SEPT. 30, 1927.

THE VOTE. LORD MAYOR CALLS FOR EQUALITY

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

VOL. XXVIII. No. 936. (Registered at the G.P.O.)

ONE PENNY.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1927

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.

#### PRINCIPAL CONTENTS.

A DEMAND FOR JUSTICE. EQUAL POLITICAL RIGHTS CAMPAIGN. GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD FAIR. THE CARDIFF CONFERENCE

WOMEN-"GENERALLY MORE EMOTIONAL." WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD. OUR BOOK REVIEW. "The Rights of Mallaroche." LORD MAYOR CALLS FOR EQUALITY.

# A DEMAND FOR JUSTICE.

#### POLICE EVIDENCE MUST BE CORROBORATED.

Periodically the British Public is shocked and the Press very voluble because persons, nearly always men, are convicted in our Police courts, on uncorroborated police evidence, of "annoying" or "molesting" some molesting" some one, and then after an appeal to a higher court are declared innocent of the offence. No such appeal can be carried through of course without the expenditure of a considerable sum of money -£300 being cited in a recent case. Last week, two professional men won their Appeals against convictions which had been based on police evidence only, and the fact that they were wrongly convicted has aroused great indignation. The British public wants some guarantee that the streets of our cities shall be safe for the ordinary citizen from the activities and mistakes of members of the police force. The legal costs of proving one's innocence on a charge of this kind are heavy, and not every man—certainly very few women—can afford to pay them, and these considerations roughly shake the average Britisher's belief in the best traditions of British Justice. People begin to ask "what happens if the person cannot afford to pay for legal expenses?" and they wonder why the law is not altered to prevent such a travesty of justice. Unfortunately, the excitement about particular cases soon dies down, and the law which is administered every day in our police courts - the same law which caused the excitement—is responsible for the conviction, in the course of a year, of the thousands of women and girls who have no means at all to pay for legal representation, let alone for Appeals. The Public and the Press may blame police and magistrates when the Appeals of men are successful; but, after all, police and magistrates, like the rest of us, most probably do their best under difficult circumstances, and it is the law itself which must be altered. It is not a Police Inquiry that is necessary we have had Police Inquiries before; what is essential and urgent is the alteration of the law.

For many years the Women's Freedom League and other women's organisations have repeatedly urged that no man or woman should be convicted of "annoying" or "molesting" anyone unless the person stated to have been "annoyed" or "molested" appears in court to substantiate the charge; and we maintain that, no matter what difficulties are foreseen by those responsible for keeping order in our streets, this is the only way to guard against unjust convictions. We have put this point of view before the present and previous Home Secretaries. Still nothing is done; and, so far, the only

result of the recent successful Appeals is that the Home

Office has sent for reports of each case!

Early in July, 1925, Lady Astor secured leave to bring in the Public Places (Order) Bill, the chief object of which was to amend the Law relating to order in streets and public places and this Bill was read a First time. Under this Bill there was to be one law for men and women alike who wilfully cause annoyance in public places; but no one was to be taken into custody for causing an annoyance except upon complaint by, or on behalf of, the person annoyed. When pressing for leave to introduce this Bill, Lady Astor asked the Government to set up a Select Committee to inquire into the working of our Solicitation Since that date many questions have been asked about this Committee, but the Home Office, with its proverbial dilatoriness, has displayed quite a masterly inactivity in successfully doing nothing. At the end of July, 1925, Mr. G. Locker-Lampson (Under-Secretary, Home Office) replied to a question in the House of Commons that the Home Secretary was considering the matter, but had not yet had time to arrive at a carefullythought-out line of procedure. In November of the same year, Sir William Joynson-Hicks received a joint deputation of representatives of Women's Societies deputation of representatives of Women's Societies (Mrs. Dexter representing the Women's Freedom League), arranged by the Association for Social and Moral Hygiene. This deputation urged the necessity of change in the law regarding solicitation, and the Home Secretary promised to give the matter his consideration within the next few weeks. Early in March, 1926, Sir William replied to an Hon. Member that the matter of the appointment of a Committee of Inquiry was under consideration; but no decision had yet been reached. Later, the same month, he informed Sir Robert Newman that he was considering the terms of reference and the personnel of a Committee, but his Department was at present very overworked, so he hoped his hon. Friend would not press him too urgently! In August, 1926, the Home Secretary, replying to Mr. Gerald Hurst, referred him to the reply given to Sir Robert Newman in March! At the end of November, the same year, Sir William told Sir Herbert Cayzer that it had not as yet been possible to proceed with the consideration of the matter of a Committee, recognised its importance, and it would not be overlooked. On December 9th, Lord Balfour of Burleigh secured the Second reading in the House of Lords of the Public Places (Order) Bill, which was practically the

same Bill as that introduced by Lady Astor in the House of Commons, July 1925. Speaking on behalf of the Government, Lord Desborough said that the Government did not intend to oppose Lord Balfour's Bill. He pleaded that the Home Office, through pressure of work, had not been able to deal with this matter, but had not overlooked it. He assured the House that the importance of this matter was fully recognised. In the early part of next year the Home Secretary hoped to make some further announcement as to the course he proposed to pursue. In May, 1927, Sir William Joyson-Hicks, in reply to questions by Sir Patrick Ford and Mr. Rhys Davies said the proposed Inquiry would extend to Scotland, that a person residing in Scotland would be appointed to the Committee, and that, if necessary, there would also be on it a representative from Wales. The last pronouncement in Parliament on this subject was the following reply given by Capt. Hacking (Under Secretary, Home Department) to Lady Astor: "It is proposed that the Terms of Reference of this Committee shall be to inquire into the law and practice regarding offences against the criminal law, in connection with prostitution and solicitation for immoral purposes in streets and public places, and other similar offences against decency and good order, and to report what changes (if any) are, in their opinion, desirable. My right hon. Friend hopes to complete, at an early date, the selection of Members to serve on this Com-That reply was given last July.

Quite frankly, we have no hope at all of seeing any tangible results from this Committee during the lifetime of the present Parliament. We are inclined to think that the continued request for an Inquiry has been a mistake. What is urgent is an alteration of the present law which allows men and women to be convicted of street offences on uncorroborated police evidence. We again demand, in the interests of justice, that no man or woman shall be taken into custody on a charge of "soliciting," "molesting," or "annoying" anyone unless the person stated to have been "solicited," "molested," or "annoyed" appears in Court to substantiate the charge.

The following is a copy of a letter sent by the Secretary of the Women's Freedom League to the Prime Minister, the Home Secretary and the Lord Chancellor:

September 23rd, 1927.

Sir,—With reference to the recent successful appeals of Major Graham Bell Murray and Mr. F. H. B. Champain against convictions based on uncorroborated police evidence, the Women's Freedom League asks you to consider the urgent necessity of altering our present street laws. The gentlemen in question were men of means, and were able to be represented legally and to afford the costs of appeal. There are, however, every week numbers of women and girls, entirely without means, who are charged and convicted in our Police Courts for annoying or molesting men. The charge against them is based on police evidence only, and, not having the necessary money to contest the case or to appeal against their conviction—in fact, to buy justice—they have to pay the fines or go to prison. We submit that this is not good law and that it is against the best traditions of British justice; and we therefore urge that there should be an alteration of the present law without delay, and that no man or woman shall be convicted of annoying or molesting any person unless that person comes to Court to substantiate the charge.

## EQUAL POLITICAL RIGHTS CAMPAIGN.

We have received the following letter from the Ctairman of the Equal Political Rights Campaign Press Sub-Committee:—

Dear Madam,—The Equal Political Rights Campaign Committee is gratified to note that the following resolution is to be moved by Mr. Morgan Morgan (member of the Central Council) at the Annual Conference of the National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations, to be held at Cardiff, October 6th and 7th:—

"That, in the opinion of this Conference, the time has come to fulfil Ministerial pledges to extend the franchise to women on the same terms as men and to give full effect to the principle accepted by Parliament in its legislation for equalising the sexes in the eyes of the law, and this Conference therefore calls on the Government to introduce and pass without delay a measure conferring the franchise on all women at the age of 21, in accordance with the undertaking so definitely given in the House of Commons by the Home Secretary, with the full concurrence of the Cabinet, and the equally definite promise of the Prime Minister that there should be equal franchise before the next General Election."

This Committee hopes that Mr. Morgan's resolution will receive overwhelming support from the delegates at Cardiff, so that the Prime Minister may be assured that his own Party fully endorse the equal franchise piedge which he has given to women, and upon the fulfilment of which organised women are relying with confidence.

#### Open-air Meetings.

We appeal to readers of The Vote to come and support the following meetings:—

#### Arranged by the Women's Freedom League.

Saturday, October 1st, at 3 p.m.—Hyde Park; the speakers being Miss Beamish, Miss Chave Collisson, M.A., and the Chairman, Miss Eggett. Thursday, October 6th, Highbury Corner, at 7.30 p.m.—Speaker, Miss Nancy Lightman, and Chairman, Miss Sparkman.

#### Arranged by St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance.

Sunday, October 2nd, at 12 o'clock.—Jack Straw's Castle, Hampstead Heath. Speakers: Miss Fedden, Miss Whately, and Miss Butler Bowden. Saturday, October 8th, at 3 p.m.—Hyde Park. Speakers: Miss Fedden, Miss Fitzgerald, Miss Douglas Irvine, Miss Whately.

#### CONSERVATIVES and EQUAL FRANCHISE.

"England will come to no harm if its destinies are entrusted to its women," said Lt.-Col. Headlam, M.P for the Barnard Castle Division of Durham, at the annual outing of the Wallsend Division Women Unionists Association.

Capt. Guy D. Fanshawe, M.P. for West Stirlingshire, said, at a public meeting in Glasgow last week, that he could not understand why certain people were up against what was called the "flappers' vote." He contended that women were entitled to the vote and should have had it long ago.

Members of the Spelthorne Division of the Junior Imperial League held a debate at Teddington last week on the motion "That this house is of the opinion that the franchise should not be extended to women of 21." Mr. Harold Hastings, the Conservative Agent for the Spelthorne Division, was in the Chair. Mr. M. Hamilton, in proposing the motion, argued that it was not in the best interest of the country that men and women should have the vote before the age of 25. Miss J. Needes opposed the motion, contending that the emancipation of women during recent years had benefited the whole community. After an interesting debate among the members, the motion was defeated by a large majority.

#### CONGRATULATIONS.

HICKS-BULL.—On August 4th, at St. Peter's Church, Belsize Square, Hampstead, Amy Maud Hicks, M.A., of Russell Green, Danbury, Essex, to John Major Bull, of 21, Lambolie Road, Hampstead.

All our old members send their best wishes to Mrs. Bull, the able first head of our Literature Department and Hampstead branch member; daughter of Mrs. Hicks, also of the Hampstead branch, our valued National Executive Committee member.

McMichael.—On August 5th, at 255, Woodstock Road, Oxford, to Gerald and Miriam (née Fisher) McMichael, a daughter (Ann Helen).

We rejoice to welcome the newest member of the league,

#### GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD FAIR.

The Green, White and Gold Fair will be held this year at the Caxton Hall, Westminster, on Wednesday and Thursday, November 23rd and 24th, and will be opened each day at 3 p.m. On Wednesday, November 23rd, by Mrs Eliott Lynn; and on Thursday by The Lady Balfour of Burleigh. The Chair will be taken on Wednesday by Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence (President of the Women's Freedom League), and on Thursday by Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P.

#### STALLS AND STALLHOLDERS.

Hampstead Branch.—Handkerchiefs, Antiques, and White Elephants. Miss Goodliffe, Miss Lyndon, and Miss Vibert. Mid-London Branch.—Stationery Stall. Mrs. Legge and

Members.

Montgomery Boroughs Branch.—Country Produce, Cakes, and General Goods. Miss Alix M. Clark and Friends.

Portsmouth Branch.—Household Goods. Mrs. Whetton, Mrs. Brading, and Members.

South-Eastern Branches.—Dairy Produce and Pound Stall.
Miss White and Members.
China Stall.—Mrs. Lindus, Mrs. Tanner, and Miss M. A. Sidley.

China Stall.—Mrs. Lindus, Mrs. Tanner, and Miss M. A. Sidley. Great North Stall. Mrs. Mustard. Literature Stall.—Mrs. Pierotti.

Overalls and Aprons.—Miss Underwood, Miss F. A. Underwood, Mrs. Turriff, Miss Brewer, and Miss Charles.
Shilling Stall.—Mrs. Delbanco and Mrs. Jacoby.

Toy Stall.—Mrs. Knight and Friends.
Underclothing.—Mrs. Holmes and Mrs. Boxall.
General Stall.—Mrs. Lloyd.

Yote" Stall.—Mrs. Flowers, Miss Barton, Mrs. Evans, and Miss Burgoine.

#### PLEASE HELP!

A great deal of help is needed if all these Stalls are to be well provided with goods suitable for Christmas Gifts. Will all our readers make a point of sending some dainty article for one or other of these Stalls? Please make something that you would really like to send to your best friend, and something you would like to see them always use.

The things that are most needed are good useful Overalls, with sleeves or without, also pretty little Overalls for afternoon use. Aprons also are required, and all descriptions of Underclothing will be acceptable. If desired, the Hon, Secretary will be glad to supply patterns of lingerie suitable for these stalls. Gifts of Pillow Cases, Tea Cloths, Dusters, Table Cloths, are all wanted for the Household Stall, and dainty little fancy Handkerchiefs will be most acceptable for the Handkerchief Stall. Will all our readers hunt their houses for all the things they do not want and send them for our White Elephant Stall? Dolls and all sorts of toys are wanted for our Toy Stall; if any members are willing to dress dolls they should write to Mrs. Knight, at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1. Cake, Jam, Tea, Butter, Eggs, etc., will be most helpful for our Dairy Produce and Pound Stall, and any gifts of China, especially, useful Cups and Saucers, Teapots, etc., for our China Stall. So please send us anything and everything; all will be most welcome.

#### ENTERTAINMENTS.

A splendid programme of entertainments is being arranged, and will include a Display on Thursday, November 24th, at 6 p.m., of Operatic, Classical and Character Dances by the pupils of Miss Grace Woollacott. There will be music and various other entertainments during the afternoons, and after 6.30 in the evenings. The following have most kindly promised to assist:—Miss C. O'Brien, Miss Joan Dunsford, Miss Lilian Foulis, Mrs. Harvey James, Miss Betty Lowe, Mrs. Sparrow, Miss Annie Stevens, and Miss Mollie Seymour.

Character Readings will be given by Miss Wall and Mrs. Gilchrist, and Numerology by Miss King.

#### TEAS AND REFRESHMENTS.

Miss Reeves has most kindly undertaken the Teas and Refreshments, and will be assisted by the staff of the Minerva Club and Branch. Teas will be served in the Lounge from 3.30 to 6. p.m., and Refreshments will be served after 7 p.m.

Societies and friends taking Stalls:—
The Alliance of Honour (The Women's Section).
Barclay Workshops (For Blind Women).
The British Commonwealth League.
The Dewdrop Curtain Co.
The Equal Political Rights Campaign Committee.
The St. John's Social and Political Alliance.

The Nine Elms Settlement. The Town Crier Stall.

THE VOTE

Miss Burwood (Beads).
The Baroness Halse De Yille (Devon Stall).
Miss Ida Stamm (Veloutine Work).

Tickets 1s. 10d. (including tax) the first day until 5 p.m.; after 5 p.m. and on the second day 1s. 2d. (including tax) will shortly be on sale at 144, High Holborn, or from the Societies and Friends taking Stalls

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

#### LONDON BRANCHES "AT HOME."

Last Saturday afternoon the Mid-London and the Minerva Club Branches held a very successful "At Home" at the Minerva Club, where old and new members had the pleasurable opportunity of meeting and getting to know one another. After a delicious tea served by Club members, Miss Reeves presided over an informal meeting which included recitations, music, and short speeches. Miss Reeves reminded members of the League that the winning of equal franchise in the near future very largely depended on the enthusiasm and the unremitting work of the women who wanted it. Mrs. Harvey James cleverly entertained us with stories of schoolboy "howlers"; Miss Clara O'Brien delighted with Irish and German songs; Mrs. Flint gave us a powerful rendering of "The Night Court" by an American writer; and Miss Betty Lowe added brightness to the proceedings with her recitations 'When the Minister comes to Tea" and "Aunt Tabitha." Miss F. A. Underwood outlined the autumn and winter work of the Women's Freedom League. and appealed to members to give it every possible support; Mrs. Flowers appealed to members on behalf of THE VOTE; Miss New asked for a collection; and Mrs. Nevinson, in a racy speech, urged every young woman to become a speaker and let the public know that she wanted a vote, assuring her audience that one young woman's public statement of that fact had infinitely more effect than all the perfervid eloquence of more aged people—even if they were 106!—and Miss Cockle definitely asked for speakers and helpers for our outdoor meetings at Highbury Corner and in Hyde Park. Miss Sparkman moved a comprehensive vote of thanks to artistes, speakers, and all those who had contributed to the afternoon's success, and when the proceedings came to an end all present felt that the effort had been well worth while and looked forward to more reunions of London members.

## A RECEPTION

TO MEET

#### DAME EDITH LYTTELTON, D.B.E.

(Substitute Delegate for Great Britain to the Assembly of the League of Nations), and

#### MRS. MOSS

(Substitute Delegate for Australia),
GIVEN BY THE

National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship
WILL BE HELD AT THE

#### CAXTON HALL, WESTMINSTER,

On MONDAY, OCTOBER 10th, 1927, at 4 p.m.

Further information and tickets (price 2/6, including tea) can be obtained on application to the Secretary, 15, Dean's Yard, S.W.1.

# THE VOTE.

Proprietors: THE MINERVA PUBLISHING CO., LTD. Offices: 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30th, 1927.

#### UNIONISTS IN CONFERENCE.

Organised women are more than usually interested in the 55th Annual Conference of the National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations to be held at Cardiff next week. The Prime Minister is to speak at this Conference of 2,600 delegates, and to deal with the policy of the Government. What reference will he make to Equal Franchise? Will he say anything about the inclusion of women in any proposals which are brought forward for the reform of the House of Lords? We notice that the first 11 resolutions on the agenda refer to the reform of the Upper House, but we greatly regret that we are unable to find in them any reference to women's membership of that House. The 15th resolution on this agenda is an excellent one on Equal Franchise, to be moved by Mr. Morgan Morgan, a

That in the opinion of this Conference the time has come to fulfil Ministerial pledges to extend the franchise General Election, should such an incredible disaster to women on the same terms as men, and to give full befall us. effect to the principle accepted by Parliament in its legislation for equalising the sexes in the eyes of the law, and this Conference therefore calls upon the Government to introduce and pass without delay a measure conferring the franchise on all women at the age of 21 in accordance with the undertaking so definitely given in the House of Commons by the Home Secretary, with the full concurrence of the Cabinet, and the equally definite promise of the Prime Minister that there should be equal franchise before the next election.

No resolution could have been worded more satisfactorily from our point of view, and we offer Mr. Morgan our warm congratulations and appreciative thanks for moving it.

Following this resolution are four others, all of which are in opposition to Mr. Baldwin's straightforward equal franchise pledge given to women. Resolution 16, to be moved by Mrs. Thomas (Wakefield), is as follows:

existing qualifications required for the franchise of single women of 30 years of age are detrimental to the best interests of our country; therefore urges H.M. Government to remove these present qualifications entirely, making all single women of 30 eligible for the franchise, with their parents (or otherwise), and are not earning money; and where they are going out to business, and assist in the upkeep of their homes.

This Conference is further of the opinion that 25 is a much more suitable age than 21 for the franchise of women and men.'

Apparently Mrs. Wakefield is not particularly concerned about any woman under 30 securing a Parliamentary vote, and would like to disfranchise all men under 25! Resolution 17, to be moved by Mr. Frank East (Putney), reads:-

limit for women voters should be 25."

Mr. Read is evidently not interested in equal franchise; ripe age of 25.

Resolution 18 is to be moved by Mr. Maconachie (Hampstead), whom we well remember as a sturdy anti-suffragist in pre-war days. This resolution states:-

This Conference views with apprehension the proposal to enfranchise both sexes at 21, and urges H.M. Government, in any measure removing the inequality between the sexes, to specify 25 years of age as the minimum requisite for enfranchisement."

Mr. H. W. Collins (Hornsey), who is responsible for Resolution 19, apparently has no illusions about the magic age of 25. His resolution reads:-

"In the opinion of this Conference the proposal to give the vote to women of not less than 21 years of age should be postponed."

Prophecy is always dangerous and very often foolish, but we can hardly conceive that these resolutions against the fulfilling of a definite pledge given by the Prime Minister and the Home Sectetary will find much support among the delegates at Cardiff. Once women were admitted to the franchise it was inevitable that they should have equal franchise with men. All women's organisations are united in their demand for equal franchise, and the question must be settled at an early date. Women are relying upon the fulfilment of the Prime Minister's pledge that they shall vote from the age of 21 and on the same terms as men at the next General Election—whenever it comes. To fail women in this matter would arouse the deepest and keenest resentment amongst all organised women. We do not expect from this Government so great a betraval of our cause. We trust the Government although, having learned something of politics and its curious intrigues throughout our member of the Central Council. It reads as follows:— struggle during the last 20 or more years, we are also keeping our powder dry, to be used at the next

#### WOMEN-

#### "GENERALLY MORE EMOTIONAL"?

At the 44th provincial meetings of the Law Society held at Sheffield last Monday, Mr. Pickles, of Halifax, in a paper entitled "The Jury System, its Cause and Cure," said he objected to untrained women serving on juries, more particularly in murder trials, and his objection was that women were generally more emotional than men, and that for them to have to deal with the sordid details of many criminal cases was eminently unsuitable, while in civil cases their experience of commercial life was inferior to that of men. We should have thought that women's achievements throughout the That this Conference is of the opinion that the world both in work and sport during the last half-century would have disproved man's former theory about women's emotionalism; but evidently it is still too precious for Mr. Pickles to discard. We suppose he has never witnessed a football match where men display their "emotionalism." Surely it is too late particularly where such single women are living at home to try to impede women's progress by the bogy emotionalism. The sooner the sordid details some kinds of life are known to women instead of being hazily guessed at by them, the sooner will those sordid details tend to disappear. In claiming the rights of citizenship, women are quite as prepared as men to shoulder its responsibilities; and, although Mr. Pickles states that some women have tried to shirk the responsibility of serving on juries, we retort that we have known some men who have used every means in their power to avoid what they regard as an irksome duty. There are imperfect men citizens as well as imperfect That this Conference, whilst offering no objection women citizens. As for women's lack of experience of to the Government's proposal to confer on women the same occupational and residential franchise qualifications year entering into all branches and all grades of comas already provided for men, considers that the age mercial life? But is an exclusive knowledge of commercial life necessary for men or women serving on a jury? Are they not required chiefly to have a knowit is only his desire that women voters should reach the ledge of general subjects, to listen attentively to the evidence, and to use their common sense in weighing it up? But we seem to see more daylight through Mr. Pickle's objection to women jurors when he tells us that his idea of a cure for all the defects of our jury system is the institution of a class of professional jurors of five persons to each jury, and that each professional juror should have £1,000 a year. It is so easy to discount the services of women when there is any prospect of a good salary being attached to them!

# WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

#### Woman Mayor for Deptford.

Mrs. B. M. Drapper, J.P., a member of the Food Council and Chairman of the Greenwich Board of Guardians, is to be the new Mayor of Deptford.

#### Woman Mayor for Lichfield.

Mrs. Stuart Shaw, wife of a local doctor, has Another American Woman Diplomat. accepted the invitation of the City Council to become the first woman Mayor of Lichfield.

#### Freedoms for Women.

Miss Ellen Creighton, sister of a former Bishop of London. Miss Creighton has done a considerable amount of educational and philanthropic work in Carlisle. The freedom of the City of Peterborough was conferred on Mrs. Katherine Clayton in recognition of public services rendered to that City. Mrs. Clayton is the widow of a former Bishop Suffragan of Leicester.

#### Woman Meat Carrier in Smithfield Market.

Mrs. A. E. Tidd appeared last Monday as the first woman meat carrier in Smithfield Market. From 6 a.m. she bustled about there, taking orders and superintending her lorries, and in a few hours she had disposed of tons of meat. In her spare time, Mrs. Tidd is a breeder of Chows, and has exhibited them all over the country for 20 years.

# Woman Chairman of Shropshire Congregational

For the first time in the history of the Shropshire Congregational Union a woman, Mrs. M. W. Minshull, of Newport, Salop, has been appointed to the Chair.

#### Englishwoman Wins Anthropology Prize.

At the Congress of the International Institute of Anthropology held at Amsterdam last week, the Prix Hollandais for the best work in physical anthropology or prehistory was awarded to Miss Garrod for a paper on the new Gibraltar skull. This prize is worth over £600. Miss Garrod is the daughter of Sir Archibald Garrod, Regius Professor of Medicine at Oxford Uni-

#### Woman Solicitor in Dewsbury Borough Court.

The first woman solicitor to appear in the Dewsbury Borough Court is Miss Dorothy Wood, who recently represented a client who summoned a neighbour for assault. The magistrates found that the assault was not proved, and dismissed the summons.

#### Is it a Compliment?

An alderman of Coventry, at the Conference of the National Meat Traders' Association, perhaps more recognisable to the public as butchers, expressed dislike of women factory inspectors. He is reported as saying to his fellow meat traders: "I advise you to avoid the energetic woman factory inspector. She is far more exacting than any man.

#### Woman Presides at a Glasgow Police Court.

In the absence of the Stipendiary Magistrate, Bailie Violet Craig Robertson, presided over the police proceedings at "The Central" last week. This is the first of Kashmir, had sanctioned a new law prohibiting the time in the history of Glasgow that a woman has occupied that exalted seat.

#### Scotswoman's Appointment to Australian College.

Miss Janet N. Phemister, of Shawlands Secondary School, Glasgow, has been appointed Principal of the Presbyterian Ladies' College, Western Australia. This College is under the management of the Presbyterian Church of Western Australia, and occupies a fine situation at Cottesloe, near Perth. Miss Phemister will leave Glasgow towards the end of the year to take up her duties in Australia next February.

#### Irish Free State Woman M.P.

Mrs. Collins O'Driscoll, a member of the Government Party, was the only woman returned to Parliament at the recent Irish Free State Elections. Mrs. O'Driscoll, who was elected for North Dublin, is a teacher, and a sister of the late Michael Collins.

Miss Florence E. Wills, of California, was one of the twenty-six successful candidates, out of 150, who recently took the examination for the Diplomatic service. Miss Pattie Field already holds the position of Vice-Consul Last week the freedom of Carlisle was conferred on at Amsterdam, and Miss Lucille Atcherson that of Second Secretary to the Legation at Panama.

#### Young Girl's Pluck.

The Westminster Gazette reports that passengers in trains passing through Prunay, near Rheims, last Monday night, owed their safety to the 15-year-old daughter of a signalman who had been killed while crossing the line to light the lamps on the level crossing The mother was helplessly ill in bed, but the girl, after putting her four sisters and brothers to bed and lighting the lamps, hurriedly studied and mastered the operation of the signal controls, and remained on duty until relief arrived.

#### Three Women Professors in the Netherlands.

According to The Bulletin (International Council of Women) Dr. Cornelia de Lande has been appointed Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Amsterdam, thus making with Madame Johanna Westerdyck, Professor of Biology at Utrecht, and Professor Tammes, Professor of the same subject at Groningen, the third woman Professor in the Netherlands. Dr. de Lande is extremely popular among the women doctors of her country, by whom the news of her appointment has been received with enthusiasm.

#### Women Aviators in Italy.

In pursuance of a laudable desire to make full use of the talents of its citizens, Italy has been encouraging aviation, but apparently not with enormous success. So now it has been decided to call in the non-citizensthe women. Great care is exercised that they are tested to the last ounce, and, greatest precaution of all, they may not choose aviation for themselves, but, if unmarried, must have the consent of both parents, and, if married, the consent of the husband. Evidently these wild creatures have to be released with extreme caution.

#### Nicaragua's Woman Vice-Consul.

Emmita E. Canton is the Vice-Consul of Nicaragua in San Diego, California. Equal Rights tells us she is only 23 years old, and is said to be the youngest woman in any country's foreign service. She speaks English fluently, and has had some years' experience in Nicaragua's Government service.

### Woman Suffrage in Cuba.

By a majority of 94 votes to 8 the Chamber of Representatives has passed a law under which women over 21 will have the Parliamentary vote in Cuba.

#### KASHMIR AND WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC.

marriage of girls before they are 14 years of age, and of boys before they are 18. Sir Hari Singh is now making a strong attempt to stamp out the White Slave traffic in Kashmir girls. Recent inquiries have disclosed the fact that there is a vast organisation for the export of these girls, who are tall, slim, and fair, and world-famous for their beauty. The headquarters of this organisation were found to be in Kashmir, with branches in Calcutta, Bombay, Lucknow, Delhi, and Lahore. It was stated that there were at least 600 young Kashmir girls in Calcutta alone, and about the same number in Bombay.

#### THE QUEEN AND KINGSLEY.

Her Majesty the Queen has very graciously accepted from Miss M. A. R. Tuker a copy of Charles Kingsley's Women and Politics. Queen Victoria's admiration for Kingsley is well known, and it is indeed through her that Queen Mary has no doubt felt interest in this remarkable expression of opinion written in 1869, only two years after the first woman suffrage meetings were held in London.

Kingsley's pamphlet is known to several readers of THE VOTE, and is sold by us, price 6d.

#### OUR BOOK REVIEW.

The Rights of Mallaroche. By C. Nina Boyle. (Published by Allen & Unwin.) Price 7s. 6d. (Can be obtained from this Office.)

Miss Boyle has again given us what our schoolboy friends used to call a "rattling good story," but one which has also the carefully drawn characters so often wanting in the book which depends so much on plot that any kind of automata will do for hero and heroine and the other actors in the scene.

Mallaroche is a romantic island, with an hereditary constitution and officials, and there is an interesiing prelude, "a word with the reader," which discusses the love and lore of islands," their uses and purchasers. This leads us on to an introduction to the leading lady, a charming person, rather full of her own importance perhaps, wife of a successful business man, and the adored centre of a circle of charming people, young and old. She obtains an introduction to the Lord of Mallaroche, and practically insists on a visit of herself and her husband to his island, and then the fun begins! A subdued and evidently terrorised sister, slaves in chains, pirates, rum-runners, smugglers, and all the rest of the fascinating plots which sound so delightfully intriguing in fiction, and which Mrs. Ballastier finds much less pleasant in real life. There are curious disappearances, imprisoned heirs, murders, and many other matters to face, and finally a sharp encounter with the ancient rights of Mallaroche, which cause a death sentence to be passed.

It would not be fair to the reader to say more as to the development of the tale; but Miss Boyle strikes an interesting psychological note at the end, when she shows how this rough encounter with a real, terrible, dangerous world has stripped life of glamour for the heroine, so that never again can she enjoy it in the old exultant way.

Many people who play at life in a comfortable fashion would find out this truth for themselves, did they leave their comfortably cushioned armchairs and venture out to where clever scoundrels are living dangerously, and they would not find the experience any more pleasant than do Miss Boyle's chief characters.

The skilful way in which finally matters are put right and even one of the chief mischief-makers, gets off un. scathed, makes us hope that we shall soon have another romance as interesting from the same pen.

Readers of THE VOTE will be interested to note that The Rights of Mallaroche is dedicated to Marian and Katie Reeves.

J. M. T.

#### INDIAN WOMEN'S CONFERENCE.

Next February, when British women hope to take another forward step towards political equality, Indian women are planning another All-India Conference on Educational Reform. A similar Conference, the first of its kind, was held in January, 1927, at Poona, and that a second automatically follows. Several minor among those Indian women who have themselves rewards for boys and girls while at school.

already achieved some measure of education, an awakening of a desire for education for those still in comparative darkness, and a very considerable strengthening of the position of women in local and national councils, together with an attention to their demands on the part of the various legislatures, which gives great hope for the future. The Conference deals with education in its most elementary meaning, the primary three R's, up to opportunity for university education. Bound up, these Indian women found, with education were also religion and, closer still, custom. They have had to enter the political arena to endeavour to release Indian girl children for some possibilities of education by promoting such measures as the Age of Consent Bill. An enormous increase in the area of interest is shown by the proffered co-operation of constituencies which before held aloof. The whole tangled web binding India's womanhood is at least being laid bare, a step inevitably towards its clearance.

#### WHY NOT?

The Westminster Gazette reports that Mr. Norris, Chairman of the Reading Board of Guardians, thinks that the only solution of the unemployment problem, so far as boys are concerned, is to fit them for domestic service. He said that within the last two months he knew of 11 boys who applied for positions as domestic servants, two of whom wanted to sleep in. Mr. Norris also tells us that girls, with their nimbler fingers and greater industry, are daily displacing boys and young men from the factories; that boys are lazy and late, while girls work harder and are more "manageable." So, at the last meeting of the Reading Education Committee he proposed that boys who were unemployed should be made to attend domestic training classes. In the opinion of Mr. Norris, girls are better suited to manipulative machinery, and they are now filling all the available posts in Reading factories, leaving the boys with no work to do. The only thing, therefore, is to make boys do the domestic work, which was formerly done by girls. We ourselves see no objection to this arrangement; we have always pointed out that domestic service was not the monopoly of our sex, and we have repeatedly protested against the view that every girl, just because she is a girl, is undoubtedly suited for domestic service. If girls prefer factory work, and can do it, why should they not seek employment in factories? Mr. Norris discovered yet another problem and wanted to know what would happen in the homes when these girls got married? Well, if boys are trained to do domestic work, what is to prevent them from carrying on that work in their own homes after marriage?

## LORD MAYOR CALLS FOR EQUALITY.

The boys and girls of Christ's Hospital came up to London last week for the annual St. Matthew Day ceremonies, and paid a last tribute to the old School in the City, the only surviving part of which is now being destroyed. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress entertained them at tea and, The Times tells us, presented them with the usual gifts in coin and kind, the money being fresh from the Mint. Senior Grecians received a guinea each, junior Grecians half a guinea, monitors half a crown, and the rank and file a shilling, while the preparatory boy's share was sixpence. The Girl monitors were given 2s. 6d., and the other girls 1s. Commenting later on the fact that girls received only half-crowns and shillings, the Lord Mayor said: "I would like to see the same advantages extended to the girls as to the boys. I am consulting the authorities, and I hope in future the was itself so successful and its results so encouraging girls will have equal rank and equal money." The Women's Freedom League offers its warmest thanks to Conferences ensued in different Provinces, and the our Lord Mayor for giving such practical support to the whole effect has been a stirring to greater activity principle of equality in regard to opportunities and

# Women's Freedom League.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1927.

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

Telephone:—MUSEUM 1429.
President—Mrs. PETHICK-LAWRENCE.
Hon. Treasurer—Dr. E. KNIGHT.
Hon. Organising Secretary—Mrs. WHETTON. General Secretary—Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD.

#### WHERE TO GO.

#### WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

LONDON AND SUBURBS.



Saturday, October 1st, at 3 p.m. Equal Political Rights Campaign. Meeting at Hyde Park, arranged by the Women's Freedom League. Speakers: Miss Beamish, Miss Chave Collisson, M.A. Chair: Miss Eggett.

Thu sday, October 6th, at 7 30 p.m.

Equal Political Rights Campaign. Meeting at Highbury Corners are agreed by the Women's Freedom Marshall Street Congregational Churc the Ordination Service Mr. Pollard, the Confinence of the Confinence of the Ordination Service Mr. Pollard, the Confinence of the Confinence of

Highbury Corner, arranged by the Women's Freedom League. Speaker: Miss Lightman. BE FREE. Chair : Miss Sparkman.
Friday, October 7th, at 5 p.m.

mittee Meeting at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Friday, October 7th, at 8.30 p.m. Vote-Sellers' Supper and Autumn Rally. Dr. Knight, Miss Rodgers.
Saturday, October 8th, at 10 a.m.
National Executive Committee Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C.

Monday, October 10th, 3 p.m. Hampstead Branch. Members' Meeting at 53, Willow Road, N.W.2

(by kind permission of Miss Lyndon).

Wednesday, October 12th, at 3 p.m. "Fair" Sub-Committee Meeting, at 144, Kigh Holborn, W.C.1.
We'nesday, Oc'ober 12th, at 6.30 p.m.
Mid-London Branch Meeting at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1. All g, at 144, Kigh Holborn, W.C.1.

Wednesday, November 2nd, at 4 p.m.

Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Tea and Politics-up-to-

date.

Thursday, November 3rd, at 7.30 p.m.

Equal Political Rights Campaign. Meeting at Highbury Corner, arranged by the Women's Freedom League. Speaker: Mrs. Lawry.

Wednesday and Thursday, November 23rd and 24th, 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Green, White and Gold Fair at Cax.on Hall, Westminster, S.W.

#### PROVINCES

Friday, October 7th, at 3 p.m.
Ashford. Public Meeting in Hempsted Street Hall. Speaker:
Miss M. I. Neal on "W men and Housing." Chairman: Mrs. Miles.

Friday, October 7th, at 8 p.m.

Rye. Public Meeting at Old Hope Anchor Inn. Speaker

Miss M. I. Neal on "Women and Co-operation." Chairman

Friday, Octobor 21st. Darlington. Whist Drive at the Temperance Institute.

Wednesday, November 16th, at 8 p.m.
Walla ay. Public Meeting in the Central Liberal Hall. Speaker:
Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence on "Equal Franchise."

#### OTHER SOCIETIES

Saturday, October 1st. at 3 p.m.

Speech Club, Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Miss Lucy D. Bell on "House of Commons Oratory—Past and Present."

D. Bell on "House of Commons Grace",
Sunday, October 2nd, at 12 o'clock.
Equal Political Rights Campaign. "Jack Straw's Castle," Hampcased Heath Meeting arranged by St. Joan's Social and Political stead Heath. Meeting arranged by St. Joan's Social and Political All ance. Speakers: Miss Fedden, Miss Whateley, Miss Butler-

Sunday, October 2nd, at 3 p.m.
Guildhouse, Ecclest in Square, S W.1. Speaker: Clarence Darrow, the Tennessee Case, Defender of Leopold and Loeb

"Criminal Justice."

October 5th, 6th, and 7th, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Exhibition of Home Crafts, at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington. Admission 1/-.
Saturday, October 8th, at 3 p.m.

Equal Political Rights Campaign. Hyde Park. Meeting arranged by St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance. Speakers: Miss Fedden, Miss Fitzgerald, Miss Douglas Irvite, and Miss Whately. Monday, October 10 h, at 4 p.m. ion to Dame Edith Lyttelton, D.B.E. and Mrs. Moss, at

Caxton Hall, Westmi ser, S.W. 1. October 11th-14th. National Council of Women. Annual Meeting at the Town Ha'l,

Bournemouth.
Monday, October 31st, at 8 p.m.
Bexley Heath Congregational Guild Lecture Ha'l. Debate on "Equal Franchise." Proposer: Miss Marian Reevas. Opposer: Miss Carthew. Saturday, December 17th, at 3 p m.

Speech Club. Debate between Dr. Marion Phillips and Miss Marian Reeves on "Protective Legislation for Women," at the Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1.

#### BRANCH NOTES.

A Whist Drive and Dance, promoted by the Bradford Branch of the Women's Freedom League, was held on September 21st, in the Embassy Dancing Salon, Bradford. A most enjoyable evening was spent, and from a social point of view the affair was a great was spent, and from a social point of view the analy was a great success. Many local people, who had never heard of the Women's Freedom League, were brought into contact with the Society, and it is hoped many new members will be enrolled in our ranks as a

> (Hon. Sec.) Miss C. B. M. HOEV 10, Carmona Avenue, Frizinghall.

#### NEWS AND VIEWS.

The Christian World reports that Miss Margaret Hardy, of Lancashire College, has been ordained to the pastorate of Marshall Street Congregational Church, Holbeck, Leeds. At the Ordination Service Mr. Pollard, the Church Secretary, said the Ordination Service Mr. Pollard, the Church Secretary, said the call had not been given to Miss Hardy out of curiosity or novelty, but in the belief that women, equally with men, were able to preach the Gospel. There had been no choice as between a man and a woman, so that no man need feel disappointed.

## Pilgrim Mothers Again Forgotten?

There is a regular Institution called the Pilgrim Fathers' There is a regular Institution called the Pilgrim Fathers' Sermon, which is given once a year in Pilgrim Congregational Church, Southwark. Last week, the Rev. Dr. J. D. Jones preached this Sermon. He rightly praised the Pilgrim Fathers and all their virtues; but why did he not have something to say about the Pilgrim Mothers? When the MayRower sailed on the 6th of September, 1620, there were 110 passengers on board. There were 34 adult males, 18 of whom were accompanied by their wives and 14 by their children under 21 years of their wives, and 14 by their children under 21 years of age—twenty boys and 8 girls; and tradition has it that it was a woman, Mary Chilton, who first set foot in New England! Dr. Jones said that he coveted for this age of ours the religious convictions and passions of these men. Had the women who were their comrades less attractive qualities? Some day we hope that a woman will preach the annual Sermon at Southwark, when perhaps it may be called more briefly, but more comprehensively, The Pilgrims'

#### Two Salaries for a Man?

We learn from the Press that, as a part-time appointment, £500  $\,$ is being offered as salary to a solicitor becoming clerk to Weybridge Council. What a pother the proposal would have made if this post had been offered to a married woman!

#### No More Slavery in Sierra Leone.

The Legislative Council of Sierra Leone has decided to free all slaves in the protectorate from January 1st next. Reuter says that there are about 220,000 slaves in the Protectorate.

#### Young Suffragists' Petition.

The Young Saffragists have issued a Petition leaflet asking for Votes for Women at 21. We have some of these Petitions in our office, and will gladly collect signatures from all young women under 30 years of age who want a vote. At the top of this Petition form is a copy of the picture by J, F. Horrabin—"Mr. Bull and his Daughters"—so kindly lent to us for reproduction in the Young of July 20th.

#### Women want Higher Salaries.

The Daily Telegraph reports that in a memorandum drawn up by the Women Sanitary Inspectors' and Health Visitors' Association it is urged that an adequate supply of suitable candidates for training as health visitors cannot be expected until the salaries offered suffice to cover the cost of living of a professional woman. Compared with other professions, the opportunities for promotion to higher posts are declared to be practically non-existent. Only forty-two local authorities out of 326 appoint superintendent or chief health visitors at a higher scale of salary than the rest of the staff. 326 appoint superintendent or chief near scale of salary than the rest of the staff.

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(Jus Suffragii)

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The Grey House, Lyminge, Kent.

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M ISS CRYSTAL EASTMAN, who is returning to America for some time, wishes to sublet, furnished, her comfortable seven-room Maisonette, at 6, Upper Park Road, Hampstead. Quiet; sunny; convenient. Moderate rent.—Tel.: Primrose Hill 3716.

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SURREY.—Rest Cure or Residence.
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M.W.3.

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DUBLIC SPEAKING.—Lectures,
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ELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W.1.

Sunday, October 2nd, 1927. 3.30.

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N EW Brick Bungalow, double-fronted, square bays; verandah; six rooms, ath (h. & c.): inside sanitation; Co.'s N Brick Bungalow, double-fronted, square bays; verandah; six rooms, bath (h. & c.); inside sanitation; Co.'s water; good bus service; pretty piece woodland; \(\frac{3}{4}\) acre. Price freehold, \(\frac{1}{6}\)500 mortgage obtainable.—Mockford, Eastcote, Kingsnorth, Ashford, Kent.

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