

THE VOTE,
JAN. 27, 1928.

KING'S SPEECH MEETING! Feb. 8th, at 8 p.m.

THE VOTE

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

VOL. XXIX. No. 953.

(Revised at
the G.P.O.)

ONE PENNY.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27, 1928

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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OUR GALLANT COLLEAGUE.

EMILY JUSON KERR, J.P.

Mrs. Juson Kerr was born in the North-West Province, India. Her mother had married, at 16, Major Charles Edward Orman, of the Bengal Staff Corps, her grandfather was General R. J. Hawthorne, of the Bengal Cavalry, both of whom possessed medals

went out to India and immediately became a great social success, but, 18 months later, the sudden death of Major Orman put a stop to her gay, young life in India, and she came back to England to be her mother's right hand as the eldest of a large family.



THE FISHERMAN ENJOYS HER TEA.

for active service in India. When she was 8 years old, the parents came to England on a year's leave and left their three eldest children in the care of a cousin (who eventually lived to be 100), a resident governess undertaking their education. At 16, Emily

She was always a very good sister to the younger ones, to whom "the pleasing of Emm" was always very important, but domesticity was never very congenial to her, and from the first she was interested in the more public affairs. At 21 she married Mr. Richard Juson Kerr, a

well-known cotton manufacturer of Manchester and later an enthusiastic member of the Royal Cinque Ports Golf Club. In him she had a devoted husband, to whom she was tenderly attached, and from his sudden death on August 8th, 1926, she never seemed to recover. They made their home in Cheshire and later in Derbyshire, but she always loved the sea, and when opportunity offered they settled at Bradfield, Upper Walmer, Kent.

Always very fond of children, though not quite admitting the fact, in 1915, on the death of her brother, Mr. and Mrs. Juson Kerr adopted his two youngest children, Vivie and Sybil, aged 5 and 3, and to them she gave her whole-hearted devotion, her public duties never being allowed to interfere with their education or the management of her charming and hospitable home, where there was always a warm welcome for a tired worker.

When the suffrage agitation became prominent, Mrs. Juson Kerr was quickly interested and gave great help in every way. Women's questions had always attracted her, and in the suffrage cause her interest never waned, being as always with her a mighty enthusiasm, which spared no work. Recognising its logical importance, she was a very keen supporter of the Tax Resistance movement.

On November 16th, 1913, Mrs. Juson Kerr was one of our suffrage prisoners. Our Caxton Hall meeting had repaired in a body to Downing Street, and held a meeting near the Prime Minister's house to protest against the unequal treatment of suffragist prisoners. Here Mrs. Juson Kerr, with Miss Boyle, Miss Eunice Murray and Miss Boileau, were arrested, and, on refusing to be bound over to keep the peace, were kept in the cells. Mr. Juson Kerr was sent for to bail them out, but they were released at the end of the day.

She joined our Kensington Branch, always sharing in protests and propaganda work, and when, in the very strenuous militant days of 1914, a great campaign of propaganda was in progress, she was responsible for the speakers at three meetings every week, undertaken by the Kensington Branch of the Women's Freedom League—a very big Hyde Park meeting, a large street corner meeting, and an indoor meeting. At these she was always present and constantly spoke herself, and she was an able and convincing speaker. The speakers were frequently mobbed, and on one occasion Mrs. Juson Kerr took a revolver for their protection. These meetings continued till August 3rd, 1914.

To swell the branch contributions to the Birthday Fund, Mrs. Juson Kerr also initiated a hand barrow loaded with produce. The barrow was arrested in High Street, Kensington, and taken to the police station, but later released, and quickly sold out.

At the outbreak of war, Mrs. Juson Kerr threw all her energy into providing "Victory Clubs"—rooms open to wives of soldiers and their children, where they found help, friendship and sympathy with their difficulties and anxieties for husbands and families. The first one, at Hammersmith, was quickly copied, and the whole organisation was afterwards taken over by Lady Jellicoe.

After the war, she founded and was the President of the "Housewives' Union," formed to combat the high price of living. Members pledged themselves to consume a smaller amount of, or to avoid altogether, some article of food. Retailers quickly passed this on to wholesalers, and the Union had extraordinary and rapid success in reducing food costs where branches existed.

In connection with its local branch, Mrs. Juson Kerr established a shop and a dairy for good, cheap food and milk, giving lavishly of time, money and work.

To help the small country grower, she worked hard on a Committee to popularise the C.O.D. system of merchandise delivery, having experienced its success in India, and she was overjoyed at its establishment a few years ago.

Mrs. Juson Kerr was a non-Party woman, but always ready to help, work and speak for any cause having for its object the betterment of the conditions of the unfortunate. She was keenly interested in the League of Nations and a prominent member of the Deal Branch of the Women's Co-operative Guild. The humane killing of animals for food was also a movement very dear to her, and much work to make the method compulsory locally was done by her and our Deal and Walmer Branch.

In 1924, she was placed on the Commission of the Police for the Borough of Deal among the first women J.P.s appointed, being sworn in at the same time as the late Earl of Ypres.

Two years ago, she formed the Council of the East Kent Women Magistrates, became its Vice-President, and organised conferences of women magistrates and penal reform meetings. As magistrate, she took the greatest interest in her duties, following up cases where necessary, her wise help and practical advice ever at the command of any "down and out," and sparing no time or pains in patient investigation of cases which often, at first sight, seemed hopeless.

She loved country life and animals; her one great joy and greater relaxation was sea fishing, the holding of a fishing-rod, and her angling clothes making her forget all troubles and annoyances on shore. She was an enthusiastic member of the Deal and Walmer Angling Association and the Deal Angling (1919) Club, to whom she presented the "Women's Cup." She possessed many trophies won at angling festivals round the coast, and organised and gave prizes for children's angling competitions on the pier.

In April, 1924, we were delighted to welcome our colleague on to the National Executive Committee of the Women's Freedom League, and she remained a valued member until April, 1927, when health reasons made it unwise for her to stand for re-election.

On July 14th, 1925, she had the pleasure of seeing the establishment, during a short visit of Mrs. Despard, of a keen Deal and Walmer Branch of the League.

Since an illness many years ago, Mrs. Juson Kerr had suffered from grave physical disability, but she refused to be an invalid and often insisted on keeping engagements when not fit for work, only resting when work was impossible. We last saw her amongst us at the Fair last November. At the beginning of January she was taken ill and influenzal bronchitis followed, but it was with very unexpected suddenness that heart failure developed, and she died on January 11th. The Women's Freedom League was represented at the Cremation at West Norwood and sent flowers to the funeral at Walmer, at which representatives of many associations, magistrates, anglers, and friends were present.

Our colleague was a woman of outstanding personality and very active mind, passing from one activity to another as the need met her, and always with the enthusiasm, courage and devotion that ensures success. Both public and private generosity, kindness, and a great capacity for friendship were her characteristics. She loved a hard fight and was a formidable opponent, but her straightforward absence of any mean spirit won respect and liking from her adversaries.

A keen sense of fun and humour and of proportion made her a most invigorating colleague. Much of her success in working with persons of very varying opinions was in "joining hands on the many things on which we do agree," and many people of all sorts and conditions mourn the loss of a broad-minded and understanding friend.

FRENCHWOMEN AND SUFFRAGE.

La Française reports a distinct impression made upon the opposition to women's enfranchisement by recent activities, and also a rumour that a Bill is being drafted to enfranchise Frenchwomen gradually, so that only in ten years' time would all receive the vote.

SECOND CECIL HOUSE OPENED.

Last week, the second Cecil House was opened by the Women's Public Lodging-house Fund. It is situated in Wharfedale Road, King's Cross, and is a gaily painted blue building, providing accommodation for 62 women and six babies. Like the house in Devonshire Street, this second house has large, airy, cheerful-looking bedrooms with coloured decorations, a well-heated common room, bathrooms, and facilities for washing clothes. One shilling a night is charged each woman for a comfortable bed, tea and biscuits at night and in the morning. No extra charge is made for any of the six babies that can be accommodated, while baths and facilities for washing clothes are included in the charge. Two of the cots, together with the bedding, were given by the Queen, who from the first has taken a great personal interest in the Cecil Houses. Last week, the Lord Mayor performed the opening ceremony, and he was accompanied by the Lady Mayoress, the Senior Sheriff and his wife, and the Mayor of Islington. Major Cohen, M.P., the Hon. Treasurer, said that the inclusive cost of freehold, alterations, and equipment of the house was about £5,000. Mrs. Cecil Chesterton said that the rule was to ask no questions of the women or girls who spent the night at Cecil House, with the result that many of them told the matron a good deal about themselves, and it had been possible to help a very great number of them to get situations, and in many other ways.

While wishing every possible success to these lodging-houses for women, we are more convinced than ever that the London County Council ought to provide lodging-houses for homeless women in London on the same lines as it provides lodging-houses for men, of the Bruce House type.

DROIT DES FEMMES.

The French *Ligue des Droits des Femmes* held its annual meeting last month, followed by a public one, at which men spoke strongly on feminist lines. M. Louis Martin explained the alteration in the civil code, which now permits a Frenchwoman, married to a foreigner, to retain her own nationality. Madame Maria Verone followed, pointing out some remaining injustices in this matter still requiring adjustment. Madame Verone is the President of this active League, and ended the proceedings with an impassioned speech on the delay in France in giving women citizenship. She declared that if the women were tricked and put off much longer, she would resign her post as President of the *Ligue des Droits des Femmes* and would be prepared to lead women to more militant methods. Loud applause greeted her words.

INTELLIGENT ANTICIPATION.

The *Evening News* excels itself in intelligent anticipation. It says that "a friend of shrewd political judgment holds that one result of the enfranchisement of another five and a quarter million women will be to add to the number of women Members of Parliament, because women understand the point of view of their sex better than men." This has been shrewdly judged by women for years and years. While, perhaps, not entirely agreeing with the "because," it has appeared obvious that a certain amount of sex loyalty was bound to operate. A larger sympathy with "one of ourselves" is easily translated into registering a vote in favour. And when, in addition to this sympathy, there is added an equality of attractions in the shape of ability and honesty, one would expect an increase of women elected to follow an increase of women electors.

WOMEN AND DOMESTIC SERVICE.

Last Saturday, another group of 50 women sailed for Australia, trained in the hostel at Market Harborough, and guaranteed a post in domestic service on arrival in Australia. These women are trained in housework free, with a small allowance, are given a free passage, and start at 15s. to 25s. a week with keep on the other side.

RUSH-HOUR TRANSPORT.

One hopes that sentimentality will not be allowed to confuse the issue in the little agitation now being raised about rush-hour transport by concentrating upon the troubles of the shop assistant. It cannot be truthfully maintained that the shop assistant is any worse off in the rush hours than is any other worker. To reduce the problem to such a small part of it will certainly not solve the whole. All people who work in the daytime end their work in the evening hours, and all desire to move from their working place to their home or living place. All, men and women alike, have fallen victims to a disease called hurry. They run, they shove, they push, they knock, and, when successful in boarding the vehicle they have attacked, they shake themselves as the victor in a battle.

Much could be done to make urban transport more adequate and more comfortable, on the part of those who supply it. Much more needs to be done in calming the frenzy of the to-be-transported. Shop assistants are neither peculiarly weak nor peculiarly aggressive; no doubt some of them fight with more violence than others and win an early place in bus and tube; others will be pushed out and have to wait unpleasantly until the scrum opens up. All daytime workers have similar characteristics and do the same. Not one is exempt. It is a throwing of dust in the eyes to try to pretend that, if shop assistants were removed from other workers, the transport problem of the rush-hour would be solved.

Two things are required to solve, or, at least, alleviate some of the unpleasantness of the rush-hour traffic. One is a broadening of the minds of those who control and license the London traffic; the other is a little less selfishness on the part of the public. Either to blame or to pity the shop assistants can have no slightest effect upon the problem.

EQUAL POLITICAL RIGHTS CAMPAIGN.

An audience of over 300 persons collected at High-bury Corner on Thursday evening, January 19th, when the usual Women's Freedom League open-air meeting was held, the speakers being Miss E. E. Froud and Miss Pearson; chairman, Miss Sparkman. The chairman referred to the fact that, to the popular mind, 1918 was the end of the "Votes for Women" question; it was high time that the vote should be given to women as to men, on the usual residential qualification, at 21. Miss Froud, in referring to the statement made that there is no demand for the extension of the franchise, remarked that she had just returned from a big Conference at Chester (the N.U.W.T. Conference), at which all had demanded it, and year by year at this Conference a resolution to this effect had been passed. They were weary of asking for the vote, and desired to get on with the "big jobs" which the vote would give them the power to do, such as education, housing, etc., so that a large percentage of the money which was now being expended on wars, past and future, might be used for reforms so badly needed, but continually put by "until another time." It was suggested that the Equal Franchise Bill should be "put off" until after the next election, but this had been the cry for 80 years now, during which time women had been working for the vote, and the time had come when mere promises would no longer satisfy them. Miss Froud drew attention to the "King's Speech" meeting, to be held at Caxton Hall, on February 8th, and invited the audience to attend, in order to support the resolution to the Prime Minister which was to be sent from that meeting, thanking him for his promise, but demanding that this promise shall be translated into an Act of Parliament. Miss Pearson spoke on behalf of the young women under 30, and pointed to the need there is of the support of those who already have the vote.

L. M. W.

THE VOTE.

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 27th, 1928.

Telegrams: "DESPARD, Museum 1429, London."
Telephone: MUSEUM 1429.
EDITORIAL.

The Editor is responsible for unsigned articles only. Articles, paragraphs, or cuttings dealing with matters of interest to women generally will be welcomed. Every effort will be made to return unsuitable MSS. if stamped addressed envelope be enclosed, but the Editor cannot be responsible in case of loss.

A SIMPLE FRANCHISE MEASURE WANTED!

As the date for the opening of the New Session approaches, possibly the last Session of the present Parliament, women's organisations grow more keenly interested in the King's Speech. We confidently look forward to an announcement in it telling us what are the Government's plans for giving to women the Parliamentary vote from the age of 21 and on the same terms as men. Practically everyone now considers that the question of Equal Franchise is long past the "argument" stage, and there is no organised opposition to the granting of Equal Franchise. Those who are not now actively advocating this much overdue reform are, at any rate, acquiescing in its inevitability, and all that remains to be done is to introduce an Equal Franchise measure into Parliament and get it placed safely on the Statute Book with the least possible delay. Some of the Government's supporters are urging that this measure shall also contain clauses dealing with other matters, such as the disfranchisement of paupers, and votes for limited liability companies. These other matters have nothing at all to do with Equal Franchise, and no one can pretend that they have been discussed by the country to any great extent, and certainly no pledges have been given by Ministers concerning them in anything like the way that pledges have been given to women in regard to Equal Franchise. Moreover, these other matters are highly controversial. Not only will they encounter opposition in the two political Parties which are pledged, as the Conservative Party is now also pledged, up to the hilt to support Equal Franchise, but they will cause very serious delay to the progress of the Equal Franchise Bill through both Houses of Parliament, and any kind of delay now would most seriously endanger the possibility of the Bill reaching the Statute Book in time to fulfil the Prime Minister's pledge that women shall vote at the same age and on the same terms as men at the next General Election. Members who are genuinely interested in the disfranchisement of paupers or in votes for companies can either among themselves arrange for one or two of their number to introduce Bills dealing with these questions separately or together, or they can urge the Government to bring in a Bill dealing with them, and, no doubt, if these Bills meet with sufficient support in Parliament, they will reach the Statute Book. We emphatically assert, however, that they have nothing whatever to do with Equal Franchise, and they have no right to appear in the Government's promised Bill to women. We urge, therefore, that the announcement in the King's Speech shall be that the Government will introduce and carry into law without delay an Equal Franchise Bill granting the Parliamentary vote to women at the same age and on the same terms as men. Women's organisations ask for nothing more, and they will not be content with anything less. With the entire weight of the Government support and the willing support of Members of both the other political Parties, a simple franchise measure could be piloted very quickly through Parliament and reach the Statute Book at an early date. All delay is dangerous to the fulfilment of the Prime Minister's promise, and this can best be avoided by introducing a simple Bill which would reduce the opposition to a minimum.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL!

In connection with the Bristol West by-election (where Lady Clare Annesley is standing as the Labour candidate), the *Westminster Gazette* reports that the Liberal candidate, Mr. W. N. Marcy, has set out nine principles of his Party. The one that interests us most is the one that Mr. Marcy places sixth on his list—Equal Opportunity for all. We are intrigued to know if Mr. Marcy consciously applies this principle equally to women and men; and we should like to know how long it will take his Party, or any other of the present political Parties, to put this principle first on its programme. We are quite sure that any Party which has the courage to place equal opportunity for all—men and women alike—and to work with conviction for this principle, will give a new interest in life to all its supporters. Think what it would mean! Politically, the highest departments in the State—in the Cabinet, the Privy Council, the House of Lords, the Government Departments, the Diplomatic and the Consular Services, all open to men and women on equal terms, and accorded to them solely on the consideration of merit. Economically, women would be equally eligible with men for every post in the Civil Service at home and abroad, the highest administrative and executive posts, as well as the lower ones; there would be women as well as men Directors of Education in this country; women teachers as well as men teachers in all the highest posts of that profession; women on the Prison Commission, women on all Commissions and Departmental Committees in practically equal numbers with men; women filling the highest posts in the legal profession, as well as all other professions, equally with men; and women working with men in industry on an entirely equal footing, as members of all trades unions, and working freely side by side with men without any restrictions being imposed on the work of women which are not also placed on the work of men.

THE COMING BUDGET.

At this time of the year, the Press, through its Correspondents, is always very voluble in its suggestions to the Chancellor of the Exchequer for the coming Budget; and we learn that Mr. Churchill has again been asked to lower the income tax, to put a tax on cats, bicycles, bachelors, etc. The object of every good Chancellor of the Exchequer should be, of course, in addition to insisting on economy of expenditure in every department of our national life, to arrange taxation in such a way that its burdens are shared justly by every section of the community, and that no section has to bear an undue weight of it. Once again we have to point out to Mr. Churchill, as we have pointed out to his predecessors, that married people are suffering a special hardship because their incomes are lumped together for the purpose of taxation and taxed on the joint amount and not separately. If these married people lived together without being married, their incomes would be taxed separately, and the aggregate amount of the tax would be very considerably less. It is a matter of justice that a husband and wife should be entitled to the full benefit of his or her personal income and should be responsible only for the tax on that income, and marriage should certainly not be penalised by assessing and taxing those incomes jointly. On more than one occasion we have been told by the Treasury that the present practice cannot be departed from because of the financial condition of the country. We can see no reason why married people should be called upon to suffer the burden of £20,000,000, which we are told the Treasury would lose if the incomes of married people were assessed and taxed separately. This £20,000,000 is the measure of injustice to married people in this country so far as taxation is concerned, and we appeal once again to Mr. Churchill to provide for the separate assessment and taxation of incomes of husbands and wives, making each responsible only for the tax on his or her income.

A WOMAN'S ALPHABET.

In summing up what women have done during the first ten years of citizenship, one realises strongly two things: first, that opposition and prejudice still handicap her in many directions; second, that in that brief ten years she has entered a variety of spheres in great numbers and has risen to high positions with remarkable speed.

I amused myself the other day by making a list, which runs into hundreds, of professional occupations now engaged in by women, and then I selected a smaller list, at random, taking one for each letter of the alphabet. Chosen in this way, without consideration of whether women were still handicapped or whether they were free in the chosen occupation, one finds a general balance of high accomplishment in the face of strong opposition.

Accountants.—Women were admitted to the Society of Incorporated Accountants and Auditors in 1918, and to the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales in 1920. In 1924, the first woman qualified as a chartered accountant, and in 1926 a woman took the first prize and first Certificates of Merit in the final examination of the Incorporated Accountants.

Barristers.—The admission of women to this branch of the legal profession followed the passing of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act of 1919. In May, 1922, the first woman was called, having taken a Certificate of Honour in her Finals. By June, 1923, twelve women had been called. By 1925, there were forty. Many have passed the examinations with distinction, and will probably be heard of when established.

Clergymen.—In the State Church women are still not admitted further than the order of deaconess. In the Congregational Union women were admitted as ministers in 1917, and immediately received pastorates. In the Unitarian Church, the first woman was ordained in 1912. The Society of Friends has never made any distinction between men and women in vocal service, and the Baptists have women pastors. The Wesleyans and all the Scots Churches, as well as the English Presbyterian, still exclude women from pastorates. Even with such extremely limited openings, we find women already in large and important pastorates, notably this year in a large church in Birmingham.

Doctors.—The medical profession yielded to persistence and opened its doors to women long before 1918, but there are still many handicaps to be faced by women inside, exclusion from many of the schools being not the least, encouragement by the Government of their dismissal on marriage, with a host of other irritants. In spite of these, we have already an eminent woman on the Council of the British Medical Association, with many others among the most distinguished of the profession, both in private and public work.

Engineers.—This is a profession which women have entered in numbers since 1918, and one finds them not only carrying on in various branches, but having already attained executive and administrative positions. They are Members of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, of Marine Engineers, Civil Engineers, Sanitary Engineers, Automobile Engineers, Electrical Engineers, Associates of the Institute of Naval Architects, and of the Iron and Steel Institute and of the Society of Engineers. All these memberships and fellowships have been won one by one since 1918. We find them as directors of companies and as managing directors, as works managers, and one as a surveyor under the Irish Land Commission.

Freemen.—The right of "Freedom," whether of City or of Company, is very ancient, and from Domesday Book women Freemen can be traced. In the nineteenth century the custom of making women free of Companies fell into disuse, but 1926 saw application again being made to revive the right.

Gymnasts.—Using gymnastics in the limited sense of physical culture, excluding sport, we find women taking to them in extraordinary numbers and achieving

success with ease and grace. In 1927, at the Annual Team Competitions of the British Association for Physical Training, the women entered 30 teams of eight, the men only six of eight and four teams of four. Considerable comment was made at the time on the "effortless grace" of the women "in marked contrast to the hard slogging" of the men.

House Property Managers.—This is a field which women seem to have made peculiarly their own. In 1916, the Association of Women House Property Managers came into being, and now trains women who find employment under private owners and under local authorities, an employment which steadily increases.

Interpreters.—Although denied the British official interpreterships, women with the gift of tongues are to the fore in the League of Nations and its many subsidiary bodies, displaying marked ability in quick interpreting of both the spoken and the written word.

Justices.—The Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act of 1919 opened this service to women. In 1927, out of 23,000 magistrates in England and Wales, 1,657 were women. These appointments lie in the hands of the Lords Lieutenant and the Lord Chancellor, and one must hope that their reluctance to appoint will be removed by the good work done by those women already serving.

Kennel Experts.—This rather vague profession includes the breeding of dogs, their care, and their training, and in all branches we find women in increasing numbers, from kennel maids to owners and breeders.

Librarians.—There is no sex bar here, and since women began making independent careers, that of librarian has been popular. No definite training was in existence until 1920. Now there exist courses for librarianship in several universities, and many women have qualified and are filling important librarian posts.

Mayors.—The progress of women to civic honour is remarkable since 1918. The first woman Mayor was elected in 1908. By 1923 there were four; in 1924, six; and, in 1927, 13, with, in addition, one Lord Mayor.

Nursing.—Although still more of a vocation than a profession, great strides have been made in recent years to improve the status and conditions of nurses. In 1919, a Registration Bill was passed, and in 1925 registration was made contingent on passing through a training approved by the General Nursing Council. A strong movement for autonomy exists.

Opticians.—No sex bar exists here. It appears to be an occupation in which women have been highly successful as students, but have difficulty in finding openings when qualified.

Police.—Women are only barred by official stupidity from rising to high positions in this service. Authority in this country still objects to women police, and employs them only in very limited and purely ancillary positions.

Q.—There seem to be no professional q's.
Registrars.—There are many women Registrars, and as late as 1925 the Press thrilled because a Deputy-Superintendent Registrar of Marriages married some couples, but custom has since staled that.

Stockbrokers.—As the London Stock Exchange still keeps its doors firmly closed against women, we can here chronicle little success. Women are Members of the Provincial Stock Exchange, and are doing well in Provincial towns, while in London they are restricted to outside broking.

Taxi-drivers.—Although women may enter and pass the required official tests, and have done so, as the men drivers will not admit them to their Union, their position is rendered impossible. Many women are in private hiring businesses and doing well.

Undertakers.—This does not seem to be a popular occupation for women. There are eight women undertakers in London, who are reported to be doing a thriving business.

Veterinary Surgeons.—The first woman veterinary surgeon, Miss Aleen Cust, passed with distinction through Principal Williams New Veterinary College in Edinburgh 25 years ago, to be met at the end by the refusal of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons to allow her to sit for their diploma, necessary before practising in England. Undaunted, Miss Cust went to Ireland, where she won immediate success, becoming an inspector under the Board of Agriculture. In 1919, the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act stirred the Royal College to admit women, and in 1922 Miss Cust graduated, and was followed by others. By 1927, four women were registered as practising. In that year also a woman carried off the prize for the best student at the Royal Veterinary College.

Wireless Operators.—Women are eligible for the Postmaster-General's certificate, but, when qualified, are barred from employment on board ship, and have great difficulty in finding employment on land.

X-Ray Operators.—Women have taken up this work in many of its branches and applications, e.g., medical, metallurgical, etc.

Young Suffragists.—The only thing I could find under Y were the Young Suffragists, who are the very indignant Under-thirties excluded from the franchise in 1918. They are now banded together in a demand for enfranchisement, a demand likely to be granted in 1928.

Zoologists.—Finally, the zoologists, among whom we find a woman professor at London appointed in 1927.

L.C.C. WOMEN CANDIDATES.

In addition to Mrs. E. Lowe, J.P., we learn that Mrs. Salter, one of the present members for Hackney, will stand in the Labour interest for West Bermondsey, which has two members.

BOOK REVIEWS.

Civic Health and Welfare. By H. Caton and M. Berry. (P. S. King & Son.) Price 2s. 6d. (Can be obtained from this Office.)

This handbook of the Signpost Series deals with all matters pertaining, firstly, to the public health, such as Maternity and Child Welfare, School Health Service, Milk, Sanitation, and the Cleansing of the Atmosphere, methods of dealing with infectious disease, as well as the humane slaughtering of animals intended for food, and also the great and most important question of housing. The reader is being told what regulations already exist, dealing with these matters, and the present usage of different municipalities in matters of scavenging, washhouses, housing, etc., showing the progress already made, and the great need still remaining for further action in many places, together with the present costs of undertakings.

The next section deals with Recreations of the Community, for which provision is made in parks and open spaces, together with swimming baths and musical entertainments, sand gardens, and paddling pools. In the North, alas! the tremendous need for playing-fields for the children is very little catered for, and sandheaps and paddling pools are almost unknown, and it is a pity this book cannot be forwarded to many town councillors and borough surveyors! Public libraries and municipal museums and art galleries are dealt with in another chapter, special mention being made of children's libraries.

The last chapter deals with women's status in Local Government as administrators or officials, in libraries and police service, with a special note as to the position of the married woman. Some interesting vital, housing and criminal statistics, together with a good bibliography brings this first number of the Signpost Series to an end, and if the volumes which succeed to it are as full of useful and well-arranged matter, very many people will be full of gratitude to the Editors.

J. M. T.

The Window, and other Poems. By Lætitia Withall. Published by Percy Lund, Humphries & Co., Ltd. Price 2s. 6d. (May be obtained at this Office.)

These pleasing and delicate little poems will be read with much interest—the revelations of a very shy, lonely soul, near akin to nature, transplanted by circumstances into a London office and moulded by the evils under which women suffered into a militant suffragette. The title poem explains the book:—

“My house I shut against all men—
And then
I break my heart that no one understands.”

This window small,
I'll push it just ajar. Not much. That's all.”
Down Cheyne Walk:—

“I heard the old, the water call.”

In April:—

“... all the little furry things,
And all the deep and mossy things,
And all the cool and greeny things,
Are calling me to come.”

“The cuckoo calls from a far-off wood.”

In Friendships in Stones:—

“Boadicea
Has often caught me up into her car.”

“And when I'm needing just a friendly chat,
I'd rather go to Abram Lincoln than
Than hosts of me.”

“I take my lunch with Margaret in the Fields.”

“When life is gray
I go to one whose Lamp turned night to day.”
Friday Street, The Hunger Striker (1909), and The
Visitant are specially noticeable.

E. K.

The Flashlight. Quarterly Organ of the Women's Enfranchisement Association of the Union of South Africa.

We have received the second number of this new-comer, whose advent is surely a sign that the women of South Africa are beginning to feel as women, to be conscious of their degrading political position, and to be determined to end it. This second number of *The Flashlight* contains an account of a tour which two members of the Association made in the interests of suffrage. They visited the Free State and the Transvaal—in all, about 20 towns—holding meetings everywhere. Mayors and Mayoresses presided in many towns, and keen interest was shown by the formation of several new branches.

A GEOLOGICAL CLASSIC.

All suffragists will join in warm congratulations to Dr. Maria Ogilvie Gordon on the completion and publication of her monumental work on the Dolomites of South Tyrol.

The studies from which this highly technical book results were begun 35 years ago, under the direction of two celebrated geologists of the day, were laid aside through family affairs and the demands for organisation work during the war, and have now been brought to a triumphant conclusion.

The origin and structure of the great South Tyrolean masses of the Dolomites have been studied in minutest detail, new light thrown on the fossils present, and the truth of the two series of earth upheavals, which resulted in a “torsion” of the great mountain masses, established.

The mountaineering feats alone needed in the work have involved energy and courage to a remarkable degree, and it is a cause for pride and satisfaction to us all that an Englishwoman should, with such ability, pertinacity, and patient toil, have produced a classic now indispensable to all future investigators in the same area.

Women's Freedom League.

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

WHERE TO GO.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

LONDON AND SUBURBS.

Thursday, February 2nd, at 7.30 p.m.
Equal Political Rights Campaign. Open-Air Meeting at Highbury Corner arranged by The Women's Freedom League.

Tuesday, February 7th, at 4 p.m.
Political Sub-Committee Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Wednesday, February 8th, at 4 p.m.
Tea and Politics-up-to-date. First meeting of Session. Minerva Club, Brunswick Square. Leader of Discussion: Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence. Wednesday, February 8th, at 6.30 p.m. Mid-London. Branch Meeting at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

DARE TO BE FREE.

Holborn, W.C.1. All members are urged to be present, and to go on afterwards to Caxton Hall.

Friday, February 10th, at 5 p.m.

Organisation Sub-Committee at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Friday, February 10th, at 7.15 p.m.

King's Speech Dinner at the Minerva Club, 56, Hunter Street, Brunswick Square. Tickets 3/6 each from Miss Reeves.

Saturday, February 11th, at 10 a.m.

National Executive Committee Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Saturday, April 28th at 10 a.m.

Annual Conference at Caxton Hall, Westminster.

PROVINCES.

Thursday, January 26th, at 4 p.m.

Hastings. Members' Meeting at the Open Door Club. Subject: Annual Conference. Chair: Mrs. Darent Harrison.

Wednesday, February 1st, at 3.30 p.m.

Bexhill. Whist Drive at the Albany Hotel, Sea Road. Hostess: Miss Skinner. Tickets 1/6.

Saturday, February 11th.

Portsmouth. Tea and Politics Up-to-date, 2, Kent Road, at 3 p.m. Speaker: Miss Peacock.

Friday, February 24th.

Ashford. Branch Meeting. Nurse Scott on “Home Nursing.”

Friday, March 30th.

Ashford. Branch Meeting. Dr. Littledale on “Local Birds.”

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Friday, January 27th, at 8 p.m., and

Saturday, January 28th, at 11 a.m.

New Education Fellowship. Lecture by Dr. Decroly, Professor of Child Psychology at the Brussels University, at Friends' House, Euston Road, N.W.

Friday, January 27th, at 8 p.m.

The Guildhouse, Eccleston Square. Lecture by Sir Oliver Lodge on “The Birth of the Moon.” Tickets, 5/-, 3/-, 1/-.

Saturday, January 28th, at 3 p.m.

Speech Club, Minerva Club, Brunswick Square. Mrs. Philip Champion de Crespigny on “The Worlds around us.”

Tuesday, January 31st, at 8 p.m.

Josephine Butler Centenary. Meeting at the King's Weigh House. Speaker: Miss Alison Neilans. Chairman: The Rev. W. E. Orchard, D.D.

Thursday, February 2nd, at 4.15 p.m.

Open Door Council. “At Home” (by kind invitation of Miss Grao Bradford) at 42, Carlton Hill, St. John's Wood, N.W.8. Speaker: Mrs. Abbott on “The Factory Bill and the Woman Wage Earner.” Chairman: The Lady Balfour of B. rleigh.

Saturday, February 4th, at 7 p.m.

Suffragette Dinner. Craig's Court Restaurant. Tickets 5/-, from Mrs. Elsa Gye, “Adsett,” Ridgeway, Mill Hill, N.W.7.

Monday, February 6th, at 5.45 p.m.

The Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, Miss Sybil Thorndike reading the “Truján Women.” Chair: Professor Percy Dearmer. Tickets, 5/-, 3/-, 1/-.

Monday, February 6th, at 8 p.m.

Public Meeting on Anniversary of Votes for Some Women. Speakers will be ex-Prisoners. Admission free. Reserved seats 1/- and 2/6. from Mrs. Elsa Gye, “Adsett,” Ridgeway, Mill Hill, N.W.7.

Monday, February 6th, at 8 p.m.

Caxton Hall. New Year's Party (arranged by S. Joan's Social and Political Alliance). Attractive Musical Programme, and Short Speeches by His Lordship the Bishop of Pella, the Hon. Mrs. Walter Roch, Mrs. Laughton Mathews. Tickets, 3/6 (including Refreshments), from 55, Berners Street, W.1.

Wednesday, February 8th, at 8 p.m.

Equal Political Rights Campaign Committee. “King's Speech” Meeting in Caxton Hall, to decide Policy of Action. Chair: The Viscountess Rhonda. Speakers: Mrs. Abbott, Miss E. F. Froud, Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence, Miss N. Stewart Parnell.

Sunday, February 19th, at 11 a.m.

Hampshire House Club, Ravenscourt Park. Speaker: Miss F. A. Underwood on “The Life and Work of Josephine Butler.”

Tuesday, February 28th, at 3 p.m.

Meeting on “Maternal Mortality,” at the Central Hall, Westminster.

BRANCH NOTES.

HAMPSTEAD.

A Members' Meeting was held at 16, Denning Road, N.W.3, on Thursday, January 19th. Miss Lyndon, Hon. Treasurer of the branch, presided. Arrangements were made for the Annual Social Gathering of the branch on Thursday, February 16th, at 8 p.m. (to be held by kind invitation of Councillor Mrs. Irene Fisher at 49, Haverstock Hill, N.W.3). Much dissatisfaction was expressed at the reply from the London County Council to the branch's request that lodging-houses (on the lines of the Bruce House for men in the West Centre) should be erected in different parts of London, and it was decided that the branch should work to forward this movement.

A letter was read from the Under-Secretary of State to the Home Office in regard to the length of hours for girls employed in sweet shops. It was agreed that the branch should give its support to Miss Ida Homfray in the forthcoming L.C.C. Election, and all present agreed to help her in any way they were able to. The Branch also decided to send the League's questions to all the candidates standing for the election.

It was decided that the branch should send a delegate to the Annual Conference, at the Caxton Hall, on April 28th; and resolutions dealing with lodging-houses for women and the length of hours for girls employed in sweet shops were framed.

Members are reminded that their annual membership subscriptions are now due, and should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Miss Lyndon, 53, Willow Road, N.W.3, as early as possible.

(Hon. Sec.) Miss ELIZABETH BERRY, 16, Denning Road, N.W.3.

BEXHILL.

A wretched day kept some of our friends away from the Whist Drive last Wednesday. We were glad to see Mrs. Stevens again with us; she made an efficient M.C. The prizes were won by Mrs. Burgoyne, Miss Baker, and Miss Lambert. The next Whist Drive will be held at the Albany Hotel, on Wednesday, February 1st, at 3.30 p.m.

RYE.

Miss Bellhouse has very kindly made a helpful suggestion. She thinks that, as all our members are new to the League, it would be a help to most of them if they could meet monthly and discuss with the organiser the aims and objects of the League. Tea and talk round the fire sounds very nice, and it is hoped that many friends will be made by this generous suggestion. We warmly thank Mrs. Mossop for offering to deliver THE VOTE to members.

EDINBURGH.

Again, last Saturday, we had a well-attended and enjoyable Whist Drive, this time in the Philosophical Institution.

We are very grateful to those members who helped supply the food and to the ladies who made the sandwiches, which were much appreciated.

Sixpence-halfpenny represented the amount in hand to spend on prizes. That was the cost of the “booby” prize bought at a sale.

The first prize was a box, given by the Misses Downie, filled with Turkish Delight, given and made by Miss Harvey, who also presented a nice little leather-covered account book for the “surprise” prize. Then a copy of “The Constant Nymph,” given by Miss Sprigg, formed the second prize.

We thank these ladies very much for their substantial help.

(Organiser) LILIAN LENTON.

L.C.C. WOMEN CANDIDATES.

Mrs. Laughton Mathews, M.B.E., one of the earliest and most constantly active member of St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance, has been adopted by the South Hackney Liberals as their candidate for the L.C.C. Mrs. Laughton Mathews served with the Women's Royal Naval Service during the war, and was the first officer to be appointed to the charge of a unit. Mrs. C. J. Mathew, J.P., another member of St. Joan's Alliance, is also a candidate for the L.C.C. She has served on the Council since 1923, and is standing for re-election as Labour candidate for the Limehouse Division of Stepney. Both candidates would be grateful for any help between now and polling day, March 8th.

Will the member who so kindly sends THE VOTE to Mrs. Richardson, Minden Cottage, The Green, Worsley, please note that she is now residing at South Dene, Beech Grove, Leigh, Lancs, to which address she would like THE VOTE sent?

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JAN. 27,
1928.

THE VOTE

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TO THE OWLS AND OTHERS.—Large, beautifully furnished house given up to workers, ladies, 5 minutes from Hyde Park. Hot and cold water in bedrooms; 25/- bed and breakfast (liberal), 2 in room, lounges.—Box 123, "THE VOTE" Office, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

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BARNES, S.W.—Well-furnished Half Flat to let, sitting-room, single bedroom, use kitchen; bath (geyser), phone, gas fire, electric light, garden; charming outlook; close river; 12 minutes Kensington Gardens, 10 minutes Barnes Common. Suit business or professional woman. Terms, £2 2s. weekly, nett.—Apply Box "H.N.," THE VOTE, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

SURREY.—Rest Cure or Residence. Two (only) guests or semi-invalids wanted, in comfortable, artistic, modern cottage. Delicious Reform Food. Delightfully sheltered and sunny in winter. Garage, but no car.—"Woodhaven," top of Box Hill (London 20 miles).

RYE, SUSSEX.—Very comfortable winter quarters at specially reduced terms offered to one or two ladies or gentlemen. Modern equipment; quiet and sunny; would suit literary or artistic people. Between November and March.—B., THE VOTE Office, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

FLAT.—ST. JOHN'S WOOD. Part woman worker's. Furnished, every comfort; share kitchen; bath. Telephone. 21/- weekly.—Write HAY, 32, Alma Street.

EDUCATIONAL.

"**AUTO-EDUCATION**," 46, Gt. Russell Street, W.C.1. DR. JESSIE WHITE invites parents and teachers to consult her as to Teaching Appliances.

FOR SALE.

NEW Brick Bungalow, double-fronted, square bays; verandah; six rooms, bath (h. & c.); inside sanitation; Co.'s water; good bus service; pretty piece woodland; $\frac{1}{2}$ acre. Price, freehold, £650. £500 mortgage obtainable.—MOCKFORD, Eastcote, Kingsnorth, Ashford, Kent.

REST AND HOLIDAYS.

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

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

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

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

BATH.—2 miles, $\frac{1}{4}$ hour by tram. Vegetarian Guest House. Large garden; plentiful fruit; electric light. Good excursion centre. From £2 5s.—TOLLEMACHE, Batheaston.

BOSCOMBE, Bournemouth, 39, Parkwood Road. Comfortable Board-residence; 2 mins. cliffs; good locality. Terms from 2½ gns.—MISS MILLER.

BATH.—2 miles, $\frac{1}{4}$ -hour by tram. Vegetarian Holiday Home. Parties taken. Cubicles 30/- week; single rooms £2 5s.; shared rooms £2 2s 6d.—Batheaston Villa, Bath.

WANTED.

REQUIRED POST.—Journalistic, Secretarial, or as Organiser. Part or full time.—EVELYN A. HAMBLING, Eastern Cottage, King's Holt, Gomshall, Surrey.

TENTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS.

"Votes for Some Women."

Public Meeting on Equal Franchise. Speakers: Suffragette ex-Prisoners. Monday, 6th February, 8 p.m., Essex Hall. Admission free. Reserved seats, 1/- and 2/6. Tickets from Mrs. Elsa Gye, "Adsett," Ridgeway, Mill Hill, N.W.7.

CLUBS.

MINERVA CLUB, 56, Hunter Street, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Open to non-residents. Restaurant. Smoking Room. Papers. Library. Bedrooms available at holiday times. Membership, £1 1s. Entrance Fee suspended during present year. All particulars from the SECRETARY. Telephone: Museum 4791.

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.

WOMEN'S NEEDLEWORK DEPOT, 61-62, Chancery Lane, W.C.2, make your material into dresses from 16/6 to measure, Costumes from 32/6 to measure. A fair rate of pay for Women Workers is earnestly solicited. Don't buy garments made at starvation rate of pay. Send stamp, full particulars, or call. Daily. 10 to 6 o'clock.—Telephone: Holborn 2576

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

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Guild-house, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Sunday, January 29th, 1928. 3.30. Music. Lecture. Mr. Edward Unwin. 6.30. The Rev. Percy Dearmer, D.D.

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.

HOTEL.

MONTAGUE HOTEL, Montague Street, Russell Square, London, W.C.1. First-class accommodation; room, breakfast and attendance from 7s. 6d. Pension from 3 guineas.—Phone: Museum 4660. (Highly Recommended.)

MISCELLANEOUS.

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I enclose £ : s. d. as my first

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Minimum Annual Subscription 1/-