

THE VOTE.  
JUNE 25, 1926.

EQUAL VOTE DEMONSTRATION, JULY 3rd.

# THE VOTE

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

VOL. XXVII. No. 870.

(Registered at  
the G.P.O.)

ONE PENNY.

FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 1926

**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.

MRS. DESPARD'S BIRTHDAY PARTY.  
WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.  
WOMEN AND COMPULSORY LABOUR.  
IN PARLIAMENT. F. A. U.

DARE TO BE FREE.  
WOMEN ROUND THE WORLD. By Alice Park.  
WOMEN'S INSTITUTES.  
WOMEN AND PEACE.

## MRS. DESPARD'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

Reception,  
Recitations,  
Songs—Music,  
Refreshments,  
Ices,  
Strawberries and  
Cream,  
Produce and  
Pound Stall,  
Flower Stall.

WEDNESDAY  
7.0 p.m.  
JUNE 30

The  
Birthday Fund  
will be presented

and

Mrs. Despard will  
give her delightful  
Birthday Address.

**This is the Great Annual Gathering of our League, when all members, new and old friends and comrades meet together.**

## WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

### Women at the Chicago Congress.

At the International Eucharistic Congress at Chicago this week, Catholic women, for the first time, are having a prominent place in the deliberations. Reports of various activities will be given by women, and meetings of women, addressed by women, will be held on "Woman's Part in the Development of Christian Life." Considering that the initiator of these great gatherings was a woman, Marie Tamisier, of Tours, whom the Lourdes Congress called the Joan of Arc of the Holy Eucharist, women's co-operation for the first time this year seems a tardy enough recognition.

### More Women Barristers.

Six women were "called" to the Bar at the four Inns of Court last week. They were the Hon. Ruth Buckley, daughter of the ex-Lord Justice of Appeal, Lord Wrenbury, who was called at Lincoln's Inn, of which her father is a bencher; Miss Beng Hong Lim, of Penang, the second Oriental woman barrister in this country, who was called at the Inner Temple; Miss Muriel M. Wells, of Gray's Inn; Miss Vera B. M. Meiklejohn and Miss Evelyn P. Hope, B.Sc., LL.B., of the Middle Temple; and Miss Mary A. E. Moclair, of University College, Dublin.

### Woman Fencer.

Miss Toupie Lowther, the well-known athlete, has gone to live near Paris, since it is only in France that she can really enjoy her principal recreation—fencing. Herself a pupil of the great Prevost, not only has Miss Lowther beaten one world champion, shortly before he gained the title, but she has recently been elected by unanimous vote a member of the "Académie d'Armes," of France, the only woman ever admitted to that historic body since its foundation many hundred years ago.

### New Women Magistrates.

One woman, Mrs. Lydia Aspinall, and eight men have been added to the Commission of the Peace for the Borough of Heywood, Lancashire. Three women, Mrs. Emma Berry, of Leyland; Mrs. Ellen Constance Bickersteth, of Ambleside; Mrs. Elizabeth Docker, of Droylsden, near Manchester; and twenty-three men have been appointed to the Commission of the Peace by fiat of the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster upon the recommendation of the Lord-Lieutenant.

### Mrs. Elliott-Lynn's "B" Licence.

Mrs. Elliott-Lynn has just qualified for the "B" licence enabling her to pilot airplanes carrying passengers and goods. She was medically examined under the same rigorous medical examination as that set for male pilots, and obtained 44 marks out of 50. The average man's marks are 45.

### Women in the Ministry.

The *Times* correspondent reports from Montreal that the General Council of the United Church of Canada has referred the question of the ordination of women to the presbyteries for consideration and report at the next General Council. The question arose over a request by the presbytery of Kamsack, Saskatchewan, that Miss Lydia Grouchy be ordained.

### Labour Women Abandon Conference.

The National Conference of Labour Women, which was to have taken place at Huddersfield on June 30th and July 1st, has been abandoned. Work in connection with aid for the miners' wives and children, and also lack of facilities for travelling, has made the decision inevitable.

### Woman Sculptor's Exhibit.

A model in porcelain of the Prince of Wales's Canadian cattle ranch was one of the outstanding exhibits at the recent Applied Arts and Handicrafts Exhibition at the Royal Horticultural Hall, Westminster. It was made from photographs sent by the Prince himself to Miss Draper, of Glebe Pottery fame.

### Women and Moots.

Women barristers, for the first time in history, figured at the recently revived Middle Temple moots, when Miss S. Campbell and Miss N. Geikie-Cobb opposed each other as "leaders," with a male student as junior on each side.

### Australian Woman at Geneva.

Miss Freda Bage, Principal of the Women's Colleges of Queensland, New South Wales, has been appointed a substitute delegate in the Australian delegation to the Assembly of the League of Nations next September.

## WOMEN AND COMPULSORY LABOUR.

The Council for the Representation of Women in the League of Nations (to which the Women's Freedom League is affiliated) recently wrote to the Secretary of State for the Colonies asking if forced labour was imposed on women in the Colonies, Protectorates, or Mandated territories. Miss de Alberti, the Hon. Secretary to the Council, has kindly sent us a copy of the reply received from the Colonial Office, which reads as follows:—

Under Secretary of State,  
Colonial Office,  
Downing Street,  
1st May, 1926.

Madam,—I am directed by Mr. Secretary Amery to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st March, and to transmit to you, for the information of the Council for the Representation of Women in the League of Nations, the enclosed memorandum which has been prepared with regard to the employment of women in compulsory labour in the Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated territories. The Secretary of State assumes that the enquiry in your letter does not relate to labour as prisoners by persons under sentence for crime, and no account of such labour has been taken in preparing the memorandum.

I am to express regret that it has not been possible to send an earlier reply to your letter.

I am, Madam,  
Your obedient servant,  
(Sgd.) G. GRINDLE.

### MEMORANDUM.

So far as the Secretary of State is aware, there exists no obligation of forced labour on the part of women in Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, British Guiana, British Honduras, Ceylon, Cyprus, Gibraltar, Falkland Islands, Federated Malay States, Hong Kong, Jamaica, Kenya, Leeward Islands, Malta, Mauritius, Nigeria, Palestine, Saint Helena, Seychelles, Straits Settlements, Trinidad, Unfederated Malay States, Uganda, Windward Islands, and Zanzibar.

In the following territories there is no compulsory labour for women, except in so far as, in conformity with tribal customs respected by His Majesty's Government, women may be called upon by their native chiefs to perform duties which by recognised custom they invariably perform: Fiji, Gambia, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone, and the Islands of the Western Pacific High Commission. In Nyasaland and Tanganyika Territory the Government are empowered in certain circumstances to call for compulsory labour on essential works and services. Such labour is paid, and it is understood that men only are employed.

## QUEEN'S HALL,

SOLE LESSEES: MESSRS. CHAPPELL & CO.  
LANGHAM PLACE, LONDON, W.1.

SUNDAY EVENINGS AT 7

June 27; July 4.

DR. ANNIE BESANT:

"THE COMING OF THE WORLD TEACHER"

As seen by Ancient and Modern Psychology.

Tickets 6d, 1s, 2s, 6s, etc., from Queen's Hall (Box Office), and "Lectures," 23, Bedford Square, London, W.C.1. Admission free.

## IN PARLIAMENT.

### Female Emigrants (Protection).

COL. DAY (Lab., Central Southwark) asked the President of the Board of Trade what steps are being taken regarding the protection of women and young girls aboard vessels, following the recommendation of the International Labour Conference? SIR P. CUNLIFFELISTER: The recommendation to which the hon. Member refers and the Convention on the simplification and inspection of emigrants on board ship, both of which were adopted as recently as the 5th of this month by the International Labour Conference, will be carefully considered by His Majesty's Government with a view to deciding what action, if any, is necessary or desirable.

### Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

MR. PALIN (Lab., Newcastle, W.) asked the Minister of Health the number of maternity and child welfare centres in existence in England and Wales at the present time, and the figures at this time last year? MR. CHAMBERLAIN: On the 1st June, 1926, there were 2,463 maternity and child welfare centres known to my Department in England and Wales, as compared with 2,385 on the corresponding date last year.

### National Health Insurance (Maternity Benefit).

SIR C. WILSON (U., Leeds, Central) asked the Minister of Health if he will consider favourably an extension of benefits to nursing mothers from one to three months? MR. N. CHAMBERLAIN: Under the National Health Insurance Act an insured married woman is entitled to receive, in addition to the maternity benefit payable in respect of her husband's insurance, a second maternity benefit, on condition that she abstains from work for a period of one month after her confinement, but thereafter no further benefit is payable unless she is incapable of work. As a result of the second valuation of approved societies, the average rate of maternity benefit has been increased from 40s. to 46s., and consequently the total amount which the woman will receive will be £4 12s. on the average. I understand the suggestion of my hon. Friend to be that this period of one month should be extended to three months, with a corresponding increase in the amount of the benefit, where a woman abstains from work in order to suckle her infant. This would impose a considerable further burden on Insurance funds, and I do not see my way to introduce the necessary amending legislation, particularly as no such proposal is included in the recommendations of the recent Royal Commission on National Health Insurance.

### Borstal Treatment (Seaside Camps).

COL. DAY asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department what support has been forthcoming following his appeal for the scheme of seaside camps as a feature of Borstal treatment? SIR WILLIAM JOYNSON-HICKS: £326 14s. 6d. has been received since the appeal was published.

### Hyde Park (Prosecutions).

COL. DAY asked the Home Secretary the number of persons who were charged for misbehaviour in Hyde Park for the 12 months ended the last convenient date; the number of males and females; whether any members of the public consented to come forward and give evidence in any of these cases; and, if so, how many?

SIR W. JOYNSON-HICKS: The numbers charged during the period from 15th June, 1925, to 14th June, 1926, were: Acts in violation of public decency: men, 424; women, 236. Using insulting behaviour, etc.: men, 32; women, 13. Common prostitutes soliciting, 74. In eight cases, members of the public came forward and gave evidence for the police, namely: In six cases of men charged with insulting behaviour, one case of woman charged with insulting behaviour, and one case in which a woman was charged with indecency.

### Fiji (School Accommodation).

MR. OLIVER (Lab., Ilkeston) asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies how many Government lower-primary schools there are in Fiji; how many children can be accommodated in these; how many Indian children there are in Fiji; and how much is spent annually on their education? MR. AMERY: During 1925 there were 66 Government and assisted schools in Fiji, with an attendance of 5,182 pupils. Inquiry of the Colonial Government would be necessary to ascertain whether it would have been practicable to provide for a larger number of pupils in these schools. According to the 1921 Census returns, the number of Indian children between the ages of five and fifteen then in the Colony was 13,116. It would be a matter of difficulty to separate expenditure on Indian education from other expenditure on education. The total expenditure on education was £26,151 in 1921, £28,956 in 1922, £25,232 in 1923, £27,103 in 1924, and £30,039 in 1925. MR. OLIVER: Is it not a fact that there is only one Government lower-primary school in Fiji; that there are 24,000 Indian children there, and that only something like £400 has been spent annually for their education? MR. AMERY: I cannot answer a definite question on that point, but my impression is that the suggestion contained in the question is wrong. There are not more than 13,000 school children, and I think the school facilities are considerably in excess of what the hon. Member states.

[The question of school accommodation in Fiji is certainly a subject for inquiry by the Commission which is being appointed by the Governor; but we are more convinced than ever that there should be women as well as men members on this Commission.]

## GIRL SLAVES IN BURMA.

We take the following from *The Times* of June 15th:—

"A correspondent of the *Rangoon Gazette*, while congratulating the Government on the abolition of slavery in the Hukawng Valley at a cost of just under two lakhs of rupees (about £15,000) invites attention, as others have done before him, to the great number of girl slaves to be found throughout the length and breadth of Burma. These girls are given, or sold, for life as domestic servants by their indigent parents, and when the girls are badly treated, the parents are unable to reclaim them owing to lack of money. The correspondent, who signs himself 'Thudaw,' states that he has seen slave girls mercilessly thrashed for the slightest fault, and he appeals to the Government to emancipate girls who are thus cruelly treated and wrongfully enslaved."

JULY 3rd

## EQUAL POLITICAL RIGHTS PROCESSION.

Embankment 2.0 p.m.

Hyde Park 4.0 p.m.

JOIN UP AND MARCH TO VICTORY.

## THE VOTE.

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

FRIDAY, JUNE 25th, 1926.

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

Telegrams: "DESPARD, Museum 1429, London."  
Telephone: MUSEUM 1429.

### EDITORIAL.

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

### DARE TO BE FREE.

The celebration of Mrs. Despard's Birthday always specially emphasises the Women's Freedom League motto—"Dare to be Free"—for no woman ever insisted upon the necessity for the freedom of women more firmly than our First-President. Is it because Mrs. Despard was born on June 15th, Magna Carta day, that her passion for freedom is so strong? During the past week the Prime Minister and the Lord Chief Justice have both paid their respects to freedom; the latter at the commemoration of the sealing of Magna Carta at Runnymede last Sunday reminded his audience that it was at Runnymede, on June 15th, 1215,—711 years ago—that the Great Charter was discussed, agreed to, and signed in a single day, when it was solemnly declared: "To none will we sell, to none will we deny or delay right or justice." "Those are great, moving and memorable words," said the Lord Chief Justice. We quite agree; but we wish they had more meaning when justice to women is concerned. Those words have frequently been devoid of meaning when it was a question of the political rights of women—the equal enfranchisement of women with men and the right of peeresses in their own right to a seat and a vote in the House of Lords. Magna Carta provided that the Common Council of the Realm alone could impose scutage or extraordinary aid. This Common Council of the Realm was the source and origin of Parliament, those who were summoned individually by writ becoming the House of Lords; and, as Mrs. Carmichael Stopes tells us in *British Freewomen*, Peeresses in their own right, as well as Peers, received in those early times a writ of summons to Parliament.

THE VOTE will be printed by the time the House of Lords considers the Second Reading of the Peeresses Bill, but we hope that some of the Members will remember that under that Bill women are not claiming a new right, but rather the restoration of an old one. Last Saturday the Prime Minister discussed freedom and democracy, subjects in which members of the Women's Freedom League are very specially interested. Mr. Baldwin said that he and his party stood for ordered freedom; that was the English method; it was our oldest tradition. He further said that the years into which we were entering were going to be, as no other years before ever had been, the real testing time of democracy. We also stand for ordered freedom—the same measure of freedom for British women as for British men. That is the Women's Freedom League's oldest tradition. Further, we are firm believers in democracy; but the democracy in which we believe is a democracy of men and women having equal rights and equal responsibilities, not the so-called democracy of to-day, which is in reality a male autocracy. Until there is absolute equality between the sexes in regard to opportunities, rewards, and responsibilities throughout our national life, and an equality of freedom for men and women to exercise their opportunities, members of the Women's Freedom League must continue to repeat and live up to their motto—"Dare to be Free."

### THE GIRLS OF FIJI.

On the 8th of March, Mr. Pethick-Lawrence asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether the facilities for education of Indian children in Fiji are available for girls as well as boys, and whether, on the Commission he is appointing to consider the question, it is proposed to include any women members. Mr. Amery replied: "Facilities for the education of Indian boys and girls in Fiji do exist, but it is felt that increased educational facilities are needed for the children of all classes of the Colony. The Commission which is to investigate the matter generally is being appointed by the Governor of the Colony; and inquiry will be made of him upon the point raised in the last part of the question."

Mr. Pethick-Lawrence has now very kindly sent us copy of letter received from the Secretary to Mr. Amery, which reads as follows:—

Colonial Office,  
Downing Street, S.W.1,  
12th June, 1926.

Dear Sir,—You will remember that in his reply to a question put by you in the House of Commons on the 8th of March, Mr. Amery promised to ascertain whether the Governor of Fiji proposed to appoint any women members of the Commission which is being appointed to consider whether the facilities for the education of Indian children in Fiji are available for girls as well as boys.

The Governor has now reported that it is not his intention to appoint a woman to sit as a member of the Education Commission.

Yours very truly,  
(Sgd.) M. E. ANTROBUS.

F. W. Pethick-Lawrence, Esq., M.P.

We should very much like to know the reasons of the Governor of Fiji for refusing to consider the appointment of a woman on this Commission. As British women, we consider that it is as essential to safeguard the interests of girls in Fiji as it is of boys in the matter of education. It is understood that Governors should be allowed to manage the affairs of their own Colonies in their own way to a certain extent; but British women have a right to ask for further inquiries to be made where the local Government has operated adversely to the interests of women, as it undoubtedly has in this case, and as it did in the case of the Civil Service of Palestine, where, it will be remembered, an arrangement was made, in 1924, by which the rule which previously existed, that the office or capacity of the official should determine the rate of payment, and that the men and the women should be paid equally for the same work, was departed from, so that women in the Palestinian Civil Service now receive less salaries than the men. When women have equal voting rights with men in this country, and when we have more women Members in the House of Commons, and women Members in the House of Lords, we can predict with some certainty that there will not be this differentiation in the treatment of women and men in our Colonies. Indeed, we look forward to the time when there will be women Governors of some of these Colonies.

### UNEMPLOYMENT.

The Secretary of the Ministry of Labour announces that on June 14th, 1926, the total number of persons recorded on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain was 1,629,000. This total is exclusive of persons who ceased work in the coal industry on account of the dispute, and consists of 1,224,000 men, 315,000 women, 45,100 boys, and 45,800 girls, the figures a year ago being 1,011,467 men, 207,228 women, 34,767 boys, and 26,908 girls. This problem of unemployment is a serious menace to the community, and we are specially concerned to note the increase of unemployment amongst women and girls, and we strongly urge that more schemes of training and of employment for workless women and girls should be devised by the Government.

## WOMEN ROUND THE WORLD.

By ALICE PARK.

Which country visited by a round-the-world traveller has most freedom for women, and which has least? This is the question feminists have asked me from time to time since last October, when I started West from California. The degree of freedom is almost impossible to estimate when only a month—or even less—is allotted to each foreign country. The language barrier is enormous. Hearsay carries no weight. I can answer definitely, however, that in every country the people who live there report progress toward equal rights for women, and report also the great need of immediate further progress.

Japan has every extreme of freedom and conservatism evident among women. National organisations of women working for votes for women, for temperance, for prevention of prostitution, for the federated club movement, for detention homes for girls, all are active. They are even co-operating, and using the same buildings in Tokyo for working headquarters for Japan. Stories of earnest deputations of women insisting on the attention of law-making bodies remind the writer of the Suffragette activities in England a dozen years ago.

At the other extreme are the women who are bound by tradition. They carry their babies on their backs for years, and refuse to learn that babies grow bow-legged in consequence. There are the women who wear very long and very narrow skirts that prevent taking one natural step in an entire lifetime. Even the Japanese wives of Japanese men who have adopted "foreign clothes" and abandoned the historic costume for men, continue to wear the national historic costume for women. In every country women work in the fields. When they do, they are obliged to modify their clothes accordingly. Clothes are a conspicuous indication of progress or backwardness.

War in China barred tourists from visiting interior cities. A short visit to Shanghai was the means of discovering the woman manager of a woman's bank. This official is a good feminist, an educator of women. Her work is stimulating and useful to the community. One must remember that the Chinese wife who is not a peasant is practically house-bound, too timid to go about freely on the street, too timid to visit the bank to deposit or borrow money. To such women, this bank manager is an important connection with the world of progress.

The women in the Philippines range from graduates of colleges to women who speak unusual dialects in

remote villages, and who don't know the United States controls the islands. It is a pleasure to report that the women seen on the streets of Manila look far happier than the women of Tokyo and Hong Kong. The writer welcomed the appearance of health, activity, and happiness. The movement for votes for women is promising. Men politicians have committed themselves to equal rights for women. 1926 is late compared with 1920, the date of the Suffrage Amendment in the United States, but success is near.

The women of India can't be summed up in a paragraph. India is far from being one country. It is many provinces speaking many languages and many dialects. Millions of ignorant and educated people are divided by barriers of superstition. Gandhi is trying to teach them solidarity. The belief that it is creditable to be a beggar, and creditable to give to beggars is responsible for vast numbers of beggars of both sexes and all ages. The belief that girls and women are of no use at all except for breeding purposes is responsible for much misery.

It is encouraging to note that the age of consent has been raised in certain provinces to thirteen years. This protects brides betrothed when hardly out of babyhood. No girl in those districts can be a wife until she is thirteen years of age, a creditable advance from previous laws and the customs of centuries.

The women of Burma have the reputation of having more freedom of all kinds than all other Oriental women. But many of them wear half-a-dozen ear-rings in each ear and numerous nose ornaments. Many women and girls in India pierce their nostrils. Many Egyptian women wear queer devices to hold up their veils so only their eyes can be seen. Women in the warm climate of Algiers hide their faces and wear layers upon layers of clothes. Though many of them have bare feet, others have shoes with French heels, even with their shroud-like costumes.

There are the women gamblers of Monte Carlo. They probably represent many countries. There are the few women officially connected with the League of Nations at Geneva, where the women of the world need representatives. There are the disfranchised women of France and a few other countries. There are the women of England, millions of whom are disfranchised because they are not yet thirty years old, and others disfranchised because of limitations imposed on women more than thirty years old. All these vagaries point to the need of further progress in all countries.

## WOMEN'S INSTITUTES.

Delegates from 3,637 Women's Institutes (with a total membership of approximately 221,857) attended at the Queen's Hall, Langham Place, last week, for the Tenth Annual General Meeting of the National Federation, which comprises the union of all the Institutes in England and Wales.

Lady Denman, who presided, briefly reviewed the astonishing growth of the movement during the ten years which had elapsed since the first Women's Institute was formed at Llanfair, P.G., in Anglesey, in September, 1915. She also referred to the movement's educational work amongst country-women, which was recently considered by the Board of Education to be of sufficient importance for a special Report, and to the still wider influence it had exercised on questions of national import, such as Child Assault, Criminal Law Amendment, women police, women and jury service, widows' pensions, cinema censorship, humane slaughter, development of rural adult education, and many similar matters. Mrs. Auerbach, the Hon. Treasurer of the Federation, in moving the adoption of the Financial

Report, said that about one in every forty women in England and Wales was a member of a Women's Institute. Although the movement still had to accept financial aid from the Government, this help was diminishing all the time.

Miss Grace Hadow, Vice-President of the Federation, speaking on "Women's Institutes and the Community," said the movement had completely broken down the isolation of the village woman, who no longer prided herself on "keeping herself to herself." But there was now a danger of members keeping "themselves to themselves" as a Women's Institute. It was natural members should pride themselves on having the best-managed and prettiest home and the most contented husband, brother, or father in the village, but this pride must be extended to the corporate life of the community. If the general strike taught nothing else, it had brought home the fact that in the long run the welfare of the nation lay, not with the Government or with the Trade Union Congress, but with the people themselves. There was only one basis for national prosperity, and that was good will.

On the first day of the Conference a resolution strongly supporting the principle of the League of Nations was passed unanimously and formed the basis of a number of able speeches from delegates. A resolution expressing sympathy and good will towards the National Savings Movement was adopted, it being stated that there were already 700 institutes with branches. A plea was entered for low fees for the teaching of handicrafts, it being emphasised that home crafts rather than home industries should be the policy. A resolution endorsing the plea was carried, although the meeting was warned that Institutes should no longer accept everything for nothing. Institutes all over the country were urged to study the different methods of National Health and other insurance, and a request for more simple information on the subject was endorsed.

On the second day of the Conference the Health of the School Child formed the basis of a resolution, in which members were urged to give their special attention to Sir George Newman's recently-published Report on this question after investigations made in 22 rural counties. Sir George Newman, who was present on the platform, afterwards spoke on this subject, pointing out that every year 700,000 babies were born in this country, and pleading for the co-operation of the 700,000 mothers in order to rear an Imperial race.

A plea for an International Conference of Women's Institutes was carried on the motion of Mrs. Alfred Watt, of Canada, founder of the movement in this country, who gave an interesting account of the international activities of rural organisations in other countries. An International Exhibition of Craft Work, on the lines of the forthcoming Women's Craft Exhibition in Switzerland, in 1928, was also suggested.

An interesting resolution on the duty of securing a more adequate representation of country women on District Wages Committees was discussed by many of the delegates, including Mrs. Wintringham, during which it was pointed out that, out of the 47 Committees already set up, only 7 had women members, and this in spite of the fact that over a million women were actively engaged in agriculture in this country, either directly as workers on the land or indirectly as the wives or other relatives of workers.

#### WOMEN AND PEACE.

The Peacemakers' Pilgrimage is over, as also the great Mass Meeting in Hyde Park, and both may be judged from the most unqualified point of view as a magnificent success. Early in the afternoon of Saturday, June 19th, the women Pilgrims gathered from all four corners of the United Kingdom, and numbering several thousands, assembled at 4 points round London and marched to the park, followed by a large crowd of spectators. Many of the Pilgrims wore blue tabards over their dresses, and practically every one bore a blue armband inscribed with a white dove.

At the head of one procession were two women mounted on white horses, wearing cocked hats and long, flowing blue robes bearing white doves of peace. The marching women came from as far north as York and as far south as Cornwall, and included Pilgrims from Scotland who would have walked the entire distance to London had they not been held up by the strike, so instead joined their comrades at York.

Numerous banners bearing various mottoes were carried: "Better is wisdom than weapons of war," "Swords into ploughshares," "Youth desires no more war," "The League our heritage," "War is murder," "The world is a family, not a barracks." Amongst London women the women of the Guildhouse, in their blue cassocks and white collars, bore aloft a banner and behind them walked members of the League of Nations Union with bannerettes representing the various countries of the world. Miss Sybil Thorndike walked with the Chelsea contingent, and Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P., carried a bannerette. The women's Suffrage Societies were equally well

represented, including a large contingent from the Women's Freedom League. At Marble Arch a symbolic representation of the coming of Peace, was arranged by Mr. Robert Atkins and Miss Alys Buckton.

Within Hyde Park 22 platforms had been arranged, two of which were reserved for the Federation of Youth, and manned entirely by youth speakers.

Women's Freedom League speakers included: Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence, who was Chairman of Platform 6; and Miss Anna Munro, who was Chairman of Platform 16. At the close of the speeches the following resolution was put to the meeting and carried with acclamation:

"We, members and supporters of the Peacemakers' Pilgrimage, believing that law should take the place of war in the settlement of international disputes, urge His Majesty's Government to agree to settle all disputes by conciliation or arbitration, and by taking the lead in the proposed Disarmament Conference of the League of Nations, to show that Great Britain does not intend to appeal to force."

#### MRS. DESPARD'S BIRTHDAY PARTY.

We are now all looking forward with great delight to having our dear First-President with us again. On Wednesday, June 30th, she will receive all her many friends, for the 15th year in succession, at her Birthday Party at Caxton Hall at 7 p.m.

Every member must be there, and it is a splendid opportunity to send tickets to friends to meet us for this pleasant evening.

We are inviting delegates now in this country from the Dominions and other lands to join us, and hope to have the pleasure of entertaining many Suffragists from Overseas.

We shall have refreshments, ices, strawberries and cream, a produce and pound stall, organised by the Mid-London Branch, and a flower-stall, organised by Miss Pysier. Miss Florence E. Marks will give a recital of Irish folk-songs and sketches, and songs will be sung by Miss O'Brien, preceding the business part of the evening, which includes short speeches from Mrs. Corbett Ashby, President of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence (Chair) our President, Councillor Mrs. Schofield Coates and Miss Munro, our ex-Presidents, and Mrs. Mustard.

The Hon. Treasurer will present the Birthday Fund and list of donors to Mrs. Despard, our First-President, who will return it for the work of the League and will deliver her Birthday address.

Many members have already sent their welcome gifts, but many others have not yet reached me. Please remember the Women's Freedom League is doing a very great deal of work this year and has undertaken increased expense in organising and propaganda, and support your League and the Cause to which you are pledged to the utmost of your power.

Flowers, roots, and plants, etc., and pounds, produce, cakes, fruit, etc., are also needed for the stalls.

E. KNIGHT

144, High Holborn.

(Hon. Treasurer).

#### W.F.L. PAMPHLETS, ETC.

"British Women M.P.s (brought up to date), by D. M. Northcroft ... .."	4d.
"The Work for Women M.P.s," by Mrs. Helena Normanton, B.A. ... .."	3d.
"The Need for Women Members of Parliament," (Second Edition), by Mrs. How Martyn, M.Sc. ... .."	3d.
"Women's Right to Work," by Miss Lind-af-Hageby ... .."	3d.
"Women and Income Tax," by Mrs. Ayres Purdie (Certified Accountant) ... .."	3d.
"Women Police," by D. M. Northcroft ... .."	1d.
"Women at Work in the League of Nations," by D. M. Northcroft (Third Edition) ... .."	6d.
"The Wrongs of Married Women," by Mrs. M. W. Nevinson, J.P., L.L.A. ... .."	3d.
"What we have and what we want," by Muriel Pierotti ... .."	3d.
"Women and Politics," by Charles Kingsley ... .."	6d.
"Women Preachers," by M. A. R. Toker ... .."	6d.
"Ecce Mater," by M. A. R. Toker ... .."	3/6

#### WHERE TO GO.

##### WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

###### LONDON AND SUBURBS.

Saturday June 26th, at 10 a.m.  
National Executive Committee Meeting.

Wednesday, June 30th, at 7 p.m.  
Mrs. Despard's Birthday Party, Caxton Hall.  
Speakers: Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Corbett Ashby, Mrs. Mustard, Miss Munro. Chair: Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence.

##### DARE TO BE FREE.

Friday, July 2nd, at 4 p.m.  
"At Home" to I.W.S.A. Delegates at Caxton Hall (see notice).

Saturday, July 3rd.

Great Combined Equal Political Rights Procession and Hyde Park Demonstration. Members are asked to form up on the Embankment at 2 p.m., to march to Hyde Park, Platform 5, at 4 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence, Miss Munro (Chair), Councillor Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P., Mrs. Mustard, Mrs. Zangwill, Mrs. Whetton, Alice Park of California, Miss Morton, M.B.E., Mrs. Flowers, Miss Goodwin.

Sunday, July 4th, at 8 p.m.

Minerva Club Branch "At Home" at Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C., to meet Mrs. Despard. Short Speeches, Music, Coffee.

###### PROVINCES.

Friday, June 25th, at 3 p.m.

Ashford Branch. Garden Party at "Glengriff," Albert Road (by kind permission of Mrs. Kither).

Wednesday, June 30th, at 3 p.m.

Portsmouth Branch. Members' Meeting at 2, Kent Road.

Tuesday, July 6th, at 3 p.m.

Portsmouth Branch. Whist Drive, 25, Shaftesbury Road. Tickets 1/6.

Saturday, July 10th.

Portsmouth Branch. Garden Party, Rowlands Castle. Hostesses: Mrs. and Miss Whitehead. Train leaves Fratton Park 3.5 p.m.

###### OTHER SOCIETIES.

Saturday, June 26th, at 2.30-9 p.m.

National Union of Women Teachers. Midsummer Revels at Dorset Hall, Wimbledon (see notice).

Monday, June 28th, at 5 p.m.

Six Point Group, 92 Victoria Street, S.W. Meeting on the subject of Votes for Women. Speakers: (all of whom are under 30) will include Mrs. Anthony, and Miss Eleanor Japp. Chair: Miss Blackmore (Bedford College).

Monday, June 28th at 8.15 p.m.

Speech Club, Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. "Abraham Lincoln," by John Drinkwater. Reading of the Play followed by discussion.

Tuesday, June 29th, at 2.30 a.m.

Conference on Public Health (Smoke Abatement), at Caxton Hall, Westminster. Speakers: Miss Maude Royden, Dr. Leonard Hill, and Lord Newton.

Tuesday, June 29th, at 3 p.m.

Croydon Women Citizens' Association. Speaker: Miss F. A. Underwood. Subject: "Why Women's Organisations are necessary."

Saturday, July 3rd, at 8.15 a.m.

Corporate Communion at St. Martins-in-the-Fields, followed by breakfast at League of Church Militant Office, Dean's Yard. Tickets 1s. 6d. each.

Sunday, July 4th, at 11 a.m.

The Ethical Church, Queen's Road, Bayswater. Unveiling of a Stained Glass Window representing Florence Nightingale.

Thursday, July 8th, at 2.30 p.m.

Parents' National Educational Union. Annual Meeting at Big School, Westminster

#### BRANCH NOTE.

##### HAMPSTEAD.

The Annual Meeting of the Branch was held on Monday evening, June 14th, at the Isis Club (by kind invitation of Mrs. Harverson). Dr. Knight presided, and there was a good attendance of members and friends. Miss Berry reported the work done by the Branch throughout the year, and, in the absence of Miss Lyndon, Dr. Knight read the Statement of Accounts. Dr. Knight proposed the adoption of the Report and Balance Sheet, and thanked the hon. officials for the work they had done during the year. Dr. Knight afterwards proposed the re-election of Miss Lyndon (as Hon. Treasurer) and Miss Berry (as Hon. Secretary). Miss Berry undertook the work of Hon. Secretary for the next year. It was decided to make a collection in the Branch towards Mrs. Despard's Birthday Fund; donations will be gratefully received by Miss Lyndon at 53, Willow Road, N.W.3.

The Branch undertook the Handkerchief, Antique and White Elephant Stall at the Green, White and Gold Fair in November. After the business meeting, our President, Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence, speaking on the Peacemakers' Pilgrimage and the Equal Rights Demonstration, said that women in the great Suffrage Demonstration in Hyde Park on July 3rd would include many who for sixty years had given of their best to the Suffrage

cause. Women, she said, were in rather a humiliating position now. At the Inter-allied Conference at Paris a great number of the women of the nations who had been given the vote had been given it on the same terms as the men; but in Great Britain it was only given to women over thirty, and they wanted to wipe out this slur upon British women. Since women were enfranchised the world had changed; women were admitted to Parliament, and other barriers had fallen down. This wave seemed to have exhausted itself, and it was difficult for women to make any fresh advance; they were suffering from a retrogressive movement. This would be put a stop to quite effectively if the 5 million women entitled to the vote had it; there would then be more women in every constituency than men, and future members would have to consider women much more than at present. On July 3rd they would open the campaign with the great Demonstration in Hyde Park. Before women had the vote it was said that they would all vote one way, but women were not prepared to vote for only one thing any more than men. There was, however, one thing on which all organised women were united, and that was the subject of Peace; if we were not to be hounded out of our present civilisation, war must be replaced by law. The organised pilgrimages throughout the country, all now converging on London, had united all the organised women of the country. This Peace Pilgrimage had been arranged on a very wide scale, and in some cases Pilgrims had been marching since May 15th; in nearly all the towns which the Pilgrims had passed through they had been met with a civic reception, all denominations and political parties being represented on the platforms. On Saturday they were having four processions to Hyde Park; meetings would be held from twenty-two platforms with eighty speakers, and the same resolution which had already been carried hundreds of times would be put from all the platforms. After the meeting in Hyde Park, the committees would meet to decide on the next step of sending a deputation to the Government, showing overwhelming proof; whether the Government heeded or not remained to be seen. They would continue to co-operate in this and other countries for this end. This Peacemakers' Pilgrimage was being watched with interest in other countries, and they hoped to have an International Pilgrimage to The Hague itself. Nothing better could be said of the women's movement than that it brought Peace.

Mrs. Alice Park, a member of the Women's Freedom League, from the United States, gave an interesting description of the world tour she was undertaking and related many interesting things she had seen in Japan, China, Egypt, India, and France. Mrs. Sheehy-Skeffington also said a few words regarding the Conference to be held in Dublin in July.

Mrs. Hornbrook proposed a most cordial vote of thanks to Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence, Mrs. Alice Park, Dr. Knight, and our kind hostess, Mrs. Harverson. This was seconded by Mrs. Thomas.

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

##### MIDDLESBROUGH.

By the kindness of Mrs. Schofield Coates, the W.F.L. held a Garden Party at "Agecroft," Linthorpe, on Wednesday, June 16th, the object of which was to raise a little money for the expenses of the local Branch. Unfortunately, it rained heavily, so that there was not the numerical success which had been anticipated; but a surprisingly large number of members and friends were present, considering the weather. They spent a very enjoyable afternoon, chiefly in the conservatory. Mrs. Thornton arranged a little whist drive, supplying one of the prizes herself, the other being given by Mrs. Thomas. Tea was served, practically without expense to the League, as other kind friends gave the food, etc. There were speeches, and new members were enrolled. The thanks of the Middlesbrough Branch are due to all who helped in any way to make the afternoon a success. Open-air meetings are being held in the neighbourhood, at which VOTES and literature are sold. LULIAN LENTON, Organiser.

##### PORTSMOUTH.

On Tuesday, July 6th, a Whist Drive will be held at 25, Shaftesbury Road (by kind invitation of Mrs. Brading) at 3 o'clock. Tickets 1/6. Proceeds in aid of Mrs. Despard's Birthday Fund. On Saturday, July 10th, Mrs. and Miss Whitehead have kindly invited the members to tea in the garden at Rowlands Castle (weather permitting). The train leaves Fratton Station at 5 minutes past 3. The collection will be given to the Birthday Fund. Gratefully acknowledged for the Birthday Fund: Mrs. Whetton, £1; Mrs. Speck, 10/-; Mrs. Merritt, 5/-; Miss Maynard, 1/-.

##### HASTINGS.

We have worked hard for the success of the Peace Pilgrimage. A great Mass Meeting was held, when Archdeacon T. W. Cook blessed the object of the pilgrimage, Mrs. Strickland, Mrs. Muriel Matters Porter and Miss A. R. Rance being on the platform. A good contingent of Pilgrims from Hastings reached London to take part in the Hyde Park Demonstration last Saturday.

#### "AT HOME."

The Presidents and Executive Committees of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, the Women's Freedom League, St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance, and the British Commonwealth League will be "At Home," Friday, July 2nd, at Caxton Hall, 4 p.m., to meet delegates to the International Woman Suffrage Alliance Congress, and speakers and marchers attending Hyde Park Equal Political Rights Demonstration. Tickets from W. F. L. Office, 2/- each.

FRIDAY,  
JUNE 25.  
1926.

# THE VOTE

ONE  
PENNY  
WEEKLY

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

Name .....

Address .....

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

## REST AND HOLIDAYS.

**BRIGHTON.**—"Sea View," Victoria Road. Midday dinner. Gas fires in Bedrooms. Wireless. Vegetarians catered for.—Hostess: MISS TURNER.

**CORNWALL.**—Paying Guests received in modern farmhouse. £2 2s. week. Clotted cream 3/- lb., post free.—SELSEY, St. Stephen's. St. Austell, Cornwall.

**CORNWALL.**—Near Perranporth and Newquay. Board residence, Lady's Country Cottage. Modern Improvements. Evening Dinner to allow for touring. Luncheon Baskets.—"K.S." THE VOTE, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

**CORNWALL.**—Few Guests received in ladies' bungalow. Beautiful sea view, garden, excellent country produce, good excursions.—MISS WOOD, "Boskenna," Tintagel.

**IN BROADLAND.**—Easy reach six coast resorts. Delightful wooded country. Vegetarian or meat. £2 2s.—WILKINSON, Poultry Farm, Tunstead, via Norwich.

**RYE, SUSSEX.**—OLD HOPE ANCHOR. Ideal Guest House. Modern comforts; good cooking. Separate Vegetarian cooking a speciality. Write for booklet.

**LOWESTOFT**—and its bracing air: The New Dagmar Guest House. Facing sea. Hostess: MRS. FAIRCHILD.

**PYRENEES TOURING CLUB** (Registered). Parties personally conducted by lady, £25 inclusive. 1,000 kilometres motoring, hotel, 1st class boat, 2nd rail. From May 15th, every third week.—French, Spanish excursions.—Apply by letter, SECRETARY, 14, Park Lane, London, N.16.

## TO LET.

**UNFURNISHED.**—West End. Third Floor Flat. 1 or 2 ladies. 4 rooms. 30/-. Vacant July 15th.—Box "R.O.," 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

## CLUBS.

**ISIS CLUB,** 79, Fitzjohn's Avenue (2 minutes Hampstead Tube Station). Magnificent Reception Rooms. Central heating. Sunny bedrooms. Sandy soil. Lectures, dancing, listening-in. Telephone: Hampstead 2869.

**LADIES' SOCIAL BUREAU** assists women to meet one another for Recreations, Hobbies. Travelling, Accommodation, etc.—MISS RIGG, 130, Baker Street, W.1.

## Prepaid Classified Advertisements

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

## TO LET.

**OFFICE OR STUDIO.** Well-lighted room in High Holborn—Apply "M.E.G.," THE VOTE Office, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

**WELL-FURNISHED FLAT** for August. Large sitting-room, two, three or four bedrooms, kitchen, gas cooker, electric light. One min. from sea, park, tram—133, Park Road, Bexhill-on-Sea. Also at above—Unfurnished Flat, four rooms, kitchen, charming position.—Terms on application.

**WANSTEAD PARK.**—2 or 3 Unfurnished Rooms to let. Use of bathroom, etc. New house, pleasantly situated, suit business or professional woman. Easy access train, bus or tram.—Write box "G.E.F.," THE VOTE Office, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

## NOTICES.

**INCOME TAX RECOVERED AND ADJUSTED.**—Consult Miss H. M. BAKER, 275, High Holborn, W.C.1. Income Tax Returns, Repayment Claims of all Descriptions. Telephone: Holborn 377.

**FELLOWSHIP SERVICES.**—Guild-house, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Sunday, June 27th. 6.30. Miss Maude Royden: "Phrases."

## WANTED.

**WANTED.**—September, in or near London, unfurnished rooms or flat by Lady (daughter training), garden, moderate.—"W.," THE VOTE Offices, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**DANCE PIANIST** and Accompanist requests engagements for Pianoforte Lessons or Accompanist—Apply MRS. SILVESTER SPARROW, 43 Black Lion Lane, W.6.

**CHAUFFEUSE,** 6 years' reference, would like a change for the South. Fond of outdoor life.—MISS WINIFRED HUMPHREYS, 128, Alton Street, Crewe.

## MEDICAL.

**PARK LODGE NURSING HOME,** Bath Road, Reading. For Medical, Nerve, Chronic, and Rest Cure Patients. Terms moderate. Phone: Reading 1948.

## 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.

## HOTEL.

**MONTAGUE HOTEL,** Montague Street, Russell Square, London, W.C. First-class accommodation; room, breakfast and attendance from 7s. 6d. En pension from 3 guineas.—Phone: Museum 4660. (Highly Recommended.)

Just facing the W.F.L. is

## GOOD'S CAMEO CORNER

with its wonderful selection of old wide  
Bracelets and Bangles, long Earrings, ancient  
Gem Rings, and countless real Bead Necklets.

Selections sent on approval.

1 NEW OXFORD STREET, W.C.1.



## Membership Application Form.

To be returned to the Secretary, 144, High Holborn, London, W.C. 1.

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

Name .....

Address .....

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

Minimum Annual Subscription, 1/-