel shone in her eyes and worried her exceedingly. The reason she found the first four hours so trying was that she had not intended to attempt the Channel at night, and had not rested the previous day. She should have entered the water at 10 a.m., but owing to bad weather conditions, the attempt had to be given up, and she spent the day as usual. However, at 7 p.m. she received a telephone message saying that the weather was favourable and advising her to make the attempt. Her trainer was out at sea, so she tossed up and the toss decided her fate. After a meal and a final greasing, she set out to conquer. But the fatigue of the day told upon her, "she felt that she ought to be tired," and for the first few hours she suffered from head-ache and hoped that her escort would persuade her to give up. "But," said Miss Hawke, "they never did, and at dawn I felt better. I had had my rest in the sea!" Russian tea given to her after she had been swimming seven hours, caused her much discomfort from sea-sickness. Three pears, and one bar of chocolate was all the nourishment she took during her swim. After she had been in the water 12 hours, it was thought she would reach Dover in record time. The tide caught her and her five hours fight against wind and tide began. This is the first time the Channel has been swum on a spring-tide. Miss Hawke said that it is quite erroneous to imagine there is any opportunity to float on a Channel swim. "If you miss an inch you will have to swim yards to make it up. There is no rest to it. You must even walk up the beach unaided."

Miss Hawke said she retained consciousness throughout—a fact commented upon by her trainer, Mr. Burgess. When people began to ask her if she realised what a great thing she had done, she said she felt she was glad she had got across, that was all.

### PROPAGANDA FROM THE AIR.

During the Suffragette Campaign in this country the aeroplane was in its infancy; hence, with the exception of floating a balloon over the Houses of Parliament displaying the oft-repeated "Votes for Women," and Miss Muriel Matters' ascent in an airship on February 16, 1909, to shower down leaflets at the opening of Parliament, suffragists in this country had to confine their activities to the solid earth. We learn that the determined women of South America have enlisted the aeroplane to their aid. Bertha Lutz, President of the Brazilian Federation for Women's Progress, and Clotilde Mello Vianna, Secretary to the Federation, recently flew from Rio de Janeiro to Natal, a distance of 1,000 miles, scattering the literature of their organisation. The familiar cry, "Votes for Women," was displayed in Portuguese on the wings of their aeroplane. We congratulate the women of South America on this excellent method they have initiated for awakening interest.

"It is a man's job to get up and warm the milk for the baby."—Mr. A. H. Bowser, Chairman of Mansfield Bench.



## NEWS FROM INDIA.

We are indebted to *Stri-Dharma*, the official organ of the Women's Indian Association, for the following news:—

Shrimati Bhagirathi Sri Ram has been nominated to the Chingleput District Educational Council. She is also Lady-in-charge of the Baby Welcome Centre at Adyar, where about one hundred children are attended every day.

Shrimati Thattakkat Janaki Amma has been appointed a magistrate for Trichur.

Shrimati Sharadabai Naidu, who has finished her training as a fully-qualified nurse in the Poona Seva Sadan, is proceeding to England with a scholarship from the League of Red Cross Societies, Paris, for her post-graduate course.

Three women—Mrs. Sharadabai Sumant Mehta, Miss M. Petit, and Shrimati B. Desai—and three men formed the recent Bardoli deputation to the Governor of Bombay, to discuss negotiations between the peasants and the Government.

*Stri-Dharma* also gives an account of two Bills which Rai Sahib Harbilas Sardas is introducing in the Assembly this month. The first proposes to give relief to Hindu widows by giving them a share in family property and making them sole heirs to their deceased husband's personal property; and the second proposes to reduce the Court fees for poor widows who have to sue for maintenance. This same Member will also move the following resolution in the Assembly:—

"This Assembly recommends to the Governor-General the appointment of a Committee, consisting of Members of the Legislative Assembly and others, to examine the law relating to the following points regarding the status and rights of women in India, and after taking evidence, to recommend necessary legislation to ensure the Indian women their just rights: (1) The right of a daughter to a share in paternal property; (2) Penalising marriage of a man over forty years of age with a girl below a certain age in communities in which widow marriage does not obtain; (3) Rights of a woman deserted by her husband; (4) Right of a wife whose husband during her lifetime marries another woman."

According to *The Times*, the Legislative Assembly considered, last Saturday, a Bill to make it a criminal offence to solemnise or to assist at the solemnisation of the marriage of a boy under eighteen or a girl under fourteen. The Bill as originally introduced provided only to make such marriages invalid. The Madras Brahmin, M. R. Ry, Mangadu Krishnama Acharya Avargal, who represents Hindu orthodoxy in these matters in the Assembly, then supported it. He now strenuously, but fruitlessly, opposed it on the ground that to a Hindu girl her husband was a god on earth, and that to imprison him and her parents because of their performance of an act which their religion enjoined would destroy her peace. The Assembly rejected, on second reading, Sir Hari Singh Gour's Bill to amend the divorce law for Christians along the lines of Lord Buckmaster's Bill, based on the report of the British Royal Commission on Divorce.

## UNSOLICITED APPRECIATIONS.

From Alice Park, Palo Alto, California, U.S.A.:—  
"But I have THE VOTE, always a bond and a message."

From Miss Furbank, Brooklyn:—

"I enclose cheque, being subscription to THE VOTE, which I find more interesting than ever and enjoy reading so much. It is especially appreciated over here."

From Miss A. M. Scobell, Weston Park, Bath:—

"I always enjoy reading THE VOTE, and feel that great progress is being made in the advancement of the cause."

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(arranged by Madame San Carolo, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M.)

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The Canning Town Women's Settlement.  
The International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and  
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The St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance.  
The Open Door Council.  
The Psychological Aid Society.  
The Women's Exchange.  
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All Communications and Gifts should be sent to Miss  
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## DELPHOS

The Future of International Language.

By E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

Published by Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner & Co.,  
Broadway House, Carter Lane, E.C.4.

"TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW  
SERIES," 2/6.

## Women's Freedom League.

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

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General Secretary—Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD.



## WHERE TO GO.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

DARE TO BE LONDON AND SUBURBS.  
FREE.

Thursday, September 27th, at 3 p.m.

"Fair" Sub-Committee at 144, High Holborn, 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.

Monday, October 1st, at 3 p.m.

Hampstead. Branch Meeting at 16, Denning Road, N.W.3.

## PROVINCES.

Friday, September 21st, at 3 p.m.

Rye. Branch Meeting at the Hempsted Street Hall. Speaker:  
Miss F. A. Underwood. Subject: "The Future Work of the  
League." Chair: Mrs. Miles.

## OTHER SOCIETIES.

August 27th to September 22nd.

International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal  
Citizenship. A centre for the feminists of all countries will be  
opened at 11, Cours de Rive, Geneva, during the Assembly of  
the League of Nations.

Thursday, September 27th, at 7.30 p.m.

New Education Fellowship Conference to discuss the formation  
of a National Council for Parent Education and Child Study,  
at the Friends' House, Euston Road, N.W.

Monday, October 8th.

British Commonwealth League. Jumble Sale at "The Quest,"  
85, Clarendon Road.

October 15th to October 19th.

National Council of Women. Annual Meetings at York.

Wednesday, October 24th, at 1 for 1.15 p.m.

Equal Political Rights Campaign Committee. "Victory-and-  
After Day." Luncheon at the Hotel Cecil. Chairman:  
The Viscountess Rhondda. Tickets 5/- each from Women's  
Freedom League Office.

Wednesday, October 24th, at 7.30 p.m.

Equal Political Rights Campaign Committee. "Victory-and-  
After Day." Reception at Caxton Hall.

## GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD FAIR.

The Aprons and Overalls Stall is again being undertaken by  
the Misses Underwood, Mrs. Turriff, and Miss Brewer, who make  
another appeal to members and friends for material, donations  
to buy material, or finished goods. Donations or material will  
be gratefully acknowledged by Mrs. Turriff, 28, King's Avenue,  
New Malden, Surrey, or by Miss F. A. Underwood, 144, High  
Holborn, London, W.C.1.

## HOLIDAYS.

Readers of THE VOTE who are going away for holidays and are  
not postal subscribers, should ensure their copy by sending a post-  
card to THE VOTE Offices, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1, stating  
address to which THE VOTE should be sent.

## TO "THE VOTE" READERS.

Vols. No. 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13 and 14 of "The Vote" are  
urgently required by the Women's Freedom League. The gift  
of any or all of these volumes to Headquarters would be much  
appreciated. Many thanks for numbers already sent.

"IS AN INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE  
POSSIBLE?"

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Peter's Hill, Grantham:

## OUR OPEN COLUMN.

To the Editor of THE VOTE.

International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and  
Equal Citizenship.

Dear Madam,—May I point out that, in your issue of September  
7th, under the heading, "Nine Women at the League of Nations,"  
the name of Fru Wicksell is wrongly given as representing  
Sweden. Fru Wicksell died last February, and her place as  
substitute delegate to the present Assembly has been taken by  
Miss Hesselgren, the only woman member of the Upper House  
of the Swedish Parliament. Fru Wicksell was also the only  
woman member of the Mandates Committee of the League, where  
she has been replaced by Miss Dannewig, of Norway.—Yours  
faithfully,

KATHERINE BOMPAS.

[We very much regret the oversight of the late Fru Wicksell's  
name in our list. Mrs. Northcroft also writes to us on the matter  
and tells us that Dr. Aas, a medical woman from Trondhjem, is  
replacing Fru Larsen Jahn, for Norway.—Ed.]

## GLEANINGS FROM THE PRESS.

More Light for Hyde Park.

*The Observer* states that a start has been made for the better  
lighting of Hyde Park, which was announced by the Home  
Secretary in the House of Commons three months ago. The  
delay has been due to difficulties in connection with the material.  
Special standards have had to be cast. A new series of lamps will  
be erected along the Lovers' Walk, north of the Achilles statue,  
lighting the heavily wooded part of the Park near the magazine.

The Ever-Open Market?

After dealing carefully and methodically in the *Daily Express*  
with the unemployment question as it affects men, Mr. Angus  
Watson, Chairman of the firm of Angus Watson & Co., of  
Newcastle, dismissed the question as it affected women with a  
wave of the wand. Such unemployment as existed, he main-  
tained, was unnecessary, as any woman could be taught domestic  
work within three months, and drafted out to meet the ever-open  
market for domestic labour. Without going into the question  
as to why all women are not suited for domestic service, it might  
be pointed out that the number of men on the "dole" could be  
reduced in precisely the same way!

The "Protection" that Prohibits.

At the All-Russian Conference on Labour Protection, President  
Tomsky, criticising protective legislation, is reported to have said:  
"We must get rid of these regulations drawn up by guess-  
work. We can all see their bad effect. Doesn't the prohibition  
of the nightwork of women keep them out of production?"

Germany's Women Workers.

11,500,000 German girls and women are full-time workers in  
professions, businesses and trades, an increase of 30 per cent.  
on pre-war years. 51.6 per cent. of all persons now engaged in  
retail trades are women, as are approximately 75 per cent. of the  
assistants in the large stores.

German women are entering the learned professions in ever-  
increasing numbers. During the recent summer 10 per  
cent. of the students at German Universities were women. At  
Berlin University alone, there are 1,318 women students; at  
Munich University, 1,079; at Bonn, 737; and at Frielburg, 505.  
The faculty preferred by women is that of medicine. We presume  
that less obstacles are put in the way of women medical students  
in Germany than of women medical students in our own country.

## WOMEN TEACHERS AND EQUAL RIGHTS.

At a conference of Women Teachers arranged by the National  
Union of Women Teachers (London Unit), held on Saturday,  
September 8th, at the Mary Sumner House, Westminster, the  
following resolution was carried unanimously:—"That this Con-  
ference welcomes the action of the Government in at last redeeming  
its promise to extend the franchise to women, and pledges itself  
to work with renewed vigour to secure the removal of other  
injustices."

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### NOTICES.

**F**ELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Guild-house, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Sunday, September 16th, 1928. 6.30. Rev. C. E. Raven, D.D., Canon of Liverpool Cathedral.

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