

THE VOTE,  
SEPT. 1, 1922.  
ONE PENNY.

"THE WOMAN IN THE LITTLE HOUSE."

# THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

VOL. XXIII. No. 671.

(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, SEPT. 1, 1922

**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.

THE CLYDE CAMPAIGN.  
WHERE WOMEN ARE EQUAL.  
WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.  
THOUGHTS ON EQUALITY.

DARE TO BE FREE!  
SOUTHPORT WANTS WOMEN J.P.s.  
PROFESSIONAL IMPERTINENCES.  
BOOK REVIEW. *The Woman in the Little House.*

## THE CLYDE CAMPAIGN, 1922.

*Speaker:* DR. LILLIAS HAMILTON.

*Hon. Organiser:* MISS ALIX CLARK.

Four meetings only were held last week—two at Rothesay, one at Dunoon, and one at Millport. Monday was a beautiful day, and no less than 250 VOTES were sold, besides other literature. Bad weather, however, tells against sales and collections, as well as meetings, and there was a general falling-off during the middle of the week.

On Friday, a working man told Miss Clark, when she was explaining the objects for which the Women's Freedom League stood, that he had known Mrs. Despard 30 years ago, and he always remembered how she had spoken of the heroism of the working man's wife—her ceaseless toil, her broken rest. "She would rather be anything," he said, "than a working man's wife." Miss Clark sympathised with Mrs. Despard. A working man had to learn one trade, and he worked at it for eight hours a day except Saturday and Sunday. His wife had no eight-hours day; she did not have to learn one trade, but four. She had to cook for her husband and children; she had to bear and nurse them, make and mend their clothes, and wash and iron for them. She was a heroine.

The same man asked the speaker later whether she considered the subjects taught in the schools were those most calculated to raise the children of the working man to the highest positions of which their intelligence was capable. Dr. Hamilton said one must not look upon education from the point of view of "facts," a certain knowledge of which should be acquired at school, but rather as a training of the intelligence through the eye, the ear, the touch, the smell, the taste—of the whole body, in fact, as well as the mind and the memory; but of all these, cultivation of the power of observation was the most important.

Summer holiday tasks were very useful in this respect. In Sweden, prizes were given in each grade for the best collection of botanical or geological specimens. This gave the children plenty of open-air

exercise, as well as an endless intelligent interest, requiring keen observation and care in handling. Wonderful were the collections brought in, and the teachers gave most interesting lessons on what was produced, telling the children what other rarer specimens might be found in the same locality. The older children, having acquired some knowledge of plants and fungi, spent their time in collecting sackfuls of whatever would be useful in the drug factory or dye works, the money they were thus able to earn coming in very usefully for winter clothing. A considerable amount of such work could be carried on to the advantage of children and parents in this country, but there was an unjustifiable prejudice against children doing any kind of work—a prejudice only pardonable because it is the outcome of the child slavery started in the 18th and carried far into the 19th century. Holidays were now a time of trial to many parents, and the children, running wild as they did, acquired habits of idleness and purposelessness, which they were apt to carry with them through life. Our young people reared in towns knew too little of the country, and if they worked, as their forefathers did, on the farms during the long vacations, it would be greatly to their own advantage, as well as to that of the farmers, during their busy season.

A man, who said he was the father of five sons, asked if something could not be suggested to assist the impoverished professional classes to give their children a university education. Dr. Hamilton spoke enthusiastically on the sacrifices that had constantly been made by Scotch families, even the very poorest, to provide the brilliant member of the family with the best education the Scotch universities could supply. These sacrifices had often produced the men of whom we had most cause to be proud—men who had advanced to the highest positions here in Great Britain, in the Colonies, and in foreign countries all over the world. She felt



that too much could not be done in the way of school scholarships to encourage such efforts. National economies could better be made in any other department than in our education. "Are you aware," she said, "that we are importing from foreign countries annually 24 million pounds' worth of fish, which our own seas, rivers, and lakes can provide so abundantly? Twenty-four million pounds saved from going out of the country would be more than ample to provide scholarships for our promising boys and girls." The greater number of the members of the audience were vote-holders; by individual and combined effort, laws could be brought in which would give greater transport facilities and break down the rings which prevented the poor in our great cities from getting fish as cheaply as they used to get it. It lay in the power of the vote-holders. It lay with them whether they wished to import 24 million pounds' worth of fish or whether they would provide their promising children with the best education available.

### WHERE WOMEN ARE EQUAL.

The Bill recently introduced by the Czech Government, placing women teachers on a line with men, is consistent with previous conduct of this new republic. Other countries since the war have given women nominal equality with men, but Czecho-Slovakia is one of the few whose Acts of Parliament have shown any real desire for equality.

Women in that country have for some time taken a very active part in national affairs, and before the revolution the Women's Suffrage Committee did a great deal of educational work to prepare women for the responsibilities which the hoped-for national independence would be likely to confer. After the revolution, when the Czechs took the reins of government into their own hands, the Parliamentary vote was given to both sexes on the same terms, and not only were the doors of the various boards, institutions, and committees thrown open to women, as well as the law, but women were urged to enter and to give their assistance in the building up of a new system.

Eight women were elected to the first revolutionary Parliament, and helped to draft the new Constitution, which contains the following sentence:—"Privileges of sex, birth, and occupation will not be acknowledged."

In the present Parliament, fourteen women have seats. In the Council of Prague and on the various municipal bodies, there are a larger proportion of women. There also are a number of women occupying responsible positions in the different ministries and State departments, while competent women have been chosen especially to deal with questions of general welfare, hygiene, and education.

One of the most notable women is Miss Plaminková, known internationally as a feminist.

Miss Plaminková is a brilliant orator, and her energy is said to be amazing. Like many others of her race, she unites enthusiasm and a clear, logical intellect, and as many men as women seek her advice.

The Women's Suffrage Committee did not go into retirement when women's emancipation was gained. Its members formed the Women's Club and intensified their efforts where they were most needed. Their work for the republic has been invaluable. They instruct women voters in the duties of citizenship, social welfare, and international politics.

The new Education Bill, which not only gives equality to women teachers, but also introduces co-education and raises the school-leaving age from twelve to fourteen years, is due largely to the efforts of the Women's Club.

### DR. SOPHIE BRYANT.

We regret to note that the fears of Dr. Sophie Bryant's friends have been confirmed, as her body has been discovered on a mountain path near her hotel at Montanvert, near Chamonix. So has passed to her rest, untimely, one who has left her mark for ever on Women's Education.

### THOUGHTS ON EQUALITY.

There has been a good deal of discussion in the Press during the last few days on women's claim for equality, and a great many arguments have been used and advice given with which Suffragists have long been familiar. Thus the *Birmingham Post*, discussing the demand that the age qualification for women should be the same as for men, while conceding that "in principle, the demand can hardly be combated," asks quite seriously whether the claim is not "decidedly premature." "If the advocates of this step," it continues, "get their wish, it would mean giving dominant weight to the women's vote." This may be a very convincing argument from the point of view of the leader writer in question, but great sympathy for it must not be expected from those who for years have felt the "dominant weight of the men's vote."

The paper further goes on to say: "It can scarcely be said that the vote in Parliamentary elections thus far has convincingly revealed any stability of political opinion; in fact, it must be said that women generally have not devoted sufficient thought to politics to vote with conspicuously clear ideas on current issues." Therefore it is not unreasonable to suggest that, if indeed it be advisable that young voters should be admitted, some substantial period should elapse before the flood-gates are again opened." May we remind the writer in the *Birmingham Post* that there has been only one General Election since any women had the vote, and therefore we think he must look elsewhere to account for the "lack of stability of political opinion."

The *Sheffield Daily Telegraph*, after several caustic remarks on what it seems to regard as a somewhat humorous demand on the part of women for equality, tells us that the question of the equal franchise must "wait for a more convenient season, and meanwhile our lady citizens would be much better employed in applying themselves to the study of immediately pressing topics in which they can be of real service." There is something pathetically familiar about all this, and, while gratefully noting the fact that our gratuitous adviser no longer talks of the stocking-mending and washing, to say nothing of the babies that are awaiting our attention, we must confess that, so far as we are concerned, these counsels fall on deaf ears. We have cause to remember that it never was a convenient season for the consideration of our just claims to equality; and, as to advice as to the most suitable topics for women to study, women themselves are the best judges, and will not be so easily diverted from their claim for full citizenship.

Then we have the *Evening News* discussing the question of Equal Pay, and telling us that it "is a regrettable truth that in most modern businesses and trades, through oversights by Nature, women cannot give equal value. Either as a chef or a shipwright, an average woman cannot be expected to show the same capacity as an average man." This, we would suggest, is merely begging the question. No woman's society has ever advocated equal pay for unequal work, and the demand does not refer to the few instances in which the work is admittedly unequal, but to the many cases too familiar to need citing (notably Government offices and teaching) where women are paid less for actually the same work as men. Even the *Evening News* concludes by admitting that "One of the extraordinary facts about human nature is that among those who toil at something or other the woman slacker is unknown."

It is a refreshing contrast to find the *Yorkshire Post*, in reviewing the events of the last twelve months, saying that "It cannot be denied that the successful intervention of women in many of the nation's most important domestic affairs is a *fait accompli*. 'Intervention' is no longer the right word; it has given way to co-operation—suddenly become the most hard-worked word in the English dictionary."

## WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

### Woman's Picture at Royal Exchange.

After many months' delay, owing to the ill-health of the artist, Miss Kemp-Welch's picture of Women's Work in the War will shortly be unveiled at the Royal Exchange. The canvas, finished some time ago, has now been fixed into position—in the last available of the big bays, on the north walk—and a ceremonial veil replaces the scaffolding which has stood there hitherto. With Henrietta Rae's picture of Whittington Dispensing his Charities, it represents woman's work—in the Exchange—and is the last of the modern history group.

### Lady Mayoress as Magistrate.

The Lady Mayoress (Lady Baddeley), who is a J.P. for the County of London, occupied a seat on the bench at the Mansion House Justice Room this week, the Lord Mayor being the presiding magistrate.

### Woman Cyclist's 900 Miles' Run.

Without the loss of a single mark, Mrs. O. M. Knowles completed a six days' motor cycle trial of over 900 miles on Saturday at Brooklands, and was awarded a gold medal. During the week she climbed freak hills and mountain passes, and rode through water splashes, and then averaged 40 miles an hour for 70 miles. Her husband, who also competed, had to retire. Mrs. Janson, the other woman competitor, failed within sight of the finish. She had completed the road trial, covered the speed test, and was making her way to the final examination shed when her magneto failed.

### A Literary Woman J.P.

Mrs. M. Sturge Gretton, J.P. for Oxfordshire, who is in council at Oxford with other women J.P.s, is the wife of a tutor of Keble College, Oxford. She resides in term in the University city, and in vacation she usually goes to her beloved Burford, the old-world town of North Oxfordshire, of which she has written so much. Mrs. Sturge Gretton has written several books of local history, and she has published some volumes of short stories.

### Woman Hockey Coach.

English hockey has received a tremendous compliment from the United States Field Hockey Association, which has invited Miss Annie Hunt, our most famous woman player, to visit nearly every college in America as a coach.

### Woman Diver.

Miss Margaret Naylor, whom we have already noticed as one of the first women to seriously compete with men in ocean diving, was secretary to Colonel K. M. Foss, who is interested in securing relics from the wreck of the Spanish Armada ship, *Almirante de Florence*, supposed to be buried in Tobermory Bay. Miss Naylor had herself made a study of the theory of deep-sea diving, and has made several attempts to discover the treasure. The first time her telephone was out of order, and when they began to haul her up, she found that one of her feet had got caught in the lower rung of the ladder, and she could not move it. As they pulled she felt the helmet being drawn over her head, and the diving dress being drawn away from her. Gradually she got her foot free, and herself back in position in the diving dress, and was brought to the surface. After several other attempts, Miss Naylor still wants to go on with her diving; but the professional divers, through their union, protest against this invasion of their hitherto exclusive rights, and refuse to allow her to join the union!

### English Girl Wins.

Miss Lines (England) won the hurdle race at the International contest at Brussels.

### Spanish Women Postal Servants.

Owing to several minor acts of sabotage by the postal workers of Spain, and the destruction of contents of mail bags, the Spanish Government have asked for 300 women assistants to take on the work. The employment of women in such positions, although not quite new, is a break with the traditions of social life in Spain, and enlightened Spaniards hope that it may mark a step towards the fuller emancipation of women.

### Women Outposts.

Mrs. Mahony, pearler and planter, carries on her work alone on Sudest Island, near New Guinea. She sails a tiny sailing boat, and goes long tramps into the jungle-clad interior of Papua, in search of labourers for her plantations, with only a few natives as escort. With equal facility, we are told, she navigates a lugger, doctors a motor-boat engine, and handles unruly cannibals.

We are told also of a girl of 26 who is running, unaided, a plantation in one of the wildest and most savage groups. Her father, the original planter, was killed on a labour-recruiting trip, and she took on the work where he had left it. The plantation was half-grown at the time of her father's death, and she decided to bring it to its full bearing.

Still another story reaches us of an elderly woman, the only European, on an island in Torres Strait, several days' journey from the nearest white habitation. She is the Government official in charge of the island—governor, registrar, school teacher, and several minor things. Besides isolation, she has endured all kinds of privation and danger. She has suffered want of food through the delay of the store ship, and on one occasion, during a threatened attack by cannibals from the New Guinea coast, she was deserted by the islanders, who went away in their canoes, leaving her alone.

### Prima Donna as Yachtswoman.

Miss Olive Townend, the opera singer, sailed her father's yacht in the yacht race at Brightonsea Regatta. During the last three weeks Miss Townend has sailed eight races, being placed first twice, second twice, and third three times.

### Training Girls for Australia.

A colony for training girls for life in Australia is one of the schemes of the women's department of the Church Army. There have been schemes for training boys for life in the Colonies, but the training of girls is a new departure. The need has been recognised through the many girls who apply for work overseas, but who have no training other than having "helped at home." The girls will be given training in cookery, laundry, and housework. They will also learn dairy work and get used to the conditions they would meet on a farm.

## To Members and Readers.

The Clyde Campaign, with all its success and all its rain and discomfort, is now over, but the expenses have not yet been made up. Please send your contributions to me as speedily as possible, and show your appreciation of the splendid hard work put in by our Speaker and Hon. Organiser, who have so generously given their time and energy for the good of the League and the furtherance of its ideals.

Our General Funds, too, are now low, and require the help of all good members without delay.

E. KNIGHT, Hon. Treas.

144, High Holborn, W.C.1.



## THE VOTE.

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

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1st, 1922.

NOTICE.—Letters should be addressed as follows:—  
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To the Secretary—on all other business, including VOTE orders,  
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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.

## DARE TO BE FREE.

Members of *The Women's Freedom League* are justly proud of their Motto, "DARE TO BE FREE." It embodies the militant spirit, which has always characterised the policy of the League since its foundation fifteen years ago, and compels us to protest against, and resist, any injustice wherever it is found. The main purpose of the Women's Freedom League is to remove the fetters which custom and mankind, generally acting under the dictates of custom, continue to impose upon women. From time immemorial, possibly because they were physically the stronger sex, men have assumed control of things, and this assumption of control on their part has resulted in the subjection of women, the prevention of their full development, and has impeded the progress of both men and women. During the last week or two there have been discussions in the Press on such subjects as "Can Women be Free?" "Are Men Fair to Women?" etc. The general view taken by correspondents on the former subject seems to be that, because women marry and have children, it is their bounden duty to remain at home, dependent upon their husband's earnings, and that, therefore, women cannot be free! We acknowledge that the present economic position of women, both single and married militates against their freedom, but we do not recognise that their present economic position is a part of the permanent Divine order of things. It might be argued that, because men marry, it is their duty to provide for their wives and their children, and that, therefore, men cannot claim to be free! Freedom does not consist in the power to divest ourselves of all responsibilities, but in having full access to every means to fulfil all our responsibilities in the best possible way. No woman cares to think of marriage as the gateway to bondage; it should surely mean an equal partnership for men and women, and provide greater opportunities of unrestricted service for both. Law and custom do not recognise that it is an equal partnership, but place absurd fetters on the woman's rights and responsibilities. It is those fetters which the Women's Freedom League is working to remove, so that married men and women shall have an equal status and an equal freedom. On the subject, "Are Men Fair to Women?" one man wrote that he had certainly been able to treat his wife fairly, because she had stayed at home and looked after his house properly. The poor lady had died twenty years ago, but the husband was still left with the blessed remembrance that she had enabled him to be fair to her! It is, of course, well known that in the scholastic world, in the Civil Service, in the professions, in commerce, and in industry, men have not been, and are not yet, by any means fair to women. Women find their opportunities for service and activity narrowed in every direction by men's jealousy and prejudices, and on this jealousy and these prejudices they have declared war for more than a generation. They are determined to break down these artificial barriers to their progress, and to win for themselves the same freedom that men claim to all opportunities of our national life.

## PROFESSIONAL IMPERTINENCES.

During the past week or two a clergyman and a magistrate have apparently been vying with each other in saying foolish and impertinent things about women. First of all, the clergyman asserts that women are unfit for the Christian Ministry, and are incapable of receiving "grace" in the same measure as men. We believe this clergyman was only the other day asking his parishioners what was wrong with the parsons and the churches at the present day. Perhaps he can find the answer in some of the foolish assertions of the clergy. We do not know why he should think that he can calculate the proportions of Divine Grace meted out to men and women! Then came a magistrate, who said, in open Court, that an attractive woman who happens to go out alone must expect to be stared at, and that there was no law to prevent a man from annoying a woman by staring at her. There may not be; but that is no reason why women, attractive or otherwise, should expect to be annoyed in this way. The least this magistrate could have done, we think, was to have told this man, against whom the complaint was made, what ordinary decent men and women think of such pests when they set out to annoy women who apparently have no redress against this grievance. It is a pity that both this clergyman and this magistrate did not live in the mediæval ages instead of the twentieth century. We really have no use for their particular impertinences at the present day.

## SOUTHPORT WANTS WOMEN J.P.s.

Southport Police Court has the advantage of possessing a Women's Police Court rota, including several Women's Freedom League members, but for some reason or other, Southport has been left out in the cold when women J.P.s have been appointed, and, except for its woman Mayor, who is *ex officio* a temporary Justice, no woman can sit upon the bench, though every few days comes fresh evidence of the need for their presence there.

Last week we described how a boy of 16 and a girl of 17 had, for the same offence, been discharged with a caution, and imprisoned for three months, respectively.

Now we hear of a young married ex-soldier, hawking small articles from door to door, charged with insulting a little servant girl of 15; the girl's mistress was verbally warned to attend the Court, but sent word by the maid that she was too nervous to appear. Major Egan, Chief Constable, declared that, had he known, he would have served her with a subpoena. The defendant was legally represented, and pleaded not guilty. Rightly or wrongly, the Southport Bench dismissed the case, but it was plainly the duty of the Chief Constable, in justice to both accused and accuser, in a case of this sort, to take whatever steps were needed to make sure of the presence of the mistress of the house, the only witness in support of the girl's charge.

From the *Southport Guardian*, August 23rd:—

"In our correspondence columns on Saturday the Southport organiser of the Women's Freedom League ended a letter in which she contrasted two recent decisions of the Southport Bench—in the first a girl of 17 was sent to prison for three months for sleeping out, and in the second a young lad of 16, who admitted he had told the constable 'a pack of lies'—by asking, 'Why not more women magistrates? Your Mayor cannot attend every Court.' Her argument is that if 'there is to be equality in administration of the law,' women must take combined action and be represented on the Bench. Apart from the Mayor, who sits *ex officio*, and who, unless definitely appointed to the commission, will not be entitled to sit twelve months after she ceases to be Mayor—that is, after November 9th, 1923—there is no woman magistrate in Southport, though Brighton, Blackpool, Wallasey, Ormskirk, and even Formby, all have women magistrates. Perhaps in the next Southport batch of magistrates this deficiency will be remedied. There are plenty of eligible women; the difficulty may be to make a choice."

## SPIRITUAL VALUES IN EDUCATION AND SOCIAL LIFE

Conference at Oxford, August 15th to 29th.

(Continued from page 269.)

Hon. H. A. L. Fisher sent an address to the Conference which Mrs. Mackenzie read. In it the President, alluding to the recent rise in teachers' salaries, poured well-deserved ridicule on the idea that teachers are unspiritual when they demand proper payment for their services. We must attract character and capacity to the profession; as yet he saw no fear of corruption through extensive wealth. He pointed out that the continual strain of harassing economy encourages a material outlook; no one should give more than say half an hour weekly to consideration of his income! Education means nourishment. School is a Greek word for leisure, and agreeable associations should be part of the scheme of education for teachers and children.

Dr. Steiner was of course the *pièce de résistance* of the Spiritual Values Banquet. He spoke admirably, with fine gesture, intonation, and clear articulation in German, so well that even where rust had gathered by long disuse, somewhat was comprehended. Mr. Geo. Kaufmann interpreted all the lectures in sections, so that all the audience could follow. I do not know whether it was accident or design, but Dr. Steiner, too, dwelt on the injury to the child, at all ages, to have as teachers those who have not studied him in his different phases of development. The baby who has round him persons filled with care and anxiety is in a wrong environment. The child imitates those around him, he receives their impressions and tones; by his power of imitation he is made receptive of care and anxiety. He learns this attitude before the change of teeth, and during and after that age, builds himself a worse body in consequence. (I confess that at this point I thought of overburdened mothers with too much to do and too little on which to do it.)

I have left little space to describe the two demonstrations of Eurhythmy, or act of movement, which with much trouble and at considerable expense were given before the conference in Keble Hall. On the first evening finished performers gave the audience a representation of Dr. Steiner's idea. Either to music by a pianist, or declamation by Madame Steiner, some ten women artists gave bodily expression to the musician's theme, or the poet's lyric or song. Shakespeare's "Blow, blow thou Winter Wind," "The Quality of Mercy," Autolycus' Song, Goethe's May Song the Pied Piper, and Grieg's and Bach's music were used to illustrate what Dr. Steiner calls Eurhythmy, a new art, one on a Spiritual basis, seeking to express through the body somewhat of the inner life, to restore that unity in Art, Science and Religion, which the conquests of Natural Science have impaired. Perhaps the Spiritual Idea was best brought home to the audience by the children's more simple performance of a trifle, "I and you are we." The drawing of things to the ego, oneself or another, was quite easy to grasp; the "I and you," join in the circle of playmates (the community), and share out what was previously gained by self in isolated action.

C. S. BREMNER.

## WOMEN AND THE LEAGUE.

The Secretary of the Council for the Representation of Women in the League of Nations, writing with regard to our remarks in *THE VOTE* touching the reluctance of the British Government to appoint a woman as delegate to the Assembly of the League of Nations, says:—

"It is only in answer to continual pressure that the Cabinet has at last appointed a woman as technical adviser. Let us hope they will do better next year!"

Following is a complete list of those women who have held office under the League, from which it will be seen how very backward Great Britain has been in the matter.

### WOMEN MEMBERS OF LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

(These Committees are appointed by the Council for the League of Nations.)

Mandates Committee.	Mme. Anna Bugge-Wicksell.	Swedish
Health Committee.	Dr. Josephine Baker.	American
Commission of Enquiry on Deported Women and Children.	Miss Karen Jeppa.	Danish
Committee of Intellectual Co-operation.	Miss Cushman.	American
Traffic in Women and Children.	Mme. Curie-Sklodowska.	French
	Mlle. Kristine Bonnevie.	Norwegian
	Dr. Paulina Luisi.	Urugayan
	Mme. Estrid Hein.	Danish

### WOMEN WHO HAVE ATTENDED THE FIRST AND SECOND ASSEMBLIES IN AN OFFICIAL CAPACITY.

Mlle. Henni Forchhammer.	Danish.	First and Second Assembly as Technical Adviser.
Pres. National Council of Danish Women.		
Mme. Kluyver.	Dutch	" "
Head of Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.		
Mme. Anna Bugge-Wicksell.	Swedish.	Alternate delegate.
B.A.		
Mlle. K. Bonnevie.	Norwegian.	Alternate delegate.
Curator of Zoological Laboratory, Christiania.		
Mlle. Helene Vacaresco.	Roumanian.	Second Assembly as Technical Adviser.

### WOMEN ASSESSORS ON CERTAIN COMMISSIONS.

Traffic in Women and Children.	Miss Baker.	British
	Mme. Avril de St. Croix.	French
	Mme. de Montenach.	Swiss
	Mme. Studer-Steinhauslin.	Swiss
Traffic in Opium.	Mrs. Hamilton Wright.	American

### MRS. COOMBE TENNANT.

We are pleased to note that since the above particulars were received, Mrs. Coombe Tennant, J.P., has been appointed substitute delegate to the League of Nations.

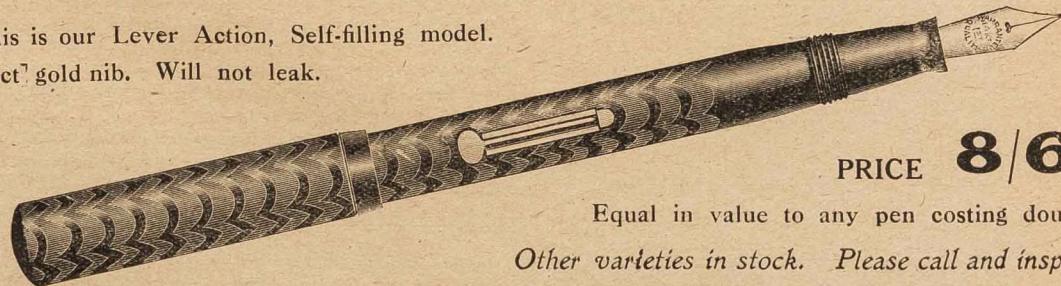
Mrs. Tennant, who is J.P. for Glamorgan, is Coalition Liberal candidate for the Forest of Dean.

She will leave for Geneva on Saturday.

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## SUMMER SCHOOL AT OXFORD.

Equal pay for equal work was one of the chief points of discussion at the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship Summer School, at Oxford, last week. The subject was introduced by Mrs. Oliver Strachey, who said that this was not necessarily a woman's question, but affected both sexes. The whole idea of men's jobs and women's jobs was false. When women undertook work which was formerly done by men, the rate of pay dropped. They had seen a wife "blacklegging" her own husband. For the reason that women were a potential danger to men, the trade into which a woman entered was unwilling to have her. The men were afraid that she would undercut, and disorganise, and upset their industry.

The only satisfactory conditions (she continued) under which men and women could work together were the conditions of equality. Anything else led into a tangle, and, although there were arguments against paying men and women the same, on the grounds of families and dependents, the case for equal payment outweighed the objections. There were now hundreds and thousands of women toiling from one week end to another who did not earn enough to live on. We had got industries eating the lives out of women in Great Britain, and we had got to remedy it. There were women in the confectionery trade working all the week for 11s. That was abominable, and a blot and scandal on our civilisation.

In answer to a question, Mrs. Strachey said that a man was supposed to require a higher rate of living because a woman would put up with a lower one. It was not a matter of actual requirements. To live in comfort at all cost quite as much for a woman as for a man.

Mrs. Stocks carried the question further by dealing with a suggested scheme for family endowment.

The League of Nations was the subject of an address by Sir Sydney Olivier, late Governor of Jamaica, and Chairman of the Prison System Inquiry.

## GREEK WOMEN'S APPEAL.

We have received an appeal by the women of Thrace, the National Council of Greek Women, the United Societies of Greek Women of Asia Minor, and the National Union of Greek Women of Alexandria, sent to all women's organisations in Europe and America by the Hellenic League for Women's Rights, beseeching all organised women, both those struggling for political rights and those who have already obtained them, to use all their influence to prevent the diplomacy of the Great Powers, now solely directed by the will of men, from delivering back to the Turkish yoke the Christian populations of Western Asia Minor and Thrace, only recently liberated after centuries and centuries of slavery and persecution, and urging that the women of all the world, until now merely spectators of the mistakes of men's policy, must at present feel the heavy responsibility for their fellow-women imposed upon them by the rights they have acquired and the ideals for which they are standing, and declare that peace cannot live with slavery, but must be based upon justice and liberty.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO PUNCH!

We congratulate the proprietors of *Punch* on having appointed a woman, Miss M. J. Lyon, to be its Advertisement Manager, and we congratulate Miss Lyon on being the first woman advertisement manager in Fleet Street.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB, 9, 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.

## BOOK REVIEW.

*The Woman in the Little House.* By M. L. EYLES (Grant Richards), price 4s. 6d. net. (Can be obtained at this Office.)

With extraordinary courage, insight, sympathy and skill Mrs. Eyles has described the struggles, the sordid difficulties, the faults, the hopelessness of a working-class wife and mother in a small, inconvenient house in the suburbs. The heroine of this book—and she is a genuine heroine—is Mrs. Britain, who combines in one tired personality the careers of mother, wife, nurse, cook, housemaid, bargain-hunter, laundress and dressmaker. All her efforts for her family and its well-being are circumscribed by unnecessary hideous mechanical inconveniences, which, added to her daily problem of making both ends meet, reveal a life of unilluminated tragedy. The writer justly points out that the Little House and all those of which it is typical were designed by men architects, and, after citing the appalling conditions of the house in which Mrs. Britain lived, moved, and had her being, inquires what this woman would ask for if a clever woman architect came to her with plans and plots and said she was going to design that house fit for the wives of heroes of which Lloyd George spoke in the heat of his rhetoric after the war and before the General Election? In days to come will a working-class family consisting of a father, mother, seven children—and a grandfather have to arrange that two children sleep in their parents' room, one on a couch downstairs, and one with the old man? In these overcrowded, uncomfortable houses illness is frequent, and the patients are nursed by one weary amateur. Mrs. Eyles' book is the best antidote we know for "This Freedom" by Mr. Hutchinson. The woman in the little house does not go out to work; she stays at home always. There are a million reasons why she should not go out in daylight—her old boots, her shabby skirt, her unironed blouse, and the feeling of utter fatigue by the time she has got the children ready, though she doesn't mind going to the fried fish shop in the dark! Her life is compared unfavourably with that of a convict who is always thinking of the time when he will get out, she does not think it likely she will ever see anything different: with that of a domestic servant who is provided with all kinds of labour-saving devices, has regular wages, and can give notice if dissatisfied, whereas Mrs. Britain cannot give notice, she has no claim to any part of her husband's wages, "she has to manage with everything of the very worst, and she has the work of half-a-dozen skilled women to perform at once. She can't buy new brooms or new dusters. Everything seems designed to make her work harder"; and with that of an Indian Squaw who has the excitement of constant treks. "But Mrs. Britain must stay where she is put in her little prison—until wiser women drag her out. Men never will; they don't realise yet what they are missing by being married to a woman so dull, so weary." She is obliged to buy everything of the cheapest; she has not been taught much about food, and has never learnt shopping. Mr. Britain can meet his friends at a club or a public-house; but there is no kind of social life for his wife. "Yet it would do her so much good to be able to go into a café with her husband and have a chat with friends, as French and German women can." Our experience is that the picture of unrelieved drabness described by Mrs. Eyles is not an entirely accurate presentment of the life of a working-class mother. There are, we assert, bright patches in her life, which we know is a hard one. Mrs. Eyles strongly advocates the State Recognition of Motherhood. She says "Women don't want charity; they want wages. Mothers are very precious things. It is a pity to put them on the dust heap." F.A.U.

Alice Park, writing from California, says:—"I rejoice in every issue of THE VOTE. I try to give my copy to different people from week to week. The Shelley article is a delight. I want more copies, and enclose postal coupons."

## Women's Freedom League.

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## FORTHCOMING EVENTS W.F.L.

### LONDON AND SUBURBS.



### DARE TO BE FREE.

Monday, September 4, at 3 p.m.—"Fair" Committee Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

Friday, September 8th, at 6.30 p.m.—Mid-London Branch Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

Monday, September 18th, at 7 p.m., at Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1. Public Meeting. Speaker: Miss Lucy Bell. Subject: "Public Speaking." Chair: Mrs. Northcroft.

Friday, September 22nd at 6 p.m.—Organisation Committee, 144 High Holborn, W.C. 1.

Saturday, September 23rd, at 10 a.m.—National Executive Committee Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

Wednesday, September 27th, at 3 p.m., at Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1. Public Meeting. Speaker: Miss Margaret Hodge. Subject: "Travel as an Education." Chair: Miss Reeves.

Monday, October 2nd, at 7 p.m.—At Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1. Public Meeting. Speaker: Mr. Edward Cecil, who will open a discussion on "That our Public Schools corrode the character, stultify the intelligence, blunt idealism, and turn out their victims unfitted for the battle of life." Chair: Mrs. Dexter.

Friday, October 6th, 3.30—7.30. Mid-London Branch, Pound Tea, at 25, Wimpole Street (by kind permission of Dr. Lewin), for further particulars, see Branch note.

Friday and Saturday, November 10th and 11th—"Green, White and Gold Fair," Central Hall, Westminster.

### PROVINCES.

Monday, October 9th, at 7.30 p.m.—Bexhill.—A combined Meeting will be held at the Sisterhood. Speaker: Dr. Octavia Lewin. Chair: Miss Thornton.

Tuesday, October 17th. Ashford. Meeting will be held at Women's Adult School. Speaker: Dr. Octavia Lewin. Chair: Mrs. Banks.

## CONFERENCE OF WOMEN MEMBERS OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

The Women's Local Government Society, with the co-operation of a local Committee, is arranging an interesting Conference at Exeter on October 10th and 11th for women councillors, guardians, and magistrates. The Conference, by kind permission of the Mayor, will be held in the Guildhall, and the subjects for discussion will include: Public Health and Housing, Tuberculosis and the Treatment of Venereal Disease, Children under the Poor Law, The Problem of the Unmarried Mother from the Guardian's Point of View, and The Administration of Justice, with Special Reference to the Child Delinquent and the Work of Women Police. The Local Committee, of which Mrs. Phillips, Mayor of Honiton, is Chairman, are arranging for members of the Conference to visit various Local Government institutions. The detailed programme can be obtained from the Society's Office, 19, Tothill Street, Westminster.

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## BRANCH NOTES.

### MID-LONDON.

Will all London members and friends read this carefully, please! On Friday, October 6, Dr. Octavia Lewin has very kindly consented to allow the use of her house at 25, Wimpole Street, W., to hold a POUND TEA. Please help to make this a great success. We want everyone to "bring a pound and buy a pound." From £1 in cash, to a pound of anything. Food (tea, sugar, coffee, chocolates, fruit, jam, marmalade, cake, etc.), or wool, material, flowers or anything useful. Anyone may bring £2, or two pounds of food, etc., in fact any number of £s—pounds—will be gratefully received. There will be two or three speeches, music, singing, character delineations, etc. We want this to be a really successful beginning of our social winter work. All the proceeds will be devoted to Mrs. Despard's Birthday Fund for the work of the League. Come yourself and bring a friend.

(Hon. Sec.) Miss C. M. SPARKMAN.

### HULL.

We commence our Autumn and Winter work the beginning of September with a very determined resolution to press the rights of the Women's Freedom League. We hold our meeting every second Tuesday each month, and a Whist Drive and Social twice monthly. We have also started a Women's Freedom League Relief Fund which we have supported by the sale of Scent Cards, and the handwork of the Treasurer, Secretary and "Vote" Secretary. We have been able to supply the needy poor with the following articles: Boots, costumes, dresses, women's underclothing, blankets, men's underclothing, children's underclothing, bags of coal, groceries and money, also a pair of crutches. Sixty mothers were supplied with dried milk. We are hoping to support this fund next year by many additional sympathising friends who are willing to help us with gifts of any kind.

(Hon. Sec.) Mrs. RANEY, 195, Hedon Road.

### CROSBY, LIVERPOOL.

Our Branch plans for the coming Autumn and Winter Season are as follows:—Five Public Meetings to be held if possible in the Congregational Church Hall.

September.—Subject: "The Nation's attitude towards Education." Speaker: Mr. Ambrose.

October.—Subject: "The Experiences of a Magistrate." Speaker: Miss Maud Taylor, J.P.

And "Our County Asylums." Speakers: Mrs. Evans and Mrs. Harrison. Date to be announced later.

And "The After-Care of School Children." Speaker: Miss Reid. Date to be announced later.

(Hon. Sec.) Miss D. GARNOLL, 49, Kimberley Drive.

### HASTINGS.

A Model Election conducted by Miss Elsie Morton, M.B.E., will be held at the Chintz Room, Clarendon. Candidates drawn from the various political parties will stand for Election. Further particulars later.

### TO ALL BRANCHES.

Do not forget that the date of the Fair is drawing near. Are your preparations well forward? The hall this year is larger than usual, and will require more goods to fill it, and we must utilise every corner.

## WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE SETTLEMENT.

2, CURRIE STREET, S.W.8.

We are still very busy in the Guest House, and would appreciate the services of anyone who would come down and put in a day at mending, as we need every little garment we can get, to clothe our guest children, fit out others to go away into the country for a holiday, and yet leave some over for a jumble sale, to which the people around are always anxious to come. We have to thank most heartily, first Johnny Ballard, one of our diners, for a bunch of flowers to decorate the dining-room; flowers also from Ethel Rolls, Miss Carr, and Miss Knowles (we are looking quite festive for the moment); fruit and vegetables from Miss Cole; goods for a jumble sale (and which helped to fit out a number of children going away for a country holiday); clothing also from Miss Harvey, Miss Turton, and Miss Jones. We would desire to thank especially those friends who have sent in baby clothes, and clothes for small children (never needed so much here before), which have indeed been a boon to us. Little woolies have been most useful. Our friend Miss Riggall has sent material sufficient for pinafores for the autumn for our Guest House wardrobe, and Mr. Riggall presented a hat for one child to wear during her fortnight in Sussex; while Mrs. Delbanco brought some much-needed sheets for the Guest House, as well as jumble goods, and entertained a party of guest children to a picnic in Richmond Park—an outing very much enjoyed by all.

A. M. COLE (Hon. Superintendent).



FRIDAY,  
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### EDUCATIONAL.

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

**F**ELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Sunday, September 3rd, 6.30 p.m., Miss Maude Royden. "Poetry of the Gospel."

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