

HE VOTE,
JUNE 30, 1922.
ONE PENNY.

LUNACY VISITING COMMITTEES.

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

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FRIDAY, JUNE 30, 1922

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

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WHEN I AM M.P.

MRS. BURNETT SMITH, who is standing as Liberal Candidate for the Maryhill Division of Glasgow, is well-known as a popular novelist under the pseudonym of "Annie Swan," and has been writing and speaking ever since she was 20. She twice lectured in the United States during the war on Food Administration. She is a President of many Societies, and specially interested in all work concerning women and girls.

A candidate is a person who invites, or at least should not resent, criticism, or the challenge to show why he or she is a fit and proper person for the post desired. But it is difficult to formulate in a few sentences one's secret, hardly acknowledged, beliefs and aspirations.

If I am fortunate enough to be returned to Parliament I should try to bring to my new duties all the intelligence, sympathy, and sincerity at my command. I should, of course, be interested, specially, in all questions affecting the status, welfare, and future of my sex. But this only from the humanitarian point of view. The moment any hint of sex antagonism enters the arena, something vital and irrevocable will go out of the new era which promises so well. It is very fine to be assured by Mrs. Wintringham that so far the welcome accorded to the women members by their colleagues is comradely; and that not a shadow of difference is made between the sexes.

I believe that women will bring certain attributes to Parliamentary life, or perhaps it would be more correct to say that they will accentuate and solidify certain attributes already there. I shall

briefly enumerate these. They will bring, I think, a passion for justice. The old idea that women have not judicial minds is dying rather slowly. But all who have any intimate knowledge of the fine spirit inspiring organised womanhood at the present day are proud of it, and realise its power. Then they will undoubtedly bring the economical mind to bear on the Treasury, and all questions affecting the expenditure of public money. They will do this naturally, because of their training in domestic economy, either in their own homes, or the homes of other people.

Women as a class do not have much money, but are rather almoners or stewards of the family purse. They have to give an account of that, either in figures or in kind. I therefore believe that the house-keeper's ability and conscience will be valuable assets to the State, and help to apply the brake on extravagance.

Then they will be sound and unflinching on all the big moral issues. The policy which demands equal rights for men and women, and an equal moral standard, lies deeper than any mere desire for recognition or for power. It is based on



the conviction that therein lies the best hope for humanity, and the uplift of the new age.

They will be for peace, because, being creators and conservers of human life, they must combat everything that seeks to desecrate, lay waste, or destroy it. Women in the mass loathe war, and, if they properly understood it, would support the League of Nations, or any other Court of Appeal, which will settle the international differences which create war.

Finally, I believe that they will introduce a spiritual ideal into public life, and maintain it. Women in the mass are more Conservative than Liberal, simply because they have so long been custodians of the vested interests of life. They shrink from great changes, though they like variety. When they understand that Liberalism is a vital principle rather than a mere policy, they will flock to its standard, finding in it the highest individualism, which has for its ultimate goal the value and perfection of the whole.

These, so far as I am aware of them, are the tenets of my political creed.

ANNIE BURNETT SMITH.

FAMILY ENDOWMENT.

The third of the series of discussion meetings which have been held at the office of the Family Endowment Council, 62, Oxford Street, W.1, took place on Thursday, June 22nd, when Mrs. Barbara Drake spoke on National Schemes of Family Endowment. Mrs. Drake said she preferred a National Scheme to any other, because she thought it more democratic, and she proceeded to discuss the proposals embodied in the Interim Report on Motherhood and Child Endowment which had been before the National Conference of Labour Women at Leamington, and would be considered by the Labour Party. The object of a National Scheme was two-fold: to provide for mothers during the child-bearing period, and to provide for dependent children. With regard to the first, a beginning had been made by the Maternity Benefit which was given under the National Health Insurance Act, and the terms of the Washington Convention, if brought into force, would extend the period of help to six weeks before and after confinement. With regard to dependent children, provision might be made in kind or in money, and she wished to press the former in the first instance. She considered that there were certain basic needs which could be most efficiently provided by the State, such as education and medical treatment, and possibly, milk, bread, and school clothing.

A keen discussion followed, and varied opinions were given as to the practicability of such a scheme.

CO-OPERATIVE WOMEN IN CONFERENCE.

By S. WHETTON.

Portsmouth's beautiful Town Hall presented an animated scene when the delegates to the Annual Congress of the Women's Co-operative Guild assembled, with many invited friends, to receive the civic welcome of the Mayor and Mayoress, Alderman and Mrs. A. E. Porter, who were introduced by Mr. H. Roper, President of the local Co-operative Society. Mrs. Sketch, President of the Senior Guild, also extended a hearty welcome to the delegates.

There were 700 women, representing a membership of 50,000, and it was quite refreshing occasionally to hear the strong, broad, northern accent. "Eh," one delegate was heard to remark, "but I 'ed a reight good laff." And another: "Let me get oop to t' front; I've got to write t' report."

Business began in real earnest punctually at 10 o'clock on Tuesday morning, when Mrs. Dewsbury rose to deliver her Presidential address. After the appointment of tellers, deputations were received from the Scottish and Irish Guilds, and from the Guilds of Norway and Sweden. Among the resolutions dealt with on Tuesday were "Co-operative Women's International," "Co-operative Political Action," "Workers' Press," and "Unemployment and Co-operative Loyalty." A public meeting was held in the evening, one of the speakers being Mlle. Coulon, a Belgian lady.

Wednesday morning again saw the delegates wending their way to the Town Hall, to discuss the remaining resolutions on the Agenda, which included such questions as "Disarmament," "Education," "Separation and Maintenance Orders," "Equal Franchise," "National Debt and Capital Levy," "Housing," "Land," and "Old Age Pensions." An interesting function took place on Wednesday evening, when the Freedom of the Guild was conferred on Miss Llewellyn Davies, and Miss Lilian Harris, late National Secretary, and Assistant Secretary, respectively.

Thursday was given up to pleasure, when many of the delegates visited the Isle of Wight, while others patronised places of interest in the town. The fates were kind, for the weather was good, and there is no doubt the 700 women will carry away with them pleasant recollections of their short stay in Southsea and Portsmouth.

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NEXT TERM BEGINS ON OCTOBER 4TH.

S. T. SHOVELTON, M.A., Secretary.

IN PARLIAMENT.

Hong Kong (Treatment of Children).

LORD HENRY BENTINCK asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether the *mui tsai* system of Hong Kong was in existence in any other, and if so, which, Dependency or Dependencies of the Crown? Mr. CHURCHILL replied that he found that the *mui tsai* system was in existence in Malaya, among the Chinese immigrants and colonists, and the Governments of the Straits Settlements and of the Federated Malay States were being requested to send full reports on the conditions under which it prevailed. He was not aware of the prevalence of the system elsewhere in the Empire, but it probably existed to some extent wherever there was a considerable community of Chinese. If, on inquiry from the Governor, it was found that the incidents attaching to the institution and other local circumstances were the same as prevailed in Hong Kong, he proposed to follow a similar course to that which he adopted in that case.

Nurse's Pension.

MR. C. WHITE asked the Minister of Pensions if he would reconsider the case of Sister Kathleen W. Danby, Army Nursing Service, who joined up in 1915 for foreign service in the East, and was eventually invalided out of the Service with a pension of £45 a year; if he was aware that, though Sister Danby was still totally incapable of taking up any employment, her disability having become worse, this pension had been reduced to £20; and if he would order an early revision of the decision, with a view to the original pension being restored? Mr. MACPHERSON replied that the degree of disablement was originally assessed on demobilisation at 30 per cent.; but since April, 1921, the assessment had been at 20 per cent., representing the present pension at £30 (not £20) a year. Miss Danby appealed last month to a medical appeal board, which confirmed the assessment of the previous board, and he regretted, therefore, that there were no grounds for reviewing her award.

Mortuaries (Women).

MR. MYERS asked the Home Secretary what was the general practice in the case of women being found dead, and the body conveyed to the mortuary; whether the body was examined, and otherwise attended to, by men only, even in cases where female attendance was available; and, if so, would he take such steps as would ensure female services being utilised wherever possible? Mr. SHORTT replied that this was not a matter over which he had jurisdiction; but he understood that the general practice was for all bodies to be searched by the male mortuary keeper.

Police Courts (Probation Officers).

MR. ALFRED DAVIES asked the Home Secretary whether his attention had been drawn to a statement in the Report of the Departmental Committee on the training, appointment, and payment of probation officers, which showed that in 1919, twelve years after the passing of the Probation of Offenders Act, there were 215 courts of summary jurisdiction in England and Wales in which no steps had been taken to appoint a probation officer; whether there were still 215 courts in that position; and, if so, whether he proposed to take any steps regarding the appointment of these officers? Mr. SHORTT replied that the number of courts of summary jurisdiction in England and Wales with no probation officer in January, 1922, when the last returns were made, was 198. He was communicating with the courts in regard to that and other matters dealt with in the Committee's Report.

Juvenile Offenders.

DR. MURRAY asked the Secretary for Scotland the number of juveniles sentenced in Scotland to detention in a reformatory in the year 1921; and how many of these were first offenders? Mr. MUNRO replied that in Scotland, in the year 1921, 129 juveniles were ordered to be detained in reformatories. Of these, 42 were first offenders.

DR. MURRAY asked the Home Secretary the number of juveniles in England and Wales sentenced to detention in a reformatory in the year 1921, and how many of these were first offenders? Mr. SHORTT replied that the number of juveniles admitted on conviction to reformatories in England and Wales in 1921 was 687, i.e., 614 boys and 73 girls. He had no information showing how many of these were first offenders.

Juvenile (Training).

MR. MILLS asked the Minister of Labour how many boys or girls between the ages of 14 and 18 registered as unemployed were receiving any daily training in any trade or profession; and whether the Ministry of Labour was giving consideration to the problem of training the nation's workers, in view of the abnormal state of unemployment? SIR MONTAGUE BARLOW replied that there was no State scheme for training unemployed boys and girls as new entrants into particular trades, and he need not detail the difficulties and objections which would beset any such scheme, in view of the present state of unemployment in practically all trades.

Continuation Schools, London.

MR. GILBERT asked the President of the Board of Education whether the Government had decided to bring in a Bill to relieve the London County Council of maintaining continuation schools; whether such a Bill would be introduced in the present Session; and, if so, whether the Council would be given notice of such a Bill, so that they could make arrangements for the closing of the schools, providing for the teachers employed in the same, and disposing of all the buildings engaged for these schools in London? Mr. FISHER replied that a Bill would be introduced in the present Session, which would enable the Board to relieve the London County Council from the duty of carrying on continuation schools on the basis of obligatory attendance. He saw no reason why the Council should not make provisional arrangements, in anticipation of the passing of the measure. He understood the Council were not, in fact, enforcing attendance at these schools.

Scholarships (Girls).

MR. ALLEN PARKINSON asked the President of the Board of Education if it was the intention of his Department to grant State Scholarships to girls this year, seeing that the full number was not given last year; and, if so, how many did he propose to grant? Mr. FISHER replied that the answer to the first part of the question was in the negative; and the second part, therefore, did not arise.

Women Inspectors.

MR. GWYNNE asked the President of the Board of Education why the staff of Women Inspectors had been increased by nine since last year; and on what grounds their salaries had been increased from £25,911 to £29,965? Mr. HERBERT LEWIS replied that the increase in the number of Women Inspectors was due to the replacement of six vacant posts of Assistant Inspector (men) and three vacant posts of Junior Inspector (men) by nine posts of Women Inspector. The increase of cost from £25,911 to £29,773 was due partly to the increase in numbers, and partly, as regards Women Inspectors already on the Establishment, to normal annual increments. There was still a large number of vacancies in the Establishment of the Inspectorate. Mr. GWYNNE asked if it would not have been better to cut down the number of Inspectors and thus reduce the cost instead of adding to the Vote. Mr. LEWIS pointed out, on the contrary, that there was a large number of vacancies in the Establishment of the Inspectorate, and the increase in the number of Women Inspectors was due to their replacing men. The existing Inspectorate was a very hard worked body of men and women. Mr. GWYNNE further asked if the right hon. gentleman was aware that most schools were visited each year by nine or ten Inspectors, and that different Inspectors were sent down at the same time, but received no answer.

F.A.U.

THE VOTE.

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FRIDAY, JUNE 30th, 1922.

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To the Secretary—on all other business, including VOTE orders,
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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.

LUNACY VISITING COMMITTEES.

Last week, Sir Robert Newman moved the following Resolution in the House of Commons:—"That leave be given to bring in a Bill to enable local authorities to co-opt members of Visiting Committees, and to provide for the appointment of women as members of Visiting Committees." Sir Robert stated that the object of the Bill was to enable County Councils and other local authorities to co-opt a certain number of persons from outside their bodies to serve on Asylum Visiting Committees. He pointed out that, as the law stood at present, public bodies, such as County Councils, could co-opt certain outside persons to serve on education and other committees, and Guardians could co-opt a certain number of persons to serve on their boards; but this did not apply to lunatic asylums in the counties of the country. There were no fewer than 50 per cent. of the County Councils which had no women members, and in less than 50 per cent. no woman had been appointed on the Asylum Visiting Committees. When they considered that the majority of the unfortunate inmates of asylums were women, Sir Robert Newman said, he was sure the House would agree that it was regrettable that not a single woman should be serving on the Committees in so many cases. A great number of those unfortunate women had to be taken to asylums far away from their homes, and their relatives, through want of means, could visit them only rarely; and he ventured to think that many a man who had to put his wife or his daughter in one of these asylums would feel a considerable amount of relief if he thought that there were a few women on the Visiting Committee, instead of its being a committee consisting only of men. The resolution was agreed to, and the Bill was brought in by Sir Robert Newman, Mrs. Wintringham, Lt.-Col. Hurst, and Lt.-Col. Fremantle. We hope that all our friends in the House of Commons will support the Second Reading of this Bill, and bring pressure to bear upon the Government to give full facilities for its passage into law this Session. We think, however, it should be obligatory that every Asylums Visiting Committee should consist of an equal number of men and women. The Public are thoroughly uneasy about the administration in our Asylums, which is practically entirely in the hands of men, and the Minister of Health has only increased women's anxiety in the matter by his refusal to appoint any woman to his Departmental Committee, who were to investigate this administration. If a Royal Commission is appointed, we shall, of course, press that women shall serve on it in equal numbers with men, but in the meantime we should welcome legislation which would secure women as members of every Visiting Committee. For years the Women's Freedom League has urged that the women patients in our mental hospitals should be entirely in the charge of women, and that the Superintendent of every women's mental hospital, or the women's side of a mental hospital, should invariably be a woman; and we feel confident that, if women were on the Visiting Committees in all cases in equal numbers with men, this control of mental patients in our hospitals by women would soon be an accomplished fact.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

At three successive Conferences the Women's Freedom League has proclaimed its faith in the system of Proportional Representation. Its members are convinced that the House of Commons should be a true reflex of the opinions of every section of the community. They have had a long struggle to secure representation for themselves and their point of view in our Legislature, and they believe firmly that the well-being and progress of the country are enhanced by giving every opinion, no matter how unpopular, the chance of free expression on the floor of the House of Commons. Our members, therefore, will be interested in the speech of the Lord Chancellor, who, in the course of a discussion in the House of Lords, last week, on Proportional Representation, referred to the case of the Irish elections, which, he said, by mutual consent, had been taken according to the principle of proportional representation. It was perfectly true that, if that principle had not been adopted, the whole of the Republican Party in Ireland might at this moment have been completely swept out of the country. But that was no argument against the principle. It would have meant that there would have been in the country a body without representation in the constituencies, including many thousands of violent men possessing no conceivable means of making their influence felt. He did not know whether the party which had been so decisively defeated would acquiesce in their constitutional defeat, but he was sure that they were far more likely to treat the new Constitution as one which must be dealt with along the constitutional road, than if they felt they were denied any access to the Assembly which was the result of these elections. We, ourselves, believe that Proportional Representation should be applied to England as well as to Ireland, and we are certain that we should then have a greater number of women in the House of Commons than is at present possible, because so many electors of all parties would be quite willing to give their second preferences to a woman candidate, when they would not give her a first, because of their party predilections.

M.P.'s REFRESHMENTS.

It is a little difficult to have unlimited faith in the power of our legislators to govern the Empire, when we learn that they cannot even run their refreshment department without a loss, and without some of the members being disgruntled at the price and quality of the provisions. A special report for 1921, just issued by the Select Committee which controls the kitchen, shows an adverse balance of £399. This is accounted for by the decline in sales and profits on wines and cigars, higher cost of wages, and general trade depression! It is also stated that, during 1920, the total number of meals sold was 192,420, but last year the figure was 150,967, the decrease involving a reduction of receipts from £49,959 to £38,270. The most popular meal in the House during the year was tea, of which 74,000 were served. Surely some profit should have been made on these teas! Only last week a Member asked the Chairman of the Kitchen and Refreshment Committee if he could not now see his way to reduce the price of tea and bread and butter from the present charge of sevenpence to a more reasonable figure; and whether, seeing that the charge for a glass of barley water was sixpence, which represented a profit of 500 per cent., that charge could be reduced? This Member was, however, apparently not in the habit of drinking barley water, because he was informed that the charge for that beverage was twopence, not sixpence, a glass; and that the profits, far from being 500 per cent., rarely exceeded 30 per cent. As for tea and its accompaniments, the price was arranged on the basis established at the principal clubs. Another Member wanted to persuade the Chairman of the Kitchen Committee to discontinue for one week supplying British-fed and home-killed beef and mutton in the dining rooms of the House, and substitute the best qualities of frozen imported meat. We suppose it has never occurred to hon. Members to co-opt women on to their Kitchen Committee?

SEPARATION AND MAINTENANCE ORDERS BILL.

The need for alteration in the law dealing with Separation and Maintenance Orders is one that is long overdue, and for this reason women's organisations gave a very warm welcome to the Separation and Maintenance Orders Bill, promoted by the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, which passed its Second Reading in the House of Commons without a division on May 29th. The Bill will be coming up before Standing Committee A, in all probability next week, and, as is so often the case with Private Members' Bills, may, we fear, emerge from the Committee in a very much reduced form. It is therefore worth while to consider what are the vital points in the Bill, and what are the hardships of the present law.

It is not only unjust between men and women, but also as between rich and poor. A man or woman who is well off can obtain either a judicial separation in the Divorce Court for such causes as adultery, desertion, etc., or a separation by deed, drawn up by a solicitor; but those who cannot afford the cost of either of these forms of procedure, must, in order to obtain a Separation or Maintenance Order, apply to a Police Court. A man, however grossly his wife may neglect him, his children, and his home, can only obtain a Separation Order if she is an habitual drunkard. A woman can, on the other hand, obtain a Separation and Maintenance Order if her husband has either deserted her, failed to maintain her or her children, if he has treated her with persistent cruelty, or if he is an habitual drunkard.

Under the new Bill, husband and wife will be able to obtain a Separation Order on practically the same grounds, that is to say, the grounds on which a woman can now obtain a Separation Order, and, in addition, if the defendant has treated the children with cruelty, or is suffering from Venereal Disease in a communicable form.

A further vital change in the law has been effected as follows. At present a wife can only apply for a Separation Order on the grounds of cruelty, or failure to maintain, if she has first left her husband. Where, however, as in so many cases, she has no money, and no friends,

she cannot go away and take her children, and many a woman, whose circumstances are such that she should apply for a Separation Order, is now debarred from doing so. Under this Bill this condition is removed; moreover, a Maintenance Order may be granted whether the parties are living together or separately.

It is sometimes argued that the enforcement of a Maintenance Order when the husband and wife are living together is impossible and useless. It certainly might be in the case of the deliberately bad husband, but in the vast number of instances in which the failure to maintain is due more to lack of consideration, and to carelessness or weakness, the salutary effects of such a law will be incalculable. In any case, a wife will herself be able to decide whether her difficulties can be most easily relieved by leaving her husband, or by continuing to live with him.

Other provisions of the Bill have been included in order to improve the facilities for the enforcement of the payment of Orders. It is only too well known that under the present law Maintenance Orders are often ineffective, inasmuch as 50% are not paid. It is sometimes argued that it is undesirable to extend in any way the grounds on which a Separation Order may be given, from the point of view that if the marriage contract is to be terminated at all, it is better that the Divorce Law should be reformed. The promoters of this Bill, however, feel that the question of Divorce, and the question of Separation, should be considered each on its own merits. Not only does the present Divorce Law make no provision for relief on the grounds specified above, but even if it were reformed along these lines there would always be certain classes of the community who would not wish to avail themselves of it, and who are yet in urgent need of relief.

The need for this Bill is not always obvious to the happily married citizen. At the same time, the welcome to it has been very real, and we would urge those of our readers who are in sympathy to help by coming out in support of the Bill.

THE GOVERNMENT LAW BREAKERS.

Viscountess Rhondda, commenting recently in the *Sunday Times* on the recent decision of the Committee for Privileges, explains it as a decision, not of the House of Lords, but of the Government. The amendment, which referred the original conclusion of the Committee back again for consideration and subsequent defeat, was moved by the Lord Chancellor, who is a leading member of the Government which passed the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, and held it out to women as a Charter of Liberty. This Act, Lady Rhondda affirms to be a "dud" Act, since every time it has been tested, every time it has been challenged, it has been defeated. It purported to give equal opportunities to men and women in the Civil Service, yet carefully laid down that the details of this equality should be regulated by Orders in Council. It suggested that the barriers should go down at Oxford and Cambridge; yet Cambridge refused to act on its hint, and apparently no one can make her do so. It specifically stated that marriage should no longer be a bar to public service, yet the Corporations of Glasgow and St. Pancras have acted in open defiance of this clause, and no one has compelled them to rescind their action. Viscountess Rhondda is confident that the Government has made thousands of enemies over its interpretation of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act. The only honourable course left for it to adopt is at once to introduce and pass through all its stages a small amending Bill to the Act, enabling peeresses in their own right to sit and vote in the House of Lords. The point at issue is not merely the presence of some twenty peeresses in the House of Lords, but a test of the good faith of the Government toward the women. The suggestion raised in some quarters that this is a matter which can be dealt with when the House of Lords is reformed misses the point, since reform of the House of Lords is a question which stands by itself.

A NATIONAL DISGRACE.

For the first time in history, the question of the moral legitimacy of bull-fighting has been brought up in the Spanish Parliament. The *Christian Science Monitor's* special correspondent in Madrid reports that only a very small proportion of the members of the Spanish Parliament, or the intelligent and cultivated classes of Spain in general, now give any personal support to the "toros," as this business is called for short. Yet neither, for reasons of either personal or electoral popularity, take occasion to denounce it.

It will perhaps be recollected that the great life work of Miss Jane Addams, of Hull House, Chicago, was indirectly due to a Spanish bull-fight. She, with a group of young American women, was making the European tour, when, in 1888, they reached Madrid, and became spectators of a bull-fight. Several of the party were so sickened by the spectacle that they were unable to sit it out, but Miss Addams remained on grimly to the end of the performance, during which five bulls and many horses were killed. The same evening came a violent reaction against the idleness of foreign travel, in which she was then indulging, and a few weeks later Miss Addams was hard at work at Toynbee Hall and the People's Palace, obtaining suggestions for the social settlement she founded at Chicago.

All over Spain, to-day, the love of athletic sports is rapidly increasing, and the football competitions attract enormous attendances. Young Spain, it is reported, is turning against the bull-fighting, and would do still more if properly encouraged. A high authority in Seville has recently asserted that "in twenty years from now, or even ten, bull-fighting will be a thing of the past in Spain." It is significant that in certain towns in Spain which are outside the general stream of Spanish habit, bull-fighting has languished, and even become extinct. Cadiz, which once had a big bull-ring, has abolished it altogether.

MRS. DESPARD'S BIRTHDAY FUND.

THE ELEVENTH YEAR.

FIRST LIST OF CONTRIBUTIONS.

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Hampstead	6	0	0	Miss O'Halloran	5	0	
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Welsh Produce Stall	16	3	0	Mrs. Padfield	5	0	
Portsmouth	5	0	0	Mrs. M. Soane	5	0	
Southend-on-Sea	1	1	0	Mrs. Sutcliffe	5	0	
Dr. Knight	20	0	0	Miss P. E. Tooke	5	0	
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Mrs. L. A. Harverson	2	0	0	Miss Alice Farmer	3	6	
Mrs. Pethick Lawrence	2	0	0	E. G. Clayton, Esq.	3	0	
Mrs. Alice F. Powell (Collected)	1	11	0	Miss K. Stone	3	0	
Miss White (Sale of Preserves)	1	10	8	Miss Baker	2	6	
Miss M. Watson Petty	1	10	0	Miss S. G. Barnat	2	6	
Miss Mary Elizabeth Knight (Collected)	1	7	0	Mrs. Bell	2	6	
Mrs. Pierotti (Collected)	1	5	6	Miss Elsie Bullen	2	6	
Miss Joan Elias (Collected)	1	2	6	Mrs. D. Dickson	2	6	
Mrs. E. D. Fox Bourne	1	1	0	Miss C. A. Duckett	2	6	
Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Budd	1	1	0	Mr. G. W. Gill	2	6	
Mrs. T. Dexter	1	1	0	Miss L. Hutchinson	2	6	
Allan Graham, Esq., A.R.I.B.A.	1	1	0	Mrs. Jones	2	6	
Henry Holiday, Esq.	1	1	0	Mrs. A. J. Lane	2	6	
Mrs. Mustard	1	1	0	Miss Mabel Mudge	2	6	
The Mayor of St. Pancras (Councillor J. W. McCormack)	1	1	0	Miss E. M. Shaw	2	6	
Miss A. Maude Royden	1	1	0	Miss A. Shorrocks	2	6	
Mrs. Valentine Russell	1	1	0	Dr. Skeat	2	6	
Mrs. Cobden-Sanderson	1	1	0	Miss A. M. H. Stokes	2	6	
Mrs. Scholl	1	1	0	Mrs. E. Taylor	2	6	
Dr. Alice Vickery	1	1	0	Mrs. and Miss Watkins	2	6	
Mrs. Baillie Weaver	1	1	0	Miss Watterson	2	6	
The Misses Margaret and Barbara Aaron (Collected)	1	0	0	Dr. White	2	6	
Mrs. Fisher	1	0	0	Mrs. Zoondelovitch	2	6	
Miss E. Gulland	1	0	0	E. R. Bacon, Esq.	2	0	
Mrs. Lillian M. Lloyd	1	0	0	Mrs. Alice Burton (Collected)	2	0	
Miss B. Malone (Collected)	1	0	0	Miss M. S. Campbell	2	0	
Mrs. F. C. Newham	1	0	0	Miss R. T. Wells	1	8	
Miss A. Sherwood	1	0	0	Dr. Outram	1	6	
Miss E. J. Sherwood	1	0	0	Mrs. M. E. Roberts	1	6	
Mrs. E. Zangwill	1	0	0	Miss G. Frost	1	0	
A. P. Busch-Michell, Esq.	12	6		Mrs. Hannant	1	0	
Miss F. A. Underwood	11	6		Miss J. M. Wiltshire	1	0	
Miss Malt Williams	11	4		Mr. Withers	1	0	
Miss Ada E. Farmer	10	6		Tickets	6	12	0
Dr. A. M. Hutchison	10	6		Collection	0	6	0
Madam Kubler (Collected)	10	6		Flower Stall	2	8	6
Miss H. McCulloch	10	6		Strawberry and Cream Stall, per Mrs. J. R. Knight	2	13	0
Miss Clare E. Price	10	6					
Mrs. Abbott	10	0					
Miss Sara Bennett	10	0					
Miss E. T. Fox Bourne	10	0					
Lady Byles, J.P.	10	0					
Mrs. George Cadbury	10	0					
H. G. Chancellor, Esq.	10	0					
Mrs. V. A. Crow	10	0					
Miss Janet Gibson	10	0					
Mrs. B. Gilbert	10	0					
Mrs. Holmes	10	0					
Miss Hurry	10	0					
Mrs. Jones	10	0					
Miss Jessie Maxwell	10	0					
Mrs. Mockford	10	0					
Mrs. Nelson	10	0					
Miss F. M. Newton	10	0					
Mrs. Northcroft	10	0					
Mrs. Marjory Pease, J.P.	10	0					
Miss T. L. Prankerd	10	0					
Mrs. Thomson-Price	10	0					
Miss Sidley	10	0					
Miss C. E. Walder (Collected)	10	0					
Miss MacMunn	10	0					
Mrs. Clifton Jones	7	6					
Miss Stutchbury (Collected)	7	0					
Miss D. B. Allwork	6	6					
Anon	5	0					
Miss S. Bergman	5	0					

£198 6 11

OUR LITERATURE DEPARTMENT.

The Report of the Prison System Enquiry Committee will be published on June 29th. This Committee has been making its investigations for three years, and has received evidence from over 400 witnesses, including 300 ex-prisoners of every type. Its members include Sir Sydney Olivier, K.C.M.G. (Chairman), the Earl of Sandwich, Lord Henry Bentinck, M.P., the Hon. George Peel, the Hon. Bertrand Russell, the Right Hon. J. R. Clynes, M.P., Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Webb, Dr. Ernest Jones, the Rev. W. D. Morrison, LL.D., and Mr. Bernard Shaw. The Report will be divided into two parts, the first giving a detailed account of the prison system, the second describing its mental and moral effects. The conclusions of the Committee regarding the effects of imprisonment are stated to be startling. Specimens are given of the evidence of both prison officials and ex-prisoners, the latter including a murderer who has served a life sentence. Printed with the Report is a long description of the remarkable experiments in prison treatment which are being made in America. The Editors of the Report, Mr. Stephen Hobbouse, M.A., and Mr. A. Fenner Brockway, themselves served long terms of imprisonment during the war. The Report, which extends to 750 pages, is being published at 25/- by Messrs. Longmans, Green & Co., under the title, "English Prisons To-day," and may be obtained at this Office.

Women's Freedom League.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS W.F.L. LONDON AND SUBURBS.



DARE TO BE FREE.

Wednesday, July 5th, at 7 p.m.—Hampstead Branch Garden Meeting (by kind permission of Dr. Knight), at 7 Gainsborough Gardens, N.W. 3. Speaker: Mrs. Mustard. If wet or cold the Meeting will be held indoors.

Friday, July 7th, at 6 p.m.—Organisation Sub-Committee Meeting at 144 High Holborn.

Saturday, July 8th, at 10 a.m.—National Executive Committee Meeting at 144, High Holborn.

Monday, September 4, at 3 p.m.—"Fair" Committee Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

Friday, September 8th, at 6.30 p.m.—Mid-London Branch Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

Friday, September 15th, at 6 p.m.—Organisation Sub-Committee Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

Saturday, September 16th, at 10 a.m.—National Executive Committee Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

Friday, September 22nd, at 3.30 p.m.—Mid-London Branch "Pound Tea" at 25, Wimpole Street, W. (by kind permission of Dr. Lewin). Full particulars later.

PROVINCES.

Saturday, July 1st, 3 to 6 p.m.—Crosby and Waterloo. Cake and Candy Sale at Belmont, De Villiers' Avenue, Crosby, to raise funds for the winter's work. Afternoon tea, 1/-.

Thursday, July 6th, at 8 p.m.—Edinburgh. Branch Meeting, 44, George IV. Bridge. Former members are requested to renew their subscriptions.

Thursday, July 13th, at 2.30 p.m.—Hull. Garden Party in the grounds of the Holderness House (kindly lent by the Rt. Hon. T. R. Ferens, J.P.). Admission by programme, 1/-; children, half price.

Friday, July 21st, at 3 p.m.—Bexhill. "National Baby Week." A Fête will be held at Ancaster House (by kind permission of Mrs. Burrows). Dr. Octavia Lewin will speak on "The Importance of Training Children in Nasal Hygiene."

Saturday, July 22nd, at 3 p.m.—Hastings. A Garden Party will be held at Rossiana, Pine Avenue, Ore, nr. Hastings (by kind permission of Mrs. Prelooker). Display of Dancing by Miss Dorothy Cannon's child dancers. Two stalls, fruit and vegetable, strawberries and cream, competitions, etc., will be some of the chief attractions. Speakers: Miss Elsie Morton, M.B.E., and Dr. Octavia Lewin. Tickets, 1/2.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Wednesday, July 5th, at 8 p.m.—Women's League of Union, Oak Room, Kingsway Hall, W.C. Subject: "The Six Point Group."

BRANCH NOTES.

ASHFORD.

The Annual General Meeting of Ashford Branch was held in the Garden of 38, Albert Road, by invitation of the Secretary, Mrs. Kither, on Thursday, June 22nd. Mrs. Banks presiding. A report of the number of meetings held during the year was given, and the objects of the League expounded. Mrs. Goldsmith presented the balance sheet, and Mrs. Frank Knock, the newly appointed Co-Secretary, read the propaganda from Headquarters. After this, tea was served, and various amusing competitions and games indulged in.

(Hon. Sec.) MRS. E. G. KITHER, Glengariff, Ashford.

PORTSMOUTH.

The weather was delightful for the Garden Whist Drive on Wednesday, June 21st, and the thanks of the Branch are due to Mrs. Slatter for a very pleasant and profitable afternoon. When the expenses are paid, there will be a profit of £2, which is to be divided between the Local Election and Birthday Funds. Mrs. Elliott, Mrs. Speck, Mrs. Mabb, Mrs. Slatter, and Mrs. Whetton kindly gave the prizes. Portsmouth Branch sold 165 Votes at the Women's Co-operative Guild Congress.

(Hon. Sec.) MRS. WHETTON, 89, Festing Grove, Southsea.

RAILWAY WOMEN'S GUILD.

Annual Conference at Middlesbrough.

The twenty-second annual Conference of the Railway Women's Guild was held at Middlesbrough on June 21st, when delegates were present from all parts of the country.

This Guild is formed for the purpose of affording means of social intercourse amongst the wives and daughters of railway workers; to study and spread the principles of Trade Unionism amongst women; to co-operate with other women workers, and to help in the cause of the workers generally.

Mrs. Atkinson, President of the local Guild, extended a hearty welcome to the delegates, and hoped the Conference would stimulate not only local but national interest, and lead to an influx of members, so that they would strengthen the organisation and be more able to assist railwaymen in their future struggles.

Mr. George Lorraine, of Darlington, organising secretary of the N.U.R., joined in the welcome, and remarked that the Women's Guild were an important factor in the success of the National Union of Railwaymen. The movement was one which could be supported to a greater extent by the railway women of the country than it had been up to the present.

Mr. O. Walker, of Middlesbrough, also addressed the Conference, and urged the importance of solid organisation among the railway men and women.

Councillor Mrs. Schofield Coates followed with an address in which she emphasised the importance of problems affecting women.

Other addresses of welcome were given by Mrs. Hotham, representing the Middlesbrough Co-operative Society, and Mr. H. Macgregor, J.P., of the Middlesbrough Trades and Labour Council, Mrs. Gardner, of the Co-operative Women's Guild Council, and Mrs. Jackson, of West Hartlepool.

Mrs. Hobbs, National President, then took the Chair, and returned thanks for the welcome extended to the delegates.

Mrs. Webb, of Bristol, General Secretary, presented the annual report and financial statement, in which she stated that the depressing industrial conditions had been responsible for the small number of new branches. They had received two new branches and lost two, so that they stood as they did last year with 81 affiliated branches, but there had been an increase of membership.

Resolutions were passed, protesting against the "cuts" in education; against the continued housing shortage; urging the Government to make Old Age Pensions payable at 65 years, to provide Pensions for Widows, to be administered through Municipal or County Councils, and to extend the Franchise to women on the same terms as men.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE SETTLEMENT.

DESPARD HOUSE, 2 CURRIE STREET, NINE ELMS LANE, S.W. 8.

Our kind contributor, last week, omitted to give our best thanks (our fault!) to the various ladies and gentlemen who, by their personal efforts or gifts, were of great assistance to us at the "unveiling" ceremony. Mrs. Despard, The Women's Freedom League, Mrs. Miller, Miss Kathleen Holmes, Miss Gribble, Miss Greenville, Mrs. Bell Lloyd, Miss Alix Clark, Miss Harvey, The Baroness de Pallandt, The Misses Stutchbury, Mrs. Bagot, Mrs. Pearce, Mrs. de Vere Smith, The Hon. Mrs. Forbes, Mrs. Riggall, Miss Holford, and last, but not least, Mrs. Florence Field, who brought things to sell, and took quite a respectable amount at a stall of useful and fancy goods, also Mr. Cecil Nicholson, who brought a large bundle of marguerites for decorations. To all those mentioned we tender our most hearty thanks. On Wednesday, June 21st, an Annual Concert and Garden Party was most ably arranged by Miss Rachel Wells, and held by kind permission of Dr. Trevelthick, at Buccleuch House, Petersham Road, Richmond. A speech of thanks was made by Mrs. Despard, who enumerated all the various activities of the Settlement, and afterwards, in an interval, Dr. Octavia Lewin interested those present by an address on "Nasal Hygiene."

(Hon. Superintendent) MRS. E. M. COLE.

INDIAN WOMAN AGITATOR'S SENTENCE.

The following letter was sent on May 22nd, 1922, by the Women's Indian Association, to the Madras Government Minister for Law and Order:—

"The W.I.A. desires to draw your attention to the reported case of Shrimati Duvuri Subhanna Garu, the Andhra lady non-co-operator, who has been sentenced by the Magistrate of Colanada to undergo rigorous imprisonment for one year, or until security is furnished. Her offence has been the making of seditious speeches and the rousing of disaffection against the Government. This is exactly the same charge for which the men leaders of this movement have been given simple imprisonment only. As an Association which aims at equality of treatment for men and women in national affairs, we request the Government to look into this case of unfair and differential treatment, and to order that the rigorous imprisonment be changed into simple, both on the ground of equal treatment for the two sexes, and on the ground of following the precedent set in Great Britain and other countries of giving political treatment to women political prisoners."

The Minister has replied that he will look into the matter.

FRIDAY,
JUNE 30,
1922.

THE VOTE

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

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Sunday, July 2nd, 3.15, Music, Poetry, Lecture by Dr. Percy Dearmer; 6.30, Dr. Percy Dearmer.

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