

THE VOTE,  
MARCH 1, 1929.

AGE OF MARRIAGE BILL.

# THE VOTE

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

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ONE PENNY.

FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 1929

**OBJECTS :** To use the power of the Parliamentary vote, now won for Women upon equal terms with men, to elect women to Parliament, and upon other public bodies; 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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## ATALANTA.

### MODEL ACCEPTED BY SOUTH KENSINGTON SCIENCE MUSEUM.

In a well-equipped workshop in Brixton Road, the firm of women engineers, known as Atalanta, are carrying on a pioneer enterprise which is gradually breaking down the idea that engineering is a male monopoly. From an extremely modest beginning—the firm was started by Miss Ashberry and a very limited number of assistants, some of whom had had experience in aeroplane factories during the war—Atalanta has grown to a staff of eighteen, and is now in a position to open its doors to other women who wish to follow engineering seriously as a career.

Girls of eighteen and nineteen who enter the firm on leaving school may become skilled workers in about three years. From the first they are encouraged to take their work very seriously, and are not advised to go on with it unless they show aptitude and application.

Women who take up work primarily as a means of livelihood are not of the type to succeed in an undertaking against which there is still a considerable weight of prejudice. Only by turning out work of the highest order can a firm of women engineers hope to compete with old-established businesses.

The prestige steadily built up by the firm is now bringing a constant supply of highly-skilled work. The British Broadcasting Company and the Marconi Company are placing orders with Atalanta, which necessitate a high degree of accuracy. Women are proving themselves particularly well suited for work of this description.

This year the excellent work being done by the firm has received recognition by the placing of an order by the South Kensington Science Museum for a complete working model of a rotary drying machine. The model, which has involved much detailed work, has satisfied the high standard set by the authorities, and will be the first model made by

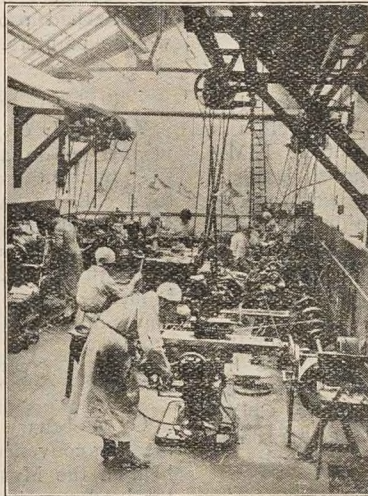
women, exhibited at the South Kensington Science Museum.

The now famous Atalanta screw-driver—the patent is the property of the firm—has an increasing sale in many parts of the world. Over 17,000 of these tools have been turned out; they are now being produced as rapidly as the limited plant will allow to meet the orders constantly coming in.

The firm have earned a name for reliability for aircraft and other component parts, which necessitate working to fine limits. The high standard which must be satisfied for work of this nature has assisted the women in acquiring the habit of accuracy. Not long ago, the Air Ministry placed an order with the firm for 500 Atalanta chucks. The commission was executed without a single reject.

Miss Ashberry attributes the success of the firm largely to the confidence she is able to place in her workers. Each has her share of responsibility, and is encouraged to feel she is on her metal to do her best, both for her own credit and for that of the firm. Each worker takes a pride in her machine and throws herself whole-heartedly into whatever work comes her way, knowing that, by so doing, she is helping to banish the fallacy that practical engineering is outside the province of women.

Atalanta have had an uphill fight to attain the position they now hold, and have paved the way for women in this sphere of industry. They have not only shown that women can do the work, but that they can attract orders and build up a successful business. Opportunity for training is at present limited, but when women turn their attention as seriously to engineering as they have to other industries and professions, Miss Ashberry should not long be allowed to remain the only woman member of the Society of Engineers.



## WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

### North Lanark's Second Woman Candidate.

Miss Elizabeth Buchanan Mitchell, M.A., who took a First in Greek at Oxford, has been adopted by the North Lanark Liberal Association as their candidate for the vacancy caused by the death of Sir A. Sprot (Conservative). Miss Mitchell, who was a candidate for the Lanark Division in 1924, is a member of the Lanarkshire Education Authority, and vice-president of the Scottish Liberal Federation. The Liberal Party did not contest the constituency at the last General Election.

As was stated in THE VOTE last week, the Labour candidate is Miss Jenny Lee.

### Another Prospective Woman Candidate.

Miss Morgan Gibbon, daughter of the Rev. Morgan Gibbon, of London, has been adopted as prospective Liberal Candidate for South Hackney.

### Lady Heath, First Woman Air Mechanic.

Lady Heath has received from the Department of Commerce in the United States of America, the first air mechanic's license ever issued to a woman in that country. Lady Heath will make tests of all light machines manufactured in America.

### Woman Aviator Builds Plane.

Miss Marvel Crosson—shortly to take off from Arcadia, California, in an attempt to break the endurance flight record—flies in an aeroplane built by herself.

### Lady Davson—Special Commissioner.

Lady Davson has been appointed by the Council of the Royal Empire Society to act as Special Commissioner for the Society during her visit to the West Indies this spring.

### Central Club for Women.

Early this summer the Queen is to lay the foundation stone of the Central Club for business and professional girls in London on a site at the corner of Tottenham Court Road and Great Russell Street. This Club is being provided by the Y.W.C.A. Forward Movement.

### Motorcycles for Women Police.

In Gloucestershire policewomen have been provided with motor bicycles to enable them more easily to patrol rural areas.

### Woman Assistant Hotel Controller.

Mrs Muggeridge—a member of the Towle family of caterers whose name is familiar to all who travel on the L.M.S. Railway—is assistant controller of 28 L.M.S. hotels. It is her ambition to make English hotels as fine as any in the world. She is the only woman in the hotel world to occupy a position entailing so much responsibility. Her father—Sir William Towle—is the celebrated pioneer of the railway hotel system.

### Merthyr's First Woman Solicitor.

Miss Margaret Spector, who recently passed the final examination of the Law Society, is Merthyr's first woman solicitor. In 1925, when she was 19 years old, she gained the LL.B. degree at the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth. Miss Spector served her articles with a firm of Birmingham solicitors.

### Chinese Women Administrators.

Two women are serving as members on the Central Administrative Council of fifteen—the highest administrative body in the national government of China.

### Carpentry for Girls.

A woodwork class for girls has been formed at Kingsbury Council School.

### A Worker for Women.

Mrs. Susan Goddard Russell who died this week at the age of 81, was largely responsible for founding the Women's Police Court Mission throughout the country.

### A CHALLENGE TO MEN SWIMMERS.

It is anticipated that when, on March 1st, the Amateur Swimming Association Council hold their annual meeting at Cheltenham, practical suggestions will be put forward to improve the poor standard of men swimmers in this country. Although the Olympic Games Swimming Committee declared our men "did slightly better than was anticipated, the positions gained were far from satisfactory. Not a single world-record (men's) is at present held by a British swimmer.

On the other hand, British women swimmers show marked improvement attributable to dogged determination to succeed, and concentration on training and practice. More of the spirit which enabled Miss Vera Tanner to win the national 100 yards' championship from Miss Mabel Hamblen last season is needed by our men.

### A WOMAN BRICKMAKER.

From the *Daily Express* we learn that Miss Margaret Wenn, of Crossways Farm, Ingham, who was married last week, carries on the ancient craft of hand brick-making. When her father died, a year or so ago, the old brickyard in a corner of his farm had fallen on bad times owing to the competition of machinery. Miss Wenn was driven to turn her attention to brick-making, and became an expert. Then she turned her attention to sales, and motored with samples to local builders and architects, who welcomed her fine hand-made bricks. Her business is now flourishing, with an output of about 500,000 bricks a year. Miss Wenn will continue this business after marriage, and will live with her husband in her own house at the edge of the farm.

### WOMEN PAINTERS.

Esther Sutro and Muriel Wilson have a combined exhibition of paintings and pastels at the Lefèvre Galleries in King Street, St. James.

Last Saturday, the French Ambassador opened the 28th annual exhibition of the Women's International Art Club in the Suffolk Street Galleries, Pall Mall, and said he was glad to see that France was well represented. He reminded those present that in the 17th century, France had produced some of the world's greatest women painters.

### WOMEN ON FARMS.

*The Daily Express* tells us that in a majority of cases women can do farm work as well as men, and are given the opportunity of doing it. The classes at the agricultural colleges have now been thrown open to women, and full advantage has been taken of them. This has been to the advantage of agriculture, for the women who have qualified at the colleges exercise a powerful influence for good on the young people in our farming communities.

### EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN AND MEN.

On February 8th, Miss M. I. Neal addressed a meeting convened by the National Council of Women, held in the Music Room, Werneth Park, Oldham, by the kind permission of Dame Sarah Lees on "Equal Opportunities for Women and Men." In spite of most inclement weather quite a good number of people were present. They included the Matron of the Royal Infirmary, the Headmistress of the Girls' High School, women Justices of the Peace, several teachers and some textile workers. A very interesting discussion followed Miss Neal's address. Many VOTES were sold, one lady giving Miss Neal a shilling for her copy. Councillor Miss Marjorie Lees took the Chair. It is said that she may be Mayor of Oldham at no distant date, as her mother was before her. This was a very successful meeting in the progressive town of Oldham.

## IN PARLIAMENT.

### Wives and Unemployment Benefit.

MAJOR COHEN (U., Fairfield) asked the Minister of Labour whether, if a married man is selected for training at one of the Ministry's training centres, his wife receives unemployment benefit during his training? SIR A. STEEL-MAITLAND: Married men at the Ministry's training centres are, as a rule, in receipt of unemployment benefit (including the allowance in respect of a wife or other dependants) if they are being trained for employment in this country, but not if they are being trained for employment overseas.

MAJOR COHEN asked the Minister of Labour whether if an unemployed man and wife are both given training at the only centre in the country where married families can be trained, unemployment benefit is withheld; and, if this is so, will he consider giving the organisation which undertakes to support the family whilst training that benefit? SIR A. STEEL-MAITLAND: I understand that the training at the centre referred to is for employment overseas. Accordingly, as I explained in reply to the hon. and gallant Member's previous question, unemployment benefit is not paid to those undergoing this training. MAJOR COHEN: Can the Minister explain why unemployment benefit should not be paid? SIR A. STEEL-MAITLAND: The reason is this: When we were training persons for employment in this country, it could be reasonably assumed that a man would later take up insurable work; but we are also training persons for employment overseas, where, normally speaking, they are likely to go out of the field of British insurable work. On the other hand, the situation is being met by giving the married men who are training for overseas an additional allowance which will take the place of benefits.

### Street Offences (Committee's Report).

SIR R. THOMAS (Lib., Anglesey) asked the Home Secretary whether he proposes now to introduce legislation to carry out any of the recommendations of the Street Offences Committee's Report. SIR W. JOYNSON-HICKS: The important recommendations of this Committee are still under consideration.

### Domestic Service (Training).

SIR PHILIP RICHARDSON (U., Chertsey) asked the President of the Board of Education whether he is aware that there are many daughters of miners and other unemployed persons willing to enter domestic service, who, owing to lack of training, are only able to fill minor posts; and whether consideration has been given to the desirability of allocating some portion of the miners' distress fund to assisting girls to obtain training in cooking in the London County Council continuation or other schools, to enable them not only to obtain well paid employment after a few months' training, but also to benefit them permanently in after life? LORD EUSTACE PERCY: Training centres for domestic workers are conducted by the Central Committee for Women's Training and Employment, in conjunction with the Minister of Labour, in all the depressed mining areas, and I understand that the centres already in operation are thought sufficient to meet the local demand. My hon. friend's suggestion will, however, be given careful consideration.

### Maternity Centres.

MR. STEPHEN (Lab., Camlachie) asked the Secretary of State for Scotland the total number of maternity centres in Scotland; the total number of mothers who were in attendance at these centres during last year; the number who applied for food or other forms of help; and the total amount expended in this way apart from administrative expenses?—THE LORD ADVOCATE (the Right Hon. William Watson): At the end of 1928 there were 193 maternity and child welfare centres in operation in Scotland. During the year ended the 31st December, 1927, the total number of mothers who attended the centres for advice or treatment or for food was approximately 55,000. The number of applications for food and

milk was 17,208 in respect of mothers and 44,598 in respect of children. As regards the last part of the question, the total expenditure on food and milk for the year ended the 15th day of May, 1928, was £52,864. Complete information as to other forms of help sought is not available, but the total expenditure under schemes of maternity and child welfare, excluding food and milk and administrative expenses, was £205,931.

### AMERICA'S WOMEN REPRESENTATIVES.

When the New American President comes into office, 145 women will take their seats in the State Legislatures—15 of these are Senators. The Connecticut Legislature has 20 women representatives. Only ten States have no women members. The Republican Party are able to claim 100 of these women; the Democrats, 38; the remainder are non-party members.

### NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN.

Next week Miss Ellen Wilkinson is to introduce a Bill into the House of Commons to amend the law with respect to the status of British women who marry aliens. Under this Bill a British woman marrying an alien will have the right to declare, within a month of marriage, whether she wishes to retain her nationality or take that of her husband. It would be retrospective in cases of British women now married to aliens if the declarations were made before a magistrate.

### THE PASSING OF A PIONEER.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

One of England's oldest suffrage workers passed away on February 11th at her home, 98, Cheyne Walk, Chelsea.

Mrs. H. B. Taylor had devoted her long life to the cause, and was able, in her ninetieth year, to record her vote at the last General Election, rejoicing that she had lived long enough, not only to see the suffrage won, but to be able to record her vote, this being the last time she left her house.

Mrs. Taylor kept till the end her keen interest in the causes to which she was devoted, and visits paid to her by her younger friends were always fraught with interest.

She was one of the supporters of Miss Lydia Becker, and other subjects in which she was actively interested were Mr. Jacob Bright's Women's Property Bill, Mrs. Josephine Butler's crusade against the C.D. Acts, and Francis Power Cobbe's work for Anti-Vivisection.

She was represented at the Women's Procession on June 18th, 1910, by Miss Ada Hughes, of Amptill, Paignton, S. Devon, a member of a well-known Warwickshire family, who writes:

"How well I remember Mrs. Taylor's lovely decorating of me as her deputy in that great procession!

"And now—with the Prime Minister shortly to unveil Mrs. Pankhurst's statue in Westminster! What a stride for progress in spiritual values."

## SPRING SALE

### Dr. OCTAVIA LEWIN

"AT HOME,"

At 25, WIMPOLE STREET, W.1.,

Chair: MRS. PETHICK-LAWRENCE.

### THURSDAY, MARCH 14th, 3 to 7.30 p.m.

Stalls—Household and S ring Cleaning Goods, Lingerie, Overalls and Aprons, Pottery, Fancy Articles, White Elephants, Beads, Country Produce, Cakes, Sweets, and Preserves.

Music. Recitations. Character Reading. Dainty Teas, 3.30 to 6 p.m.

PLEASE KEEP THIS DATE FREE.

## THE VOTE.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 1st, 1929.

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

### THE AGE OF MARRIAGE.

On February 21st the Committee Stage of LORD BUCKMASTER'S Age of Marriage Bill was delayed.

THE EARL OF DESART asked for an adjournment for a few days, because the Bill had only passed its Second Reading two days previously, and because he knew that Lord Darling wished to move an Amendment, notice of which had been given quite late. Lord Desart said he was not opposed to the principle of the Bill; exactly the contrary was the case; and he really thought that a short delay would not ultimately injure its object in any way. He only thought that they ought to have a little more time for consideration.

LORD BUCKMASTER replied that it appeared to him quite impossible for anybody to want to put down Amendments to this Bill, which had been cordially approved in that House, and whose whole provision was to make void marriages between people under sixteen years of age. He hoped that if the Bill went speedily through their Lordships' House it might receive some consideration in another place. But every week, every day, that its passage was postponed, hindered that prospect. If the noble Earl was really anxious to see any Amendments, he would have plenty of opportunity in the Bill's later stages.

LORD DARLING said he had some serious Amendments to propose, and that it was with the desire to make the Bill a good one that he was putting them down.

LORD SALISBURY also urged the postponement of the Bill. He pointed out that Lord Desart, who for many years held the office of Director of Public Prosecutions, and Lord Darling, who for many years had been a Judge of the High Court, both wished to raise points on the Bill for their Lordships' consideration, and that the Amendments ought to be before them in print.

LORD BUCKMASTER declared that any necessary Amendments could be made in another place, and unless the noble Marquess asked him to adjourn the Committee stage, and at the same time told him that the adjournment would not prejudice the passage of the Bill in another place, he would ask their Lordships to proceed with it at once.

LORD DESART again urged postponement. Matters had occurred to him which he thought might be cured by Amendment, but he was not prepared to deal with them that day. After reasonable time for consideration he might even decide that it was not necessary to move anything.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said he could not say what was going to happen to the Bill in another place. He had not the slightest idea as to how any of the three Parties would regard it. He did not consider that two or three days' delay would make the slightest difference one way or the other to the Bill. He was surprised that the noble and learned Lord, Lord Buckmaster, should have received an appeal from Lord Desart, one of the most distinguished members of the House, in the way in which he had received it.

THE EARL OF DONOUGHMORE (Chairman of Committees) said he was a supporter of the Bill, but asked Lord Buckmaster to postpone it. He stated that a Joint Committee had been appointed to discuss with the other House the difficulties which arise through Bills

having to be rushed through the House, and in the case of any Bill in which any of their Lordships were going to take a serious interest, he thought that to take the Second Reading on Tuesday and the Committee stage on Thursday was not an ideal way of conducting business. Lord Donoughmore asked Lord Buckmaster to respond to the appeal.

LORD BUCKMASTER replied that after what had been said by the noble Earl, he would not persist. The Committee stage was then postponed until February 27th.

We share Lord Buckmaster's disappointment in the delay of this Bill, but we earnestly hope that the Government will give it full support and ensure its early passage into law. The great mass of public opinion is in its favour.

### HOUSE OF LORDS REFORM.

This week Lord Elibank's Life Peers Bill, which proposes that power shall be given to appoint life peers during the life of each Parliament, is coming up for its second reading. According to *The Times* it is understood that Lord Middleton, on behalf of the peers who have advocated a broad measure of reform of the Upper Chamber, will ask the House not to proceed with any measure which does not deal with the general question of reform, which the House has by large majorities in the last two sessions on the motions of Lord FitzAlan and of Lord Clarendon, declared to be urgent. We sincerely hope that opportunity will be found in the House of Lords to protest against the consideration of any scheme of reform for that House which does not include women. Indeed, before any reform of the Upper House is considered the following who are Peeresses in their own right ought to be admitted to full membership of the House of Lords:—The Duchess of Fife, The Countess of Cromarty, The Countess of Loudoun, The Countess of Melfort, The Countess Roberts of Kandahar, The Countess of Seafield, The Viscountess Rhondda, The Viscountess Wolsley, Baroness Beaumont, Baroness Berkeley, Baroness Burton, Baroness Clifton, Baroness Darcy de Knayth, Baroness de Ros, Baroness Dingwall, Baroness Furnivall, Baroness Gray, Baroness Herries, Baroness Kinloss, Baroness Ravensdale, Baroness Strange of Knockin, Hungerford, and De Moleyns, Baroness Wentworth and Zouche of Haryngworth. Some of these titles date back to the twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, and the holders of them surely ought to have their right to membership of the House of Lords immediately recognised.

### HONOURS FOR WOMEN?

It is reported that the Honours List is to be out this week. We wonder what women will be included in it, and what kind of Honours they will receive? We are told that Art and Literature will be represented. Politicians will, of course, find a place. Will the Duchess of Atholl receive a Privy Councillorship? Some of her men colleagues in the Government, who have certainly not surpassed her in competence or faithful service, have become Privy Councillors. Are any other men to be appointed over her head? We hope that the inadequate Order of the British Empire will not be offered to her and to other outstanding women. Will medical women and women scientists receive any adequate Honours? Such Honours are a good deal overdue. We should also like to see women in the country suitably rewarded for their public work. Why should not Miss Margaret Beavan, the ex-Lord Mayor of Liverpool, receive some Honour equal in value to those bestowed upon Lord Mayors of London? Distinguished Honours have been accorded to men for great accomplishments in Aviation. Lady Heath and Lady Bailey have to their credit splendid achievements in aviation. Only last Tuesday, Sir Charles Wakefield, speaking at a dinner of the United Empire Circle of the Lyceum Club, predicted that the Schneider Cup would one day be won by a woman aviator, and, ten chances to one, the honour would fall to a British airwoman. If that were the case, would a grudging British Government award her the O.B.E.?

## RECEPTION TO MISS MAUDE ROYDEN.

A delightful reception to Miss Royden, arranged by the British Commonwealth League, was held at the Lyceum Club, on February 20th, among those present being Mrs. Corbett Ashby, Miss Margaret Bondfield, M.P., Mr. and Mrs. Thesiger, Mr. H. W. Nevinson, Miss Constance Smedley, the Agent General of New Zealand, the Director of Migration, and members of many women's organisations, including The Women's Freedom League. Miss Collisson, the honorary Organiser of the British Commonwealth League, who had arranged Miss Royden's tour in Australia and New Zealand, explained that the object of her League was to bring about a better understanding of the conditions and problems which the women of the different countries of the British Commonwealth had to deal with, and that this was the first time that it had been able to send an Ambassadors across the seas. The branches of the League in Australia and New Zealand had co-operated splendidly, and Miss Royden had been received everywhere with the greatest enthusiasm, and had addressed immense audiences in the largest towns of those countries.

Mrs. Corbett Ashby, President of the League, stressed the value of the visit to the Dominions of such a woman as Miss Royden, who could make the men and women there realise the spiritual basis of our good fellowship and understanding. Many public men, politicians, financiers and others, had travelled to distant parts of the Empire on various missions, but Miss Royden's visit was specially helpful because it strengthened the ties of kinship between our fellow subjects overseas and ourselves. That was valuable Imperial work, and she hoped that other women, perhaps a woman Member of Parliament—why not Miss Bondfield?—would carry on similar work.

## THE NEW ELECTORATE.

"We women are on our trial," said Mrs. Baldwin, in reference to the approaching General Election, when opening the Leeds Empire Bazaar last week. As women voters, in many constituencies, outnumber men voters by large majorities, the General Election bids fair to be lost or won by women—hence the eagerness of each party to catch the women's vote.

Party canvassers are finding, not that women lack interest, but that they like to hear all sides. It is this reluctance to be won definitely to the ranks of this or that party, which is causing uneasiness.

Politicians no longer comfort themselves by repeating that women are not interested in politics and will not vote. They constitute the unknown quantity and as such are to be feared.

The daily papers, certain of which are inviting new women voters to express their political opinions in their pages, are finding that the hitherto ridiculed "flapper" knows more about politics than many Members of Parliament! The three party chiefs—the Rt. Hon. J. C. C. Davidson, M.P., Chairman of the Conservative Party, Dr. Joseph Hunter, head of the Liberal Campaign Department, and Mr. Arthur Henderson, Secretary of the Labour Party, who were the final judges in a Girls' Voting Contest arranged by the *Daily Sketch*, paid high tribute to the political sagacity of those who entered for the competition. The concise statements as to "How I Shall Vote and Why," proved that women between the ages of 21 and 30 are very much awake, not only to the present proposals of the various parties but also to their past performances. Miss Worsley, the Conservative winner of one of the three £100 prizes, a classical tutor at the Manchester Tutorial College, and Secretary of Swinton and Pendlebury Women's Conservative and Unionist Association, affirms that since the extension of the franchise, women are showing a much keener interest in political educational classes. The other successful competitors are Mrs. Elizabeth T. Preece, Liberal, and Mrs. L. O'Connell, Labour.

In thanking the British Commonwealth League and Miss Collisson for all the work which had been done to make the tour in Australia and New Zealand such a success, Miss Royden said that the women's movement all over the world was curiously irregular in its advance. In one country it would be social but not political; in another country it would be mainly political. In Australia and New Zealand she had been told that the women had done nothing with their votes, yet, since women had had votes in those countries, they had succeeded in very greatly reducing infant mortality! One thing had pleased Miss Royden very much, and that was the travelling train in Australia, which was arranged in sections, provided lectures and demonstrations in up-to-date methods of agriculture and the breeding of stock, and found its way across that vast country to little districts where there were no public halls. The Australian women had insisted that this train should also have a section telling them how to rear babies, and giving the necessary instructions where there might be no trained help for women in childbirth. This train not only attracted women in remote districts but it was sometimes mobbed by fathers, who also must know what to do in emergencies. Women in those far-off countries had a special interest in aviation for medical services across vast tracts of country. They might not be so politically advanced as women in this country, but they had specially important and practical interests for which they were working, and in these matters they had secured successful results.

The songs given by Miss Stella Murray, who comes from New Zealand, were most beautifully rendered, and she and her accomplished accompanist, Miss Williams, fully deserved the enthusiastic reception accorded to them by the audience.

Everywhere women are attending political meetings and taking a critical interest in Party programmes. Many women would vote for a woman candidate if there happened to be one, as the present women Members of Parliament have done more to win their confidence than the men Members. Women are in the habit of throwing themselves whole-heartedly into what they take up—hence they incline to be more exacting in what they expect from a Parliamentary candidate than the rank-and-file of men voters.

Women voters incline to be practical in their outlook. They want to know how political questions are to be brought to bear on women's own economic position of every day life. If they vote Conservative it will not be because a Conservative Government extended the franchise to women at the age of 21, but because they consider that party have the best programme to offer. On the other hand, if they vote Liberal or Labour, it will be because the supporters of those parties are able to convince women that they will do better for the country, if returned, than their opponents.

While all parties are spreading their nets for the new voters, the number of women candidates is steadily increasing. We hope between this and the General Election to see many more women on the lists, and urge our readers to spare no effort to give prospective women candidates every assistance in their power.

### AN INVITATION TO "THE VOTE" READERS.

Readers are asked to suggest what questions they consider should be put to Prospective Parliamentary Candidates at Electioneering Meetings. Suitable questions will be published under the heading—"Questions for Prospective Parliamentary Candidates." Jot down your suggestion on a postcard, and send to 144, High Holborn.



FRIDAY,  
MARCH 1,  
1929.

# THE VOTE

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WEEKLY.

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

**M**INERVA CLUB, 56, Hunter Street, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Open to non-residents. Restaurant. Smoking Room. Papers. Library. Bedrooms available at holiday times. Membership, £1 1s. Entrance Fee suspended during present year. All particulars from the SECRETARY. Telephone: Terminus 4791.

**T**HE Mint Tea Rooms, 34, The Mint, Rye. Light Refreshments, Home-Made Cakes, Afternoon Teas, Fuller's Chocolates.

**H**AMPSTEAD.—Quiet Hostel for those engaged during day. Home comforts. High position. Sunny aspect.—"Bluebank," 1, Thurlow Road (Hampstead 6321).

## REST AND HOLIDAYS.

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