

THE VOTE,
AUGUST 17, 1923.
ONE PENNY.

FIRST WOMAN CABINET MINISTER

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

VOL. XXIV. No. 721.

(Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and transmissible through the post in the United Kingdom at the newspaper rate of postage, but to Canada and Newfoundland at the Magazine rate.)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17, 1923

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.

"OUR MARY ELLEN." Mrs. Ralph Smith, M.P.
WOMEN IN JUGO-SLAVIA.
THE CLYDE CAMPAIGN.
WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

NOTHING ADEQUATE BUT EQUALITY.
A FAMOUS WOMAN'S CENTENARY. By J. M. Tooke.
THE ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL FIASCO. By Ray Alexander.
WORKING WOMEN IN CONFERENCE.

"OUR MARY ELLEN."

Mrs. Ralph Smith, M.P., the only woman member for Vancouver, in the British Columbia Legislature, is now in London on a Government Mission to encourage English people to emigrate to Canada. Her husband, the late Mr. Ralph Smith, was member for Vancouver, and also Minister of Finance in the British Columbia Legislature, and, on his death, some six years ago, Mrs. Smith, or "Our Mary Ellen," as she is affectionately called in the Dominions, was unanimously chosen to fill his seat in Parliament, where she has represented Vancouver ever since, having been re-elected at each succeeding session with overwhelming majorities.

She is therefore the first British woman M.P., and is also the first woman in the world to hold Cabinet rank, having acted for a time as Minister without portfolio in the Provincial Government. In 1921, she was offered the Speakership of the House at the united request of the Government and the opposition, but declined the honour because she preferred to remain on the floor of the House where she could speak for herself. Her sincerity of purpose may likewise be gauged by the fact that she later resigned her position in the Cabinet in order to secure freedom for public criticism of courses which she could not approve. Mrs. Smith is a Devonshire woman by birth, but left England for the Dominion over 30 years ago, on account of her husband's health. She is the mother of four

sons, and believes that one of the best preparations a woman can have for political life, or "the larger house-keeping," as she prefers to call it, is the rearing of a family, and becoming a successful wife and mother.

"There is no reason at all why men and women should not work together as equals in politics," Mrs. Smith told our representative, "The first thought of both should be for their homes and families, then they can better serve their country and the great British Empire. Now that women are rapidly becoming enfranchised all the world over, it is only fitting they should take an active part in the larger house-keeping which is the floor of Parliament. Whilst women have already secured some reforms, we still have a long way to go, for every age presents new problems which must be met by sanity, intelligence, and practicability. I feel, however, that the women of our Empire need closer welding together, instead of each Dominion going its own way, and I am looking forward to next year's great Empire Exhibition as a means of bringing the women of the Empire more closely together.



MRS. RALPH SMITH, M.P.

"The welfare of women and children has been my primary interest ever since I entered on Parliamentary work," Mrs. Smith continued. "Looking back over my six years of office, it is gratifying to realise that we have been able to secure certain legislative reforms in my

adopted province of British Columbia. For instance, we now have our own Juvenile Court, and have lately appointed a woman Judge, Mrs. McGill. We have a Minimum Wage Act for women and girls in active operation, and working splendidly. We also have a Mothers' Pensions Act, which has been a boon to hundreds of women bereft of their breadwinner for some reason or another. With a population of 550,000, we pay out annually half a million dollars to mothers who need this assistance.

"Then again, we have a Deserted Wives' Maintenance Act, and a measure which ensures the proper adoption of children, by means of which a child can take the name of its foster parents, and also inherit any property left by these parents. In connection with foster-children, we employ an inspector who follows up cases, and who, in the event of a kind treatment, has the power to remove the child from its environment. Mentally deficient and delinquent children receive special care, and we have first-rate medical, optical and dental attendance in the schools.

"As regards equality between the sexes, we have established an Equal Guardianship Act, also a Testators' Family Maintenance Act, which makes provision that if a husband or wife dies without making a will, the survivor has the right to apply to the Courts within 12 months of the death of the other, and secure justice. We are very proud of this Act, because it is on a fifty-fifty basis, and women derive equal benefit with men. We have also raised the age of marriage, which used to be as low as 12 and 14, to 14 and 16, and we hope to make it still higher as time goes on. Many other minor amendments have been made to existing laws in order to give women equal opportunities with men. These amendments, unlike the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, recently passed in Great Britain, are rigidly enforced in British Columbia."

WOMEN IN JUGO-SLAVIA.

In an interesting article on this subject, in this month's *Jus Suffragi*, the author points out that, although the Jugo-Slav woman proved her undoubted ability to take part in responsible work during the war, she is still without many civil and political rights. Woman suffrage has been adopted as a programme by the National Women's Union, which includes 200 Croatian, Serbian and Slovenian Societies. This Union organises demonstrations and conferences on woman suffrage, and sends petitions to Parliament. Many members of Parliament are on the side of the women and support their claims, whilst most of the political parties include woman suffrage in their programme. In 1921, the provincial governments of Croatia and Slovenia gave women the right to vote in communal and town elections, and, at Zagreb, at the last city elections, some of the parties included a Woman Candidate in their lists. Serbian women have not yet secured the suffrage for communal or city elections. Jugo-Slav women, however, are admitted to study in all the faculties at the Universities, and this year two women students have been appointed in the Law Courts. As a wife and mother, the Jugo-Slav woman has made no advance in the last fifty years; she has no rights, and the only women able to improve this condition of things are women who are financially independent. The unmarried mother and the illegitimate child are treated by the law as outcasts. Whereas the political position remains unchanged, the position of women in Jugo-Slavia, in industry and the professions, has improved steadily since 1918. Jugo-Slav women have made much progress in the study and practice of medicine. They work in the hospitals, and in departments of Public Health and Protection of Children. There are also women dentists, pharmacists, chemists, architects, engineers, and their economic position is nearly equal with men.

THE CLYDE CAMPAIGN.

Speaker—MISS MARY GRANT.

Hon. Organiser—MISS ALIX M. CLARK,
Mayfield Villa, 5, Mount Pleasant Road, Rothesay.

In addition to the extraordinary success of the meetings, one great feature of the campaign this week has been Miss Clark's phenomenal sale of *THE VOTE*. The numbers sold increase every week, as our little paper makes new friends and retains old ones wherever it goes. The manner in which it wins hearts and gains new adherents to our cause was illustrated by an incident which took place at Dunoon this week. Miss Clark left a copy of *THE VOTE* in the lounge of the hotel where she had had lunch, knowing that she was sowing the good seed but hardly expecting an immediate harvest. That afternoon, however, a man came up to her on the front where she was selling and collecting, and asked if it was she who had left *THE VOTE* in the hotel. She replied that it was, whereupon he produced 2/- and dropped it in her collecting box saying how glad he was to have seen the paper, and wishing success to the Women's Freedom League. This incident and several similar ones have greatly encouraged Miss Clark, whose work seems "never done," and who certainly does not limit herself to an eight-hour day, but who every now and then has the reward of seeing the fruits of her labour as recorded above. This current number of *THE VOTE* is selling like hot cakes, perhaps because the front page contains the portrait of a Scotswoman, Dr. Flora Murray, and there is no doubt the Scots are clannish and love to hear of the deeds done by their "ain folk."

Meetings have been held at Rothesay, Largs and Dunoon, and one was attempted at Millport, but had to be abandoned on account of a downpour of rain which damped even the speaker's ardour, though a few of the audience remained, faithful if melancholy, under umbrellas. The crowds became larger each evening on Rothesay Pier, and much interest was shown, as was proved at question-time. Last night St. Paul was produced once more as an argument against Women in Parliament, in his injunction to women to be silent in churches. Miss Grant did not make the debating reply that even there St. Paul did not refer to Parliament but only to churches, but rather tried to show that the whole spirit of the Scriptures was against sex differentiation, from the first chapter of Genesis, "in the image of God created He him, male and female created He them," all through the Bible, and that even St. Paul, who had been quoted against women, rose to his highest point of inspiration in the wonderful pronouncement, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus." Her argument received the tribute, unusual in the open air, of definite applause from a large section of the crowd.

SPECIALLY FOR YOU!

If you like "*THE VOTE*," and think it is an interesting and useful paper, do not go away and forget it till you see it again. Fill up the form on the last page, and have it posted to you regularly for 6/6 a year.

If you agree with the ideals of the Women's Freedom League, do not go away and forget it till we meet you again. Fill up the membership form on the back page, and send it up with your first annual subscription, and please remember that both organisation and holiday campaigns are very expensive, and with your subscription enclose as large a donation as possible.

E. KNIGHT, Hon. Treasurer.

144, High Holborn, London, W.C.1.

WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Woman Engineer's Ambition.

Miss Patience Erskine is the first woman to complete the three years' training course at Loughborough College of Engineering. This College prepares students for a shorter course than most Engineering colleges. Miss Erskine has also put in a fourth year in the shops. She is anxious to specialise in chemical engineering, and hopes to undertake research work in dyes.

Women's Athletic Championship.

The Women's Amateur Athletic Association has organised the first women's athletic championship meeting in England. It will be held at the Oxo Sports Grounds, Bromley, Kent, on Saturday. English girls who have recently been winning events in international competitions will take part in the London meeting, and many others from some 230 clubs in London and the Provinces.

University Women's Fellowship.

Twenty-nine candidates competed for the prize fellowship of £100 for research in arts, offered by the British Federation of University women. Four of these were British, and the rest represented the Universities of Austria, Italy, Finland, Norway, Sweden, France, Belgium, Czecho-Slovakia, Australia, and Canada. The fellowship was awarded to an Italian woman graduate, Dottore Dentice di Accadia.

Girl Student's Prize.

Miss Alice Gloyd has taken the scholarship prize awarded in connection with the Sims Woodhead series of constructive educational health lectures recently given by the People's League of Health. She has been in charge of the Camberwell Day Sanatorium since 1917, working under the L.C.C. in conjunction with the tuberculosis officer for Camberwell.

A Cosmopolitan Woman's College.

Constantinople Woman's College, founded in 1879, is a non-sectarian institution, and has about 300 students, representing 17 different nationalities, principally Greeks, Armenians, Turks, Russians, Hebrews, and Bulgarians. The Turkish University is now open to women. Two-thirds of the women appearing on Constantinople streets now wear their veils thrown back instead of over the face.

A Joint Pastorate.

Mr. and Mrs. Coltman, of Greville Place Congregational Church, London, have closed their joint pastorate and intend to seek a wider sphere of action. Mrs. Coltman has conducted many marriages, and on one occasion, at least, she prepared her own order of service. Needless to say the word "obey" did not appear, but instead the sentence, pronounced by both bride and bridegroom as they exchanged rings: "As this ring encircles thy finger, so let my love surround thee all the days of thy life."

Australian Woman Delegate.

Miss Jessie Webb, of Melbourne University, Victoria, whose appointment as alternate delegate to the Assembly of the League of Nations was reported in last week's *VOTE*, has done much to further education in her State, and has worked for the Women's Club in Melbourne. Recently she took part in an expedition of exploration in Africa, and is now studying Classical art in Athens.

Co-education in France.

Following on a decree of October, 1922, which permitted girls to attend courses in mathematics and philosophy at boys' schools, in preparation for the *baccalauréat*, M. Bérard, Minister of Public Instruction, has now decided that girls may attend boys' secondary schools to follow courses of study in preparation for women's high schools.

Austrian Women in Parliament.

In the recent debate on the Budget in the Austrian Parliament, no fewer than seven women M.P.'s took part, and made valuable contributions to the discussion. The debate proved that women know how to hold their point, especially in social and economic questions.

Egyptian Women's Deputation.

For the first time on record, a deputation of Egyptian ladies has officially approached a Minister with claims for women. Their demands included equal educational facilities for women with men in all branches—primary, secondary, and higher—and that girls should not be permitted to marry under 16 years of age.

First British Women Graduates.

Canterbury College, New Zealand, which has recently celebrated its Jubilee, was the first University in the British Empire to grant women degrees on the same footing as men. The first woman in the British Empire to take the B.A. degree was Kate Edger, daughter of an Auckland clergyman, and the first woman M.A. was Helen Courran, of Christchurch, in 1880.

A Useful Present.

To commemorate Mrs. Starr's heroism in connection with the rescue of Miss Mollie Ellis from frontier tribesmen, the *Civil and Military Gazette* of Lahore is raising a fund for the purchase and upkeep of a motor-car to be used by the C.M.S. Hospital at Peshawar, to which Mrs. Starr is attached.

Japanese Girls' Education.

Japan boasts a semi-official organisation of 1,500,000 Japanese girls, called the *Shojokai*, which is presided over by an official in the Department of Education. This organisation endeavours to develop and train the Japanese girl to take her place in the life of the nation without necessarily acquiring Western ideas.

Surrey Women Cricketers.

In West Surrey, women are taking to cricket in ever-increasing numbers. Both fielding and bowling are good, and women take the duties of umpires, scorers, etc. Both Esher and Oxshott have their clubs, and cricket matches are among the regular activities of the Women's Institute at Hershaw.

The League at Work.

The French Consul at Barcelona, acting in the name of the League of Nations, has called the attention of the authorities to the traffic in young girls with America, and the police have rescued a number of young girls who were about to be sent to America, and will send them back to their parents.

Chinese Child Labour.

Special labour regulations have recently been made by the Chinese Government in the departments of agriculture and commerce, which prohibit the employment of boys under 10 and girls under 12, and limit the hours of work for children to 8 hours a day for boys under 17 and girls under 18.

A New Career for Women.

A firm of cotton manufacturers has recently appointed a woman as material expert, who will advise upon and direct the types of materials most suitable for clothes and household use.

Women Students' Exchange.

Ten Hungarian women are taking a short course in French language and literature in Paris, and a party of French women students is proceeding to Hungarian Universities.

Jewish Woman's Distinction.

Miss Ray Lévin, of Liverpool, has been admitted a Fellow of the Chartered Insurance Institute. She is the first Jewess to attain that distinction.

THE VOTE.

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

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17th, 1923.

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 a stamped addressed envelope be enclosed, but the Editor cannot be responsible in case of loss.

NOTHING ADEQUATE BUT EQUALITY.

Speaking on the Criminal Justice Bill, Second Reading debate, in Parliament recently, Mr. GRAY (Oxford) called attention to the habit of appointing one woman to a magistrates' Bench: "Women should insist, that, if they were to be represented, they should be adequately represented." If not, they were held to some degree responsible, without being able to influence the overwhelming majority with which they were faced.

We quite agree with this, and are very glad that thinking men are beginning to see the unfair position in which women are placed, even in these spacious days of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act. "You have the vote," we are often told, "you sit on the Bench and in the jury box, and you can be policewomen, Parliamentary candidates and Members of Parliament if constituencies will have you—what more do you want?"

The more that we want to equip us to play our part in the State is expressed in Mr. Gray's word "adequately." Women have some six million of votes, but we have not adequate Parliamentary representation until women vote on equal terms with men at the same age, 21, and in the same six months' residential qualification. Many women are magistrates, but many Benches throughout the country have no women upon them. Others have, perhaps, one woman, which means that either she must be present at every sitting (a very unusual and inconvenient proceeding), or, more often than not, the men will have no woman colleague. Others, again, have three or four women members, but under the rota system each woman takes her separate turn, so there is seldom more than one of them present. This is not "adequate." Most problems which come before the Courts are of human interest, and require the efforts of both men and women in consultation together for their just solution. Others may appeal specially to men, or specially to women. It is true the female criminal figures are lower than the male, but adequate representation of women upon the Bench is impossible till we have a very great increase in the women appointed, so that their number may equal or approximate to that of their brother magistrates. Especially in our Metropolitan Police Courts, with their male stipendiary, is the presence of the woman colleague needed here. We have constantly drawn attention to glaring injustice to women charged. This week we read of a homeless man, age 69, epileptic and an ex-asylum patient, sentenced at Marlborough Street by Mr. D'Eyncourt to three months' hard labour for standing in Oxford Street, hat in hand, inviting "kind help for a poor old man down on his luck." Though in prison, and labouring, this old man is also to be a paying guest, £12 of the £14 13s. 3d. found upon him being confiscated to "go towards his keep." Naturally, he was removed shouting "Robbers! Thieves!" and will emerge into November cold and fog with an extra grudge against society.

On juries, the proportion of women varies, and they are sometimes in the majority; but our jury lists, owing to the rules which govern them, contain far too few women to furnish, on the whole, juries of equal numbers.

A few policewomen are working, twenty in London a larger number in other parts. The protection of children, reasonable safety for women, and the good of the State demand that an "adequate" police force should contain quite as many women as men.

Parliamentary candidates are a steadily increasing band, but, apart from the recommendation of the I.L.P. Executive to its divisional councils to encourage the nomination of women, we do not see any great desire in the political parties to give a lead to their branches in this direction. In the House of Commons, as in other places, adequate representation of women means the presence of women with men in equal numbers.

THE TOLL OF MOTHERS.

Motherhood is said to be the crown of woman, but it is well for us not to forget that motherhood, a natural process though it is, and safe for mother and child though it should be, still kills every day of the week in our country ten valuable women. Fortunately we are all growing increasingly uneasy over this. On the afternoon that Members of Parliament concluded their labours of the session, the Minister of Health gave, in answer to Mr. Rhys Davies (Westboughton), an important set of figures of the percentages of mothers' deaths during pregnancy and confinement, in ten-year periods, from 1860, and a comparison with the figures of other countries. In England and Wales, starting from 47 deaths per thousand births in 1860-70, the figure rises to just over 5 per thousand. In 1890-1900, it drops to 4 per thousand in the next ten years' period, at which figure it is still practically stationary. Turning to Holland, Italy, Japan, Switzerland and Sweden, we find the rate rather lower than ours, between 2.5 and 3.5 per thousand.

Answering Mr. Turner (Batley and Morley) as to what was being done to cope with the death roll of ten per day of women, the Health Minister said he was trying to encourage maternity and midwifery services including antenatal centres and maternity hospitals.

The causes are largely economic—unemployment, bad housing, educational economies, all play their part. The mother is the first to feel the strain; we cannot concentrate upon her very much directly; she is involved with the rest of the family and the community. For the most part she suffers and dies in silence, but it is for organised women citizens to see that it is within their power to obtain healthy, sanitary housing, sufficient food, and rest and skilled attention when required.

PARLIAMENTARY ACHIEVEMENTS.

A great deal of sound legislation affecting the interests of women and children has been achieved in Parliament this year. Three notable Acts—the Matrimonial Causes Act, the Bastardy Act, and the Intoxicating Liquors (Sale to Persons under 18) Act—have been placed on the Statute Book, whilst two important Bills—the Legitimacy, and Separation and Maintenance Bills—are in a highly promising state of development. In addition to these successes, an amendment has been included in the Oxford and Cambridge Universities Act, providing for the appointment of a woman on the Statutory Commission of each University; and provision is proposed in the Government's Mental Treatment Bill for the appointment of women on the Visiting Committees of Lunatic Asylums. Thereport of the Joint Select Committee of both Houses of Parliament on the Guardianship of Infants Bill, is to be presented in the autumn; whilst two reports have been issued by a similar Committee on the British Nationality (Married Women's) Bill, one in favour of the Bill by the Commons on the Committee, and one against it by the Peers. This particular Bill, therefore, is dead for this Session. The question of equal Franchise for men and women has not only been brought forward in Mr. Isaac Foot's Women's Enfranchisement Bill, which passed the first reading without a division, but is also the subject of a memorial to the Prime Minister, which has already been signed by over 250 Members of Parliament, and a large number of Men's and Women's organisations, and will, it is hoped, be presented in the autumn.

A FAMOUS WOMAN'S CENTENARY.

CHARLOTTE M. YONGE. August 11, 1823—August 11, 1923.

By J. M. TOOKE.

The Centenary of Charlotte M. Yonge reminds us in a striking manner of the tremendous change which has come over the education of girls and the studies of women. No one had more influence as a standard writer for young people than she had, although crippled as she was by her father's ideas as to what was becoming to a "young lady," and severely censored as her writing was by the members of her family. Her aunt, for instance, objected to her description of one of her characters as a "rascalion," and suggested "jackanapes" as more suitable for a woman writer, and this correction was meekly accepted. Yet she did more to popularise the High Church Movement, and the influence women could exert in Church work, than anyone of her time. Unrivalled in tracing out the ramifications of large families and their development from youth to age, with each character clearly defined, she so kept up the interest that the Lord Chief Justice of the day acknowledged that he had sat up late, unable to put down the book, till he had discovered whether "Harry got confirmed or not," while Tennyson confessed to weeping over the "Heir of Redclyffe"—the first of her books to make a great sensation. Her father considered it "unladylike" for a "nicely brought up" woman to earn money, so the large sums obtained by the sale of this book were sent to Bishop Selwyn for his Melanesian

Mission, and each succeeding story found its worthy object to finance.

Charlotte herself had no idea of modern education, mathematics or science, and her "Clever Woman of the Family" fails entirely in her financial projects. The historical novels, on the other hand, "The Chaplet of Pearls," "Unknown to History," and "The Dove in the Eagle's Nest," which delighted a past age, are still a pleasure to read—though her "Cameos of History" is almost forgotten.

It is a past world in which her characters move—a world where consumptive clergymen had their families decimated by scarlet fever, and struggling country doctors brought up their large broods on plain living and high thinking, while pathetic young widows, or step-mothers, were guided by kindly but autocratic male relatives along the thorny paths of fitting behaviour! "A dull world indeed!" the modern girl would exclaim, but with all the charm of the refined gentlefolk, who dwelt in country vicarages covered with creepers and read Keble's "Christian Year," and tried to convert the ignorant quarryman by ragged schools and village teas—and yet her Ethel May and Geraldine Underwood come in the direct succession of the devout ladies of England who reach back to the Abbess Hilda, and forward to the Doctor Flora Murrays of our own time. And so, "having served her generation, she fell on sleep."

THE ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL FIASCO.

By RAY ALEXANDER.

Men of ordinary intelligence are expected to profit by experience, but the country, having arrived at the conclusion that the only hope for Government officials is to "be born again," such men, however grave their blunders, are allowed to remain in office, where they continue to mismanage the nation's affairs. As a result of this *laissez-faire* policy, 4,000 fully qualified teachers are about to swell the ranks of the unemployed. Such is the number sent out yearly from our training colleges to fill vacancies which do not exist.

Since the notorious Geddes cut in expenditure on education, it has been preached that all sections of the community—teachers and scholars included—must bear their share of the heavy financial burden resulting from the war, and submit cheerfully to economies effected at their expense. Compulsory contribution towards a pension, which a very small percentage of women teachers in particular ever serve the prescribed number of years to draw, and a 5 per cent. reduction in salary were accepted, in the interests of the country, with a fairly good grace by the profession as a whole; but why, it is asked, should teachers be called upon to make such sacrifices for the sake of economy, while those in high authority squander public money on the training of 4,000 students, year by year, to teach in schools where there is little possibility of their services ever being required?

At one time it was the exception for an efficient student to leave a training college without having a post in view; now it has become the rule, and even the ablest students sit for their final examination with a dead weight at their hearts.

How long is form-befogged Whitehall going to allow every successive year to furnish its quota to the already flooded market? Year after year officials carefully pick their way through their form-bestrewn offices, and repeat the same tragic mistake. Instead of compiling a masterpiece in the shape of an eight-page form mainly concerned with giving instructions as to how sixpence is to be collected from a poor mother towards the expense of withdrawing her child's tooth, why do

not these ingenious compilers of irritating problems set their minds to evolving a scheme by which the supply of teachers would bear some relationship to the demand?

If those in authority had the organising ability to order it otherwise, it would no longer be imperative that such a large number of students should leave the training colleges at the same time. After an interval of a year or two, a steady flow from the colleges would be naturally absorbed, but to continue to send teachers out thousands at a time shows gross mismanagement.

In the face of staff reductions up and down the country, and the yearly exodus from the colleges, the London County Council are advertising in the Press for candidates, outside the teaching profession, who are prepared to take a course of intensive training, lasting three months, which will equip them to replace, at a lower salary, qualified teachers in certain infants' schools. The candidate is asked to contribute a very small percentage of the cost of his training. Who makes up the deficiency? Where is the economy in incurring extra expense for this inadequate training, while the fully equipped infants' teacher, who has spent some of the best years of her life in preparation for her work, and in the expenditure on whose training the ratepayer has already borne a share, stands idle?

Apart from the disappointment of finding one has taken a specialised training—extending over some very valuable years—in vain, where, outside the profession, is the trained certificated teacher to find employment? In these days a general education is not enough from the point of view of the business employer. Of what use is it to quote the number on your parchment certificate, and to name the subjects in which you have qualified with distinction, when speed in shorthand and typewriting is the primary consideration? The student who has spent the last two years in preparing criticism lessons, studying child-psychology and educational method, and in enlarging his field of knowledge generally, is ill-equipped for office routine by the side of the applicant who has learnt his work at Pitman's or some similar institution.

Should the student who fails to secure an appointment wish to adopt another profession, where is he to find the means to enable him to do so? Many training college students work their way up from the elementary schools. In some cases their parents have been prepared to sacrifice them as wage-earners to what, in the working classes, is considered the advanced age of 21, on the understanding that they should refund the outlay connected with their training when in a position to do so. Contrary to expectation, after spending two precious years at a training college, the newly fledged teacher returns home, to add to the financial burden of the family.

Are these thousands of trained, efficient workers to be driven to compete with the multitudes of the unskilled already on the labour market, or is Whitehall about to publish a solution to the problem? It is to be hoped that a way out of the dilemma will be found before those most vitally concerned lose heart, and before the enthusiasm for their work engendered in the course of their training is blunted by disappointment and privation.

Every citizen has the right to ask if this fiasco in the educational world is to be repeated in ensuing years. If so, the teaching profession must inevitably be brought into disrepute, and shunned in future by every thinking parent as a possible career for his children.

CZECHO-SLOVAK WOMEN AND HIGH PRICES.

The women of Czecho-Slovakia, who have been doing their best to bring down the high prices still prevailing in the country by sending sandwich-men up and down the market-places, and boycotting different shops, have now been called to a Council under the direction of the Minister of Food. One Federal Council, four State Councils for Bohemia, Moravia, Silesia and Slovakia, and a number of small District Councils are to be formed. Each Council is to have 12 members, and the women are to name half of this membership. Each Council will have headquarters and a staff to carry on its work, which will be to organize research, prepare new Government regulations, influence prices, educate consumers in buying, bring about the right proportion of prices between Czecho-Slovakia and the surrounding countries, tackle the problem of the excessive charges by middlemen and transportation carriers, and organize direct buying and selling. This attempt to control the present prevailing high prices is the logical outgrowth of a system of economic Councils which proved highly successful after the war, a plan originated by a woman.

WOMEN IN NEW TRADES.

The United States Women's Bureau notes the entry of American women into a number of new industries during the last decade, especially in the Iron and Steel industries, the Transportation industry, and Public Service. The 106,625 women engaged in 1910 in the various divisions of the transportation industry, such as water transportation, road and street transportation, railroad transportation, and transportation by express and post had practically doubled by 1920. A few women have classified themselves as machinists, brick and stone masons, tool makers, iron moulders, plasterers, plumbers and gas-fitters, blacksmiths, forgers and hammermen.

The number of women in public service have increased 60.7 per cent. during the last ten years. Women county officials especially have greatly increased in number, while federal officials other than post-mistresses increased from 275 in 1910 to 652 in 1920. Probation and truant officers increased from 188 to 780. The profession of mining engineering has not yet been invaded by any women, it appears, but the Women's Bureau enumerates among the more unusual professions for women, 8 aeronauts, 27 inventors, 41 technical engineers, 137 architects, 2 forest rangers, and 25 landscape gardeners.

WORKING WOMEN IN CONFERENCE.

The International Federation of Working Women, which was established by the Second International Congress of Working Women, held at Geneva in October, 1921, is holding its biennial Congress at Schönbrunn Castle, near Vienna, this week.

The delegations this year include the Women's Trade Union League of America, which is sending ten representatives, as well as bodies from Cuba, Mexico, France, Belgium, Austria, Italy and Sweden. The British delegation will consist of Dr. Marion Phillips (Secretary), Mrs. Harrison Bell (Treasurer) and Miss Symons, appointed by the Labour Party; Miss Margaret Bondfield, Miss Varley, and Miss Cowell, appointed from the General Council of the Trade Union Council, Miss Chinn, representing the Shop Assistants' Union, and Miss Dunch, representing the Association of Women Clerks and Secretaries.

Fraternal delegates are also expected from a good many other countries, of whom perhaps the most interesting will be Miss Shin, from China, who is now studying at the London School of Economics, and Miss Kato, from Japan, both of whom will address the Conference on the conditions in their respective countries. There will also be visitors from most of the countries affiliated to the Federation, including Switzerland and Norway.

The agenda of the Congress, which aims rather at exchanging information and gaining knowledge than deciding policies, is a comprehensive one, and will include discussions on women's work towards peace, the organisation of women in trade unions, regulations of the wages of home-workers, and the payment of family allowances in addition to wages.

The Congress is being held during the time of the Summer School of the International Federation of Trade Unions (Amsterdam), so that delegates will also be able to take part in the work of the School which opens on August 11th. A significant indication of the changes brought about since the war is the fact that both Congress and Summer School will be housed in the Palace of Schönbrunn—formerly the summer residence of the late Austrian Emperor, Franz Josef—a magnificent structure, designed by the architect Valmagini, and containing no fewer than 1,441 rooms and 139 kitchens.

ACTIVE WOMEN FORESTERS.

The High Court of the Ancient Order of Foresters met at Portsmouth last week, and new regalia were proposed for the women officers and members. Mrs. Abbott (Sheffield), backed by all the women delegates, poured scorn upon the colour chosen for them—a French grey which could not stand the sun—and, repudiating the need for any change, secured the withdrawal of the proposal.

Later on, Mrs. Fisher (King's Lynn) asked whether the Maternity Benefit could be increased from the Surplus Funds, and was told by the Secretary that Maternity benefit could be increased more than Sickness benefit.

READERS, PLEASE NOTE!

From the current week and onwards, Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son will be displaying our showcards at some of their bookstalls.

You will help "THE VOTE"

by taking advantage of the opportunity afforded by these cards, of introducing "THE VOTE" to your friends.

Stations where cards should be on view are:—

Ashford (S.E. & C.).
Bexhill (L.B. & S.C.).
Brighton.
Forest Gate.
Hampstead.
Hastings.
King's Cross (Main G.N.).
Liverpool Street (Main).
Manchester Vic. (Main).
Newcastle-on-Tyne (Central).
Teddington.
Tottenham Court Road (C.E. & H.).
Victoria (Main C.).

If you are not a regular Subscriber, whether at home or on holiday get "THE VOTE" at Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son's.

Women's Freedom League.

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

Telephone—MUSEUM 1429.

Telegrams—"DESPARD, MUSEUM 1429, LONDON."

Colours—GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD.

Hon. Treasurer—Dr. E. KNIGHT.

Hon. Organising Secretary—

Mrs. SCHOFIELD COATES, J.P.

VOTE Sales Department—Hon. Head: Miss ALIX M. CLARK.

Literature Department—Hon. Head: Mrs. PIEROTTI.

General Secretary—Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS W.F.L.

LONDON AND SUBURBS.



DARE TO BE FREE.

2/6. Coffee and biscuits during the evening, 3d. Collection for the funds of the League.

Saturday, September 22nd, at 10 a.m. National Executive Committee Meeting, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Monday, September 24th, at 3 p.m. "Fair" Sub-Committee, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Friday and Saturday, November 23rd and 24th, Central Hall, Westminster, Green, White and Gold Fair. To be opened on Friday, at 3.30, by The Lady Amherst of Hackney, and on Saturday, at 3.30, by Miss Lilian Barker.

SCOTLAND.

July 19th to August 20th. Clyde Campaign, Rothesay. Meetings each evening on the Pier Head. Also at Largs, Dunoon, and Millport during the day.

FRENCH SCHOOL GARDENS.

We have received the following from our member, Miss Helen Colt.

The work of The Garden League for Devastated France has the support, as Patrons, of the British Ambassador in Paris, and of the French Ambassador in London.

By its activities Le Jardin de la France Dévastée has already helped and encouraged 250 gardens attached to elementary schools, the provision or restoration of which has been the League's primary object from the beginning. In doing this it works with the warm approval and support of the Ministère de l'Instruction Publique. The Garden League has used its own adoption system from the first with the happiest results.

In its entire work, the Founder and Honorary Secretary in Paris, Miss Helen Colt, has been accorded the greatest facilities by the Ministère des Affaires Étrangères, the Ministère des Régions Libérées, the Ministère de l'Agriculture, and the other Government departments concerned in order to carry out the work in the various types of gardens (including school gardens) in the devastated villages and towns.

The Garden League has already given more than 1,200 garden tools, very large quantities of vegetable seeds, and also medicinal and other plants, besides over 1,000 fruit trees.

Further information may be obtained from The Garden League for Devastated France, 31, Upper Berkeley Street, London, W.1.

AMERICAN WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE CELEBRATIONS.

The Memorial Conference of the National Woman's Party, which was held at Seneca Falls during the closing days of July, completed its sessions by a visit to the grave of Susan B. Anthony, America's pioneer leader in the movement for women's emancipation.

Over a thousand townspeople and delegates passed by Miss Anthony's resting-place, and on one of the purple, white, and gold banners was carried the equal rights amendment whose passage the Party will urge at the next session of Congress. Sunshine played on the trees and emblazoned the bright banners as the long procession laid wreaths and flowers upon an ever-heightening pile beside the memorial to the distinguished leader.

First in the procession came a flag historic in the Woman's Party: the banner that was carried to the White House during the suffragist picketing. A group of professional women followed. Then came lawyers, teachers, ministers, business women, women in industry, artists, authors, musicians, students, with banners indicating the professions to which they belonged. A parchment scroll on each wreath expressed the debt of that particular profession to Miss Anthony's work.

TREASURY LIST.

NATIONAL FUND.

Amount previously acknowledged, October, 1907, to December, 1922, £38,966 13s. 4d.

Amount previously acknowledged.....	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Special Emergency War Fund:—				262	3	4
A Friend.....	7	10	0			
Mrs. Angold.....	4	0				
				7	14	0

Hampstead Fete Stall:—

Mrs. Catmur.....	10	0
Miss C. Neal.....	5	0
Glasgow Branch.....	5	0
Goods Sold.....	7	10
	8	10

"No More War" Demonstration:—

Mrs. E. Bennett.....	5	0
Mrs. Eagle.....	5	0
Mrs. A. J. Lane.....	2	6
Miss E. Gulland.....	1	0
	13	6

Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act

Campaign Fund:—

Mrs. L. Hutchinson (Collected).....	1	10	0
"Verbatim Report".....	10	10	7
Mrs. Cavendish Bentinck (Organisers' Fund).....	5	0	0
Miss Fryer.....	4	4	0
Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P.	4	0	0
Miss M. I. Saunders.....	1	5	0
Mrs. L. Gilchrist Thompson.....	1	0	0
Dr. Morris.....	13	6	
Mrs. Letts.....	10	0	
Mrs. N. Spiller.....	10	0	
Mrs. Crosland Taylor.....	10	0	
Miss F. A. Underwood.....	6	3	
Miss Dorothy Barrs.....	5	0	
Miss M. Glaisher.....	5	0	
Dr. George Jones.....	5	0	
Miss W. M. Usher.....	5	0	
Miss F. L. Fuller.....	4	0	
Miss Helen Colt.....	2	6	
Miss M. Ballard Dawson.....	2	6	
Miss R. C. Dawson.....	2	6	
Miss V. M. George.....	2	6	
Miss J. Gulland.....	2	6	
Miss E. M. Moore.....	2	6	
Miss K. Stone.....	2	6	
Miss Edith Rodgers.....	2	6	
Mrs. J. D. Bayne.....	1	0	
Miss E. M. Begbie.....	1	0	
Mr. C. Deane.....	1	0	
Mr. W. Stokes Hall.....	1	0	
Miss Johnson.....	1	0	
Mrs. Joyner.....	1	0	
Madame Kubler.....	1	0	
Miss O. Llewellyn.....	1	0	
Mrs. Bell Lloyd.....	1	0	
Miss S. Marshall.....	1	0	
Mrs. Helen Mason.....	1	0	
Miss Mabel Mudge.....	1	0	
Mrs. F. G. Palmer.....	1	0	
Mrs. Papworth.....	1	0	
Miss C. B. Pender.....	1	0	
Miss E. M. O'Neill.....	1	0	
Miss L. Vellenewett.....	1	0	
Mrs. E. A. Wheat.....	1	0	
Minerva Club, Half Profit of Whist Drive... ..	2	6	3
Sundries.....	5	2	0
Sundries, Literature Department.....	8	2	6
Sundries, Minerva Café.....	22	16	3
Office Sales.....	2	14	6
Branches, Delegates' Expenses:—			
Golders Green.....	12	6	
	£353	16	11

Cheques to be made payable to the Women's Freedom League and crossed—Barclays Bank Limited.

OUR NEW PAMPHLETS.

- "The Work for Women M.P.s," by Miss 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.
- "Race Motherhood. Is Woman the Race?" by Mrs. Montefiore 6d.
- "Women Police," a short history from its inception to the present day 1d.
- "The Wrongs of Married Women," by Mrs. M. W. Nevinson, J.P., LL.A. 3d.
- "The New Humanism," by Laurence Housman ... 6d.

FRIDAY,
AUGUST 17,
1923.

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.

BUSY Women requiring Rest will find comfortable Board Residence at MISS TURNER'S, "Sea View," Victoria Rd., Brighton. Early Dinner. Tel. Brighton 1702

HUT CAMP in Sussex woods. Descriptive leaflet free.—NICHOLLS. Ballinger Grange, Great Missenden, Bucks.

WOODSIDE, Ockley, Dorking, Surrey. Just south of Leith Hill. Paying guests received. Reform Food. Meat, if required. Apply Mrs. and Miss Tucker.

LINDUM HOUSE, BEXHILL-ON-SEA.

HOME School on Progressive Thought Lines; Large Garden; Cricket Field: Sea Bathing; Small Classes; Special care given to backward and delicate girls; Coaching for advanced pupils. Principal: MISS RICHARDSON, B.A.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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

MISS NICHOLAS, ex-Transport Driver. R.A.F. Landalette Car for hire. Tel. Hampstead 8341. Private address: 3, Christchurch Road, Hampstead.

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

Displayed Advertisements,
8/- per Inch.

REST AND HOLIDAYS.

FOOD REFORM GUEST HOUSE, 13, Marine Parade, Dover. Excellent cooking. Specially recommended by Eustace Miles. Unequalled excursion centre. Apply Manageress.

VEGETARIAN GUEST HOUSE. Alt. 600 ft. Rest and Comfort amid beautiful scenery. Tennis. Motor. MRS. LUDLOW, The Briars, Crich, nr. Matlock.

THE PIONEER CLUB has reopened at 12, Cavendish Place. Entrance fee in abeyance *pro tem.* Town Members £5 5s.; Country and Professional £4 4s.

VISITORS TO LONDON. Rooms now available during the holiday season at Minerva Club, Brunswick Square. Breakfast, Luncheons, Teas and Dinners for Non-Residents.

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Sunday, August 19th. 7 p.m. Miss Maude Royden, "Four Great Novels: 3. Les Miserables."

DO NOT BE WITHOUT A FOUNTAIN PEN.

This is our Lever Action, Self-filling model.
14-ct gold nib. Will not leak.



PRICE 8/6

Equal in value to any pen costing double.
Other varieties in stock. Please call and inspect.

THE MINERVA PUBLISHING Co., Ltd., 144 High Holborn.

Membership Application Form.

To be returned to The Secretary, 144, High Holborn.

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, 1s.