

THE VOTE,
JAN. 19, 1923.
ONE PENNY.

FEMINISM IN IRELAND.

By DORA MELLONE.

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

VOL. XXIV. No. 691.

(Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and transmissible through the post in the United Kingdom at the newspaper rate of postage, but to Canada and Newfoundland at the Magazine rate.)

FRIDAY, JAN. 19, 1923

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

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WOMEN POLICE IN AMERICA.

Interview with Mrs. VAN WINKLE.

Mrs. Mina Van Winkle, Head of the Women's Bureau of the Metropolitan Police Department of Washington, U.S.A., is a great believer in the international side of the movement for establishing women police in all countries, and has sent out a Questionnaire to all those countries which have established women police, with the object of linking them up into an international body.

She is now following up these inquiries by a personal visit, and, after studying the women police in Great Britain and Ireland, she intends making a more extended tour in France, Belgium, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Italy, and Holland, and later embodying her information in a comprehensive handbook on International Women Police. An international Conference of Policewomen is also to be held at Washington on May 11th.

"The demand for women police in America is growing rapidly," Mrs. Van Winkle told our representative. "Each State determines in its Legislature whether to appoint policewomen, but they are not yet, of course, established in every city. New York has a women's personnel of 95, and Chicago one of 65. Wisconsin has a law which ensures that women police shall be definitely appointed in every one of its cities. In the smaller, or third-class towns, as they are called, provision is made for at least two policewomen, whilst the larger cities in the State may have as many as is required. The little town of Petersburg, in Virginia, has four policewomen, two white and two coloured, as in this district there is a large coloured problem to deal with. Indianapolis has thirty policewomen, with Miss Clara Burnside in charge, who ranks as a captain, and is also Director of the Women's Bureau. Detroit also has its Women's Bureau, and a House of Detention, to which women are sent after arrest. Los Angeles had policewomen nearly twenty years ago.

"In Washington we have a House of Detention, where boys and girls up to the age of 17, as well as women, are under our control. The only women we do not deal with are drunkards and narcotic-takers. These are always handed over to the men police. The Washington Bureau was formed five years ago, after the Chief of Police had studied the system in London. At that time it was the only Women's Bureau in the United States which was voluntarily established by the local municipal authority, and on the suggestion of the Chief of Police himself. Policewomen in other cities have been appointed as the result of agitation by women's clubs and societies. Three hundred cities in the United States now employ policewomen, of whom there are over a thousand.

"In Washington our work is very largely preventive and protective. The Women's Bureau sends its patrols to visit the streets, barracks, railroads, etc., and has, in addition, a Court worker, who devotes all her time to work in the Police Courts, investigating cases and interviewing all those who pass through her hands for purposes of rehabilitation. Several of our policewomen work in the House of Detention, which consists of a large suite of rooms attached to the Women's Bureau, where sixty inmates can be accommodated.

"Our policewomen are practically all college bred, and have the same salary and status as the men police, and the same eligibility for a pension. They wear plain clothes, as do practically all American policewomen, because we think we can do better work than if we were in uniform. If a child of mine got into trouble, I should prefer a plain clothes policewoman to take her through the streets than one in uniform.

"I was very much impressed by the good work which is being done by Irish and Scotch women police, especially in Dublin and Glasgow. Every Chief Constable whom I met endorsed the women's work, and said they carried out duties which men could not do so well."

"ANNOYANCE" EVIDENCE.

A woman was charged by the police at Tower Bridge last week with soliciting. Mr. Waddy, the magistrate, said: "It is, so far, a case of word against word, and if this woman denies on oath that she was soliciting, I shall dismiss the charge." She entered the witness-box and denied it, after which she was discharged. We warmly congratulate Mr. Waddy on this decision, and we look forward to the time when every magistrate in the country will follow his example in similar circumstances. Such decisions are entirely in the interests of, and certainly increase our respect for, the administration of British justice.

Mrs. Turner, the witness in the recent Hyde Park case against Sir Almeric FitzRoy, appeared at the Central Criminal Court last Friday, charged with perjury in evidence given in that case. The false statements she was alleged to have made were statements about herself—her own name and position. Whether she was annoyed or not, the prosecuting counsel contended, was quite immaterial! But it happened that the charge was made against a person of some means, who was able to employ solicitors, who made elaborate inquiries as to the persons who gave evidence against their client. The Second Clerk at Marlborough Street Police Court, in cross-examination, said that no evidence was given to show that Mrs. Turner (or Daisy Broadbridge) was a person improperly frequenting the Park. On the contrary, the evidence was all the other way. She was not the prosecutrix in the case, and never said at any time that she wanted to prosecute Sir Almeric FitzRoy. In summing up, Mr. Justice Darling said it had been argued that it did not matter whether the defendant's name was Dorothy Turner or not. It was, however, of the utmost importance that a witness's true name should be given; otherwise, a man might go into the witness-box, and say that his name was John Brown, and that he was a perfectly respectable person, when it might really be Richard Turpin! We wonder if Mr. Justice Darling would contend that only "perfectly respectable persons" have a right to the protection of the law? The jury found the defendant *GUILTY*, and strongly recommended her to mercy. Mr. Justice Darling then said his view was that Broadbridge found herself in the position that if she had not said she was annoyed she might have been charged with soliciting. She was an unfortunate person, who had suffered a good deal, and she had not committed the crime for gain or to injure anyone. He thought the Director of Public Prosecutions was perfectly right to bring the case into Court for investigation. He bound the defendant over in her own recognisances in £20 to come up for judgment if called on. Presumably, then, all parties in this case should be satisfied. Sir Almeric Fitzroy was cleared, on appeal, of the charge against him; the Police authorities got through without censure, and the cause of Justice was apparently vindicated. Mrs. Turner had certainly spent a few weeks in Holloway Prison, not because she was annoyed—that she was annoyed she maintained at the Criminal Court—but because she had given a wrong name and a false account of her own history, and had not the requisite £30 for the bail, which, however, Mr. Lansbury afterwards guaranteed. There remains also the general public, who have a growing sense of uneasiness from the fact that people who can afford to pay for their legal defence in cases of "annoyance" have every chance of winning their case; if they cannot pay for their defence, as in the case of so many thousands of women and girls, conviction is almost always a foregone conclusion. We have always maintained that no conviction of any man or woman for annoyance or soliciting should ever be made on the unsupported evidence of police officers, and when this is universally the law and custom we shall be very curious to see if the names, the records, and the past history of the men who come into court to say they were "annoyed" are as closely and minutely investigated as those of Daisy Broadbridge.

AMERICAN WOMEN VOTERS & ORGANISATION.

It may not be generally known to English Feminists that American women voters have their own clearing house of women's organisations, on very similar lines to the "Consultative Committee," which Lady Astor inaugurated in this country in 1921, and to which between 60-70 British women's Societies are already affiliated.

The Women's Joint Congressional Committee is composed of representatives of fourteen of the great national organisations of women. It serves as a clearing house for these organisations which are engaged in promoting in Congress legislation of special interest to women.

Many of these organisations maintain national headquarters or legislative offices in Washington for the purpose of keeping in touch with Federal legislation, and conveying to members of Congress the sentiments of their constituents, and to the members of the organisations the record of their Congressmen on approved legislation. The Committee also seeks to safeguard such legislation when enacted.

The Joint Congressional Committee prevents duplication of effort, and enables these organisations to unite in support of legislation. How important such united effort may prove is illustrated by the successful outcome of the campaign to secure the passage of the Maternity and Infancy Bill.

Methods of Procedure.

The Joint Congressional Committee does not separately endorse legislation. Its members bring to it the endorsements of their respective organisations. When any measure has received the endorsement of five member organisations, a sub-committee, composed of representatives of all the organisations which have endorsed the legislation, is formed to work for the enactment of that measure by Congress. This sub-committee chooses its own officers, is responsible for its own publicity, and works without involving organisations that have not endorsed the measure. No organisation joining the committee is committed to any policy except that of co-operation wherever possible.

At present the legislative measures receiving active support are:—

The Towner-Sterling Department of Education Bill. The Bill for independent citizenship for married women.

The Capper-Focht Bill for compulsory education and school attendance in districts of Columbia.

The Fess Bill for increased appropriation of instruction in home economics.

The Fess-Capper Bill for physical education.

The Sterling-Lehlback re-classification Bill (re-classification of Federal Civil Service).

Achievements in Legislation.

Cases of non-agreement have never occurred. The Towner-Sterling Bill for a Department of Education in the Federal Government has been endorsed by five member organisations, and a sub-committee has been formed to work for the passage of the Bill. Several of the organisations are opposed to certain sections of the Bill, and are probably working to defeat these sections. But this has not caused any division or unpleasantness on the Committee.

During the two years of its existence the Joint Congressional Committee has assisted in the passage of the Sheppard-Towner Maternity and Infancy Bill, and the Packer Control Act. It also helped to secure an appropriation for the Inter-departmental Social Hygiene Board, and an increased appropriation for the Women's Bureau of the United States Department of Labour.

It has a Look-out Committee whose duty it is to examine new Bills as they are introduced, and to bring them to the attention of the Women's Joint Congressional Committee for reference to the member organisations.

An Admission Committee considers the qualification of organisations applying for membership on the Women's Joint Congressional Committee, and makes recommendations concerning such applications. These recommendations are voted upon at the regular meeting of the Joint Congressional Committee.

WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Woman Ship's Engineer.

Miss Victoria Drummond, the first woman to go to sea as a ship's engineer, has just returned to this country from a five months' trip to Australia and back, on the Blue Funnel liner *Anchises*. Pressmen were waiting at every port at which the vessel touched, but the crew were warned beforehand to give no information! Miss Drummond is a graduate of the Institute of Marine Engineers, but cannot sail as a certificated marine engineer until she has had 18 months' sea experience.

A Woman for Congress?

A special election was called in San Francisco for January 9th, because of the death of Mr. John Nolan, the Representative from the Fifth Congressional District of California. His widow has consented to stand as a candidate, and is being supported by the League of Women Voters of that district, and the California Women's Republican League. Mrs. Nolan has had ten years' practical training in and about the House of Representatives.

V.D. in Czecho-Slovakia.

Czecho-Slovakian women M.P.s are working hard in favour of an equal moral standard between the sexes, and the new Bill for dealing with Venereal Diseases, and enforcing an equal moral standard, which has recently become law, is largely owing to their efforts. Czecho-Slovakian women advocated abolition of Prostitution when still under Austrian rule, and in the new Republic women submitted a resolution in favour of the new law in 1919. The women M.P.s belonging to the National Socialist Party have been specially prominent in this question.

First Baptist Woman Pastor.

Miss Annie D. Lodwick, the young Briton Ferry evangelist, who has accepted the pastorate of the Baptist Church at Pysgah, Presswell Key, Pembrokeshire, is the first woman pastor to take charge of a church in Wales. Miss Lodwick, who has been doing excellent evangelistic work throughout South Wales, is 26 years of age, and was previously offered a church at Gorseinon. Her forbears belong to the Congregational Church.

American Women Judges.

Mrs. Charles H. North has been elected Judge of the Juvenile Court in Clinton County, New York, and Judge Florence Allen, of Cleveland, Ohio, one of the most able and most prominent women Judges in the United States, has been elected Judge of the Ohio State Supreme Court, the first woman to be thus honoured. Judge Allen was also the first woman Judge to sit in a court of general jurisdiction, the Court of Common Pleas.

Women and Local Government.

The Women's Local Government Society, in co-operation with the Manchester Women Citizens' Association, is arranging a Conference of Women Councillors, Guardians, and Magistrates, at Manchester, on April 25th and 26th. The Lord Mayor is lending his Parlour for the Conference, and will himself preside at the opening session on April 25th.

A Brilliant Authoress.

The death of Miss Katharine Mansfield, last week, at Fontainebleau, near Paris, removes one of the most brilliant of the younger school of English women writers. Miss Mansfield was the wife of Mr. John Middleton Murry, the well-known critic, poet, and novelist, who was formerly editor of the *Athenæum*, to which his wife contributed some remarkably clever reviews.

Women City Councillors in Madras.

In the recent Municipal Elections in Madras (where women so recently obtained the suffrage), three women were elected to the City Council.

Women and Sports.

The French Feminine Sporting Federation has decided to re-include a pentathlon in the women's games at Monte Carlo. The women's pentathlon includes running races at 60 and 250 metres, high jump, putting the weight, both right and left handed, the weight to be eight English pounds, and throwing the javelin, weight 800 grammes, to be thrown both right and left handed. The Czecho-Slovak women athletes are competing, and negotiations are on foot for a rowing contest for women in connection with the games.

Rose Mary Crawshay Prize.

The Council of the British Academy has awarded the past year's Rose Mary Crawshay Prize for English Literature, of the value of £100, to Miss E. C. Batho, M.A., Quain student in English, University College, London, for a study on "James Hogg, Ettrick Shepherd."

Woman Practising Solicitor.

Mrs. Maud Crofts, who is the first woman to take out a certificate as a practising solicitor, is well known in connection with the famous test case of *Bebb v. The Law Society*, in 1913. She is the daughter of a barrister, and the wife of a London solicitor, with whom she is going to set up in partnership.

Women Deacons in China.

For the first time in the history of the L.M.S. Mission at Hankow, two women deacons have been set apart for the special work associated with that office. One is a widow, the daughter-in-law of a former preacher in the Mission; the other is the wife of the foreman in the Tract Society.

"Poor Persons" Lawyers.

A large number of petitioners in the forthcoming Divorce cases fall within the category of "poor persons." One of the newly-admitted women barristers has placed her name among the list of counsel who will give their services free in such cases.

The President's Portrait.

Miss Margaret Lindsey Williams, the daughter of a South Wales shipbroker, and a well-known portrait painter, leaves this month for Washington, where President Harding has promised her sittings.

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26th—6 p.m.—"THE RELATIONS OF THIS COUNTRY WITH FRANCE." Speaker: The Lady Amherst of Hackney.

MONDAY, MARCH 12th—6 p.m.—"THE RELATIONS OF THIS COUNTRY WITH RUSSIA."

MONDAY, MARCH 26th—6 p.m.—"THE RELATIONS OF THIS COUNTRY WITH THE CENTRAL POWERS." (Speakers to be announced later.)

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THE VOTE.

Proprietors: THE MINERVA PUBLISHING CO. LTD.

Offices: 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19th, 1923.

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

EDITORIAL.

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

WHY BLAME WOMEN?

The *Christian Science Monitor*, in a recent issue, has a paragraph on "Women's Inherent Rights," in which it states that the removal of legal disabilities is engaging the attention of women the world over, and that the first step to accomplish that aim is for women to comprehend their inherent rights of freedom and equality. Mrs. Mabel Walker Willebrandt, Assistant United States Attorney-General, is reported to have told an audience of women that it was not the law which gave freedom, and that to place a law on the Statute Book did not in itself make women and men equal. She argued that the important thing was for women to act as though they already possessed legal freedom; then only would they gain it, and any legal disabilities which seemed to interfere would be removed naturally. We are afraid the matter is not so simple as Mrs. Willebrandt would lead us to suppose. We seem to remember that women had a long and hard struggle to secure any kind of education for their sex, and only gained the right to higher education in face of bitter opposition from men. Women had a long fight before they could qualify as medical practitioners, and we all recollect something of women's efforts to obtain the franchise, efforts which have only as yet been partially successful. Is it possible to contend that, if women between the ages of 21 and 30 years of age presented themselves at polling booths, the legal barrier to their political enfranchisement would be removed naturally? In December, 1918, Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Bonar Law signed a Manifesto, which declared that it would be the duty of the new Government to remove all existing inequalities of the law as between men and women. That Government has gone the way of all Governments, and it made no attempt to remove the inequality of the franchise as between men and women. Mr. Bonar Law is now at the head of a still newer Government, but he refuses to deal with this franchise question, because he thinks it is controversial! That does not affect the justice or the necessity of this reform. Moreover, we believe that only a comparatively few of the men Members of the House of Commons are against it, the two women Members being enthusiastically in its favour, so that by refusing to proceed with this reform, Mr. Bonar Law is acquiescing in the rule of the minority. Women are pressing him and his Government to bring in a measure to enfranchise women at the same age, and on the same terms, as men, as they have pressed many former Prime Ministers, but, so far, this inequality has not been removed, naturally or otherwise. Yet statements still appear in the British Press to the effect that women are now the equals of men, and have the same advantages, according to the new Franchise Act!

In 1919, the then new Government passed the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act. From the point of view of women's interests, this has proved to be very much of a fraud, a delusion, and a snare. It states that a person shall not be disqualified by sex or marriage from the exercise of any public function, or from being appointed to or holding any civil or judicial office or post. Yet peeresses in their own right are not allowed to have a voice or a seat in the House of Lords; no woman is allowed to be appointed to any post in the Foreign, Colonial, or Indian Civil Services, and no

married woman can be appointed to any post in the Home Civil Service. Moreover, married women are being continually dismissed from their posts by local governing authorities, with the acquiescence of the Government, solely because they are married. It is true that women are enabled to sit on magistrates' benches, and, with restrictions, to serve on juries. They can also now qualify and practise as solicitors and barristers, but married women have certainly not secured equality with married men before the law in regard to the guardianship of their children, in divorce, or in the assessment of their income. Indeed, the position of married women is bristling with legal disabilities, and it is little use for them to try to act "as though they already possessed legal freedom," if their husband is definitely opposed to such action. The writer in the *Monitor* complains that women have been slow to take advantage of the openings which they already have. If, from time immemorial, the progress of men had, like that of women, been barred in all directions by every kind of artificial restriction, and through endless generations men had been continuously depressed by the teaching that their sphere was limited by divine and human omniscience to the four walls of the home, would the average man have been quicker and more alert than the average woman now is to take advantage of the openings secured for him? We do not think so. At the earliest possible moment, women came forward as voters, candidates for Parliament, magistrates, and qualified for the legal profession. They have sat on juries, and they are now seeking recognition as the equals of men in all positions of the Established Church. Women have not anything like equality of opportunity with men in the professions, in commerce, or in industry. Their political and economic position is much inferior to that of men, and they have not the influence that men have to secure coveted and remunerative posts. Yet it cannot be maintained that women fail more frequently than men to take advantage of the opportunities that offer. Instead of blaming women for slowness in this matter, let all women interested in our cause rather take stock of what women have won through their own exertions, often in the teeth of fierce and determined opposition, and work with us to break down every artificial barrier which stands in the way of the complete equality of the sexes.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

We learn that several Members of Parliament are prepared next Session to bring forward a Bill to abolish capital punishment in this country. We believe that the Press and the general public will be almost solid in their support of this effort, for the recent executions at Holloway and Pentonville have thoroughly shocked the public conscience, and on all sides protests have been raised against such primitive barbarity being perpetrated in the twentieth century. We are convinced, too, that the abolition of capital punishment is necessary to prevent the appalling effect upon society of the nauseating, morbid sympathy invariably extended to criminals condemned to death. In more than one country capital punishment has been abolished, and crime has not in consequence increased in those countries. There are other countries where, although the death penalty has not been formally abolished, it is practically never imposed. The law can only be altered by Parliament, and we hope that Parliament will find an early opportunity of dealing with this matter. We are the last people to advocate that there should be any inequality in the administration of the law as between the sexes, but we are impelled to refer specially to Mrs. Thompson, because of the report that she appealed for the assistance of Canon Palmer, of SS. Peter and Paul's Church, before the sentence was carried out, and this appeal was refused by the Home Office. In the circumstances, if the report was true, this was an unwarrantable piece of callousness on the part of the Home Office, and, in our view, an unpardonable offence in a Christian country.

FEMINISM IN IRELAND.

By DORA MELLONE.

Looking back on the last six months, steady progress can be traced in Ireland. In the country, terrible things happen, and the newspapers duly give these happenings the prominence of spaced headlines and leaded capitals. Little is said of the districts where everything goes on as usual. A real indication of the state of the country is afforded by the record entry of students into Trinity College, Dublin, last October, including a fairly large proportion of Northerners. In Belfast, there is a marked change for the better. It is, for instance, now possible to hold Committee meetings without the members having to run the gauntlet of rifle shots on their way, and the relaxed curfew has been a great boon.

Meanwhile, how have the non-party feminist societies fared? In the North, the work has been largely carried on by the Belfast Women's Advisory Council, formed four years ago at the instance of the Women Citizens' Union. This Council commenced the winter with an increased attendance of societies. The chief event of interest to feminists in the Northern Parliament was the passage of the Uniformity of Laws Act, applying to Northern Ireland certain Acts passed by the Imperial Parliament. These included the Infanticide Act. The Council urged the inclusion of the Criminal Law Amendment Act also, but agreed to postponement, after a deputation had been assured by the Minister for Home Affairs that a wider measure would be introduced in the New Year. An assurance to the same effect was received from the Prime Minister, Sir James Craig. The speech of the Prime Minister is therefore awaited with anxious interest, and meanwhile efforts are being made to rouse public opinion on the subject.

A public meeting, addressed by Commandant Allen, O.B.E., will be held on the 25th, to urge the need for more women police. The municipal work of the Council, has been of importance. Part of the unemployment grant is to be used for laying out playgrounds, and the Council is watching the preparation of plans, and pressing for women supervisors. Medical inspection of school children has been held up for two years, during which a constant agitation has been carried on by the Council, ending with a large and very representative deputation in October last, when

the Corporation decided on practical steps to enforce the Act.

During the four years of its existence, increasing interest has been taken in the work of the Council, especially among organisations of working women, such as the Irish Co-operative Guild. Fresh directions for its activity are constantly suggested by outside people, proving there is a real need for such an organisation.

The feminist movement in the South followed with deep concern the discussion of the proposed Constitution of the Free State by Dail Eireann. The Constitution originally recognised the equal citizenship of men and women, but a Government amendment weakened this clause. A postal strike rendered united action difficult, but a group of women in Dublin undertook the work, and, as a result of their energetic efforts, the clause was again altered. Every citizen of the Free State, without distinction of sex, shall enjoy the privileges and fulfil the duties of such citizenship. The various societies have been studying conditions, and preparing schemes for the time when legislative action will be possible. Conferences have been held on Education, on provision for the children of unmarried parents, and kindred subjects. The chief difficulty in carrying out these schemes will be the state of the public finances.

As soon as the grant of self-government rendered it possible, steps were taken to form an organisation which could affiliate with the international Woman Suffrage Alliance, and in February of last year, the "Central Council of the Women of Ireland," representing from the North the Belfast Women's Advisory Council, and the Londonderry Women Citizens' Association, and various societies from Dublin, was formed for this purpose. The Council will deal only with international questions, but its formation at such a time is of great interest.

Thus have Irishwomen earned their title to citizenship, and even now are working together for those things in which the true welfare of the community consists. The surface is very troubled at times, but underneath is the strong and steady current, making for peace.

WOMEN'S WORK AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY WINTER EXHIBITION.

By E. M. TAIT.

Whereas in France women artists have always been accorded a position equal to that of men, their work being judged on its merits, quite irrespective of any sex consideration, in England the deep-rooted prejudice, of the Royal Academy especially, against women artists is only now, and very slowly, yielding to the pressure of public opinion. It is true that every year during the last two decades the number of pictures by women artists exhibited at Burlington House has steadily increased, while at the recent annual competitions in the R.A. Schools, all the prizes but one were carried off by girl students; but, on the other hand, the only woman so far elected as A.R.A. is Mrs. Swynerton, and that honour was so belated that it contravened the rule as to "age limit," and suggestions were actually made that it should therefore be recalled!

However, as true artists, men or women, consider it far more important that their work should be exhibited for the public to see and judge, rather than that they themselves should receive formal honour, the fact that women artists are so remarkably well represented in the present Exhibition of Decorative Art at the Royal Academy is one for congratulation. Not only are they signally successful in sculpture, frescoes, wood carving, stained glass designs, as well as in the more ordinary forms of applied art—book binding and illuminating, embroidery, jewellery, and so on—but several exhibit

extraordinary versatility. Thus Phoebe Stabler, who is best known as a sculptress, shows some admirable examples of Cloisonné enamel, pottery, and stoneware, as well as several exquisite bronze statuettes and stone garden figures, all instinct with the grace and vivacity characteristic of Mrs. Stabler's art, especially the "Little Dancer," and the garden figure (64)—a girl holding a bird-bath, Assyrian in type, and with the sweetest and most lifelike little face I have ever seen in stone! Note also among the statuary, Anne Acheson's gracious garden-figures (3 and 50), Kate Olver's delicate and finished bronze statuette, "The Young Peasant" (38), and Margaret Jenkins' fine bas-reliefs, "The Swamp Girl" (277) and "Labourers in the Vineyard" (300).

By far the best examples of wood carving in the Exhibition are Phyllis Clay's designs for the choir stalls of Whiteinch Church, Glasgow, notably the seven little figures of musicians (86), the technique of which will probably be appreciated fully only by those who know the difficulties presented by wood as a medium, though the beauty and vivacity of the work are palpable even to the uninitiated.

The women excel also in that most exacting form of art, designing for stained glass. Witness the splendid series of "Saints" and the dignified and stately designs for the windows of Khartoum Cathedral, by the

late Mabel Esplin, whose untimely death has deprived the world of a great artist; Margaret Rope's "English Martyrs," for a window in Shrewsbury Cathedral; and Gwynned M. Hudson's spirited little mediæval designs for secular windows.

Much space, naturally, is occupied by imposing designs for mural decoration, and here, again, are many fine examples of women's work. Prominent among them are the large cartoons by Margaret Haythorne and Muriel Jackson, for mural decorations at St. Peter's, Limehouse (60 and 63); the dignified and appropriate mural design for a Central School of Art and Crafts, by the same artists; Mildred Cash's two beautiful panels, "Work" and "Prayer"; and Mary Sargant Florence's large fresco, "Les Aveugles," admirable alike in colour, grouping, and feeling. Mrs. Florence also reveals her versatility in the tapestry portière, "Spring" (67 and 82), exquisite alike in colour and detail, of which both the design and the finished work—woven by Mrs. J. Drage, of Stratford-on-Avon—are shown.

Nearly all the symbolical designs by women, either for sacred or secular decorative purposes, reveal fine spiritual insight, though occasionally the conception is superior to the execution, as in Agnes Tatham's ambitious "Benedicite Omnia Opera," and Elsie McNaught's touching design for a War Memorial, "They shall not grow old." The large decorative painting by Mary McDowall, "A Dorset Nativity," lent by Mrs. Arthur Chamberlain, reveals fine thought and feeling, and would provide an effective design for tapestry. Another notable achievement is Florence Asher's large design for wall decoration in a commercial building, "Four Sides of Britain," full of character, and remarkably well grouped. This was partly executed by Rosalie Emslie, who, with Miss Asher, Veronica Martindale, and Margaret Brown, also assisted Charles Sims, R.A., in the execution of his gigantic but not altogether pleasing design, "Crafts," to which has been assigned the place of honour in Gallery III.

Among the embroideries are an exquisite panel by Mrs. Reynolds Stephens, adapted from an old Persian design, and a gorgeous Jacobean bedspread by Eleanor Potter. In the book bindings the most exquisite examples are by famous Katharine Adams and Joan Harvey, and most of the beautiful manuscript and illuminated books are by women.

MORE WOMEN BARRISTERS.

Sixteen women were successful at the recent Hilary Examinations for the Bar, five of whom passed the final examination. Four women passed in Constitutional Law and Legal History: Miss Mary Robina Stevens (Gray's Inn), who obtained a First Class, and the Misses Joan Clarkson (Inner Temple), Anne Elizabeth Smith (Middle Temple), and Lilian Mabel Snow (Lincoln's Inn). Five women passed in Criminal Law and Procedure: the Misses Elsie Edith Bowerman and Henrietta Gibbs (both of the Middle Temple), who obtained Second Classes, and the Misses Lilian Snow (Lincoln's Inn), Gladys Steyn (Middle Temple), and Irene Cooper Willis (Inner Temple). Two women passed in Real Property and Conveyancing: the Misses Alice Gertrude Kemp and Margaret Wailes (both of the Middle Temple).

The five women who passed their Final Examination, and to whom we offer our warmest congratulations, are Dr. Letitia Fairfield, and the Misses Audrey Harverson and Edith Hesling (all of the Middle Temple), who obtained Second Classes, and the Misses Ida May Duncan (Middle Temple) and Mithan Ardeshtir Tata (Lincoln's Inn). There are now 18 fully qualified women Barristers in Great Britain and Ireland.

BOOK REVIEW.

Penal Discipline. By Mary Gordon, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (Edin.), L.F.P. & S. (Glas.), Late H.M. Inspector of Prisons, and Assistant Inspector of State and Certified Inebriate Reformatories. (Routledge.) 7s. 6d. net. (Can be obtained at this Office.)

Thirteen years ago a New Departure was decided upon in official circles, and Dr. Gordon was appointed the first woman Inspector of Prisons. It was a discipline appointment, not a medical one in any way, and her official duties were easy, mechanical, uninteresting, and quickly accomplished: to see that prison rules were kept, and standing orders carried out, that blankets, soap, salt, baths, prayer-books, etc., were furnished to prisoners in regulation amount, and to send in the regulation brief reports. Official duties finished ("she was to inspect, never to think of doing anything," though she never succeeded in reaching true official irresponsibility), the Inspector devoted the rest of her time during these busy years to the "pursuit of life," in observing the thousands of prisoners whom she had the opportunity of studying, and for whose sake she had sought the position, "hunting the souls of the captives round their prison cells, where vivid living proceeds apace, out at the doors, and under the proud waters that had gone over them, or over the mountain tops that balked them, and so back to their prison again."

The result of these years of scientific, open-minded investigation, of patient probing into realities, and swift, intimate communion with the souls in these temples of truth, are embodied in this book, racy, written, and easy to read, but valuable with the wisdom of experience, and full of condemnation and suggestion. It should be studied by all responsible citizens, both women and men, for it is not the official, or the administrator, or the Government, but each one of us, each citizen and voter of this country, who is accountable for our prison system. Improvements have been continuously made in details, but details do not affect the system, and the system cannot be improved. Dr. Gordon has "no good word to say for it in any of its forms"; she declares it to be cruel and demoralising; if it had a good effect on any prisoner, she "failed to mark it"; it seemed to her a survival from the barbarous past. In the light of modern scientific knowledge and psychology, we know enough about the working of the personality to be able to consider how to restore the transgressor; we must act; penal discipline must be abandoned, however big the scrap-heap, and however great the cost, and we must take up the problem anew, and get on with solving it.

Special consideration is given to the petty offender; the inebriate vagabond; prostitutes; venereal disease; the Local Prison System, with its short sentences and fairly innocuous results, where prisoners merely "hibernate" and do "time," and which occasionally, by a "smart" three to six months' sentence, even checks a young person on the criminal slope; convict prisons and Borstal Institutions, in both of which the iniquitous penal discipline reigns supreme, with its pernicious fruits of violence, phantasy, hysteria, loss of control, dementia, and recidivism; psychical considerations, and comparisons with France, Belgium, Holland, and America.

The last chapter of this stimulating and challenging little book, which should be read by every woman and man, "Bases of Reform," calls for a new principle in dealing with offenders, not penal, but scientific, not a ready-made system, but sufficient control to prevent offences, and rational treatment of the crime itself, with all the help that can be given by the doctor, the educator, and enthusiastic scientific men and women. E. K.

Women's Freedom League.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS W.F.L.

LONDON AND SUBURBS.



DARE TO BE FREE.

Friday, January 19th, at 3 p.m., Political Sub-Committee Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

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

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

Monday, January 29th, at 3 p.m. "Fair" Committee Meeting, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PROVINCES.

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

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

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

OTHER SOCIETIES.

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

Wednesday, February 21st, at 8 p.m. International Women's Franchise Club, 9, Grafton Street, Piccadilly. Speaker: Miss Mary Richardson, on "If I were Prime Minister."

Wednesday, February 28th, at 5 p.m. Stansfeld Lecture at the London School of Economics. Professor Graham Wallas on "The Competition of the Sexes for Employment."

Wednesday, February 28th, at 8 p.m. International Women's Franchise Club, 9, Grafton Street, Piccadilly. Subjects: (1) "If I were Home Secretary," (2) "If I were Minister for Foreign Affairs."

BRANCH NOTE.

HAMPSTEAD.

All members and friends of the Branch are reminded that they should attend the Social Evening at the Isis Club, Rockeslea, 79, Fitzjohn's Avenue, on Tuesday, January 23rd, at 7.30 p.m., when Mrs. Nevinston, J.P., will speak, by kind invitation of Mrs. Harverson. We trust that all readers of THE VOTE living in the neighbourhood, and members of the Branch, will be present, and bring at least one friend. All will be welcome.

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

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Education Economies?

Great concern is being evinced throughout the country on behalf of the boys and girls leaving school with no work to go to. Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P., in Middlesbrough, has for years advocated the policy of continuing their education, but secured no support on the local Education Committee, not even for training schemes. It would not consider the training of girls and women even for domestic service. But something will have to be done for these young people, who under present conditions are on the way to becoming unemployable for life—at an enormous future cost to this country. We also learn from a correspondent, herself a teacher in an elementary school only a few miles from London, that until quite recently four children, now about sixteen years of age, were being trained as teachers. The "economy" axe has just fallen there, and the Board has summarily cut short their careers. No grant of money is to be supplied for their training, and they are cast on the world, vocationless. This is surely a curious kind of economy!

Cambridge Women Students.

According to last Sunday's *Observer*, the further report of the syndicate appointed to draft ordinances covering the admission of women students to titular degrees came in for some lively criticism during the discussion in the Senate House at the end of last term. In the first report, though the right of admission to lectures and laboratories was to be withheld, the fees charged to women were to be low; the further report proposed to raise the fees, but still withhold the rights—a substitution of scorpions for whips, which the Opposition were not slow to point out. Moreover, it appears very doubtful whether, under the statute, any limitation of the number of women students is admissible unless the rights to University instruction are conceded. The proposal to leave the question of admission to the University Library for settlement by the Library Syndicate also gave rise to considerable comment. The present position is extremely difficult, and it remains to be seen whether the Council will decide to take a vote of the Senate in the near future and trust to subsequent amendments to the resulting ordinance if required, or whether a new syndicate will be appointed to produce a report likely to meet with a greater measure of general satisfaction.

Women in Industry.

We learn from the *Newcastle Daily Journal*, that the differences in the wages and salaries of women and men engaged in the same industries and professions are about to be investigated by the Women's Section of the Trades Union Congress General Council. Behind the effort is the belief that many female workers are being underpaid, and that there is a tendency to place them in unfair competition with male workers, to the detriment of working-class interests generally. In the opinion of the Women's Freedom League, there is only one remedy for this evil—equal pay for equal work, irrespective of the sex of the worker.

In Memoriam.

Those of our members who live in the Eastern Counties will join in our regret at the death, in Ipswich, on January 5th, of Mr. Jacob Henry Bastian, of Hadleigh. Both Mr. and Mrs. Bastian (who died in 1913) were keenly interested in the struggle for the vote, and were staunch supporters of our Ipswich Branch, helping in every way in the early days of the branch in its Tax Resistance protests, and in the work of the East Anglian Women's Freedom League Caravan.

THE WRITERS' AND ARTISTS' YEAR BOOK, 1923.

No woman writer, artist, or photographer should be without this excellent little Directory, published by Messrs. A. and C. Black, 4-6, Soho Square, W.1. (3s. 6d.) The 1923 edition is no whit behind its predecessors, and contains all the usual features, including articles on playwriting, film-writing, advice to authors, Press photography, lists of publishers, literary agents, colour printers, literary clubs, etc. Women contributors will welcome the announcement, not only that the rate of remuneration to contributors has been slightly increased since last year, in a few cases, but that in the field of freelance work, "the woman interest in all classes of publication has never been greater than it is to-day."

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