

THE VOTE,
JUNE 1, 1923
ONE PENNY.

THE NEW GOVERNMENT.

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

VOL. XXIV. No. 710.

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

FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 1923

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

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS AT ROME.
THE OPIUM COMMISSION. Hebe Spaul.
WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.
THE NEW GOVERNMENT.

IN MEMORIAM : CONSTANCE LYTTON & JANE WARTON
GIRLS' PUBLIC DAY SCHOOLS' JUBILEE.
THE HOUSING QUESTION. Olive M. Aldridge.
BOOK REVIEWS. J. M. Tooke, J.P.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS AT ROME.

From May 12th to May 19th, the International Woman Suffrage Alliance held its Ninth Congress in the spacious Palazzo dell' Esposizione, via Nazionale, Rome. About three hundred and fifty delegates came to this Congress from every corner of the world to manifest their determination to secure for women everywhere equal political, personal, domestic, educational, economic, and moral rights with men, delegations being sent from Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Cuba, Czecho-Slovakia, Dalmatia, Denmark, Italy, Esthonia, Egypt, Finland, France, Georgia, Great Britain, Greece, Germany, Holland, Hungary, Ireland, India, Japan, Jugo-Slavia, Lithuania, Mexico, Newfoundland, Norway, Palestine, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, Spain, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United States of America, and Uruguay. The arrangements for the Congress were in the hands of the Italian Committee, under the Presidency of Signora Alice Schiavoni, to whom every delegate and visitor to the Congress owes a debt of the warmest gratitude

for the lavish preparations made for their welcome and entertainment. Mrs. Chapman Catt, who, through twenty-two years of strenuous work, brilliantly accomplished, in the cause of women, has won the personal affection, unstinted admiration, and genuine devotion

of all women who are working in that cause, presided at most of the sessions. The first day of the Congress was taken up by the consideration of reports submitted by the various Standing Committees on Equal Pay and Right to Work, Moral Questions, Nationality of Married Women, and the Economic Status of Wives.

Sunday evening a Reception was given by the Italian Committee to the Congress at the Palazzo dell' Esposizione, and this occasion served as a delightful reunion of old friends who had visited us in Great Britain at various times, and of delegates who had met each other at former Congresses held at Amsterdam, Budapest, and Geneva. It had first of all been arranged that the Congress should be inaugurated at the Capitol, in the Great Hall of the Horatii and Curatii, but, unfortunately, that proved to be too small for the number of people who desired to attend, and the ceremony was transferred to the Palazzo dell' Esposizione, where addresses of welcome to the delegates were given by the Lord Mayor of Rome, by the Prime Minister, Signor Mussolini, and by members of the Suffrage



MRS. CHAPMAN CATT.

Committees in Rome. Mrs. Chapman Catt responded, on behalf of the Alliance, in a speech which, as the readers of the last number of THE VOTE will agree, was worthy of the best traditions of the Alliance. The Congress then proceeded to consider and dis-

Discuss the Report of the Committee on Equal Pay and Right to Work. Resolutions were carried on this subject, the Congress declaring its belief in equal education and training for women, in the opening of all professions, and for admission to the Civil Service, including the right of advancement to higher posts, and against restrictions on the right of married women to work. The most unanimously adopted resolutions were those concerning the nationality of married women, which pledge the Alliance to National and International action to secure the right of the married woman to retain or choose her own nationality. Resolutions on the necessity of securing the adhesion of all countries to the League of Nations, and a special resolution deploring the fact that the Egyptian Government has taken away the right of girls to enter for examinations, were also passed. The Constitution of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance came up for review and discussion, and under the new Constitution which has been substituted for the old one, the Women's Freedom League is now able to affiliate independently to the Alliance, and send its own delegates to the Congresses. This year, by the courtesy of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, we were also enabled to send our own delegates to Rome—Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P., and Miss F. A. Underwood, together with two alternate delegates, Mrs. Spiller, whom many of our readers will remember as a former hon. secretary of our Hampstead Branch, and Mrs. Yates.

The public meetings and discussions arranged by the Congress during the week were full of interest, and largely attended by men and women living in Rome, who listened with the greatest interest to the women of so many nationalities who addressed them. One evening these women were all Members of Parliament from the various countries; another evening they were women of all continents, when the Egyptian, Chinese, Japanese, and Indian delegates aroused the very keenest interest.

There is no doubt that by far the most outstanding personality of the Rome Congress was Mrs. Chapman Catt. To the intense regret of the Alliance, Mrs. Catt could not be persuaded to remain as President in the coming year. She has, however, consented to become Hon. President of the Alliance, with full voting powers on its Board of Directors, and Mrs. Corbett-Ashby has been elected President. The best of good wishes go from the whole Alliance to both these women for every possible success in their work during the coming year. Mrs. Catt's valedictory address to the Presidents of auxiliary societies, and all women's organisations, will live long in the memory of all who heard it. Two things she impressed on every President—that they should never do a crooked thing in public life, and never countenance any crooked thing being done in their organisation; and that they should always be sure they were right when making any ruling or decision. Delegation after delegation showered gifts of flowers upon their former President, the prettiest incident being the presentation to her of a sheath of lovely roses by Mrs. Corbett-Ashby's little son.

On the last day of the Congress a procession of the women of the Alliance, more than a thousand strong, formed up at 8.30 a.m. at the Palazzo dell' Esposizione, headed by the Italian flag and the banner of the Alliance, Mrs. Catt, Madame Schiavoni, and Mrs. Corbett Ashby, and followed by the Italian women, the women of enfranchised countries in alphabetical order, and by women of unenfranchised countries in alphabetical order, and proceeded to the Italian Home Office to see Signor Mussolini in regard to the enfranchisement of Italian women. He promised to begin this reform by presenting a Bill to confer the municipal vote and the right to be elected to Municipal Councils upon the following categories of women:—Mothers and widows of men fallen in the war, provided that the widows have not remarried; women who have gained military decorations or University degrees, or have certain property, or are trustees or guardians. This

seems to us to be but a very small beginning, but we have every confidence in our Italian sisters to use this concession as a lever to secure further enfranchisement as soon as possible. It is pleasing to record that the Popular (or clerical) Party in Rome sent a fraternal delegate to the Congress, and, although the Pope could not see his way to receive an official deputation from the Congress, His Holiness expressed himself in favour of the enfranchisement of women. The Pope also most kindly and graciously received in audience several delegates to the Congress. We have further to record that the Italian Press gave full and admirable reports of the Congress proceedings, so we cannot but hope that very valuable work has been done towards securing the full enfranchisement of Italian women. The International Press was also well represented, and it was pleasing to discover that some of the International women journalists present had previously reported the proceedings of the Alliance Congresses held at Amsterdam, Budapest, and Geneva. When the Congress broke up, the wish was commonly expressed by delegates that we should all meet again at the next Congress in two or three years' time, and that then there would be more suffrage successes to register among the Latin countries.

THE OPIUM COMMISSION.

On May 24th there assembled at Geneva the most important meeting of the Opium Commission of the League of Nations that has yet been held. In the first place, the Council of the League had authorised the Commission to meet in public. In the second place, the United States sent over a strong delegation charged to co-operate whole-heartedly in the League's work in regard to stamping out this evil. The Chairman of this delegation is Mr. Stephen Porter, Chairman of the House of Representatives, Foreign Relations Committee. Two members of the delegation have already served on the Commission before, namely, Dr. Rupert Blue and Mrs. Hamilton Wright. Dr. Blue is Surgeon-General and Head of the European Section of the United States Health Service. Mrs. Wright was present at the first session of the Opium Commission as an assessor before her Government had decided to co-operate with the League in stamping out this evil. The other two members of the delegation are Bishop Brent and Mr. Neville. Bishop Brent is the Bishop of Buffalo, and a leading member of the League of Nations Non-Partisan Committee. Mr. Neville is the expert on dangerous drugs to the State Department.

As will be seen, Mr. Porter has an influential part to play in determining the foreign policy of his great country. It is the first time that any active leader of American opinion has come to take a direct part in the work of the League, and its importance for the whole future relations between the United States and the League is obvious.

Another non-member of the League to be represented on the Commission is Germany, the largest exporter of cocaine.

At the time of going to press, the most interesting fact that has emerged is the statement made by Mrs. Hamilton Wright that she had the authority of the Turkish delegation at Lausanne to state that Turkey intended to ask for incorporation with The Hague Opium Convention in the forthcoming Peace Treaty, as well as to ask for admission to the League of Nations, and that, as Turkey was prepared to submit to all obligations under the League, it followed that she would apply any regulations adopted concerning the control of opium.

HEBE SPAULL.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB,
19, Grafton Street, Piccadilly, W. 1.—Subscription: London Members, £2 2s.; Country Members £1 5s. (Irish, Scottish, and Foreign Members, 10s. 6d.) per annum. Entrance Fee, one Guinea. Excellent Catering; Luncheons and Dinners à la Carte—All particulars, Secretary. Tel.: Mayfair 3932.

WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

American All-Women Parliament.

The National Woman's Party in America is setting up a rival Parliament of women opposite the National Capitol at Washington. Its members will assemble there in December, when the regularly elected representatives of the people also will begin their session. There will be a House and a Senate organised on exactly the same lines as the real Parliament across the way, and it is planned to discuss simultaneously every question that Congress takes up, and to hold public hearings on pending Bills.

Celebrated Chinese Women.

Chinese women have not always been in subjection. In all ages there have been women who played important parts in State affairs, influencing the rise and fall of monarchs and dynasties, and even themselves becoming rulers of the Empire. Of the 1,628 volumes of the Chinese bibliographical dictionary, no fewer than 376 are devoted to the lives of celebrated Chinese women.

Women and Diplomacy.

Miss Mildred Moulton, of Ripon, California, and a graduate of the University of California, has won the first scholarship in diplomacy ever offered in America, in open competition with 130 other college men and women. The scholarship, which was given by New York University, under an endowment from a former American Ambassador to Austria, provides tuition for training in diplomacy, international affairs, and *belles-lettres*, with the purpose of raising the standard of the American diplomatic service.

A Salutory Bill.

German feminists are waging an active campaign to secure the removal of the discriminations against married women that still persist in the schools. Under the law in Germany, a woman teacher automatically resigns her post upon marriage, although she may be re-employed as a substitute with reduced salary. It is now proposed to introduce a Bill in the Reichstag eliminating this discrimination, and placing women teachers upon the same plane as men with respect to marriage.

Swedish Women's Progress.

A Bill is now before the Swedish Reichstag providing that women shall be admitted on an equal footing with men to all Governmental posts, including the Consular and Diplomatic Service, but excluding the Army and Navy and certain other positions, such as those of officials in prisons or in asylums for inebriates. It also provides that women may be ordained ministers of the Church, and installed as such in any congregation where there is at least one man serving as pastor.

Mr. Baldwin's Woman Secretary.

In appointing Miss E. M. Watson, C.B.E., as one of his private secretaries, Mr. Baldwin has followed the example of Mr. Lloyd George, who had a woman secretary for many years. Miss Watson has had experience in a similar post, for during the war she was private secretary to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

French Women Agriculturists.

A national School of Agriculture for girls has been founded at Coëtlogon, near Rennes. The curriculum will include the training of women teachers of agriculture, and instruction in dairy farming, bee-keeping, agriculture economy, and preserve-making.

Austrian Woman's Progress.

Frau Dr. Marai Maresch, who is a Professor at an Austrian Training College, has been appointed to a high position in the Ministry of Education. She is the first woman to receive the title of *Sektionsrat*, or Councillor in a Ministerial Department. Frau Olga Rudel Zeyrek, an Austrian woman M.P., has been appointed one of the 25 members of an Extraordinary Cabinet Council founded to direct the work of reorganisation.

An Enterprising Woman.

It is not generally known that the well-known shops in all parts of London which bear the name of David Grieg were originally started by a woman, Mary Anne Grieg. Being in straitened circumstances, she resolved, at the age of 33, to come to London, from Scotland, with her husband and children, and from opening a small provision shop at Hornsey, a part of the stock-in-trade being nice puddings which she made with her own hands, she gradually laid the foundation of the huge business now carried on by her son.

The Angel of Siberia.

Miss Elsa Brandstrom, the "Angel of Siberia," in recognition of her remarkable and super-heroic work among prisoners of war in Siberia from 1914-1920, has been decorated by every country in Europe. Her decorations number 1,500. Miss Brandstrom, on her arrival in the United States to raise funds for her welfare work in Europe, was met by the news that she was recommended for the Nobel peace prize of \$40,000.00. The required endorsement of the Norwegian Parliament is assured.

First Woman Engineering Graduate.

The first, and at the time the only, woman engineer to graduate in Great Britain was Miss Nina Cameron Graham, now Mrs. Cecil Walley, who took her degree at Liverpool University in 1912, at 21 years of age. She is a daughter of Captain Graham, an official of the Allan Line, and well known in Liverpool shipping circles.

Dame Crowdy at the Rome Congress.

Dame Rachel Crowdy, of the Secretariat, represented the League of Nations at the recent International Woman Suffrage Congress in Rome. After an address by Dame Rachel Crowdy on the League, at an informal gathering of about 400 delegates, a resolution was passed unanimously approving the work which the League has already accomplished, and expressing the importance of the early adhesion to the League of the United States, Germany, and Russia. The resolution was moved by a French delegate, and seconded by a German.

WOMEN ARCHITECTS FOR HEALTH MINISTRY.

Under the above heading, a Woman Architect in last week's *Sunday Times* urges the necessity of having women architects at the Ministry of Health. Readers of THE VOTE will remember that, when Dr. Addison was Minister of Health, he was asked in the House of Commons why he had not made use of women architects in connection with some of the details of his Housing Bill. He characteristically replied that he did not know that any women architects were available! Yet, as the writer in our contemporary points out, it is the women who have to spend nearly all their time in the houses that men design and build so inconveniently for them, and the only way to get houses that really suit women is to have women architects at the Ministry of health to demonstrate what kind of houses are wanted. She thinks that the duty of these women architects should be to see that working-class houses are provided with the maximum of conveniences for wives at the least possible cost. She adds that no working-class house should be built in England without close scrutiny by capable women, and that the only way to introduce this reform is for the Government to demand the submission of all plans for this class of houses to thoroughly qualified women in the employ of the nation, who will exercise such authority to ensure really comfortable homes. We certainly agree that there should be women architects at the Ministry of Health, but we cannot possibly imagine that they would agree to have anything to do with houses limited to a superficial area of 850 feet.

THE VOTE.

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

FRIDAY, JUNE 1st, 1923.

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

Telegrams: "DESPARD, Museum 1429, London."

Telephone: MUSEUM 1429.

EDITORIAL.

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

THE NEW GOVERNMENT.

All political parties and every section of the community are grieved that Mr. Bonar Law has been obliged to relinquish his high position because of ill-health. Mr. Baldwin, his successor in office, has formed his Government, the very great majority of the members of which were also members of Mr. Bonar Law's Government. Mr. Baldwin is not only Prime Minister; he is also Leader of the House of Commons and Chancellor of the Exchequer for the time being. Besides Mr. Baldwin, there are eighteen Members of the Cabinet, among whom we are very pleased to see Lord Robert Cecil, who has become Lord Privy Seal. All the Heads of Government Departments—there are about twenty of them—and all the principal officials in these Departments, together with all the principal officers of the House of Commons and House of Lords, are, of course, men. Politically, at any rate, men have every appearance of being the dominant sex in this country, and they will continue to be so until we have an adequate number of women in the House of Commons, and have secured the right of women to a seat, a voice, and a vote in the House of Lords. Notwithstanding the fact that the great preponderance of political power remains in the hands of men, we do not forget that the women of Great Britain outnumber the men by nearly one and three-quarters of a million. Most men can secure a Parliamentary vote at the age of twenty-one; no woman, no matter what her other qualifications, can get this vote until she is thirty years of age, and even then the securing of her vote is hampered by countless technicalities which do not apply to the case of men. The present Prime Minister is also Chancellor of the Exchequer, and he knows that women under thirty years of age are not exempt from taxation because they are women, nor would they be excused because of their sex from breaking any law. They pay their taxes and they keep the laws imposed on them by Parliament without their consent, and they continue to contribute to the wealth and well-being of the country, just as men do. The majority of these women under thirty years of age are working women, and a great number of them are suffering acutely because of unemployment. Neither the Government nor the local governing authorities have yet considered it worth while to include women in their schemes for providing work for unemployed men. This is doubtless due to the fact that these unemployed women have no kind of political power. It is therefore all the more necessary that the Prime Minister and his Government should be reminded continually that the women of this country are demanding equal political, legal, and economic rights with men. The Women's Freedom League has lost no time in bringing some of these matters before Mr. Baldwin, and, in a letter sent to him last week, we asked him, as Head of the present Government, (1) whether he would secure that a measure shall be shortly introduced into the House of Commons, granting political enfranchisement to women on the same terms and at the same age as men, and passed through all its stages into law without

delay; or that Mr. Foot's Women's Enfranchisement Bill be adopted by the Government and passed into law at the earliest possible date? and (2) if he would state what steps he is prepared to take to ensure that the provisions of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act are carried out, and whether the Government will make it clear to local governing authorities that these provisions must not be evaded in regard to the married women in their employ? So far, we have had no reply to our letter. There are, of course, many other questions which the Women's Freedom League, together with other women's organisations, wish to have considered by this new Government, among them being the equal rights of mothers and fathers in the guardianship of their children, the equal rights of women and men to the higher posts in the Civil Service, and equal pay for men and women throughout the Civil Service. We also want to see a more extended education given to all boys and girls who can benefit by it, and an equal proportion of scholarships available for girls. Further, women will insist upon better housing accommodation for the people. We, ourselves, before the Ministry of Health was formed, advocated that the Minister in this Department should be a woman, and every year that has since passed has more firmly convinced us of the advantages to the nation of a suitable Woman Minister of Health. We are certain that her chief efforts would be in the direction of solving the Housing problem. How is it possible to have anything but a C3 nation when, as Dr. Kaye pointed out, at the recent annual Congress of the Royal Institute of Public Health, there are dwellings in which eight adults (four of each sex) and five children sleep in one bedroom; in which six adults and four children sleep in one bedroom; in which twelve persons, including a girl of twenty-one suffering from tuberculosis, sleep in one bedroom? It is quite true that women have very little direct power in either of our Houses of Parliament, but every member of the Women's Freedom League will agree that for that very reason we must redouble our efforts, so that our influence and work outside shall have some influence on this new Government.

THE MENTAL TREATMENT BILL.

This Bill is going through the House of Lords this week, and will shortly be introduced into the House of Commons. It extends the jurisdiction of the Lunacy Commissioners, hitherto confined to certified lunatics, to "uncertifiable" cases who cannot be proved to require restraint. A person who is mentally ill should not be under the control of the Lunacy Commissioners and deprived of liberty, unless after a judicial inquiry he or she is "certified"; when not in a condition that needs certification, the patient should be in a place where no more detention is practised than is found in a general hospital, a place which the patient enters entirely of free will to find quiet, care, and the best scientific treatment for the particular kind of mental ailment present, but out of which the patient will be free to take his discharge, if he wishes, just as easily as out of a general hospital. It is already legal for any person voluntarily to enter such a mental hospital, and legal for Health Committees of Councils to establish and run such hospitals. This Bill is therefore not needed, and has the great objection of legalising detention of "voluntary" patients, and very harmfully putting under one authority the uncertifiable voluntary patient who should be under the care of the Health Authorities only, and the certified patient who is detained, and therefore must be cared for by the Board of Control, which, up to the present, has had no power over the uncertified cases. This Bill also enables the Board of Control to close down any Homes or hospitals not under its jurisdiction. Our present methods of dealing with mental illness are very unsatisfactory, but this Bill is on the wrong lines, and must be greatly amended in the House of Commons.

In Memoriam: CONSTANCE LYTTON AND JANE WARTON.

In common with all suffragists and fighters for Freedom, we were grieved at the death, on May 22nd, of Lady Constance Lytton. Daughter of the first Earl of Lytton, Viceroy of India, Lady Constance Lytton was born in Vienna in 1869, being exceedingly delicate in girlhood and early years. She was enjoying with her mother a happy country home life when, in 1906, a legacy from a godmother turned her thoughts to those less happily placed, and she began to investigate the causes of poverty and misery and their prevention. Interest in the revival of country songs and dances and clubs for working girls brought her into touch with the Suffragette movement. She was already keenly alive to women's inequalities under the law and custom, and the need for women's help in public affairs. She learnt the details of the weary struggle for the vote in bygone years, and recognised that law must at times be broken before it can be re-formed. She joined the Women's Social and Political Union, shared in all the work and in deputations and protests, and in 1909 she was imprisoned in Holloway and in Newcastle. In both these places the medical officials diagnosed a chronic heart lesion, and she was treated with some care. Detesting snobbery and privileges, and suspecting that a friendless prisoner had little justice, Lady Constance decided to experience this for herself. In 1910, disguised as Jane Warton, a working woman, she was imprisoned in Walton Gaol, Liverpool. Here she endured the horrors of forcible feeding. The obvious condition of her heart was never discovered, although it was "examined" by the doctor, and only the accidental discovery of her identity, and immediate release, saved officialdom from the guilt of murder. In Holloway, in 1914, this splendid crusader was imprisoned for the fourth and last time. In "Prisons and Prisoners," laboriously written with her left hand, is enshrined her gifted personality, loving, humble, humorous, sensitive, sympathetic, but with sublime, heroic courage against cruelty, falsehood, and wrong.

E. KNIGHT.

The funeral of Lady Constance Lytton took place last Saturday at Knebworth, and, in addition to her family and friends high and lowly in the locality, was attended by a large number of suffrage comrades and representatives of various women's societies.

The service was conducted by the Rector of the parish, and the choir sang the hymn, "Peace, Perfect Peace," and the "Nunc Dimittis," as the procession left the church. The cremated ashes, in a little casket covered with white lilies and purple pansies, were interred in the Mausoleum in the Park, "built by Mrs. Bulwer Lytton for her family, 1818."

Many faces familiar in the suffrage days were seen there, and the badges of many societies who were officially represented, including the Women's Freedom League, the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, the League of the Church Militant, the Catholic League for Women's Suffrage, the "Six-Point" group, and many more no longer existent. Mrs. Pankhurst's sister, Mrs. Goulden Bach, was present. Tea was served in the hall for all guests.

No one could ever meet Lady Constance in the old days without being impressed with her sincerity and singleness of purpose. She saw what she considered her duty, and without hesitation she went forward to right the wrong. All who journeyed to Knebworth to do her honour must have realised last Saturday, in the spaciousness and beauty of her surroundings, the greatness of the sacrifice, the courage it must have taken, to break with the traditions of her class and upbringing, and she, the great lady delicately sheltered and nurtured, frail in health, to go forth to face brutal mobs in an unpopular cause, and, as Jane Warton, to endure prison and the tortures of forcible feeding. The suffrage cause has broken down the health of strong women; her it broke utterly. Shortly after her imprisonment she had a stroke, and for many years had been invalided, though her courage and patience never failed her. "Her name liveth evermore."

M. W. NEVINSON.

GIRLS' PUBLIC DAY SCHOOLS' JUBILEE.

The Girls' Public Day School Co., now the Girls' Public Day School Trust, is celebrating its Jubilee to-day (Friday) by a special service at St. Paul's, when Dean Inge will give an address, and which will be followed by an "Old Girls' Tea in the Guildhall, London.

The Girls' Public Day School Co. was inaugurated at a public meeting held in the Albert Hall in the autumn of 1872, under the patronage of H.R.H. Princess Louise, who (as President of the Women's Education Union, started by Mrs. William Grey) signed the circular which explained the object of the Company, and gave valuable advice in framing the scheme. Lord Lytton presided, and was supported by the Dowager Lady Stanley of Alderley, Bishop Fraser, the Rt. Hon. W. Cowper Temple, Miss Mary Gurney, and others.

A Council of Management was formed, and the rule laid down that one-third of its members should be women. The office of President has been successively filled by the Earl of Airlie, Lord Aberdare, and Earl Spencer, K.G., and is now held by the Marquess of Crewe, K.G. The Women's Educational Union was dissolved in 1884, having accomplished its principal object by the foundation of the Girls' Public Day School Co., and H.R.H. Princess Louise became Patroness.

The first school to be opened was the present Kensington High School, at first located in Chelsea. The opening of other schools followed quickly, in most cases existing houses being utilised which could be altered and adapted to the purpose. By degrees, however, new buildings were in several instances found necessary, and, as the years have passed, large additions have been made to some of the schools, in order to provide accommodation for modern developments. The Trust now has 25 schools in London and the

Provinces, containing over 9,000 scholars, and its past pupils number nearly 100,000.

In 1906 the Company was converted into a Trust, in order to render it eligible for a share in certain grants, voted by Parliament for Secondary Education. The schools are recognised for this purpose by the Board of Education, and are visited periodically by its Inspectors. The examination of the Joint Board of Oxford and Cambridge, originally planned for the Great Public Boys' Schools, was opened to girls in 1878, and adopted by the Council. All the Schools are examined annually, and the Higher Certificates of the Board are taken. These Certificates in many cases give exemption from entrance examinations of the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, and London.

The Council allot annually about £500 for prizes, and £830 for scholarships held in the schools. Extra prizes are given by friends of the various schools, and a few gifts have been received for the founding of scholarships, some of which are held at the Universities. A long list of intellectual successes have been won at the Universities, and High School girls are found in all walks of life, and all over the world. In 1921, pupils of the Schools gained 16 out of the 92 Open Entrance Scholarships, Exhibitions, and Bursaries awarded to women at Oxford, Cambridge, and London Universities. The Schools also gained in the same year various County and Municipal and other Leaving Scholarships, including a number of the new State Scholarships, tenable at Universities and at Technical Institutions and elsewhere. During the year, 85 former pupils of the Schools passed Final University Examinations for Degrees, the greater number obtaining Honours.

THE HOUSING QUESTION.

It is common knowledge that the conditions of housing throughout the country are abnormal, but the housing problem is no new one, as it goes back to the last half of the nineteenth century, and from then onwards different groups of people have realised the need of proper houses and have tried to meet the need. As far back as 1884, a Royal Commission made inquiries throughout the country as to housing conditions, and their reports revealed a terrible state of things. The Act of 1890 marked a new era in housing legislation, as it consolidated and amended all previous legislation, and the house famine was the driving force behind that legislation. The country has never once caught up, and the demand has always exceeded the supply. Alderman Thompson was one of the men who did much for housing reform, and he was one of the first to avail himself, through his Council, of the wider powers of the Housing Act of 1890, when local authorities could, when they had a majority on their Council in favour of the project, erect new houses without first necessarily clearing off old houses, and gave them power to borrow money to do so, to be repaid in sixty years, afterwards extended to eighty. From 1890 up to the commencement of the war, the housing question developed and extended into one of housing and town-planning. During this period began the experimental stage, when people thought not only of the houses but also of the setting. Big experiments were made, showing the value of gardens as at Bournville and Port Sunlight, and during that period the first garden city of Letchworth was planned and opened, followed by garden cities all over the country. Then the first International Housing Congress was held in this country, when the delegates visited the various garden cities, and the result of their visit could be seen when visiting other countries. In 1919 the Government passed new legislation, calling upon local authorities to prepare plans to meet the needs of localities, and they then discovered that houses could not be built at rents within the means of the people for whom they were intended. The principle of the subsidy was introduced, and then came the economy campaign throughout the country before the schemes were finished, but to the lasting credit of the majority of local authorities, despite the call to halt, they did finish the houses already started. Ninety per cent. of the houses have been let to ex-Service men, 85 per cent. have three bedrooms, about 45 per cent. have parlours, and the majority have a bathroom, and they are let from 8s. 6d. to 11s. a week, plus rates, with the exception of Norfolk, where rents are much cheaper. Enough houses have not been built, but those built have at any rate rescued over a million men, women, and children from overcrowding. To-day there is a Bill before Parliament, and the Health Minister is lowering the standard, fought for all those long years, of limiting twelve houses to the acre, and four in the rural districts, back to twenty to the acre, where it was deemed practicable; and again to-day there is the old fight over the third bedroom, as there used to be over the bathroom, when people who should have known better said people would not use them if put in. Then, again, the space allotted for the parlour has been reduced, and leaves the speculative builder, the person who does not care but is merely out to make money, an opportunity to evade the regulations. What is required is more women in the House of Commons, women who realise the difficulties other women have in living in such small rooms—rooms so small that the bed has always to be pushed into a corner, and where there is no room for anything else. Even when this problem of housing is settled, there is still the big problem of slums to be dealt with.

OLIVE M. ALDRIDGE.

BOOK REVIEWS.

By J. M. TOOKE, J.P.

The Peaks of Shala. By Rose Wilder Lane. (Chapman and Dodd.) 12s. 6d. (Can be obtained at this Office.)

This is a most interesting account of a journey into the mountainous villages of Albania, undertaken by three ladies and an interpreter, who was at one time in great peril of his life from Serbian allies, together with a quaint Mohammedan boy of twelve. The description of the curious laws of these tribes, who have no idea of private property, taxation, electricity, or of our sort of civilisation—who believe in "oras," or tree spirits, and the old sun worship of their ancestors, although Roman Catholics—the quaint houses of eighth century type, the old Greek racial survivals and Italian vendettas, makes most interesting reading; while the humorous manner in which the adventures are told makes one wish the book were twice as long.

The travellers had brought promises of money and help to found schools, which were most ardently desired by the chiefs and people, who had neither books nor pencils, but were making every effort to teach the children, who came long distances to learn. The character sketches of the Chief Lulash, the village priest Padre Marjan, and the Shali woman who dared to want a house of her own, are very cleverly drawn, and when the authoress is asked in marriage by the Chief, and priced at 20,000 kronen, one is almost disappointed at her refusal to stay and rule the village.

An Outlaw's Diary. By Cecile Tormay. (Phillip Allan.) 12s. 6d. (Can be obtained at this Office.)

This is the account of an eye-witness of the Hungarian Revolution, and gives a striking picture of the collapse of law and order before the entry of the Red Flag, with its trail of lawlessness, dirt, drink, cold, and death. All the old seemingly secure foundations of daily life seem to be wrecked in a day, and all suffer; nothing is sacred, from the peasant woman's milk cart, driven off by drunken sailors, to the holy, long-venerated crown of St. Stephen, which is mocked by Count Karoyli, of whom a mordant description is given. Miss Tormay's brave and clever efforts to bind together the women of Hungary to preserve their country against disruption and to enforce law and order, and her fervid patriotism, arouse the reader's deep sympathy, and the conclusion of her diary will be awaited with interest.

GARDEN FETE.

THE HILL, HAMPSTEAD (kindly lent by Viscount Leverhulme). THURSDAY, JUNE 7th, from 2 to 9.30 p.m.

Women's Freedom League—Green, White & Gold Stall.

This Stall will be in charge of Mrs. Holmes, who will be assisted by Mrs. Catmur, Miss Lyndon, Mrs. Keelan, Mrs. Pierotti, and Mrs. and Miss James. Many articles in the colours are needed for the stall, but all gifts will be most acceptable. Will all members and friends send some article in green, white, or gold, to help to provide for the stall? Gifts should be sent to the Hon. Fair Secretary, the Women's Freedom League, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1, not later than June 4th.

The Fête will be opened by the Marchioness of Carisbrooke at 2 p.m. Please remember to keep Thursday, June 7th, free, to bring your friends to visit Viscount Leverhulme's beautiful garden and the Women's Freedom League Stall. There will be various attractions, including a Children's Dancing Display at 2.15 p.m., a Summer Fashion Parade at 4 p.m., Artists' June Revels 6-9.30 p.m., and Wireless Concerts, etc.

The tickets are on sale at these offices, price 2s. 4d. (including tax); after 6 p.m., 1s. 3d. (including tax). Children will be admitted at half-price.

(Hon. Fair Sec.) ELIZABETH BERRY.

Women's Freedom League.

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

Hon. Treasurer—Dr. E. KNIGHT.
Literature Department—Hon. Head: Mrs. PIEROTTI.
Hon. Organising Secretary—
Mrs. SCHOFIELD COATES, J.P.
Vote Sales Department—Hon. Head: Miss ALIX M. CLARK.
General Secretary—Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS W.F.L. LONDON AND SUBURBS.



DARE TO BE FREE.

Friday, June 1st, at 7.30 p.m. Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C. (Corner of Hunter and Coram Streets). Dinner and Reception to Australian and New Zealand Delegates to Rome Congress. Tickets 2/6.
Monday, June 4th, at 8 p.m. Hampstead Branch. Annual Meeting at the Isis Club, 79, Fitzjohn's Avenue, N.W.3. (by kind permission of Mrs. Harverson). Speaker: Mrs. Mustard. Subject: "Woman, the Unknown Quantity."
Thursday, June 7th, 2 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. Garden Fête at "The Hill," Hampstead (kindly lent by Viscount Leverhulme). Women's Freedom League, Green, White and Gold Stall. Tickets: 2.0 p.m., 2/4; 6.0 p.m., 1/3.
Friday, June 8th, at 5 p.m. Organisation Sub-Committee Meeting, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.
Friday, June 8th, at 8.15 p.m. Whist Drive at Minerva Club, Brunswick Square. Tickets, including refreshments, 2/6.
Saturday, June 9th, at 10 a.m. National Executive Committee Meeting, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.
Monday, June 25th, at 3 p.m. Political Sub-Committee Meeting, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.
Friday, July 6th, Mrs. Despard's Birthday Party, Caxton Hall, Westminster. Further particulars later.
Saturday, July 7th, at 10 a.m. National Executive Committee Meeting, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.
Monday, July 9th, at 3 p.m. Fair Sub-Committee Meeting, 144, High Holborn, W.C.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Wednesday, June 6th, at 8 p.m. Women's League of Union, Oak Room, Kingsway Hall. Speaker: Mrs. Neave Hobbs (Hon. Sec. N.W.C.A.). Subject: "Current Events."
Wednesday, July 11th, at 8 p.m. Women's League of Union, Oak Room, Kingsway Hall. Speaker: Miss F. A. Underwood. Subject: "How Women are using their Opportunities."

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OF WOMEN'S ORGANISATIONS.

At the May Meeting of the Consultative Committee, special attention was drawn to the proceedings of the League of Nations Advisory Committee on Opium. The pressure of a strong and influential American delegation gave new hope to anti-opium opinion, which was as genuine in England as anywhere. In order to give an immediate expression of views on this matter, it was urged that letters should be sent to the Press, and Resolutions to the Government; and, further, that Societies should endeavour to make a study of this most difficult question during the sitting of the Committee in Geneva.

Resolutions on the Guardianship, Maintenance, and Custody of Infants Bill, the Summary Jurisdiction Separation and Maintenance Bill, the Women's Franchise Bill, and the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act were presented for reaffirmation. The question of using more effectively in the schools the Board of Education Syllabus on the Hygiene of Food and Drink was examined, and a group of Societies agreed to press the Government to adopt the Intoxicating Liquors (Sale to Young Persons under 18) Bill as a Government measure.

An interesting discussion took place on women's prisons, and it was pointed out that at present in all of them there were men Governors, Deputy Governors, and male Medical Officers; further, there were no women Inspectors of Prisons, nor were there any women Prison Commissioners. Those who felt this to be unsatisfactory therefore decided to call upon the Government to appoint women Prison Commissioners, a woman Medical Inspector of Prisons, women Inspectors of Prisons, women Governors, women Deputy Governors, and women Medical Officers in all women's prisons, and women Police throughout the country.

The Annual Meeting of the Consultative Committee takes place on June 26th.

WHIST DRIVE AT MINERVA CLUB.

The Minerva Club has very kindly undertaken to organise a Whist Drive on Friday, June 8th, at 8.15, for the benefit of THE VOTE and the League. Admission 3s. 6d., including refreshments, and whatever the Minerva Club undertakes is always a delightful success. Now is your time to prove your appreciation of both the League and its gallant little organ, by supporting us in great numbers on June 8th. Donations towards the cost of the prizes and refreshments are asked for, especially from those who cannot come themselves.

TREASURY LIST.

NATIONAL FUND.

Amount previously acknowledged, October, 1907, to December, 1922, £38,966 13s. 4d. £ s. d. £ s. d.
Amount previously acknowledged 189 14 4
Special Emergency War Fund:—
A Friend 3 2 6
National Union of Teachers Campaign:—
Per Miss Alix M. Clark:
Donations 25 8 6
Collection 1 6 0

Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P. 26 14 6
Miss Frances A. Howard 4 0 0
Mrs. Abbott 3 3 0
Mrs. George Jones 1 0 0
Mrs. Grace Goodall 10 0
Dr. George Jones 10 0
Mrs. Bell Lloyd 10 0
Miss Doris Brookman 7 6
Miss E. Campbell 5 0
Mrs. Delbanco 5 0
Miss Hurry 5 0
Miss Maud Lindley 5 0
Miss Neal 5 0
The Misses Sprentall 5 0
Mrs. Aaron 2 6
Mrs. Ayres 2 6
Miss Barrow 2 6
Mrs. Keelan 2 6
Mrs. Ayres Lucas 2 6
Mrs. Gertrude Tilly 2 6
Mrs. Tizard 2 6
Miss Marian Furbank 2 0
Mr. G. W. Gill 2 0
The Misses Glynn 2 0
Miss C. R. Kirk 2 0
Mrs. Clara Strong 2 0
Mrs. Udney Atkinson 1 8
Mr. Aaron 1 0
Mrs. Abbott 1 0
Miss Candlin 1 0
Mrs. Ethel Nicholls 1 0
Mrs. E. Randall 1 0
Mrs. O. Rastorgoneff 1 0
Mrs. Tanner 1 0
Miss Hilda Wishon 1 0
Interest 4 4 4
Collection, per Minerva Club 1 16 0
Per Literature Department 3 15 0
Office Sales 4 10 3
Branches:—
Letchworth 2 11 3
Middlesbrough 2 0 0
Delegates' Expenses:—
Hampstead 13 6
Manchester 13 6
Mid-London 13 6
Montgomery Boroughs 4 1 0
Swansea 1 7 0
Capitation Fees:—
Glasgow 11 6
Hampstead 5 0
Mid-London 3 0
Middlesbrough 10 0
Swansea 1 6 0
Wallasey 9 6

£262 3 4
Cheques to be made payable to the Women's Freedom League, and crossed "Barclay's Bank Ltd."

BRANCH NOTES.

HAMPSTEAD.

Members and friends are reminded that the Annual Meeting of the Branch will be held at the Isis Club, 79, Fitzjohn's Avenue, N.W.3 (by kind permission of Mrs. Harverson), on Monday evening, June 4th, at 8 p.m. The business meeting will begin precisely at 8 p.m., and at 8.30 p.m. the meeting will be open to non-members, when Mrs. Mustard will speak on "Woman, the Unknown Quantity." All readers of THE VOTE, and members and friends of the League, will be welcome. The Isis Club is near the Hampstead Tube Station, and thus an easy journey from any part of London.

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

PORTSMOUTH.

There was a very good attendance at the public meeting on Wednesday, May 23rd. Mrs. Whetton introduced Miss Enid Laphorn, who spoke on "The League of Nations and the White Slave Traffic." Miss Laphorn briefly related the efforts made to stop the traffic in women and children before the war, and then gave an exhaustive account of the work of the League of Nations on this question. She maintained that no single nation could have collected the same information or kept the Governments to their promises as the League had done. Miss Laphorn answered many questions, and was cordially thanked for her able address. Three new members joined the Branch. Mrs. Ball kindly offered her room at 36, Stanley Street for a work-party on Wednesday, June 6th, from 3 to 6 p.m.

(Hon. Sec.) MRS. WHETTON, 89, Festing Grove, Southsea.

FRIDAY,
JUNE 1
1923.

THE VOTE

ONE
PENNY
WEEKLY.

Please send me *THE VOTE* every week, post free, for 6 months, for which I enclose 3/3.

Name

Address

THE VOTE, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

REST AND HOLIDAYS.

BUSY Women requiring Rest will find comfortable Board Residence at Miss TURNER'S, "Sea View," Victoria Rd., Brighton. Early Dinner. Tel. Brighton 1702

HUT CAMP in Sussex woods. Choir of nightingales every May. Descriptive leaflet free.—NICHOLLS, Ballinger Grange, Great Missenden. Bucks.

VEGETARIAN GUEST HOUSE. Alt. 600 ft. Rest and Comfort amid beautiful scenery. Tennis. Motor. MRS. LUDLOW, The Briars, Crich, nr. Matlock.

WESTWARD HO! (Bideford Station), North Devon. Rockingham, Vegetarian Guest House. South aspect, large sunny garden facing sea. Particulars, Miss FOLL.

HOMELY Country Cottage, Board-Residence. 2 guineas weekly. Quaint villages and South Downs. Near station and buses.—MISS WHEADON, Berwick, Sussex.

LOW GREEN HOUSE, Thoralby, Aysgarth, Yorks. Board-Residence in country cottage. Bracing. Good centre. 2 miles station. Particulars, MISS SMITH.

FURNISHED COTTAGE, Cornwall, perfect situation. Large Bed-room, Sitting-room, Kitchen, outside Sanitation. July, 20/- weekly. August, 25/—Apply VOTE OFFICE.

PROFESSIONAL.

**THE MINERVA CLUB,
BRUNSWICK SQUARE, W.C.**

(Corner of Coram Street and Hunter Street.)

Open Daily to non-residents for Lunches, 12.30 to 2.30 p.m. Dinners, 6.30 to 8.30.

Sunday Lunches only, from 12.45 to 2.30 p.m.

Afternoon Teas Daily from 3.30.

Home Made Cakes, Rolls and Jams a Speciality.

Prepaid Classified Advertisements.

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

Displayed Advertisements,

8/- per Inch.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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

LINDUM HOUSE, BEXHILL-ON-SEA.
HOME School on Progressive Thought Lines; Large Garden; Cricket Field; Sea Bathing; Small Classes; Special care given to backward and delicate girls; Coaching for advanced pupils. Principal: MISS RICHARDSON, B.A.

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Guild-house, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Sunday, June 3rd. 3.15. Music, Poetry, Lecture, Dr. Dearmer. 6.30. Miss Maude Royden.

THE PIONEER CLUB has re-opened at 12, Cavendish Place. Entrance fee in abeyance *pro tem.* Town Members £5 5s.; Country and Professional £4 4s.

CONVINCED Feminist (Practising Midwife) books lecturing engagements.—GATTY, 30 Retreat Place, Hackney

MISS NICHOLAS, ex-Transport Driver. R.A.F. Landauette Car for hire. Tel. Hampstead 8341. Private address: 3, Christchurch Road, Hampstead.

LET US QUOTE FOR YOUR NEXT PRINTING ORDER!

Visiting Cards, Addressed Stationery, Billheads, Circulars and Printing of all descriptions undertaken.

We know we can please you, and you will be helping the "VOTE."

**THE MINERVA PUBLISHING CO., LTD.,
144, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.**

Suffrage Health Food Stores,

231-233, THE ARCADE, LINTHORPE ROAD, MIDDLESBROUGH.

ALL VEGETARIAN SPECIALITIES STOCKED

Food Reformers experiencing any difficulty in obtaining Health Foods in their districts are invited to send for Price List. Orders over £1 carriage paid.

Manageress: Mrs. E. A. WALLACE.

Membership Application Form.

To be returned to The Secretary, 144, High Holborn.

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

Name

Address

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

Minimum Annual Subscription, 1s.