

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 wellbeing of the community.

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MISS DOROTHY F. WILSON, B.LITT.

ASSISTANT MINISTER AT CARR'S-LANE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

Carr's-Lane Church, one of the foremost Congregational churches in this country, whose former ministers include Dr. Dale and Dr. J. H. Jowett, has made a new departure in the appointment of Miss Wilson as assistant minister. Miss Wilson is being ordained this week, and the Women's she will take special charge of the educational side of the work there among young people.

Other women ministers in the Free Churches include Miss Violet Hedger, pastor of Littleover Baptist Chapel, near Derby; the Rev. Mrs. E. E. Pickles,

week, and the Women's Freedom League sends her its heartiest good wishes for the success of the work which she has undertaken.

Miss Wilson received her early training at Westhill College, of which another former student, Miss Margaret Hardy, was ordained recently. After training in religious educational work at this college, she was appointed organising secretary to the Presbyterian S u n d a y School Council, and later Young People's Secretary of the Presbyterian Church of England. She was afterwards, for some months, preaching assistant at Crosby Con-gregational Church, near Liverpool. In 1924, Miss Wilson entered Mansfield College, Oxford, and went through the theological course there, under Principal W. B. Selbie, D.D. She took the Oxford diploma in theology with distinction, and at the end of her third year obtained the degree of B.Litt. for a



DOROTHY F. WILSON, B.LITT.

thesis on "Child Psychology and Religious Education." The Rev. Sidney Berry, secretary to the Congregational Union, describes Miss Wilson as a very highly qualified student. While working in conjunction with the minister of the church, the Rev. Leyton Richards, B.A., minister of the Congregational Chapel, Stanley, Liverpool; and the Rev. Mrs. Collman, who is co-minister with her husband at an Oxford Congregational Church, and whose delightful address to us some years ago in the Minerva Café on "Women in the Ministry" we remember with great pleasure. Another woman minister — we believe the first Free Church woman minister in this countrywho has also spoken to us on this subject, is the Rev. Hatty Baker.

The question of the desirability of the ordination of women ministers has recently been discussed in many countries—by the United Free Church in Scotland and by the United Church in Canada. Churches in Germany are still considering it, some of them only being in favour of women presiding over Biblical studies, making themselves useful in the parish, and undertaking

LSON, B.LITT. parish, and undertaking work on behalf of women in prisons and hospitals ! The Reformed Church at Mulhausen (Alsace), however, has appointed a young woman of 23 as curate of the parish Saint-Etienne, who will, besides religious and social work, preach in the big church of Saint-Etienne.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 1928.

THE VOTE

WHO SHALL DECIDE?

By R. M. EWEN.

"Should married women go to business?" asked a friend of mine. I replied that they should not if they did not want to. Neither should a married man stay at home and run the house and attend to the children unless he particularly wanted to.

My friend remarked that he wished I would be serious. Now, earnestly, I meant what I said. No one tells the husband that he ought not to stay at home and nurse the children and wash the floor and so on, but should mother click the typewriter keys or take up an agency, folk on every side begin asking whether International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and she ought to be allowed to do these things.

The other day, Miss Jones married Mr. Brown, but she still goes to business, and don't the neighbours talk ! They say it is disgusting for a married woman to go to business while single girls cannot get work. To-day I see in the paper that Miss Johnson is going to marry Mr. Smythe. Miss Johnson is the daughter of a well-known shipbuilder, and Mr. Smythe is on the staff of the firm. I have not heard that he has given notice. Neither have I heard that he is expected to live on his wife's income, as otherwise he will be doing another poor chap out of a job.

I wonder whether anybody does really think we women are emancipated. "Should married women go to work?" Who, indeed, will tell us what we should do? Shall we listen to the voice of men who seem to International Understanding. live in fear of losing their predominance, or shall we listen to our unmarried sisters? Can they tell us better than we know ourselves whether we can manage a home and business, too, or shall we be treated like reasonable adults and be left to decide for ourselves?

Because woman, like man, gives way to a natural desire to get married, a certain section of society think that by so doing she forfeits her right to any further choice as to how she shall spend the remainder of her recipient is Miss Phyllis B. Turner, who took her life. Are women expected to treat their home like a degree in the Final Honour School of Modern History convent? Are they expected to allow home life to hem last August. She will investigate the part played by them in from the outside world? Having to bear the Municipalities in the economic recovery of Germany. children because the opposite sex will not oblige, must they also forfeit their right to a career and independence if they desire it?

The vast majority of men are only too willing to place all family and home responsibility on the woman's shoulders, but when she takes the responsibility of disposing of her own services as she pleases, they question her right to do so.

The psychologists tell us that repressions are at the root of many evils. If women do not get married and have children, their character and health usually suffer. At the same time, it will be detrimental to the whole family if the mother who prefers her former career to that of attending to children is forced through conventions to abstain from continuing the career of her choice. Surely many will see that this must often happen, and that for the children's sake alone it would be better if someone who was really fond of rearing children should have charge of them while the mother follows her calling.

First, I have mentioned the "Two incomes question" that is often brought forward. Secondly, the children have been taken into consideration, and, I fear, disposed of in a way that will not satisfy the good, kind, but illusioned souls who still fancy that all mothers love bathing babies.

Next, we must consider the home. Does the wife who goes out to business spoil home life? My opinion is that if both the husband and wife have been away from home all day, they will feel more inclined to remain at home in the evenings and during holidays, whereas if the wife has not been out at all, she is likely to be in a hurry to leave her four walls. The husband may wish to stay at home and enjoy the seclusion of his fireside. To him it is a relaxation. These diverse interests, I fear, must cause as much if not more trouble in the home than a wife's independence.

WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Woman High Sheriff of Belfast.

Mrs. McMordie has been appointed as High Sheriff of Belfast. She is the first woman to hold this office in Belfast.

Wigs.

The Daily Chronicle asserts that, during all the years in which men lawyers have worn wigs, it has never occurred to them to have them washed; also that, although it is only five years since a woman became a barrister, the practice of washing wigs is already established.

Equal Citizenship.

The above Alliance (to which the Women's Freedom League is affiliated) will hold its next Congress in Berlin, in 1929. It will then commemorate the 25th anniversary of its official formation in Berlin, 1904.

Woman Lawyer's Success in Denmark.

The Bulletin (International Council of Women) reports that, for the first time in the history of the University of Copenhagen, a woman lawyer has been awarded the Gold Medal for the best legal thesis. The successful candidate was Fröken Karen Johnsen, whose work on the development of the law of property in Denmark was preferred above that of a number of male candidates

Maude Royden's name is identified with a Travelling Exhibition offered this year to a student of Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford. Maude Royden and the late Gertrude Bell are distinguished old students of Lady Margaret Hall. Their interests and work have gone far beyond the bounds of their own country, and Mme. André Rieder, the donor of the Exhibition, is well known for her wide international interests. The lucky Woman Patentee.

Mrs. Mary Turnbull, the wife of a miner living at Low Valley, Wombwell, has applied for patent rights for a new type of miner's motty, which she has invented. The Westminster Gazette explains that a motty is a metal token by which tubs of coal are identified and credited to miners when they reach the surface.

Mrs. Philip Snowden on Films Act Advisory Committee.

Mrs. Philip Snowden and 12 men have been appointed to the Board of Trade's Committee for the purpose of advising them on the administration of the recent Kinematograph Films Act.

Woman Stationmaster.

The Times reports that last Monday Miss Margaret Cochrane succeeded her father, who has completed 48 years' service as stationmaster at Eddleston, Peeblesshire.

At Last!

Although many women have been, in fact, partners in their father's or their husband's business, it is very seldom that the fact has been legally appreciated. A firm of fishmongers, poulterers, and fruiterers in Caterham has just been registered as H. Marment & Daughter, Ltd. Mr. H. Marment, of Ascot, says that during the war his daughter, Amy F. Marment, kept the business open, and he wished to give her an interest in it by inclusion in the title. Other fathers might give the same acknowledgment.

First Woman Flying Champion.

The International League of Aviators has awarded the first title of champion to Colonel Lindbergh among men, and Lady Bailey among women. While regretting the division of sex, we congratulate Lady Bailey.

"FEMINISM IN THE HOLY LAND."

The National Women's Trade Union League of America has sent us the January number of their paper Life and Labor Bulletin, calling our attention to an article, "Feminism in the Holy Land," by Lillian Herstein. In this is described the activities of women members of the Palestine Federation of Labor, mainly the Jewish working women. The writer first tells how the Jewish woman, emigrating to Palestine, brought, "with her intense Jewish nationalism, a thoroughgoing feminism. . . . She demanded absolute equality, and asked no special privileges." She found a very different position among the Arab women in Palestine, but "into this historic atmosphere of feminine servility came the Jewish feminist." A very interesting description is given of the determination of these incoming Jews to "return to the soil," in which girls and women participate keenly. There are seven co-operative agricultural colonies for girls, each girl cultivating about 11 acres. "Training is given in bee-culture, horticulture, and dairying. Students are enrolled for two years. Qualified women agriculturists are in complete charge of the colonies, and carry the entire responsibility for administration as well as for teaching." When they have "graduated" the girls pass on to work in the permanent agricultural colonies. The work in the training colonies is run in rotation, thus obliging all the girls to take their share of the much disliked household work. One outstanding woman housekeeper has, however, proved to her reluctant companions that good housekeeping is as skilled and as interesting a job as any other work, so all now share it in rotation.

In the permanent colonies a remarkable success has been achieved in the method of combining motherhood, care of children, outside work, and happiness. There is an entirely separate children's section. The mothers come there at proper intervals to nurse their infants and return to their work in the fields. Schools and nurseries are in charge of trained women, selected for their abilities in child welfare and education, and not because they are women. "The children sleep at home and spend their evenings with their parents in comradely fashion." The mothers smile when it is suggested that home life is thus destroyed. "No life, she insists, is as free as hers; no relationship between parents and children as ideal." "We do not nag our children all day, as women so often do who have not the aptitude for the rearing of children. In the evening, after the day's work, after the day's schooling, we visit with our children, read, or romp with them. We are comrades, and we lose nothing of the finer Grace Jenny Bragg, L.I.; Ruth Epstein, M.T.; associations which belong to the home.

Industrial training is also provided in the cities, about 4,000 women being industrially employed.

When the organisation of the Jews as a political unit was in process, the women found themselves likely to be excluded owing to the existing Turkish and Jewish laws. A great struggle followed, in which the old plea was made to the women : " in the interests of national unity, the women were urged to postpone their fight for the ballot." Support was won for them, and, "as a result, the modern civil Jewish law which was forged in this battle gives the women the same political rights as the men." "Absolute equality between men and women in all fields has, of course, not been achieved. Theoretically, the labor movement recognises no difference between the sexes, but men have had for many years advantages and traditions which work in their favour." In her concluding words, Miss Herstein betrays that she, like so many others, puts her Party first (in her case, the Zionist Labour Party), and feminism second. She ends thus : 'The Palestinian working women are realistic. They smile knowingly when asked about absolute equal rights. They know they have not achieved equality, but they trust their own ability to work with the men for the realisation of Zionism, and not to lose sight of the ultimate destiny of women in the new social order."

The Joint Industrial Council for the Printing and Allied Trades have adopted a Report, to quote the Daily Herald, "embodying a series of proposals on organisation and administration designed to promote efficiency and harmonious working in the industry." The Report came from a "Betterment Committee" which has been sitting for some time, and urged "that there should be mutual agreement and hearty co-operation in trying to carry out any suggestions." Then follow eight main suggestions covering employment and unemployment, and a member of the Betterment Committee "stated that the questions had been discussed in the most frank and open manner, and a most friendly atmosphere had obtained throughout the meetings,"

Not one word, in all this harmony, frankness, openness, etc., of the women refused entry into the mposing room and other better-paid branches of this industry-arbitrarily refused solely because they are women. Does the Labour Party consider this exclusion among its many proposals and plans for the " protection '' of women?

The following women have been successful in the general examination of students of the Inns of Court, conducted by the Council of Legal Education last December. The letters M.T., I.T., L.I., and G.I. denote Middle Temple, Inner Temple, Lincoln's Inn and Grav's Inn. Roman Law .- Class II : Alix Hester Marie Kilroy,

L.I.; Phylis Mabel Martin, G.I.; Sybil Gertrude Overton, G.I.; Cecilia Lucy Cavendish Wolseley, G.I. Class III: Nora Burke-Bloor, G.I.; Edith Vera Cohen L.I,.; Dorothy Johnson, M.T.; Gertrude Margaret Stewart Simey, I.T.

To feminists, there is something very gratifying in the unanimity at present displayed by the British Press in the matter of Equal Franchise. Now, a few weeks before Parliament assembles, when Cabinet meetings have begun, is the time for our prescient Press to tell us what the Government plans are for the new Session. And it is here that one finds complete unanimity that the first of the Government's plans is to carry through a measure giving women the franchise on the same terms as men. Some do not like it, and continue to bleat about "flappers," predicting the downfall of the Government as a probable consequence; others do not like it, but resign themselves to the inevitable; others are bored, and also resigned; others hasten to put themselves on the winning side and acclaim; all agree that the Government is pledged, and can comfortably carry out its pledges.

3n Memoriam.

JUSON KERR.-On January 11th, 1928, at Bradfield, Upper Walmer, Kent, from bronchitis, Emily Juson Kerr, J.P., wife of the late Mr. Richard Juson Kerr. It is with the deepest sorrow that we print the above announcement of the unexpected death of our gallant colleague. We hope to give a portrait sketch next week.

EXCLUSION OF WOMEN FROM THE PRINTING TRADE.

BAR EXAMINATIONS.

Constitutional Law and Legal History .-- Class III : The Hon. Sylvia Fletcher-Moulton, M.T.; Dorothy Rae Lever, M.T.; Gertrude Margaret Stewart Simey, I.T.; Ruth Elizabeth Sophia Thompson, I.T.

Criminal Law and Procedure.-Class III: Alice Gertrude Margaret Stewart Simey, I.T.

Real Property and Conveyancing.-Class II : Jessie Edson Hendrick, M.T.; Katherine Mumford Hendrick, M.T.; Enid Mary Russell Russell-Smith, L.I. Class III: Lucy See, I.T.; Harriet Elizabeth Vaizey, I.T.

Final Examination .- Class II: Mary Josephine Clark, M.T.; Dorothy Scott Stokes, G.I. Class III : Margery Kate Pearson Willison, I.T.

OUR PROPHETIC PRESS.

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THE VOTE.

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Telephone : MUSEUM 1429. EDITORIAL.

The Editor is responsible for unsigned articles only. Articles,

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

PRISON COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

The Report just issued by the Prison Commissioners for the year 1926 is smaller than usual, but this may be partly explained by the fact that the other Annual Reports have been dated from April 1st to March 31st, that the last Report (which we reviewed in THE VOTE on April 8th last) was in respect of the twelve months ended March, 1926, and that the Report now submitted covers the twelve months ended December 31st, 1926. The present Report gives no extracts from Annual Reports of Governors, Chaplains, and Medical Officers of the various prisons, the subject matter of which filled nearly nine closely printed pages in the 1925-26 Report. We are told that, in the last nine months of the year 1926, progress was made along lines indicated in previous Reports in regard to the Commissioners' policy in the development of the prison system, but that there were no special changes calling for comment in the present Report. During the year 1926, 37,237 men and 8,012 women were convicted and sent to prison, the daily average population of our prisons being 10,860. In the Borstal Institutions there were 1,164 lads and 67 girls.

There is a dreary paragraph under the heading "Recidivism," from which we learn that 23,786 of the 37,237 men sentenced, and 7,000 out of 8,012 women had been previously convicted; that 13,558 men and 2,246 women had been previously convicted one to five times; and that 2,945 men and 2,978 women had been previously convicted more than 20 times. With regard of women and men in regard to opportunities and to girl offenders (exclusive of Borstal cases), we are told that 178 were sent to prison, compared with 199 the previous year-6 at 16 years of age, 20 at 17, 33 at 18, 52 at 19, and 67 at 20. Of these, 46 had been previously convicted once; 12 twice; 8 three times; 6 four times; 4 five times; 7 six to ten times; and I eleven to twenty times. Their chief offences were prostitution, larcenies, drunkenness, begging, breach of police regulations; and their sentences ranged from seven days or less to 12 months. We are not told in this Report for what specific offences lads and girls were committed to Borstal Institutions, of which there are five for boys and one for girls. The Commis- Office will not provide women police, then the Council sioners report the urgent need for a new Borstal should appoint its own women officials to patrol these Institution for boys, because "a large part of the parks and commons. Mrs. Cecil Chesterton is dealing success of the Borstal system has been due to the individual attention given to the lads by the heads of the Institutions; to the corporate spirit created in each Institution; and to the arrangements for active and interesting employment. All these methods become less effective if the numbers are too large."

Commissioner on the health of inmates of local prisons, Borstal Institutions, and Convict and Preventive Detention Prisons, as well as of Mentally Defective number of times—either once or twice during the year now that, in Cecil Houses, the usual successful concrete example has been held up by private individuals before

three women-Miss Ethel M. Barke, M.A., Lecturer, University College, Cardiff; Miss E. N. Heath; and Miss Parry, Liverpool University. No other women's names are mentioned in the Commissioners' Report. Once again we draw attention to the fact that there are no women on the Prison Commission; that there is still a man Governor at Holloway Prison, the prisoners at which are all women; and that there are no women inspectors (medical or otherwise) of prisons. In reading this Report, one is very conscious of the determination of those in authority to keep the whole of the control and administration of our prison system entirely in the hands of the small group of men who have been always hitherto responsible for it, and to exclude women from sharing in this control and administration. Yet, surely, the recidivism among women prisoners is a very damaging indictment of the system controlled by these men ! This Report can be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, Adastral House, Kingsway, W.C.2, price 9d., and we recommend our readers to study it for themselves.

THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL.

In another column we publish a list of women who have been adopted as candidates for the forthcoming elections in March, and in the next few weeks we hope to add others to the list. In the meantime, we shall be sending the following questions to all candidates, men and women :--

Will you, if elected,

(1) Do all in your power to secure that women and men employed by the London County Council shall have equal treatment in regard to opportunities and payment

(2) Work actively for the rescinding of the Council's resolution, which requires its women employees to resign their positions on marriage?

(3) Press for the employment of women police or women park-keepers by the Council in all its parks and open spaces?

(4) Urge the London County Council to provide and run lodging-houses for women on the same lines as the lodging-houses which they run for men?

We rely upon our readers to help us to get these questions not only before the candidates, but also before the electorate. It is essential that the electors should understand our demand for the equal treatment remuneration. We want to see all posts under the Council open to men and women alike-the ratepayers have a right to expect the members elected by them to choose the best person for the vacant position, irrespective of the sex of that person and irrespective also of the fact whether that person is married or single. The question, too, of the patrolling of parks and open spaces is an urgent one. Women police ought to be on duty on Clapham Common, Wandsworth Common, in Battersea Park, Brockwell Park, Finsbury Park, and Victoria Park, all of which come under the jurisdiction of the London County Council. If the Home valiantly with the question of lodging-houses for women, but why should this matter be left to private initiative? The Council provides well-equipped common lodging-houses for men. Why should not the ratepayers' money provide decent accommodation also for homeless women? Women as well as men pay rates Interesting reports are included from the Medical under the London County Council, and women have a right to claim that the money spent by the Council should be in the interests of both men and women

The sundry, mysterious, ill-defined and uncontrovert-Prisoners, "not certifiable either as insane or under ible reasons against extending to women these municipal the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913." There is also a common lodging-houses, so possible, useful, and necesreport of the Administrative Inspectors, giving the sary for men, never struck us as having any force, and Appendix gives a list of Educational Advisers to the eye of the public, there is no further excuse for Governors of Local Prisons, consisting of 31 men and officialism in delaying this sorely needed reform.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 1928.

THE STREET OFFENCES COMMITTEE.

January 13th, and the morning of Saturday, January 14th. The first witness on Friday was Mr. Shortt, Deputy-Chairman of the Justices in Birmingham, who spoke from 50 years' experience of the streets in the centre of Birmingham. He told the Committee that 539 in 1908 to 167 in 1926, and he gave four possible causes-improved police methods, earlier closing of public houses, better street lighting, and cautions by women patrols. He added that there could be no doubt the number of women soliciting in the streets was less, but he was doubtful whether they had ceased or worked in other ways. The professional prostitute was certainly rarer. Asked whether he preferred the retention of the classification of "common prostitute," he said yes, but agreed that there was some risk of injustice incurring in its retention. He declared himself as much concerned in the reformatory or rescue side of the matter, and the classification of common prostitute, and the power to sentence as such give opportunity to the Bench to give reformatory sentences. He then described the method of the Birmingham police, who are instructed not to do more than caution a woman until she has been seen to solicit for the third time, when they arrest her after hearing, in her presence, from the man solicited, what she had said to him. No evidence of annovance or obstruction was taken, the former being inferred from the fact of solicitation. This method formed a perfect safeguard against an innocent woman being arrested. In Birmingham, they had women patrols, under police control, but Mr. Shortt did not know whether they had power of arrest. They were valuable, working in plain clothes, in preventing young women from falling into bad ways. Mr. McMillan, the Chairman of the Committee, here commented that the work of the patrols seemed more social than judicial.

Mr. Shortt, continuing, said they had very few cases of men soliciting women; he had never thought of men inviting women to drive in their car as a form of solicitation. In cases of indecency in the street, the man was fined, but the woman was sent to prison, her classification of common prostitute enabling this to be done. He was against higher fines, as the woman had to earn the money probably by renewed prostitution, and would like to have a system of detention with reformatory conditions. The Bishop of Durham drew Mr. Shortt's notice to his expressed wish for equality of penalty between men and women, but pointed out that there could not be equality, as the woman was carrying on a trade for profit, the man was a moral transgressor. Mr. Shortt still held that there should be equality of penalty, but was in favour of retaining the classification of common prostitute, although admitting that thus inequality was inevitable. The retention helped to keep the streets cleaner and more decent, and safeguarded other women. In answer to Mrs. Morrison Millar, he said that, in the case of a man soliciting a woman, the woman would have to come to the Court. To further questions by other members of the Committee, Mr. Shortt said that drink was a great cause of prostitution; that he would delete 'annoyance" and "obstruction" from the section, and make "solicitation for immoral purposes" an offence carrying a cumulative sentence of detention up to six months. He agreed that six months was a terrible penalty for what was a moral rather than a criminal offence, but he would regard it not as a punishment but as an attempt to save. If the offender was not subject to reform, she must be subject to detention; one month gave no time for the prison discipline to be effective.

The next witness was Mr. Pugh, the prosecuting solicitor for Birmingham City police. He neither knew the number of women patrols, nor whether they were immoral intercourse.

The Street Offences Committee sat on Friday, sworn in. He would depend always on the police evidence that a woman was a common prostitute, as would also the magistrates. He agreed that evidence as to "annoyance" and "obstruction" was deduced and the words were useless. He wanted fines increased to £10, with an alternative up to three months' hard the number of charges for soliciting had declined from labour. He was of opinion that very few sentences proved deterrent; that statements of bribery of the police were falsehoods, and that men impersonated police officers, finding the game well worth it, as the penalty was only £10. He said he would always insist on the appearance in Court of a woman molested by a man.

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The next witness was Mr. Robert Bell, Clerk to the Court in Manchester. He thought no harm was done by the retention of the classification of common prostitute; no prejudice would be induced by its use to a stipendiary, the lay mind only would be prejudiced. He agreed with the Chairman that solicitation by a man was as grave an offence and should be dealt with under an explicit section. He was in favour of deleting "annoyance" and "obstruction," and retaining the classification of common prostitute, which, he repeated, did no harm. Pressed as to his meaning, he said it made prosecution and conviction easier. He gave figures of solicitation by common prostitutes as 1,299 in 1911, of which 395 were dismissed, and 148 in 1927. He believed motor traffic took the offence out of towns into other areas.

The next witness was Mr. Maxwell, Chief Constable of the City of Manchester. He had four policewomen, not sworn in; one worked in plain clothes, the others in uniform. They were only used to try to warn and to save young girls. Miss Fry asked why it was necessary to have the woman who was solicited and not the man. He replied, because the magistrates insisted. He was of opinion that there was a considerable amount of solicitation by men in motors, but there was no section which dealt with such as an offence.

should be dealt with also

Mr. Everitt, Chief Constable of Liverpool, said there were four women patrols, not under his control, but belonging to a voluntary organisation, who were employed in rescue work. He described a case of a man persistently soliciting two women who declined to appear in Court; therefore the police were helpless. He agreed that the law was inadequate for dealing with such cases. In Liverpool no evidence of annoyance was required, such being deduced from solicitation He expressed the opinion that the old type of professional prostitute was disappearing and that many flighty girls solicited men, had a good time and all they could get out of them, without having actual

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On Saturday, the first witness was Mr. Deacon, Stipendiary Magistrate of Liverpool. He gave the number of common prostitutes arrested for solicitation or for indecent conduct as 1,772 in 1907, and 316 in 1927, but, like all other witnesses, was not clear as to any one cause, suggesting early closing, transfer elsewhere, improved supervision, and, possibly, some slight moral improvement. In answer to Miss Fry, he said the same offence by a common prostitute should be dealt with more severely than by another woman. He said that when a woman was introduced to the Court not as a common prostitute, her case would be examined more carefully, but that the use of the label would not prejudice the Bench. He said there was no bribery of the police, but magistrates were always on the look-out for it. Differing from Manchester, the Liverpool Bench required proof of visible annoyance. He was not in favour of making solicitation by itself an offence. He agreed there might be solicitation by men from motors, but had not had his attention drawn to it. He agreed with Miss Fry that it was no use only considering the supply, and that the demand

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 1928.

OUR BOOK REVIEW.

The Law of Adoption and Guardianship of Infants. By W. Clarke Hall and Justin Clarke Hall. (Butterworth & Co.) Price 105. 6d. (Can be obtained from this Office.)

Mr. Clarke Hall has given us in this volume a masterly exposition of these two recent Acts, which will be of great value to all those taking part in Courts of Summary Jurisdiction, before which these cases will come. The Acts in themselves are great advances in jurisdiction. England stood almost alone in giving no powers of legal adoption, so that both defenceless chiluren and chudless parents were endangered because of the insecure position in which both adopted and adopters stood-for at any time the child used to be liable to be removed from those who had given love, a good home, and an excellent education to it from its tenderest years, even though the natural parents had nothing to offer for the child's true interests, and often were merely levying a species of blackmail. On the other hand, by the provisions of this Act, it will be practically impossible to adopt children in order to exploit them. All women must be deeply interested in this procedure, and as it will be added to the powers of Juvenile Courts, and there will be no precedents on which to rely, the need of such a handbook as Mr. Clarke Hall has provided is realised and will be gratefully acknowledged by all magistrates sitting in those Courts. Besides the actual provisions of the Act, the County Court Rules (1926) and the Summary Jurisdiction Rules (1926) are added and explained.

The Guardianship of Infants Act (1925) is Mr. Clarke Hall's next subject, and it is an Act which is most valuable from a suffragist's point of view, dealing as it does with the guardianship, custody, and marriage of infants. Formerly, the father alone was the legal custodian of the legitimate child, except where, under a maintenance order, the justices gave the children to the mother's care, but now wider powers are given to the justices, who can give a woman power to protect her children from a father's bad influence. She can claim support for such a child from the father. The mother has equal rights now with the father to make an application to the Court, and she can, as well as the father, appoint a "testamentary guardian" after her death. Parents' consent to marriages of infants is also required, but the Court can now, after hearing evidence, set this aside if the Bench think fit, and here again the mother is put on an equal footing with the father before the law

The third part of the book deals with the Legitimacy Act, 1926, which again introduces a new principle into English law, namely, the legitimation of an illegitimate child by subsequent marriage of the parents, except when, at the time of the birth, one of them was already married to a third party. Regulations as to registrations, adoption schedules, and an explanation and discussion of every moot point which may arise are included in the book. J. M. T.

WOMEN CANDIDATES FOR LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

LONDON MUNICIPAL SOCIETY CANDIDATES. The * indicates a sitting member.—Dr. Sophia Jevons; Mrs. Glenn-McCarthy; *Dame Beatrix Lyall, D.B.E., L.C.C.; *Mrs. Emmet, L.C.C.; The Lady Amherst; *Mrs. Worsthorne, L.C.C.; *Miss Cazalet, L.C.C.; *Miss Rosamond Smith, L.C.C.; *Lady Eve, L.C.C.; *Dr. Barrie Lambert, C.B.E., L.C.C.; *Mrs. Dunn-Gardner, L.C.C.; Mrs. Mudge; Miss Macbeth; *Dr. Adeline Roberts, L.C.C.; *Mrs. Elliot, L.C.C.; The Hon. Lois Sturt; Miss Dowling; Miss Slattery; Miss Sturgess; The Hon. Lady Lawrence; Miss Bright-Ashford

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MISS ALIX CLARK'S WORK IN NEWTOWN

From the Montgomeryshire papers we learn that, at the December meeting of the Caersws Board of Guardians, Miss Alix Clark moved a resolution that I cwt. of coal should be given to all the unemployed in the Union who were on the Relieving Officer's books, to help them over the Christmas-tide. She said she knew that there was terrible and tragic poverty in Newtown. Not for many years had she been in such poverty-stricken homes, where little boys and girls went to school without anything hot to eat or drink because there was no fire. She had made inquiries and found that the cost would be about \pounds_{15} . Mrs. Macpherson, another woman Guardian, supported the resolution. After some discussion, the resolution was passed unanimously.

Later, the Chairman moved a vote of thanks to Miss Clark for giving a tea, gifts and entertainment to the inmates of the workhouse.

The Guardians had before them a notice that a Central Poor Law Conference would be held in February. The Clerk said the Caersws Board had never been represented at the Conference, but he thought that, in view of the proposed changes in Poor Law administration, they might like to be represented. Miss Clark, in moving that no delegates be sent, said that Parliament would be too busy dealing with the unemployed problem to touch the Poor Law question next Session

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12

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 1928.

THE VOTE

Women's Freedom League. Offices : 144, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.1.

WHERE TO GO.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE. LONDON AND SUBURBS.



Monday, January 23rd, at 3.15 p.m. Golders Green. Branch Meeting at 98, Brook-side Road (by kind permission of Mrs. Jaynes). Wednesday, January 25th, at 3 p.m. Fair Sub-Committee Meeting, at 144 High

Holborn, W.C.1. Thursday, January 26th, at 7.30 p.m. Equal Political Rights Campaign. Open-Air

DARE TO Meeting at Highbury Corner, arranged by The Women's Freedom League. BE FREE.

Wednesday, February 8th, at 4 p.m. Tea and Politics-up-to-date. First meeting of Session. Minerva Club, Brunswick Square. Leader of Discussion : Mrs. Pethick-

Lawrence.

- Wednesday, February 8th, at 6.30 p.m. Mid-London. Branch Meeting at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1. All members are urged to be present, and to go on afterwards to
- Friday, February 10th, at 5 p.m.

Friday, February 10th, at 5 p.m. Organisation Sub-Committee at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1. Satu day, February 11th, at 10 a.m. National Executive Committee Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1. Saturday, April 28th at 10 a.m. Annual Conference at Caxton Hall, Westminster.

PROVINCES.

Saturday, February 11th.

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

As.ford. Branch Meeting. Nurse Scott on "Home Nursing." Friday, March 30th.

Ashfora. Branch Meeting. Dr. Littledale on "Local Birds."

SCOTLAND. Saturday, January 21st, at 6.45 p.m.

Edinburgh. Branch Meeting in the Philosophical Institute, 4, Queen Street.

Saturday, January 21st, at 7.15 p.m.

Edinburgh. Whist Drive in the Philosophical Institute, 4, Queen Street. Tickets 2/-, from Miss Lenton, "The Quest," Liberton ;

Friday, January 27th, at 7.30 p.m. Dunoon, Public Meeting in the Rosebery Restaurant. Speaker : Miss Eusice Murray. Chairman : Mrs. Robertson May. Tea and collection.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Saturday, January 21st, at 3 p.m.

- Speech Club, Minerva Club, Brunswick Square. Debate : "That the Trade Disputes and Trade Unions Act, 1927, w.ll prove a boon to
- Trade Unionists." Proposer: Mrs. Whiton. Opposer: Mrs. Boyd. Saturday, January 21st, at 3 p.m. League of Arts Concert at Victoria and Albert Museum. Lecture by Rutland Boughton on "Modern Russian Song." Singer: Ruby
- Rutiand Bughton.
- Rutand Blughton. Sunday, January 22nd, at 3.30 p.m. The Guildhouse, Ecclaston Square. W. T. Layton on "The Recon-

struction of Austria." Tuesday, January 24th, at 11 f.m. Voice Production. Lesson by Miss Lucy D. Bell, at Minerva Club,

Brunswick Square. Wednesday, January 25th, at 12. Applied Logic. Lesson by Miss Lucy D. Bell, at Minesva Club,

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

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

- New Education Fellowship. Lecture by Dr. Decraly, Professor of gy at the Brussels University, at Friends' House,
- Child Psychology at the Brussels University, at Friends' House, Euston Road, N.W. Friday, January 27th, at 8 p.m. The Guildhouse, Eccleston Square. Lecture by Sir Oliver Lodge on "The Birth of the Moon." Tickets, 5/-, 3/-, 1/-. Saturday, January 28.h, at 3 p.m. Speech Club, Minerva Club, Brunswick Square. Mrs. Philip Champion de Crespigny on "The Worlds around us." Tues: ay, January 31st, at 8 p.m. Jacenzine Butler Cantenary. Maching at the King's Weigh Hence

- Josephine Butler Contenary. Meeting at the King's Weigh House. Speaker: Miss Alison Neilans. Chairman: The Rev. W. E.
- Orchard, D.D. Thursday, February 2nd, at 4.15 p.m.
- Open Door C.uncil. "At Home" (by kind invitation of Miss G.acs Bradford) at 42, Carlton Hill, St. John's Wood, N.W. 8. Speaker: Miss Abbott on "The Factories Bill and the Woman Wage Earner," Chairman: The Lady Balfour of Burleigh. Saturday, February 4th, at 7 pm.
- Suffragette Dinner. Craig's Court Restaurant Tickets 5/-, from Mrs. Elsa Gye, "Adsett," Ridgeway, Mill Hill, N.W.7. Monday, February 6th, at 8 p.m.
- **Public Meeting on Aniversal y of Votes for Some Women.** Speakers will be **6x-Prisoners.** Admission free. Reserved seats 1/- and 2/6. from Mrs. Elsa Gye, "Adsett," Ridgeway, Mill Hill, N.W.7.

Monday, February 6th, at 5.45 p.m. The Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, Miss Sybil Thorndike reading the "Trojan Women." Chair : Professor Percy Dearmer. Tickets Monday, February 6.h, at 8 p.m. Caxton Hall. New Year's Party (arranged by S'. Joan's Social and Political Alliance). Attractive Musical Programme, and Short Speeches by His Lordship the Bishop of Pella, the Hon. Mrs. Walter Roch, Mrs. Laughton Mathews. Tickets, 3/6 (including Refresh-ments), from 55, Berners Street, W.1. Wednesday, February 8th, at 8 p.m.

GLASGOW.

PORTSMOUTH.

CAXTON HALL

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8th, At 8 p.m.

The VISCOUNTESS RHONDDA Speakers: Mrs. G. F. ABBOTT (Open Door Council), Miss E. E. FROUD (National Union of Women Teachers), Mrs. PETHICK-LAWRENCE (Women's Freedom League), Miss NANCY STEWART PARNELL (St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance).

ADMISSION FREE. Reserved Seats, 1/- each. Tickets may be obtained from "The Vote" Office, 144. High Holborn, W.C.1

Equal Political Rights Campaign Committee. "King's Speech" Meeting in Caxton Hall, to decide Policy of Action. Chair : The Viscountess Rhandda. Speakers: Mrs. Abbott, Miss E, E. Froud.

Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence, Miss N. Stewart Parnell. Sunday, February 19.h, at 11 a.m. Hampshire House Club, Ravenscourt Park. Speaker : Miss F. A. Underwood on "The Life and Work of Josephine Builer."

Tuesday, February 28th, at 3 p.m. Meeting on "Mateinal Mortality," at the Central Hall, Westminster.

BRANCH NOTES.

GLASGOW. We had a very enjoyable Whist Drive in the Athenæum Restaurant last night. Miss Eunice Murray presided, but unfortunately had to leave early owing to the illness of her father. We think that it was extremely kind of her to come under the circumstances. Before leaving, Miss Murray said a few words concerning the meetings we propose to hold in the future, dealing with some of the ways in which women are still at a disadvantage legally, politically, and industrially. She expressed great satisfac-tion with the success of the woman competitor in the open competition for a design for the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre, concerning which the papers have had so much to say recently. Miss Murray explained how the illness and consequent resigna-tion of the Hon. Sec., Mrs. Mosen, resulted in the long gap which has taken place since the activities of last summer, and called upon members to do their best to help in the future. She men-tioned that, of the money raised last spring, £25 had been sent to headquarters for the Fair. Bailie Mrs. Bell then, in her usual able way, proposed a vote

to headquarters for the Fair. Bailie Mrs. Bell then, in her usual able way, proposed a vote of thanks to Miss Murray. There was a small Cake and Candy Stall, and we offer our sincere thanks to all who contributed towards that, to all who helped sell the goods and otherwise were useful, and to those who came, for a whist drive without players is worse than useless ! Later, Bailie Mrs. Bell very kindly presented the prizes. (Organiser) LILLAN LENTON.

There was a good attendance at the Monthly Meeting on Friday, January 13th, when Mr. E. H. Littlecott gave an interesting address on "The Work of the Workers' Educational Associa-tion." A good discussion followed, and the speaker answered numerous questions. Mr. Littlecott was thanked by Mrs. Whetton, who presided. Two new members were made. By request, our next Tea and Politics-up-to-date Meeting will be held on Saturday, February 11th, at 3 o'clock, at 2, Kent Road. Mrs. Brading will open the discussion, and members are asked to bring friends. to bring friends. (Hon. Sec.) MRS. WHETTON, 89, Festing Grove, Southsea.

Equal Political Rights Campaign Committee (Twenty-six Affiliated Organisations.)

VOTES FOR WOMEN!! KING'S SPEECH MEETING in the

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

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ELLOWSHIP SERVICES .- Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W.I. Sunday, January 22nd, 1928. 3.30. Music. Lecture. W. T. Layton, M.A., C.B.E. 6.30. Rev. Harold Anson: "Problems of the New Prayer Book. (4) Establishment."

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