

THE VOTE,
AUGUST 5, 1927.

THE FRENCH RED HERRING!

THE VOTE

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

VOL. XXVIII. No. 928. (Registered at the G.P.O.)

ONE PENNY.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5, 1927

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

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Photo by

(Photo Press.

THE MARCH FOR THE VOTE.

A London Poster Parade to advertise the great Equal Political Rights Campaign Demonstration in Trafalgar Square, on Saturday, July 16th, 1927, to call for the passing into law without delay of the Government's promised Bill giving Votes to Women on the same terms as Men.

WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Academic Honour for a Woman.

The Earl Grey Memorial Fellowship at Armstrong College, Newcastle, instituted just after the war, has, for the first time, been won by a woman, Miss Helena Heslop Harrison, daughter of the newly appointed Botany Professor. Miss Harrison took a brilliant first in her B.Sc. botany examination and will use the fellowship to continue research in cytology, which she had already commenced.

Women Athletes.

A curious commentary on the still prevalent fear of athletics being harmful to women is provided by the case of Miss Edwards, the girl champion 220-yard sprinter. Asserted to have a weak heart while at school, she was forbidden all sports, but on leaving joined an athletic club and has now no discoverable heart weakness.

Successful Woman Pharmacist.

In the new London University Degree in Pharmacy only one candidate is reported, Miss Phyllis Sully, who successfully passed the first examination.

Camps for Schoolgirls.

The Camps for Schoolgirls arranged by the Federation of University Women are proving a great success and are increasing in number. Senior Camps for girls who have left school are also in being, girls up to 23 being admitted.

Englishwoman Bell-ringer.

Miss Norah Johnson has trained at Malines to be a *carillonneur*. After two months' study at Malines College she was allowed to play in the Cathedral, and at the Feast of Pentecost played for half an hour after High Mass.

Women Motorists.

The 9,000-mile journey from Adelaide to Darwin in Northern Territory and back again has just been completed by two women, Mrs. Sandford and Mrs. Christie. In places they had to fell trees to make a track, in others to stamp out the flames of bush fires to clear the track. Next year, Mrs. Sandford proposes to do the Cape to Cairo trip.

A MANIFESTO IN FAVOUR OF VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Translated from "Le Petit Parisien," July 12th, 1927.

Madame Louise Brunet, President and Founder of the Committee of Feminist Propaganda, has just addressed a manifesto, in the form of a letter to the Parliamentarians, which is an ardent plea in favour of votes for women.

After having affirmed that "Frenchwomen do not threaten the foundations of the Republican form of Government," and exposed the fallacy of the argument based on the so-called "feminine weakness," Madame Louise Brunet adds:—

"Allow us to point out to you that the number of the Deputies cannot be fixed according to the total figure of the population so long as the right to vote is refused to women, and you cannot realise justice in the matter of electoral reform so long as the representation is not national. Now the majority of the French nation consisting of women, taxable and amenable to the law, it is not possible sincerely and loyally to represent these women otherwise than by giving them the vote."

And she concludes: "Are you not going to keep your word? Then we women will not fail in the duty of combating those who are unmindful of our most just demands. France, restored to youth, should find at the next elections all her children united for her defence and her prosperity."

A. F.

AUSTRALIAN WOMEN VOTERS.

In *The Dawn* of June 14th there is given a vivid account of the second Triennial Conference of the Australian Women's Federation for Equal Citizenship. A very large attendance was made, including delegates from every state. The most noticeable feature, says *The Dawn*, was the new temper among the delegates, a realisation of the need for more concerted action behind the vote, that, to benefit by the franchise, women must put their organised power behind it.

Among the subjects discussed by the Federation were "Australia's Position among the Nations," "Australia's Pacific Relations," "The Ideals of International Peace," and the following resolution was put and carried: "That the Commonwealth Government be urged to make the establishment of a University at Canberra a matter of urgency, and that special consideration be given to the question of founding a Chair of International Relations." Finally the Federation changed its name to the Federation of Australian Women Voters, and a last pleasure was given to the delegates from distant states through the loan of the Premier's launch, which took the visitors round Sydney's beautiful harbour.

MEDICAL WOMEN'S FEDERATION.

The *News Letter* for July of the Medical Women's Federation gives an account of the first session of the new Council. Dr. Christine Murrell was unanimously elected to the Presidency for a second year, Dr. Ellen Orr and Dr. Clara Stewart as Vice-Presidents. Some remarkable reports were given of the work of the Federation in receiving and maintaining adequate salaries for women doctors in public health posts. Seven posts had been advertised at less than the agreed minimum of £600. Five of these had been accepted, but not by Federation members. Many applications had been withdrawn. A report was also received about the salary of the Assistant M.O.H. at Plymouth, whose status as Medical Officer in charge of a Department was accepted by the Public Health Committee, and by the Town Council, but whose salary became the centre of a party squabble on "economy." The matter is still under discussion, and the Federation hopes to win justice. The *News Letter* also prints in full the admirable letter, signed by its President and officers, sent to the Durham County Council in protest against the dismissal by that body of a woman medical officer on the ground that she married a man who earned enough to keep two. An encouraging report was also received from Miss Martindale, British National Corresponding Secretary of the Medical Women's International Association, who said that international action was making good progress, notably in co-operation in making effective representation to the Council of the League of Nations on the subject of the appointment of women doctors to the Health Committee. There were thirty men and one woman on the Health Committee in 1926. A woman has now been nominated as Assessor, and the principle of appointing women as well as men strongly emphasised.

WOMEN'S GUILD OF EMPIRE.

A party of 250 members and friends of the Women's Guild of Empire left Liverpool and Greenock on the 23rd July for a three weeks' trip to Canada. The main body are to have six days in Canada, including a visit to Niagara Falls. Various women's organisations are arranging their entertainment. Mrs. Drummond, Chief Controller of the Guild, intends to remain in Canada until October, visiting and speaking in many towns. She will tell the Canadian audiences about women's work in England, and will learn for report to England about facilities for emigration, more particularly for women, both as individuals and in groups.

IN PARLIAMENT.

Women Police (London).

VISCOUNTESS ASTOR (U., Plymouth) asked the Home Secretary how many times during the last three years police women in London have appeared in Court as witnesses or in charge of sexual crimes against women and children? SIR W. JOYNSON-HICKS: I could not, without exhaustive inquiry, give the number; but I can say that statements of children in sexual cases are always taken either by the Lady Assistant or by a Woman Inspector specially appointed for the purpose, and child witnesses who have no relations or friends suitable to look after them are cared for until the proceedings are over, and provided for after the proceedings are over by either the Lady Assistant or the Woman Inspector with the help of various voluntary organisations. VISCOUNTESS ASTOR: Is it not true that this year we have had 250 cases of indecent assault on women, and that we have only two women police appointed for the purpose of looking after them, whereas in 1921 we had eight? SIR W. JOYNSON-HICKS: I cannot accept my noble Friend's figures, and perhaps she will put them down in another question. I cannot answer for the actual numbers of police force on a particular duty, but I am satisfied, as I said in my reply, that the interests of women and children are cared for by women police and women inspectors. VISCOUNTESS ASTOR: Cannot the right hon. Gentleman get the figures from his officials? Many of us know that the number is inadequate. MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member is now giving opinions.

Prisons (Woman Deputy Governor).

VISCOUNTESS ASTOR asked the Home Secretary whether seeing that an advertisement was recently inserted inviting welfare supervisors particularly to apply for the post of Deputy-Governor of prisons (women), he will say how many welfare supervisors and others with long experience and excellent qualifications applied; and what were the special qualifications of the person appointed? SIR W. JOYNSON-HICKS: 134, many of whom had good qualifications which cannot be summarised in statistical form. The lady appointed possessed, to a greater extent than any other candidate, the necessary combination of qualifications.

Young Offenders (Scotland).

MR. BUCHANAN (Lab., Gorbals) asked the Secretary of State for Scotland the number of boys and girls between the ages of 14 and 16 who, during the past year, have been found guilty of any form of crime in Glasgow, and the number in 1925, 1924, 1923, and 1922, respectively? SIR J. GILMOUR: The number of boys and girls between the ages of 14 and 16 convicted in Glasgow during the years were as follows:—

YEAR.	BOYS.	GIRLS.	TOTAL.
1926	1,871	60	1,931
1925	1,667	36	1,703
1924	1,690	33	1,723
1923	1,531	42	1,573
1922	1,511	39	1,550

House of Commons Refreshment Department (Ladies).

MR. BUCHANAN: May I ask, Mr. Speaker, if you are prepared to give a decision as to whether the question of the closing of the Strangers' Dining Room to ladies should be considered, in view of the changed conditions? MR. SPEAKER: The question to which the hon. Member refers has been brought to me by the Chairman of the Refreshment Committee in the form of a resolution passed by that Committee, and I am now taking steps to inquire whether further accommodation can be provided such as the hon. Member suggests. It will take some little time to go into the matter, but I will do so during the Recess. Federated Malay States (Social Hygiene).

MR. CECIL WILSON (Lab., Attercliffe) asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies why, in view of the unanimous Report of the Advisory Committee on Social Hygiene urging that at the earliest practical date the policy should be to suppress all brothels in the Straits Settlements, approval has been given to an

amendment of the law in the Federated Malay States under which a very large number of brothels are recognised by the British Government? MR. AMERY: The Amendment to which the hon. Member refers makes no alteration in the state of the law in the Federated Malay States in as far as any recognition of brothels may be concerned. Its object was explained on the 29th June by my right hon. Friend in reply to a question by the noble Lady the member for Sutton (Viscountess Astor).

Industrial and Reformatory Schools.

MR. SHEPHERD (Lab., Darlington) asked the Home Secretary the cost per head per week of the upkeep of boys and girls in industrial and reformatory schools in the years 1918 and 1926, respectively? CAPT. HACKING (Under-Secretary, Home Office): The average estimated cost for the current financial year is 29s. 6d. The information as regards the actual expenditure for last financial year is not yet available. I regret that I cannot give a comparable figure for 1918-19, as a system of fixed grants was then in force.

FIRST CASES UNDER LEGITIMACY ACT (1926).

At the Bristol County Court there was heard the first case under the Legitimacy Act (1926). Learned Counsel took the occasion to explain the provisions of the new Act. The petitioner was a young girl born in 1909, the father being then a bachelor, the mother a spinster. They had married in 1912, and the girl had always passed as their daughter. The mother died in January 1927, and the girl, through her father, petitioned for a certificate of legitimacy. The Judge decided the case was a proper one in the meaning of the Act and ordered the certificate to be issued.

A second case was heard at Bala County Court, in which a woman of 61 petitioned for a declaration of legitimacy, claiming that her father married her mother when petitioner was three months old; that on the mother's death the father married again and had two children of the second marriage. Both these children had died, and petitioner claimed legitimacy to inherit certain property. The petition was granted.

In London, the first case under the Act was heard at Clerkenwell County Court, when the petitioner was a man claiming legitimacy under the Act on the ground that his parents had married. In this case the father gave evidence that he had always acknowledged the petitioner as his son. The petition was granted.

WOMAN POLICE DOCTOR.

Following the decision of the Manchester City Council made some months ago to appoint a woman police doctor in their area, the Watch Committee has now carried it into effect. Mrs. Nesta Helen Wells, M.B., Ch.B. (Victoria University), is now a member of the Manchester City Police Force. She sees her duties as specially and directly appertaining to cases in which children and women are involved, and the examination of women prisoners within the area. Dr. Wells views her appointment as following, logically and obviously, the employment of policewomen, and is of opinion that similar appointments for similar duties are urgently necessary and are inevitable in all areas.

"THE POLICEWOMAN'S REVIEW."

The *Policewoman's Review* for August contains an admirable survey of the value of policewomen in County Areas, written by a woman magistrate, councillor, and deputy-mayor. The writer deals with the numerous situations, constantly occurring, in which she shows how the presence of women rather than men police would ease and help all concerned. There is also an exhaustive survey of the position up and down the country as to the appointment of women police. It is clearly shown that the personal opinions of local Chief Constables are too often allowed to obtrude themselves and to obliterate the opinions of citizens experienced in deputations, petitions, and at meetings of local bodies.

THE VOTE.

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 5th, 1927.

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.

THE FRENCH RED HERRING!

Have humour and common sense entirely deserted men? We, in England, still have our antis who, entirely humourless themselves, provide national laughter, but we have nothing to approach the latest from our neighbours in France. There, not content with refusing to enfranchise women at all, they are actually and apparently quite seriously considering a proposal made by a man correspondent, at Geneva, of the Academie des Sciences Morales et Politiques to give two, and even three, votes to fathers. Married men with no children, or with only two children, says M. Eugene Ritter, are not decreasing, or, rather, are not hindering the increase of population, while men who have three children are increasing the population. In the present condition of the birth rate in France, and taking the view that in population lies salvation, these fathers must be suitably rewarded, and the reward of all married men is to be two votes instead of one, and the reward of fathers of three children is to be three votes instead of one. This, says M. Ritter, is very much better than giving votes to women. Rightly is the emblem of France a strutting cock. We know that there are women in France; we know that nothing has yet superseded the woman's function of motherhood; we know that a mother bears her child for nine months in her own body, and that only from a mother can a child be born; we know that it is the mother who nurses, feeds, and cares for the child; we know that the father's part is the lesser. Even although he does shoulder the earning of money to pay for food, housing, clothing, and education, his alternative is idleness. With the woman, if not earning money, she is producing children. One would indeed be ashamed of men if they did not provide for mothers. As they cannot produce children themselves, let them at least provide the wherewithal, and let them not make such a song about it. Many women, in France, as in England and in all white countries, are mother and provider. No man can be more than provider. And yet, for this lesser share, it is in all seriousness proposed that the man shall be given greater citizenship rights and rewards, while for the greater service the woman is to be outlawed from citizenship.

That such a proposal should be made by any human being, that it should be made by such a highbrow as M. Ritter, Geneva correspondent of the Academie des Sciences Morales et Politiques, that it should be published, that it should be solemnly discussed—wonder piled on wonder—and, greatest wonder of all, the women of France, the feminists of France, are not militant. Still they believe in the genuineness of the friendliness of politicians. Still they hold meetings, many groups, and many meetings; still politicians, from both Houses, attend these meetings and declaim splendid sentiments of sympathy. This last shame, this last revelation of where they, the women of France, stand in the eyes of the men of France, will fire the laggards, stir the apathetic, rouse those already in the ranks to greater efforts, bring new recruits hurrying to the fray. Our French colleagues will forgive and understand our indignation. We, in England, have not yet won full citizenship, and, as one army to another in the same cause, we can call to each other, can greet and hearten each other, show the traps experience has acquainted us with, and point the road our own feet found to freedom.

FALSE ECONOMY.

On the Report of the Vote for the Ministry of Labour in the House of Commons last week, Miss Wilkinson drew attention to the fact that the figures in regard to the unemployment in the case of women are still appallingly high. She said that that was partly due to the fact that so many of the normal channels of women's industry are overcrowded, and the new channels are closed; that many of the industries into which women entered during the war have, for various reasons, dispensed with the services of women, and now it is emphatically necessary, instead of having masses of untrained and unemployable women on the labour market, that something should be done to train them in various trades. Miss Wilkinson pointed out that a very large number of women lost their opportunity for training while they were on munition work. She recognised that the Ministry of Labour had tried to meet the position by giving grants to local training centres, but complained that practically every year the grants for this service had been cut down. Up to now, she said, nearly 37,000 women had passed through the home training courses, and some very valuable instruction had been given to women in various skilled occupations. 348 had been trained for clerical work; 73 had been trained as cooks, every one of whom had secured employment; some as comptometer operators, others as shorthand-typists, children's nurses, hairdressers, and so on. Miss Wilkinson claimed that the centres for the training of women had been an unqualified success, and that a very large proportion of the women who passed through those centres had good jobs to-day. Miss Wilkinson further said she did not agree that every unemployed woman should be pushed into domestic service; she recognised what an appalling failure she herself would be in domestic work and shuddered when she thought of the effect on a household into which she was pushed as an unwilling domestic worker, yet she recognised that there is a very large number of women who prefer domestic work. Training enabled them to secure higher remuneration and raised the whole standard of domestic service. She considered that the training supplied by the Central Committee was highly important national work, and to cut it down by a pettifoggery few thousand pounds was, to her mind, false economy.

We wholly agree with Miss Wilkinson, and we repeat what we have reaffirmed at many of our conferences: that the Government should seriously consider the position of unemployed women, and that in any schemes devised for training and employment the needs of workless women should receive equal consideration with those of unemployed men. We, too, are emphatically of the opinion that domestic service should not be the only avenue of employment open to women. Women are continually proving that, if given the chance, they can easily become proficient in all kinds of trades and callings. Then why not give them the necessary training to equip them for all kinds of work?

EQUAL FRANCHISE FIRST!

According to the *Westminster Gazette*, the railway companies are definitely considering a big scheme for the utilisation of motor transport and to "get out on the roads," in order to compete with road transport service; further, that it is their intention to promote a Bill in Parliament during the Autumn Session. There has been no demand from the public for such a Bill, and we emphatically protest against time being found for it until the Equal Franchise Bill is on the Statute Book. Owing to pressure of business, the New Session will not begin until next February. We have had no promise yet that Equal Franchise will be the first measure to be considered next Session, but we certainly do not expect Parliamentary time to be allotted to a new Bill, however great its vested interests, before Equal Franchise for women and men is the law of the land.

NOTES FROM THE FOREIGN PRESS.

By MARIAN BERRY.

The July number of *L'Egyptienne* includes an interesting review of Dr. Aly Bey Hilmey's book, "Egypt and Prison Government." The writer is the chief medical officer of the Egyptian prisons, and represented that country at the 9th International Congress on Prison Administration held in London in 1925.

With a view to improving the institutions in his country, Dr. Aly Bey Hilmey has visited prisons in many lands; and after studying the different systems in several European countries, and particularly in Great Britain, has given the results to the Egyptian people in a work which is not only interesting and valuable, but throughout which the humane factor is dominant.

The book is divided into four main sections: the first discusses the modern conception of reformation and reclamation as compared with the former idea of punishment based on vengeance with a view to the reduction of crime. In considering the problems of vagrancy and the infirm, the writer advocates the detention for a lengthy period of the able-bodied mendicant in a Work Colony, where habits of work can be regained and a trade possibly acquired.

The second section deals with the juvenile offender. The various methods now adopted are fully discussed, including Children's Courts and Industrial Schools, and special attention is given to the "Borstal" institutions in England.

Prison administration is considered in the third part of the book, with special reference to existing conditions in Egypt. The writer deals with the connection between central and local prison administration; types of prisons and buildings; employment and conditions of labour for prisoners; classification and grading of prisoners. A prison for first offenders is proposed, together with the suggestion of the foundation of prison-asylums for young offenders between fifteen and twenty. Prison hygiene, dietary scales, educational facilities (including the estab-

lishment of libraries and training in some trade), are also considered.

The last part deals with the work of outside organisations for Penal Reform, such as the Howard Association in England and in Egypt, the Royal Society for Political Economics, together with the work of Prisoners Aid Associations in England and elsewhere.

Recently a conference of representatives of Housewives' Associations and of the Building Trades was held in Frankfurt a/M.; the agenda included the following subjects: the planning of a dwelling-house, household hygiene, and economics. The special Group for up-to-date Housekeeping and Dwellings in connection with the Frankfurt Fair arranged exhibits of labour-saving devices and gave illustrations of practical methods by which the housewife's work can be lessened by differently built homes. In 60 German towns Housing Committees of Housewives exist, and the Housewives' Associations in South Germany have adopted a resolution to urge that the training of girls in Domestic Economy should be based on the work being done in a modern house.

The Elections for the Austrian Parliament took place at the end of April last, and the results were not so favourable for the women candidates as at the previous elections; this was also the case with the elections for the Provincial Councils. Only six women, all members of the Social Democratic Party and former members, have been elected; they are: Adelheid Popp, Emmy Freundlich, Gabriele Proft, Amalie Seidel, Anna Boschek and Marie Tusch. The other Parties are entirely without women representatives. Frau Rudel-Zeyneh, who was formerly the Christian-Socialist representative for the Graz division, withdrew at the last moment as her Party would only give her an unfavourable place in the list of candidates. Nine women are serving on the Vienna City Council—three Christian Socialists and six Social Democrats.

THE CLYDE COAST CAMPAIGN, 1927.

Organiser and Speaker: MISS LILIAN LENTON, "St. Kilda," Mount Stuart Road, Rothesay.
Assisted by Mrs. Nye, Miss Bach, and Miss Burgess.

Since last writing, we have spent another interesting if strenuous week, holding open-air meetings, selling VOTES and pamphlets, and taking collections. The weather, upon which so much depends, has favoured us on the whole, for it was not until yesterday morning that the downpour was such as to suspend our activities, and even yesterday it was fine in time for the meeting at night. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday we did well, meetings were good and collections better than those to which we have become accustomed; but the second half of the week everything quieted down, as we were approaching the end of the month when almost all the visitors go away, making room for the incoming August holiday crowds. We hope that to-morrow the good times will commence again, and that the second half of our campaign will be yet more successful than that which has passed.

No longer are we the same party as in the beginning. To our great regret Miss Bach has left, the fortnight she was able to give being up, but we are pleased to announce that Miss Burgess, Hon. Treas. of our Bradford Branch, has very kindly come in her stead. Later, we hope to have the assistance of Miss Hall, B.Sc., one of the "flappers" who, had she been a man, would be entitled to two votes, but, as it is, has none. Mrs. Nye, who is so useful as chairman, having the happy knack of getting the crowd to "come nearer," will be here until the end of the campaign.

There is little to report of the meetings themselves. The members of the audience showed much interest, the same faces being seen night after night, and they do not attempt to escape, but are quite generous, when the collection is announced, and wait, possibly in the hope of amusement during question time, until we declare the

meeting closed. Questioners are still concerned about the colours of our flag, as, by a curious coincidence, the Sinn Fein Party have the same, which offends many though it pleases others. Particular interest is shown in the question of protective legislation for women, but I think that on the whole we have managed to convince the audience that to favour such protection is a very short-sighted policy.

The question of the married woman's right to work is a grievous one. One lady protested strongly against our advocacy of that right, saying that when a man took unto himself a wife he took a luxury, and should have to pay for it; and as to the woman, she should have far more consideration for the wives of other men who were unemployed than to "take the bread out of their mouths" by holding a paid position herself. It is very difficult to make some people understand that even if there is unemployment among all kinds of workers, efforts must not be made to alleviate the position at the expense of the married woman; she has as much right to decide how she will occupy her time as any other person. The story of the man whom no one proposes to dismiss from his post as headmaster of a big school, because his wife has a private income of about £2,000 a year and can afford to keep him, generally has some effect; but the women are most influenced when we mention how frequently, because he cannot or will not, a man fails to supply his wife with the necessities of existence in return for the manifold services she renders him. (The argument that a man may leave his widow destitute is not very effective here, because in Scotland he may not—if he has something to leave, of course—although he can in England.) However, we tell them that these are points in no way seriously affecting the main issue. If

every husband were perfection, and amply provided with this world's goods, it is the wife's right to decide, consulting only her husband, whether she will accept from him what he is kind enough to give, or earn an income—and independence—of her own.

Again we must mention, for the benefit of those who do not know, that until August 12th we shall hold meetings nightly on the Pier Head, Rothesay, at 8 p.m., and once weekly in Largs, Dunoon, Millport and Helensburgh; and again we ask any members and friends who happen to be in the neighbourhood to come forward with offers of help at the meetings, or with the collecting or sales of VOTES and literature. As mentioned before, financial assistance towards the expenses will not be despised.

GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD FAIR.

Our Annual Green, White and Gold Fair will be held this year at the Caxton Hall, Westminster, on Wednesday and Thursday, November 23rd and 24th, from 3 to 9 p.m. each day. On November 24th, The Lady Balfour of Burreigh has kindly promised to open the Fair.

Already the arrangements for the Stalls and Entertainments are well in hand. Several of our Branches have promised to provide stalls, others to send contributions. The Fair Committee hope that all Branches which have not yet responded to their appeal will consider the matter at their first meeting after the Holidays.

The Stalls arranged by the Committee are Stationery, Handkerchiefs, Antiques and White Elephants, Household, Dairy Produce and Pound Stall, China, Overalls and Aprons, Toys, Sweets, Underclothing, Shilling Stall and Literature Stall.

Our kind friend Mrs. Lloyd has, as usual, undertaken to provide a small stall. The Committee would be grateful if any other members or friends would follow her example and provide small stalls; special arrangements will be made, and good positions allotted to them.

All friends of the League will be delighted to hear that Miss Grace Woollacott is arranging a Display (on Thursday, November 24th) of Operatic, Classical and Character Dances by her pupils, whose charming dancing has so often delighted our members in the past. Our kind member and friend Mrs. Sparrow will play on both days, and one of the chief attractions of the Fair this year will be the Reading of Teacups by Mrs. Gilchrist. Tickets—price 1/10 (including tax) the first day until 5 o'clock; after 5 p.m. and on the second day, 1/2 (including tax)—will be on sale at the Office early in the autumn.

All communications and applications for Stalls should be sent to the Hon. Fair Secretary, Miss Elizabeth Berry, at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

OUT OF DEPENDENCE INTO—?

Always before victory the losing side gives voice to its fears. Women may, however dubious may look the political skies, be encouraged by the volume of protest from those who oppose their advance. Although they may see individuals losing ground, "slipping back," as Mrs. Montefiore stated in THE VOTE a fortnight ago, they may see the main body, the general advance, moving steadily, doggedly forward. While a few tens of married women doctors are dismissed by Local Authorities, the many thousands of doctors represented by the British Medical Association repeat and strengthen their opposition to such dismissals. While the number of women Members of Parliament remains few the number of candidates increases, and the public accept them more and more without particular attention to their sex and with increasing attention to their

efficiency. While some few parents still place cruel obstacles in the way of daughters who wish to equip themselves for independence, the professions are open or opening, and already, in London alone, there are a half-dozen clubs for professional women holding executive positions. We have our Sir Abe Bailey pronouncing somewhat pathetically on the complete inefficiency of all women, and thus showing himself on the same intelligence level as Sir Edward Clarke, who, in legendary anti-suffrage days at the Queen's Hall, gave unholy joy to suffragists by pronouncing that he had never met a woman fit to vote, to which the obvious retort, applicable also to Sir Abe, was made: "You've been keeping bad company." As an argument against votes for women, this statement by one man that he had never met a woman fit to vote and therefore no woman, inside or outside his circle of acquaintances, should be permitted to vote, is typical of the last-ditch wails with which our ears are now assailed. His Grace the Duke of Devonshire is reported as saying most wonderfully: "I am fortunate enough to have a considerable number of granddaughters, and I hope that they will be better employed than in trooping to the polling booth." As the trooping of the ducal granddaughters is unlikely to occur *en masse* oftener than every four years, one must share with His Grace the hope that they will be, if not better employed in the intervening years, at least not, as it were, kept on the leash, waiting for the word "Go" to the polling booth. An idle life indeed, and certainly not to be encouraged.

Women have gained entry now into sufficient professions to make it necessary to watch another danger. We know that, in time, the existing sex barriers to entry will all be razed. We must be careful that women do not accept, whether by their own faults or through *force majeure*, permanently subordinate positions. There are few men now, employing women, who do not accept them as efficient in many clerical grades; but there are, undoubtedly, still too many whose slow-moving imagination cannot see women in executive and administrative positions. These are the successors of those who used to say that no woman would ever enter *their* office, and in their turn now say that no woman can be anything but a shorthand typist or a clerk or—giddy height—a secretary. This is an idea which is daily weakened by the accession of women to both executive and administrative posts, but women themselves give strength to it by belittling their fellow-women. One must imagine this depreciation to be a relic of the tradition that, in order to attract men, a woman must never let him think her cleverer than himself. Many women still make it their life work to attract men and take the easy road of foolish sweetness, but one would beg them not to assume the same idleness on the part of other women. As Miss Ludby, managing director of a business firm, recently said, "I started as a typist, and discovered that I learned nothing about the business I was in." The difference with women like Miss Ludby is that they see that that leads nowhere, and they break the bonds of typism or clericalism and demand and obtain those openings for administration which are freely offered to young men.

All women were not born home-makers, that we have proved; that they all are not born shorthand typists remains to be proved. Each individual woman who refuses to accept this general classification helps to kill the admittedly prevalent notion that that she is, and that she must remain. From the League of Nations down to dingy and doubtful private offices this idea of the limitation of women is establishing itself, and women must resist and break it. It is of no use getting things down in black and white, as in the League, promising equality of openings for men and women if we permit, as is at present the case, the entry of young men by a variety of routes, the entry of young women only through clerical grades. Constant vigilance, constant courage, is required by individual women to repel this new slavery. We have freed ourselves from the slavery of dependence; we can free ourselves from this threatening slavery of subordination.

WHERE TO GO.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

LONDON AND SUBURBS.

Monday, September 5th, at 3 p.m.
"Fair" Sub-Committee Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Saturday, September 24th, at 3.45 p.m.
Minerva Club and Mid-London Branches.
"At Home" at the Minerva Club. Tea, 4 o'clock. Members and Friends invited. Songs, Recitations and Games. Further details later.

Friday, October 7th at 5 p.m.
Organisation Sub-Committee Meeting at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

DARE TO BE FREE.

Saturday, October 8th, at 10 a.m.
National Executive Committee Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C.

Wednesday, November 2nd, at 4 p.m.
Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Tea and Politics up-to-date.

Wednesday and Thursday, November 23rd and 24th, 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Green, White and Gold Fair at Caxton Hall, Westminster, S.W.

PROVINCES.

Friday, August 12th, at 3.30 p.m.

Ashford. Gift Sale, Hempstead Street Hall.

Friday, October 7th.

Rye. Public Meeting at Old Hope Anchor Hotel. Speaker: Miss M. I. Neal. Chairman: Miss Bellhouse.

SCOTLAND.

Clyde Coast Campaign. Rothesay. Meetings at Pier Head nightly. Speaker: Miss Lilian Lenton. See page 245.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Monday, October 31st, at 8 p.m.
Bexley Heath Congregational Guild Lecture Hall. Debate on "Equal Franchise." Proposer: Miss Marian Reeves. Opposer: Miss Caithew.

Saturday, December 17th, at 3 p.m.
Speech Club. Debate between Dr. Marian Phillips and Miss Marian Reeves on "Protective Legislation for Women," at the Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1.

OUR TREASURY.

NATIONAL FUND.

Amount previously acknowledged, October, 1907, to December, 1926, £45,273 8s. 3d. £ s. d. £ s. d.

Previously acknowledged... 303 3 10

Special Emergency War Fund—

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Equal Political Rights Campaign Fund—

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Jumble Sale at Women's Freedom League Settlement ... 10 0 0

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per Miss Lenton ... 3 5 0

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Hastings ... 14 5

Middlesbrough ... 14 6

Minerva Club ... 1 8 10

2 17 9

£340 6 4

Readers of THE VOTE, who are going away for the holidays and are not postal subscribers, can have the paper posted to them at any address at home or abroad.

OUR OPEN COLUMN.

To the Editor of THE VOTE.

Litter in the Streets and Countryside.

DEAR MADAM,—It is a sad fact that English people are accustomed to litter in the streets and countryside, and constantly add to it.

On the Continent, where it is an offence punishable by fine to throw anything in the streets or countryside, people get the habit of tidiness, carry their litter home to their own dustbins, and are shocked by our streets when they come to England. This litter must be bad for the character as well as the health of the people.

Could not women take up this matter, and not cease the campaign till a law has been passed making it a punishable offence to throw litter in the streets or countryside or to place dustbins in the streets without covers? Also let them urge the placing of receptacles for litter at convenient places.

People have been appealed to in vain for years, by the B.B.C. and the Press, to refrain from disfiguring our beautiful countryside by scattering litter, and it seems that stronger measures must be taken.

Yours truly,

ETHEL BRABY.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

As Others See Us?

According to *The Times* report, Canon W. R. Dawson, speaking at Chiswick last week, said: "Girls are far more conscientious than boys. . . . England is the only country in the world that knows the proper place for women. In France she is a plaything, in Germany a drudge, in America a goddess, and in England a partner."

"Ultra Modern Women."

According to the *Liverpool Post*, the Prefect of the Pekin police has issued a stern warning to Chinese women. He forbids short hair, short skirts, and *décolleté* gowns, and threatens those who do not obey his edict with "severe punishment." "On several occasions," the warning reads, "ultra modern women have disobeyed the law and the customs of the country. If, therefore, the police see any women in extravagant costumes, they will arrest them at once, and they will be severely punished. Let the feminine world tremble and obey." We wonder how many extra prisons China will be needing?

Hull Watch Committee and Women Police.

Hull Corporation Watch Committee recently considered in private the question of the appointment of women police, the Chief Constable being opposed to such appointments. The decision arrived at was that the matter should be the subject of discussion at a special meeting of the Watch Committee after the fortnightly municipal recess.

Girls and Engineering.

The Women's Engineering Society is a going concern. Writing in *The Woman Engineer*, Miss Norah Jeans, herself an engineer, is quite convinced that this profession offers many splendid opportunities to well-educated, intelligent, and industrious girls. It is interesting to note that the Hon. Judith Denman, the 19-year-old daughter of Lord Denman, and granddaughter of the late Viscount Cowdray, is studying engineering at Newnham College, Cambridge.

One Woman—Thirteen Men!

A Royal Commission on London Squares has just been appointed. This Commission will consist of 13 men and a male secretary, and one woman, Dame Caroline Bridgeman.

No Smoking in the Division Lobby!

In reply to a question by Major Colfox (U., Dorset, W.), Mr. Speaker said: "It is certainly against the Rules of the House to smoke in the Division Lobby, and I would ask hon. Members generally to see that the Rule is observed."

One Rule for Women—Another for Men?

We are frequently told that a married woman should not work for pay, because two salaries ought not to go into one home. At Sheffield, however, the Labour group in the City Council have recommended that the Director of Education for the city, who is already in receipt of a four-figure salary, shall also be appointed Controller of a new printing plant department, and be paid £350 a year extra, a working under-manager to be advertised for. So two salaries may go into one home if they are both taken by a man, but not if one of these salaries is taken by a woman!

Women and Sport.

Last Friday, Miss Mercedes Gleitze completed her long-distance swim from Westminster Bridge to Folkestone, a distance of 120 miles. She encountered some rough weather.

Miss M. A. Gunn won a world's record for Britain at the British Games, at Stamford Bridge, last Monday. In the Women's Long Jump, she covered 18 ft. 3½ in., 3½ in. better than the world record made a month ago by the Japanese girl, K. Hitoni. She also finished first by two yards in the Women's 100 Yards Race, in 11 4/5 secs., and helped her team (Mitcham Athletic Club) to win the 600 Yards Open Relay Race.

Mrs. Elliot Lynn, who is flying her own Avro machine, has gone to Breslau to attend a meeting of the International Federation of Women Athletes. She expects to be back on August 9th, and on her return journey, which is to take two days, she will fly via Berlin and Cologne, and will cover approximately 2,000 miles.

FRIDAY,
AUGUST 5,
1927.

THE VOTE

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FRENCH ALPS.—Furnished Chalet to let. View Mt. Blanc. Seven beds, bath, inside sanitation.—"E.C.F.," 31, Meadhurst Road, Leicester.

DORSET COAST.—March to Sept. Two sitting-rooms; kitchen; three bedrooms, beds—four single, one double; bathroom (h. & c.); garage. Bridport Station, 2½ miles. Golf links and sea, 10 minutes.—Miss F. RENDALL, 6, West-cliff Road, Shipley, Yorks.

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HUMANITARIAN HOLIDAY CENTRE, from July 30th to September 3rd. Southbourne-on-Sea, Hants. Large mansion, several acres beautiful grounds. New Health diet; tennis; croquet; dancing; boating; lectures.—Illustrated prospectus from Mr. F. SUMMERS, 32, Sackville Street, W.1.

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AUTO-EDUCATION," 46, Gt. Russell Street, W.C.1. DR. JESSIE WHITE invites parents and teachers to consult her as to Teaching Appliances.

TO LET.

MISS CRYSTAL EASTMAN, who is returning to America for some time, wishes to sublet, furnished, her comfortable seven-room Maisonette, at 6, Upper Park Road, Hampstead. Quiet; sunny; convenient. Moderate rent.—Tel: Primrose Hill 3716.

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RIVERSIDE Cottage (Furnished) to let for August or September, 3 bedrooms, bath, 3 reception rooms, piano. Garden to river. Hampton Court Rly. Stn 2 mins.; exceptional situation, 3½ gns. per week.—"E.S.," Minerva Club, 56, Hunter Street, W.C.1.

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