

THE VOTE,
DEC. 13, 1929.

MARRIAGE AND MONEY.

THE VOTE

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

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ONE PENNY.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1929

OBJECTS: To use the power of the Parliamentary vote, now won for Women upon equal terms with men, to elect women to Parliament, and upon other public bodies; to establish equality of rights and opportunities between the sexes; and to promote the social and industrial well-being of the community.

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In presiding last Thursday afternoon at a meeting at the Minerva Club, Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence said it was believed generally that we had got rid of slavery. We needed Miss Boyle to remind us that this was not the case.

Miss Boyle opened by stating that at the Peace Conference, held in Paris in 1919, an Inter-Allied Suffrage Congress was held to remind the Conference of the existence of women. Miss Boyle, who attended the Congress, presented it with an International Charter of Women's Rights and Liberties, which demanded that: (1) all women carried off during the war should be returned to their homes; (2) customs by which women were dealt with without their consent should be declared internationally illegal under the Acts relating to slavery; (3) women should retain their own nationality on marriage; (4) where none existed, machinery should be set up to enable unenfranchised women to bring their grievances before Governments.

Miss Boyle was glad to be able to say that this question of the slavery of women, which for ten years she had tackled alone until Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence and the Women's Freedom League had taken it up, was now coming to the fore, and public opinion was being aroused.

Throughout Africa, North, South, East, and West, woman is regarded as a chattel. When her father dies she becomes an asset of her brothers. A widow is inheritable property and is often farmed out to produce offspring for her owner.

The Slavery Convention of 1925 defined a slave as one over whom all or any of the rights of ownership are exercised. These rights are exercised rigorously in India, where it is a man's duty to "give a daughter in marriage," and in Africa, where children are pledged before they are born. If for any reason the girl does not marry the man to whom she has been pledged and who has paid part of the price, the price must be repaid, and this repayment a father will avoid at all costs. The powers attached to right of ownership are such that if a man cannot pay, the father has the right to take his daughter away and trade her to another man. The argument put forward by those who support this state of things is that it is impossible to let these women go free as they would take to a life of immorality!

In 1868, the High Courts of the Transvaal and of the Orange Free State decided that polygamy could not be recognised. Therefore in many parts these

purchased girls have not even the status of wives, although their price may be recovered in the courts. Human sacrifices, "killing off," "smelling out," and witchcraft are practices which have been put down in Africa. Why, then, urged Miss Boyle, should not these forms of concubinage?

The more civilised and educated an African girl may be, the higher the price placed upon her. In North Africa, children rescued by missionaries, often in a state of hopeless neglect and starvation, are almost invariably claimed when they become marketable and sold to old men.

By the Native Women Restriction Act passed in 1915, in Basutoland it is an offence for a woman to cross the frontier without the permission of her menfolk. Thus hemmed in by White law, their last means of escape from undesired marriages is cut off.

The French Government in Northern Africa has pledged itself not to interfere with native customs. A particularly sad case was brought to Miss Boyle's notice by Madame Marie Vérone, the eminent French woman lawyer. A girl who had been sold in infancy became an orphan and was cared for by missionaries. She qualified as a teacher and married a fellow-teacher. The man to whom she had been sold then appeared and claimed her. Madame Vérone was asked to defend her, but no defence was possible. The woman belonged to the man for whom she had been bought years before, and she was given to him.

Another grievous case was brought to Miss Boyle's notice by a friend travelling in Morocco. She had seen a girl, with shaved head and a chain on her leg, being driven along the street by a jeering crowd. When she asked the meaning of it, she was told that the victim was "a bad girl," for she had gone out unveiled and now no man would pay for her, so her father was making an example of her.

In polygamous countries wives are often in the custody of eunuchs. There appears to be no protection for little boys against the form of mutilation this profession entails.

However undesirable the customs which enslave native women, Miss Boyle pointed out such customs cannot be abolished without safeguards. The fact that a woman is "property," ensures her well-being as a baby and as a growing girl. A father takes a pride in his daughters, and the daughters in the price which is secured for them. Immediate measures which should be taken are: (1) the repeal of the Native Women

Restriction Act of Basutoland; (2) the abolition of the marriage contract before birth or in childhood; (3) the setting up of machinery to help girls who are being coerced to bring their cases to the courts; (4) the freeing of widows. The whole question is one bristling with difficulties. Miss Boyle did not claim that she was going to make these women happier. She was trying to set them free, so that they could then work out their happiness as other women had done. What she claimed was, that it was wrong. This slavery must be abolished, and we must begin to abolish it now. "When people start working for a thing that is right, they always succeed."

In the discussion that followed, Miss Boyle said that there were two ways in which this question could be raised. It could be brought on to the agenda of the Imperial Council, and it could be brought before the Assembly of the League of Nations as a violation of the Slavery Convention. Pressure must be brought to bear on the British delegates to bring the matter up next September.

Lady Simon, who had hurried from another meeting hoping to be in time to hear Miss Boyle, said that women set the standard. If they accept bad treatment, they will get bad treatment. It was for us to spread knowledge of the conditions prevailing and to work through the League of Nations.

In conclusion, Miss Boyle urged that pressure should be brought to bear also upon Lord Passfield.

WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Women Called to the Bar.

Five women were called to the Bar on November 18th—the Misses Jessie Edson Hendrick and Katherine Mumford Hendrick, sisters who come from New York and who both hold the Bachelor of Arts degree of Oxford University; Miss Doris Tempest, B.A., Newnham College; Miss Dorothy Rae Lever; and Miss Kathleen Bruce Anderson. All these five women belong to Middle Temple.

Women Inspectors of Schools.

Miss K. M. Thomas and Miss T. Smith have been appointed to be H.M. Inspectors of Elementary Schools.

First Woman Alderman at Eastbourne.

Miss Alice Hudson, the Deputy Mayor and a former Mayor of Eastbourne, has been elected to a vacant aldermanship. Miss Hudson is the first woman councillor at Eastbourne to receive the honour.

Women Income Tax Inspectors.

Three women have recently been appointed Assistant Income Tax Inspectors at Birmingham, Liverpool, and Reading, and another woman has been made Assistant Collector at Liverpool. These women will perform exactly the same work as the men in assessing income tax and dealing with abatements, allowances, and all the other intricate and responsible duties of an inspector.

Women Councillors.

Miss A. S. Murray, B.A., Elgin, has been returned unopposed to the Moray County Council for the Birnie and Elgin district. She is the first woman to be elected to this body.

Councillor G. Elsie Taylor, the only woman member of Batley Town Council, has been appointed Vice-Chairman of the Batley Education Committee, in succession to ex-Alderman F. Priestley.

Councillor Mrs. Barwick, Acting President of the Morecambe and Heysham Women Citizens' Association, has been appointed Chairman of the Parks and Pleasure Grounds Committee of the Morecambe Council. This is the first time a woman has held such a position in Morecambe, and the first time a woman has been appointed Chairman of any of this Council's Committees.

Woman Senior Medical Officer of Health.

Dr. Dorothy M. Catchpool has been appointed Senior Medical Officer of Health for Friern Barnet, as from next January. Friern Barnet is the first Urban District Council in the Greater London area to appoint a woman as Senior Medical Officer of Health.

Woman Suffrage in Uruguay?

The Christian Science Monitor reports from Montevideo, Uruguay, that the National Council of Administration has unanimously approved a message to be sent to the National Assembly, supporting the granting of full suffrage for women. The message deplors the delays undergone so far by the movement for woman suffrage, and recommends immediate action.

NEGRO WOMAN ELECTED TO BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The Christian Science Monitor states that Mrs. Mary Brown Martin, a university-trained negro, with three children now attending Ohio universities, has been elected to membership of the Cleveland Board of Education, which administers the school system of a city of 1,000,000 people. It is said to be the first time a city has ever elected a negro woman to such a post, although they have served in other cities through appointment. Mrs. Martin is the daughter of slave parents, and her education and training were obtained under great handicaps. She is the wife of a Cleveland attorney, Chairman of the Cleveland Federation of Coloured Women's Clubs, an active member of the Association for the Advancement of Coloured People, and a trustee of the Phillis Wheatly Association. The new member of the school board displayed unusual vote-getting powers. Not only did she poll a large vote of her own race, but drew thousands of votes from white citizens, officials declare.

In Memoriam.

We greatly regret to record the death of our old friend, the Hon. Sir John Cockburn, K.C.M.G., M.D., on November 26th, at King's College Hospital, at the age of 79. Suffragists throughout the world owe a very great debt of gratitude to Sir John Cockburn. He initiated the reform of adult suffrage in South Australia, was Premier there in 1889-90, and in 1895 the Bill was carried by which women were enfranchised on the same terms as men, and this proved a very great stimulus to woman suffrage in all other countries. Later, Sir John Cockburn came to London, where he was Agent-General for South Australia. He was one of the staunchest friends of woman suffrage and the women's movement generally in this country, and frequently spoke for the various women's organisations, among them the Women's Freedom League, the last occasion being in January, 1921, when he addressed a meeting at the Minerva Café on "The Anabolic Female." His geniality, kindness, and courtesy made him one of the most popular speakers for our cause. Sir John Cockburn was President of the International Alliance of the Men's Leagues for Woman Suffrage, in which he worked for many years closely with another of our old friends, Mr. Jaakoff Prelooker.

In 1921, Sir John Cockburn sent the following New Year's message to THE VOTE:—

"Heartiest greetings to THE VOTE on the threshold of a new decade. Woman's franchise, though the greatest achievement of all the ages, is but as the proverbial grain of mustard seed. Its value lies in its potentiality. The victory is won, but the work is yet to be done. If there is to be a new world, or even if the sick old world is going to recover, it is only through woman that salvation can come."

A memorial service for Sir John Cockburn was held at the church of St. Dunstan-in-the-East, Idol Lane, Eastcheap, on Monday, December 2nd.

IN PARLIAMENT.

Size of Classes (Scotland).

MR. SINKINSON (Lab., Berwick and Haddington) asked the Secretary of State for Scotland whether he will furnish a Return for Scotland showing, at 31st March, 1928, and 31st March, 1929, the average number of scholars on the registers per teacher in primary, secondary, and special schools, respectively? MR. ADAMSON: At 31st March, 1928, the average number of scholars on the registers per teacher in primary schools was 35; in secondary schools, 24; and in special schools, 18. I regret that the figures for 1929 are not yet available.

MISS LEE (Lab., N. Lanark) asked the Secretary of State for Scotland the average number of pupils in the classes of Scottish elementary schools; the number of classes containing 50 or more pupils; and the reduction, if any, in the size of the classes since 1st July? MR. JOHNSTON (Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Scotland): The particulars desired by the hon. Member are not available, and could not be obtained without disproportionate expenditure of time and labour. I would, however, refer to the answer given by my right hon. Friend to the hon. Member for Berwick and Haddington. I may add that the number of classes having more than 50 children habitually under the charge of one teacher has decreased from 143 in February last to 98 in October—the date of the latest return.

Girl Probationers (Post Office).

LT.-COL. HENEAGE (U., Louth) asked the Postmaster-General if he is aware that girls who have been at secondary schools are ineligible for certain posts at the Post Office, which can only be obtained by girls under 15 years of age; that the school-leaving age for secondary schools is generally 16; and if he will make arrangements that girls who have received a good education should have all suitable avenues of employment open to them? MR. LEES-SMITH: The hon. and gallant Member no doubt refers to the situation of girl probationers in the Post Office, for which the maximum age limit is 15. All satisfactory girl probationers are promised a permanent career in the Post Office; and, in order that they may be absorbed into adult situations, it is necessary to keep their number at a minimum, and therefore to recruit them at a comparatively early age. It is found that candidates of a suitable type are forthcoming from the elementary schools. Girls who leave at 16 are eligible to compete for all other situations in the Post Office open to women.

Women Police.

SIR N. GRATTAN-DOYLE (U., Newcastle, N.) asked the Home Secretary the authorised increase in the number of women police in the Metropolitan Police area; whether it is proposed to extend the scope of the duties performed by the women police; and, if so, in what way? MR. CLYNES: Yes, Sir. The increase in immediate contemplation is from 50 to 100. The scope of the functions of a policewoman as an attested constable is in law the same as in the case of a man, but in practice the policewomen will conform to a special scheme of duties which will be subject to variation in detail in the light of experience. Certain questions of organisation are still under consideration.

Women Probation Officers.

MR. LOVAT-FRASER (Lab., Lichfield) asked the Home Secretary if he is aware that there are 468 Courts of Summary Jurisdiction where no women probation officers have been appointed; and if he can say how many women and girls appeared before those courts and how many of those have been placed upon probation? MR. CLYNES: I am informed that the number quoted by my hon. Friend is approximately correct. I cannot give the particulars asked for in the second part of the question, but I am well aware that women and girls are placed on probation by courts having no women probation officers. The matter was recently

considered by the Probation Advisory Committee, and it is hoped shortly to issue to magistrates a circular letter drawing their attention to the need for women probation officers.

MR. R. A. TAYLOR (Lab., Lincoln): In cases where local authorities have made excellent arrangements outside the appointment of probation officers, will the right hon. Gentlemen not interfere with the local arrangements? MR. CLYNES: I will keep that point in mind.

Maternal Mortality.

MAJOR HILLS (U., Ripon) asked the Minister of Health what steps he intends to take to deal with maternal mortality and the injury to many mothers who survive; and whether, in view of the fact that every political party is pledged to deal with this problem, he intends to introduce legislation, and at what date? MR. GREENWOOD: The Maternal Mortality Committee appointed by my predecessor is continuing its investigations into the causes of maternal mortality and morbidity. The report of the Departmental Committee on the training and employment of midwives has recently been published, and is now receiving my attention. I have these matters under close consideration, but I cannot at present give any date for the introduction of legislation.

Civil Service (Promotions).

MR. MALONE (Lab., Northampton) asked the Financial Secretary to the Treasury the number of men and women civil servants, respectively, promoted or transferred to the Administrative Grade during each of the years 1927 and 1928; and what rank they held prior to promotion or transfer? MR. PETHICK-LAWRENCE: The reply is as follows:—

Number of promotions or transfers to the Administrative Grade during the years 1927 and 1928:

	Men.	Women	Previous Rank.
1927	3	0	1 Assistant Inspector of Taxes. 1 Clerk, Higher Grade. 1 Executive Officer.
1928	10	1	1 Finance Officer. 1 Secretary of Trade Boards, 1 Assistant Inspector of Taxes. 3 Executive Officers. 1 Staff Officer. 1 Clerk, Higher Grade. 1 Clerk in Charge of Accounts. 1 Second-class Assistant Accountant. 1 Woman Organising Officer in the Employment Department.

Capital Punishment.

In the House of Commons on Thursday, December 5th, it was ordered that a Select Committee be appointed to consider the question of capital punishment in cases tried by civil courts in time of peace, and to report whether another penalty, and, if so, of what nature, should be substituted for the sentence of death in such cases where that sentence is now prescribed by law.

Mr. Ayles, Mr. Barr, Dr. Ethel Bentham, Mr. Culverwell, Mr. Lovat-Fraser, Dr. Hunter, Mr. T. Lewis, Mr. Marjoribanks, Mr. Milner, Mr. P. Oliver, Sir John Power, Mr. Ramsbotham, Sir Gervais Rentoul, Major Ross, and Mr. Toole were nominated members of the Committee.

Membership Application Form.

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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.

MARRIAGE AND MONEY.

A week or two ago, the two subjects which shared the honour of having the biggest headlines in our daily newspapers were "Pin-Money Women" and "Extravagant Wives." In the same newspapers, and at the same time, women were being blamed for leaving the shelter of their homes to go to work in order to get a little money to spend; and other women were equally censured for stopping at home and freely, too freely perhaps, spending their husband's money. In last week's VOTE is a report of a meeting of our Middlesbrough Branch, at which a resolution was passed, protesting against the threat to dismiss a local Supervising Home Teacher for the Blind if she marries, while round about the same date a leading article appeared in *The North-Eastern Daily Gazette* under the heading, "Parasite Wives," in which article the writer indignantly admonishes able-bodied young women "who marry for what they can get out of their husbands, and who live with their husbands just long enough to enable them to extract comfortable allowances." We hold no brief for these women any more than we should hold a brief for a lazy husband who refused to work to help support the home; but we do suggest that the conduct of the young women, which this writer so strongly deprecates, is the logical result of men's illogical treatment of the able-bodied married woman. The Government itself sets a thoroughly bad example. It refuses to employ married women in any part of the Civil Service, and compels women civil servants to resign from their posts on marriage. The same procedure is followed by the great majority of local governing authorities in regard to women teachers and women doctors; and employers generally throughout the country adopt a similar rule. In effect, men tell women that marriage is a state in which the woman is entirely dependent upon her husband, a state in which she is supposed never to need any money if she continues to live with him. A wife has no legal claim to any portion of her husband's income or earnings; and he can will every penny away from her at his death. He is obliged by law to keep her off the rates, but he is not obliged by law to give her any pocket-money, not even sixpence a week; and the only way she can legally get any money from him is to get a separation allowance! Nowadays, partly because of more enlightened views and greater facilities for education, but more largely because of our general economic position, both girls and boys are brought up with the idea of getting their own living, and, where possible, carving out a career for themselves. Why should the experience gained by an able-bodied woman, and her training with all the expense involved in it, be wasted simply and solely because she marries? Why also should a woman, accustomed to earn and to spend her own salary, be expected to give up all right to earn money when she enters the married state, while at the same time she has no legal claim to any of her husband's money while she continues to live with him? The complete dependence of a wife on her husband is an anachronism in our present stage of civilisation.

Marriage should be an active partnership, and both husband and wife should be equally free to make the best contribution they can to the success of that partnership; and there should be no restrictions on the earning power of either partner. The services of both should receive practical recognition, and if the wife stays at home and looks after everyone and everything in that home, she should be able to claim the monetary value of the services she renders, as well as some security in the event of her husband's death. A moneyless state of matrimony is not likely to appeal to any self-respecting woman.

HEALTH AND WORK.

We learn from the Press that the Post Office, as well as commercial houses, is seriously concerned over the shortage of boy workers, and that there is a possibility of "telegraph girls." At present, girls are being employed in the District Messengers' service, and one of the managers of this undertaking is reported to have declared that the girls have not disappointed him, for they have proved as quick, courteous, and efficient as boys. As for the objection that girls might not be strong enough for the work, we are told that it has now been discovered that their health has improved noticeably since they were engaged! This "discovery" seems somewhat belated, for we read last week in another paper that there is a woman at Bishopsworth Common, near Bristol—Mrs. Mary Garland, who is 84 years old—that she has been delivering milk for more than fifty years, and that she walks five miles to Bristol and back every day. This woman is a picture of health and strength as she strides along, carrying a large milk can in one hand. She delivers milk every morning before 8 o'clock to houses on the new housing estate at Bedminster Down, and before dinner walks into Bristol and back, fine or storm, every day, including Sundays. Mrs. Garland says she does not want to retire, and she is sure she would be no healthier or happier if she had no work to do. No new discovery this—the beneficial results to the worker, boy or girl, man or woman, of healthy occupation and activity!

CONGRATULATIONS to FRU FURUHJELM!

On December 11th, Fru Furuholm attained her 70th birthday, and she has deservedly received congratulations from women all over the world. The Women's Freedom League rejoices to share in those congratulations, for Fru Furuholm is known personally to many of our members. She has spoken at our meetings in London, has visited our offices, and from time to time sent contributions to our paper, THE VOTE. An interview with her appeared on its front page so long ago as May 16th, 1924. At that time she was the Editor of a woman's paper, *Astra*, which catered for the varied interests which make up women's lives. Fru Furuholm then told our representative that she was elected to the Finnish Diet in 1913, and was successful in five subsequent elections. Her Parliamentary life lasted ten years, and she was a member of the National Swedish Party, for, though born and brought up in Finland, Fru Furuholm is of Swedish descent. In Finland there is only one Chamber for all parties. The number of members is 200, and in 1924, 16 of these members were women! In that year Fru Furuholm retired from political life in order to devote her time more closely to journalism, and the woman's movement generally. In Finland she is President of the Finland Swedish Women's Union, and last June she was one of the most active members present at the Congress of the International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship, held in Berlin. Fru Furuholm is specially connected with its Committee on the Nationality of Married Women.

Many happy returns of the day to Fru Furuholm, and many happy years of continued activity in the women's cause!

COUNCIL FOR THE REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN IN THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

The above Council, which has now been in existence ten years, held its annual meeting at 35, Marsham Street, S.W., on Tuesday, December 3rd. Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, J.P., D.Sc., the President, was in the chair and presented the report for the year. Before doing so, however, she expressed the great sorrow of the Council at the sudden death of its Hon. Secretary, Miss Florence Beaumont, last August. Miss Beaumont had been for many years one of the most devoted workers in the woman's movement, and, at Mrs. Gordon's invitation, all present stood for a few moments in silence as a token of respect for their former colleague.

Mrs. Gordon's report showed that all through the year the Council had been active; but, in the opinion of all members, much still remained to be done before women secured equal opportunities with men to share fully in the activities of the League of Nations.

The report of the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Bigland, showed a balance on the right side, which was considered very satisfactory.

Resolutions were passed, urging the British Government to include women among the technical advisers who accompany the British representatives to the Council of the League; expressing appreciation of the British Government for according Mrs. Swanwick the status of full delegate for the last five days at the recent Assembly; and hoping that this position may now be more freely accorded to women; urging the British Government and organisations of employers and employees to include women among their delegates and technical advisers to the International Labour Conference; expressing regret that only one woman had been appointed to the governing body of the Educational Cinematograph Institute in Rome; and urging that on the formation of all expert Committees of the Institute an adequate number of women should be secured.

Miss Chrystal Macmillan dwelt briefly, in a most interesting and informative address, on the First Codification of International Law Conference of the League of Nations, which is to be held at The Hague next March, and a resolution was passed unanimously urging our Government in composing its delegation to that Conference, to include in it women technical delegates qualified to represent the views of organised women on this question. It further urged our Government to propose such amendment to the rules of the Conference as may be necessary to provide that the International Council of Women and the International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship shall be invited to send consultative delegates (that is, without a vote) to the Conference.

TAXATION OF MARRIED PERSONS' INCOMES.

Miss Marian Reeves took the chair at the Minerva Club, on Wednesday evening, December 4th, when the following resolution was debated by Miss Chrystal Macmillan, M.A., and Mrs. E. M. Hubback, M.A. (Principal of Morley College):—

"That the income of a husband and wife should be separately assessed and separately taxed; each should have the right to his or her own personal abatements, and, in addition, husband and wife should share between them the marriage and children's abatements, each transferring to the other any unused part of such marriage and children's abatements."

In proposing this resolution, MISS MACMILLAN said that our Income Tax Law dates back to 1842, when married women had no property at all; and, after promising at the marriage service to endow his wife with all his worldly goods, the husband immediately took control of all his wife's property, income, or earnings, so that the income of the wife became part of the husband's income. For purposes of income tax the wife's income is still added to the husband's, the joint income is taxed, and any rebate is given to him. Since 1918 various modifications have been made; but a wife's income continues to be regarded as part of

Mrs. Mary Hamilton, M.P., made an excellent speech on the work of the recent Assembly and the work of the various Commissions with which she herself and Mrs. Swanwick were specially connected. The Council discussed with Mrs. Hamilton the chances of women's appointment to the various Committees and Commissions of the League of Nations.

Mr. J. H. Harris, Secretary of the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Protection Society, spoke on the League of Nations' work for the abolition of slavery in all its forms. He was closely questioned about the League of Nations' attitude towards what is called "domestic slavery," and particularly regarding the virtual slavery of women in marriage in accordance with the customs of many tribes. It cannot be said that some of those present were satisfied with his replies; but all were convinced that it is absolutely necessary to have women on any Committee or Commission of the League of Nations which deals with this question of slavery. At the end of the discussion the following resolution was passed:—

"This Council, in annual meeting assembled, expresses its appreciation of the work done by the League of Nations for the Abolition of Slavery, and urges upon the Council of the League the importance of creating machinery for expediting the work of liberation; further, that women should be included in any body of experts set up to deal with this great subject."

Mrs. Hoster spoke on the position and prospects of women in the Secretariat of the League and in the International Labour Organisation, and at the close of her speech the following resolution was carried unanimously:—

"This Council records with regret that, following a further inquiry into the work of women in the Secretariat and the International Labour Organisation, no definite advancement has been made with regard to the appointment of women to the higher administrative posts. Further, this Council urges the Government to afford women the fullest opportunities of service and work, in order that there may be a more adequate supply of women with the highest qualifications and practical experience gained in the administrative services of their own country."

Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, J.P., D.Sc., and Mrs. Percy Bigland were re-elected unanimously President and Hon. Treasurer respectively of the Council for the Representation of Women in the League of Nations. Miss M. Fielden, at the unanimous request of the Council, consented to take on its Hon. Secretaryship, to the very great pleasure of all present.

her husband's; and, "although she can now make out a separate return, I know cases where this has been made difficult." In Miss Macmillan's opinion, a wife should be treated as a grown-up individual, receive her own income tax form automatically, should be taxed separately on her own income, and should receive the abatements that were her due. Miss Macmillan contended that while a man has to pay a higher tax on the joint income of himself and his wife, there is little inducement for the husband to settle money on his wife. The great majority of men have much more money than women, and to get more money settled on them would improve the status of women. She considered that the separate assessment and separate taxation of the incomes of husbands and wives should be the first change in our income tax law.

MRS. HUBBACK said she opposed the resolution root and branch. A woman can now be separately assessed if she chooses; and she did not agree that there were great obstacles placed in the way of her doing this. A woman usually refrained from applying for a separate form because she did not want to bother about it and because the practical effects were equal. Mrs. Hubback failed to see that there was any feminist grievance in

FRIDAY
DEC. 13,
1929.

THE VOTE

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