

THE VOTE.
OCT. 30, 1925.

VOTE FOR THE WOMEN!

THE VOTE

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

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ONE PENNY.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1925

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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XVI.—OUR WOMEN MAYORS.

ALDERMAN MISS SMEE, J.P., MAYOR OF ACTON.

It was in 1910 that Miss Smee first decided to stand for election to the Acton Urban District Council. She was offered a safe Conservative seat, but declined to enter municipal life on a political ticket, and had the temerity to stand as an Independent candidate. No woman had previously stood at all in Acton, and Miss Smee was, of course, defeated. That was in 1910, but, having learnt rather more about how to run an election, she stood again in 1911 and beat the Conservative candidate by a small majority. She was the first woman, and for eight years the *only* one, to sit on the Acton Urban District Council, easily retaining her seat at all subsequent elections in the South-East Ward.

Within a year of being first elected, and in spite of being an Independent, Miss Smee was made Chairman of the Public Health Committee, a position to which she was re-elected five years in succession. She then held the Chairmanship of the Education Committee for three years, 1917-1920.

In 1920, she was unanimously elected Chairman of the Urban District Council, became, *ex officio*, a magistrate, and was the first woman J.P. to sit on any Bench in Middlesex.

1920-21 was the year of great labour troubles, and Miss Smee came in for a fair share of difficulty when the Acton Baths were seized, and the Council Offices surrounded by 2,000 unemployed.

In 1921, when Acton became a borough, Miss Smee was elected an alderman. In 1922, she was

permanently placed on the Commission of the Peace, was one of the first women Justices in Middlesex to be appointed, under the Mental Deficiency Act, to certify lunatics, and she and Lady Humphreys were the first representatives of Middlesex Women Justices appointed to serve on the Holloway Prison Visiting

Committee. Miss Smee was the only woman chosen to give evidence before the Royal Commission on London Government, when she opposed the absorption of Acton and Chiswick by the London County Council.

In November, 1924, she was elected Mayor of Acton, the fourth Mayor of this young Borough, and she has had a strenuous year of office. She has taken an active part in the endeavours of the Acton and Ealing Boroughs to secure the beautiful Gunnersbury Park as an open space for all time. After prolonged negotiation with the parties concerned and the Ministry of Health, success has at last crowned those efforts, and the Ministry's terms were accepted by the Acton Council on October 13th.

Alderman Miss Smee and Miss Sutton, T.C. (Reading) are the only women who have, so far, been elected on the Executive Committee of the Association of Education Committees. Miss Smee's local work has included membership of the Acton Charities Trustees, the Acton Hospital Council, the Acton Central Aid Society (of which she is President), the Bedford Park Gardening Society (Past President), the Acton Boy-Scouts Association (of which she is



Photo by

ALDERMAN MISS SMEE.

[Buraw.]

Chairman), Middlesex Smallpox Hospital Board, the Acton Women Citizens' Association (Founder and Past President), Acton Chamber of Commerce (Vice-President).

During the war she was acting hon. secretary for the Prince of Wales Fund, Chief Lady Investigator of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association, Manager of the Acton Communal Kitchen, and of the Day Nursery for the Children of Munition Workers.

As a girl Miss Smee rode a great deal, and hunted with the Essex foxhounds. For many years she captained the Chiswick Ladies' Hockey Club, and served on the Council of the All-England Women's Hockey Association, was President of the Southern Hockey and of the Middlesex Hockey Associations. She is a member of the Mid-Surrey Golf Club, and has played for Acton Municipal Council in golf matches against other municipalities. She is a keen gardener and allotment holder, and a great lover of animals.

Many of her holidays have been spent on walking tours—knapsack on back—either in this country or Norway.

When Miss Smee was 18, her father, who had been well off, lost all his money. There were few jobs, other than teaching, open to women in those days, but she got employment in a Law Copying Office, in Lincoln's Inn, at 10s. a week to start with. Better posts followed, and for 35 years Miss Smee was Secretary to Westfield College (University of London).

WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Jugo-Slavian Women's Campaign.

Equalization of the rights of male and female heirs is the main objective of a campaign which has just been started by the National Women's Federation in Jugoslavia. The women's organisations in the country are collecting signatures, which will be presented to Parliament, together with the Federation petition for the passing of a more up-to-date and just law. The Federation also intends to bring the problem before the lawyers' congress, which is to be held shortly at Belgrade.

Danish Women and the Ministry.

Next month, the Danish Government intends to bring in a Bill for the admission of women to the Ministry. A similar Bill was introduced last year, but was dropped owing to the opposition of the State Church. It was stated that such a step might lead to the separation of Church and State. The Bill, however, is to be brought forward unchanged.

Woman Wins Challenge Cup.

The heaviest fish, a conger weighing just under 20lbs., was secured by Mrs. Juson Kerr, J.P., in the recent festival held by the Deal Angling Club (1919). For this she was presented with the challenge cup. Mrs. Juson Kerr also received the medal of the National Federation of Sea Anglers.

Woman President of Scientific Society.

Miss E. A. M. Twigg has been elected president of the Birmingham Scientific Society. This is the first time a woman has been elected to this office in its fifty years' existence. Miss Twigg has been one of the most active members of the Society for some years and, as her presidential address, gave a review of locomotion in nature.

More Women Directors.

The late Mr. James Manfield, head of the great shoe firm, who died recently in London, has been succeeded as chairman of the board of directors by his daughter, Mrs. Pigott, and another daughter, Miss Hetty Manfield, has been appointed a director.

Belgian Women Footballers.

Two Belgian women's football teams—the Atalanta Brussels Club and the Brussels Femina Club—have been enthusiastically received in Portugal, where they are playing a series of matches.

Woman Chief Ranger.

The *South-Western Star* reports that, last week, "Court Hospitality Lodge," of the Ancient Order of Foresters, attended Divine Service in Battersea. Over 70 members marched into the church, led by Chief Ranger Florrie Edwards. In the course of his address, the Rev. T. Maland congratulated the Order on the fact that they had elected a woman as their head. This was the first occasion that a woman had occupied the chair of the Order, though it had been founded since 1847.

Turkish Women's Demands.

The Turkish Women's Association has applied for permission to give weekly lectures in mosques on such subjects as the Turkish Revolution, the position of Turkish women, how to bring up children, and how to manage the household. The Association is also demanding that the Prefecture should appoint women inspectors to control the exhibition of cinematograph films in the interests of public morals.

Indian Woman President.

Mrs. Sarojini Naidu has been elected president of the forthcoming Session of the Indian National Congress to be held in Cawnpore in December. She is the first Indian woman chosen to preside over the deliberations of the Congress.

Deaconesses in Switzerland.

The employment of deaconesses is increasing in Switzerland. The first ordination of them in the city of Berne took place last month in the Cathedral, when no fewer than 32 were ordained.

Brides not to "Obey."

By 66 votes to 27, the House of Bishops of the American Protestant Episcopal Church has concurred with the House of Deputies in the elimination of the word "obey" from the wedding ceremony.

THE NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN

Writing in the October issue of *The Bulletin* (the organ of the International Council of Women), Fröken Henni Forchhammer states that, besides the new marriage laws, another Act of importance to many women has recently been passed in Denmark, a law which materially changes the position of women married to aliens. "According to the old law, a woman who married a foreigner automatically lost her Danish citizenship whether she acquired the nationality of her husband or not. Thus, after the introduction of the new nationality laws in the U.S.A., a Danish woman who married an American ran the risk of having no legal citizenship anywhere, at least for some years; and with her citizenship she lost the right to vote, to hold office, etc. To give an example: If our present Minister of Education, who is a widow, had married a foreigner, she would have had to give up her office, her seat in the 'Rigsdag,' and her vote, even if she remained in the country. The new Act (of April, 1925) changes all this. A Danish woman who now marries a foreigner loses her nationality only when she acquires that of her husband, and even then she retains it as long as she lives in her own country. The Danish National Council of Women has worked for a reform of the old law for several years. We have not got everything we have asked for, but on the whole, I think, we may congratulate ourselves on the results; the law, I feel sure, will work satisfactorily, but we must still work for a complete international settlement of this whole very complex question. We hope to obtain this from the League of Nations Commission on International Law, which has this question among many others on its programme. One of the resolutions passed by the International Council of Women in Washington last May asks for the appointment of at least one competent woman lawyer on that Commission. It is very necessary that on such a body there should be somebody to represent the views of the organised womanhood of the world."

GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD FAIR.

The Annual Green, White and Gold Fair will be held on Friday and Saturday, November 20th and 21st, in the Basement Hall, at the Central Hall, Westminster, and will be opened each day at 3 p.m.—on Friday, November 20th, by Dame Millicent Fawcett, G.B.E., J.P., LL.D.; and on Saturday, November 21st, by Miss Lind-af-Hageby.

The Chair will be taken on Friday by Miss Anna Munro (President, Women's Freedom League), and on Saturday by Councillor Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P.

STALLS AND STALLHOLDERS.

The Stalls at present arranged for the League are:—

Hampstead Branch.—Handkerchiefs, Antiques, and White Elephants. Miss Goodliffe, Miss Lyndon, and Miss Vibert.

Montgomery Boroughs Branch.—Welsh Produce and General Stalls. Miss Alix Clark and Friends.

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

South-Eastern Branches.—General Stall. Miss White and Mrs. Dunhill.

South-Eastern Penny Stall.—Miss Margery Dunhill.

Overalls and Aprons.—Miss Underwood, Miss F. A. Underwood, Miss Bremer, Miss Cole, Mrs. Nicholls, and Mrs. Turriff.

General Stall.—Mrs. Lloyd.

Hygiene Stall.—Dr. Lewin and Friends.

Literature Stall.—Mrs. and Miss Mustard, Miss Armstrong, Mrs. Harverson, Miss Horniman, and Miss L. Pierotti.

Pound Stall.—Mrs. and the Misses Potter.

Shilling Stall.—Mrs. Arney, Mrs. Delbanco, and Miss Gibson (supported by the Minerva Club Branch).

Scottish Stall.—Miss Munro, Mrs. Rose, Miss Sidley, and Miss Steven.

Sweet Stall.—Miss Mary Knight and Friends.

Toy Stall.—Mrs. Knight and Friends.

"Vote" Stall.—Mrs. Flowers, Mrs. Northcroft, Mrs. Evans, Miss Barton, Mrs. Newsome, and Mrs. M. M. Abbott.

White Stall.—Mrs. Holmes and Mrs. Lindus.

PLEASE HELP.

All the Stalls are much in need of assistance, if they are to be well supplied with pretty and useful Christmas presents. Please help our stallholders to provide the many articles (both large and small) that visitors to the Fair require for their Christmas presents. Mrs. Whetton will welcome any articles suitable for the Household Stall, such as tea cloths, dusters, towels, table cloths, floor cloths, mops, kettles, pots, pans, scrubbing brushes, etc. The White Stall has always been one of the chief features of our Fair, and Mrs. Holmes has again undertaken this Stall; she will be very grateful for any gifts of women's and children's underclothing, or any other white articles suitable for the Stall. The Pound Stall is much in need of support; the goods most required by Mrs. Potter are jam, rice, tea, sugar, currants, raisins, cake, butter, etc. Miss Mary Knight has again undertaken the Sweet Stall, and will be most grateful for any kind of sweets. Our President (Miss Munro) will gladly welcome any gifts that are not eatables for the Scottish Stall. The Shilling Stall was a great success last year, most of the little articles on it being sold on the first day. Mrs. Delbanco will require many gifts, such as pincushions, ash-trays, calendars, etc. The Toy Stall has again been undertaken by Mrs. Knight, who will be very glad of any gifts, such as dolls, bricks, balls, boxes of soldiers, puzzles, dolls'-house furniture, toy animals, etc. Handkerchiefs, antiques, and white elephants of all descriptions are required for the Hampstead Stall. The Misses Underwood have again undertaken the Overalls and Aprons Stall, and will gladly welcome gifts of aprons and overalls; these articles always sell well, and it is necessary to have a large supply.

COMPETITIONS AND GAMES.

The competitions will, as usual, be one of the chief attractions of the Fair, and will include a "Hidden Treasure Hunt," Houp-La, Dart Throwing, and various other novelties.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

An excellent programme of entertainments is being arranged, and will include a Dancing Display on Saturday, November 21st, at 6 p.m., by Miss Grace Woollacott's dainty little pupils. Solo Dancing on Friday, November 20th, at 6 p.m., by little Miss Margery Dunhill, M.A.O.D. (semi-finalist All-England Classical Dancing Competition, 1924).

A Thé Chantant will be held each day from 4 to 6 p.m. The following have kindly promised to assist:—Mrs. Cunningham, Miss Dutch, Miss Horniman, Mrs. Harvey James, Miss Lettice Newman, Mr. Eric Richmond, Miss Potter, Miss M. Prelooker, Mrs. Morris-Wood, Mrs. Van Raalte, and Mrs. Sparrow. There will be Character Readings by Mrs. Spon, Miss Wall, and Mr. Richard Mowatt, also Phrenology by Mr. Sons, and Numerology by Miss Fitzsimmons.

TEAS AND REFRESHMENTS.

Mrs. Fisher has most kindly undertaken the teas and refreshments, and will be assisted by Miss Reeves, and the staff and members of the Minerva Club.

Teas will be served from 4 to 6 p.m., and refreshments will be served at moderate prices after 7 p.m.

SOCIETIES TAKING STALLS.

St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance.
British Commonwealth League.
The League of the Church Militant.
Catholic Stage Guild.
Council for International Service.
The Food Education Society.
Nine Elms Settlement.
The Montessori Society.
The National Institute for the Blind.
The Rally Rendo.
The Bryn Rhodyan Pottery.
Miss Burwood (Beads).
Miss Nettleton (Association Deaf and Dumb).
Miss D. Page (expert Hosiery Knitter).
Mrs. Rogers (South Indian Village Industries).
Miss A. M. Sworder (Needlework and Mending Bureau).
Miss Waldram (Art Pottery).

Three valuable hints!
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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30th, 1925.

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

EDITORIAL.

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

MEN'S "HUMILIATION."

We always said that men were more emotional than women, and, instead of being ashamed of their sentimentalism in demanding that the world shall stand still so that they can keep their old-fashioned point of view, some of these male creatures expect to extract sympathy from their fellow human beings by declaring themselves to be "humiliated" because the world goes marching on. Our readers will remember that the Chief Constable at Southport asked a woman magistrate to refrain from taking her seat on the Bench when a case of assault on two young girls was being tried, because he would feel "humiliated" if he had to give his evidence before a woman—as if his feelings in the matter were of paramount importance. It is also said that the late Speaker and the present Lord Banbury sought refuge in the House of Lords because of their embarrassment at the appearance of women in the House of Commons; and now Mr. Saxon Mills, after telling the readers of the *Daily Graphic* that this is a topsy-turvy world, maintains that sex equality results in the humiliation of men. He says he knows a case where a young woman has been placed practically at the head of a business house, and has the right to call up men, respectable, married persons, and not only to rebuke and admonish them, but even to dismiss them. He states that the men feel it a great embarrassment and humiliation to be scolded and rated by this woman. Mr. Mills has also heard of a case where the husband of a woman in such an authoritative position was employed in the same firm in a less important capacity, and lets his imagination picture the impossibility of trying to harmonise their conjugal and industrial relations. He concludes by declaring that it is contrary to nature that women should be given such an authority over men, and, being contrary to nature, must have only bad results all round. Does Mr. Mills think that a woman would be given a position of authority in any firm if she had not the capacity to fill it? Why should any man or woman feel "humiliated" for having to work under a competent authority—an editor, head of a business firm, or of any organisation—whatever the sex of the person at the top? Surely these "humiliated" men take themselves a great deal too seriously, and their work not seriously enough! Where men ought to feel "humiliated" is in those cases in which women, just because they are women, are kept in inferior positions to men, although the women may be much more capable and more efficient than the men in authority over them. As women get nearer to equality of opportunity with men, and secure more efficient training of all their powers, men and women will have to compete openly, and on an equal footing, for all the positions of authority, so many of which are still the monopoly of men, and it will then be of the essence of childishness for either men or women to feel "humiliated" by having to work under any authority—woman or man. So let Mr. Saxon Mills and those who think like him forget their little "humiliation" worries, take their courage in their hands, and try to greet the unknown with a cheer!

UNPLEASANT CASES.

We congratulate Mrs. Juson Kerr, J.P., on her decision to remain on the Bench at Deal Petty Sessions last week, when an elderly man was charged with unlawfully committing an indecent assault on a lad of fifteen years. Two other women magistrates had retired from the Bench in view of the nature of the case. This was pointed out to Mrs. Juson Kerr; but she said that while she understood the case was of a very unpleasant nature for a woman to listen to, she felt it her duty as a magistrate to remain. We are in cordial agreement with her, and we appeal to all women magistrates, no matter how unpleasant the nature of the evidence they are called upon to hear, to remember that they are first and foremost magistrates and public servants, and that they are expected to fulfil their duty as such. We have heard of similar cases in which women have been requested by their fellow magistrates, and even by the magistrates' clerk, to leave the Bench; indeed on one occasion, because a woman magistrate declined to leave, the men magistrates refused to proceed with the case. We are glad to know that she stood firm and telephoned to another man magistrate, who took a different view from the others, to come to her assistance. He did this, and the situation was saved. Men magistrates have argued that, because such revolting cases are not concerned with women and children, there is no need for a woman to remain on the Bench. We say emphatically that the Deal case is a matter of the gravest concern to every woman. It is not the business of men magistrates, whatever their motives might be, to teach women what is their duty in this matter; still less so for the magistrates' clerk. Women magistrates have taken the same oath that men magistrates have taken, and we expect them to carry out their whole duty without fear or favour.

A MISLEADING COMPETITION.

The American National Council for the Prevention of War, which has its headquarters at Washington, is offering prizes amounting to 1,200 dollars for essays of not more than 200 words, written by school-children, on the twelve greatest men who have ever lived. The heroes themselves are to be selected by the children. This is evidently a praiseworthy attempt to educate American school-children in the real meaning of greatness, and the children's choice should prove an interesting index of the type of training of the imagination they are receiving in the school and the home, as well as from their own private reading, assisted or otherwise. The competition will also prove, incidentally, how far the ancient type of military swashbuckler is being replaced by modern conceptions of heroism. We regret, however, the misleading tendency of such a competition, inasmuch as only one-half of the human race is evidently to be in the running as exponents of the heroic virtues. Are there no world heroines to stand at the side of the world's great men as their fitting mates and counterparts? We certainly have no room to enumerate them all here—the Boadiceas, the Florence Nightingales, the St. Catherines, the Hypatias, the Grace Darlings, the Elizabeth Frys, the Josephine Butlers, the Joans of Arc, the Edith Cavells. Have not these also rewritten history, and altered the face of the world? Has America forgotten, too, her Pilgrim Mothers, who, equally with their menfolk, bore the burden and heat of the day, and laid the foundations of New England freedom? We presume that girls, as well as boys, will be among the essayists. Both sexes, without doubt, will derive a great deal of knowledge and interest from the initial biographical studies which the competition entails. Yet how much more exhilarating, and how far more complete, if, instead of the 12 men asked for, six heroes and six heroines had been included in this world survey!

VOTE FOR WOMEN CANDIDATES!

The following is a list of women candidates standing for the various Borough and Town Councils; and we urge our readers to support actively and to vote for all the women in their districts, irrespective of

the party for which they stand, provided that they are prepared to uphold the equality of the sexes in all their dealings in connection with the Council.

LONDON BOROUGH COUNCILS.

BATTERSEA.—Mrs. T. Amphlett (M.R.); Mrs. Hockley (Lab.); Mrs. A. C. Stone (Lab.); Mrs. M. H. Rose (Lab.); Mrs. H. Sussex (Lab.); Mrs. A. M. Gorrings (Lab.); Mrs. L. Winfield (Lab.); Mrs. Maderson (Lab.).
BERMONDSEY.—Mrs. Baker (M.R.).
BETHNAL GREEN.—Mrs. Greaves (P.); Mrs. Benoly (P.).
CHELSEA.—Mrs. F. L. C. Walter (M.R.); Mrs. F. Snowden (M.R.); Miss E. E. Place (M.R.); Lady Phipps (M.R.); Miss C. L. Patersch (M.R.); Mrs. M. I. Hewitt (M.R.); Miss Huntingdon (P.); Miss Mary Maud (P.).
DEPTFORD.—Mrs. G. F. Dearing (M.R.); Mrs. F. E. Davis (M.R.); Mrs. A. Draper (M.R.); Miss A. W. Defty (M.R.); Mrs. L. H. Monk (M.R.); Councillor Miss K. P. Warcup (M.R.); Councillor Mrs. L. E. White (M.R.); Councillor Mrs. A. A. Cheason (M.R.).
FINSBURY.—Miss O. Freshfield (P.); Mrs. Chapman (M.R.); Miss E. J. Lord (M.R.).
FULHAM.—Councillor Miss Packer (M.R.); Mrs. H. Cummins (M.R.).
GREENWICH.—Miss Madeline Sherman (M.R.); Mrs. Mary Woolner (M.R.); Mrs. S. Hannah Mills (M.R.).
HACKNEY.—Councillor Mrs. L. C. Benwell, J. P. (M.R.); Mrs. H. A. Palmer (M.R.).
HAMPSTEAD.—Mrs. Arnholz (M.R.); Mrs. Fisher (M.R.); Mrs. Monro (M.R.); Miss Lodge (M.R.); Miss Glover (M.R.); Mrs. Russell (M.R.); Miss C. Dugdale (Ind.); Mrs. R. Baker (Ind.); Mrs. Maddox (Ind.); Mrs. F. Bradbrook (M.R.); Mrs. Blanco White (Lab.); Miss M. Coates (Lab.); Mrs. Lloyd (Lab.); Mrs. Fowler Shone (M.R.).
HAMMERSMITH.—Mrs. Evison (M.R.); Mrs. Davies (M.R.).
HOLBORN.—Lady Smith, J.P. (Ind.); Miss Lobelock; Miss E. Dibden (M.R.); Miss F. M. Herbert; Miss I. Bracegirdle; Mrs. Edith Howson; Mrs. M. H. Godfrey; Mrs. E. M. Wilson (M.R.).
ISLINGTON.—Councillor Mrs. Essex (M.R.); Councillor Miss G. Watson (M.R.); Mrs. M. Pannell (M.R.); Mrs. L. Elliott (M.R.); Mrs. Matilda Southgate, J.P. (M.R.); Mrs. Hayes (Lab.); Mrs. Wells (Lab.).
KENSINGTON.—Miss Charlotte Keeling (M.R.); Miss E. M. Pennefather (M.R.); Mrs. Burton (M.R.); Miss Helen Fraser (M.R.); Mrs. Cunningham (M.R.); Miss Fuller (M.R.); Miss Carthew (M.R.); Miss Brinton (M.R.); Miss Joseph (M.R.); Miss Drysdale (M.R.); Miss Hayne (M.R.).
LAMBETH.—Mrs. M. E. Hare (M.R.); Mrs. A. L. Wood (M.R.); Miss Lockett (P.); Miss Ker (P.).
LEWISHAM.—Mrs. Edwards (M.R.); Councillor Miss G. M. Mason (M.R.); Mrs. G. Pinnell (M.R.); Councillor Mrs. Wightwick (M.R.).

PADDINGTON.—Miss D. I. Brougham (M.R.); Miss E. M. McSwiney (M.R.); Miss E. Sturgess (M.R.); Miss G. L. Kemp Welch (M.R.); Miss C. M. Rivington (M.R.).
POPULAR.—Miss E. Mudge (M.R.); Miss E. M. Barnard (M.R.); Mrs. Lockwood (P.); Mrs. Street (P.).
ST. MARYLEBONE.—Mrs. West-Russell (M.R.); Mrs. Freeman (M.R.); Mrs. Sanger (M.R.); Mrs. Henriques (M.R.); Miss E. Bright Ashford (M.R.); Miss Janet Hamilton (M.R.); Councillor Mrs. Crawford (Lab.).
ST. PANCRAS.—Mrs. Ada Wilson (M.R.); Mrs. M. K. Matthews (M.R.); Mrs. I. M. Allen (M.R.); Miss A. Crosby, M.B.E. (M.R.); Mrs. L. S. Paterson (M.R.); Mrs. Parr (P.); Mrs. Winifred Paul (P.); Miss Florence Coles (P.); Miss E. E. Froud (Lab.).
SHOREDITCH.—Mrs. Kenrick (P.); Mrs. Webb (P.).
SOUTHWARK.—Mrs. M. Rushen (M.R.); Mrs. Martin (M.R.); Miss Rowe (M.R.); Mrs. Farrow (P.); Mrs. Want (P.); Mrs. Martin (P.); Mrs. Rishen (P.); Miss Rowe (P.).
STEPNEY.—Mrs. K. Slattery (M.R.); Mrs. Tovey (M.R.); Mrs. Boyce (M.R.).
WANDSWORTH.—Mrs. Aldworth (Lab.); Mrs. Nisbet (Lab.); Miss E. F. Reeves (Lab.); Mrs. Blizard (Lab.); Miss E. R. Goodrich (Lab.); Mrs. Hobbs (Lab.); Mrs. M. Arran (Lab.); Mrs. Frampton (Lab.); Mrs. Burstow (Ind.).
WESTMINSTER.—Mrs. Lionel Harris (M.R.); Hon. Mrs. Douglas Vickers (M.R.); Edith, Lady Bradford (M.R.); Mrs. C. Ridley Smith (M.R.); Miss A. M. Mercer (M.R.); Mrs. Horne (M.R.); Mrs. Odome (M.R.); Miss Hilda Dutch (M.R.); Miss Barbara Bliss (P.).
WOOLWICH.—Miss Lang (M.R.); Miss F. E. Holman (M.R.).

TOWN COUNCILS OUTSIDE LONDON.

BARROW.—Mrs. Lawson (Con.); Mrs. Mills (Lab.).
BIRKENHEAD.—Mrs. M. A. Mercer (Lab.); Mrs. W. A. Moore (Lab.); Mrs. A. E. Foster (Lib.); Mrs. Jones Davies (Lab.).
BURTON-ON-TRENT.—Mrs. Brittain, J.P.
CARLISLE.—Mrs. Nigel Buchanan.
EDINBURGH.—Baillie Ella M. Miller (U.); Councillor Mrs. E. E. Somerville.
GLASGOW.—Miss Snodgrass (Mod.); Mrs. Helen Gault (Lab.); Mrs. N. McLean (Lab.); Miss E. R. MacLean (Lab.); Mrs. J. P. Hay (Lab.); Mrs. K. Beaton (Lab.); Baillie Mrs. Barbour (Lab.); Miss Janet M'Culloch.
HULL.—Mrs. Hatfield.
LEEDS.—Mrs. W. Hodgson (Lib.); Mrs. B. Leigh (Con.).
LEICESTER.—Miss E. C. Fortey, J.P.; Mrs. Swainston.
MACCLESFIELD.—Mrs. B. Turpin (Lab.).
MANCHESTER.—Miss Annie Lee (Lab.); Miss E. E. Walsh (Con.); Miss D. Taylor (Lab.).
NOTTINGHAM.—Mrs. Elizabeth Webber (Con.).
SHEFFIELD.—Miss Atkinson (Ind.); Mrs. A. E. Longdon.
SOUTHPORT.—Miss Seed (Lab.); Miss K. Rimmer (Con.); Miss M. Needham (Con.).
SUNDERLAND.—Miss Margaret Pratt.
SWANSEA.—Mrs. Essie Harris, J.P.
TORQUAY.—Miss Florence Skirrow (Ind.).

FAREWELL DINNER TO MRS. MACKINNON.

The British Commonwealth League, which was formed in London in the summer, to link up women of the British Dominions in regard to matters affecting their common citizenship, held a farewell Dinner and Reception last week in honour of Mrs. Mackinnon, Australian woman substitute delegate to the Sixth Assembly, prior to her departure from England. The function, which was held at the Forum Club, London, attracted many Overseas members of the League, Australian women preponderating.

Mrs. Britomarte James, of Victoria, who presided, said the honours were equally divided between Melbourne and Sydney in the choice of Australian women substitute delegates for the League Assembly, two women, so far, having been selected from each of these States. It was a matter of much regret that no woman in any country had yet been appointed a full delegate to the League. To-night's function had a happy augury inasmuch as it took place simultaneously with the outcome of the Locarno Conference, and she, the speaker, was sure all the women present would desire to send their congratulations to Mr. Austen Chamberlain, who had handled a difficult situation with the utmost tact.

Mrs. Mackinnon, who was very warmly received, described the lively interest taken by progressive

Australian women in the development of the League. Before she left Australia, large numbers of representative women met her at every port—Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide, and Fremantle. In Adelaide alone there were 7,000 members of the League of Nations Union. Mrs. Mackinnon then briefly described the special work with which she had been connected on the Second and Fifth Committees of the League, and reviewed the progress of the Convention of 1920, laid down in connection with the Traffic in Women and Children. The method of discussing this unpleasant subject in the League, she said, was highly satisfactory, and the expert Inquiry now proceeding in the various countries tended to shake up the consciences of the nations, and hold up a mirror of truth and purity to backward countries. Mrs. Mackinnon described Dr. Nansen as one of the "live wires" of the Assembly and of the League, and warmly commended his wonderful work on the Fifth Committee in the freeing and repatriation of half a million prisoners of war.

Miss Collisson, Secretary of the British Commonwealth League, made an eloquent appeal to women of the British Dominions to support the League, and so convert it into a really important Society, declaring that "the day of the twopenny-halfpenny women's Society has gone for good."

SUFFRAGE POSITION IN ALL COUNTRIES

The International Woman Suffrage Alliance has issued a memorandum giving the suffrage position in all countries which have in any way enfranchised their women. Below is a summary of this list:—

AUSTRALIA.—Equal suffrage and eligibility for municipal bodies, State and Federal Parliaments.

AUSTRIA.—Equal suffrage and eligibility for municipal bodies and Parliament.

BELGIUM.—Equal municipal suffrage and eligibility for municipal councils. Eligibility for Parliament and provincial councils without suffrage, except for a limited class of war sufferers.

BURMA.—Equal suffrage without eligibility.

CANADA.—Equal suffrage and eligibility for all elected bodies both Federal and Provincial, except that women are not eligible as Federal Senators, and that they have not suffrage or eligibility for the Province of Quebec.

CZECHO-SLOVAKIA, DENMARK, ESTHONIA, FINLAND, GERMANY, ICELAND, IRISH FREE STATE, ISLE OF MAN, CHANNEL ISLANDS, KENYA, LETTONIA, LITHUANIA, LUXEMBOURG, NETHERLANDS, NEW ZEALAND, NORWAY, POLAND, RHODESIA, RUSSIA, SWEDEN, UNITED STATES.—All these have equal suffrage and eligibility for all elected bodies.

GREAT BRITAIN and NORTHERN IRELAND.—Equal municipal suffrage and eligibility. Parliamentary suffrage restricted to women over 30, as against men of 21, with other inequalities.

GREECE.—Limited measure of municipal and communal suffrage, without eligibility, to come into force in two years' time.

HUNGARY.—Actual terms of municipal suffrage not known. Parliamentary suffrage restricted to women over 30, as against men of 21, and with other inequalities.

INDIA.—In British India women have equal suffrage in the Provinces of Bombay, Madras, the United Provinces, Assam and Bengal, but without eligibility. In certain towns, such as Bombay and Madras, women have municipal suffrage and are eligible. In the Native States, suffrage has been granted in Cochin, Travancore, Jhalwar, and Mysore.

JAMAICA.—Equal suffrage without eligibility.

PALESTINE.—Women have equal suffrage and eligibility for the Jewish National Assembly, but they have no voting rights under the constitution.

SOUTH AFRICA.—Equal municipal suffrage and eligibility.

SPAIN.—Limited measure of municipal suffrage and eligibility.

TRINIDAD and TOBAGO.—Women have the vote at 30 years of age as against men at 21, subject to a property qualification in both cases. Women are not eligible to sit in the council.

WINDWARD ISLANDS (Granada, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, etc.).—Women have the vote at 30 years of age as against men at 21, subject to a property qualification in both cases. Women are not eligible to sit in the Council.

WHY RAILWAY CARRIAGES SHOULD BE RESERVED FOR WOMEN.

The following report is taken from the *Sunday Sun* (Newcastle-on-Tyne), October 18th:—

"A fine of 40s., with 15s. costs, was imposed upon a Knottingley grocer, who was summoned at Pontefract yesterday for interfering with the comfort of a passenger on the railway. The plaintiff, aged 14, a maid at Ackworth Grange, said that on September 25th, when she was returning to Ackworth from Moorthorpe, the defendant followed her into the train, and during the journey put his arm round her waist and tried to kiss her. She pulled the communication chain, but although the train slowed down for a signal, it proceeded, and the defendant again put his arm round her. She was met at Ackworth Station by two other maids from the Grange, and one of them, to whom she complained, asked the defendant why he had been interfering with her, but the train moved off before he could reply. The defendant asserted that the complainant followed him into the carriage, and denied that he touched her."

The *South-Western Star*, of October 23rd, reports that a man aged 29, a clerk, was again in the dock on remanded charges of behaving improperly in a train between Vauxhall and Clapham Junction. The evidence, briefly, was that a young woman, living at Putney, complained of prisoner's conduct to the railway authorities on two dates in October. A similar

charge was now preferred by another young woman, also living at Putney, who said that about the end of June or the beginning of July, the prisoner got into the carriage after her and misbehaved. She identified the prisoner from among a number of other men of similar appearance. A doctor said he had had the accused under his charge since April last, when he treated him for a chronic condition of neurasthenia. For the defence it was urged that the evidence of the young women was unreliable. It was known that women were abnormal in these matters. The magistrate said he was satisfied that the case had been proved. It was quite impossible for him to pass over such a matter without inflicting imprisonment. Women travelling alone in trains must be protected, and where an offender was detected he must be punished. Prisoner would go to gaol for six weeks in the second division.

BOOK REVIEW.

British Commonwealth League; Report of Conference on "The Citizen Rights of Women within the British Empire." 17, Buckingham St., Adelphi, Price 1/6. (Can be obtained at this Office.)

This excellent report of the Caxton Hall Conference on July 9th and 10th, 1925, will be invaluable to all political workers, thinkers, and speakers, giving as it does first-hand information on the political, social, moral, and industrial conditions of women in all parts of the Empire, and the varying inequalities which there persist. It is packed with the facts and figures so often wanted, so difficult to obtain.

A foreword by Dame Millicent Fawcett commends the British Commonwealth League to "her suffrage friends," hoping that the Nationalist grouping of women will make our work more effective, tend to give greater effect to the views and wishes of women in Imperial Conferences, and strengthen the full consideration of women's questions in the Assembly and Council of the League of Nations.

The Report includes the opening address of Lord Cecil of Chelwood on women's responsibility, as citizens of the Empire and members of humanity, to study questions of foreign policy and international difficulties; addresses on the present political position of women in the United Kingdom (Miss Wilkinson, M.P.), South Africa (Miss Johnstone Scott), the Irish Free State (Mrs. Despard), India (Mrs. Sen and Anita Begum Fyze Rahamin), New Zealand (Miss Kane), Bermuda (Captain Misick), Kenya (Mrs. MacGregor Ross), Australia (Mrs. Jones), and Canada (Mrs. Geggie); discussion on the Equal Moral Standard by Lord Astor (Chair), Miss Alison Neilans, who gave a review of the laws in force within the British Empire dealing with the age of consent, divorce, illegitimacy, street order, prostitution, procuration, and venereal disease, Mrs. Basu (India), Miss England (New Zealand), and Miss Seon (Bermuda).

Legislative inequalities in Canada were discussed by Mrs. Geggie. An exhaustive paper on the Nationality of Married Women was given by Miss Chrystal Macmillan, and accounts of the marriage laws of South Africa, Canada, Australia, and India, by Mrs. Solly, Mrs. Plumtre, Mrs. Jones, and Miss Ajgaonkar.

Economic Equality occupied the final session. Lady Rhondda presided, and valuable addresses were given by Mrs. Oliver Strachey (Great Britain), Miss Collisson (Australia), Mr. Joshi and Lady Chatterjee (*British Commonwealth League; Report of Conference* Mrs. Laws (Kenya). E. K.

OUR LENDING LIBRARY.

"Women in the Factory." By Dame Adelaide M. Anderson, D.B.E., M.A.
 "What I Remember." By Millicent Garrett Fawcett, J.P., LL.D.
 "Ancilla's Share." An Indictment of Sex Antagonism. Anonymous.
 "The Police Court and Its Work." By Henry Turner Waddy. May be borrowed from the Literature Department at 6d. per week.

Women's Freedom League.

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

President—Miss ANNA MUNRO.
 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.

Wednesday, November 4th, at 3.30 p.m.
 "Fair" Sub-Committee, at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Friday and Saturday, November 20th and 21st.
 Green, White and Gold Fair at Central Hall, Westminster. Opens, November 20th, 3 p.m., Dame Millicent Fawcett, G.B.E., J.P., LL.D., November 21st, 3 p.m., Miss Lind-af-Hageby.

Saturday, December 5th, at 10 a.m.
 National Executive Committee, at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

SCOTLAND.

Saturday, October 31st, at 7.30 p.m.
 Edinburgh Branch. Social Gathering in the Ladies' Rooms, The Philosophical Institute, 4, Queen's Street.

PROVINCES.

Wednesday, November 4th, at 7 p.m.
 Middlesbrough Branch. Concert and Supper in the Labour Hall, Albert Terrace.

Monday, November 9th, at 3.30 p.m.
 Hastings Branch. Public Meeting at the Grand Hotel. Speaker: Mrs. Miles. Subject: "The League of Nations."

Thursday, November 19th, at 7.30 p.m.
 Portsmouth Branch. Social Evening at the Goblins Market, Palmerston Road. Lecture on R. L. Stevenson, by Mrs. Hart. Musical illustrations, Miss Elsie Jocelyn. Refreshments 1/-.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Saturday, October 31st, at 3 p.m.
 Saturday Speech Club, Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Speaker: Miss Edith M. Bell. Subject: "The Folklore of All Hallows E'en."

Monday, November 2nd, at 5.45 p.m.
 Six Point Group, 92, Victoria Street, S.W.1. Speaker: Dr. Scharlieb, C.B.E. Subject: "The Spiritual Obligations of Citizenship." Chair: Miss Ada Moore.

Wednesday, November 4th, at 8 p.m.
 National Council for the Abolition of the Death Penalty. Public Meeting at the Essex Hall, Strand, W.C. Speakers: Sir Henry Slesser, K.C. (late Attorney-General), Mr. Jack Hayes, M.P. (General Secretary of the National Union of Police and Prison Officers), Miss Margery Fry, J.P. (Hon. Sec. of the Howard League for Penal Reform), and Rev. Thomas Nightingale. Chair: Mr Harold Morland, M.A. (Hon. Treasurer of C.O.P.E.C.).

Friday, November 6th, at 8 p.m.
 Henry George Club, 11, Tothill Street, Westminster. Speaker: Mr. F. Verinder. Subject: "Women's Interest in the Land Question."

Monday, November 9th, at 7 p.m.
 London Council for Prevention of War. Central British No More War Demonstration, at Central Hall, Westminster. Speakers: Ernest Bevin, Capt. Wedgwood, M.P., Miss Margaret Bondfield, Canon Donaldson, and Rev. Dr. Norwood.

Thursday, November 12th, at 5 p.m.
 Six Point Group, 92, Victoria Street, S.W.1. Speaker: Miss Rose Macaulay. Subject: "Audiences." Chair: Mr. Stephen Gwynn.

Thursday, November 12th, at 8 p.m.
 The Drama Study Circle. Public Lecture at Keat's House, Keat's Grove, Hampstead. Speaker: Miss Emma Goldman. Subject: "Early Russian Dramatists: Gogol, Griboyedov, and others."

Monday, November 16th, at 5.45 p.m.
 Six Point Group, 92, Victoria Street, S.W. Speaker: Miss M. Geikie-Cobb, on "The Law relating to Children and Young Persons." Chair: Mrs. Crofts, M.A., LL.B.

Tuesday, November 17th, at 4.15 p.m.
 National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship. Reception at the Lyceum Club, 138, Piccadilly, W.1., to meet Her Grace the Duchess of Atholl, D.B.E., LL.D., M.P., and Miss K. D. Courtney (Chairman of the Women's International League). Tickets 2/6 from the Secretary, 15, Dean's Yard, S.W.1.

Wednesday, November 18th, at 4 p.m.
 Royal Institute of Public Health, 37, Russell Square, W.C.1. Speaker: C. W. Saleeby, M.D., F.R.S. Edin. Subject: "The rôle of Clothing in the Prevention and Arrest of Disease."

November 23rd—26th.
 League of Nations Union, 15, Grosvenor Crescent, S.W. Conference on Social Insurance, at the London School of Economics, Houghton Street, Aldwych, W.C.2.

Thursday, November 26th, at 6 p.m.
 Child-Study Society (London), 90, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W. Speaker: Brig.-General R. J. Kentish. Subject: "Playing-Fields for Children."

Monday, November 30th, at 4.15 p.m. (Business Session 2.30.)
 Council for the Representation of Women in the League of Nations. Annual Meeting at Women's Service House, 35, Marsham Street, Westminster. Speaker: The Duchess of Atholl, M.P. Chair: Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, J.P., D.Sc. Admission free. Tea 9d.

BRANCH NOTES.

EDINBURGH.

A Women's Freedom League Social will be given in the Ladies' Rooms, The Philosophical Institute, 4, Queen's Street, on Saturday, October 31st, at 7.30 p.m. It will take the place of the usual monthly branch meeting. Women's Freedom League business will be discussed, there may be a short speech or two, and there will be entertainment. Miss Vera Bertram has very kindly consented to recite for us, and Miss Hopp and Miss Simons will do a little sketch entitled "Square Pegs in Round Holes." Refreshments will be provided, and a collection taken to cover expenses. All welcome!
 (Org.) LILIAN LENTON, 22, Pannure Place.

GLASGOW.

The *Glasgow News*, of October 20th, reports that, under the auspices of the Women's Freedom League, a most enthusiastic gathering welcomed Miss Anna Munro (President of the League) the previous Saturday, in the Central Halls. Miss Munro, who spoke with all her usual force and idealism, emphasised the need for women's organisations, such as the Women's Freedom League, to train women to take their proper place in politics. Referring to the meetings of the National Council of Women held recently in Birmingham, she regretted that Scotland had been responsible for two retrogressive amendments. When the Women's Freedom League moved that all occupations should be open to women, Scotland moved that the matter be not discussed. This, however, was withdrawn. The Women's Freedom League also moved that efficiency, and not sex, should be the basis of employment, because, although the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act was on the Statute Book, practice tended more and more to exclude women from much of the equality won during the war. Scotland wished this to apply to exceptional cases only, but members of the Women's Freedom League held that it was a matter for individual decision which married people should decide for themselves.

OUR OPEN COLUMN.

To the Editor of THE VOTE.

"Women in Business."

DEAR MADAM,—Miss Homersham's letter in your open column (October 14th) does indeed point the way whereby women without capital may yet bring worthy business enterprises into being. Trading is an essential of social life, and trading for "mutual benefit and not for unlimited profits" represents a sound commercial proposition.

To encourage others, it gives me great pleasure to confirm Miss Homersham's remarks with regard to Women's Pioneer Housing, Ltd., a co-operative society formed under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, for the provision of flats at moderate rentals for women of moderate means.

This Society began five years ago with £14 as capital, and now its property is worth £40,000, and 6 per cent. dividends are being paid regularly to the Shareholders.

The phenomenal success of this business undertaking may be attributed to three factors:—

1. The object of the Society meets an urgent need, and meets it well.
2. Moneymaking as such gives place to service.
3. Methods are businesslike, and dividends, though limited to 6 per cent., can be depended on.

Women's Pioneer Housing, Ltd., has enlisted the interest of many women, and not a few men, who have made the Society's work possible by taking up Shares or 5 per cent. Loan Stock, and so far have expressed themselves very satisfied with results. In addition, the Pioneer tenants themselves find one-third of the necessary capital by becoming investors on taking possession of their flats.

The value of co-operation as a means of solving some part of the women's housing problem has certainly been demonstrated by Women's Pioneer Housing, Ltd.

Yours faithfully,
 E. A. BROWNING,
 Manager and Secretary.

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OF WOMEN'S ORGANISATIONS.

The Consultative Committee of Women's Organisations held its first autumn meeting last week, when much time was spent in discussing the National Health Insurance Acts. It was urged that since dependents' allowances were given to the wives and children of workers unemployed for any other reason save ill-health, it was indefensible to refuse similar allowances in the case of sickness of an insured person. On the ground that the present provision for medical treatment for working women and their children was inadequate, medical benefit was claimed for the wives and family of insured persons. It was pointed out that maternal mortality was stationary, and it was asserted that some reduction in the rate would result if either the benefit were higher, or better opportunities for treatment were provided. With regard to married women who had been insured contributors up to the time of their marriage, it was suggested that in order not to lose the benefit under the scheme, they should be allowed to become voluntary contributors after their marriage.

In connection with the forthcoming borough elections, members of all the constituent Societies of the Committee were urged to ask candidates to oppose, if elected, the present compulsory retirement on marriage of the women employees of the councils.

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NOTICES.

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FELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Sunday, November 1st. 3.30 p.m. Music. Lecture. Sir Josiah Stamp, G.B.E., D.Sc. 6.30. Dr. Percy Dearmer.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE. A Christmas Fair will be held at International House, 55, Gower Street, W.C.1, on Friday, November 6th. Opening Ceremony 3 p.m. Admission 1/- Household and Fancy Stalls. Half-hour Entertainments, Tickets 1/- each. Palmistry by Madame Malmberg (Finland). Competitions. Refreshments.

TRADE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

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

REST AND HOLIDAYS.

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