

ESSEX HALL MEETING TO-NIGHT!

THE VOTE

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

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ONE PENNY.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1924

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.

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS.

AN AUSTRALIAN WOMAN PIONEER.

IN PARLIAMENT, F. A. U.

THE SLAVERY COMMISSION.

WOMEN'S INTERESTS AND THE CHURCH CONGRESS.

MEDICAL WOMEN.

WOMEN TEACHERS AND EQUAL PAY.

GREEN, WHITE, AND GOLD FAIR.

BRANCH NOTES.

AN AUSTRALIAN WOMAN PIONEER

TEN years ago Miss Kathleen Butler was a clerk in the New South Wales Public Works Dept., without any technical qualifications, and with no training beyond what she had been able to acquire in the Convent schools of Sydney. To-day she is confidential secretary to J. J. C. Bradfield, D.Sc., M.E., M.Inst.C.E., Chief Engineer for the Sydney Harbour Bridge and Metropolitan Railway Construction.

This bridge, which is being built at a cost of four millions sterling, when complete in six years' time, will be the largest arch bridge in the world, providing for four lines of electric railway, a roadway 57 feet wide, and two footways 10 feet wide. The main arch span will be 1,650 feet, and the total length of the bridge will be 3,770 feet. Miss Butler was the first officer appointed to the Chief Engineer's staff, when his branch was established in 1912 to deal with Sydney's transit problems. She was appointed on her

merits, and because she had mastered all sorts of intricate technical matters of engineering; and when the scheme for Sydney Harbour bridge and the underground railway system was finally agreed on by the New South Wales Parliament, she assisted in the preparation of the specifications, and undertook all correspondence with tenderers throughout the world

during the Chief Engineer's absence abroad in 1922. She also prepared the Notes submitted with the Bridge Bill when introduced in the Assembly last year, these Notes materially assisting the passage of the Bill through the Assembly and Council. As confidential secretary to the Chief Engineer, Miss Butler was present at all interviews with the tenderers,

and at the ceremony of turning the first sod of the Northern Railway Approach to the Bridge. She was publicly thanked for her services, and Dr. Bradfield paid her a remarkable tribute in a paper which he recently wrote for his D.Sc. degree at Sydney University.

When it became necessary to send someone to London to carry out the important work associated with the finalisation of the plans for the Sydney Harbour Bridge contract, Miss Butler was selected as the most suitable person, and she is now in London installed in a room in the

office of Messrs. Dorman, Long & Co., the successful tenderers for the bridge, attending to most difficult and technical questions in regard to the contract, and dealing with a mass of correspondence.

Miss Butler attributes her engineering ability to her mother, who was remarkably clever at drawing plans of houses and supervising buildings.



(Reproduced by kind permission of the Women's Engineering Society.)

IN PARLIAMENT.

Teachers (Appointments).

MR. J. GOULD (U., Cardiff, Central) asked the President of the Board of Education if he was aware that a certain local authority had passed resolutions precluding teachers who did not belong to the National Union of Teachers from obtaining appointments in areas under their control; that such a course of action militated against the livelihood of a large number of certificated teachers obtaining employment; if it was the policy of his Department to give preference to any one specific union or association where several existed in one profession; and if he would take steps to avoid undue preference being given to any one of the several teachers' organisations in the disbursement of public funds? MR. TREVELYAN referred the hon. Member to his reply given to MR. A. SOMERVILLE (U., Windsor), who asked a similar question May 1st, last, that reply being: "The appointment of teachers in schools provided by local education authorities rests with those authorities, and I am not prepared to intervene in the matter, as I have no reason to suppose that the operation of the rule is prejudicing the efficiency of the schools."

Civil Service (Equal Pay).

SIR WALTER DE FRECE (U., Ashton-under-Lyne) asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer if he was aware of the feeling in the Civil Service regarding the absence of equality of pay; and if he would consider the appointment of a Committee of Inquiry to inquire provisionally into the principle of such equality of pay? MR. SNOWDEN replied that he presumed the hon. Member, in speaking of equality of pay, was referring to equality as between men and women. That question was fully considered by the Government in July last, when they decided that the state of the country's finances was such as to make it impossible to justify the enormous increase of expenditure that would be involved, and, in the circumstances, he was not prepared to agree to the appointment of a Committee of Inquiry as suggested.

Unemployed Women (Textile Workers).

MR. GAVAN DUFFY (Lab., Whitehaven) asked the Minister of Labour if he was aware that a number of semi-skilled textile workers, who had been employed at Cleator Mill, Cleator, Cumberland, had been refused unemployment benefit because they refused to enter domestic service for which they had had no training, and were not suitable for such work, which work was not available for a number of trained domestic servants who resided in the district; and would he inquire into the matter? MR. THOMAS SHAW said he was not aware of the cases referred to, but was having inquiries made, and would communicate the result to him as soon as possible. MR. DUFFY then asked if it was the fact that the direct result of the action which had been taken was to deprive those poor women of Poor Law relief, and that, while his right-hon. Friend was inquiring curiously, those unfortunate people were starving patiently, and yet he subscribed to the doctrine that under his administration no person should starve? MR. SHAW replied that he was not aware of the facts referred to; but if his hon. Friend had sent them to him, he could have gone ahead with the work.

Unemployed Woman Typist.

MR. GAVAN DUFFY asked the Minister of Labour if he was aware that unemployment benefit had been refused to Elizabeth McClearey, of Millom, on the ground that she had refused to enter domestic service; that this woman was a trained shorthand-typist with no domestic training, and that even if she had any aptitude for domestic service she would in such service lose the proficiency in shorthand and typing, which it had taken her years to acquire; and would he inquire into the circumstances of the case? MR. SHAW replied that he had had no previous information

regarding the case, but he was inquiring and would report the result to his hon. Friend.

Unemployed Women (Dundee).

MR. STEPHEN (Lab., Camlachie) asked the Minister of Labour the number of women registered as unemployed in the City of Dundee; and if he was aware that unemployed women in the Bridgeton district of Glasgow were being asked at the Exchanges if they would be willing to go to Dundee to take up work in that town? MR. SHAW replied that the number of women on the registers of the Dundee Employment Exchange at 22nd September, was 2,002. With reference to the second part of the question, he was inquiring and would report the result.

Central Schools (Maintenance Allowance).

MR. BLACK (Lib., Harborough) asked the President of the Board of Education if he would take steps to provide for the parents of children who were compelled to attend central schools at some distance from their homes, allowances sufficient to make up for the extra cost of food and clothing that was necessitated by such attendances? MR. TREVELYAN replied that he hoped that the arrangements which he had now been able to make for encouraging the grant of maintenance allowances to children who remained at school after the compulsory age would much facilitate attendance at central schools, but he did not see his way to extend those arrangements in the manner suggested. MR. BLACK then inquired if the right hon. Gentleman was aware that in Leicestershire, in three places, the parents were now on strike and refusing to send their children to the central school, simply on account of the extra charge of 2s. a week that they had to undergo? (*No reply was given.*) MR. KIRKWOOD (Lab., Dumbarton Burghs) then asked if the Minister was prepared to see to it that the children, for instance, in the Island of Lewis, where they were going to school for the day on nothing but potatoes, practically starving—MR. SPEAKER intervened by stating that the Minister did not control education in Scotland.—To which MR. KIRKWOOD retorted that they had made representations to the Secretary for Scotland on the matter, and he stated that he could do nothing because of the right hon. Gentleman, the President of the Board of Education.

Physical Instructions.

MR. EDMUND HARVEY (Lib., Dewsbury) asked the President of the Board of Education how many local education authorities in England and Wales had appointed organisers of physical instruction, and how many had failed to appoint them; and what steps in this direction were being taken by the Board? MR. TREVELYAN replied that out of 318 local education authorities in England and Wales, 82 at present employed organisers of physical instruction. The Board had on several recent occasions, notably by means of Circular 1291, urged authorities to appoint such officers, and would continue to do so.

Nursery Schools.

MR. MACKINDER (Lab., Shipley) asked the President of the Board of Education how many proposals to establish nursery schools had been received by his Department since he took office; and how many had been sanctioned? MR. TREVELYAN replied that three proposals to establish nursery schools had been received since 1st January, 1924. Of those, one had already been sanctioned, one would, he hoped, be sanctioned shortly, and the third was under date until October 8th.

Parliamentary Work.

The Second Reading of the Irish Free State Bill was passed in the House of Commons, October 1st; it was considered in Committee and passed its Third Reading October 2nd. The House adjourned on that date until October 8th.

THE SLAVERY COMMISSION.

The question of slavery has been before the League of Nations for some time. In June, 1924, the Council examined a memorandum prepared by the Secretary-General, and a report by M. Branting regarding the possible candidates for membership of the competent body, which, in accordance with the wishes of the Assembly, it had decided to appoint to continue temporarily the inquiry on slavery. The following eight *men* were invited to accept, and accepted membership of this Committee on Slavery:—M. FREIRE D'ANDRADE (Portugal), former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Member of Permanent Mandates Commission; M. LOUIS DANTES BELLEGARDE (Haiti), former Minister of Haiti in France, First Delegate of Haiti to the Assembly of the League of Nations; M. DELAFOSSE (France), former Colonial Governor-General, Member of the French Colonial Academy; M. GOHR (Belgium), Director-General in the Ministry for the Colonies; MR. H. A. GRIMSHAW, representing the International Labour Organisation; SIR FREDERICK LUGARD (Great Britain), former Governor of Nigeria, Member of the Permanent Mandates Commission; M. VAN REES (Netherlands), former Vice-President of the Council of the Dutch East Indies, Vice-President of the Permanent Mandates Commission; M. LE COMMANDANT RONCAGLI (Italy), Secretary-General of the Italian Geographical Society. This temporary Commission on Slavery held its first Session from July 9th to 12th, at Geneva, under the Chairmanship of M. Gohr. All the members of the Commission were present. During the Session the Commission held seven meetings and considered the scope and methods of its work. *Headway* (published by the League of Nations Union) reports that a good deal of difference of opinion existed as to the extent of the field the inquiry should cover, but in the end a programme was drafted which ensures an inquiry more thorough and comprehensive than any yet undertaken. This programme will include the consideration of:—(1) Slave raiding and the enslaving of free persons; (2) Slave dealing (*i.e.*, traffic in persons enslaved already); (3) Domestic slavery; (4) Acquisition of girls by purchase disguised as dowry; (5) Adoption of children with a view to enslavement; (6) All forms of the pledging or enslaving of persons for debt; (7) Measures of compulsory labour, public or private.

We understand that the members appointed to this Commission were so appointed because they were experts. Our view is that experts alone are not sufficiently competent to deal in a comprehensive way with this question in all its human relations. The Council for the Representation of Women in the League of Nations (to which the Women's Freedom League is affiliated) has for months past pointed out that *women* should be included in this Commission; and, in view of the above programme of its work, our readers will agree with us that the inclusion of women is an immediate and urgent necessity.

MISS MURRAY'S APPOINTMENT.

We congratulate the *Daily Sketch* on their enterprise and foresight in appointing a woman as their Lobby Correspondent in the House of Commons, particularly as they have not asked her to write trivial dress details and other gossip concerning our women Members of Parliament but have instructed her to obtain special news regarding women's questions, which are men's questions too. We also congratulate Miss Stella Wolfe Murray, who thus becomes the first woman Lobby Correspondent in the Mother of Parliaments. It had long been her desire to become a Parliamentary journalist, and she had approached the House of Commons authorities and most of the London papers on this point.

HEALTHY CONDITIONS NECESSARY.

We are glad to see that Sir James Remnant (U., Holborn) has concerned himself with the conditions under which employees work in Government offices. He asked two questions on this subject in the House of Commons last week. The first of these was addressed to the First Commissioner of Works (Mr. F. W. Jowett), inquiring if he was aware of the unsatisfactory state of the typing room in the Treasury Solicitor's Department, Royal Courts of Justice, owing to the fact that the premises were used for a record room for files as well as for work, and that ten girls were working in a small space with restricted ventilation and excessive dust; and whether better conditions could be made for the comfort of those employed on that work. His second question was addressed to the Financial Secretary to the Treasury (Mr. W. Graham), who was asked if he was aware of the unsatisfactory accommodation provided for the staff of the Customs Statistics Office, in Brewery Block, Dudley House, Endell Street. Was he aware that the lavatory accommodation was defective and inadequate, that much of the lighting was bad, that the heating was imperfect, that the ventilation required considerable attention, and that, owing to the joint operation of many punching machines and tabulators in a crowded room, many of the female staff suffered from nerves? In view of the complaints which existed with regard to practically every room in the building, Sir James Remnant wanted to know if the Financial Secretary would cause a thorough investigation to be made with the object of removing the disadvantages under which the staff laboured? Both Mr. Jowett and Mr. Graham replied to the effect that their attention had not previously been called to these matters, but that they were now having inquiries made. We do not ask that women employees should have better conditions of work in Government offices than men employees, but we certainly think that the Government, which is the biggest employer in this country of both men and women, should set an unimpeachable example of healthy conditions under which all its employees, men and women, should work.

WOMEN'S INTERESTS AT THE CHURCH CONGRESS.

A campaign during Church Congress week has become one of the most important of the many activities of the League of the Church Militant. This year at Oxford the subject of the Congress was "The Church of To-morrow," and this gave excellent scope for educational work concerning "The Ministry in the Church of To-morrow." The President of the League, Miss Maude Royden, by the kind permission of the Rev. Canon Stansfield, preached on this subject at the churches of St. Ebbes and St. Peter-le-Bailey, Oxford, putting before her hearers in a dignified and convincing way the need for women priests and ministers in the Church.

A public meeting was held at the Randolph Hotel, at which Miss Royden spoke on "The Marriage Service of the Church of England: The Need for Revision." The Chair was taken by Mrs. Marston Acres, the one disappointment of the Congress being that the Rev. H. R. L. Sheppard was prevented by illness from being present in the Chair.

The League had its temporary headquarters in Blackhall Road, at an empty house kindly lent by Mr. and Mrs. Dixon, and this was a great centre of activity. Mrs. Brabant and Mrs. Dixon, well known in Oxford, took the Chair at two meetings at which Miss Escreet and Mrs. Pollard spoke on "Women and the Industrial System," and "The State of the Child" respectively. On the last day an informal conference was held to discuss "The L.C.M. and 'To-morrow,'" thus bringing to an end a most encouraging campaign.

E. LOUIE ACRES.

THE VOTE

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10th, 1924.

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.

MEDICAL WOMEN.

The Board of Management of St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, have postponed their decision in regard to the proposal for the exclusion of women students from the Hospital until this week, but at the time we go to press this decision is not known. It is stated that representations have been made to the Board by men students who object to the association of men and women in medical study, and allege that the prospect of such association discourages many men from coming to St. Mary's for their training. We ourselves would like to know if these representations originated with the men students, or if they were inspired by others more highly placed in the Hospital. During the past few weeks the Press has stated that women doctors are doomed; and repeated *ad nauseam* that the entries of women medical students are becoming fewer and fewer. It is therefore interesting to note the following extracts from *The Times*, October 6th:—

"At the four great hospitals, University College, Charing Cross, King's College, and Westminster, where women receive training on equal terms with men students, there seems no prejudice against them on the part of the Committees, the professors, or the students, nor any evidence of any desire to alter the existing conditions. At King's College Medical School the Dean of the Medical Faculty stated that the proportion of women among the new entries (which are not yet complete) was being fully maintained. At the Hospital it was stated that there was no trouble or ill-feeling of any kind on either side. At Charing Cross Hospital Medical School, the Secretary of the School stated that the entries of women students were not yet complete, but it was likely that they might be lower than last year, which was bigger than was anticipated. They were quite satisfied with medical co-education of which they had been the pioneers, having been the first medical school to admit women on equal terms with men. They had had an average of 20 fully qualified women leaving the School every year for the past six years. At University College Hospital it was stated that they only admitted a limited number of women students, which did not vary, and that they were going on as usual. At Westminster Hospital School there is a slight increase in the entries of women medical students this year. The Secretary said there was no feeling of any kind against the women students, who were very attentive and good workers."

"At the London (Royal Free Hospital) School of Medicine for Women the entry of women students is above that of last year, when the lowest entry was recorded. At present there is a total number of students (including those at St. Mary's Hospital) of about 400. Eight years ago an arrangement was made with St. Mary's Hospital by which, for a period of three years, a certain number of women students from the London School would be accommodated for clinical work. When the three years were past, St. Mary's asked to have the arrangement altered so that they might themselves be free to take women students of their own, and that the London School need not be

obliged to keep up any specified quota of clinical students. This agreement between St. Mary's Hospital and the London School ends in August, 1925."

On October 3rd, a leading article in *The Times*, under the heading "Women in Medicine," stated that the reopening of the Medical Schools this year was disclosing a remarkable diminution in the number of women who were entering on professional studies and proceeded:—"The truth would seem to be that women are not obtaining in medicine rewards at all commensurate with the difficulties which must be overcome in obtaining qualifications to practise. At the present moment the number of applicants for every appointment is so large as to justify the view that the supply of women doctors has considerably exceeded the demand. That there is a place for women in the practice of medicine, no one aware of the facts can doubt. A great part of the burden of welfare work among the poorest is borne by medical women, who are acting as missionaries of health, and, by their unselfish toil, laying the foundations of a happier future. This work cannot be performed by men, and it is more urgent to-day than at any former period. Thus the hope may be expressed that the requisite number of women to fill such vacancies as occur will year after year be forthcoming. If that number is secured, the present thinning of the ranks may exercise a beneficial effect. Modern medicine is a vocation. Only those are qualified to practise it who are ready to make limitless sacrifices of time and comfort."

Last Monday, the following letter appeared in *The Times* in reference to the above:—

"Sir,—Medical women engaged in various types of maternity and child welfare work will be grateful for the appreciation, expressed in your leading article to-day, of the urgency and the importance of their work for the nation, but I should like to point out that there is also a large body of medical women whose inclinations and capacity enable them to do much valued work in all branches of the profession and whose services would be greatly missed by large numbers of women should the entry merely suffice to meet the demand your article indicates.

"The number of women, as of men, beginning the study of medicine has diminished since the abnormal years at the end of and just after the war; the total entry as recorded by the General Medical Council, which was 3,500 in 1919, dropped to 2,000 two years later. The crest of the wave of qualifications resulting from those abnormal entries is now passing, and cannot but produce a temporary excess in the demand for those institutional posts which students of both sexes seek in the year or so after their final examinations, it being obvious that the number of such posts does not fluctuate considerably. From my knowledge of the keenness of the present body of students in my own school, I feel confident of the fulfilment of the hope you express that the requisite number will be forthcoming to fill such vacancies as you point to, and, I trust, not only those but the much more numerous demands which I have indicated.

"As you truly say, modern medicine demands many sacrifices, but for educated women the profession offers almost unique opportunities of interesting service coupled with reasonable economic returns, and from careful observation of the careers of past students it is my considered opinion that the field for the woman practitioner is steadily widening.—L. B. ALDRICH-BLAKE, Dean of the London (Royal Free Hospital) School of Medicine for Women, Hunter Street, Brunswick Square, W.C. 1, October 3rd."

It is encouraging to learn that a gift of £10,000 has just been made to the London (Royal Free Hospital) School of Medicine for Women by an old student of the School, who wishes to remain anonymous, and that nearly £24,000 has been collected towards the £50,000 which is being asked for to endow three Chairs—in Anatomy, Physiology, and Psychology respectively—in connection with the School's Jubilee celebrations this month.

WOMEN TEACHERS & EQUAL PAY

The Cinema Hall at Australia House, Strand, W.C., was crowded to its utmost extent last Friday evening, at the Mass Meeting organised by the National Union of Women Teachers to demand Equal Pay for Men and Women Teachers of the same Professional Status, and an overflow meeting was arranged. Representatives of the 18 Women's Societies supporting the principle of Equal Pay for Equal Work (which included the Women's Freedom League) were upon the platform, and Miss M. Conway, of Bradford, the President of the N.U.W.T., was in the Chair, and put the following resolution to the Meeting:—"This Meeting protests against the differentiation between the salaries of men and women teachers, and in view of their equal professional training and duties, calls upon the Government, the Local Education Authorities, and the Burnham Committee to establish the principle of Equal Pay for men and women teachers of the same professional status, by raising the women's scale to that of the men."

MR. PETHICK LAWRENCE, M.P. (Leicester), speaking in support of the resolution, characterised the opposition to the principle of equal pay between the sexes as a relic of that old form of Victorian mentality which looked upon women as a kind of intermediate creation, like the 'bus driver who remarked to his mate apropos of the first women's suffrage procession in London some years ago: "Look, Bill, what our spare rib is coming to!" Equal Pay, continued Mr. Pethick Lawrence, was in the interests of both sexes, not one only; without it there was undercutting. The question of dependents, which was so often put forward as an argument why men should receive higher salaries than women, was beside the mark. People were not paid according to their responsibilities. The question of dependents would have to be solved in some other way, possibly by a method such as Miss Rathbone's scheme of Family Endowment. Pay was given according to output and results, so that women were perfectly justified in asking to be paid according to the results of their work. The question of Equal Pay between the sexes could not be settled by the politician, but would have to be attacked indirectly by linking up women in the teaching profession with women in every other sphere of work. We had already gone some way in this direction, but there was still a good deal of leeway to make up.

Mrs. E. M. WHITE (Federation of Women Civil Servants) said the Society which she represented had been very much to the fore lately when the question of Equal Pay for Women Civil Servants was fobbed off by the Chancellor of the Exchequer by the pretext that the country could not afford this act of justice. A really close scrutiny of this question had been hoped for, since women Civil Servants were the direct employees of the Government, and "Charity should begin at home." Financial considerations ought not to be put before the satisfaction of justice. A far better way to help the country's exchequer would be to adopt Miss Rathbone's admirable scheme.

MISS CROSBY, L.L.A., Vice-President of the N.U.W.T., said those in authority who framed the salaries of the teaching profession in this country must frame them in accordance with the spirit of the age, and for future generations. We were not now living in the Victorian era. The Burnham Committee must take the spirit of the times into consideration. The Higher Education of Women came into existence some fifty years ago, and remarkable progress had been made by women, but we did not observe it because we were still in the thick of the fight. Professions were now opening their doors to women, who were entering them on equal terms with men. Women lawyers received the same fees as men lawyers. The feelings of the country would have been outraged if women Members of Parliament had

received a lower salary than male Members of Parliament. The woman Parliamentary Under-Secretary for State, Miss Margaret Bondfield, received the same pay as male Members of the Ministry. The spirit of the times was the spirit of Equal Pay. We were now entering upon an age of Co-operation, not Competition, between the sexes. It was impossible for men and women to work together, side by side, whilst one was considered to be inferior to the other. Three years ago women teachers suffered a reduction of 20 per cent. on their salaries, then another 5 per cent. for superannuation, and finally another 5 per cent. voluntarily.

MISS HEWITT, L.L.A., Hon. Treasurer, N.U.W.T., referred to the recent accusation made by men teachers against women teachers that they were "inveterate tourists," but money spent on foreign travel not only widened the travellers' horizon, but reacted favourably on the children they taught.

MR. S. P. VIANT, M.P. (Willesden), said the Education Committees throughout the country were not noted for a progressive type of mind, but were rather a reflection of the mental attitude of the ratepayer of to-day. Such false economic views needed to be erased from the minds of the people. Financial and economic aspects were very important, but the question of Equality was more so. The two sexes were the two wings of the human soul; unless they rose together they would not rise at all. This matter of Equal Pay rested primarily with women. On his (the speaker's) own local education committee, the greatest obstacles to Equal Pay came from the women on the Committee. The inferiority stamp still lingered in women, and must be overcome. Men, too, had their heads in the sands, when they would not see that lower salaries for women meant pushing out the men from those professions where the rates of pay were unequal.

MISS BURGESS (Women's Educational Union, Scotland) said the Society she represented kept a watchful brief for women's interests all over Scotland. The Educational Institute of Scotland represented men and women, and had recently brought forward new scales of salaries, of which Equal Pay for Equal Work was the *ultimate ideal*. The *immediate ideal*, however, was the same minima and maxima for both sexes, but differentiation as regarded the increments. Men were to rise by £15, and women by £10. The teachers discussed the differentiation very vehemently, but the meeting broke up without any decision being reached. The question had been adjourned for a fortnight, when she (the speaker) felt pretty confident that the *ultimate ideal* would have become the *immediate one*! In Scotland, women formed three-quarters of the teaching profession, and men only one-quarter, yet the women appreciated their privileges so little that they had left the government of the teaching profession to the men. On the Council of the Institute there were 80 men, and only seven women. Women needed to realise more strongly the strength which came from union and solidarity. Scotswomen were watching their English sisters with great earnestness—what England did to-day, Scotland would do to-morrow.

MISS DAWSON, Chairman, Legal and Tenure Committee, said the question of Equal Pay was closely related to men's opposition to women serving on juries, the employment of married women teachers, the contention that only girls should be taught cooking, the desire of many men to force unemployed women and girls into domestic service, and the present agitation that no more women doctors were wanted. Women had a right to choose their own careers and opportunities. During the recent investigation into the desirability of co-education in this country, a certain headmaster had told the speaker that women teachers were more reliable than men teachers for mixed classes.

GREEN, WHITE, AND GOLD FAIR.

The Annual Green, White, and Gold Fair will be held on Friday and Saturday, November 28th, and 29th, in the Basement Hall, at the Central Hall, Westminster, and will be formally opened each day at 3 p.m.—on Friday, November 28th, by Mrs. Hilton Philipson, M.P., and on Saturday, November 29th, by Miss Susan Lawrence, M.P. The Fair will remain open each evening until 9 p.m., and will be open on Saturday, November 29th, from 11 a.m.

The Chair will be taken on Friday by Mrs. Juson Kerr, J.P., and on Saturday by Councillor Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P.

STALLS AND STALLHOLDERS.

The Stalls at present arranged for the League are:—

- Hampstead Branch.**—Handkerchiefs, Soap, Scent, Antiques, and White Elephants. Miss Goodliffe, Miss Lyndon, and Miss Vibert.
- Letchworth Branch.**—Lavender Stall. Mrs. Lynn, Miss Ironside, Mrs. Muncoster, Miss Perry, and Miss Sugden.
- Middlesbrough Branch.**—Councillor Mrs. Schofield Coates and Members.
- Montgomery Boroughs Branch.**—Welsh Produce and General Stalls. Miss Alix Clark and Friends.
- Portsmouth Branch.**—Household Goods. Mrs. Whetton.
- South-Eastern Branches.**—General Stall. Miss White, Mrs. Asser, Mrs. Kither, and Miss Margery Dunhill.
- Children's Clothing, Overalls, and Aprons** (supported by The Thames Valley Branch).—Miss A. Underwood and Members.
- Shilling Stall** (supported by The Minerva Club Branch).—Mrs. Delbanco.
- Scotch Stall** (Glasgow Branch).—Cushions, Tea-cosies, and Haberdashery.—Miss Steven.
- Grocery Stall.**—Mrs. Mustard, Mrs. Sutherland, Mrs. Charles Sutherland, Mrs. Padfield, and Mrs. Walls.
- Hygiene and Pottery Stall.**—Dr. Octavia Lewin and Friends.
- Literature Stall.**—Miss Harverson and Mrs. Preece.
- Sweet Stall.**
- Toy Stall.**—Mrs. Knight.
- White Stall.**—Mrs. Holmes and Mrs. Trafford Williams.
- "Vote" Stall.**—Toilet and Chemists' Goods.—Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Flowers, Mrs. Clifford Jones, Mrs. Newsome, Mrs. Northcroft, and Miss Sutherwood.

Many gifts are needed if these stalls are to be well stocked with useful and pretty Xmas gifts. The Shilling Stall should prove attractive to purchasers with light purses; therefore small articles are needed by Mrs. Delbanco for this stall, such as pincushions, photo frames, ash trays, needlebooks, inkpots, vases, lucky black cats, etc.—please remember this stall, it is sure to be a most popular one. Handkerchiefs of all descriptions are required for the Hampstead Stall, and every kind of handkerchief will be welcome, both large and small, fancy and white. Mrs. Whetton will gladly receive any articles suitable for the household, as for example dusters, tea cloths, towels, floor cloths, pots, pans, kettles, scrubbing brushes, etc. Cushions and tea-cosies are much needed for the Scotch Stall, also haberdashery. The Grocery Stall is very important—the goods most required are tea, sugar, jam, currants, raisings, cake, butter, suet, etc. The Sweet Stall is much in need of support, and all kinds of sweets will be welcome. Mrs. Holmes needs gifts for the White Stall—women's and children's under-clothing, etc., will be much appreciated. Books, both new and second-hand, are wanted, including picture books and stories for children; please send all you want to keep yourselves, and keep all you want to send away!! The Toy Stall has again been undertaken by Mrs. Knight, who will be glad of any gifts, especially dolls, and toy animals, dolls-house furniture, bricks, balls, boxes of toy soldiers, puzzles, etc. Miss A. Underwood will be in charge of the Children's Clothing, Overalls, and Apron Stall, and will be supported by the Thames Valley Branch—but goods are needed for this Stall.

COMPETITIONS AND GAMES.

The Competitions and Games are being arranged by Mrs. M. M. Abbott, assisted by Miss Jessett, and will include among other attractions a HIDDEN TREASURE HUNT.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

The Fair Committee have engaged Madame C. M. Carr's String Orchestra to play at intervals during the days of the Fair. There will be Solo Dancing on Friday evening by little Miss Margery Dunhill (Hastings), also two Dancing Displays on Saturday by Miss Grace Woollacott's little pupils at 6 and 7.30 p.m. A THE CHANTANT will be held each day from 4 to 6 p.m.; the following have already kindly promised to assist—Miss Lucy D. Bell, Miss Beryl Brown, Mrs. Cunningham, and Mrs. Morris-Wood. There will be Character Readings by Mrs. Spon, and Phrenology by Mr. Sons.

TEAS AND REFRESHMENTS.

Mrs. Fisher has most kindly undertaken the teas and refreshments, and will be assisted by the staff of the Minerva Café, and members of the Minerva Club. The teas will be served from 4 to 6 p.m., and refreshments will be served at moderate prices after 7 p.m.

The Bureau for the sale of tickets for Character-Reading, Phrenology, etc., will be in charge of Mrs. Pierotti.

SOCIETIES TAKING STALLS.

Council for International Service.
St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance.
The British Esperanto Association.
The Bucks Cottage Workers' Agency.
The Food Education Society.
The London Association for the Blind.
The Montessori Society.
The New Education Fellowship.
The League of the Church Militant.
Miss Burwood (Beads).
Miss E. Elin Carter (Decorative Leather Work).
Miss Maud F. Edwards (Handweaving).
Miss Nettleton (Association for the Deaf and Dumb).
Mrs. Rogers (South Indian Village Industries).

Tickets—(including Tax) 2s. 6d. the first day until 5 p.m.; after 5 p.m. and on the second day 1s. 2d. (including Tax)—will shortly be on sale at the Offices, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

All communications, and also gifts, applications for Stalls, should be sent to Miss Elizabeth Berry, Hon. Fair Sec., at 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

NEWS FROM INDIA.

Mrs. Deep Narain Singh has appeared before the Reforms Inquiry Committee to put the case for the right of women to sit in the Legislatures on equal terms with men. She was not examined by any of the members except the President, who put a few questions as to the basis of her claim.

About 30 members of the Indian Legislative Assembly gave notice of a resolution asking for the removal of the sex disqualification, and for giving women the same franchise as is given to men, thus ensuring a safe place on the agenda paper for the discussion of this matter.

Miss K. Babayamma, a lady of 23 years of age, has become a member of the Municipal Council of Rajahmundry, the chief city of Andhra-Desh. She was the recipient of congratulations from the Chairman of the Council and from her colleagues when she attended the first Municipal Meeting.

SMOKE NUISANCE.

SIR WALTER DE FRICE asked the Home Secretary if he was aware of the growing criticisms of medical officers as to the evil effect of the smoke nuisance; and, seeing that the law was not sufficient to deal with this growing menace to the public health, and that the police statistics showed a serious increase in the number of private chimneys which took fire as the result of carelessness in respect of sweeping, would he inquire into the matter? MR. ARTHUR GREENWOOD (Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Health) replied that a Bill dealing with the smoke nuisance had been introduced in another place, and had been read a Second time, and passed through Committee. His right hon. Friend was advised that powers already existed for dealing with the nuisance arising from private chimneys which took fire.

Women's Freedom League.

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

FORTHCOMING EVENTS W.F.L.
LONDON AND SUBURBS.DARE TO
BE FREE.

Friday, October 10th, at 8 p.m. Public Meeting, Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand.

Saturday, October 11th, at 10 a.m. National Executive Committee Meeting, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

Monday, October 13th, at 3.30 p.m. "Fair" Sub-Committee Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

Tuesday, October 21st, at 8.30 p.m. At Minerva Club, 56, Hunter Street, Brunswick Square, W.C. Equal Franchise Meeting. Speaker: Mrs. Mustard. Chair: Miss F. A. Underwood.

Friday and Saturday, November 28th and 29th. Central Hall, Westminster. Green, White, and Gold Fair. To be opened on Friday, at 3 p.m., by Mrs. Hilton Philipson, M.P.; and on Saturday, at 3 p.m., by Miss Susan Lawrence, M.P.

PROVINCES.

Friday, October 10th, at 3.30 p.m. Ashford. Public Meeting at the Hempstead Street Hall. Speaker: Miss M. I. Neal. Subject: "The Political Situation."

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Wednesday, October 15th, at 8 p.m. Oak Room, Kingsway Hall, W.C. Women's League of Union. Speaker: Miss Edith Pyc. Subject: "Work in France with the Women's International League."

PASS THE WOMEN'S BILL MEETING!

At the Public Meeting at Essex Hall, Strand, this (Friday) evening, a resolution will be put to the Meeting calling upon the Government itself to take charge of the remaining stages of Mr. Adamson's Equal Franchise Bill, and to pass it into law during the early part of the Autumn Session. The Chair will be taken by Councillor Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P., and the speakers will include Mrs. Anne Corner (Fabian Women's Group); Miss D. M. Elliott (National Union of General and Municipal Workers); Miss Eleanor Fitzgerald (St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance); Miss Helen Fraser (National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship); Miss E. E. Froud (National Union of Women Teachers); Miss Enid Laphorn (Women's National Liberal Federation); Dr. Lewin, Miss Anna Munro, and Mrs. Mustard (Women's Freedom League), and Mrs. White (Federation of Women Civil Servants).

Other Societies supporting this Meeting and the Resolution are—The Actresses' Franchise League; Association of Civil Service Sorting Assistants; International Woman Suffrage Alliance; League of the Church Militant; London Society for Women's Service; London Teachers' Association; National Union of Teachers; Professional Union of Trained Nurses; Six Point Group; Union of Jewish Women; Union of Post Office Workers; Women's Auxiliary Service; Women's Engineering Society; The Women's League of Union, and Belfast Women Citizens' Union.

RECEPTION TO MRS. SWANWICK.

The President and Executive Committee of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship are giving a reception to meet Mrs. Swanwick, substitute delegate for Great Britain at the League of Nations Assembly, at Caxton Hall, Westminster, Friday, October 24th, at 3.45 p.m. Mrs. Swanwick will speak on the work of the Assembly, and it is hoped that other women who were present and took part in any of the proceedings connected with the Assembly will also be able to be present and speak. Tickets (price 2s. 6d., including tea) may be obtained from the Secretary, N.U.S.E.C., 15, Dean's Yard, S.W. 1.

BRITISH OVERSEAS COMMITTEE PAVILION.

The little Suffrage Pavilion belonging to the British Overseas Committee of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, at the British Empire Exhibition, is in the Eastern Section, near the Exhibition Station within the Exhibition, under the shadow of that prominent landmark the States Express Cigarette Tower, directly behind Hampden's pretty little house and Day & Martin, flanked by Spratt's exhibit, and looking on to the Shetland ponies and Pekingese puppies. The Women's Freedom League are responsible for the Pavilion on Mondays. Next Monday, our members, Mrs. Ewen, Mrs. Hanscomb, and Mrs. Delbanco will be in charge. All suffragists visiting Wembley are warmly invited to drop in at any time for a rest and a chat.

LITERATURE DEPARTMENT.

Now that the time of the "Fair" is drawing near, may I remind members and friends that we shall be grateful for any books they have finished with to sell at our Literature Stall.
E. PIEROTTI.

BRANCH NOTES.

THAMES VALLEY.

Mrs. Foster Lumb presided over a meeting held at "Holmwood," Waldegrave Road, Teddington, last Friday evening, when the speaker was Mrs. Aldridge, of the National Housing and Town-Planning Council, and her subject, "How we can use to the best advantage the powers given under the New Housing Act, 1924." Local councillors and local M.P.s had been invited to come and give their views at this meeting. A letter was read from Mr. Penny, M.P. (Kingston-on-Thames), regretting his inability to be present, and stating that "The 1924 Housing Act, in my opinion, will not prove an incentive to the rapid building of houses, for its provisions tend considerably to enhance the cost of building; in addition to which Mr. Wheatley has not been able to secure the co-operation of the Building Unions in the matter, and, unless whole-hearted co-operation is secured, I regret to think that a satisfactory solution of this grave problem will be delayed."

Mrs. Aldridge briefly traced the history of the present acute housing shortage. It was not until the middle of the 19th century that groups of men and women began to press for legislation dealing with sanitation, health, and housing. In 1885, a Royal Commission revealed an appalling state of things. The 1890 Housing Act gave local authorities power to acquire land and to build new houses if a majority of the local governing body were in favour of doing this; Richmond Town Council being one of the first to make use of this Act. Medical Officers of Health have been insistent upon the necessity for dealing with this problem in their various districts. Mrs. Aldridge described the efforts at Bournville and Port Sunlight, and the various garden cities and garden suburbs. Before the war there was an appalling house shortage; during the war no houses could be built, and at the end of 1918 at least 500,000 houses in the country were immediately necessary. Under Dr. Addison's Housing Act nearly 200,000 houses were built; then came the economy stunt, which damped the enthusiasm of local authorities and the public. The Act of 1923 reduced the maximum size of houses; the Act of 1924 does not increase this maximum, but Mrs. Aldridge urged that women and the public generally should insist on this maximum being the minimum. Mr. Wheatley, in this Act, had tried to bring down the rates and by increasing the subsidy to help forward building schemes. He had also made more provision for apprentices. Mrs. Aldridge insisted that this matter was one of vital national importance, and pleaded that women should make it a living issue at local elections. In the discussion following the lecture it was pointed out that there was no woman on Teddington Urban District Council, and that women were absolutely necessary on all local governing councils, and on all housing committees. The meeting concluded with a very cordial vote of thanks to Mrs. Aldridge for her inspiring lecture.

Miss Underwood would be grateful to receive from members and friends of this Branch articles in the way of aprons, overalls, or children's clothing for her stall at the Green, White, and Gold Fair; material for making up these articles, or donations towards buying material. Contributions can be sent to her at 26, Cedar Road, Teddington, Middlesex, or to the Branch Secretary.

(Hon. Sec.) MISS BREWER,

15, Fleece Road, Ditton Hill, Surbiton.

MINERVA CLUB.

A Branch meeting was held on 26th September. There was a good attendance, and it was decided to hold a Public Meeting on October 21st, on "Equal Franchise." Full details will be given in the next issue of THE VOTE.

An enjoyable Whist Drive was held on Friday, October 3rd, at the Club, at which a large number of members and friends attended. Our hearty thanks are due to Miss Reeves, who contributed to the success of the evening by giving the prizes for presentation to the winners. We are holding another Whist Drive on November 7th. Will members please obtain their tickets early from the Secretary?

(Hon. Sec.) MISS H. M. BAKER.

PORTSMOUTH.

The Annual Meeting was held on Wednesday afternoon, October 1st, at 2, Kent Road, at 3 o'clock. Mrs. Poole was elected Chairman for the Meeting. The Secretary read the annual report, which was adopted. The balance sheet showed £1 15s. 8d. in hand. Mrs. Whetton and Mrs. Brading were elected Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer respectively. It was decided to hold the monthly public meetings during the winter, and the fortnightly work-parties. Gratefully acknowledged—10 Birthday Fund: Mrs. Brading 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Self 1s.; Mrs. Dimmick 1s.; Mrs. Tremain 1s.; and Mrs. Jenkins 1s.

(Hon. Sec.) MRS. WHETTON, 80, Festing Grove, Southsea.

MONTGOMERY BOROUGHS.

A crowded and enthusiastic Protest Meeting was held on Thursday, October 2nd, at 8 p.m., at the Y.M.C.A., New Town, when Mrs. Despard was the chief speaker. A personal account of the meeting, from Mrs. Despard herself, arrived after we had gone to press, but will appear in next week's VOTE.

BAHAI MOVEMENT.

ADDRESS BY MR MOUNTFORD MILLS

(Canadian Delegate to the Conference of Religions).

CAXTON HALL, Room 13, WESTMINSTER.

Monday, October 13th, 8 o'clock.

Admission Free.

No Collection.

FRIDAY,
OCT. 10,
1924.

THE VOTE

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

PIONEER CLUB, 12, Cavendish Place, Oxford Circus, W.1. Bedrooms. Debates. Concerts. Town Membership, £5 5s.; Professional and Country, £4 4s.

ATTRACTIVE Old-fashioned House, now a residential hotel. Winter, 3 guineas.—Miss BUTTERWORTH, Jesmond Cottage, Church Square, Shepperton-on-Thames.

NOTICES.

INCOME TAX RECOVERED AND ADJUSTED. Consult H. M. BAKER, the woman Income Tax Expert, 275, High Holborn. Telephone: Holborn 377.

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Guild-house, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Sunday, October 12th. 3.30 p.m. C. G. Ammon, Esq., M.P.: "Ideals in Politics." 6.30 p.m. Miss Maude Royden: "What is Jesus Christ to us?"

TRADE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

BARGAIN—list free. Plants, Garden Utensils. Beautiful dwarf roses, named varieties, 6/- dozen, carriage paid.—MCELROY, 33, Saville St., South Shields.

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

ANCONAS lay the largest eggs. Hand-some birds, good layers. Sitings 6/- Chicks 12/- doz., carriage paid.—PARRIS, Danecroft Poultry Farm, Bagshot.

WANTED.—Second-hand Clothing, best prices given; parcels sent, valued, and money sent by return. Stamped addressed envelope for reply.—RUSSELL, 100 Raby Street, Byker, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Prepaid Classified Advertisements.

Number of Words.	Once.		Three Times.		Six Times.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
20	1	6	4	0	7	6
30	2	3	6	3	12	0
40	3	0	8	6	16	0

Displayed Advertisements,

8/- per inch.

REST AND HOLIDAYS.

BOURNEMOUTH.—"Loughtonhurst," West Cliff Gardens. Food Reform Guest House. Best situation. Old established. Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. Hume.—Apply SECRETARY.

JERSEY.—Paying Guests received. Every Comfort. Terms from 2 guineas per week.—PROPRIETRESS, Ashton House, Rouge Bouillon, St. Helier, C.I.

CORNWALL.—Superior Farmhouse board-residence for September, one mile city and River Fal. Splendid centre. Moderate terms.—LAMBESSOW, Truro.

THE GUILD HUT, Cranbrook, is the place for your holiday. Furnished for 3. Tents available. Full particulars—Sec., 2, Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1.

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FURNISHED or UNFURNISHED Rooms, £1 1s. Breakfast. Electric light, gas fires, telephone, constant hot water, use of kitchen, tennis.—11, Holland Park, W. Telephone: Park 4878.

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BUNGALOW.—TOWN SHOREHAM, Sussex. Three bedrooms. Water laid in bedrooms, gas fires, sitting-room, bathroom, kitchen, telephone. Three guineas per week.—Apply A.B.C., VOTE Office, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

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To be returned to The Secretary, 144, High Holborn, London, W.C.1;

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

Name

Address

I enclose £ : s. d. as my first Annual Subscription.

Minimum Annual Subscription, 1s.