

THE VOTE,
DEC. 3, 1920
ONE PENNY.

THE DAUGHTERS OF CAMBRIDGE

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

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FRIDAY, DEC. 3, 1920.

OBJECT: To secure for Women the Parliamentary vote as it is or may be granted to men; to use the power thus obtained to establish equality of rights and opportunities between the sexes and to promote the social and industrial well-being of the community.

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THE BUDDING M.P.

Interview with Miss Marion McCarthy.

Women are entering public life in increasing numbers. Many of them, if not all, possess marked powers of self-expression, which only require guidance, and some degree of discipline, to develop into oratorical ability of the highest order. Such tuition has now been provided for them within the last few months by an expert in the stage and cinema training world, Miss Marion McCarthy, sister of the well-known actress.

"I did my share in the fight for the vote," Miss McCarthy told our representative, "and then I realised that unless women became properly trained for public life the new force which had been released in politics would not be thoroughly efficient, and so might militate against women's success."

"I sounded those of my old pupils and friends whom I believed to be anxious to adopt a public career, and I also approached the *Daily Mail* upon the subject. The response was greater than I could possibly have imagined, and since that time, now nearly a year ago, my classes of instruction in Public Speaking have been full to overflowing. My many years' training experience in Film Production and the Stage have made it easy for me to adapt my ordinary methods of procedure to this new departure.

"In order to make the tuition as life-like as possible I have fitted up a corner of my studio to represent a kind of annexe to the House of Commons. This, for instance, is the Speaker's chair, which, incidentally, I may tell you, was originally the Chair of Holofertes, and was used in the tent scene of Arnold Bennett's 'Judith.' In front of the mirror is the Opposition Bench, as I want my political pupils to face themselves. Over there will be the Government Bench. I want to create the atmosphere of debate, to teach my pupils

to speak with conviction and to drive home their points with vigour.

"As to the scope of the course, it consists of 12 lessons, and unless a pupil is particularly backward, I guarantee that by the time they come to the last lesson they should be able to hold their own with anybody."

"The first Lesson consists mainly of 'stirring up ideas,' a very necessary procedure, for even amongst women who are naturally mentally quick a good many thoughts and suggestions lie fallow in the brain until roused into action by some external stimulus. Another lesson, and a very popular one, is devoted to 'increasing the vocabulary.' I call upon the class to quickly substitute other words in place of those they generally use, and this in the long run cannot help but develop fluency. After this I compel my pupils to speak on any subject they may care to choose. I am lenient to 'rambling' at this stage, for the great thing is to make them say *something*, however trivial, but at a later stage in the course muddle-headedness is very severely forbidden. As the students progress they learn to systematize their knowledge, and present it in logical and clear sequence. A part of each lesson is specially devoted to proper breathing, voice production, stressing words, and general diction.

"I could show you any number of letters of gratitude from past pupils. Mrs. Phillips, the new Mayor of Honiton, wrote recently saying she could never have carried out her public duties if it had not been for my course; and Mrs. Treharne, wife of a well-known colliery owner in South Wales, told me my lessons had been invaluable during a recent speaking tour amongst miners' wives. Naturally I am looking forward to the time when one or more of my pupils actually enters the House."

WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Women Magistrates in Council.

The first conference of women magistrates was held at the Mansion House on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. The delegates were officially welcomed by the Lord Mayor, and by Major Sir John Baird, M.P., representing the Home Secretary. The Chairman (Mrs. Fawcett, J.P.) made some valuable opening remarks, and Sir Edgar Sanders spoke on general procedure and powers. In the afternoon Miss Gertrude Tuckwell, J.P., presided, and Dr. Hamblin Smith and Mr. Cecil Leeson (of the Howard Association) spoke on the "Examination of Prisoners" and "Probation Work." On Wednesday the speakers included Dr. Norris (Chief Inspector of Reformatory and Industrial Schools), Mr. Clarke-Hall (a Metropolitan Police magistrate), and Miss S. Margery Fry, J.P.

Woman as Trapper.

The wife of a rancher in British Columbia has introduced herself into the fur industry, and proved her prowess both as hunter and trapper. She invested the sum of 30 dollars in traps, and obtained a licence for a territory six miles in length along the bank of the Columbia River. Here she set out her traps, some sixty in number, and made her solitary rounds daily, leaving the shack at break of day, lurching in the open, and returning, after an exhaustive day's tramping, at night. By the following spring she was in receipt of 1,800 dollars as the result of the season's work.

Woman Minister?

It is reported from America that, as a mark of recognition of women's participation in the recent Presidential elections, Mr. Harding will ask Congress to create a new portfolio of education, and that he intends to appoint a woman as head of the department. It is possible that Mrs. Harriet Tupton, of Ohio, will be offered the post.

A Polish Feminist.

Mme. Nalkowski, daughter of the Polish geographer Waslaw Nalkowski, has a considerable literary reputation on the Continent, but is little known in this country, despite the fact that she is the author of several novels and of three collections of short stories. "Kobiety" is the first of her books to be published in an English translation, and is an exceptionally good analysis of the psychology of a number of feminine types. It is a novel of Polish life told in the form of the self-revelation of the heroine.

Highlanders Bar Women.

The Highland Society of London, incorporated by Act of Parliament in 1816, has passed a resolution that women should not be admitted to membership of the society. Opponents of the resolution argue that this is in defiance of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, 1919, which provides that no person shall be disqualified by sex for admission to any incorporated society.

A Jury of Women?

In a case at Middlesex Sessions last week in which a young man was summoned for assaulting a girl, the jury failed to arrive at a verdict, the foreman saying that there was no hope of their agreeing. Mr. Montagu Sharpe, who presided, said that the case would have to be retried at the January Sessions before perhaps a jury of women or a jury of men and women.

Women J.P.'s Appreciated.

The value of women's influence in matters of justice is evidently appreciated at Gateshead. Alderman W. Clough, who took his seat as chief justice of the borough recently, was particularly emphatic upon the good results accruing from the appointment of lady magistrates, and Mr. C. M. Dix, the oldest practising solicitor at the Court, expressed the hope that more of them would occupy seats on the bench in the near future.

Women Voters in Italy.

The Italian Chamber has decided in favour of the right of women to vote at Municipal elections on equal terms with men.

IN PARLIAMENT.

Women and the Baking Industry.

CAPTAIN ELLIOT asked the Minister of Labour whether the scheme dealing with the employment of women in the baking industry would require some three months' deliberation before it could possibly come into effect; and whether, in view of the fact that the women recently dismissed could be absorbed without displacing any male labour, he could see his way to press for the temporary reinstatement of those women till the permanent and considered scheme came into effect? DR. MACNAMARA replied that the Scottish Union of Bakers and Confectioners objected to the continued employment, since the war, of women in bakehouses. They wanted to revert to what they held to be pre-war practice. They threatened to strike, whereupon certain firms dismissed a number of women. The Scottish Bakers' Joint Industrial Council was now considering the general question of the employment of women in bakehouses. A scheme dealing with the employment of women in the trade was prepared by the Joint Industrial Council, was considered by the employers and the trade union, and was again discussed at a meeting of the Council on November 18th, without a decision being arrived at. CAPTAIN ELLIOT enquired if it would not be possible to make sure that women who had been employed in the trade before the war were not dismissed until that scheme was considered? DR. MACNAMARA replied that numbers had already been dismissed and, when urged to see that if any women were still employed they should not be dismissed, stated that he found it a most excellent plan to leave such matters to the Joint Industrial Council which was doing admirable service!

Women and the Ministry of Pensions.

MR. MACPHERSON, in reply to a question by CAPTAIN LOSEBY, stated that there were 5,580 women (of whom 118 were typists and 214 messengers or cleaners) employed at Pensions Issue Office. A substitution Committee had been duly appointed, and the ex-Service men's representative claimed that all the posts filled by women should be regarded as suitable for men, but the other representatives claimed that the office had always been regarded as a women's branch. The question whether substitution should be carried out in this section of the Ministry had been referred to the Lytton Committee, of which Captain Loseby was a member. In the meantime steps were being taken to carry out the recommendations of the Committee in regard to the married women and pin-money workers employed in that Branch. It was true that the main employees were women, but at the time that special branch of the Ministry was instituted no men were available. At present the vast majority were women who were specially trained for the special work. MR. HOGGE asked if that was not the least efficient branch of the Ministry? MR. MACPHERSON did not agree with him, and said that he thought the women were performing extraordinarily efficient work. The House never heard of the thousands of cases which were dealt with efficiently, but only occasionally of a case which was inefficiently dealt with. The Government had appointed a Committee to revise the whole situation, the Report of which he would consider most sympathetically and carefully.

Members' Expenses.

Last Friday the House of Commons agreed to the following motion: "That a Select Committee be appointed to consider the salary allotted to Members of this House, the travelling and other expenses incurred by them in connection with their Parliamentary duties, and to report." The Members appointed to this Committee were Col. Sir Godfrey Collins, Major Farquharson, Major Glyn, Rear-Admiral Sir Reginald Hall, Mr. Hartshorn, Commander O. Locker-Lampson, Mr. Stanton, Mr. Thomas, and Mr. Charles White. It was decided that three should form a quorum.

F. A. U.

THE GREEN, WHITE & GOLD FAIR, 1920.

Caxton Hall, Westminster, presented a gay sight on Friday and Saturday of last week, on the annual occasion of our Green, White and Gold Fair. Mrs. Despard took the chair on both days. On Friday the Fair was opened by the Lady Amherst of Hackney, who said that Freedom was one of our most precious possessions, and that when women worked for Freedom for themselves, they were working for Freedom for men also. The Women's Freedom League was working not only for political, but also for economic and constitutional freedom. She urged the Women's Freedom League to work for the emancipation of the home. Lace curtains and silver plate were always the presents given to young brides, and this meant that they either had to pay someone else to keep such things clean or themselves work to clean them for the rest of their lives. She suggested the development of such industries as pottery and china, which would take the place of silver and make home a beautiful and happier place.

On Saturday the Fair was opened by Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, our Indian poet-ordinator, who kindly acted as a substitute in the unavoidable absence of Mrs. Chapman Catt, who had not yet landed. Mrs. Naidu humorously referred to herself as a "second best," reminding the audience that at last year's Fair she had been asked to take the place of Mrs. Besant at a moment's notice. After paying an eloquent tribute to Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Naidu briefly recapitulated the year's suffrage successes, including the enfranchisement of 26 million American women, and expressed the hope that possibly next year some millions of Indian women would also be enjoying political freedom. Ideals, shared in common with other races and other creeds, were the only unifying influence, and a common ideal of womanhood was gradually permeating all countries.

ROUND THE STALLS.

The Stalls this year shewed their usual attractions, which were very tastefully displayed. The General Stall had some unique Japanese ware, glass, valuable Wedgwood china, and attractive photograph frames in hammered bronze. The White Stall shewed its ever popular hand-made underclothes, beautifully embroidered in coloured silks. The Toy Stall displayed a new idea in the shape of home-made crackers stuffed most usefully with dates, a pretty pin-cushion idea in the shape of doll babies in wide-frilled skirts, and many ingenious home-made dolls and golliwogs. The Handkerchief Stall, in addition to numbers of dainty handkerchiefs, white and coloured, plain and embroidered, contained knitted and woollen goods, fancy pin-cushions, and a useful array of brushes at remarkably low prices. The Stationery and Christmas Card Stall looked very Christmassy with its coloured numbers of popular magazines, and picture postcards and calendars. The Scotch Stall commanded a brisk sale in attractive boxes painted by Miss Horniman of the Repertory Theatre, Manchester. The Montgomery Boroughs sent their usual splendid assortment of cakes, plum puddings, jam, chutney, mince-pies, and fruit, and a fine collection of flannel garments, knitted jumpers, frocks, etc., to its General Stall. The artificial flowers, hand-made carnations, on the Manchester Stall, attracted much commendation, as well as a number of signed artists' proofs sent by a Manchester artist. The South-Eastern Stall had some charming Japanese prints sent by Mrs. Cavendish Bentinck, some valuable cut glass, and Dicker ware, a species of Sussex pottery. The Literature Stall beneath the platform formed a very imposing array with its carefully chosen and up-to-date selection of new books and splendid second-hand bargains. The Vote Stall (in memory of Mrs. Snow, so kindly given by Mr. Snow) contained a wonderful selection of fancy blouses and jumpers and well-cut ladies' shirts, at extremely popular prices. The Nine Elms Settlement Stall was noted for its beautifully made soft toys, entirely the work of children. The Stalls provided by other Societies taking part in the Fair also contained many noteworthy objects.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

These were many and varied. Children's dancing, as was the case last year, formed one of the most attractive features. Miss Elsa Lanchester's pupils from the "Children's Theatre" contributed some pretty dances, and Miss Grace Woollacott's children from her Wimbledon school gave a magnificent display of classical and ballet dancing. The finished precision with which these little dancers went through their steps in perfect rhythm with the music aroused great enthusiasm. An Indian play, by Rabindranath Tagore, kindly arranged by the Britain and India Association, evoked much interest on Saturday, the play being the story of an Indian king in disguise who wooed and won a princess exiled from her own country. Songs were kindly contributed by Madame Carola, Miss Lettice Newman, and Mr. Eric Richmond. The pianists were Mrs. Sparrow, Miss Van Raalte, Miss Olga Sawden, and Mr. A. J. Cuckney, who played for Miss Woollacott's pupils.

Mrs. Thomson Price, who was, fortunately, able to be present at this year's Fair, was indefatigable with her clever Psychic Delineations. Mrs. Goodall gave character readings from the hand, the "Witch's Den" was very busy, and Mr. D'Arcy Denny provided much entertainment in the form of head measurement and its meaning. "Great Grandmother Dear," in a real Early Victorian dress, over a hundred years old, afforded some amusement as a contrast to the progressive woman of to-day.

THANKS AND APPRECIATION.

The Women's Freedom League expresses its warm appreciation and most grateful thanks to all who worked so hard and untiringly to make the Fair a success. To the stallholders: Mrs. Mustard, Mrs. Tanner and Mrs. Sweetlove (General Stall); Mrs. Holmes and Mrs. Trafford Williams (White Stall); Misses Underwood, Mrs. Terry, and Miss E. Berry (Handkerchief Stall); the Misses Stutchbury and Miss Avila (Toy Stall); Mrs. Legge and Mrs. F. Legge (Stationery); Miss Alix M. Clark, Mrs. and Miss Earengy, Mrs. and Miss Elias, Mrs. Dixon, the Misses Codd (Montgomery Boroughs Stall); Mrs. Ellison and Mrs. Newsome (Manchester Stall); Miss White, Mrs. Strickland, Mrs. Jansen, and Mrs. Morby (South-Eastern Branches Stall); Mrs. Pierotti, Miss Bergman, and Miss Telling (Literature Stall); Mr. Snow, Mrs. Evans, Miss Reeves, Mrs. Flowers, Mrs. Northcroft, and Miss Jacob (Vote Stall); to Mr. Snow for his generosity in providing a stall and to the Montgomery Boroughs, Manchester, and South-Eastern Branches; to Mrs. J. R. Knight (Bran Tub); to the artistes and entertainers; to the Fair Committee and its Secretary, Miss O'Dwyer; to Mrs. Fisher and the Minerva Café, and all the Stewards who worked so hard; and to Miss Ibbotson for her skill and trouble in decorating the Hall so artistically.

D. M. N.

IN MEMORIAM—MISS TRIM.

It is with very deep regret that we have to record the sudden death, on November 26th, of our old friend and fellow member, Miss Trim.

At the International Suffrage Shop Miss Trim assisted Miss Seruya for some years, and then took over the shop herself and made it a centre of feminist activity and a refuge for harassed militants. A year or two ago Miss Trim migrated to the Women's Freedom League Office and brought her books to us. Soon after her health began to fail, but she kept at work and made a very plucky fight to regain strength and only gave up when it was impossible to continue.

The Suffrage Shop during the war involved a constant hard struggle, but Miss Trim bravely determined that as feminist views were then more valuable than ever, she would keep the flag flying, and the anxiety broke her health. All her friends will greatly miss her cheery courage and kindness.

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EDITORIAL.

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

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THE DAUGHTERS OF CAMBRIDGE.

It was fifty-one years ago that a little group of young women with faith and courage began to read for the Mathematical and Classical Triposes for which they were then unable to sit.

Slowly the way opened before them. For years examinations were passed informally till they were formally opened to women in 1881. After this it was an understood thing that throughout the British Empire in all the newer Universities women who wanted to study and take examinations should have the same facilities as men.

CAMBRIDGE LED THE WAY.

The Scottish Universities, Trinity College, Dublin, Oxford, London, St. Andrews all followed. Most of them outpaced their leader, and opened their doors to women on equal terms with men. A month or two ago our other ancient University of Oxford took the plunge and admitted women to full membership, and no grievous consequences have resulted. Now

CAMBRIDGE ALONE STICKS TO PREJUDICE, shivering on the brink of sex equality, with very many splendid sons who have for half a century given generously their stores of wisdom and scholarship, their money, time and sympathy to help the women students, she yet refuses to acknowledge her daughters as also members of the family, and every time the subject has come before the Senate for decision a horde of wild men M.A.s from the fastnesses of antique leisure have swarmed into the Senate House and rejected motions for fairplay to women, equality and progress.

But now the Tide is turning. On December 8th, Cambridge will again gather at the Senate House to vote for the admission of women to the University on equal terms with men. Every Cambridge M.A. should go up and vote, every woman should try to get him there, for upon the voting depends the good name of the University and the educational equality of women.

There are 2,000 women who vote for the Cambridge University M.P. in the Parliamentary elections.

Among these disowned daughters of Cambridge are women of deep learning, of keen reasoning powers, of high inventive capacity. These are the qualities our country needs, and these women should take their rightful position in the University which has made them what they are. There and there only can their best work be done. Justice has tarried long, but do your utmost, and next week will bring Victory.

If you know a Cambridge M.A., call or write and persuade him to go up next Wednesday to Cambridge and vote for Report A. Voting takes place 9.0-10.0, 11.30-1.0, 2.30-4.30, 6.0-8.0. Every vote will be wanted.

A CENSORIOUS VICAR.

"Judge not!" apparently finds little favour as a precept with the Rev. Mr. Amphlett, Vicar of Powick, Worcester. He has recently published a statement on the subject of marriage, in which he says:—

"Hardly a month passes but what we hear or see results of a girl getting into trouble. I do not pass lightly over the charity which would sanction such a marriage for the sake of the child at a registry office, where there is no pretence of a religious service. People must be made to realise the hideousness of their sin. Personally, nothing would induce me, in the full knowledge of the circumstances, to officiate at such a marriage. I would refuse to church a woman under the conditions alluded to, but would baptise an illegitimate child or one whose life was started before wedlock. To refuse would be to visit the sins of the parents upon the children."

The mentality of this censorious gentleman is curious, and somewhat resembles that of our forefathers who cheerfully hanged a man for stealing a sheep and stoned a woman who fell from the path of virtue. To such people punishment alone is the remedy for human frailty, and the weaker the person the heavier the punishment should be! What they do not understand is that human beings cannot be bludgeoned into morality. We yield to no one in our desire to see in this country a higher standard of morality for members of both sexes, but we are convinced that the moral ideal will not be raised by the petty persecutions of harassed women. We would suggest to the Vicar of Powick that some of his time might be usefully employed in inculcating the elements of morality in the minds of the boys and men among his parishioners. We should certainly like to know if he would use his ecclesiastical powers to ostracise the erring man as well as the erring woman. For instance, would he refuse to marry him subsequently to another woman?

WOMEN MAGISTRATES IN COUNCIL

The appointment of women magistrates is comparatively recent, but the women so appointed have lost no time in conferring among themselves on their new duties. By permission of the Lord Mayor, a conference of women magistrates has been held at the Mansion House this week. General Procedure and Powers, the Medical Examination of Prisoners, Maintenance Orders, Probation Work, and Children's Institutes were among the subjects discussed. It has been suggested in the Press that this Conference is in the nature of a school for women magistrates. Women are only too glad at all times to gain fresh knowledge of the matters with which they have to deal; it is a proof of their thoroughness that they wish to hear what experts like Dr. Hamblin Smith, Mr. Cecil Leeson, Dr. Norris, and Mr. Clarke Hall have to say on their own special subjects. It is quite possible that some of the present women Justices of the Peace had not entered a Police Court previous to their appointment; but we do not admit that they will be any slower than the ordinary man J.P. in accustoming themselves to their new duties. With the help of the Clerk to the Court they will soon know as much about General Procedure and Powers as any other magistrate on the Bench. Our great hope is that they will insist on knowing what happens in prison to the people whom they convict, and the influence which prison life has upon them. We hope also that they will effect some reforms in the Court itself, and refuse to acquiesce in the exclusion of women from the Court when any case is being tried in which a woman or a child is concerned. Further, we should like to see them secure the removal of young people—the majority of them are mere lads—while cases are being tried in Court. There are many other reforms which we feel confident that women magistrates will get through, and we wish them every success in their efforts.

MASS MEETING IN CENTRAL HALL, WESTMINSTER.

British Welcome to Mrs. Chapman Catt.

Last Monday evening the Central Hall, Westminster, was generously decorated with flags and banners from the various women's organizations, the hall itself being packed to the uttermost with men and women suffragists met together to do honour to America's great leader in the recent fight for enfranchisement. It was a great moment in the history of the Woman's Movement in this country and across the Atlantic, when Mrs. Fawcett, the English leader, and Mrs. Chapman Catt, the American leader, walked arm in arm to their seats on the platform, and the organ pealed out the Star-Spangled Banner, and everyone in the audience rose to their feet.

Mrs. Fawcett, who presided in the unavoidable absence of Miss Eleanor Rathbone, reminded the audience that the last time the Board Officers of the International Woman's Suffrage Alliance met in London was in the fateful July immediately preceding the war, but urged everyone not to dwell upon the tragic happenings that had intervened since that date, but rather upon the wonderful progress which was binding women together all over the world. In 1914, four countries only had enfranchised their women. To-day the suffrage countries had increased to twenty-six, and some of these were the foremost countries in the world.

Mrs. Fawcett then put the following resolution to the meeting: "That this meeting tenders its sincere and hearty congratulations to the women of the United States on their magnificent victory in having gained the franchise on the same terms as men under the inspiring leadership of Mrs. Chapman Catt, a victory which will have widespread influence on the progress of women all over the world."

Madame de Witt Schlumberger (France), in support of the Resolution, said it was more than ever necessary for the women of the old world to cling together to fight against the evils of destruction as evidenced in the late war, and to prepare a better future for humanity. All women must band together to give their support to the League of Nations. Unless women recognised that the League was their special concern it could not live. With all its imperfections, it was still the greatest ideal the world had ever produced. American women voters must now persuade the men that America could no longer remain outside of it.

Mrs. Chapman Catt, who was greeted with prolonged applause, expressed herself as indeed fortunate in being the representative of thousands and thousands of women, who, for three generations, had fought so valiantly for the freedom of their sisters. The Woman's Movement in Great Britain and America had travelled along on strangely parallel lines, one country shooting forward at intervals, and then the other. The winning of New York State to the Suffrage cause was the final factor in American women's success. The population of New York State was about the same as that of the entire population of America prior to its separation from this country. The foreign element in New York State was immense, 92 of its papers being published in foreign tongues, and 40 different languages being spoken. New York State was divided into 63 Assembly districts, from each of which one person was elected to the Legislature. Sixty-three women were, therefore, appointed as Chairmen in each of these divisions (which were still further subdivided for election purposes), and it was their duty to canvass the registered voters and also the women by means of house-to-house visiting. The foreign papers were also furnished with items of Suffrage news. The women canvassers also had to make acquaintance with the leaders of the various political parties, and they finally conquered even Tammany itself, and obtained Women's Suffrage by a majority of 100,000. The presence of women in New York

during the recent Presidential elections had revolutionised the electorate, and after the saloons had been eliminated elections seemed more like Sunday school gatherings than anything else. The enfranchisement of women was a great experiment in democracy, and it was impossible to foresee what would be the ultimate conclusion. Women must now see to it that they kept their eyes on the big things of the world, instead of wasting precious time over trivial details.

Lady Astor, M.P., who was greeted with an ovation, then put the second resolution: "That this meeting demands that the women of the United Kingdom should be granted the vote on the same terms as men, and calls on the Government to introduce a measure to this effect in the next session." She said that for women to defeat Tammany was a most marvellous thing. Fortunately, in British politics, though there was plenty of prejudice, there was no graft, as the word was understood in America. British women had also done great things because they had broken down British prejudice, which was no light thing. Women in this country had still to win citizenship on an equality with men, and so she urged them not to rest on their oars, but to become thoroughly organised, as organised as they were in the old Suffrage days, and to march forward to complete victory.

Mr. Alfred Noyes, in supporting the resolution, said no one who knew America could doubt the tremendous influence that the victory of the American women was going to have upon the whole world. It certainly was not yet realised in this country by that gloomy limbo known as the House of Commons.

Frau Schreiber-Krieger, M.P. in the German Reichstag, paid a graceful tribute to English and American pioneer women in the suffrage cause, and said it had been a humorous moment at the recent International Conference at Geneva when she, a German M.P., had welcomed unenfranchised women from the United States. Never had the world needed the spirit of motherliness as in the present day. All women stood united to-day in determination that war should cease. Great changes were coming in the inner politics of all countries. Women must act in future as the conscience of the world.

Dr. Margherita Ancona (Italy) said that Italian women were now daily expecting to hear that they had become municipally enfranchised, and the Italian Parliament was also discussing a Bill by which women could be Parliamentary voters as well.

Both resolutions were then put by Mrs. Fawcett to the meeting, and carried unanimously. D. M. N.

IN THE HOUR OF VICTORY.

We greet you, Sisters of the Stars and Stripes,
With the Red, White and Blue to wave for ever!
For still these twain are Freedom's truest types,
And ye and we are one in high endeavour.
How, when our fight was hottest, came his word,
Your lofty Leader's,* to inspire and cheer us!
How was our blood, in your own struggle, stirred!
Always we felt you by us, with us, near us.
Now weave we—we and ye—a lasting bond,
A bond of peace, 'twixt our two sister nations.
Around us and above us and beyond
Hopes gleam; bright hopes of world-wide federations.
We have met, to-day, as they who shall not part:
Britannia and Columbia, heart to heart!

S. GERTRUDE FORD.

*When the Suffrage battle in England was still in its critical stages we were greatly cheered by President Wilson's heartening words: "I am come to fight with you."

DYES AND PROTECTION.

Need for Healthy Competition.

It is doubtful whether the public in general realizes how every pocket will be hit if competition in the dye industry is to be eliminated either by a system of licences or by a tariff. Not only will the cost of dress stuffs and other soft goods be kept up, but appalling waste will be the necessary corollary through coloured clothing, etc., having to be discarded before being worn out, owing to the dyes used not being fast. I have before me at this moment a crêpe de chine silk jumper bought a couple of months ago, which cost £3 10s. It was then of a lemon yellow colour trimmed with the same material in navy blue; it has recently been washed, and the blue has run into the yellow, and the yellow has turned into a dirty shade of grey with streaks and patches of yellow in it, and is now quite useless. I could give many such instances. The present cost of having a dress cleaned amounts to fifteen shillings, as against 5s. before the war, and other garments and goods are charged at an equally high rate. This makes it all the more imperative in the interests of public economy that all clothing, loose covers, etc., should stand washing. With the need for thrift being dinned into our ears on every platform and insisted on in every paper, it seems strange that the protection of the dye industry should be considered for one moment, since it would cause losses running from shillings into pounds in every family in the land. If the Government, in return for protecting the dye industry, were to demand a guarantee with the dyes and some limit to the prices charged, the matter would not be so disastrous, but consideration for the pockets of the people they are supposed to represent seems to be the last thing that occurs to the members of the House of Commons. If the wives of our leading M.P.s were forced to wear some of the garments I have seen lately after a visit to the wash-tub, we shouldn't hear much more about licences or tariffs. The interests, however, of the dye manufacturers seem to be paramount in the eyes of the Government which, without consulting Parliament, pledged itself to protect the industry in which a large sum of public money has been sunk.

It would be cheaper to give the dye manufacturers a subsidy for research work on condition that only fast dyes were placed on the market, and then allow German and Swiss competition to keep down prices and prevent the formation of a gigantic trust. Bad dyes will ruin our export trade and finally bring disaster on the home market. Is it likely that an impoverished people will continue to buy British stuffs without a guarantee, when imported goods will be cheaper and more lasting? The commonest German shoddy well dyed is preferable to the best British materials badly dyed. It must be remembered that the loss is not confined to the value of the stuff discarded; the labour used on making it up is also wasted.

It seems doubtful whether our manufacturers will ever produce articles with lasting qualities without the stimulus of foreign competition, and it is for the public, more especially the feminine part of it, who suffer most, to see that the nefarious attempts to rob it for the benefits of trusts should be defeated.

E. L. W.

[This article is especially opportune at the present moment when representatives of the dye makers and dye users who have agreed upon a scheme for setting up a licensing board or committee to control the importation of foreign dyes, has already waited upon the President of the Board of Trade. Sir Robert Horne has promised to bring the matter before his colleagues in the Government, so that a separate Bill for protecting the dye industry may be brought in at once. On the other hand it may not be generally known that certain terms in the Peace Treaty provide that we should be able to call upon a certain percentage of the German production of dyes for a certain number of years, and this facility should enable us to get from that source all these special colours which it has been impossible so far to make in this country.—Ed.]

BOOK REVIEWS.

A Hospital Letter-Writer in France. By May Bradford, O.B.E. (Methuen.) 5s. (Can be obtained at this office.)

Written with great delicacy and restraint, this little book is one more illustration of the splendid courage and cheerfulness of our men at the Front, and one feels much more could have been said by the writer but for the very intimate nature of her splendid unselfish work. Just the simple unvarnished truth of the daily round of hospital life for four and a half sad years; yet filled with rays of sunlight by the merry tilts of the patients, many of them living only a few hours after Lady Bradford had, with infinite patience, managed to get a few details to send to the anxiously waiting relatives.

The latter pages tell of the continuous air raids over the huge hospital area at Etaples—which could not possibly have been unidentified as such by the enemy because of the immense Red Crosses painted on all the roofs—the horror of wounded men still further wounded by the dropping bombs, depleted personnel to the extent of one-half killed outright, and buildings wrecked beyond recognition!

Truly "kind hearts are more than coronets," and in her labour of love Lady Bradford must have earned a coronet of gratitude, or, as one "Jock" put it to her, "We have been looking in the papers for your photograph amongst the Parvenos . . . and thought we would like to tell you that we think you ought to have a star set round with diamonds as big as the Koh-i-noor, and that you will live in our hearts for ever"! There are lots of deliciously humorous touches. "One man asked if I had to pay postage, and when I said 'No,' he replied, 'You must make a mint of money!'" And another: "Here's my young woman saying she is going to write me every day to cheer me up. Weel! it winna cheer me up; it will worry me awful. Write and tell her that ance in three days is quite enough!" The best tribute that they all paid to her splendid work is I think that she very soon came to be known as the "Little Mother." T. D.

The Angel and the Animal. By Mrs. Norman Lee. (Digby, Long & Co.) (Can be obtained at this office.)

One feels this is an honest attempt to arrive at some conclusion of an age-old problem—the equal moral standard? "Hilda Wright, married woman, loved a man other than her husband. She had been married eight years; the first six had been a dream of bliss. She was devotedly attached to her husband, and he to her. At the end of six years Mr. Wright ceased to care, and his wife became merely his friend and his house-keeper, to all intents and purposes a married woman." They live in Paris, and soon the friendship of a young French doctor comes as a ray of sunshine into the life of this woman whose need for love was the strongest in her nature, and two months after they had first met she discovered she loved Dr. Berthier with all her heart and soul! "When a choice comes between love and duty, the struggle is always very terrible; you have often said the mixture of animal and angel makes life very hard, and you are right; they are two opposing forces. . . . I understood how you had fought before you left home." "The animal won," said Hilda in a low voice. . . . I always feel I ought to be sorry I went, and I cannot be. Those two years of happiness will live for ever in my memory . . . and as to the actual fact of having lived with the man I love as his wife, there seems to be some deep compelling natural force within me that prevents me from repenting it; that makes me feel instead that it is a joy to have borne his child."

So this is the problem: Did the animal win? God's law is love; Man's law is —? T. D.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS, W.F.L.

LONDON AND SUBURBS.



DARE TO
BE FREE

Monday, December 6.—Clapham Branch Meeting at Mrs. Samuel's, 46, Lynette Avenue. Tea 4.30 p.m. Meeting 5 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. Mustard.

Monday, December 6.—Hampstead Branch Meeting, 7, Gainsborough Gardens, Hampstead Heath. 8.15 p.m.

Wednesday, December 8.—Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 3 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. La Chard. Subject: "One Year of Municipal Work." Mrs. E. M. N. Clark. Christmas Sale after Meeting.

Friday, December 10.—Mid-London Branch Meeting, 144, High Holborn. 7 p.m.

Saturday, December 11.—144, High Holborn, W.C. 1. National Executive Committee, 10 a.m.

Wednesday, December 15.—Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 3 p.m. Speaker: The Lady Amherst of Hackney. Subject: "The New Spirit and the Home." Chair: The Hon. Mrs. Walter Forbes.

Friday, December 31.—Hogmanay Party, 144, High Holborn, W.C. Full particulars later.

PROVINCES.

Saturday, December 4.—**Portsmouth.** Whist Drive, Unitarian Schoolroom, High Street. Tickets 1s. 6d. each, including refreshments, from Mrs. Whetton, 89, Festing Grove, Southsea.

Monday, December 6.—**Westcliff-on-Sea.** Purcell House (School of Music), London Road. 7.30 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. Alexander. Subject to be announced later. Chair: Mrs. Nichols.

Tuesday, December 7.—**Manchester.** Meeting, Milton Hall. 7.15 p.m. Speaker: Miss Neal.

Wednesday, December 8.—**Hull.** Whist Drive, Ladies' Room, Fairbank Hall, 17, Holderness Road. 7 p.m.

Tuesday, December 13.—**Bexhill.** Public Meeting at National Kitchen, St. Leonards Road. 3.30 p.m. Speaker: Miss Edith W. Kirby. Subject: "Women Jurors."

Tuesday, December 13.—**Hastings.** Drawing-room Meeting, "Sea View," Pelham Crescent. 7 p.m. Speaker: Miss Edith W. Kirby.

Friday, December 31.—**Portsmouth.** New Year's Eve Party, Unitarian School Room. 7 to 10 p.m.

BRANCH NOTE.

PORTSMOUTH.

There was a very good audience at our Public Meeting on November 24th, when the Rural Dean, the Rev. Lionel E. Blackburne, M.A., spoke on "The League of Nations." In an excellent speech, Mr. Blackburne emphasised the fact that in spite of all its defects, the machinery was ready for the formation of a genuine and active League of Nations, and it depended upon the people of all countries, and, most of all, the people of this country, whether that machinery should be put to work or not. Until Germany, Russia and America were members, however, the machinery could not be applied.

Questions and discussion followed. Mrs. Speck made an able Chairman, and the speaker was accorded a hearty vote of thanks, on the proposition of Mrs. Abbott, seconded by Mrs. Holdaway. Two new members joined the Branch. Our thanks are due to Mrs. Speck, Mrs. Binney, and Mrs. Slatter for the use of their rooms for the work party. A parcel of useful articles to the value of £5 was sent to the Green, White and Gold Fair.

There will be no Public Meeting in December as the date falls too near Christmas, but the Annual New Year's Eve Party will be held on December 31st, particulars of which will be announced in THE VOTE later on.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. WHETTON, 89, Festing Grove, Southsea.

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE SETTLEMENT,

93, NINE ELMS LANE, S.W. 8.

We have to thank most heartily all those who kindly contributed to our Stall at the Green, White and Gold Fair, including Miss Greenville, Miss Cole, Miss Sparrow, Miss Isobel Harvey, Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Delbanco, Miss Wilson, Miss Riggall, Mr. Procter, the Tipperary League, the Hon. Mrs. Forbes, Miss Moody, Miss Triplett, the Misses Haward, Mr. Snow, Miss Biddy Woods, Mrs. Bell Lloyd, Mr. F. Threadgold, Miss Challis, Miss Daisy Pointer, and other anonymous contributors. We have also to thank Miss Riggall, 2s.; Miss Choisy, 5s.; Mrs. Scarsbrook, 2s.; Mrs. Holmes, 10s.; Miss West, 5s.; Miss Holford, 4s.; "Devonport," Tasmania, £5; Mrs. Lloyd, 5s.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

A. We offer a year's subscription to THE VOTE for the best short story suitable for Christmas, and preferably with a Feminist tendency.

1.—Stories must be typed or written on one side only of the paper, with THE VOTE coupon attached.

2.—They must not exceed 1,000 words in length.

3.—They must be addressed to The Editor, THE VOTE, 144, High Holborn, London, W.C., and must reach this office not later than December 27th, 1920.

NOVEMBER COMPETITION.

Prize-winner: Mr. GEORGE W. GILL, 62, Fortress Road, N.W. 5.

B.

We offer a prize of a new book to the first reader who obtains six new subscribers to THE VOTE for one year. The names and addresses of six new subscribers thus obtained, together with the annual subscriptions, should be forwarded to the Editor, THE VOTE, 144, High Holborn, W.C. These will be offered a choice of three books from which to select their prize.

COUPON.

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OUR OPEN COLUMN.

Madam,—From first-hand information I am able to quote particulars of the present position of women students at Cambridge in the matter of University degrees. All our readers should realize this, in order to understand the decision which will be made by the University of Cambridge Senate on December 8th. Should this decision be as favourable as the preliminaries admit, Cambridge will still (unfortunately) be the last University in Civilization to do justice to women, and that justice will be only partial. At the present moment, then, students at the Women's Colleges in Cambridge are admitted to the Tripos Examinations in all subjects, and are classed as the men. Successful candidates received a certificate 1st, 2nd or 3rd class, but no degree. These are "Honours" Examinations.

To the Examination for the ordinary degree of B.A., women are not admitted at all. But if they fail in the Tripos Examination, and yet attain the ordinary B.A. standard, they receive a certificate to that effect.

Women may not be "Non-Collegiate" Students as men may. These are University rules, and were made in 1881. The women tutors and students may attend University lectures (as the general public) and read in the University Library (by favour). The Women tutors prepare their students for the University Examinations, but they do not vote on the curriculum, set the papers, or mark them. Some of these women tutors are of European reputation, counted as authorities by scholars of all countries. In their own University they are visitors and on sufferance. Forty-nine years of the wilderness!—Yours, etc.,

K. A. RALEIGH.

EDUCATION OF INDIAN HIGH-CASTE GIRLS.

Speaking at the Minerva Café, last Wednesday afternoon, Miss Margaret Russell, late of Queen Mary's High School, Bombay, gave some interesting statistics of the standard of education now prevalent among girls of the upper classes in India, and their remarkable aptitude in assimilating Western modes of teaching. These girls sat for matriculation and answered the same papers with English girls of the same age. In a recent examination, one girl came out eleventh on the list, with 95 per cent. marks on every paper, out of 1,250 Parsees. These girls read Scott, Dickens, and Thackeray purely for recreation purposes. In Bombay, Madras and Calcutta women were less strictly kept than in other parts of India. In the Punjab, however, they were always veiled. In the north of India the customs connected with women were more antiquated, and the Mahomedan element was stronger. It was the Mahomedans who perpetuated the Purdah system. The Parsees had always shown themselves much more enlightened in their treatment of women. It had been estimated that to-day in India 40 million Indian women were still shut up in Zenanas. Indian girls who desired University education could now obtain it in colleges of their own. These women's colleges were in Bombay (Elphinstone, Wilson, Xavier), Madras, Allahabad, Patna, Benares and Lahore. Indian women could also qualify for a medical career at the Grand Medical School in Bombay, and at Ludhiana.

WOMEN, YOUNG PERSONS & CHILDREN (Employment) Bill.

The Report Stage of this Bill was taken early this week. The discussion centred round the New Clause permitting the employment of women and young persons in shifts. This clause was read a second time by a majority of 148 to 66, and the Bill itself was re-committed to a Committee of the whole House.

FRIDAY,
DEC. 3,
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