

THE VOTE.
JAN. 7, 1927.

MORE HONOURS FOR MEN.

THE VOTE

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

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ONE PENNY.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 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 well-being of the community.

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XXVI.—WHEN I AM M.P.

MISS ELISABETH EDWARDES, Prospective Liberal Candidate for South-East St. Pancras.

I have been asked to write a few words on what I shall do when I am M.P. Being a Liberal, I shall naturally devote my energies and give my time and my voice to everything that promotes Equality of Opportunity.

By Equality of Opportunity I mean, in the main, three things. First, a system of real co-partnership and profit-sharing in industry — something which means a sharing of responsibility and management and also a share of profits for all engaged in an industry and not only for the few. Secondly, a breaking of the Land Monopoly which exists to-day, and the result of which is that the Landlord very often sits still while the people create a value for his land by the making of roads and rail-ways, and the developing of industries, and so on. I hold that equality of opportunity will only be reached when the wealth created by the Community goes to the Community. Thirdly, there should be equality of opportunity in Education, and naturally, as a woman, I take a great interest in this. I should like to see it possible for all children to have the opportunity of obtaining Secondary and University Education by means of Scholarships. Our children are our

greatest national asset and should be given the best possible chance to equip themselves for the life before them, and I shall do everything in my power to give them that chance.

I shall also hope to be able to work to promote the health of our children. Welfare Work of all sorts—Health-visiting in Schools and outside—Special Schools

—all these could be developed still further with advantage. It is impossible for a nation to do too much for the benefit of the children. The necessary money for this and for increased education can easily be obtained by spending less on the most wasteful and stupid form of extravagance in which we indulge, namely, armaments. I hope always to raise my voice against any unnecessary increase and in favour of decrease in the building of implements of war. I feel this very strongly from the point of view of it being a bad way of spending money, quite apart from my opinions on the miseries and horrors of war. I am convinced that most women feel as I do, and I am sure that the more women take part in public life, the nearer we shall get to our Ideal of World Peace.

With regard to what are usually termed "Women's Questions"—personally, I dislike the term, all questions are our questions, and I hope all intelligent and common-sense points of view are our point of view—I revert here to the words with which I started: I believe in, and I shall work for, Equality of Opportunity. First the Vote on the same terms as men, and after that equal chances and a fair deal.

Lastly, but very far from

least, I hope to be of use to my constituents when they need help or advice in difficulties with which I can deal. I intend giving my whole time to Parliament, and any grievance or injustices under which my constituents suffer will naturally be the first call on my time.

These, very briefly, are some of my hopes and intentions.



Photo by: MISS ELISABETH EDWARDES. (C. Vandyk, Ltd.)

WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Woman Medical Officer.

Edmonton Board of Guardians have recently appointed Dr. Fanny Cattle as Medical Officer for the West Green district of Tottenham. It is the first time a woman has been given this post at Edmonton, and her appointment was carried by 22 votes to 12, the Board consisting of 20 members of each sex. One of the men members objected to a woman being appointed, because there might be cases in which it was not desirable to have a woman doctor. One of the women Guardians then pointed out that if a woman doctor ought not to examine a man, a man doctor should not examine a woman patient; and another woman member remarked that if the man who objected happened to be ill, he would have a woman nurse.

Three Enterprising Girls.

Emily (aged 19), Connie (17), and Mary (14), the daughters of a miner, left home for the first time in their lives at the end of last May to try to earn enough to support their father, mother, three sisters and themselves. Their mother at home made artificial flowers, and the girls made a 1,100-mile tramp through the length and breadth of the North of England to sell them during the coal stoppage. They would start at 5 o'clock in the morning, tramp 10 or 15 miles to some town or village, and then made a door-to-door sale of the flowers which their mother had stayed up all night to make for them. Then they would take to the road again and make for their lodgings. Once they paddled six miles through the sea to Flamborough, and then had to scramble up the cliffs. As a result of their efforts, the family was kept out of debt until the coal dispute was over.

Olympic Games.

According to the *Daily News*, the International Federation of Women Athletes, at a meeting held last week in Paris, passed the following resolution unanimously with reference to the Olympic Games to be held in Amsterdam in 1928:—"The Committee of the Federation demands that at the Olympic Games two complete days should be reserved for women's events, according to a programme elaborated by a Committee of three members." The International Amateur Athletic Federation agreed last August to introduce special competitions for women at the next Olympic Games for the first time in the Games' history.

Much-Travelled Woman.

Miss Gertrude Bacon, who was the speaker at the Leeds Women's Luncheon Club recently, has had a life full of adventure. The daughter of the late Rev. J. M. Bacon, the noted scientific explorer, she usually accompanied and assisted him in his expeditions. She went with him on three eclipse expeditions—to Lapland, India, and America. She was the first British woman to ascend in an aeroplane, and one of the first to make a voyage in an airship. Miss Bacon is gifted both as lecturer and writer, and her books include, in addition to a life of her father, several valuable works on flying.

Useful Assistance for Woman Mayor.

The *Evening News* states that Eastbourne proposes to provide a car and chauffeur for Miss Alice Hudson, its woman Mayor.

University College and Women.

University College, London, which will celebrate the centenary of its foundation on April 30th this year, was the first University College founded for men to admit women students. That took place formally in 1869, although special classes were organised for women in 1831. Women students now number 1,076, one-third of the whole. Separate unions exist in the college for men and women, but joint committees act together for the promotion of games, social gatherings, and sometimes for mixed debates.

Woman Insurance Manager.

Miss Edith Beesley has been appointed manager of the West End Branch of the Southern Life Assurance Association. This is the first time that a woman has received such an appointment.

New Magistrates—53 Men and 2 Women!

Fifty-five new County Magistrates have been appointed for Derbyshire, consisting of 53 men, but only two women—Miss Jackson, of Ashover, and Mrs. Violet Meymell, of Meymell Langley, both of whom are members of well-known county families.

Argentina's First Woman Magistrate.

On December 9th last, Dr. Emma Costa, Argentina's first woman magistrate, took up her duties in the Province of San Juan, where she will officiate as the Government defender of minors, absent parties, and defectives.

Restrictions on Italian Women's Education.

The *Central News* reports that the Fascist Government has issued a regulation, excluding young women from receiving instruction in philosophy, literature and history. In future, women are to be taught only the sciences, languages, and philology.

SLAVERY ABOLISHED IN KALAT STATE

In *The Times* of December 30th, it is recorded that the abolition of slavery has been decided upon in the State of Kalat, in Baluchistan, a maritime country between India and Persia. The Khan of Kalat, inspired by the British Political Officer at his Court, has for some time desired to liberate all the slaves in his dominions. Some of the tribal chiefs immediately supported him, but others in the more remote part of the State at first made objections. They soon abandoned their opposition, however, and the Khan issued a proclamation on November 4th, abolishing private property in male and female slaves throughout his State. Slaves who wish to remain with their masters may do so, but on wages. Slavery under which families could be sold apart has existed from very ancient times in Kalat, and its abolition is the culmination of the long-continued efforts of the administration of Baluchistan to soften its rigour.

OUR GLASGOW BRANCH.

We are glad to see that among the few names of women which occur in the New Year Honours List is that of Miss Margaret Hardinge Irwin, Vice-President of our Glasgow Branch. Congratulations to Miss Irwin and to the Branch on the C.B.E. which recognises the value of her work.

Other issues of the series, "When I am M.P.":—Miss MARY RICHARDSON, September 24, 1926; The Lady RATH-CREEDAN, August 27, 1926; Mrs. CECILIA STREETEN, April 2, 1926; Dr. STELLA CHURCHILL, March 12, 1926; Mrs. MURIEL MATTERS PORTER, September 12, 1924; Mrs. ANNE CORNER, August 29, 1924; Mrs. LOUIE SIMPSON, J.P., August 15, 1924; Councillor ELLEN C. WILKINSON, M.A., July 4, 1924; Miss MINNIE PALLISTER, July 6, 1923; Miss C. PICTON-TURBERVILL, September 8, 1922; Mrs. HAMILTON MORE-NESBITT, August 18, 1922; Mrs. BURNETT SMITH, June 30, 1922; Lady CURRIE, April 7, 1922; Mrs. STEWART BROWN, March 31, 1922; Miss HELEN FRASER, March 24, 1922; Lady COOPER, March 17, 1922; Commandant MARY S. ALLEN, O.B.E., February 17, 1922; Miss MARY P. GRANT, January 6, 1922; Mrs. MARJORIE PEASE, J.P., October 28, 1921; Mrs. AYRTON GOULD, October 21, 1921; Dr. ETHEL BENTHAM, October 7, 1921; Mrs. WINTRINGHAM, M.P., September 23, 1921; Mrs. ELEANOR BARTON, August 26, 1921; Mrs. SCOTT GATTY, August 12, 1921; Mrs. CORBETT ASHBY, July 15, 1921.

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN TEACHERS

The Eighteenth Annual Conference of the National Union of Women Teachers opened at York last Monday, when our N.E.C. member, Miss C. Neal, L.L.A. (Swansea), was installed as President for 1927. Other members of our League, Miss L. Pierotti and Mrs. F. E. Key, were elected to the Central Council, and Miss E. F. Phipps was re-elected Editor of *The Woman Teacher*.

Children in the Industrial World.

In her Presidential address, Miss Neal pointed out that the school-leaving age, the raising of which was promised in 1918, remained where it was, and that 535,000 boys and girls left school every year at the age of 14 to seek work in an already overcrowded market. There were still nearly 20,000 classes in the country with more than 50 children under the control of a single teacher, and 560 with more than 60 pupils.

Nursery Schools and Cost of Education.

Miss Neal emphasised the need for nursery schools to counteract the "steady and undiminishing stream of defect or physical impairment of the entrants coming into schools at the age of five years," to which Sir George Newman drew attention in his recent Report. She urged, too, that there must be sound primary education, leading to a greater development of technical and commercial training, and provision must be made for advanced education in Secondary Schools and Universities in order to develop to the full the abilities of the young people of the nation, and so provide the trained intellect necessary for the workers, as well as for the leaders in industry and for the higher work of the scientific and commercial world. Further, the development of education in this country had been accompanied by a decrease of crime and a reduction of prisons; there was a correlation between these things—the one was the result of the other. It cost £68 9s. 4d. a year to maintain a convict, after deducting the value of his labour; the average annual cost per child of elementary education for the whole country was £11 5s. 7d., and for a secondary school pupil £27 5s. To spend money on education and its allied services was, the President declared, true economy.

Hardship to Women Teachers.

Miss Neal protested against the injustice meted out to women teachers in consequence of the reorganisation of their schools by many Local Education Authorities, by which provision was made for the advanced instruction of the senior boys and girls. This "reorganisation" often meant the establishment of Senior Mixed and Junior Mixed Departments, instead of the original separate departments for boys and girls, and almost invariably the headship of the Senior Department was given to a man. Again, "readjustments for economical reasons" nearly always meant the amalgamation of separate Boys' and Girls' Departments into one school with one head teacher, or of an Infants' School with a Mixed Department. Here also it was generally the woman who was displaced and the headship given to a man. The amalgamation of departments and the consequent iniquitous displacing of the woman teacher in favour of the man was taking place in various parts of the country—in Kent, in the South-West, in Wales and even in York itself. If amalgamations must come, men and women should have an equal right to apply for and to obtain the headships.

Equal Pay and Equal Franchise.

Referring to Equal Pay, Miss Neal said that the measure of equality in the salaries of men and women teachers which they had won was unfortunately lost by the establishment of the Burnham Scales, and it was women's business to do their utmost so to arouse public opinion that, at the next salary settlement, nothing but Equal Pay would be possible. That could be helped if, in the meantime, they were successful in obtaining Equal Franchise. Miss Neal reminded them that they had had eight years of enfranchisement for

some women, and women teachers demanded it for all women, so that it would be no longer possible for a woman's vote to depend upon her possession of certain furniture, or for that right to be withheld because, in the opinion of the Registration Officer, the rooms in which that furniture stood were not used as "a separate dwelling-place"—which, being interpreted, sometimes meant the place where they ate their meals! She stressed the fact that now was the time for demanding this reform, so that, at the next election, there would not be over 5,000,000 women, some of them under, but very many of them over, 30 years of age, who were deprived of citizenship.

Married Women Teachers.

With regard to married women teachers, Miss Neal declared that many members of Local Education Committees considered it a crime for a woman teacher to marry, and punished her for it by virtually depriving her of her certificate during her married life, restoring it to her again, if and when she became a widow! Some time ago, when parties of French women teachers were visiting this country to observe its schools and methods of teaching, one of the things that struck them was the absence of married women teachers from our schools. When they were told that few Local Authorities allowed married women teachers to be employed, one said, "But why not? What have they done?" There were several married women amongst that group of French teachers.

National Union of Women Teachers.

It was because of these various injustices to women teachers, because of interference with their independence and their freedom of thought and action, that the National Union of Women Teachers came into and remained in existence, said Miss Neal.

"FAMILY ENDOWMENT."

Last week the *Daily Telegraph* gave some interesting details of the New South Wales Government's family endowment scheme, which it is stated will involve an additional burden on employers of £7,000,000, representing about 6 per cent. of the wages bill, of which the railways and other State enterprises will bear £1,500,000. Six shillings a week is to be paid for each child under 14, in addition to the basic wage to all employees in receipt of salaries or wages up to £750 a year, and provision will be made for children over 14 years of age who are incapacitated, invalids, or imbecile. With a basic wage of 84s. a married man with one child will receive a minimum of 90s.; with two children, 96s.; with three children, 102s.; with four children, 108s.; with five children, 114s.; and with six children, 120s. It is estimated that the total number of persons, including parents, who will benefit under the scheme, will be, in the case of one child, 180,000; two children, 207,000; three children, 174,000; four children, 125,000; five children, 76,000; and six children and over, 59,000; total, 821,000. A certain section of the Labour Party oppose the scheme, preferring an unconditional increase of the basic wage; and the manufacturers protest against the charge which the scheme will impose on industry alone, contending that it should be a national matter.

OUR LENDING LIBRARY.

"What I Remember." By Millicent Garrett Fawcett, J.P. L.L.D.
 "Ancilla's Share." An Indictment of Sex Antagonism. Anonymous.
 "The Police Court and its Work." By Henry Turner Waddy.
 "The Poor Man's Court of Justice." By Cecil Chapman.
 "Life's Fitful Fever." By M. W. Nevinson, J.P., L.L.A.
 "In Darkest London." By Mrs. Cecil Chesterton.
 "Athletics for Women and Girls." By S. C. Elliott Lynn.
 "Moteley's Concession." By C. Nina Boyle.
 "Passion's Thrall." By May Strachan.
 "Women's Problems of To-day." By Leonora Eyles. May be borrowed from the Literature Department at 6d. per week.

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 7th, 1927.

EDITORIAL.

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

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

Twenty years ago the Women's Freedom League was founded to secure, first and foremost, the Parliamentary vote for women, at the same age and on the same terms as men; and then to work for an equal status, equal opportunities, equal rewards, and equal responsibilities for women with men in every branch of our national life. Our chief efforts are still directed to the realisation of the equal political enfranchisement of women and men in this country; and at the same time we continue to work for the breaking down of all legal barriers and artificial restrictions which prevent women from exercising their powers equally with men in whatever sphere they may choose to work, or from claiming the same independence that men claim to manage their own affairs. We oppose with all our force any restrictions being imposed on women in the political world, in social life, in the Civil Service, in the professions, in commerce or in industry, which are not also imposed on men. We are a genuine non-party organisation, and are prepared to work with, or actively oppose, any Government, irrespective of its political colour, according to that Government's attitude towards women's claim for equal treatment and recognition with men. We are a democratic organisation, the policy of our League being based upon the resolutions passed each year at our Annual Conference, which are framed by our Branches and voted upon by the delegates appointed by those Branches to attend the Conference, these delegates also voting according to instructions received from their Branches, for the officials and the members of our National Executive Committee, who for the next year have to see that the League acts upon the resolutions passed at this Conference. We hail with enthusiasm every success gained by women in every department of life; we follow closely women's work towards equality in other lands, and we try to keep in touch with all organisations in this country and in all other countries, which are definitely working for women's freedom. We stand rigidly for the recognition of an equal moral standard for men and women, and insist that there shall be an equal justice in the law and its administration for men and women in regard to sex offences. We urge that women should take their full share in local government, and should seek election to all local governing bodies. We are convinced, however, that the surest way to win full equality for women is to get more and more women into Parliament, and in both Houses. Every year legislation affects the lives of men and women more closely, and it is necessary for the safeguarding of women's interests that more women should be in the House of Commons to criticise such legislation, and for the same reason that peeresses in their own right should be in the House of Lords, since legislation has to pass through both Houses. Moreover, if women in all countries are to have any real influence in the work of the League of Nations and generally in international affairs, they must first gain equal political power with men in their own countries. The Women's Freedom League has always been convinced that woman's political inferiority is at the basis of all her difficulties to secure equal recognition with men at home and abroad, and for this reason we work strenuously to secure the full equality of political power for women with men—at the polling booth, in both Houses of Parliament, in the Government, and in the Cabinet itself.

MORE HONOURS FOR MEN.

More than three columns in *The Times* were given up last Saturday to the names of men who appear in the New Year Honours List. There are two Viscounts, both men; three Barons, all men; two Privy Counsellors, both men; seven Baronets, all men; forty-six Knights, all men, twenty-seven being collected from this country, nine from India, five from the Dominions, and five from the Colonies, Protectorates, etc. The Order of the Bath is distributed as follows:—Two men received the G.C.B.; five men the K.C.B.; and nineteen men the C.B. The Star of India has been bestowed upon six men, one receiving the K.C.S.I., and five the C.S.I. Twenty-five men are awarded the Order of the Indian Empire, one of them having the K.C.I.E., and the others the C.I.E. One man, the Rev. Hugh Sheppard, has been made a Companion of Honour. The Order of St. Michael and St. George has been conferred on twenty-eight men, three receiving the G.C.M.G., eight the K.C.M.G., and seventeen the C.M.G. The Kaiser-i-Hind Medal has been awarded to five men and five women, the women being Miss Lenna Mary Stratford, Deputy Directress of Public Instruction, Punjab; Miss Rose Harvey, Superintendent of the Nasik Leper Asylum, Bombay; Miss Frances Whipham, Missionary, Bihar and Orissa; Miss Helen Jerwood, Missionary, Cambridge Mission, Delhi; and Mrs. Parvati Ammal Chandrasekhara Aigar, Mysore. Then follows nearly half a column, in small print, of the names of officers and men in the Police Force and Fire Brigades in England, and Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Australia, Union of South Africa, India, the Colonies, Protectorates and Mandated Territories, to whom the King's Police Medal has been awarded—not a woman's name appears in this list. The Royal Victorian Order has been bestowed upon seventeen men, one of them receiving the G.C.V.O., four the K.C.V.O., four the C.V.O., and eight the M.V.O. Last of all comes the list of recipients of the Order of the British Empire, evidently the most insignificant of the Honours bestowed by the State, and principally, this time wholly, reserved for women. Ten women's names appear in this list, the Dowager Countess of Jersey, J.P., President, Victoria League, receiving the D.B.E. for *Imperial Services*; the C.B.E. being conferred upon Mrs. Sarah Boyce for *political and public services in Surrey*; on Miss Margaret Hardinge Irwin, General Secretary, Scottish Council for Women's Trades; on Mrs. Grace Thyra Kimmins, Founder and Honorary Secretary of the Heritage Craft School for Crippled Children; on Miss Katherine Janie Stephenson, J.P., Vice-Chairman Public Health Committee, Wiltshire County Council; on Mrs. Eugenie Strong, for *services to Archaeology*; on Mrs. Alice Edith Vlieand, for *political and public services in Exeter*; and on Miss Anna Elisa Wark, Chief Woman Inspector, Board of Education; and the O.B.E. on Miss Hilda Maud Milsom, Principal Clerk in His Majesty's Private Secretary's Office, and on Miss Margaret Polson, Superintending Clerk (Acting), Ministry of Health. Once again we protest against the totally inadequate and paltry Honours bestowed upon women, as compared with those distributed amongst men. It is absurd to pretend that the ten women whose names appear in this last list and the five women who received the Kaiser-i-Hind Medal are the only women in the British Empire who have rendered services to the State of equal importance with the hundreds of ordinary men whose names appear in the Honours Lists each year. When women have equal political power with men in this country—the Parliamentary Vote at the same age and on the same terms as men, and the right of peeresses in their own right to membership of the House of Lords, together with many more women Members of the House of Commons—the Government, no matter what its political colour, will be compelled to act impartially as between its men and women citizens in its distribution of Honours.

NOTES FROM THE FOREIGN PRESS.

By MARIAN BERRY.

In order to facilitate the sale of milk, we learn from the *Schweizer Frauenblatt* of December 10th that the milk dealers in Nürnberg have arranged for a movable kiosk for the sale of milk in the streets. The kiosk, which is made in the form of a small house, is fitted with hot and cold water, a refrigerator, cleansing apparatus, glasses, etc. For a penny or twopence it is possible to obtain warm or cold milk, a roll and cheese, and junket. It is expected that the public will make good use of this kiosk, which will be always available at outdoor gatherings and on sports grounds.

The December number of *Die Frau im Staat* includes a manifesto by the German and Austrian Sections of the Women's International League, in regard to the proposed union of the two countries. The manifesto is of considerable interest and gives in detail the reasons why both sections consider such a step would not be in the interests of either country. Emphasis is laid on the importance of working for Free Trade or for a fixed duty on commodities among all European States as a preliminary step to a United States of Europe.

The Roumanian Council of Women was founded in 1922, and since its inauguration it has founded schools for the teaching of trades and gardening. The Council's main work, however, has been for Peace and for the securing of a better understanding between the Minority Groups, which have become part of the nation since the war. Quite recently the Roumanian Council invited 150 children from the Minority Groups to visit Bucharest, so that they should meet children of other nationalities and become acquainted with the capital of their country. The Roumanian Council has lately had a visit from Lady Aberdeen, the President of the International Council of Women, and representative women of the Minority Groups were specially invited to attend the reception given to Lady Aberdeen.

Last summer interesting proposals in regard to maternity and child welfare were laid before the French Parliament by one of the members. It was proposed that the pregnant and nursing mother should be granted leave of absence for a period of four months on full pay—the period to cover the time before and after the child's birth—and that the woman should not return to her work without a doctor's certificate to the effect that employment would not be detrimental either to herself or to the child's health. If it should be necessary to extend the leave of absence, another month is to be allowed on the same terms, and in the event of the woman being unable to work for the first year of her child's life, a bonus of 25 per cent. of her usual wage will be paid. The scheme will apply to all women employed in France or in the Colonies, irrespective of nationality.

It was further suggested that women who are not employed for wages and whose annual income is not above 12,000 francs shall receive a similar payment for two months before and two months after their confinement, with a view to ensuring that neither the woman's nor the child's health shall be impaired. Every nursing mother will have the right to a bonus of 25 per cent. of the average wage of her town or village, if she is in need of it. As in the case of women employed industrially, the scheme would apply to women of all nationalities.

The final proposal dealt with the establishment of Infant Crèches in all workplaces where more than 50 women, who are above the age of 16, are employed. A Commission, on which doctors and other responsible persons will serve, will be responsible for the control of these crèches. The administration of the suggested scheme will be in the hands of the Department for the protection of the mother and child.

CONVALESCENT HOMES IN PUBLIC PARKS.

In the December issue of *The World's Health* is an extremely interesting account by Ada Sand of a simple, practical and inexpensive way of helping convalescence by the utilisation of public parks. In 1920, at the instigation of a doctor in Amsterdam, the Association of Convalescent Homes in Public Parks was formed, under the patronage and with the financial aid of the Dutch Red Cross. The first establishment was opened in May, 1923, in a public park in Amsterdam. In September of the same year, a convalescent home was opened on the deck of an old man-of-war, the "Wilhelmina," stationed on the Amstel. Another home is shortly to be opened in another park in Amsterdam. Rotterdam, following this example, opened its first convalescent home in a public park in April, 1925, and Leeuwarden and Haarlem intend shortly to follow suit.

The Amsterdam convalescent home consists of a wooden hut, completely open on one side so that it forms a verandah, on which there are placed thirty camp beds and invalid chairs. The remainder of the hut contains an office, a kitchen, cloak-rooms, bath-rooms, and isolation cubicles. A row of shrubs shuts off that part of the park which is reserved for the convalescents. The home is visited daily by a doctor, who decides the length of stay (on an average six weeks), and reports to the doctor in charge of the case when the cure is completed. The staff is composed of a nurse, an attendant, and a kitchen maid. The patients are chosen among the following:—(1) Convalescents; (2) people suffering from overwork, anaemia, nervous debility or psychasthenia; (3) tuberculous patients waiting for a place in a sanatorium; but tuberculous

patients are only admitted on the recommendation of doctors belonging to the Amsterdam Anti-Tuberculosis League and under guarantee that they are not in any way dangerous to others.

In the majority of cases a notable improvement in health takes place. The home is open all the year round. In winter the patients are provided with hot-water bottles and blankets, and, in spite of cold and snow, the attendance never flags. The patients arrive at half-past nine in the morning, after the other members of the family have gone to school or work. The visiting housekeepers of the Amsterdam Association for Domestic Aid help convalescent women to keep their own homes going during their stay at the Home. At 10 o'clock, the patients have hot milk; at 11, coffee or chocolate; at 11.30, hot milk again. From 11.30 till 12 the women walk about the garden; from 12 till 12.30, the men. At 12.30 porridge is served, or soup once or twice a week. From 1.30 to 2.30, rest; at 2.30, hot milk; at 3 o'clock, tea and bread and butter; from 3 to 3.30, exercise for the women; from 3.30 to 4, exercise for the men; at 4 o'clock, hot milk. At 5 o'clock the patients return home, each having consumed more than a litre of milk.

Twice a week lessons are given to the children of school age, and choral or musical societies organise concerts.

The running expenses are extremely low; as the doctor gives his services free of charge, the day's maintenance costs about 1.10 florins per head, compared with 7 florins in a hospital. In 1924, 10,888 daily treatments were given, and in 1925, 13,284.

ON THE STATUTE BOOK.

Acts of special interest to women, which reached the Statute Book last year, are *The Midwives and Maternity Homes Act*, which enacts that no unskilled woman shall attend women in childbirth unless under the personal supervision of a doctor, and that maternity homes must be registered; *Adoption of Children Act* makes it possible to adopt children with legal safeguards in this country; *Legitimacy Act* legitimises children born out of wedlock if their parents subsequently marry, provided that neither parent at the time of the birth of the child was married to a third person; *Lead Paint (Protection Against Poisoning) Act* makes regulations for preventing danger from lead paint to men employed in or in connection with the painting of buildings, and prohibits the employment of women in this work, with the exception of those women already engaged in it.

Bills of special interest to women, which came before Parliament last year but did not pass into law, are:—*The Parliament (Qualification of Peers) Bill*, which sought to give full membership of the House of Lords to Peers in their own right; *The Public Places (Order) Bill*, which provided that persons charged with soliciting or annoying should not be convicted on police evidence only, but that the case should only be proceeded with if the person "annoyed" or "solicited" substantiated the charge; *Juvenile Courts (Scotland) Bill* provided for the attendance of women magistrates in all children's courts; *The Factories Bills (No. 1) and (No. 2)*. The first was introduced by Miss Wilkinson and defeated at its Second Reading. The second was introduced by the Home Secretary, but withdrawn to be reintroduced this year. It has objectionable clauses which class women with young persons, and imposes restrictions upon women, which do not apply to men, in regard to the number of hours women may work, and the kind of work they are allowed to undertake.

HEADQUARTERS NOTES.

A Happy New Year to all our Members and Readers! Our Annual Conference.

The Twentieth Annual Conference of the Women's Freedom League will be held at Caxton Hall, Saturday, April 30th, at 10 a.m. Resolutions for the Agenda must reach this office from the Branches not later than Friday, February 11th. These will be typed and sent to Branch Secretaries the following week; and amendments must reach us before the end of March, together with nominations for President, Honorary Treasurer, and twelve members of the National Executive Committee, who will be balloted for by delegates at the Conference.

Equal Political Rights Campaign.

Headquarters is organising a Public Meeting in the Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C., Thursday, January 20th, at 7.30 p.m., to demand that a simple Equal Franchise measure be included in the King's Speech, granting the Parliamentary Vote to women at the age of 21, and on the same terms as men. The speakers will include the Rev. W. C. Roberts, Rector of St. George's, Bloomsbury, Sister Annie (West London Mission), a speaker from St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance, Miss Rodgers (League of the Church Militant), Mrs. Godfrey (London Labour Party), Miss Margaret Harvey (Secretary, Women's National Liberal Federation), and Mrs. Howson (Women's Co-operative Guild), the chair being taken by our Hon. Treasurer, Dr. E. Knight. All men and women interested in the question of Equal Franchise are invited to this meeting. Admission is free; reserved seat tickets, 1s. each, and there will be a collection for our Equal Franchise Fund.

A similar meeting is being organised by our Minerva Club Branch, to take place at the Minerva Club, 56, Hunter Street, Brunswick Square, W.C., Monday, February 7th, at 8.15 p.m., on the eve of the opening of Parliament.

Reception to Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence.

Friday evening, February 11th, we are having a Reception to our President, Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence, at the Minerva Club, at 8.15 p.m., to welcome her on her return from India. We are greatly looking forward to listening to her account of the progress made by Indian women, who already have the vote on equal terms with men, and to the discussion of further plans to secure the equal enfranchisement of women with men in this country. All members and friends of our League, and all friends of Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence are very cordially invited to come to this Reception, which will be preceded by an informal dinner.

BOOK REVIEW.

The Evolution of Women. By G. W. Johnson, C.M.G. (Robert Holden & Co.) Price 8s. 6d. (Can be obtained from this Office.)

The late Mr. Johnson will always be remembered as one of the most able and most helpful champions of the cause of women's freedom, and his latest book, *The Evolution of Women*, should be in the possession of all speakers and workers for women's emancipation. We should also like to see it in the hands of young women, in whom it could not fail to arouse interest in women's long struggle for an improved and independent position. The book is written with scholarly simplicity, and leaves the reader impressed with the author's unflinching belief in the ultimate triumph of goodness and justice. He points out that history written by men tells remarkably little about women, and he gives a brief review of the position of women in Babylon about 2250 B.C., in Egypt, in Greece, in Rome, and later in the early Christian Church. His description of the First Feminists makes delightful reading. Clement of Alexandria declared that women had the same capacity as men for virtue and learning, and Pierre du Bois advocated the better education of girls, and specially urged that they should study medicine and surgery. Then followed Christine de Pisan, who lived 1363-1429. She was the first woman to grasp and expound the principles of feminism, was a voluminous writer, and the first woman who wrote for a living. Many others are mentioned, among the later ones being Mrs. Hugo Reid, who stated the case for Woman Suffrage in her book, *A Plea for Woman*, published in 1843, and Mrs. Taylor, who became the wife of John Stuart Mill. Women's long struggle to secure higher education for the members of their sex is sympathetically reviewed by Mr. Johnson, and the chapters on the Economic Status of Wives, Women's Recovery of the Medical Profession, and Women in Public Service, are full of interest and information; while those on Women in Industry and One Moral Standard ought to be read by every woman. They reveal the writer's clear sanity of vision and his courageous independence in dealing with problems under modern conditions. The chapter on the War-Won Franchise will rekindle the enthusiasm of suffragists for their cause and urge them to further effort to secure a complete victory, while that on The Last Barrier is a striking plea for the Ministry of Women. The last chapter on The Unknown Future appears to us, as we think it should appear, unfinished. How will the new problems brought to light by the enfranchisement of women be solved? Will there be a new political economy, and will women work with men in true comradeship for the Peace of the World? Our great hope is that women will consolidate the gains they have made. History shows us, and Mr. Johnson's book emphasises, that in Greco-Roman times many women's names are recorded as practising medicine, but women's right to practise was afterwards taken away from them. Women alternately lost and gained voting and election rights for local governing bodies, and other rights and powers exercised by some women in olden times were taken away from them and had to be regained. Will this happen in the future? We insist once again that eternal vigilance is the price that women must continue to pay for their freedom.

F. A. U.

Women's Freedom League.

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

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.

1927.

Monday, January 10th, at 3 p.m.

Hampstead Branch. Meeting at 53, Willow Road, N.W.3 (by the kindness of Miss Lyndon).

Thursday, January 20th, at 7.30 p.m.

Equal Political Rights Campaign. Public Meeting in the Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C.

See Notice.

Wednesday, January 26th, at 8 p.m.

Hampstead Branch. Social Gathering at the Isis Club, 79, Fitzjohn's Avenue, N.W.3 (by kind invitation of Mrs. Harverson). Speaker: Commandant Mary Allen. Chair: Mrs. Wynne

All friends of the League will be welcome.

Monday, February 7th, at 8.15 p.m.

Equal Political Rights Campaign. Minerva Club Branch. Public Meeting at Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1.

Friday, February 11th, at 8.15 p.m.

Reception to Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence at the Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1, preceded by informal dinner at 7.30 p.m.

SCOTLAND.

Saturday, January 15th, at 7.30 p.m.

Glasgow Branch. Whist Drive and Cake and Candy Sale at the Athenæum.

Monday, January 31st.

Dunoon Branch. Public Meeting. Speakers: Miss Eunice Murray, Baillie Millar, Councillor Mrs. MacPherson. Chair: The Provost of Dunoon.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Sunday, January 16th, at 3 p.m.

P.S.A. at St. Andrew's Hall, Glasgow. Speaker: Miss Eunice Murray.

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

Kingsway Hall, W.C.2. Debate: "On the Menace of the Leisureed Woman." Between Lady Rhondda and Mr. G. K. Chesterton. Chairman: Mr. G. Bernard Shaw.

Friday, January 28th, at 8 p.m.

Demonstration for Equal Franchise (organised by the N.U.S.E.C.), in the Central Hall, Edinburgh.

Sunday, January 30th, at 11 a.m.

Hampshire House Discussion Circle, Hog Lane, King Street, Hamme'smith. Speaker: Miss F. A. Underwood. Subject: "The Aims and Work of the Women's Freedom League."

BRANCH NOTE.

ASHFORD.

A successful Whist Drive was held at the Hempstead Street Hall last Friday. The next Meeting will be held at the same place on Friday, January 28th, at 3 p.m. Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence is speaking at Ashford, on Thursday, February 23rd.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE SETTLEMENT,

2, CURRIE STREET, NINE ELMS, S.W.8.

President: MRS. DESPARD.

Hon. Sec.: MISS A. M. COLE.

Our best thanks are due to all those friends who have helped us through a most trying year, and in the name of our Babies these thanks are most heartily accorded. A certain "Bow-wow" some VOTE readers will remember, is still an added joy in good times, and a tremendous comfort should small things go awry. It is something to talk to, and fight over. Then clothing and little shoes have been a great help to ourselves; of these we never have too many. For our Christmas tree we have to thank Mrs. Debanco, Miss Olive Turton, Mrs. Riggall, Miss Riggall, the Mayor of Battersea, Councillor Moore, Mrs. de Vere Summers, Mrs. V. Smith, Mr. Colbourn, and Nine Elms Borough Councillors generally. The Nine Elms Sports Club made a collection, which was very acceptable, and the mother of one of our guest children, out of gratitude for the help rendered her, gave a donation to the Christmas Tree Fund. Our eldest guest child attains the mature age of two on Wednesday next, and we have five younger than she is! At the beginning of next week, we propose holding a Jumble Sale, partly that the children may have tidy things in which to return to school, and partly to help the mothers generally, and hope that any VOTE readers, on seeing this, will send along any discarded clothes, furniture, curtains, or anything at all they have no further use for. It is wonderful what use may be made of things apparently useless.—A. M. COLE.

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Miss R. Eamonsen	6	0				
Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, J.P., D.Sc.	5	0				
Miss Lance and Miss Birt	5	0				
Rev. G. W. Thompson	5	0				
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Miss Lang	2	8				
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29 0 8

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Miss Dobie (Batik Work)	1	10	0			
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Miss Lindsay (Miniature Gardens)	1	10	0			
Mrs. Shawcross	3	0	0			
Miss Ida Stamm (Veloutine Work)	3	0	0			
Miss Sykes	1	10	0			
Baroness Halse de Ville	1	10	0			

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Stall Takings:—

Montgomery Boroughs (3)	51	11	8			
Hampstead (2)	27	10	2			
Overalls	21	5	9			
Mid-London	20	15	8			
Toys	19	6	8			
White	18	3	0			
Portsmouth	14	17	1			
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China	14	1	0			
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FELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Sunday, January 9th, 1927. 3.30. Music. Lecture. Arthur B. Cook. Litt.D. 6.30. Rev. P. Maryon Wilson: "The Slum Housing Tragedy and a Practical Solution."

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