

THE VOTE.  
OCT. 16, 1925.

## HOUSEWIVES TAKE ACTION!

# THE VOTE

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

VOL. XXVI. No. 834.

(Registered at  
the G.P.O.)

ONE PENNY.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1925

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

### PRINCIPAL CONTENTS.

NOT TO BE DEFIED!

WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

HOUSEWIVES TAKE ACTION!

THE BENEVOLENT ATTITUDE.

WOMEN AND THE CHURCH CONGRESS.

By Our Representative.

THE WORK OF THE LEAGUE.

BOOK REVIEW. G. J. H. N.

## NOT TO BE DEFIED!

### POOLE COUNCIL AND ITS MARRIED WOMEN TEACHERS.

Readers of THE VOTE will remember that Mr. Justice Romer delivered judgment against the Poole Town Council for its dismissal of Mrs. Short, a woman teacher, solely on the grounds of her marriage. The Poole Council has now decided to appeal against this judgment, and our readers will be interested in the following report of the Council's proceedings appearing in the *Poole, Parkstone and East Dorset Herald*, of Thursday, October 8th:—

“By the narrow margin of two votes, the Poole Town Council, at its meeting this week, decided to go forward with its appeal against the recent decision of Mr. Justice Romer in ruling that the Council's action in dismissing Mrs. Short, a teacher in one of the elementary schools, on the ground that she was married, was illegal. It may be recalled that at the last meeting of the Council the question of an appeal was raised, and it was decided first to obtain the views of other authorities in the country with the idea of getting their support. The principal feature of Tuesday's discussion was a statement as to what the case had so far cost the Council. Councillor Crabb moved the approval of a resolution passed at a meeting of the Education Committee on the previous evening that the Town Clerk be empowered to proceed with the appeal”—Councillor Cole seconded.

#### THE COST.

“At the Mayor's request the Town Clerk outlined the position. He said the appeal had to be heard at an earlier date than was anticipated, and owing to pressure of departmental work due to the holiday season, the circulars asking for the support of other authorities were not despatched until a week ago. He sent out 160 letters, and up to the previous day had received 40 formal acknowledgments, 2 definite offers of support, and 5 definite refusals. From the tone of the letters he had received he thought there was no doubt that the Council would get substantial support from other authorities. In the meantime it was important that the Council should decide whether or not they would appeal. One of the supporting authorities was Cheltenham Council and the other Darlington. The latter had definitely offered support to the extent of £10. The Town Clerk added that the costs of the action to the Council to date was £1,400.

If the appeal was proceeded with, and the Council were still unsuccessful, the total costs on both sides would not exceed £600.

#### A FRUITLESS ACTION.

“Opposing Councillor Crabb's motion, Councillor Johnston, as at the last Council meeting, mentioned the possible consequences if the Council won the appeal and the National Union of Teachers took the case to the House of Lords and won. It had been suggested that in such a case the Council would have to pay a further £2,000; that would mean from £3,000 to £4,000 altogether. He believed that it was an absolute and entire waste of the ratepayers' money, and the appeal, he considered would be ‘a fruitless action.’ Councillor Humphris declared that the Town Clerk's figures as to the costs were misleading, and represented only the agents' charges. He could tell the Council that the National Union of Teachers intended taking the case to the House of Lords, if necessary, and it would then cost the borough something like £10,000.

“Councillor Shutler: The last time a statement like that was made there was no comment. Will the Town Clerk agree or disagree with it? The Town Clerk: The definite figures are those I gave; they include all costs.

#### ON EDUCATIONAL GROUNDS.

“Councillor Roger Carter said that whatever happened the judgment would still be given on educational grounds, and he was quite certain the Council could not win the action on those grounds. Councillor Cole declared that the married women teachers wanted to defy their employers, and the Council had had too much of that. He believed they would win the appeal if they proceeded with it.

“Councillor Hopkins expressed amazement at the economists of the Council who would not spend a halfpenny on education or health, but who were prepared to ‘go ahead with the case and hang the consequences.’ Supposing they won, and got rid of a few teachers in consequence; would that help educational efficiency? Councillor Cole wanted to vindicate the power of employers to ‘sack’ their employees. Judgment was not given on those grounds



at all; it was that the grounds on which the Council acted were irrelevant. He shuddered to think what would happen if some members of the Council went into the witness box to give evidence; what a reputation for education the town would get! He commented on the small amount of support so far forthcoming from other authorities, and said the Council should hesitate before spending money to 'help others out of a mess.' Councillor Blackburn urged that the appeal should go forward, declaring that a married woman teacher's mind could not be on the pupils as would be the case with a single teacher. Councillor Kendall thought it should not be presumed that they had not the support of other authorities because all replies had not yet been received.

#### CIRCULARS TOO LATE?

"The Mayor, as chairman of the Education Committee, recalled points from the judge's summing-up, particularly that the Council were justified in getting rid of any teacher for a more efficient one. With regard to the small amount of support from other bodies, he asked how they could be expected to reply in so short a time. (Members: The circulars should have been sent out earlier!). Councillor Dixon: This is a national question, and under those circumstances I am sure all other bodies will support us. We must go on with this unless we mean to be the slaves of the teachers' Trade Union.

"Councillor Crabb's motion, on being put to the meeting, was carried by 16 votes to 14."

#### WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

##### Woman Jockey's Victory.

Miss Eileen Joel, the 18-year-old daughter of Mr. Solly Joel, the race-horse owner, won the race for the Newmarket Town Plate on Thursday of last week. This is the first time a woman has been the winner in this race, which was instituted by Charles II, and is the oldest horse race in England. Five of the eight jockeys who competed were women, their names, in addition to Miss Joel, being Miss Iris Rickaby (who came in second), Miss Vaughan, Miss Marshall Magee, and Miss Betty Tanner.

##### Catholic Women Farmers.

The League of Women Farmers in Belgium, which is affiliated to the Boerenbund, or Agriculturists' League, has now 386 branches, with a membership of 56,224. It has to its record 1855 lectures and 117 courses of instruction lasting from three to five days, and giving practical lessons in agriculture, horticulture, poultry-raising, and domestic economy. These are well attended, and are becoming a strong social force for the support of Catholic principles.

##### New Woman Golf Champion.

The Somerset golfer, Miss D. R. Fowler, won the Englishwomen's championship at Westward Ho! last week, and, for the first time since the event has been controlled by the Ladies' Golf Union, a name other than those of Miss Cecil Leitch and Miss Joyce Wethered will be engraved on the trophy. Neither of these ladies competed.

##### Women as Stage Prompters.

The Comédie-Française Theatre, Paris, possesses a woman prompter who was formerly at the Odéon in a similar capacity. In France, the prompter's office is a much more dignified affair than with us. He (or she) occupies a box in the centre of the footlights, and does no other work except prompting.

##### Women and Astronomy.

Madame Camille Flammarion, widow of the great astronomer, who died recently, has succeeded to his post as Director of the Observatory at Juvisy, and has also been elected Secretary-General of the French Astronomical Society, which her husband founded.

#### NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the National Executive Committee was held at the Women's Freedom League Offices last Saturday, those present being Miss Anna Munro (President, in the Chair), Dr. Knight (Hon. Treasurer), Miss Alix M. Clark (Montgomery Boroughs), Councillor Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P. (Middlesbrough), Mrs. Dexter, Mrs. Fiskin (Glasgow), Miss Haugh, B.Sc., Mrs. Juson Kerr, J.P. (Upper Walmer), Miss C. Neal (Swansea), Miss M. I. Neal (Manchester). Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Strickland (Hastings) and Mrs. Foster Lumb (Teddington).

Reports were considered and adopted from the Hon. Treasurer, the Hon. Organising Secretary (Mrs. Whetton), the Secretary, and from the political, literature, and VOTE sales departments. The Reports showed that very satisfactory work had been done recently by our organisers in Glasgow and Edinburgh, Bexhill, Hastings and Ashford, and that our Deal and Upper Walmer, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Swansea, Portsmouth, Hampstead and Minerva Club Branches had resumed their activities after the summer holidays. The Clyde Coast Campaign had been very successful.

In view of the forthcoming council elections, the Committee decided that the following questions should be put to candidates:—

Will you, if elected—

- (1) Make efficiency instead of sex the test for all workers employed by the municipality?
- (2) Do all in your power to secure that women and men employed by the council shall have equal treatment in regard to opportunity and payment?
- (3) Work actively against the policy of dismissing women employed by the Council solely on account of their marriage, or requiring them to resign on marriage?
- (4) Use every effort to secure that unemployed women shall be included in all schemes devised by your council for the employment of workless men?
- (5) Support the raising of the school-leaving age for boys and girls to sixteen?
- (6) Make efforts to secure greater purity of milk supply; further use of powers for maternity and child welfare; the provision of wash-houses and warm baths (for women as well as men) in urban working-class areas in which these do not exist; and adequate provision for dealing promptly with cases of tuberculosis, and supply of accommodation for advanced cases?
- (7) Uphold one moral standard for women and men in the eyes of the law, and resist any proposal to prevent venereal disease by so-called prophylaxis methods at the expense of the ratepayers?
- (8) Press for further provision of houses for letting purposes?

The Committee strongly recommended that our Branches should adopt a plan of work for the coming autumn and winter months, and suggested that they should arrange meetings (either public meetings with an expert speaker, or discussion meetings, having first obtained suitable literature) on the following subjects:—(1) Equal Franchise; (2) Women's Work in the Home, including Domestic Service, and the possibilities of organising this work on a different basis; (3) Pensions for Women; (4) Equal Pay for Equal Work; (5) Women Police; (6) The Need for a Public Defender in our Courts; (7) Family Endowment; (8) The Housing Problem, and How to Deal with it.

The Committee appealed to all readers of THE VOTE and all members and friends of the Women's Freedom League to remember our Green, White and Gold Fair to be held at the Central Hall, Westminster, Friday and Saturday, November 20th and 21st, to send gifts to its various stalls, and to come themselves to this Fair, if at all possible, with as many of their friends as they can persuade to come. Our members from North of the Tweed urge that Scottish members and sympathisers, wherever they reside, should send gifts for our Scottish Stall.

#### HOUSEWIVES TAKE ACTION!

Housewives' Associations are a feature of most progressive countries, especially since women became voters. Scandinavia, the United States, and most of the Overseas Dominions, each have their national organisations of housewives, which have not only proved themselves in the past formidable bodies with which their Governments have to reckon, but in many cases have been instrumental in effecting legislative changes and social reforms.

British housewives, however, have hitherto shown themselves singularly reluctant to become organised into a national body, although, since the war, the difficulties of housekeeping and the rise in the cost of living have made such organisation supremely necessary, if only as a factor in public opinion. The women of Kent, however, under the presidency of Mrs. Juson Kerr, formed themselves into a local association some six years ago, as a protest against the then prevailing high prices of tea and sugar. The establishment of the Food Council, too, has been a long step in the right direction, and the support and interest with which its deliberations have been followed by women all over the country, prove that the time is ripe for further co-operation.

#### Pooling Domestic Knowledge.

Last week, in London, saw the simultaneous launching of two organisations, which, if loyally supported, should prove of enormous value to housewives in these present difficult days. The first Society to be launched was the British Housewives' Association, with offices at 70, Victoria Street, which held an inaugural meeting at Stratford Place on Wednesday of last week. Although little advertised, the room was crowded with an audience of keenly-interested women. Dr. Ethel Bentham, who presided, explained the objects of the new Association, and pointed out the need for women to pool their domestic knowledge and experience in order to solve the difficult problems of post-war living. Domestic service was not the only problem concerned, though this would have due attention, but food prices, food transport, and food purity, short weight, hygiene, labour-saving devices, and smoke abatement were all questions calling for urgent attention.

Among the speakers was Mrs. Britomarte James, a Vice-President of the Federation of Australian Housewives' Associations, who described at some length the reforms housewives had effected in the State of Victoria. One of these was a reduction in the price of Queensland sugar, when interest rose to fever pitch and women occupied two galleries of the State Parliament all day long in continuous shifts, and also lobbied Ministers in the intervals. A provisional Committee of the British Housewives' Association has now been formed, and a public meeting to discuss the scheme will be held on November 11th.

#### Shopping by Post.

The second organisation, known as the Postal-cash-on-Delivery and Housewives' Association, with offices at Kingsway House, came into existence some little time ago, but on Friday of last week a special women's meeting was held at the house of Lady Polson, in Sussex Place, to consider future developments and the co-operation of housewives in effecting a reduction in the cost of living. Mrs. Juson Kerr, well known for her enterprise in organising the Kentish Association, previously mentioned, is the deputy President of this second organisation, and explained how practically every civilised country but our own had a postal-cash-on-delivery service. It was decided at this meeting that local committees should be formed to press forward the scheme, and it was further suggested that this course should be adopted in each Parliamentary division.

We commend either or both these schemes to all our readers who are anxious to find a way-out of the present domestic impasse.

#### AN AMERICAN WOMEN'S PRISON.

The *Christian Science Monitor*, in a recent issue, gives an interesting description of the preparations now on foot for the establishment of the Federal Women's Prison at Alderson, West Virginia (U.S.A.). One hundred and fifty federal men prisoners are now at work on the roads, preparing the 500-acre site which has been set apart for the new prison, and where the buildings will be set up chiefly in the form of cottages, each accommodating about 30 women prisoners. The opening of the prison is in response to a short but sharp campaign waged by hundreds and thousands of women throughout the United States, whose appeals to Congress were headed by Miss Jaffray, Chairman of prison work for the General Federation of Women's Clubs, and Secretary of the National Committee on Prisons and Prison Labour. Dr. Mary Harris has been chosen as superintendent. She was formerly teacher and director of the women's division of Blackwell's Island under Dr. Katherine B. Davis, and has also helped to reorganise the Clinton Women's Reformatory in the State of New Jersey, and also the State Home for Girls at Trenton. Dr. Harris was in the Government service during the war. Mrs. Almin Dodd, of Washington, and Miss Julia Jaffray have been selected for the board of managership, and further appointments by President Coolidge are expected shortly.

A conference in connection with the problems of women's and girls' penal institutes was held in New York at the end of September. Many of the sessions were highly technical, with samples and statistics concerning the purchase of raw materials and the marketing of prison labour.

*Three valuable hints!*  
plucked from the Tree of Life!

Make your chief food "EMPROTE."

It has 3 times the body-building value of meat as bought, and is ready without cooking. It is delicious. Doctors say it is the foundation of Health for Invalids and Brain-workers. Per tin 9d.

When in London — have all your meals at the Eustace Miles Restaurant, 40, Chandos Street, Charing Cross. (Near the Coliseum.)

The 1/3 (3-course) Table D'Hôte meal is the best at the price in London.

If you are not perfectly well, write for a little Free Advice to Mr. Miles, at the above address, mention your ailments, your average day's foods and drinks, and enclose 1½d. stamp for reply.

**EMPROTE**  
The MASTER Food



## THE VOTE.

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

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16th, 1925.

### EDITORIAL.

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

### THE BENEVOLENT ATTITUDE.

Women's affairs were certainly not in the minds of the conveners of the recent Conservative and Unionist Conference at Brighton. We learn that the majority of delegates present were women, yet no woman moved a resolution, and apparently only one woman seconded a resolution. The special interests of women were not discussed, and the Premier made no mention of them in his speech. Yet a Conservative Government is in power at the present time, and is responsible to women as well as men electors. The Conservative Party has three women Members of the House of Commons, one of them being in the Government, whereas the Liberal Party has no woman Member of Parliament, and the Labour Party only one woman. The resolution which a woman seconded was one favouring the formation of Women's Unionist clubs with the active assistance of local Unionist Associations and of the headquarters of Unionist Clubs. Sir Herbert Nield thought there was no necessity for passing this resolution, and spoke of the facilities provided for women in existing men's clubs, showing, he said, an attitude of benevolence towards women. We are not satisfied that this regulation "attitude of benevolence towards women" on the part of Conservative politicians is acceptable to the majority of women inside that Party; but we are certain that women outside its ranks have no kind of use for it. Women want something more tangible from politicians than mere benevolent attitudinising. Women want to know definitely when this Government proposes to enfranchise them at the same age and on the same terms as men; when it will bring in a Bill to admit Peeresses in their own right to Membership of the House of Lords; when it will be prepared to give equal opportunities and equal pay for similar work to all its women and men employees; what it proposes to do in regard to the nationality of British women married to foreigners; and when it will put into practice the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act (which has been on the Statute Book since 1919), in regard to its provision that a person shall not be disqualified by sex or marriage from the exercise of any public function, or from being appointed to or holding any civil or judicial office or post, or from entering or assuming or carrying on any civil profession or vocation. Women, both inside and outside the Conservative Party, are anxious to know what this Government intends to do for unemployed women during the coming winter. Ever since the end of the war, when women were prevented from pursuing well-paid employment in engineering shops and other industrial directions by the Pre-War Practices (Restoration) Act, unemployment among women has been acute; and no Government since that time has included women in any of its schemes devised for the employment of workless men; the only attempt to deal with this problem being the establishment of a very meagre number of training centres for giving instruction to workless women in domestic work. Women would like to have heard from the Head of the Government, at that Conference, some assurance that the Housing problem, as it affected the mass of working women in the country, was receiving the full measure of attention from the Government which its seriousness demanded. It is in no captious spirit that we point out that these matters, as well as others which are of special interest to members of our sex, deserve more than "a benevolent attitude towards women."

### PRICES!

The Food Council, with the splendid co-operation of the Press, has rendered a national service in its efforts to bring down the prices of food, and to secure that members of the public should get the proper weight of the articles for which they pay. Too long have purchasers, the vast majority of whom are housewives, submitted meekly to soaring prices and short weight, and the Food Council has earned the deep-felt gratitude of housewives for its efforts to protect their interests. Some of the bakers are downright angry at the results of these efforts. The Secretary of the London Master Bakers' Protection Society says that members of the Food Council are "talking through their hats" when they say that prices are unjustifiably high, while the Secretary of the Association of Master Bakers has issued a Manifesto appealing to members to stand firm against "the undercutter, the Press, the Food Council, and the carping housewife alike." He also talks about "misguided" housewives, presumably because they have come to the conclusion that it is time they minded their own business. Mrs. Drapper, a member of the Food Council, says that the wrong word has been used. It should be "wise" housewives, who did not intend to pay more for an article than that article was worth. In spite of organised opposition on the part of a great number of bakers, the price of bread is coming down considerably, and the public is now threatened by some members of that trade with "inferior" bread. Here again housewives are quite able to take a hand in their own affairs. The art of baking one's own bread is not unknown in this country, even in its Southern portion. Hard things have been said of working men who went on strike to secure more wages, and thereby inconvenienced the general public; and men who make undue profits out of supplying necessities to their fellow human beings, and threaten to lower the standard of those supplies, are surely deserving of equally severe censure. The Government considers it necessary that there should be an Organisation for the Maintenance of Supplies in the event of workers going on strike, as this would dislocate the machinery of our ordinary life. It is not at all impossible for housewives to form an equally effective organisation to protect themselves and those for whom they cater from being charged unfair prices for the necessities of life, and from the threat of a lower standard of supplies. It will be a good thing for this country when housewives, who are the greatest purchasers of food, realise what an enormous power they can, if they will, wield. By judicious boycott here and there, effective organisation, and possibly by pooling their resources, housewives could gain a victory over any trade organisation. When they have brought down Food Prices, will they not turn their attention to high rents and the high prices of coal, gas, and electricity?

### "OBEY" AND THE MARRIAGE SERVICE.

We congratulate our American sisters that the word "Obey" in the marriage ceremony of the Episcopal Church of America was eliminated by order of the House of Deputies at the Triennial Convention which met at New Orleans (U.S.A.) on Sunday of last week. Though the House of Bishops must signify their approval before the elimination can become a permanent one, it is not expected that this will be withheld, in view of the prolonged agitation in America which led up to this change of front. The decision was taken by 97 votes to 23, 15 votes being divided. In this country, proposals for rejection of the obnoxious word come up year by year in clerical discussion upon Prayer Book revision, and the subject may now be regarded as a hardy annual, although this year saw a definite, even if timorous, advance in the recent decision of the House of Clergy to omit the word in the bride's vow, though still retaining it in the question put by the priest in the espousals.

## WOMEN AND THE CHURCH CONGRESS.

From our REPRESENTATIVE.

The Church Congress Committee are to be congratulated on the fact that this year they had no double sessions of official meetings as in former years. A multiplication of meetings, however interesting the subjects may be, is apt to bring confusion, and Congress visitors are somewhat prone to taste all while digesting none. The general subject of the Congress was "World Problems and Christianity," and some excellent speakers were provided. It can only have been by design that in every case the name of the woman speaker was placed last on the programme—the alphabetical order was not followed even in the preliminary announcement—and that the woman, at four of the five sessions when there was a woman speaker, should be called upon last.

Miss Ruth Rouse spoke on "Race Problems"; Commandant Allen on "The Humanitarian Work of the League of Nations"; Miss Rosamund Shields on "The Fellowship of Learning"; Miss Monica Storrs on "Our Trusteeship for Other Races"; and Miss Faithful on "Discipline in Modern Life."

We agree that the women speakers were well fitted to deal with the questions chosen, but it was not possible to hear on all occasions. At one morning session the shout of "Speak up!" at the commencement of the paper eliciting no response, nearly one-third of the members rose and departed. We are jealous that women who are chosen on such occasions should do even better than the men speakers, so perhaps we are unduly critical. It was good to see Commandant Allen an invited speaker in such an assembly, and to hear what she and the women police had achieved in Cologne.

Few people have more knowledge of conditions among students of all nationalities than Miss Rouse. We are glad to hear that last year she was appointed to the secretariat of the Missionary Council of the Church Assembly, and is speaking up and down the country on international problems.

Miss Monica Storrs, an attractive speaker, efficient

in matter and manner, gained her right to speak on "Our Trusteeship for Other Nations" from her sojourn in Palestine, where her brother is Governor of Jerusalem. Miss Faithful spoke most forcefully and well, out of her experience as late Principal of the Ladies' College, Cheltenham, and as a Justice of the Peace. Her matter is always sound.

Of unofficial meetings, there is but space to record some of the activities of the League of the Church Militant. Miss Royden, Mrs. F. Allen, and Mrs. J. E. Francis spoke on "Women and the Outlook of To-day," at a conference where something of the spirit of the Woman's Suffrage Campaign seemed to have been recaptured. Miss Royden also spoke at a meeting in the Pier Music Pavilion, when the Rev. Canon Simpson took the chair. Her subject, "Christianity, Psychology, and Some Problems of To-day," was dealt with as readers of THE VOTE would expect from Miss Royden, and she kept a thousand people quietly expectant throughout her speech, which plumbed great depths, rose to equally great spiritual heights, with a golden thread of humour running throughout. The smaller office meetings were also of interest, especially that on Marriage Service Revision, and the platform dialogue on "The Admission of Women to the Priesthood." Most of the "anti" arguments were drawn out and successfully dealt with. We congratulate the League on its educational campaign.

There is still time for readers of THE VOTE who are members of the Church of England to sign the petition to the bishops, which runs as follows:—

"We, the undersigned, respectfully beg our Fathers in God, in their deliberations regarding the Marriage Service in the alternative Prayer Book, so to revise that service that it may be brought into accord with the high ideals of mutual trust, consideration and reverence which should inspire those members of the Christian Church who seek the blessing of God upon their marriage vows."

## THE WORK OF THE LEAGUE.

A very successful members' meeting was held at the Minerva Club last Friday evening. The work of Headquarters, since our Annual Conference last April, was described, and plans suggested for the winter. From the Chair, Miss Anna Munro gave a racy account of the Annual Meetings of the National Council of Women, recently held at Birmingham, which she had attended as a delegate of the Women's Freedom League. Dr. Lewin also spoke on these meetings, which she had attended as a member of the National Council of Women's Executive Committee, and on the resolutions discussed. Dr. Knight gave an account of the work done by our organisers in Scotland and England, and of the Birthday Party held last July, and urged every member to send in as many gifts as possible for our Green, White and Gold Fair. Miss Underwood dealt with the meetings held by other organisations and attended by various representatives of the League, and with a heavy amount of correspondence with Members of the present Government, as well as other Members of the House of Commons on subjects in which we took particular interest. Members of the audience made some very useful suggestions for future work. It was urged that we should immediately get out questions to be put to all candidates standing for the

forthcoming municipal elections; that we should give our full support to the Food Council in all its efforts to bring down Food Prices; that we should work to secure a Public Defender in our Courts; and that we should seriously set out to discover possibilities of training and work for unemployed women, outside domestic training and work. This last recommendation led to an exceedingly interesting discussion, in which Councillor Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P., Dr. Lewin, Miss Janet Gibson, and Miss Reeves took a leading part. One of the speakers stoutly maintained that the work of women in the home—home-making—was the most important work that women could possibly do; and other speakers urged women to think out all sides of this problem, and boldly undertake to reorganise the present basis of work, arrangements, and hours inside the home. It was urged also that women should insist upon labour-saving devices in every home, and that the status of domestic work must be raised. So great was the interest taken in this question that the Committee decided to ask the Minerva Club Branch to arrange a discussion meeting or conference in the near future to deal with the whole question of women's work in the home. A collection was taken for the work of the Women's Freedom League, and copies of THE VOTE and of our pamphlets were sold.



## BOOK REVIEW.

*An Anthology of Flight.* By Stella Wolfe Murray. (Heath Cranton.) 7s. 6d. (Can be obtained at this Office.)

Miss Stella Wolfe Murray has placed us all under a debt of gratitude, and incidentally proved herself a good journalist, in issuing her "Poetry of Flight" in a delightful volume.

The book has a Foreword by Sir Samuel Hoare, M.P., Minister of Air. This is followed by an Introduction before we reach the anthology proper, which is divided into four parts—Desire; Winged Man of the Old World; Winged Man in the New World; and Winged Women.

Passing over the first two parts, let us glance at the other sections of this interesting book. And let me point out in passing that Miss Wolfe Murray has done her work with due discrimination and not a little artistic taste. Of the two poems by Mr. Alfred Noyes included here, are some striking lines from *Tales of the Mermaid Tavern*, concerning an airship slowly sailing "round the mighty bubble of St. Paul's," in which Noyes compares the airship to a "shadowy silken chrysalis." This is a beautiful introduction to the many images, all more or less exquisite, employed by those who have sung of aerial flight.

One of the completest quatrains in the book is by Ernest Rhys; so good is it that I must quote it entire. "With the train of a man, and the wing of a bird, he compassed his flight,

And the towns and the seas, as he went, were smoke at his feet;

He lived a great life while we slept, in the dark of the night,

And went home by the mariner's road, down the star's empty street."

Because the above was written, so to say, in our own time, and speaks not vaguely our language, it appeals far more than the poetic prophecies of Shakespeare or Milton, of Shelley or Owen Cambridge. The passage from the *Kebrā Nagast*, in Sir Wallis Budge's translation is no more than curious; the selections from Ovid and Homer are classical allusions gained by the poets' vision, touched by the light of their genius; but they are nothing more. Flight, as we know it to-day, was not imagined by them. But to those who have known the dread, the delights of flying, the feeling of absolute mastery of the air, such are the true singers of this latter day; and, be it said, their songs know nothing of sex.

One of the most pathetic poems in this book is Cuthbert Hicks's *Per Ardua Ad Astra*, in which the fine refrain recurs—

"For Life is Flight and Death is Flight,  
And the Pilot takes his due."

I should have liked to quote entirely Ruth Young's *Night at Hampstead, July, 1918*; Katherine Tynan's *Fond Armen*; Angela Morgan's *Winged Victors*. But my space is more than exhausted. It only remains to commend this lively and interesting volume to those who know, and those who hope to know, the real poetry of flight. G. J. H. N.

## In Memoriam.

ROBINSON—On September 29th. Mrs. Annot Robinson, of Flisk Schoolhouse, Newburgh, Fife.

Our old members and friends who were in the Movement twenty years ago will join with us in deep regret at the death of a splendid colleague. Miss Annot Wilkie was the first Hon. Secretary of our Dundee Branch, and led the campaign for the suffragist education of Mr. Winston Churchill, the local M.P. At a public meeting, when Mr. Churchill incautiously confessed that he knew nothing about votes for women, Miss Wilkie got up on her seat and stood her ground until she had delivered a brief speech on the desired reform. Miss Wilkie was a sincere and eloquent speaker; she spoke all over the country, and was one of the first members of our Scottish Council. After her marriage she was busy in organising work and in teaching.

Our deep sympathy is given to her sister, Miss Helen Wilkie, and to her other relations.

## GREEN, WHITE &amp; GOLD FAIR.

To be held this year on

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20th & 21st,

at

THE CENTRAL HALL, WESTMINSTER,

from 3 to 9 p.m. each day.

To be formally opened each day at 3 p.m.

ON FRIDAY BY

DAME MILLICENT FAWCETT, G.B.E., J.P., LL.D.

Chairman: MISS ANNA MUNRO

(President of the Women's Freedom League).

ON SATURDAY BY

MISS LIND-AF-HAGEBY.

Chairman: COUNCILLOR MRS. SCHOFIELD COATES, J.P.

(Middlesbrough).

COME AND BUY YOUR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS AT OUR ATTRACTIVE STALLS FOR USEFUL AND FANCY ARTICLES.

ENTERTAINMENTS. GAMES.

DISPLAY BY MISS WOOLLACOTT'S PUPILS

(Saturday 21st, at 6 p.m.)

CLASSICAL DANCING

by the Child Dancer,

MISS MARGERY DUNHILL

(Friday, 20th, at 6 p.m.)

Novel Competitions:

HIDDEN TREASURE HUNT.

PHRENOLOGY. CHARACTER READING.

NUMEROLOGY.

THE CHANTANT (from 4 to 6 p.m. each day).

Teas, Suppers, and Refreshments at moderate prices.

Other Societies taking Stalls:—

The League of the Church Militant.  
St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance.  
British Commonwealth League.  
Nine Elms Settlement.  
Council for International Service.  
Catholic Stage Guild.  
Miss Nettleton (Association Deaf and Dumb).  
Mrs. Rogers (South Indian Village Industries).  
The Food Education Society.  
The Montessori Society.  
The Rally and Rendo.  
The Bryn Rhodvan Pottery.  
Miss Barwood (Beads).  
Miss A. M. Sworder (Needlework and Mending Bureau).  
Miss Waldram (Art Pottery).

Tickets—(including Tax, 1/10 the first day until 5 p.m.; after 5 p.m. and on second day 1/2)—will shortly be on sale at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1, or can be obtained at the doors.

All Communications and gifts (also applications for Stalls) should be sent to Miss E. Berry, Hon. Fair Sec., at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

## AN APPRECIATED APPRECIATION.

In last week's *Time and Tide* appears the following paragraph:—

"Covered in the bright green of that hope in which it has never failed, the Women's Freedom League issues the report of its Eighteenth Annual Conference. It is a record of steady, never-faltering progress, bearing the undimmed lamp of true feminism, blind only to red herrings."

## JUST OUT!

Women's Freedom League—Annual Report, 1924-25 ... 3d.  
British Commonwealth League—Report of Conference,  
July, 1925 ... 1/6  
Order from 144, High Holborn.

## Women's Freedom League.

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

Telephone:—MUSEUM 1429.

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

President—Miss ANNA MUNRO.

Hon. Treasurer—Dr. E. KNIGHT.

Hon. Organising Secretary—Mrs. WHETTON.

General Secretary—Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD.

## WHERE TO GO.

## WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

## LONDON AND SUBURBS.

Friday and Saturday, November 20th and 21st.  
Green, White and Gold Fair at Central Hall,  
Westminster. Openers, November 20th, 3 p.m.,  
Dame Millicent Fawcett, G.B.E., J.P., November  
21st, 3 p.m., Miss Lind-af-Hageby.

DARE TO BE FREE. Saturday, December 5th, at 10 a.m.  
National Executive Committee, at 144, High  
Holborn, W.C.1.

## PROVINCES.

Monday, November 9th, at 3.30 p.m.  
Hastings Branch. Public Meeting at the Grand Hotel. Speaker:  
Mrs. Miles. Subject: "The League of Nations."  
Thursday, November 12th, at 7.30 p.m.  
Portsmouth Branch. Social Evening. Lecture on Robert L.  
Stevenson, by Mrs. Hart. Musical Selections.

## SCOTLAND.

Monday, October 19th, at 7.30 p.m.  
Public Meeting in the Philosophical Hall, Queen's Street, Edinburgh.  
Speakers: Miss Anna Munro and Miss Anna Ashby, M.A., "The  
Community Players."

## OTHER SOCIETIES.

Saturday, October 17th, at 3.  
Saturday Speech Club, Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1.  
Debate on "Imperial Preference v. Free Trade." Opener: Mr.  
Leo. Maxse, Editor of *The National Review*. Opposer: Mr.  
Hubert Phillips (of the Eighty Club).

Monday, October 19th, at 5 p.m.  
Six Point Group, 92, Victoria Street, S.W. Miss England on "The  
Woman's Movement in New Zealand." Chair: Miss Reta Oldham.

Tuesday, October 20th, at 7.30 for 7.45.  
British Commonwealth League. Dinner and Reception to meet  
Mrs. Mackinnon (Australian Substitute Delegate to the League of  
Nations), at the Forum Club, 6, Grosvenor Place, S.W.1. Tickets 6/-.  
From Miss Collisson, 17, Buckingham Street, Adelphi.

Wednesday, October 21st.  
Miss Marjorie Gullan's Speech-Training and Verse-Speaking  
Classes begin at New Education Fellowship, 11, Tavistock Square,  
W.C.

Thursday, October 29th, at 5 p.m.  
Six Point Group, 92, Victoria Street, S.W. Speaker: Mr. St. John  
Ervine. Subject: "The Press as Priest." Chair: Mrs. Archdale.

Thursday, October 29th, at 6 p.m.  
Child Study Society, London, 93, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.1.  
Speaker: Miss Marjorie Gullan. Subject: "The Teaching of  
Poetry."

## BRANCH NOTES.

## PORTSMOUTH.

The Annual Meeting was held on Thursday, October 8th, at 3 o'clock, at 2, Kent Road. There was a good attendance. The annual report showed a year's work of varied activities. In addition to public business and sewing meetings, interest had been taken in local and national matters, and resolutions on different questions had been forwarded to the local authorities and the government. Plans for the winter's work and future public meetings were arranged. Mrs. Whetton and Mrs. Brading were re-elected Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer respectively. The autumn session is to be opened with a social evening on Thursday, November 12th, at 7.30. Mrs. Hart has very kindly promised to give her popular lecture on Robert Louis Stevenson, illustrated by musical selections. The place of the social will be announced later. Work parties have been arranged to make articles for the Portsmouth Stall at the Green, White and Gold Fair. Towels, soap, candles, tablecloths, dusters, and anything useful for the house will be gratefully accepted by the Secretary. (Hon. Sec.) Mrs. WHETTON, 89, Festing Grove, Southsea.

## EDINBURGH.

During the last week five open-air meetings have been held in different parts of Edinburgh, when Miss Spriggs has kindly taken the chair, and Miss Ross helped most substantially by selling *The Vote* and literature. We hope that all who see this notice will come to the Philosophical Hall, Queen's Street, next Monday, October 19th, at 7.30 p.m., when Miss Anna Munro and Miss Anna Ashby, M.A., will speak, and the "Community Players" give the one-act play, "The Great Cham's Diamond." Mr. Dan Easson, B.L., will preside. Our sincere thanks are due to all those people who are so kindly going to help us, and we hope that a packed hall will to some extent express the measure of our gratitude.

(Org.) LILIAN LENTON, 22, Panmure Place.

## SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCHES.

South-Eastern Branches Stall.—Will members please send contributions for the above as soon as possible to me at 8, Holmesdale Gardens? Those members who have kindly promised parcels are:—Mme. Osterveen, Mrs. Willis, Miss Norah MacMunn, Miss Rance, Miss Vicat Cole, and Miss Bentley.

## HASTINGS.

November 9th, 3.30 p.m.—A public meeting will be held at the Grand Hotel (opposite Hastings Pier) on Monday, November 9th. Mrs. Miles will speak on the League of Nations. Chair: Mrs. Darent Harrison.

## OUR OPEN COLUMN.

To the Editor of THE VOTE.

"Women in Business."

DEAR MADAM,—Will you allow me to comment on two articles in your issue of the 2nd October, both of which interested me very much:—

(1) "Why not Travelling Scholarships for Business Women?" I understand that a woman member of the English Speaking Union is about to establish a "Maude Royden Travelling Scholarship" for business women. I mention this as a matter of possible interest to your readers in connection with the above article, and not by way of suggesting that the Union itself is therefore justified in making this discrimination between men and women.

(2) "Women in Business." This article appealed to me very much because it expressed, particularly in the last paragraph but one, my own views on the subject. "The progress of women will not be rapid in business until they can themselves initiate and carry on more commercial undertakings on independent lines of their own. Here, of course, the question of capital comes in; but it may be that a great deal could be achieved by co-operation."

The Langbourn Club for business women in the City has been started on co-operative lines by women without capital, and is, I believe, an indication, small but significant, of what women could achieve in the future under the protection of the very inadequately appreciated Industrial and Provident Societies Acts.

These Societies exist for trade and business purposes, but (1) Interest and dividends are limited to 7½ per cent.; (2) No individual's interest in the shares of the Society may exceed £200.

They trade—but for mutual benefit and not for unlimited profits. The Women's Pioneer Housing, Ltd., which is doing such good work by converting large houses into flats for women, is another Society under these Acts, and the newly registered British Housewives' Association, Ltd., will also have the benefit of their protection.

It should be remembered, however, that even these co-operative societies, though they may be run and governed by middle- and working-class men and women, usually, or often, are given a start by the capitalist, who comes in, not as a shareholder with a controlling interest, but as a Lender. As Lender, he has no voting rights, he is merely a creditor, who can take legal proceedings, and can exercise an influence on the Society's affairs only if his interest remains unpaid after it has fallen due, or if the Society fails to perform any part of its agreement with him in regard to his loan. These Lenders are usually known as "Stockholders" or "Loan-Stockholders," and it is most important that they should not be confused with the Shareholders, who are the members of the Society with voting and controlling rights.

The Langbourn Club, for one, owes its existence largely to the employers in the City and the women of means who supported it by becoming stockholders, and to the City Companies, who made most generous grants towards the cost of equipment. Here, indeed, co-operation has taken place, and not only among the members, but between the members and the employers who became stockholders.

I am a firm believer in co-operation as being a way out of many of our social and industrial difficulties, and a way which is not only constitutional, but has the protection of laws made especially for the benefit of the poorer elements of the community. It is, however, a way which is only beginning to be realised and appreciated by educated women. Yours faithfully,

M. M. HOMERSHAM.

## WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE SETTLEMENT.

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

We do very much thank all those who so kindly helped us with jumble sale goods. Everything was sold, and orders given for clothing or goods still further needed in the shape of perambulators, women's boots, sheets, bedticks, boys' clothes, etc., so another sale is being arranged for in the near future by Miss Stutchbury. We have to thank the Misses Haward, Miss Greenville and various of her friends, Miss T. Cooper, Miss Riggall, Miss S. Turton, Miss Underwood, Mrs. Read, Mrs. Ganley, Mrs. Freeman, Mrs. de Vere Summers, Mrs. de Vere Smith, Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Posener, and Mrs. Sonn. A large box of groceries was forwarded by Mr. de Vere Summers, and various anonymous parcels were received, or parcels with name but no address.

## APOLOGIES TO MISS NEAL.

We greatly regret that in the article "Pensions at last!" by Miss M. I. Neal, on page 325 of our issue of October 9th, the words reading "(2) have resided 27 years in Great Britain" should have been 2 years.



FRIDAY,  
OCT. 16.  
1925.

# THE VOTE

ONE  
PENNY  
WEEKLY

## CLUBS.

**ISIS CLUB**, 79, Fitzjohn's Avenue (2 minutes Hampstead Tube Station). Magnificent Reception Rooms. Central heating. Sunny bedrooms. Sandy soil. Lectures, dancing, listening-in. Telephone: Hampstead 2869.

**PIONEER CLUB**, 12, Cavendish Place, Oxford Circus, W.1. Bedrooms. Debates. Concerts. Town Membership. £5 5s.; Professional and Country, £4 4s.

## TO LET.

**FURNISHED COTTAGE**, in Suffolk, 21/- weekly. Simply Decorated. Oak beams exposed.—Apply **HAYLAND**, The Peasant Shop, 41, Devonshire Street, Theobald's Road, W.C.1

**ST. JOHN'S WOOD**. Unfurnished rooms for women occupied daytime. Delightful house; nice garden; excellent locality. Quiet, but very convenient, bus or tube. Electric light; telephone; gas fires and slot meters; geysers in bathrooms. Meals and service, if required.—Apply Box G.E.F., THE VOTE Office, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

## REST AND HOLIDAYS.

**BRIGHTON**.—"Sea View," Victoria Road. Midday dinner. Gas fires in Bedrooms. Wireless. Vegetarians catered for.—Hostess: **MISS TURNER**.

**CORNWALL**.—Paying Guest received in modern farmhouse. £2 2s. week. Clotted cream 3/- lb., post free.—**SELSEY** St. Stephen's, St. Austell, Cornwall.

**RYE, SUSSEX**.—**OLD HOPE ANCHOR**. Ideal Guest House. Modern comforts; good cooking. Separate Vegetarian cooking a speciality. Write for booklet.

**STRESA**.—The most delightful spot on Lake Maggiore, Italy, for spending a quiet summer holiday.—**MRS. COGTRA**, Hotel St. Gothard. Terms *en pension* £3 weekly.

**SAND BANKS**. 3 miles Bournemouth. Board Residence. Winter terms very moderate.—**MISS ALLEN**, "Cosy Nook," Sand Banks, Dorset.

## NOTICES.

**INCOME TAX RECOVERED AND ADJUSTED**.—Consult **Miss H. M. BAKER**, 275, High Holborn, W.C.1. Income Tax Returns, Repayment Claims of all Descriptions. Telephone: Holborn 377.

**FELLOWSHIP SERVICES**.—Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Sunday, October 18th. 3.30 p.m. Music. Lecture. Dr. Andrew Balfour, C.B., C.M.G., F.R.G.S. 6.30 p.m. Mr. Oliver Lodge: "The Message of Art to this Generation."

## BOARD RESIDENCE.

**LADY** requires Paying Guest, very comfortable modern home, Stoke Newington district. Young business or professional lady preferred. 30/- weekly, partial board.—Write Box K.B.A., THE VOTE Office, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

## TRADE ADVERTISEMENTS.

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

SMART CUT, AND :: COSTUMES MADE TO  
PERFECT TAILORING ORDER FROM 7 GUINEAS

**H. Melissen,**

Ladies' Tailor,

PERSONAL ATTENTION.

62, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1.

## 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.

## For the Beauty and Fragrance of Your Home

### Grow Flowers Indoors

**NOTHING** is more delightful, and certainly nothing is easier, than to grow bulbs in your home, provided the simple directions are carried out.

From the eagerly awaited day when you first see the tender green of the young shoots, right up to the time when the gorgeously hued flowers bathe your home in beauty and fragrance, there is the fascination of watching their growth.

### Bulbs suitable for Indoor Culture.

#### Heavenly Blue Grape Hyacinth

A gem of the first water. Scarcely exceeding 6 inches in height, the upper third of stem is clustered thickly with rich gentian-blue wax-like bells, like tiny grapes. For bedding, edging, borders, rockery, planting in grass, in pots of soil or fibre. 10d. doz.; 6/- 100; 55/- 1,000.

#### Neapolitan Bridal Flower

(*Allium neapolitanum*). Produces clusters of the purest white, starry flowers, in pots of soil or fibre, or in the open order; can be had in bloom by Christmas. 8d. doz.; 5/- 100.



### Complete Indoor Outfit

Bees' Indoor Flower-Growing Outfit, consisting of 4 beautiful unbreakable green and gold bowls (2 each size 7½ in. and 9 in.), with fibre and a grand selection of bulbs to fill them, will provide you with fragrant flowers throughout the winter. The bulbs include Hyacinths, Daffodils, Narcissus, etc. Price 17/6 post free. Send your order to-day. Do it Now!

**BEES Ltd.,**  
175, MILL STREET,  
LIVERPOOL.

### Giant Paper-white Narcissus

The true *Grandiflora Paper-white*. May be grown in water, in fibre, or in soil. Will commence to bloom freely in November, and supplies can be had up to the end of February. Flowers translucent white, deliciously fragrant. Splendid Top-size bulbs, 2/- doz.; 15/- 100.

### Poet's Narcissus. Ornatus

The best of the white, single-flowered Narcissus for early flowering; forces easily. Top size bulbs 1/4 doz.; 10/- 100.

### Blue Squills or Scillas

*Scilla sibirica*, the Gentian-blue Squill, blooms same time as the Crocus; does well indoors or out, in soil or in fibre.

Extra large top-size bulbs, producing several spikes of flowers.

1/3 doz.; 9/- 100; 85/- 1,000.

First-size all-flowering bulbs.

1/- doz.; 7/6 100; 70/- 1,000.

### Early Flowering Daffodil

"*Princeps*."

Primrose petals and golden trumpet; blooms extra early and well in soil or fibre.

Top-size Mother bulbs, 1/4 doz.; 10/- 100.

First-size flowering bulbs, 1/- doz.; 7/6 100.

### COUPON AND ORDER FORM.

1. Please send Complete Outfit, for which I enclose ... £ s. d

2. Please send Rose and Plant Catalogue.

Name .....

Address .....

T V 19/10/25 Cross out when not required.