

THE VOTE,
OCTOBER 8, 1920
ONE PENNY.

ATALANTA, LTD. !
A ASHBERRY and D. W. TURNER.

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

VOL. XXI. No. 572.

(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, OCT. 8, 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.

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS.

OUR SCOTTISH WOMAN MAGISTRATE.

Interview with Miss Agnes Husband, J.P.

WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

COMMITTEE OF ENQUIRY INTO SEXUAL MORALITY.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN. [E. Knight.

ATALANTA, LTD. | A. Ashberry and D. W. Turner.

AN INTERNATIONAL AT HOME.

SHORTER HOURS IN FACTORIES.

THE ENGLISHWOMAN FOR OCTOBER.

OUR SCOTTISH WOMAN MAGISTRATE.

Interview with Miss Agnes Husband, J.P.

This week's interview with Miss Agnes Husband, J.P., forms the last of the series of interviews with Women's Freedom League Magistrates which we have recently secured for THE VOTE. Miss Agnes Husband was one of the original members of the League, and for many years was a member of its National Executive Committee. She also acted as honorary secretary of the Dundee Branch of the League for some considerable time before her numerous public duties claimed all her time.

"Why I am a J.P. or any of the other things behind it has one answer—it just happened!

"To begin at the beginning, I was the eldest of a large family, with father mostly at sea—a shipmaster, not overburdened financially—and a delicate mother. So that life's burdens fell naturally to my share; and the habit of being ready for each opportunity and making the best of it became easily acquired.

"My early education was very ordinary. The Universities had not yet been opened to women, and a girl who had to earn her living had no choice except needlework.

This, therefore, became my means of livelihood, and after our parents' death my sister and I joined together in a business of our own, which, from our own, not the accepted point of view, has been until now a quite

satisfactory venture. We also at this time became interested in the Woman's Movement, and determined to spend our lives in helping to restore woman to her rights.



"The Labour movement gave me my entrance into local politics; and also opened my eyes very wide to the importance of women's position legally and socially, so the Suffrage movement found me an ardent supporter. I chose the Women's Freedom League, sharing its hopes and fears, loving its consistency and breadth of vision, proud to be still a humble member. From time to time I have been the one woman on Parish Council School Boards, now Education Authorities, yet found no difficulty in pressing the need for equal representation of men and women, even when strongly emphasising the right of the women's point of view in what was presumably considered men's special business.

"Parish Councils and Education Authorities in Scotland meet each other more directly in regard to the children than in England,

and I have found being on both bodies a great advantage in furthering their interests. Fortunately our Poor House children have the same right of access to our elementary schools, and no slackness

of attendance is permitted if the children are out of hospital. After many attempts to get the children removed entirely from the Poor House, military exigencies during the first year of the war forced us to provide a Home for the little ones, and it has become in every sense as nearly a home as institutional life can be to a child. We do not have any class distinctions; and those who are old enough to attend school are sent just like other children. During the war we elaborated our dinner scheme. It is ostensibly for necessitous children, but any child whose parents can pay the small sum charged can get the advantage of a good meal, and no one knows who are necessitous or not. I am convenor of feeding as well as of domestic sewing. All my life a keen student of social conditions, every spare moment of the past 20 years has been given to definite social service. My latest venture is a "nursery school," so far only in the experimental stage, but we hope to make it a success, and will if the social stress before us does not accentuate our financial difficulties over much.

"I am constantly asked how I find time for the innumerable things that interest me, and can only answer that every thinking woman who takes the wide view finds service for humanity so fascinatingly full of interest that she cares not what energy she spends. All effort centres round just the next thing, and the best way to do it. Results do not matter so much as opportunity and endeavour, which bring their own reward, and the satisfaction of having done what one can. I feel as fresh an interest in the new duties as in any that have gone before, and trust to be able to fulfil them with that sense of justice borne of all former experience."

WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

The Children's Theatre.

The first public effort of the Children's Theatre takes place at King George's Hall (Y.M.C.A.), Tottenham Court Road, W., on Thursday. The children of the West Central group, drawn from the many nationalities represented in Soho, will dance, and will present a play from Hans Andersen, adapted by Mr. Harold Scott (of the Everyman Theatre), who shares responsibility for the Children's Theatre with Miss Elsa Lanchester. Miss Lanchester will appear in solo dances, Mr. John Goss will contribute a group of songs, and Mr. Arthur Alexander, pianist, will play. The proceeds are to be devoted to the Save the Children Fund.

Housewives in Revolt.

Lancashire housewives are making a determined effort to defeat the attempt of local farmers to force up the prices of dairy produce during the coming winter. At Foulbridge, on the borders of Lancashire and Yorkshire, a boycott has been organised of the local farmers, who proposed to increase the price of milk from 8d. to 9d. per quart, and supplies are being obtained from other sources. In West Lancashire markets farmers asked 5s. a lb. last week for fresh butter, but no business resulted until prices had fallen to 4s. 3d. a lb. Eggs, however, fetched 6s. a dozen.

Book-Shops on Wheels.

In England we have had trade exhibitions touring the country in railway carriages, but the latest idea comes from America, where two Boston ladies have started a caravan book-shop to promote the work of the Women's Educational Union. The "caravan" is really an enormous motor-van, fitted up like a library, with shelf accommodation for over 1,000 books, and the laudable intention of the caravanners is to bring enlightenment to the remote dwellers of the wilder Middle West.

Women Want Votes.

The campaign for woman suffrage has opened in Paris in earnest, and the first shot fired is in the form of small posters in every subway car and omnibus with the following legend printed on them: The Women Must Vote."

An Important Departure.

The Lords Commissioners of the Treasury have instituted in the Treasury a post of Director of Women's Establishments, and have appointed to it the Honourable Maude Agnes Lawrence, formerly Chief Woman Inspector to the Board of Education. Miss Lawrence is the daughter of Lord Lawrence, of India fame, and her new field of action will cover all departments of the Government in which women are employed. These include the Home Office, with its important staff of women factory inspectors; the National Insurance Commission, where Miss Mona Wilson is one of the Commissioners; the Ministry of Labour, where Miss F. H. Durham is Director of the Women's Branch; the Board of Education, with its women inspectors; the Ministry of Health, in which Dr. Janet Campbell holds high office; and the General Post Office, where Miss Buchanan directs the large staff of women engaged in the work of the Savings Bank.

Women House Builders.

Women, as well as men, are working enthusiastically together in the building of pisé-de-terre cottages near Haslemere. Some half dozen men are being employed under Captain Phillips, a pisé enthusiast of the Ex-Service Building Company, and two girls, Miss Clarke and Miss Brown, post-girl and ex-aircraft worker respectively, who are engaged in ramming the earth which forms the walls of the cottages. The cottages contain a large living room, kitchen, and two bedrooms, and are built largely from the earth excavated from their foundations, the loamy soil of the district being particularly suitable to pisé construction. Mrs. Oliver Strachey, who is contemplating the formation of a company for pisé building, is the initiator of the new enterprise.

Medical Women.

Ninety-five new students have entered the London School of Medicine for Women this term, making a total of four hundred and fifty women studying medicine at the school. Miss Maude Royden, Dr. Garrett Anderson, both of whom made speeches, Lady Barrett, M.D., Dr. Webb, and the Dean, Miss Aldrich-Blake, were some of those present at the term's opening ceremony. At present men medical students have a larger number of schools open to them than women, for the Middlesex, St. Bartholomew's, Guy's, and St. Thomas's Hospitals have steadily refused to receive women students. These, however, are admitted at the London School of Medicine for Women, University College Hospital, King's College Hospital, the London, Charing Cross, Westminster, and St. Mary's Hospitals. So many are the applications received by the London University that the authorities are considering how to divide the vacancies between men and women. Indian women, too, are now taking up medicine seriously, and coming to England to study, so that the field open to women doctors overseas may become more limited in the future.

Women Footballers.

Final arrangements are announced for the return tour of the Dick Kerr's women footballers in France. Four matches will be played, one in Paris on Sunday, October 31st, one in Roubaix next day, one in Havre the following Saturday, and one in Rouen the day after. The women footballers are due in the French capital on October 29th, and the next day will be spent in looking around. Sunday's opening game will be played in the Pershing Stadium. The arrangements include a visit to the battlefields at Ypres, Mount Kemmel, and Armentières, and sight-seeing in Paris and Versailles. Mlle. Milliat, President of the French Federation of Women's Sports Societies, who had charge of the French women during their tour in England, has written to Mr. Franklin, the secretary of Dick Kerr's team, saying that their welcome here was so unexpected that they were very much moved.

The COMMITTEE OF ENQUIRY INTO SEXUAL MORALITY.

A Constructive Policy.

Our readers will remember the strenuous time which the Women's Freedom League, in co-operation with a large number of other women's societies, went through in 1917 and 1918 in preventing the passage of the Criminal Law Amendment Bills of those years, in fighting the maisons tolérées, and, finally, in securing the withdrawal of Regulation 40D. D.O.R.A. Most of this had to be destructive criticism to prevent the passage of legislation which would aggravate existing social evils. To try to improve these conditions was what we were all anxious to do, and in June, 1918, at a meeting of representative women's societies called together by the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, it was unanimously decided to institute a committee of enquiry consisting of both men and women appointed by the societies who had been working together in opposing new penal sex legislation, to hear expert evidence and consider the whole question of legislation and remedies for prostitution and venereal disease in accordance with scientific knowledge and fundamental morality, hoping that so it might be possible to arrive at some definite constructive policy.

Accordingly this Committee was got together by the Association; it consisted of 15 women and 12 men, and represented 21 different organisations:—

Association for Moral and Social Hygiene (Mr. G. W. Johnson, C.M.G., Sir Chas. Tarring, J.P., chairman, and Dr. Helen Wilson, J.P.).
Catholic Social Guild (Dr. Ingleby).
Catholic Women's Suffrage Society (Miss Lenn).
Church League for Women's Suffrage (Rev. W. C. Roberts).
Conservative Women's Reform Association (Mrs. Currie).
Criminal Law Amendment Committee (Mrs. Bigland).
Fabian Women's Group (Mrs. Ayrton Gould).
Free Church League (Dr. Boothroyd, J.P.).
Friends' Social Purity Association (Mr. Maurice Gregory).
Medical Women's Federation (Dr. Jane Walker, vice-chairman).
National British Women's Temperance Association (Mrs. Campbell).
National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship (Miss Chrystal Macmillan).
Salvation Army (Commissioner Cox).
Society of Friends (Mr. J. R. Gillett).
United Free Church of Scotland (Rev. R. J. Drummond).
Wesleyan Methodist Church Social Welfare Committee (Mr. R. W. Allen).
Women's Freedom League (Dr. Knight).
Women's Industrial Council (Mrs. How).
Women's International League (Mrs. Swanwick).
Women's Liberal Federation (Lady Handley Spicer).
Young Women's Christian Association (Mrs. Smithett).

Co-opted members were Rt. Rev. Monsignor Provost Brown, Miss Picton Turbervill, O.B.E. (Hon. Treasurer), Mr. Joseph Bliss, and Mr. Hanbury Aggs.

The Committee held its first meeting in October, 1918, and met, usually once a fortnight, till June, 1920.

A great mass of evidence was taken, from Metropolitan magistrates, from medical men and women specially concerned with venereal diseases, from officials of the Women Police, and from women and men social workers, the witnesses being closely questioned upon their evidence by the members of the Committee.

The report, signed by all the members, of this prolonged investigation has just been issued. During the proceedings it became clear to the Committee that in such intimate, sensitive and individual relations penal measures could never suppress vice to any appreciable extent, but that, on the contrary, they increase immorality by taking away hope and the opportunity of

recovery. Governments can do much indirectly by improving general conditions and providing means of recovery, and individual and associated sympathy and work can do more.

Legislation.

Immorality should only be a penal offence when it involves the young and immature or the undeveloped, when it is fraudulent, when it offends against decency. All measures should apply equally to men and to women. Those who pay and profit by the work of procurers ought to be treated as accomplices with them, no compulsory examination should be imposed upon any woman, and no special measures used against prostitutes as such.

The Age of Consent.

Some witnesses recommended 21 as the age of consent, and others 18. The Committee decided to ask that the age should be raised to 17, should apply to both girls and boys, that the proviso as to reasonable cause to believe that the young person was over the age should be repealed, and that the limit of time for initiating prosecutions should be extended from six months to twelve. The Women's Freedom League has always been determined to accept no lower age than 18, and the League's representative was obliged to part company with most of the Committee upon this one very important point, as did also the National British Women's Temperance Association, the Women's Liberal Federation, and the Friends' Social Purity Association.

Boy and Girl Offenders.

Young people should be better protected, by extending the provisions of the Children Act to the age of 17. Children should only be sent to Industrial or Reformatory Schools failing all reasonable hope from other treatment, and all such schools should be controlled by the State, not under the Home Office but under the Education Office, and should be called Special Schools, and as a rule six months should be the limit of compulsory detention, the Court to review the case at the end of this interval if a longer period of detention has been given.

Prostitutes.

All legislation against prostitutes as a class should be repealed. Whatever her character, every woman should have equal protection against fraudulent assault, and a prostitute should have the opportunity of regaining her position in society equally with a fallen man. In cases of public indecency, both the man and the woman should be arrested and charged together.

Solicitation.

The Committee do not believe that the laws of solicitation have had or can have any effect in reducing prostitution. Prostitution is not a criminal offence, and solicitation should not be an offence.

There should be a penalty for "molestation," and the person annoyed should make the complaint and appear in Court to support it. It should apply equally to both sexes.

The police should maintain general order in the streets by moving people on. They are not qualified, and should not be expected, to judge the moral character and motives of persons in the streets, and should only be allowed to interfere in cases of actual disorder or indecency. The custom of certain magistrates of remanding to prison for total periods of several weeks women charged with solicitation and other offences is a cruel injustice, especially if it is done for the express purpose of medical examination for venereal disease, which in these cases may practically amount to a forcible examination. Voluntary remand homes are recommended.

In proceeding against brothels, those who make a profit out of the prostitution of others, the landlords, occupiers or agents should be penalised, but not the women or men found on the premises. The Committee consider that procuration of a girl or woman of any age or character should be an offence.

(To be concluded next week.)

THE VOTE.

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

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8th, 1920.

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.

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

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.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE.

At Home and Abroad ... Post free, 6/6 per annum.
Postage on 3 copies the same as for 1).

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

The Women's Freedom League will be represented by Mrs. Tanner at the Annual Meeting and Conference of the National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland, to be held next week at Bristol. The Conference agenda, which will occupy two days of the delegates' time, is a very comprehensive one, and there are resolutions demanding equal franchise for men and women, equal rights of guardianship and custody of children for mothers and fathers, the equal responsibility of both parents for the welfare of their illegitimate children, and pensions for widows. There are resolutions protesting against unequal conditions for men and women as regards entrance, promotion and pay in the Civil Service, and demanding equal opportunities as regards pay, status and promotion. A protest will be raised against the taxation of the joint incomes of husbands and wives. There is a resolution dealing with Criminal Assaults on Children, urging that it should be possible for the unsworn and uncorroborated evidence of very young children to be accepted at the discretion of the magistrate, in order to obtain convictions in cases of criminal or indecent assault; another resolution aims at suppressing all known brothels within the British Empire, abolishing tolerated brothels in Crown Colonies, and putting them out of bounds for British troops wherever they are stationed. The Women's Freedom League resolution asks that the National Council shall devote a considerable part of its energies to securing the election of women to Parliament, arguing that this is the best means of obtaining the reforms which women generally desire.

Another resolution calls upon the Government to establish a system of Proportional Representation for parliamentary and municipal elections, so that Parliament and the Local Authorities may be truly representative of the people.

The Council will also deal with the hardships inflicted on emigrants by a varying medical standard in the country which they leave and the country to which they emigrate; with the financial position of hospitals; and with the representation of women in the League of Nations, urging that all States-members of the League shall send a woman as one of their three delegates to the first assembly of the League in November; that suitable women, as well as men, shall assist the delegates in the advisory and consultative capacities designated under the League, and in the case of the International Health Organisation to be established under the League the States-members shall appoint at least two delegates, one of whom shall be a woman.

We offer our congratulations to the National Council of Women for the programme it has arranged, which is a credit to the women's organisations taking part in it, and clearly shows the deep interest which British women take in national and international affairs.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

In view of the forthcoming municipal elections in November, readers of THE VOTE are urged to do all they possibly can to arouse the interest of women electors in the work of their local Town and Borough Councils. It is deplorable that the percentage of men and women voters is usually so small at these elections, and that there are still so many Councils without a woman member. What is wanted in every locality is an energetic band of men and women who take a pride in their civic responsibilities, and determine that the laws which have to be administered in their district shall be administered to the best possible advantage of every member of the community. There should be women members of every Council, and of every committee appointed by the Council. The Councils are the local Education Authorities and have duties in regard to the Medical Inspection and Feeding of School Children, as well as to the employment of children. They are also the sanitary authorities, and are responsible for the health of the district. The Councils have wide powers in respect to Housing and Town Planning, and can do much to secure a pure food supply. The public baths and wash-houses come under the jurisdiction of these Councils, as well as the public libraries, and they have the power to inspect and control cinematograph shows. The Maternity and Child Welfare Committees are appointed by the Councils. The local authority carries out the Old-Age Pensions and War Pensions Act, and can provide public parks, recreation grounds, as well as allotments. It cannot be denied that all these matters should have the close attention of capable women as well as men councillors. In the matter of finance, too, women would be specially valuable in avoiding extravagant expenditure; but they would certainly not seek to economise by insisting upon unequal salaries for men and women officials whose work was equal in value. There is a very pressing need for women councillors, and we hope that a great number of public-spirited women will offer themselves as candidates at the November Municipal Elections. We hope, too, that they will receive generous support from all men and women who realise the importance of having women on all local governing bodies.

OUR PETITION.

As the date draws nearer for the re-assembling of Parliament, rumours of a General Election in the near future become more frequent, and they receive more emphasis from the promises of strenuous propaganda throughout the country to be undertaken by the various political parties during the autumn and winter months. It becomes all the more urgent, therefore, that women should secure equal voting rights with men at the earliest possible date, so that they will be able to vote on equal terms with them when that Election takes place. Delay in this matter is extremely dangerous for women, and politicians must be made to understand that women of over twenty-one and under thirty years of age desire the parliamentary vote, and resent, just as older women resented in the past, being classed with criminals, lunatics, paupers and children for the purpose of disfranchisement. Young women realise that their continual deprivation of any political power is a serious handicap. Unemployment stares many of them in the face during this coming winter, and there is a prospect of a disastrous fall in women's wages in most branches of industry. They are not yet established in the professions more newly opened to women, and are far from being able to secure any of the plums in those professions. Until women have more political power they will have little chance of qualifying for the higher posts in the Civil Service and public offices. Equal voting rights with men is of primary importance to women in their struggle for equality, and we urge our readers to do everything in their power to make our Petition for votes for women on equal terms with men as widely known as possible, and to persuade young women of over twenty-one years of age and under thirty to send to us for a Petition Form, or to come to this office to sign it.

ATALANTA, LTD.!

Women Engineers' New Enterprise.

The idea of women starting an engineering workshop for women seems to have burst upon the world at large as something very remarkable indeed; yet it seemed to us, at all events, the only logical outcome of what had become a perfectly absurd position. Here were we, numbers of us who had given three, four, or five of the best years of our lives to the accomplishment of a certain type of work, and then just as we were beginning to see daylight through what at first seemed a mass of intricate details, along comes a Bill which most effectually puts a stop to further progress.

Now when folk have become acclimatised to the idea that a girl of energy and ability who is really keen about the work she is doing, whether this be cooking or engineering, is apt to develop along exactly the same lines as a boy does; *i.e.*, that she will expect to be continually advancing, both in knowledge and the position which the growth of accurate knowledge usually obtains, they will perhaps not be so excessively astonished to find girls launching out for themselves exactly as young men would do if similarly circumstanced.

Although we realise that we are not engineers in the true sense of the word, we consider that there are enough of us with sufficient experience to start a small factory. We selected Loughborough, knowing that the Instructional College would give us facilities for continuing our technical training, in conjunction with our practical work.

Having approached the Management of the Instructional College and consulted them about the scheme, we were extremely pleased to find that they were most sympathetic and keen, and we very gladly accepted their generous offer of assistance.

So that all the girls concerned in the scheme should have a practical interest in its progress, we decided to form a company and issue £1 shares.

The first meeting was held at the offices of the Women's Engineering Society in Dover Street, London, W., when Lady Parsons, who is President, and Miss Haslett the Secretary, gave us the benefit of their support and encouragement. At this meeting the following were elected as Directors of the company: The Hon. Lady Parsons (Chairman), the Hon. Lady Shelley-Rolls, Miss C. Haslett, Miss D. W. Turner, Miss A. Ashberry, H. Schofield, M.B.E., B.Sc., A.R.C.Sc., A.M.I.C.E., J. F. Driver, M.I.E.E., A.M.I.Mech.E., W. C. Johnson, A.R.C.Sc., A.M.I.C.E.

We hope to run this factory on the most up-to-date lines, to pay decent wages, and to keep within the trade union hours. To start with we shall only employ girls who are interested in engineering as a profession, and as far as possible we want all employees to be shareholders. We also intend to run a regular apprenticeship course.

This then is the *raison d'être* of Atalanta, Ltd. To advance ourselves primarily, both mentally and materially, to give us an outlet for our own energy, and also when we are established firmly to give other girls, like-minded with ourselves, a better chance than we have had, and we hope, indeed, a better one than many boys have been given in engineering shops under the old laws.

A. ASHBERRY,
D. W. TURNER.

AN INTERNATIONAL AT HOME.

On Tuesday afternoon the President and Executive Committee of the National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland gave a reception at the Lyceum Club, London, to international delegates visiting this country at the close of the recent quinquennial Conference in Christiania. Over a hundred delegates from our Overseas Dominions, and some three hundred American delegates were present, besides a large sprinkling of members of British women's organisations, including the Women's Local Government Society, the Y.W.C.A., etc. Between the intervals of a delightful musical programme contributed to by the Misses Hilda and Mary Pitcairn, Miss Dorothy Huxtable, and Mr. Norman Ingall, some admirable speeches were delivered by the Acting Presidents of the United States, Canada, South Africa, and a delegate from Australia. Each one referred with pride and affection to the recent Conference in Norway, and to the sympathy and goodwill with which the women of 28 countries had conferred with one another on many momentous topics which concerned the welfare of humanity all the world over. One and all reiterated the Council's "golden rule," that without mutual love between the peoples of all nations, neither peace nor progress could ever be achieved. The delegate from Ukraine, a picturesque personality in scarlet and black, aroused envy in the hearts of her hearers by announcing the fact that in the province of the Ukraine there was no "woman's question" for the simple reason that both sexes shared the same rights and privileges in common. Infant welfare, however, needed much greater development, as also did training in citizenship of the peasant women. Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, the Indian poetess-politician, reminded her hearers that humanity was indivisible, and that what affected the well-being of the woman affected in equal measure the well-being of the man also. She concluded her picturesque little address with a cheery note of encouragement to her audience, whom she characterised as "prophets of the future" and "makers of a new world."

BOOK THESE DATES!

Votes for Women under 30.

Tuesday, October 19th.

Arrangements for this meeting, particulars of which are recorded in Forthcoming Events, are well in hand. An attractive list of speakers has been secured, including Mrs. Oliver Strachey, Miss Haslett, Miss Dorothy Evans, M.A., Miss Richardson, Miss Weston, and others. The chair will be taken by Mrs. Despard. Other Societies co-operating are the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, Association of Women Clerks and Secretaries; Women's Engineering Society, Federation of Women Civil Servants, Women's International League, National Union of Women Teachers, National Federation of Women Workers, Catholic Women's Suffrage Society.

Equal Pay for Equal Work.

Saturday, November 6th.

Procession to and Mass Meeting in Trafalgar Square of women's organisations, in co-operation with the National Union of Women Teachers, to demand Equal Pay for Equal Work for men and women alike.

The proposed route is as follows. The women will form up at the Northumberland Avenue end of the Embankment at 2 p.m., starting at 2.30. They will march via Bridge Street, Whitehall, Pall Mall, St. James's Street, Piccadilly, Leicester Square, Charing Cross Road to Trafalgar Square, arriving at 3.45 p.m., when a Mass Meeting will take place, with five-minute speeches by men and women speakers from the different societies supporting the meeting.

SHORTER HOURS IN FACTORIES.

Effect upon Leisure and Health.

"The reports received from inspectors show that the shortening of the working hours has had a beneficial effect on the operatives, perhaps more so than any other recent improvement in industrial conditions," states the now published annual report of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Workshops for 1919.

"The old system of long, monotonous toil is rapidly giving way to a new system of reasonable hours, so that soon it may be hoped that the overworked man or woman in the industrial world will rarely be found."

Perhaps the classes of workers upon whom shorter hours will have the most beneficial effect, proceeds the report, will be the growing girl or boy, and the worker possessing some vision and aspiration towards a fuller life.

Better timekeeping had resulted from the discontinuing of work before breakfast, and there were less frequent absences owing to sickness. Less fatigue and overstrain is found in factories, and one inspector reports that, although more men are employed in engineering and allied trades, the accident list has not increased, and it is claimed that fatigue is non-existent.

Fewer Absentees.

In one large factory where some years ago the average number of absentees was 40 daily, since the adoption of the 44-hour week the average had dropped to ten daily.

What are the workers doing with their new leisure? The evidence here is cheering. Workers everywhere are enjoying their allotments and gardens. Social clubs report bigger attendances at technical and educational classes and that the members come keener and fresher than in the old days. Successful work schools are now carried on in many factories, and many firms encourage games and recreations of all kinds. But the Chief Inspector adds that far more needs to be done in this way for workers, especially for working girls.

The conclusions on the effect of shorter hours on output are interesting. Where production depends on the speed of machinery—as in cotton and wool spinning—the output is said to have gone down almost exactly in proportion to the reduction in hours. But in machine work calling for constant alertness in the operator (as in weaving) the output has not suffered so much—sometimes not at all. Thirdly, where the output depends entirely or nearly so on the exertion of the worker production has often not gone down at all, and a wholesale tailoring factory is quoted where there has been an increase of 40 per cent, and a boot factory, also, where, although the hours were reduced from 52 to 48 a week, output has gone up. There are also, unfortunately, cases reported of shorter hours meaning reduced production by the hour.

Cheery Surroundings.

A point to which more consideration might be given is the effect of brighter decoration in factories and workshops. The plain, white-washed wall, relieved sometimes by a dado of black or other sombre colour, at best give a dreary result. A well-chosen colour scheme would do much to improve the general appearance of the works, and might be made to provide more restful conditions, without undue interference with the light. It is gratifying to find that some employers, at all events, have begun to give attention to this side of factory life.

In certain textile factories in Scotland the rooms were made more cheerful by painting the ironwork in bright colours. The impression was one of cheerfulness, and with it came the reflection how much a little touch of bright colour introduced in this way would do to enliven the gloomy interior of many of the older mills.

Dealing with safety and sanitation, the report states that the standards, which declined during the war owing mainly to press of work, shortage of staffs, and difficulties in obtaining materials and labour to effect repairs or renewals, took a great step forward in 1919.

BOOK REVIEW.

The State and Sexual Morality. Report of the Committee of Enquiry into Sexual Morality, drawn up by Mr. G. W. Johnson, C.M.G. (Allen & Unwin.) 1s. 6d. (To be obtained from the Literature Department.)

All our members should send for this very important little book containing the results of prolonged study of social conditions with a classification of the various laws dealing with children and sexual offences. Invaluable for reference to social students and workers, and helpful to all who are interested in the national well-being. For further particulars see page 219.

The ENGLISHWOMAN FOR OCTOBER

Dr. S. E. White, in her article, "Lunacy Law. I. The Voluntary Boarder," comments upon the serial, "Confined as a Lunatic," which appeared in the June, July and August numbers of the *English Review*, and the introduction of Clause 10, in the Health Ministry (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, already referred to in the *Englishwoman* for September. She quotes the case of an Oxford University woman's three months' illegal detention as a "voluntary" (?) boarder in a mental hospital in 1917, and her ceaseless efforts ever since to have the illegality of her detention inquired into. Mr. Holford Knight, writing upon "Women Magistrates," believes that the creation of women J.P.s not only portends the admission of women to a position of dignity in the administration of justice, but represents a development in social organisation which will have an increasingly important effect upon the life of the people. Mr. Holford Knight strongly recommends women magistrates to study Stone's Justices' Manual as an admirable guide to the work of the Bench. Miss Rogers deals very ably and interestingly with "The Present Position of Women at Oxford and Cambridge." She traces the progress of organised education of women in Oxford from October, 1879, when the total number of students was 46, down to the present year, when it is now between 500 and 600. In 1884 some of the Honour Examinations of the University were opened to women, and in the course of the next ten years all the examinations qualifying for Degrees in Arts and in Music were also opened. In admitting women to the present extended privileges, however, Miss Rogers points out that the University of Oxford has not put them in exactly the same position as men. Miss Rogers also draws attention to the curious anomaly that the University of Cambridge, now hesitating with regard to the women, in the past took the lead over Oxford in their education, and their admission to degree examinations. The fallacy of the proposal for a Women's University at Cambridge is clearly shown by the writer. In the section, "Echoes," a new housing venture for women workers is described under the title of "The Women's Pioneer Housing Trust."

OUR NEW PAMPHLETS.

Women and Income Tax. By Mrs. Ayres Purdie (Certified Accountant). 3d.
The only Pamphlet published on this subject.

Women's Right to Work. By L. Lind-af-Hageby. 3d.
Showing the attitude of the Government and of Ministers to Women's Work in the Labour Market during and immediately after the War.

Elsie Maud Inglis. By Dr. Aimée Gibbs. 4d.
"There should be an enormous demand for the charming little 'cameo life sketch' of the late Dr. Elsie Inglis, written by Dr. Aimée Gibbs, and published at the modest price of fourpence by the Women's Freedom League. Dr. Inglis' magnificent war service should be held in everlasting remembrance by all British women. Her singularly loving and inspiring personality will ever be remembered by those who had the privilege of her friendship."
National News.

Is Woman the Race? By Mrs. D. B. Montefiore, 6d.
The Theory of Professor Lester Ward.

Women's Freedom League.

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

Telegrams—"DESPARD, MUSEUM 1429 LONDON."
Telephone—MUSEUM 1429.

Colours—GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD.

Hon. Treasurer—Dr. E. KNIGHT.

Hon. Organising Secretary—Mrs. SCHOFIELD COATES.

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

Literature Department—

Hon. Heads: Miss H. NORMANTON, B.A. (Literary);

Mrs. PIEROTTI (Business).

General Secretary—Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS, W.F.L.

LONDON AND SUBURBS.

Friday, October 8.—3 to 5, and 6 to 8 p.m. New Members' Tea Party. Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.
Monday, October 11.—144, High Holborn. "Fair" Committee. 6.15 p.m.
Wednesday, October 13.—Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1. 3 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. Shaw McLaren (sister of Dr. Elsie Inglis). Subject: "What Place, if any, has the Father in the Home?" Chairman: Dr. Patch.

DARE TO
BE FREE

Tuesday, October 19.—Public Meeting, Caxton Hall, Westminster. 8 p.m. "Votes for Women under 30."
Speakers: Mrs. Oliver Strachey, Miss Haslett, Miss Dorothy Evans, M.A., Miss Richardson, Miss Weston. Chair: Mrs. Despard. Admission free. Reserved Seats 1s.
Wednesday, October 20.—Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1. 3 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. M. W. Nevinson, L.L.A., J.P. Subject: "The League of Nations." Chairman: Miss F. A. Underwood.

Wednesday, October 27.—Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1. 3 p.m. Miss Lind-af-Hageby. Subject: "Should Women Citizens Pursue Special Politics?"
Saturday, October 30.—144, High Holborn, W.C. 1. National Executive Committee. 10 a.m.

Wednesday, November 3.—Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 3 p.m. Speaker: Councillor Margaret Hodge. Subject: "Popular Fallacies."
Saturday, November 6.—Clapham Jumble Sale, at Morris Hall, Clapham.

Saturday, November 6.—Procession to and Mass Meeting in Trafalgar Square of Women's Organisations to demand Equal Pay for Equal Work.

Friday, November 26, and Saturday, November 27.—Green, White and Gold Fair, Caxton Hall, Westminster.

SCOTLAND.

Friday, October 15.—Edinburgh. Public Meeting in Usher Hall, organised by Women's Organisations, on "Child Outrage," to protest against the inadequacy of the sentences on offenders, and to demand a revision of the law on the subject. Speakers: Commissioner Cox, of Salvation Army; Lady Rhondda, William Graham, Esq., M.P., J. M. Hogge, Esq., M.P., and others. Chairman: Councillor Mrs. Millar. Admission free.

WALES.

Saturday, October 16.—Newtown, Montgomery Boroughs. Gigantic Jumble Sale. Proceeds towards Branch and Headquarters Fund. Congregational Schoolroom. 2 p.m.

PROVINCES.

Monday, October 11.—Westcliff-on-Sea. At Purcell House School of Music, London Road. 7.30 p.m. Speaker: Miss F. A. Underwood, on "Women on Municipal Councils." Chairman: Mrs. Elvin.

Wednesday, October 13.—East Hull. Public Meeting, Ladies' Room, 17, Holderness Road. 3 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. Schofield Coates.

Monday, October 25.—Westcliff-on-Sea. Purcell House School of Music, London Road. Speaker: Mrs. Cattell, on "Citizenship and its Responsibilities." Chairman: Mrs. Newberry.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Wednesday, October 13.—Central London Parliament will meet at Holy Trinity Hall, Kingsway, W.C. (adjoining Holborn Restaurant) at 7.30 p.m., and every Wednesday.

Monday, November 1.—Bethnal Green Women Citizens' Association, 33, Blythe Street, E. Speaker: Miss Kirby. Subject: "Equal Pay for Equal Work." 8 p.m.

Monday, November 22.—Penge Congregational Church Women's Meeting. Speaker: Miss Underwood. Subject: "The Need for Women Members of Parliament."

NEXT WEDNESDAY'S MEETING.

Subject: "What Place, if any, has the Father in the Home?"
Press Comments:

"Most of the ones I know pick the corner seat by the fire."
(Glasgow Daily Record and Daily Mail.)

"At all events not in the public house in some parts of Scotland."
(Observer.)

"I like those words 'if any.'" (Daily News.)

Come next Wednesday and offer your solution too!

BRANCH NOTES.

BEXHILL.

A Business Meeting was held at 19, Marine Mansions last week. Members will be pleased to know that Councillor Meads was elected as President. Mrs. Williams kindly consented to act as Treasurer. The secretarial duties will be undertaken by Miss Maud White. Mrs. Hart and Mrs. Jansen have undertaken to help with the sale of THE VOTE every week. The first Autumn Public Meeting will be held at the National Kitchen, St. Leonards Road, on Wednesday, October 20th, at 3.30 p.m. Tea will be served at 4.30. Councillor Edith How-Martyn will be the speaker, and the chair will be taken by Councillor Christine Meads.

HASTINGS.

A Meeting to demand votes for women under 30 will be held on Wednesday, October 20th, at 6.30 p.m. The speaker will be Councillor Edith How-Martyn. Further details later.

Organising Secretary—Miss M. L. WHITE,
8, Holmesdale Gardens, Hastings.

THE "PERFECT BENCH."

In welcoming Mrs. Margaret Wynne Nevinson, one of the recently appointed women Justices of the Peace for the County of London, who took her seat on the Hampstead Bench of Magistrates for the first time last week, the Chairman said that within a fortnight they would also have Lady Byles with them, and then he felt sure they would be a perfect Bench, as he was convinced that both ladies would be of great assistance in the administration of the law.

Mrs. Nevinson will sit on the first and third Wednesday in each month, and Lady Byles on the second and fourth Wednesday.

WOMEN IN THE CHURCH.

Lecture at Ashford.

An interesting evening was arranged on Tuesday at Hampstead Street Rooms for the monthly meeting of the Women's Freedom League. Miss Avery, lecturing on "Women and the Church," asked should women be admitted to the full status of the Church as preachers and ministers? Ninety per cent. of the objectors brought forward the precedent of St. Paul. They said that tradition should not be violated. Did the law made in the past century apply to-day? The law concerned Corinth because the city was in a low state of morality. In the 20th century, when everything was so different, there was no reason why it should hold good. Another objection was that Jesus Christ made no provision for women in His ministry. Because this was so, people said that women had no right to be admitted. But at the Lambeth Conference of Bishops it was admitted that women were present when the Pentecostal power came. There was no reason why we should believe that Christ excluded women. Women had been kept in the background for centuries. There were two views—one which valued tradition, one which flung away tradition. It was well to keep between these extremes. Was the innate feeling which excluded women prompted by a fear of breaking with tradition? Among the saner views was that of expediency. Would it lower the moral tone of the Church if women administered the sacraments? The Bishops recognised that spiritually women were equal, but in this world men were in the priority. The Lambeth Report implied that more dangers would be brought into the world by the inclusion of women in the ministry. The teaching of the Church must be one-sided as long as only the masculine point of view was represented. It was no arrogance which prompted the women's claim, but an honest desire to advance Christianity. Would the Church stand on tradition, assuming that inspiration ended with the first century. If they did they would be guilty of denying the ever increasing inspiration which God had promised.

NOVEMBER 26 & NOVEMBER 27.

Make a note of these dates at once, and remember that
then we shall have

"All the Fun of the Fair."

There will be many new attractions at the Green, White and Gold Fair, as well as Palmistry, Music, Dancing, etc.

WE WANT YOUR SUGGESTIONS.

Send them along at once and do your bit to ensure success.

FRIDAY,
OCT. 8,
1920.

THE VOTE

ONE
PENNY
WEEKLY.

EDUCATIONAL.

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.

WANTED.—Costumes, coats, furs,
underwear, gentlemen's and
children's clothing, house furnishings.
Specially good prices given.—HELENE,
5, Hanover Road, Scarborough.

SIMPLE clean cosy quarters in sunny
Ramsgate. Bed-setting room, 18/-.
Good cooking.—The ROOK'S NEST, 12,
Meeting Street.

ATTRACTIVE PURCHASES.—Hats,
Jumpers, Blouse Lengths, Dainty
Afternoon and Evening Frocks, all at
moderate Prices.—PERRY & DAVIS, 36,
George Street, Baker Street, W.

The Minerva Pen. Unleakable. Gold Nib.

If you have been worried by pens that leaked and
blobbed and required to be carried upright, and
unscrewed to fill and joggled to start, the Minerva
Pen will be a revelation to you.
It may be carried full of ink upside down or any-
how, it cannot fail to write instantly on demand, and
it is filled in a flash without unscrewing any part.

Prices, 10/6 to £2 2s.

THE IDEAL PRESENT.

To be obtained from the Minerva Publishing Co.
144, High Holborn, W.C.

G.E.A.B. spells help in all
kinds of domestic,
social, travelling and other emergencies;
shopping, meeting people, accompanying
children, invalids, etc., on journeys,
sewing. Those coming to town can use
office as collecting place for parcels, etc.
Terms moderate. Call or send stamp,
Secretary, General Emergency Assistance
Bureau, 444, Strand, Charing Cross.

BBRITAIN AND INDIA MAGAZINE,
Edited by Mrs. Josephine Ransom.
A unique and popular Monthly Magazine
containing articles of real value to all who
realise the vital necessity of encouraging
the varied and mutual interest of Britain
and India. The Magazine has already an
international circulation. Annual subscrip-
tion 13/6 post free. Single copies 1/- or 1/1½
post free.—7, Southampton St., High
Holborn, W.C.1.

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES,
Kensington Town Hall, Sunday,
October 10th, 6.30, Miss Maude Royden,
"Some of the new Solutions of the
Moral Problem Discussed."

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.

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

COTSWOLD HILLS! Take your
HOLIDAYS at "Rosemary," the
Food Reform Guest House.—Apply to
BERTHA RYLAND, "Rosemary," White-
way, Stroud, Glos.

VEGETARIAN Guest House. Station
Under 2 miles; charming garden;
tennis; croquet; dairy; pony-trap. Two
guineas.—THE MANOR HOUSE, Noke,
Islip, Oxford.

VEGETARIAN Guests received—
weekly; week-ends; 17th Century
Farmhouse; orchard country; simple life
and comfort. Generous table; Diet cures
carried out; Unfired food specialised.
Moderate terms.—"VERITAS," Bogle,
Lynsted, Kent (Station: Teynham).

Costumes, Coats, Skirts,

to measure at
reasonable
prices.

COLLOA

11 LUDGATE HILL,
E.C.4.

(Entrance in Creed Lane).

Just facing the W.F.L. is the

CAMEO CORNER,

With its wonderful selection of Barbaric
Beads, lovely Pebbles, Engraved Gems, and
all sorts of things for the most refined Tastes.



Selections sent on approval to all parts
of the country. Please mention "THE VOTE."

GOOD'S CAMEO CORNER,

1, New Oxford Street, W.C.1.

Suffrage Health Food Stores,

231a, The Arcade, Linthorpe Road, Middlesbrough

BUY OUR GOODS & HELP THE MOVEMENT.

Send for New List. Carriage Paid on
orders over £2. Large Stock of
Vegetarian and other Health Foods.

THE HANDICRAFTS,

82 HIGH STREET, HAMPSTEAD, N.W. 3.

Handweavings, Leatherwork, Jewellery, Basket-
Work, Hand-made Lace, Pottery, etc.

COLOURED HAND-WOVEN COTTONS from 4/- per yard

PATTERNS OF MATERIALS SENT FREE ON APPLICATION.

POTTERY PACKED AND DISPATCHED.

ISLINGTON DENTAL SURGERY.

68 UPPER STREET, N.

Mr. CHODWICK BROWN, Surgeon Dentist,

M. Fredk. G. Boucher, Assistant Dental Surgeon
Established 35 Years.

Gas Administered Daily by Qualified Medical Man, Fee 7s. 6d.
Nurse in attendance. Mechanical Work in all its Branches.
Send Postcard for Pamphlet. N.B.—No Showcase at door.
CONSULTATIONS FREE. Telephone: 3795 North.

IF you Believe in Equal Rights and Oppor-
tunities and an Equal Moral Standard
for Women and Men,

Join the Women's Freedom League.

Fill in your name and address and send it, with subscrip-
tion (minimum 1s.) to the Secretary, Women's Freedom
League, 144, High Holborn, London, W.C. 1.

Name

Address