

THE VOTE,
JAN. 12, 1923.
ONE PENNY.

PARTY WOMEN STRIKE!

THE VOTE

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FRIDAY, JAN. 12, 1923

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

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AN INTERNATIONAL ENTERPRISE.

An interesting proposal has recently been put forward by the British Federation of University Women, to purchase the site and fine old 15th century building on Chelsea Embankment, known as Crosby Hall, and erect residential quarters for women graduates of British and other nationalities working in London, retaining the Hall itself as a refectory, and also as a lecture hall and a meeting place for other international organisations.

The British Federation of University Women, founded in 1910, is the organised and representative body of the women graduates of the Universities of Great Britain. In 1919 the Federation became linked, through an International organisation, with similar bodies of educated women in a score of other countries—the United States, Canada, New Zealand, Australia, India, Japan, China, and the greater number of the European countries. It is mainly on behalf of these International graduates that residential quarters in London are needed.

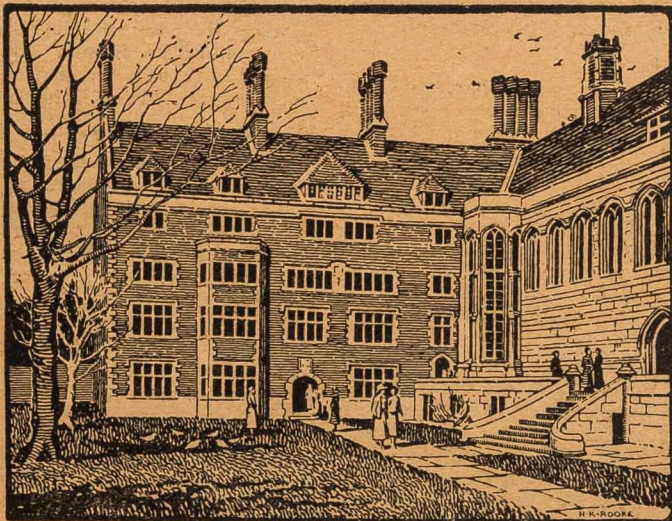
Professor Spurgeon, the British President, and her colleagues are convinced that there is only one reliable road to international friendship, and that is, to bring individuals of different nations into contact, and particularly to bring together the young people who have just completed their university courses, and are not

yet too much absorbed in their professions to be able to spare time for a fairly long sojourn in a foreign country. It very often happens that young graduates would immensely appreciate the opportunity to travel to other lands and to make use of the special facilities of the libraries and laboratories and university courses open to them, and the Federation is pledged to encourage this kind of intercourse to the utmost. To-day

numbers of young women graduates come to London from America, from our Oversea Dominions, and from other lands. They come to work at the College of Science, at the British Museum, at one of the Colleges or Schools of the University of London. There are plenty of opportunities for work, but there is no place for them to live, where there are proper facilities for them to study, and to meet other people whose interests are like their own. Except for the rare chance of accommodation among the

undergraduates in one of the residential colleges, they are for the most part compelled to live in ordinary boarding-houses or hotels.

Crosby Hall was built in Bishopsgate, in 1446, as the Great Banqueting Hall of the City residence of Sir John Crosby, a rich and popular Knight, and Member of Parliament. The rest of the mansion, which was one of the largest and most celebrated of all the palaces



Proposed New Wing to be built by the British Federation of University Women.

built by the merchant princes of London, comprised several large private rooms, a chapel, State apartments, noblemen's lodgings, great kitchens, brewing and baking houses, larders, stables, etc., and an extensive garden, including a fine bowling green, was part of the property.

After Sir John Crosby's death, Crosby Place was let by his executors to Richard, Duke of Gloucester, afterwards Richard III. It is an open question whether he was actually offered the crown in Crosby Hall or at Baynard's Castle. There are three references to Crosby Hall in Shakespeare's *Richard III*.

Subsequently, Crosby Hall was the residence of two Lord Mayors of London, Sir Bartholomew Reed and Sir John Rest. In these years the hall was the scene of banquets of wonderful magnificence, for such distinguished guests as the Princess Katherine of Aragon, the Ambassador of the Emperor Maximilian of Germany, and other great personages, were handsomely entertained by the Lord Mayor of London.

Sir Thomas More's Tenancy.

Crosby Place was taken by Sir Thomas More in 1519, and it is possible that he lived there for the following four years, in which case there can be no doubt that the hall was frequently visited by King Henry VIII., and by most of the eminent men of the time. (Sir Thomas More's tenancy makes it particularly fitting that the Great Hall, since it had eventually to be removed from Bishopsgate, should have been set up again on ground which once formed part of More's Chelsea garden.)

From 1523 to 1566, Crosby Place was occupied by friends and relatives of More's, and it afterwards passed to such wealthy Aldermen as William Bond and Sir John Spencer. Between 1609 and 1615, the mansion was occupied by the renowned Countess of Pembroke, sister of Sir Philip Sidney, and mother of the William Herbert who ranks high among the claimants to the friendship celebrated in Shakespeare's *Sonnets*.

After a long tenancy by the East India Company, Crosby Place became, during the Civil War, a prison for Royalists. But its days were drawing to a close. The great fires which swept across the City in the seventeenth century destroyed the greater part of the old mansion, although the Banqueting Hall escaped, and parts of the adjacent buildings. After the fire of 1674, it was never used again as a private dwelling. It was used for a time as a Presbyterian Meeting House; it was afterwards converted into a Literary and Scientific Institute; it became a storehouse for wines; and finally, from 1868 to 1907, a City restaurant.

Crosby Hall at Chelsea.

In 1907 the freehold was sold to the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, and it was discovered that the Company intended to pull down the historic building, in order to build new premises. Great efforts were made by those interested in the preservation of so beautiful an historical treasure, to preserve the hall on its ancient site, but these efforts were vain. All that could be done was to ensure that the fabric of the building should be taken to pieces with the utmost care, and stored in a warehouse.

From this ignoble situation the parts were rescued by the University and City Association, a Company formed to re-erect the hall upon a portion of More's garden in Chelsea, and to convert it into the refectory of a residential college for students. Very carefully, under the superintendence of Mr. Walter H. Godfrey, F.S.A., the fabric of Crosby Hall was put together again, and placed in the position most convenient for connection with the north and south blocks of students' rooms which the Company proposed to build.

The scheme for a college residence did not materialise, however, for, before sufficient funds could be raised, the war had diverted both money and students from the ideals of university life. Crosby Hall was then used as a sort of club-house for the Belgian refugees in Chelsea, who were liberally entertained within its walls, and whose gratitude is recorded on a tablet near the oriel. The Hall has since remained empty.

WOMEN AT HOME & ABROAD.

Party Women Strike!

The South African Women's Party has decided not to work for the return of their party candidates until they have succeeded in obtaining votes for women. We congratulate South African women on this bold step forward; men members of legislative bodies will not be long in enfranchising women when once they understand that it is the price their women relations put upon their assistance.

A South Sea Queen.

Queen Saloti is the present ruler over the Tonga or Friendly Island group. She is descended from a line as proud, and probably as ancient, as many a line of European kings, and rules over a prosperous and contented people. Queen Saloti can claim that her country enjoys the enviable distinction of being the only nation free of debt in the world. It is not only solvent, but prosperous, and its administration could give points to that of most civilised countries!

Oldest Woman Painter.

Mrs. Ward, of Chelsea, who is 91, is said to be the oldest woman painter in Britain, and is probably the oldest woman artist in the world. Her work has been popular for many years in English and foreign exhibitions. She exhibited at the Royal Academy consecutively from 1849 to 1879. For 20 years she conducted classes for women at the Chester Studios. A great deal of her work was executed for Queen Victoria.

British Women's Progress.

A record of British women's progress in the *Observer* enumerates the following summary: some hundreds of women magistrates, 11 women called to the bar, 4 women solicitors, several women preachers, about 2,000 medical women, 100 or more women dentists, 5 qualified women architects who are members of the Royal Institute of British Architects, 1 woman veterinary surgeon, 1 woman chartered accountant, 1 woman A.R.A., 3 women members of the Institute of Naval Architects, and several women members of scientific engineering societies.

Woman Farmer President.

Essex Agricultural Society has elected Mrs. Louisa Mary Calverley as this year's president. It is 11 years since the Society elected its last woman President. Mrs. Calverley, who is a daughter of the late Sir Brydges Henniker, and has lived in Essex all her life, is an enthusiastic farmer. During the war she had a hospital of 60 beds for men in Harlow, and one of 20 beds for convalescents in her own house for four years.

Women Income-Tax Collectors.

For the first time, women candidates are to sit at the Income-Tax Department's examination in July for posts as assistant inspectors of taxes, and, judging by the number of women now employed in the Civil Service, it is certain that many will endeavour to secure these posts. The July examination will be the first open competition in the history of the Civil Service at which men and women have sat together on absolutely equal terms, although, as this examination is of a technical as well as literary character, it may be more favourable to men.

Miss Royden's Tour.

Miss Maude Royden, who is now on her way to the United States, will cover about 9,000 miles, visiting New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, St. Paul, and the Southern States. She will address students at various universities, also women's clubs, political societies, and public meetings. She will preach in many churches, and is to address three Councils of Churches.

Women and Punch.

Women are alleged to be deficient in the sense of humour, yet the fact stands revealed that in the list of last year's contributors to *Punch*, 29 women are included.

HEADQUARTERS NOTES. THE CHILDREN'S LIBRARY.

The National Executive Committee of the Women's Freedom League has decided that this session we shall hold a series of fortnightly lectures in the Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C., on *Foreign Politics*, the Committee being convinced that women, especially members of women's organisations, will gladly avail themselves of the opportunity of listening to well-informed views on this subject, and discussing those views with the lecturers. It was felt that it would be most appropriate that the first of these lectures (Monday, January 29th) should be on the League of Nations, and for this we have had the good fortune to secure Miss H. C. Hughes, M.A. Miss Hughes was a student of St. Hilda's Hall, Oxford, and took her M.A. degree in 1920. She was a lecturer of the Workers' Educational Association from October, 1918, to February, 1919. She worked as a factory hand (box-covering) from February to July, 1919, was a secondary school mistress from 1919 to 1920, and one of the organisers of the appeal for the Oxford Women's Colleges from 1920 to 1922, since which time she has been one of the lecturers for the League of Nations Union. We rely upon our members and friends coming in good numbers to hear Miss Hughes on the 29th inst., and to discuss with her the League of Nations. Mrs. Mustard will take the Chair at 6 p.m.

Monday, February 12th, we are to have a lecture on "The Relations of this country with America," by a member of the English Speaking Union, whose name will be announced later. Monday, February 26th, we shall have the pleasure of a lecture from The Lady Amherst of Hackney, on "The Relations of this country with France," and two successive lectures on "The Relations of this country with Russia," and "The Relations of this country with the Central Powers," the names of speakers to follow. There will be a few free seats. Tickets for reserved seats are to be obtained from our office, 1s. each lecture, or 4s. for the course.

Friday, February 2nd, we are holding a Reception to our honorary officials, Dr. Knight (Hon. Treasurer of the Women's Freedom League), Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P. (Hon. Organising Secretary), Miss Alix M. Clark (Hon. Head, Vote Sales Dept.), and Mrs. Pierotti (Hon. Head, Literature Dept.). It is with great regret we cannot include on this occasion Miss Margaret Hodge, the other Hon. Head of the Literature Dept., but she is now away in Italy for some months. The Reception will take place at the Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C. (corner of Coram and Hunter Streets), at 8 p.m. We feel sure that many members of the Women's Freedom League will heartily welcome this chance of showing their appreciation of the strenuous work of our hon. officials through so many difficult years, on behalf of our League. Tickets for the Reception, which should be obtained beforehand from Mrs. Northcroft at this office, are 1s. each. The Reception itself will be preceded by an informal Dinner at the Club, and at this Dinner six women Parliamentary candidates at the recent General Election have promised to be present, and to remain to the Reception to our hon. officials, at which Mrs. Whetton will preside. Other members of the National Executive Committee will also be present. There will be a little music, and we look forward to spending together a very pleasant evening. Tickets for the Dinner (which will include the Reception, and must be obtained beforehand) from Miss Reeves, at this office, 3s. 6d. each.

SPRING SALE.—In later numbers of THE VOTE we shall give further particulars of our Spring Sale. In the meantime, we urge our readers to begin working for it, and collecting gifts from their friends.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE.—Our Annual Conference will take place at Caxton Hall, Westminster, on Saturday, April 28th, when we hope all members of the Women's Freedom League then in London will make a special effort to be present. F. A. U.

Practically every Public Library, in Great Britain at any rate, has its Children's Department, which is either included with the books provided for adults, or is under a separate section. In many cases the provinces were pioneers in providing suitable reading fare for children. The first Children's Reading Room came into existence at Cardiff, where special attention has been paid to the reading of school children since 1879. Manchester has had special rooms for children since 1885, and more are being opened from time to time. Glasgow has a fine series of special children's rooms, and also Aberdeen. The Public Libraries at Liverpool, Bristol, and Newcastle, all possess a large number of books which have been specially put aside for children's use. In addition to these, travelling libraries in rural areas include provision for children's reading.

The London area has many excellent children's libraries and reading rooms, especially at Hampstead and Croydon, where Mr. W. E. Doubleday and Mr. Berwick Sayers, respectively, have devoted much thought to the subject, and brought it to a high state of perfection. At Hampstead the children's reading room, which is bright and airy, and fitted with suitable tables and chairs, is open after school hours and on Saturday afternoons. A trained woman Librarian is in attendance to advise the children and help them select books. Besides the well stocked book-shelves, collections of natural history specimens and other things of interest are arranged in the room, many being in glass cases.

Great Smith Street, Tottenham, etc., all possess particularly excellent Children's Libraries and Reading Rooms. In many of the chief London and provincial centres, regular Lectures or "Story Hours" are given to children in their own department each week or fortnight. The pioneer of the "Story Hour," it is interesting to note, is an Englishwoman, Miss Marie Shedlock, who has also done a great deal of pioneer work in this direction in America.

Special attention is being paid to children's reading in many other countries. Ontario has the best Library system in the world. In Scandinavia, more especially in Norway, and also in Holland, Children's Libraries are becoming increasingly numerous, as more and more attention is being paid to the subject. Germany has done some pioneer work in this direction in connection with its *Real Schule*, and American relief funds, since the war, have helped to establish several Children's Libraries in France.

In America the movement has made particularly rapid progress, probably because more public money has been available for this purpose. The American educationist has early realised that a love of reading in children is the groundwork of all further education. In the States of Cleveland, Oregon, and St. Louis, the co-ordination between School and Library has been brought to a high standard. The Children's Library is frequently housed within the precincts of the School, the School authorities supplying heat, light, and services, and the Library Bureau, the books, periodicals, catalogues, and Library staff. In cases where the School Librarian is appointed from the teaching staff of the School, he or she gives her whole time to organising the School Library, and is under the supervision of the City Librarian. The School Librarian also conducts the weekly story hour. The Carnegie Library at Pittsburgh has a Training School for Children's Librarians, the full course of which covers two years. In schools where there are no facilities for a permanent library—mainly in rural areas—the Library authorities arrange for small travelling sets of books, consisting of 25-200 volumes, often on special subjects, to be lent to the schools, and kept from four to six weeks. D. M. N.

THE VOTE.

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 12th, 1923.

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

Telegrams: "DESPARD, Museum 1429, London."

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

CHILDREN OF UNMARRIED PARENTS.

The Home Secretary has consented to receive a deputation, this month, organised by the National Council for the Unmarried Mother and Her Child, in regard to the Children of Unmarried Parents Bill. Two private Bills on this subject were introduced in successive years by Mr. Neville Chamberlain and Capt. Bowyer, and were fully debated in the House of Commons. Capt. Bowyer's Bill went successfully through all its stages in that House, but was delayed so long in the House of Lords, owing to legal difficulties in regard to succession, that it had not time to become law. It was evident, however, that public opinion was behind it, and the last Government promised to introduce a Bill of its own on the subject. This promise was not fulfilled, and it now remains to be seen if the present Government is favourable to such a Bill. At the present time, the death-rate among illegitimate children is from two to three times as great as that of children born in wedlock, and the death-rate of unmarried mothers at the time of the birth of the child is enormously higher than that of married women. The reason is not far to seek. The unmarried mother, in addition to her anxiety in other ways, has the knowledge that she can claim no economic assistance from the man until after the birth of their child, and she will almost certainly lose her work before that event. Afterwards she may, with considerable difficulty, obtain an affiliation order against him, but the number of such orders which are issued bears but a small proportion to the number of illegitimate births which take place, and at present the maximum contribution exacted from the father of the child is ten shillings! What woman can support her child with that sum? Public opinion is certainly in favour of increasing the father's responsibility for these children of unmarried parents. Up till now, law and custom have united to make the woman solely responsible, and this has often resulted in untold suffering for the children. The object of the deputation to the Home Secretary is to find out what measure of agreement there is in the Government to a Bill based upon Capt. Bowyer's Bill, the two chief clauses of which provided for raising the amount payable under an affiliation order, making it depend more upon the circumstances of the parents, and for legitimatising children born out of wedlock by the subsequent marriage of their parents. The curious fact is, that it is only in England and Wales, among civilised countries, that it is impossible to legitimatise children by subsequent marriage of the parents. We hope the Home Secretary will receive the proposed deputation sympathetically. The Women's Freedom League want, of course, a good deal more than the provisions of Capt. Bowyer's Bill. We certainly think that the man's responsibility for the welfare of the child should be equal with the woman's, that he should have some responsibility for the woman before the birth of their child, and an equal responsibility with her for the child after its birth.

"ECONOMY" IN FIJI.

We regret to learn, in a letter received January 6th from the Colonial Office, that the Secretary of State does not consider he would be justified in urging the continuance of the appointment of Dr. Mildred Staley, who was engaged by the Government of Fiji for two years only, and whose term expires shortly. It will be remembered that Mrs. Wintringham received a similar reply in the House of Commons, last month, from the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, who urged that retrenchments in medical and other establishments in Fiji were urgently necessary, for financial reasons. Dr. Staley's work among Indian women in Fiji during the last two years has been admirable, and its inception was due, as the *Church Militant* points out, to the forethought and wisdom of Australian women, who sent over a Commission to inquire into various undesirable features in the life of the Indian community in Fiji, and, on its return, recommended that a medical woman should be appointed by the Government. Dr. Staley, with her splendid record and wide experience of Indian and other races, largely gained in the mission field, was selected. Her work is now to cease, on the grounds of economy, despite the fact that, as Mrs. Wintringham pointed out, her work among women and children has been repeatedly and publicly pronounced to be of the highest value to the whole community. Lady Astor inquired, on that same occasion, if it would not be a waste, instead of an economy, to send Dr. Staley away? We should say emphatically that the answer to that question is in the affirmative. The Indian women themselves greatly value treatment by a woman doctor, and have themselves petitioned the Governor not to leave them without one; meanwhile, we are inquiring from the Colonial Office what other doctors are with the Colonial Hospital in Fiji. Last week we pointed out that, on grounds of economy, the only post of woman inspector of prisons in this country remains unfilled; this week the Colonial Office refuses once again to exert itself to retain the only woman medical officer at the Hospital at Suva, Fiji, also on grounds of economy, again at the expense of women and children.

EQUAL PAY FOR MEN AND WOMEN.

Eternal vigilance is the price which women must always be prepared to pay, not only to secure remedies of existing grievances, but also to maintain the rights they have already won. Women journalists are immensely proud of the fact that the National Union of Journalists, the leading Association of working journalists in this country, which has a great majority of men members, upholds the equal status of men and women journalists, and equal pay for both sexes. Quite recently, however, lecturers at some London secretarial offices where girls may obtain a training for journalism, denounced women journalists who expect to receive the same salary for doing the same work as men. We are glad to record that prominent women journalists in London, connected with most of the leading papers here, at once sent a spirited letter of protest to the management of these offices against the statement that women journalists should not receive the same rate as men, pointing out that it was distinctly harmful to the future of the profession as a whole to impress upon young students that they should be prepared to work at a lower minimum than men, once they were fully qualified and trained journalists. They expressed the view that it was neither to the interests of men nor of women journalists that women should accept a lower minimum wage than their men colleagues. This letter is printed in full, together with the names of the women who signed it, in the January number of *The Journalist*, the organ of the National Union of Journalists. We offer our warm congratulations to these women for upholding the interests not only of the women members of their own profession, but of all women who are now struggling for equality of status and remuneration with men.

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN TEACHERS' ANNUAL CONFERENCE, CARDIFF.

I am an outsider, and no teacher, and so can claim to have observed the Cardiff Conference with an impartial, perhaps even with a critical, eye. I do not know why, but if teachers, and particularly women teachers, are supposed to be critical, certainly they are a much criticised body, and I have come away much impressed—their leaders have big ideals in front of them, and they have managed to bring home to the rank and file the things that matter. The one criticism, and it is more a suggestion than a criticism that I make, is that at their conferences there should be a clean cut between discussions (very necessary ones too) on salary and status, and on education proper. There are always people who desire to seize on the former, and to say it is all that counts in the teachers' minds.

The proceedings began on the Monday evening with a pleasant reception and entertainment given by the Lord Mayor at the City Hall. There were a few speeches, notably one by the Lord Mayor, in which he counselled "moderation" to those present. The remark was not received with huge enthusiasm, which was a comfort, for moderation generally spells stagnation—a sort of do-nothing, stand-anything kind of attitude. The Conference proper was held at the Technical College, and opened with a public meeting under the chairmanship of Miss Bale, the retiring President. The hall was decorated with the banners of many of the local branches, that of Cardiff, with its motto in Welsh, "Awake! it is day," being given a prominent place. Such mottoes as "An A Education makes an A Nation" also struck the eye. The proceedings opened with a sympathetic address of welcome by Alderman Thompson (Chairman of the Cardiff Education Committee), on behalf of the Lord Mayor, and he was followed by a notable array of local men and women—the Bishop of Llandaff, Professor Barbara Foxley (Cardiff University College), Mr. S. G. Jones (National Commissioner for Wales), Councillor Rhoda Parker, the

Rev. Philip Rogers (President, Cardiff Free Churches), and others. The remarks of Mrs. Rhoda Parker were, to say the least, unfortunate, and one was inclined to ask why, in her objection to "more than one income for one home," women teachers should be singled out. Of the other speakers, most were inspiring, and one can especially mention Professor Barbara Foxley and Mr. Jones. Professor Foxley said teachers had to preach ahead of the Church, to skirmish ahead of the Army, and so she implored them to get a move on. Teachers had the future of the race in their hands, and she wanted them to be able to do their work well under conditions that were not impossible. Mr. Jones likewise pleaded for giving of the best to the teachers, so that they might give of their best; the result would be seen in awakened intelligence and thinking amongst our citizens.

Of resolutions on the succeeding days there were many, both in the public and private sessions. Protests against the proposed 5 per cent. cut in salaries, reduced staffs, exclusion of the under-sixes, employment of unqualified women in place of teachers, were carried by acclamation, as were such resolutions as those on equal pay and opportunity, and on the retention of the married woman teacher. The social side of education claimed resolutions in favour of women Attendance Officers, Parents' Unions, and Women Police, whilst the political side was represented by resolutions in favour of the extension of the franchise to women on the same terms as it is granted to men, and in favour of the same rebate of income tax being granted to a single woman with a mother or other relatives entirely dependent on her, as is given to a childless married man.

Miss Gunter is the newly elected President; she was excellent in the Chair. The work went through well, and fully justified somebody's remark that women never talk unless they have something to talk about.

A NEW PEACE.

The following Resolution, proposed from the Chair on Tuesday of last week, at a Meeting in the Kingsway Hall, London (convened by the British section of the Women's International League), was supported by Miss Jane Addams, who received a great ovation on rising:

"This Meeting heartily welcomes the suggestion advanced at the Assembly of the League of Nations (September 22nd, 1922) (Report of the Third Committee on Disarmament), that the whole question of Reparations and War Debts should be considered from an international standpoint, and urges the Conference of Prime Ministers now sitting in Paris to secure without delay the good offices of the League of Nations in bringing together all parties for the settlement of the whole question, and for the withdrawal of the Armies of Occupation."

"An American citizen is at a disadvantage in Europe just now," said Miss Addams, "because it is difficult to give any satisfactory explanation why America is not in the League of Nations. But indications are not lacking, especially within the last few months, that America will come into the League in the long run."

"One such indication comes from the farmers in America, who are asking why, when they have such vast supplies of corn, wool, cotton, etc.—far more than their own country needs—arrangements cannot be made to feed and clothe the distressed inhabitants of Central Europe. As things stand at present, they cannot sell their produce, and their production has increased enormously since the war. In Montana, three crops of wool are in storage, and the States as a whole has about three-quarters of a million bushels of corn in excess of demand. The farmers are getting very indignant, and complaining that Congress does nothing to help them."

"Another indication comes from American men in the banking world, who are becoming increasingly

anxious concerning international relationships, and evincing a great desire to re-establish such relationships in Europe.

"Again, the terrible suffering amongst children in the devastated areas has registered itself in the hearts of American women in a curious way. Now that women are voters in so many different countries, American women feel a certain challenge that they will fail very miserably, when confronted with this suffering, if they do not rise in a body and make an effective political demand that this situation shall be met. American women are not going to lie down under the accusation that they themselves are living amongst plenty, whilst little children and old people are dying of starvation overseas. There is also to-day a large percentage of immigrants in the States, who are deeply concerned because they cannot get into touch with their relatives in these distressed countries.

"America must come into the League of Nations, if it is only from this purely human standpoint; but she will not come too quickly, for it takes time to move a large body of people scattered over a vast territory.

"The recent meeting at the Hague, convened by the Dutch section of the Women's International League, to demand a revision of the Peace Treaties, was very impressive, especially to one coming straight from the United States into the European situation. The ordinary arts of oratory were omitted, speeches were simple and direct, and a great effort was made by all present to pool their intelligence, in order to probe the roots of the matter. Though people of all nationalities attended, and all sorts of societies—not women's societies only—were represented, each and all arrived at the same conclusion, viz., that certain conditions in the Peace Treaties will hamstring all efforts towards economic reconstruction in Europe, and therefore certain fundamental changes must immediately be made."

A NOTED SWEDISH WOMAN.

In November of last year, Mme. Anna Bugge Wicksell, of Sweden, completed her sixtieth year. On that occasion the committee of the Norwegian Women's Rights Association sent her a telegram of congratulation, and elected her honorary member of the Association. Anna Wicksell, or Anna Bugge, as she was then, is a woman lawyer, and worked in the feminist movement in Norway when quite a young woman. In January, 1888, she became President of the Norwegian Women's Rights Association, and she held this position until June, 1889. Anna Bugge also took the lead in work for the professional and technical education of women. She lectured and spoke in the cause, and a committee was formed to inquire into the conditions of women's work and pay. The Association enabled some women to obtain positions as apprentices, others were granted trade scholarships. Petitions for the admission of women to technical educational institutions were also signed. Anna Bugge took part in starting *Nyländi*, which the Association adopted as its organ. In the first number of this paper, which appeared in January, 1887, her name appears.

Since her marriage with Professor Knut Wicksell, of Sweden, Anna Bugge has worked for the cause of women and of peace, in Sweden. She and her husband are greatly respected in that country, as is proved by the Swedish Government's appointment of Mme. Wicksell as delegate to the League of Nations. She has taken part in its Assemblies and discussions from the beginning. Since Sweden became a member of the Council, Anna Bugge Wicksell has held a very important position in the Department of Foreign Affairs. She is also a member of the Mandates Committee in the League of Nations. On her sixtieth birthday she received many proofs of the great esteem in which she is held.

Madame Wicksell's experienced legal knowledge has proved of great value both in the Assembly of the League of Nations, and also on its Mandates Committee. Scandinavia has been well represented by women in the League of Nations from the very first, not only by Madame Wicksell, of Sweden, but by Dr. Kristine Bonnevie, of Norway, and Miss Henni Forchhammer, of Denmark. Dr. Bonnevie has been elected to the League's Committee of Intellectual Cooperation, and Miss Forchhammer has been the chief factor in securing special legislation for women and children in connection with the White Slave Traffic.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN ART.

A recent issue of the *Christian Science Monitor*, in reference to Mrs. Swynnerton's election to associate-ship in the Royal Academy, points out that the National Academy in New York makes no distinction of sex in its elections, whilst women belong to the Société des Artistes Français and the Société Nationale des Beaux-Arts in Paris. The Royal Academy alone, says the *Monitor*, seems to think itself as essentially made for man alone as the clubs in Pall Mall!

The artist is judged solely and entirely by his or her work, so that there is no possible reason for their exclusion, on the grounds of sex, from academies of arts or letters. Whether or no a woman's paintings or prints reach the same high levels as a man's, the fact that she is a woman has nothing to do with it. She competes with him as an artist, and in her art only should her equality be questioned. Women are as prominent as men in to-day's exhibitions, and, at their best, do not reveal their sex in their work. In electing Mrs. Swynnerton, London follows the example of Paris and New York. It is the first step that costs, and no doubt other accomplished women will soon keep her company in the academic fold.

BOOK REVIEWS.

The New Humanism. By Laurence Housman. 6d. net. Published by the Women's Freedom League.

Some years before the war, we published Mr. Housman's lecture on "Sex War and Woman Suffrage," kindly given by him at a meeting convened by the Women's Freedom League. That pamphlet forms the groundwork of "The New Humanism." A great deal of it has been re-written by Mr. Housman, and the subject matter brought up to date. We are sure that members of the Women's Freedom League, and readers of THE VOTE, will be glad to secure a copy of this pamphlet, by so staunch a supporter of the woman's cause as Mr. Housman.

The Judge. By Rebecca West. (Hutchinson.) 7/6. (Can be obtained at this Office.)

The title of Miss West's powerful and interesting story is explained by the quotation which stands as foreword: "Each mother is a judge who sentences the children for the sins of the father." This idea is worked out in the characters and influence of the three women who are presented—the little, aged, and bird-like mother of the heroine, Mrs. Melville; the strange, tragic mother of the hero, Mrs. Yaverland, of Yaverland's End; and Ellen herself, a penetrating study of innocent girlishness, guided by a keen Scots intellect and love of what her mother calls "argybarging." These women's lives, set in the wonderful scenery of old Edinburgh Town and the Pentlands, or above the bleak marshes and creeks of Roothy Harbour, below the dark line of the Kentish hills, where the squalid buildings of the Hallelujah Mission and the jerry-built villas existed as foils to the beauty of birds and sea and island, seem to draw special influences from their surroundings. The tragedy develops from the struggle between Mrs. Yaverland's devotion to her first child Richard, cradled in love and longing, and the duty of showing material interest and love to the miserably undesired, and physically disgusting, yet loving child, who would always feel the insincerity of her motherhood. With relief we turn from these two thwarted lives to the charming figure of Ellen Melville, the little typewriter, secure as Una in her innocent ignorance of life—not really comprehending the unclean in her surroundings, not "feared" at "seventeen past"—now sacrificing herself for her suffragist principles, now indulging in romantic dreams.

"The Judge" is an exceedingly clever book—full of thoughtful characterisation, keenly interesting; but is life ever lived in quite so strained a manner? Is not, after all, the "miraculous beauty of the common lot" a simpler and a nobler thing to study than the "perpetual defeat of the human race"? "Though the night engulfed Richard and Marion, the triumph was not with the night"; but it is difficult to imagine true victory rooted in wrong. J. M. T.

OUR NEW PAMPHLETS.

- "The Work for Women M.P.s," by Miss Helena Normanton, B.A. ... 3d.
- "The Need for Women Members of Parliament," (Second Edition), by Mrs. How Martyn, M.Sc. 3d.
- "Women's Right to Work," by Miss Lind-af-Hageby 3d.
- "Women and Income Tax," by Mrs. Ayres Purdie (Certified Accountant) ... 3d.
- "Race Motherhood. Is Woman the Race?" by Mrs. Montefiore ... 6d.
- "Women Police," a short history from its inception to the present day ... 1d.

- "The Wrongs of Married Women," by Mrs. M. W. Nevinson, J.P., LL.A.
 - "The New Humanism," by Laurence Housman.
- Also various pamphlets and books on subjects of special interest to women.

Any books on any subject obtained to order.

Women's Freedom League.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS W.F.L. LONDON AND SUBURBS.

Wednesday, January 17th, at 3 p.m., Hampstead Branch Meeting at 16, Denning Road, N.W.3.

Monday, January 22nd, at 6 p.m. Mid-London Branch Meeting, at 144 High Holborn, W.C.1.

Tuesday, January 23rd. Social, 7.30 to 10 p.m., at the Isis Club, Rockeslea, Fitzjohn's Avenue, Hampstead, N.W.3. (by kind invitation of Mrs. Harverson). Speech, 8 p.m., by Mrs. Nevinson, J.P., on "The Experiences of a Suffrage Speaker." Coffee.

Monday, January 29th, at 6 p.m. Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1. Speaker: Miss Hughes, M.A. Subject: "The League of Nations." Reserved Seats 1/- each.

Friday, February 2nd, at 5 p.m. Organisation Sub-Committee Meeting, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Friday, February 2nd, at 8 p.m. Reception to the Hon. Officials of the Women's Freedom League, at the Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. The Reception will be preceded by a Dinner at the Club at 7 p.m. Tickets for Dinner and Reception, 3/6; for Reception only, 1/-.

Saturday, February 3rd, at 10 a.m. National Executive Committee Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Monday, February 12th, at 6 p.m. Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1. Speaker from the English Speaking Union. Subject: "The Relations of this Country with America." Reserved seats, 1/-.

Monday, February 26th, at 6 p.m. Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1. Speaker: The Lady Amherst of Hackney. Subject: "The Relations of this Country with France." Reserved seats, 1/-.

Friday, March 9th, from 3.30 p.m. Women's Freedom League Spring Sale at 25, Wimpole Street, W. (by kind permission of Dr. Lewin). Lecture by Dr. Lewin in the early evening, "Shut your mouth and save your life."

Friday, March 9th, at 5 p.m. Organisation Sub-Committee Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Saturday, March 10th, at 10 a.m. National Executive Committee Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Friday, April 27th. National Executive Committee Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Saturday, April 28th. Women's Freedom League Annual Conference, Caxton Hall.

PROVINCES.

Wednesday, January 16th, at 3.15 p.m. Portsmouth. Public Meeting. The Lecture Hall, 2, Kent Road. Speaker: Mrs. Seaton Tiedeman. Subject: "Divorce Law Reform."

Friday, January 19th, at 3 p.m. Ashford. Speaker: Miss Elsie Morton. Subject: "Women Citizens, their Duties and Responsibilities." Place of meeting to be announced later.

Friday, January 19th, at 8 p.m. Bexhill. A Meeting will be held at the Kálveh Café, Sea Road. Speaker: Miss Elsie Morton. Subject: "Women Citizens, their Duties and Responsibilities."

Tuesday, January 23rd, at 8 p.m. Southend-on-Sea and District. Public Meeting at St. John's Ambulance Hall, 76, Queen's Road. Speaker: Miss Dorothy Matthews, B.A. Subject: "Lunacy."

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Sunday, January 21st, at 11 a.m. Hampshire House Debating Society, Hog Lane, Hammersmith. Speaker: Miss Mary Richardson.

MORE WOMEN J.P.s.

Mrs. Spencer Whitehead, of Thames Ditton, has recently been appointed Commissioner of the Peace for the County of Surrey, and took her seat at the Quarter Sessions at Kingston last week. Mrs. Whitehead is the widow of Mr. Spencer Whitehead, at one time Deputy-Chairman of the Surrey Quarter Sessions, and a Master of the Supreme Court. She is a keen and practical educationist, and has done much valued work as a manager of the Thames Ditton school. During the war she was Hon. Secretary of Queen Mary's Needlework Guild and the Red Cross sub-committee of the Dittons War Emergency Committee. Lady Owen has been made a J.P. for Exeter. At Dorset Quarter Sessions at Dorchester, the following women qualified as county magistrates:—Mrs. E. U. Holden (Bridport), Mrs. E. L. M. Sparrow (Beaminster), Mrs. S. B. J. Clarke (Wareham), Mrs. A. J. Pugh (Broadstone), and Miss K. M. Style (Wimborne). Mrs. Durant, of Sheerness, has been appointed a Justice of the Peace for the County of Kent.

BRANCH NOTE.

MONTGOMERY BOROUGH.

A very successful rummage sale was organised on behalf of the funds of the Women's Freedom League by the Hon. Secretary, Miss Alix Clark, and held in the Congregational Schoolroom at Newtown. The following assisted towards making the sale a success:—Hats, Miss Worrall and Mrs. Farraday; vegetables, Mrs. Worrall; men's shirts and women's blouses, Mrs. H. Barratt and Mrs. Daniels; ladies' dresses, Mrs. Albert Taylor, Mrs. J. Oliver; ladies' costumes, Mrs. Lewis, Miss Daniels; boys' and men's clothing, Mrs. Livesey, Mrs. Salter-Lloyd, and Mrs. J. E. Morris; fancy and furniture stall, Miss N. Price, Miss M. Roberts; boots, Miss E. Rickards; jumpers and woollies, Councillor Mrs. W. R. Williams, Mrs. Lewis Griffiths, Mrs. Morgan; white stall, and children's clothing, Miss Morris, Miss Mary Morris, Miss B. Lloyd, Miss Syars; cake stall, Miss Evans, Miss Gwynne, Miss Vera Townson; bran tub, Miss Chambers, Miss Amy Colley; odds and ends, Miss H. Phillips, Miss H. Bumford; tea, Mrs. Andrews, Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Colley; competitions, Mrs. Livesey, Mrs. Latham; door, Mr. Roberts. The total proceeds of the sale amounted to nearly £36, and a very welcome donation of £30 was dispatched to headquarters. Many thanks for kind donations of money to help the undertaking, from Col. D. Davies, J.P., Mr. Meredith, Dr. Owen-Morris, Mrs. Evan-Jones, Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Wilding, Mrs. Jarman Williams, Mr. D. Evans, Mrs. Hart, Mrs. Grice, Mrs. Quest, Mrs. Pope, and Mrs. Roberts.

NEW BRANCHES.

Preparations are being made for the formation of new Branches as follows:—

- (1) Croydon, Sanderstead, Woldingham and district.
 - (2) Stroud Green, Hornsey, Finsbury Park, Harringay, Crouch End, Highbury and district.
 - (3) Teddington, Richmond, Kingston and district.
- Will readers living in any of the above neighbourhoods, interested in the formation of these Branches, kindly communicate at once with (1) The Secretary, Women's Freedom League Office; (2) Miss Jamieson, 3, Oakfield Road, Stroud Green, N.; (3) Miss Underwood, 26, Cedar Road, Teddington, Middlesex?

CHRISTMAS CHEER.

Miss Alix Clark, who in March was elected a member of Caerwys Board of Guardians for the Newtown district, has marked her first Christmas as a Guardian by entertaining the inmates at the Institution. The dining hall had been artistically and seasonably decorated, and over 80 of the inmates were entertained to a sumptuous tea, followed by various Christmas jollities. The members of the sick wards, who were unable to join the others, were visited, and chocolates and cakes were given to the women, and cigarettes to the men, and Miss Gladys Oliver sang by request, in the men's ward. Each child in the Institution was presented with a gift, either a doll for the girls or something suitable for the boys, together with sweets and oranges and crackers. The smiling faces of the old people clearly indicated the position which Miss Clark holds in their estimation.

Miss Clark was assisted by Mrs. Worrall, Mrs. Salter-Lloyd, Mrs. Daniels, Mrs. A. Taylor, Mrs. H. Barratt, Mrs. Farraday, Mrs. Livesey, Mrs. Townson, Mrs. J. Oliver, Mrs. Bumford, Blue Bell Hotel, Misses Barbara Daniels, Cassie Jones, Ottoleone Barratt, Gladys Oliver, and Billie Townson, the five last-named contributing items of entertainment at a concert which followed the tea.

At the close, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Miss Clark on the motion of the Rev. J. T. Lewis, M.A., seconded by one of the inmates, and a happy afternoon terminated with the singing of carols, "Auld Lang Syne," and the National Anthem, all the inmates heartily joining in the votes of thanks and the singing.

Miss Clark has sent a Christmas present to each boarded-out child in the Union, and she also sent gifts of food to all the women in receipt of relief in Newtown.

NEW COUNTY JUSTICES.

Fourteen men and one woman have just been added to the Commission of the Peace for the County of Surrey, and have taken their seats at the Quarter Sessions at Kingston. This is the first time a woman has sat on the Kingston Bench. We certainly hope that other women will soon be added. It is almost impossible for any one person—man or woman—to attend all the sittings of a bench of magistrates, and on many occasions we have thought that the decisions of the Kingston Bench could have been much improved upon if one of the sitting magistrates had been a woman! We shall never be content until an equal number of men and women sit on every magistrates' bench in this country.

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

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„ 24th.—The Rise and Overthrow of the Beast. 666.

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