

MEET ME AT CAXTON HALL!

THE VOTE

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

VOL. XXVII. No. 891.

(Registered at
the G.P.O.)

ONE PENNY.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1926

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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WOMEN AND THE LEAD PAINT BILL.

GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD FAIR.

PROGRAMME OF ENTERTAINMENTS.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23RD.

4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Piano Solo	Mrs. Sparrow.	Violin Solo	Miss Lilian Foulis.
Song	Miss Mollie Seymour.	Song	Miss Olive Harvey James.
Recitation	Mrs. Harvey James.	Whistling Solo	Miss Price.

6 p.m.

Musical and Dramatic Entertainment.

(Arranged by Miss Mollie Dutchman.)

1. Song	Doris Boutcher.
2. The King's Breakfast. By A. A. Milne.	
The King	Beryl Barnwell.
The Queen... ..	René Wood.
The Dairymaid	Mollie Dutchman.
The Cow	Kate Ball.
3. Selection	Dora Matthews.

B. Riding Down from Bangor.	
The Student	Eileen Ely.
The Maiden	Mollie Dutchman.
The Old Lady	Mollie Elmore.
The Old Man	Kate Ball.

C. The Laird of Cockpan.

The Laird	Beryl Barnwell.
The Lady	Mollie Dutchman.
The Maid	Mollie Elmore.
5. Fishes	Eileen Ely.
6 Song	Doris Boutcher.
7. The Three Foxes,	
Buckingham Palace	By A. A. Milne.
Accompanist	Vera De Ritter.

7 p.m.

Piano Solo Miss M. Prelooker.

7.15 p.m.

Display by Camp Fire Girls, The Tawasita Camp Fire. Piano Solo Mrs. Sparrow.

Competitions and Games.

Character Readings by Mrs. Simons and Miss Wall.

Numerology by Miss King.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH.

4-6 p.m.

Piano Solo	Mrs. Sparrow.	Whistling Solo	Miss Price.
Piano Solo	Miss M. Prelooker.	Piano Solo	Mrs. Sparrow.
Violin Solo	Miss Lilian Foulis.		

6 p.m.

Musical and Dramatic Entertainment.

(Arranged by Miss Mollie Dutchman.)

1. Song	Anne Stevens.	5. Monologue... ..	Mollie Dutchman.
2. Monologue... ..	Mollie Dutchman.	6. Selection	René Wood.
3. Selection	René Wood.	7. Song	Anne Stevens.
4. Song	Anne Stevens.		

7 p.m.

Song and Recitations	Miss Dunsford.	Accompanist -	Miss M. Prelooker.
Recitations	Miss Betty Lowe.		

Competitions and Games.

Character Readings by Miss Wall.

Numerology by Miss King.

WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Frenchwomen Lawyers.

In 1900, there were 2 women barristers in France. To-day there are 150, among whom are those brilliant orators, Mme. Maria Vérone, Mme. Leontine Zaube, and Mlle. Suzanne Grinberg. These "Mâitres" are consulted by many men, and famous trials have been conducted by them. Mme. Vérone, in particular, takes an active part in all social and political questions concerning women, and has often declared in her speeches that the life of a successful lawyer does not prevent a woman from carrying out her duties as a wife and mother.

German Housewives assist Council.

Germany's Economic Council, a State organisation of which the chief function is to advise the Government and the Reichstag on all economic, industrial, social, and political questions, will include two housewives, who will assist the coal and steel magnates, and the representatives of other interests, in deciding questions of economic policy and solving industrial problems.

Women Debaters beat Cambridge Team.

The *Observer's* correspondent from Northampton (Mass.) reports that, taking the affirmative side in a debate on the resolution, "This House deplors the policy of Cambridge University respecting women," Smith College, a women's college, recently defeated the Cambridge University debating team which is touring the United States. The vote of the audience gave the women the victory by 271 against 177.

Woman Rabbit Farmer.

Lady Byng, of Sandhoe, near Hexham, Northumberland, is moving her rabbit farm to Kingsmead, Windsor, owing to the lack of the necessary greenstuff in the North for the best results. The 400 head of Angoras, with their special hutches and other materials of the farm, will leave in a special train.

A Veteran Business Woman.

The lease of Gardners of Holborn, the famous home of most things dear to naturalists, has run out, and Mrs. Gardner, whose husband died at the age of 93 six years ago, is forced to sell her business. At the age of 81 she is probably one of the keenest and ablest business women in London, and though she is retiring, she will still make up furs, etc.

More Women Parliamentary Candidates.

Miss Ruby Part has been adopted as prospective Labour candidate for the Wells Division of Somerset. Miss Part has long been a keen member of the I.L.P., an organiser for the Workers' Union in the West Country, and an energetic member of the Bristol Board of Guardians.

Asparagus Queen of Sacramento.

Miss Alethea Pierce, known as the Asparagus Queen of Sacramento, owns a large tract of asparagus-growing country in the delta of the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers.

Australian Women and Sex Equality.

The Victorian (Australia) Legislative Assembly have passed a Bill to remove all sex disqualifications in the way of women holding public offices or entering professions.

Woman Visiting Justice to Holloway Gaol.

Mrs. Benwell has been appointed Visiting Justice to Holloway Gaol, in succession to the late Sir Edward Smith.

Scottish Women Loyalists.

A new Scottish patriotic organisation, the Scottish Women Loyalists, was inaugurated in Edinburgh recently, with Mrs. Hamilton More-Nisbett as President.

Woman Fire Chief.

Miss Robinson, one of the two women Councillors of the Christchurch (Hants) Borough Council, has been appointed Chairman of the Fire Brigade Committee.

WOMEN AND BOROUGH COUNCILS.

Since the issue of last week's VOTE, we have received the following names of women on Borough Councils, and list of Councils without women members. A star (*) indicates that the women were elected at the beginning of this month:—

ENGLAND.

BASINGSTOKE.—Mrs. G. E. Thornycroft.
BERWICK-ON-TWEED.—*Mrs. Edminson (re-elected, unopposed).
COVENTRY.—Miss Arnold, *Mrs. Hughes.
HONITON.—Mrs. J. M. Phillips, J.P. (ex-Mayor and now Deputy-Mayor), and Mrs. E. A. Matthews.
ILKESTON.—*Mrs. J. B. McIntyre.
LEICESTER.—Miss E. C. Fortey, J.P., and Mrs. E. Swainston.
LEWES.—Miss K. M. Fowler-Tutt.
NEWBURY.—Miss E. L. Kimber.
RYE.—*Mrs. Elizabeth Mary Hacking. (This is in addition to Miss Agnes Roffey, whose name we included in last week's VOTE).
SOUTHPORT.—Miss Kate Rimmer, J.P., Miss Christiana Hartley, J.P., and Miss Mary Needham.
STALYBRIDGE.—Alderman Mrs. A. J. Summers, J.P.
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON.—Alderman Miss Allfrey (in addition to Miss Earp, Mrs. Hastings, and Miss Justins in last week's VOTE).
WALSALL.—Mrs. Gertrude Cresswell.
WEST HARTLEPOOL.—*Miss E. Vitty.

WALES.

BANGOR.—Miss Selina Williams.

NO WOMEN COUNCILLORS.

ENGLAND.

Bridgwater, Chippenham (Wilts), Dukinfield, Faversham, Lostwithiel, Lydd, New Romney, Okehampton, Wallsend-on-Tyne.

WALES.

Carmarthen, Flint, Pembroke.

SCOTLAND.

Auchtermuchty, Dumfries, Fortrose, Hamilton, Kirkwall, Pittenweem, Stranraer.

WOMEN ELECTED TO FELLOWSHIPS AT OXFORD.

The *Daily Telegraph* reports that the following have been elected to Honorary Fellowships at Lady Margaret Hall:—Miss Henrietta Jex-Blake, M.A. (Principal of the Hall, 1909-21); Miss Bertha J. Johnston, M.A. (member of the Council, 1878-1926, and Secretary, 1880-1914); Miss Eleanor C. Lodge, M.A., Principal of Westfield College (member of the staff, 1895-1921, and Vice-Principal, 1906-21); Mrs. Charlotte M. Toynbee (member of the Council, 1883-1926, and Treasurer, 1883-1920); Joseph Wells, M.A., Hon. D.C.L., Warden of Wadham College (member of the Council, 1890-1921 and 1910-21); and Miss Elizabeth Wordsworth, Hon. M.A. (Principal of the Hall, 1879-1909). Miss Christine Anson, M.A., has been elected to an Official Fellowship.

Council for the Representation of Women in the League of Nations.

THE ANNUAL MEETING

will be held at
WOMEN'S SERVICE HOUSE, 35 MARSHAM ST., WESTMINSTER.
On MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29th, 1926.

Business Session, 3.30 p.m.

Followed by a
Meeting on the work of the Seventh Assembly of the League of Nations,
4.30 p.m.

Chairman: Mrs. OGILVIE GORDON, J.P., D.Sc.

Speakers:—Dame EDITH LYTTLETON (British Substitute Delegate to the Seventh Assembly), Mrs. HOSIER, on "Women in the Secretariat of the League and International Labour Office."

Admission Free. Both Meetings open to the Public. Collection.
Tea may be obtained after the meeting.

Hon. Sec.: Miss L. de ALBERTI, 306 Scott Ellis Gardens, N.W.8.

IN PARLIAMENT.

Army Schoolmistresses (Marriage Conditions).

MR. R. MORRISON (Co-op., Tottenham N.) asked the Secretary of State for War for what reason the revised conditions of service of Army Schoolmistresses recently issued forbids Army Schoolmistresses to marry a Soldier below the rank of Sergeant? SIR LAMING WORTHINGTON-EVANS: An Army Schoolmistress is not forbidden to marry a soldier below the rank of Sergeant. If she marries she is liable to be compulsorily retired, but it has been customary not to enforce retirement if she marries a soldier of the rank of Sergeant or over. This rule is not a new one; it is over 20 years old.

Women Offenders (Detention).

COL. DAY (Lab., Southwark Central) asked the Home Secretary if he is yet in a position to state whether the suggestions as to the reclamation of fallen women contained in the annual report of the Chief Constable for Glasgow for 1925 have yet been considered; and whether there is any intention of carrying out such suggestions in the Metropolitan Police area? SIR WILLIAM JOYNSON-HICKS: I have seen a paragraph in the report referred to in which it is suggested that a Court shall have power to commit a woman found loitering for purposes of prostitution to a place of detention instead of inflicting a fine. Any such proposal would require legislation, but I will bear it in mind when I have before me the recommendations of the Young Offenders Committee.

Sexual Offences against Young Persons.

VISCOUNTESS ASTOR (U., Sutton, Plymouth), asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether he will consider supplementing the Circular issued to Justices' Clerks embodying some of the recommendations of the Departmental Committee on Sexual Offences against Young Persons, by a further Circular urging the importance of other recommendations of the Committee, particularly with regard to the hearing of children's evidence on oath, to the clearing of the Courts, and to the presence of a woman magistrate on the Bench where cases of assault are heard? SIR W. JOYNSON-HICKS: The Circular was issued after very careful consideration, and I do not think that the objects which my noble Friend has at heart would be advanced if I were to attempt to supplement it at the present time. LADY ASTOR: Will the right hon. Gentleman bear in mind that a good many people throughout the country, including women, feel that unless something further is done upon the points to which I have drawn attention they may slip over? SIR W. JOYNSON-HICKS: My noble Friend must not think that my attention wanders. I have issued this preliminary Circular, which is a very important one, as a first instalment, so as to get certain very important facts before the Justices. The question is being considered, and I shall not overlook it.

Women's Franchise.

MISS WILKINSON (Lab., Middlesbrough, E.) asked the Prime Minister, if in view of the fact that the present Government is entering upon its third year of office, he can now make any statement as to when he proposes to take any steps to extend the franchise to women under 30 years of age? CAPT. WEDGWOOD BENN (Lib., Leith) asked the Prime Minister what steps the Government intend to take to carry out their pledge in the matter of equal political rights for men and women? COMMANDER EYRES MONSELL (Parliamentary Secretary, Treasury): My right hon Friend regrets that he is not yet in a position to make any statement. MISS WILKINSON: May I ask whether, in view of the shortness of life left to His Majesty's Government, we can have some idea when this question will be answered? VISCOUNTESS ASTOR: May I ask— MR. SPEAKER: That is based on an hypothesis.

Government Departments (Women).

MR. BENNETT (U., Nottingham Central) asked the Minister of Health the number of men and women

higher clerical officers, respectively; and what is the number of male clerical officers in his Department who are classified as A, or above average for promotion purposes? MR. N. CHAMBERLAIN: The number of higher clerical officers, men and women, now serving in my Department, is 207 and 41 respectively; the number of male clerical officers who are classified as A, or above average for promotion purposes, is 30.

Clerical Class (Recruitment).

MR. DUCKWORTH (Lib., Blackburn) asked the Financial Secretary to the Treasury the grounds upon which so large a number of women clerical officer posts are being filled by young girls straight from school, while there exist in the various Departments more than enough writing assistants and typists who have been classified as specially suitable for promotion to fill all existing vacancies? MR. R. MCNEILL: I would refer the hon. Member to the reply which I gave on the 4th August last to the hon. Member for Islington (Mr. CLUSE). The normal method of recruitment to the clerical class is by open competition.

[The reply given last August to MR. CLUSE was as follows:—Promotion outlets, on a substantial scale are provided for writing assistants and members of the typing grades, and I should not feel justified in making arrangements for the abandonment of recruitment to the clerical class by the normal method of competition.]

Legislatures (Women).

MR. LANSBURY (Lab., Bow and Bromley) asked the Under-Secretary of State for India what action the Government of India proposes to take in view of the resolutions recently passed on the subject in the Legislative Assembly and certain of the Legislative Councils with regard to the nomination of women to the central and provisional legislatures? EARL WINTERTON: The action to be taken upon the resolutions referred to is laid down in the Electoral Rules. The Government of India have already taken the necessary action as regards the Legislative Assembly, and the local governments concerned will no doubt take similar action very shortly, if they have not done so already.

Nursing Homes.

MR. GERALD HURST (U., Moss Side) asked the Minister of Health whether he has considered the Report of the Select Committee on Nursing Homes; and if he intends to initiate legislation next Session with a view to adopting its recommendations? MR. N. CHAMBERLAIN: The Report is now under consideration, but I am not yet in a position to give effect to the Select Committee's recommendations.

Lunacy.

SIR W. DAVISON (U., Kensington, S.) asked the Prime Minister whether the Government propose to introduce legislation to give effect to the findings of the recent Report of the Royal Commission on Lunacy? MR. N. CHAMBERLAIN: The Report of the Royal Commission is receiving careful consideration, and until the recommendations have been carefully examined in all their bearings it is not possible to indicate the nature and extent of any legislation which the Government may be able to introduce.

Slaughter of Animals (Humane Killer).

VISCOUNT SANDON (U., Shrewsbury) asked the Minister of Health whether he will take any administrative or legislative action to compel the use of the humane killer? MR. N. CHAMBERLAIN: As I informed the hon. Member for Lichfield (Mr. Roy Wilson) on the 12th March last, I cannot see my way to introduce legislation. As regards administrative action, I may observe that local authorities have power (but cannot be compelled) to make by-laws with the object suggested, and more than 200 have already done so. I do not think that any special action is desirable.

F. A. U.

THE VOTE.

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 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19th, 1926.

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.

PARLIAMENTARY BUSINESS.

From our "In Parliament" page, readers will see that a good many questions in which women are specially concerned have been asked during the week in the House of Commons. Yet another question on Equal Franchise was asked last Monday by Mr. R. Richardson (Lab., Houghton-le-Spring), who wanted to know from the Home Secretary whether it is the intention of the Government to introduce an Equal Franchise Bill next year, and, if not, what it is proposed to do in regard to the calling of a Conference to deal with this subject, as promised by the Prime Minister in 1925. The reply was given by Capt. Hacking, the Under-Secretary, who simply referred the hon. Member to the answer given last week to Miss Wilkinson and Capt. Benn—that the Prime Minister was not yet in a position to make any statement on this subject! During the past week the Electricity Bill has been further considered, and passed its Third Reading last Monday. There was a keen debate on Wireless Broadcasting, and the Wireless Telegraphy (Blind Persons Facilities) Bill passed its Second Reading. There were long debates on the Civil Service Supplementary Estimates, and the following Motion, made by Sir Kingsley Wood (Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Health) on behalf of the Government, was discussed during the whole of Monday evening: "That a supplementary sum, not exceeding £3,250,000, be granted to His Majesty, to defray the charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March, 1927, for relief arising out of unemployment." In this debate, three women Members took part. Miss Susan Lawrence urged that the cost of unemployment should be wholly borne by the State. At the present time 38 Boards of Guardians, all in large industrial centres, were insolvent. The total of out-relief had this year amounted to £15,326,000. Because the banks would not advance money, Boards of Guardians had to borrow from the Treasury. Miss Wilkinson asked how Boards of Guardians were to deal with their mass of debts. In Middlesbrough, through no fault of its own, the Board was insolvent, and the Minister of Health was pressing it to repay the loans made. She urged the Minister to take back the miserable £3,000,000, and ask them to vote something which was adequate for the needs that had to be met. Lady Astor asked how the present tragic state of affairs could be bettered unless trade and industry improved. Before the mining dispute began, trade was beginning to recover, and the recovery could not be maintained unless capital and labour worked together. The Motion was agreed to.

Last Monday, in the House of Lords, Lord Balfour of Burleigh presented the Public Places Order Bill, which was read a first time. It will be remembered that Lady Astor secured leave to bring in a similar Bill in the House of Commons in July, 1925, and in November of the same year the Home Secretary received a deputation of representatives of women's societies, when the late Mr. G. W. Johnson said, on behalf of the Association for Social and Moral Hygiene, that they wanted that Bill passed into law, Clause 3 of which laid down the principle that no one should be taken into custody for causing an annoyance except upon complaint by, or on behalf of the person annoyed. We very much hope that facilities for the further stages of such a Bill will be granted.

WOMEN IN THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

The Annual Meeting of the Council for the Representation of Women in the League of Nations (to which the Women's Freedom League is affiliated) will be held at Women's Service House, 35, Marsham Street, Westminster, Monday afternoon, November 29th, and promises to be of very special interest. As its name suggests, the object of this Council is to secure the carrying out of Clause VII. of the Covenant, which declares that: "All positions under or in connection with the League, including the Secretariat, shall be open equally to men and women," and this object is pursued with unceasing vigour by the Council's officials. On the agenda appear resolutions deploring that the VIIth Clause of the Covenant is not being carried into effect, and noting that out of delegations from 48 States to the Assembly, only six included women; urging the British Government to include women among the technical advisers who accompany the British representative to the Sessions of the Council of the League; urging the British Government to send a woman as full delegate to the next Assembly of the League, and not merely as a substitute delegate; and to include women among their delegates to the League of Nations Conference on Economic Problems. There is also a resolution noting with concern that only one woman has been appointed to the Sub-Committee of the Committee for Intellectual Co-operation, which is to consider the question of inculcating in the minds of the youth of all nations the ideals of the League; but the resolution which will probably create the chief interest is the one calling attention of the Secretary-General of the League of Nations to the fact that women are not enjoying equal chances with men where appointments to higher posts are concerned. At the invitation of the Council for the Representation of Women in the League of Nations, Mrs. Hoster recently paid a visit to Geneva to investigate what were the relative opportunities, prospects, and remuneration of men and women employed in the League of Nations, and on November 29th Mrs. Hoster will give a report of this visit. Dame Edith Lyttelton, who was included in the British Government's delegation to the Assembly last September, has also most kindly promised to speak. All who are interested in the work of women in the League of Nations should not fail to attend this meeting.

EQUAL POLITICAL RIGHTS.

The London Campaign for Equal Political Rights for Men and Women is now in full swing. As the Prime Minister still finds himself "not yet in a position to make any statement" on the subject, women must do everything in their power to bring before the public, the Press, and the Government the urgency of the demand for equal enfranchisement of women with men during the life of this Parliament. There are at present five million voteless women in this country over the age of 21, and all women and men who are desirous of seeing this equal franchise question settled at an early date must give every possible support to the following public meetings:—Wednesday, December 1st, 8 p.m., at the Chelsea Town Hall (arranged by the Six Point Group); Monday, December 6th, 8 p.m., at the Swedish Hall, Harcourt Street, St. Marylebone (arranged by St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance); and Thursday, March 3rd, in the Central Hall, Westminster (arranged by the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship). We ourselves are arranging another equal franchise meeting in Holborn about the middle of January, further particulars of which will be given in later issues of our paper. We have to remember that "Union is strength" in our present struggle, and all suffragists must bestir themselves and give every possible support to all these meetings. We appeal to all our readers to book these dates at once, and to interest their friends and acquaintances in women's demand for a further extension of the Parliamentary vote by bringing them to these meetings.

WOMEN'S FRANCHISE AND ZIONISM.

The *Jewish Guardian* devotes a considerable amount of space in a recent issue to the decision, by 211 votes to 158, of the Council of the United Synagogue, that women should not exercise the franchise at Synagogue elections. The gathering was attended by over 450 persons, and was presided over by Sir Robert Waley Cohen, K.B.E., in the absence of the President, Mr. Lionel de Rothschild.

At the discussion which followed the recommendation that women members of Synagogues should vote on all matters, though without the privilege of being elected to any office or on the Board of Management, the following speakers took part:—

Sir Robert Waley Cohen, who submitted the resolution, urged that it was of the utmost importance that women should take an active part in the work of the Synagogues. Many of them had more leisure than men, and were in a better position to judge who was likely to serve the Synagogue well. The proposal, too, was not a revolutionary one, for as far back as 1870 there were women—widows of privileged members of the Synagogues—in three London Synagogues who had the right to vote.

Mr. Moses, Vice-President of the United Synagogue, in seconding the motion, pointed out that the vote was granted to women seat-holders of the Spanish and Portuguese congregation, an entirely orthodox body.

Mr. Hyman Isaacs urged that the increasing part which women played in the life of the community, the interest which they took in everything connected with the Synagogue, and the numbers in which they regularly attended, entitled them to the vote.

Mr. Elkan E. Adler said the motion was not contrary to the *Din* (Judaic tradition), and was quite in accordance with Jewish history, which told of many women prophets and women judges.

Mr. Alex. Gollancz reminded the meeting that the status of women had advanced very considerably since the foundation of the United Synagogues 50 years ago, when women took little interest in the affairs of the Synagogue. The reverse was the rule to-day.

Mr. Ernest Lesser said the rejection of the motion would be suicidal folly. Educated Jewish women, of orthodox opinion, resented, as a great humiliation,

their inability to take an active part in the Synagogue administration. If women were good enough to sit on the Board of Guardians, they would not be satisfied with the statement that the *Din* was against them. These restrictions made the more progressive women leave the United Synagogue and go over to the Liberal Jews. The Sephardic community, also an orthodox Jewish community, had many years ago granted the vote to certain women.

Mr. Lionel Cohen, speaking in opposition to the resolution, said there were 80 Rabbis from all over the world, great authorities on the Talmud and Jewish Law, who had most emphatically expressed themselves against the granting of equality of rights to women. This was a movement engineered solely by the Union of Jewish Women. Their claim that 14 of the constituent Synagogues of the United Synagogues were in favour of extending the vote to women was preposterous.

Mr. J. Landau strongly opposed the granting of the franchise to women seat-holders, on the ground that it would undermine traditional Judaism and disintegrate the United Synagogue.

Mr. Barnett, speaking amidst a storm of interruptions, said they were either English Jews or Zionists. If the former, they had to submit to English laws, which allowed women the franchise. But if the latter, they might build up Palestine on the principles prevalent thousands of years ago, when women were treated as chattels; but in England they should recognise the important part played by women in the life of the country.

Mr. Michael Schiff urged that they had to consider not so much what was best for the women but what was best for the safeguarding of Jewish religious sentiments.

The result of the division—158 in favour and 211 against—was followed by excited scenes and applause.

Thus history repeats itself once more, and involuntarily the mind travels back over the last 2,000 years to day when the greatest of all Jews warned His contemporaries, apparently without much result, against "teaching for doctrines the commandments of men."

BRITISH WOMEN AND THE OVERSEAS DOMINIONS.

Over a hundred women's societies were represented at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Overseas Settlement for British Women last week, held in the Great Hall of the Church House, Westminster, the Hall being packed to its utmost capacity. Countess Buxton, Chairman of the Council of the Society, presided.

Mr. Bruce, Prime Minister of Australia, mentioned that the meeting was practically the first engagement he had made in connection with the Imperial Conference. The greatest problem of the British Empire to-day, said Mr. Bruce, was the better distribution of the white population. Australia to-day was the greatest undeveloped white man's country, but it was no good to go too fast, and pour more people into the country than it could absorb. The solution of the problems of migration must be necessarily slow. The Australian Government was determined to solve these problems, and had recently set up a special Board for the development of emigration, manned by the best brains in the country. Mr. Bruce concluded by paying a cordial tribute to the pioneer women who had accompanied the pioneer men in past days to Australia.

Mr. Amery (Secretary of State to the Dominions) said the question of migration was a question of citizenship, not merely a method of getting rid of the poor and unlucky and unemployed. The foundations of Empire were built upon homes, and this was why it was so important for women to follow Overseas

where men were already settled. To induce women to emigrate, however, the conditions awaiting them Overseas must be good. Rural housing, and decent accommodation on the farms, were still very inadequate. The present Imperial Conference had been the most practical ever held with regard to this point and many others, whilst the importance of the woman's side of things had never been more prominent. The spirit of adventure was as necessary in women as in men, for migration was really a great crusade for healthy and more spacious living on the part of individuals, and the betterment of the new countries.

Miss Margaret Bondfeld, M.P., referred to the storms of opposition raised in earlier days when emigration was mentioned, due, in a great measure, to the bitter prejudice created by touts for transport companies, who cared nothing for the happiness and welfare of intending emigrants. To-day, matters were entirely altered, and since 1922 the Overseas Settlement Act guaranteed to men and women alike disinterested advice and the most sympathetic assistance. A far better feeling was also growing up in all the Dominions towards welcoming newcomers. The false information disseminated in the past had disappeared, and conditions Overseas were faithfully portrayed beforehand. Miss Bondfeld concluded by appealing to educated women and townspeople to consider going abroad, for she was confident these classes of citizens offered the very best material available.

NOTES FROM THE FOREIGN PRESS.

BY MARIAN BERRY.

The increasing number of women who are employed is a marked feature in all countries. In the November number of Die Frau, reference is made to a recent return relating to the employment of women in various German States for the year 1925.

Statistics are given for Bavaria, Oldenburg, Anhalt, Lübeck, Mecklenburg-Strelitz, Schaumburg-Lippe, and Hamburg. In 1907, in Oldenburg, for every 100 women of the population 23.6 were employed; in 1925 the percentage was 37.3.

Other returns relating to the employment of women in industry in 1924 are given, and these show that of the 7,278,820 workers, 1,796,438, namely, 24.7 per cent. are women. In the clothing trade women number 71.1 per cent. of the employees; in the weaving industry, 59.4 per cent.; and in the paper trade, 39.4 per cent.

The Municipal Elections took place in Belgium last month. Belgian women have had the municipal franchise since 1920, and several have been elected to local authorities.

In many districts the men's Party organisations refused to include the names of women in their lists of candidates and the women's associations were forced to issue their own lists giving the names of women only.

W.F.L. PAMPHLETS, ETC.

- "British Women M.P.s" (brought up to date), by D. M. Northcroft ... 4d.
"The Work for Women M.P.s," by Mrs. Helena Normanton, B.A. ... 3d.
"The Need for Women Members of Parliament," (Second Edition), by Mrs. How Martyn, M.Sc. 3d.

Come and Buy your Christmas presents at our Annual GREEN, WHITE & GOLD FAIR Tuesday and Wednesday, November 23rd and 24th, THE CAXTON HALL, WESTMINSTER.

GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD FAIR.

The Green, White and Gold Fair will be held this year at the Caxton Hall, Westminster, on Tuesday and Wednesday, November 23rd and 24th, and will be opened each day at 3 p.m.

STALLS AND STALLHOLDERS.

- Hampstead Branch.—Handkerchiefs, Antiques, and White Elephants. Miss Goodliffe, Miss Lyndon, and Miss Vibert.
Mid-London Branch.—Stationery Stall. Miss Sparkman and Members.
Montgomery Boroughs Branch.—Welsh Produce, Cakes and General. Miss Alix M. Clark and Friends.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

The Entertainments will be on an extensive scale, and will include Dramatic Performances each day at 6 p.m., and a display by Camp Fire Girls on Tuesday, November 23rd, at 7.15 p.m.

COMPETITIONS AND GAMES.

These are being arranged by Mrs. Seymour-Pritchard, who will be assisted by Mrs. Blake and other friends.

TEAS AND REFRESHMENTS.

The Teas and Refreshments are being undertaken by Miss Reeves, who will be assisted by the staff and members of the Minerva Club, also by Miss Sadd Brown, Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Beville, Miss T. Goodliffe, and other friends.

Teas will be served in the Lounge and Gallery from 3.30 to 6 p.m., and Refreshments will be served after 7 p.m.

SOCIETIES AND FRIENDS TAKING STALLS.

- The British Commonwealth League.
The Nine Elms Settlement.
The League of the Church Militant.
St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance.
The Montessori Society.
The Friends' Council for International Service.

Tickets, 1s. 10d. (including tax) the first day until 5 p.m.; after 5 p.m. and on the second day, 1s. 2d. (including tax), are on sale at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1, or from the Societies and friends taking stalls, or can be obtained at the doors.

All communications and gifts should be sent to Miss E. Berry, Hon. Fair Sec., at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

WHERE TO GO. WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.



Tuesday and Wednesday, November 23rd and 24th 3 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. Green, White and Gold Fair, at Caxton Hall

DARE TO BE FREE.

Saturday, November 20th, at 2.30 p.m. Women's Engineering Society. Visit to the Science Museum, South Kensington.

Saturday, November 20th, at 3 p.m. Saturday Speech Club, Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1.

Thursday, November 25th, at 7.15 p.m. Ashford (Kent) Rotary Club. Ladies' Night Dinner.

Monday, November 29th, at 3.30 p.m. Council for the Representation of Women in the League of Nations.

Tuesday, November 30th, at 5.45 p.m. Margate Pioneer Society. Meeting at Fort Lodge Hotel, Cliftonville.

Wednesday, December 1st, at 3 p.m. Electrical Association for Women. Visit to Good Housekeeping Institute, 49, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C.2.

Wednesday, December 1st, at 8 p.m. Equal Political Rights Campaign. Public Meeting, organised by Six Point Group.

Monday, December 6th, at 8 p.m. Equal Political Rights Campaign. Public Meeting, organised by St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance.

OUR OPEN COLUMN.

To the Editor of THE VOTE.

Women and the Lead Paint Bill.

Madam,—The Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Bill is about to come before the House of Lords, and even at the eleventh hour we feel that the attention of the public should once more be called to Clause II, both on account of its practical effects and of the far-reaching principle which it embodies.

The Second and Third Readings of the Bill in the House of Commons were both taken at short notice. Women have thus been given practically no opportunity for organised protest against a clause which will have the effect of throwing out of work those women at present engaged in certain sections of the painting trade and of completely closing these sections to all women after November, 1927.

We trust that in the House of Lords there may be an unbiased reconsideration of the Clause in the light of modern knowledge and modern conditions. The ostensible reason for excluding women, in so far as it has ever been publicly stated, is their alleged special susceptibility to lead-poisoning.

A Bill which treats women as non-adults, which denies them the right to judge for themselves, is in essence a retrograde measure, and we are convinced that women have nothing to gain from a false humanitarianism supported by doubtful facts.

Yours faithfully, Elizabeth Abbott, Leonora de Alberti, Helen A. Archdale, Margery Corbett Ashby, Dorothy Balfour of Burleigh, Florence E. Barrett, Florence A. Barry, Florence M. Beaumont, Sarah Clegg, Virginia M. Crawford, Winifred C. Cullis, Crystal Eastman, Millicent G. Fawcett, Mary Fielden, May Ogilvie Gordon, Almyra Gray, Cicely Hamilton, Verena Holmes, Chrystal Macmillan, Louisa Martindale, Winifred Mayo, F. de G. Merrifield, Christine M. Murrell, Rhondda, E. Rodgers, Maud Salborne, Rosamond Smith, Florence Underwood, Jane Walker, M. Wintringham, M. Wynne Nevinston.

MRS. DESPARD'S BIRTHDAY FUND.

THE FIFTEENTH YEAR. SECOND LIST OF CONTRIBUTIONS.

Table with 4 columns: Name, Amount (£), Amount (s.), Amount (d.). Includes entries like 'Previously acknowledged', 'Deal and Walmer (additional)', 'Mid-London (additional), Mrs. Legge', etc.

£333 1 3

Contributions may still be sent, and will be gratefully received by the Hon. Treasurer, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

ASSAULTS ON GIRLS.

The following are taken from The Times of November 12th:— For offences against his two daughters, a dustman, aged 42, who had been employed by the Westminster City Council, was sentenced by Mr. Justice Greer at the Central Criminal Court yesterday to five years' penal servitude.

W.F.L. DIARIES, 1927.

These Diaries, price 2s., bound in green and gold, with pencil attached, enlarged contents and a special page of our objects and activities, are now on sale at these offices, and should be applied for without delay, as only a limited number are available.

APRONS AND OVERALLS STALL.

The Misses Underwood, Mrs. Turriff, and Miss Brewer offer their warmest thanks to Miss Hurry, Dr. Knight, Mrs. Pierotti, Mrs. Thomas, and Miss Stone for parcels of goods for this stall; to Mrs. Tizard for material; and to Miss Cather, Miss Kate Evans, Mrs. Foster, Mrs. B. Gilbert, Miss McGregor, Mrs. Juson Kerr, Mrs. Sutcliffe, Miss Mollie Seymour, Mrs. Speak, and Miss E. Underwood for their very kind donations.

FRIDAY,
NOV. 19,
1926.

THE VOTE

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TRADE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

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

MISCELLANEOUS.

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

NOTICES.

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

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. Sunday, November 21st. 3.30. Music. Lecture by Dr. G. C. Simpson, C.B., C.B.E., F.R.S.: "Meteorology in the service of Man." 6.30. Miss Maude Royden: "Human Nature and Industrial Disputes."

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Displayed Advertisements, 8/- inch.

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

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

TO LET.

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

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A VERY comfortable Bedroom or Bed-sitting-room in lady's flat, for business lady. Quiet house, gas fire and ring, electric light. Breakfast only. Can be seen by appointment.—Write Mrs. PHELPS, c/o THE VOTE Office, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

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

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