THE VOTE, JUNE 15, 1923. ONE PENNY.

## WAKE UP, HOUSEWIVES!

# THE VOIE

## THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

Vol. XXIV. No. 712.

(Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and transmissible through the post in the United Kingdom at the newspaper rate of postage, but to Canada and Newfoundland at the Magazine rate.)

FRIDAY, JUNE 15, 1923

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 wellbeing of the community.

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THE HOUSING BILL. Olive M. Aldridge.
WE WILL MAKE NO TERMS WITH INFAMY.
WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

## THE FIRST WOMAN SOLICITOR IN IRELAND.

By L. A. M. Priestley, Author of "The Feminine in Fiction."

Young, slim, frank, fresh, and golden-haired, without "side" or affectation of any sort—disclaiming, in fact, any special credit or importance in being the first woman solicitor in the Emerald Isle—Miss Mary Dorothea Heron, B.A., LL.B., is as charming in her

manner as she is unique in the professional status to which she has recently attained.

Miss Heron took her qualification in January of this year, having previously taken the B.A. degree and the LL.B. degree and the LL.B. degree and year. The properties of the LL.B. degree as the Jast. Her apprenticeship was served in her uncle's office—a well-known Belfast solicitor—and Miss Heron is the first and, so far, the only girl to enter a lawyer's office in Belfast as a duly articled pupil.

The prescribed term for the ordinary law apprentice is five years, but a University graduate is excused two years, so that Miss Heron's legal apprenticeship was for three years. Belfast has reason to be proud of her lawyer daughters. Last year Miss Kyle, LL.B., was the first woman barrister to be "called" in

LL. B., was the first woman barrister to be "called" in MISS M. D. HE Great Britain and Ireland; this year Miss Heron is the first qualified woman solicitor in Ireland.

Her law lectures were taken by Miss Heron in Trinity College, Dublin; there was one other woman student at lectures with her, but the latter is not yet qualified.

It is of some historic interest to mention, in passing, that Miss Heron's residence in Dublin was during the troublous times that preceded and followed the formation of the Irish Free State. She was one of the very last law students to attend at the Four Courts before

they were seized by the famous Rory O'Connor and eventually burned, after being occupied by Republican troops for some weeks. Miss Heron, moreover, is one of the last few qualified solicitors who can practise in any part of Ireland. Under the new conditions in Ireland, Dublin and Northern Ireland has each its own Incorporated Law Society, so that henceforth students qualifying in Dublin will be allowed to practise only in the Free State, and, similarly Northern solicitors in Ulster only. Formerly, Dublin was the headquarters of the Incorporated Law Society of Ireland, holding, as such, legal sway over the whole of Ireland. But now—other times, other manners!

Miss Heron is carrying on the educational tradition of her family. Her father, a distinguished graduate of the old Royal University of

Ireland, was County Surveyor for Down until his recent retirement; and her grandfather, Dr. Heron, was Professor of Church History in the Assembly's Theological College, Belfast, whilst most of her nearest male relations are either legal or medical practitioners in Ulster.



MISS M. D. HERON, B.A., LL.D

ing fact will be Miss Heron's kinship (through her grandfather) with that pioneer of the Higher Educa-

tion of Women in Ulster, Mrs. Margaret Byers, LL.D.,

who, in 1859, founded in Belfast, on her own initiative

and as a private undertaking, without State aid or

endowment of any kind, the now famous Victoria College, of which she was the esteemed Headmistress till

her death in 1912, and where thousands of girls since its foundations till the present day have had the benefit

of a sound and liberal education. When the Irish

Intermediate Act was passed, somewhere about the

year 1880, which allocated the sum of one million

pounds for the secondary education of boys in Ireland,

Mrs. Byers, together with her talented friend and co-

worker, Miss Isabella Tod, seized at once upon the

defect in the Bill—the exclusion of girls from its scope

extensively signed memorial and a personal deputation

to Lord Cairns, the promoter of the Bill (when Mrs.

Byers was the principal speaker), in having a clause

added to the Act to admit girls, equally with boys, to

the benefits of the Intermediate Education system in

Dr. Byers was a convinced suffragist, and many an

audience did she and her friend Miss Tod address on

behalf of women's political rights in the early days of

the struggle, doing valiant and valuable work for the

great cause, though, alas! neither of these splendid

honorary degree from any University, when, in recog-

nition of her long and devoted services to education, the University of Dublin—founded, be it noted, by a

woman, Queen Elizabeth-conferred upon Mrs. Byers

its highest distinction, the honorary degree of LL.D.,

acclaim the professional distinction and academic success of Dr. Byers's young kinswoman, Miss Heron,

and entitled to write after her name and her degrees

the word Solicitor-a sign indeed of the new and

present is still with her uncle, where she attends to the

outine of a chamber practice, conveyancing, probate,

and bankruptcy, and the interviewing of clients. In

reply to a query of mine, Miss Heron thinks law as a

Walking is Miss Heron's chief recreation, though

she can wield both a tennis racquet and a hockey club

with skill and vigour, and her favourite authors are

WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Philippine Islands is making considerable progress.

Originally the Filipina was politically equal with the

man, but the Spanish Conquest put the clock back, and

the question of universal suffrage did not arise again

until 1907, when a Bill, sponsored by Governor Har-

rison, was presented, passed by the House, and killed

by the Senate. Last October a similar measure was

again passed by the Senate, and referred to the House,

but with an amendment, which required the signatures

of 50,000 qualified women electors to a petition praying

for woman suffrage. This, however, should be no

difficulty, since there are two million women electors

The movement to secure woman suffrage in the

career for women compares favourably with teaching-

more variety and interest in it, and less drudgery

Miss Heron is not very keen on Court work, and at

the first woman in Ireland duly "learned in the law."

And now, seventeen years later, we Ulster women

Dr. Byers was the first Ulsterwoman to receive an

pioneers lived to see its victory.

wonderful era in which we live.

George Eliot and Joseph Conrad.

in June, 1906.

and set to work immediately, and succeeded, by an

## To readers of The Vote, however, the most interest- NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of our National Executive Committee was held at the Women's Freedom League offices last Saturday, those present being Miss Berry, Miss Alix M. Clark (Montgomery Boroughs), Mrs. Dexter, Mrs. Holmes, Dr. Knight, Mrs. Legge, Miss Anna Munro, Miss C. Neal (Swansea), Mrs. Pierotti, Miss Van Raalte, Mrs. Whetton (Portsmouth), and the Secre-Miss Munro was appointed to the Chair, and cordially welcomed the three new members of the Committee. Letters of apology for absence were received from Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P., and Miss M. I. Neal.

Reports were received and considered from the Hon. Treasurer, the Hon. Organising Secretary, the Secretary, and from the Political, Literature, and VOTE

Resolutions were drafted on behalf of the Women's policy to try to ameliorate any of its conditions.

Housewives' Protest.—The Committee considered the following pledge, which Mrs. Juson Kerr is asking housewives to sign in Kent :- "We, the undersigned, pledge ourselves to restrict our purchases of tea and against the continued high taxation of tea and sugar,

Hyde Park Meetings on Equal Franchise .- Arrange-Park (Marble Arch) on Wednesday evenings through-

Six-Point Group, on Public Morality.

Political Work.—The Secretary reported acknowledements of Resolutions passed at our Conference last April from the present and the former Prime Minister, the Home Secretary, the Minister of the Attorney-General, Lady Astor, M.P., Mrs. Wintringham, M.P., and the heads of the various political Parties; correspondence with Mr. Isaac Foot, M.P., in regard to the Equal Franchise Bill; with Mr. Frank Briant, M.P., in regard to the appointment of women Prison Commissioners, a medical woman inspector and women inspectors of women's prisons, women governors and women deputy governors, as well as women medical officers of women's prisons and women's sections of prisons; and with Sir Robert Newman, M.P., in regard to women Commissioners of the Board of Control, and women medical inspectors under the Board of Control, there being no women at present holding these administrative posts in connection with our prisons or asylums. The Committee decided to protest against the unequal pay arranged for men and women Income Tax Inspec-As the Prime Minister had merely acknowledged, and not replied to, our letter with reference to Equal Franchise and the carrying out of the provisions of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, especially with regard to married women employees, the Committee decided that he should again be written to, and

in the islands, and 350 women's clubs. The Filipina works side by side with the man for the support of the family and education of the children, is found everywhere, in the offices, stores, fields, and tactories, and, in more cases than the Filipino would care to have mentioned, is the bread-winner. Yet the law of the islands gives her absolutely no property rights. She cannot own or sell anything. money as she may have had before marriage becomes the property of her husband,

Sales Departments.

Freedom League for the Agendas of the Consultative Committee and the Annual Meeting of the National Council of Women, and the Executive Committee endorsed the Resolution of the Political Sub-Committee for the Special Meeting of the National Council of Women, as follows:—"That the National Council of Women demands the immediate abolition of all State Regulation of Vice, and considers it a mischievous

sugar to the smallest possible extent until such time as prices become normal again," and decided to urge our Branches to take action along these lines as a protest and the indifference of the Government to the interests of housewives, as portrayed in the recent Budget.

ments were discussed for open-air meetings in Hyde out the summer. Mrs. Nevinson and Mrs. Mustard last week spoke in Hyde Park, at the invitation of the

asked to receive a deputation in regard to these matters.

Clyde Coast Campaign. - This campaign, which Miss Alix M. Clark is organising for the Women's Freedom League, will be conducted from its headquarters at Rothesay from July 19th till August 21st. Any members or friends who will be in the neighbourhood during that time, and are willing to help by speaking, selling literature, THE VOTE, or in any other way, are cordially invited at once to write to Miss Clark at this office.

## IN PARLIAMENT.

#### Trafficking in Girls (Far East).

MR. T. GRIFFITHS (Pontypool) asked the Under-Secretary for the Colonies if he had yet received information upon the number of persons convicted annually in Hong Kong for engaging in traffic in girls? MR. ORMSBY-GORE said that he had not yet received this information, but when he did he would send it to the hon. Member. MR. GRIFFITHS then asked if the Under-Secretary was aware that the ex-Colonial Secretary (Mr. Winston Churchill) had promised that his department would abolish the pernicious system of trafficking in girls in 12 months; and would he take stringent measures to deal with the offenders? ORMSBY-GORE replied that he knew it had been engaging the attention of the Government of Ceylon, and reports and statistics had been called for, but it took many weeks to get a dispatch out and back. The expense of telegraphing a request was prohibitive. LORD HENRY CAVENDISH-BENTINCK (Nottingham, S.) asked the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies if the Reports had vet been received from the Governments of the Federated Malay States and the Straits Settlements upon the existence of a mui tsai system in those dependencies; and, if not, would he inquire the reason for the delay? MR. ORMSBY-GORE replied that preliminary Reports had been received, but the Governor and High Commissioner had not yet forwarded the full report asked for. That official was in communication with the Government of Hong Kong regarding the steps which were being taken in that Colony, and would no doubt profit by the experience which was being gained by that Government. VISCOUNTESS ASTOR (Sutton, Plymouth) asked the Under-Secretary if he had yet received the report upon the sale of a mui tsai girl in Hong Kong for 90 dollars, alleged to have taken place in the office of the Secretary for Chinese Affairs? Mr. ORMSBY-GORE said that the reply was in the negative.

#### Board of Control: Lunacy Commissioners.

SIR ROBERT NEWMAN asked the Minister of Health how many medical men, and how many medical women, were Commissioners of the Board of Control; and how many medical men, and how many medical women, held the position of inspector under the Board of Control? MR. NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN replied that there were four medical men who were Commissioners of the Board of Control, and two medical men inspectors; there were no medical women either as Commissioners or

#### Inland Revenue (Women).

SIR WILLIAM JOYNSON-HICKS (Financial Secretary to the Treasury, replying to a question by Mr. T. THOMSON (Middlesbrough, W.), said that the reorganisation of the Inland Revenue Department was approaching completion. In filling vacancies on the re-organised staff, women had been and were being appointed to posts for which they had qualified at examinations held by the Civil Service Commissioners, in accordance with the arrangements adopted for the Civil Service generally. No women had been excluded from employment in any branch in which they were employed on August 5th, 1921. Women appointed to posts in the Department had an equal opportunity with men for qualifying for promotion to higher posts. Readers of last week's "VOTE," however, will remember that the Inland Revenue has not arranged that there shall be equal pay for men and women Income Tax Inspectors. Women are, of course, glad to have equal opportunities with men for the higher posts, but see no reason at all why the pay for these higher posts should be less for women than for men.

#### Domestic Service.

MR. WILLEY (Cent. Leeds) asked the Minister of Labour whether, in view of the strong expert opinion

in favour of home-makers' training schemes as one of the solutions for dealing with the problem of domestic service, he could state the present policy of the Ministry in that respect; and whether he was ready to give sympathetic consideration to representations in that direction which might be put forward by responsible authorities in the large cities? SIR MONTAGUE BARLOW replied that financial assistance was being given to the Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment for their homecraft training courses, applicants for which were required to give an undertaking that they would enter domestic service. As at present advised, he could not agree that the home-makers' training schemes which did not require such an undertaking, offered a solution for dealing with the problem of domestic service, but he was ready to give full and careful consideration to any representations on the subject which might be put forward.

#### House of Commons (Accommodation).

MR. CLYNES (Platting) asked the Prime Minister whether, having regard to the impossibility of providing sufficient accommodation in the present public galleries for visiting Members of Parliament from the Dominions and the Dominion High Commissioners, whose access to the Debates of the House was of importance in promoting mutual understanding between the nations of the British Commonwealth, and also having regard to the difficulty of providing accommodation for Ministers representing some of the foreign countries he would onsider the appointment of a Select Committee of the House to report whether improved arrangements could be made to deal with the problem? MR. BALDWIN replied that he already had the matter under consideration, and that he had decided to recommend to the House the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the question. LADY ASTOR asked if he would place a woman on that Committee? The PRIME MINISTER promised to consider the suggestion.

#### Elementary Schools Classes (Glasgow).

MR. NICHOL (E. Renfrew) asked the Solicitor-General for Scotland if he was aware that there were at the end of April 611 classes in elementary schools in Glasgow each containing over 60 pupils, and that of those, 45 classes were in excess of 71 pupils; and if, in view of the educational and health results from those large classes, the Scottish Education Department was prepared to take steps to remedy that matter? CAPT. ELLIOT replied that the Scottish Education Department understood that the figures named referred to the number of children on the roll, and that, in the great majority of the 611 cases, the numbers in habitual attendance did not exceed 60. Where excess did occur, it was mainly in older schools, the structure of which was such that more adequate staffing arrangements were in the meantime precluded. The Department had reason to believe that the Education authority were fully alive to the position, and would be ready to deal with the whole situation as soon as a favourable opportunity occurred.

#### Another Franchise Anomaly.

The Westminster Gazette states that MR. FRANK GRAY (Oxford City) will ask the Prime Minister this week for an early amendment of the 1918 Franchise Act with a view to the removal of a stupid anomaly which disfranchises women in the universities. The basis of the franchise for men is residence, and that for women is occupancy, but unless a husband is an occupier the wife's claim to be an occupier fails. The Master of Balliol, for example, is a resident in the Master's Lodge at Balliol, and has a vote, but he is not technically an occupier, and so Mrs. A. L. Smith is disfranchised. The women folk at the heads of other colleges in the universities are similarly disqualified. Obviously an urgent case for amending legislation.

## THE VOTE.

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

FRIDAY, JUNE 15th, 1923.

NOTICE.—Letters should be addressed as follows:—
To the Advertising Manager—on advertising.
To the Secretary—on all other business, including Vote orders, printing, and merchandise, etc

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

#### WAKE UP. HOUSEWIVES!

The taxation of tea has played an important part in history. Because of it we lost the United States of America, and, unless some early reduction is promised by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Government is likely to lose the support of the majority of the women of this country. In the Debate in the House of Commons, last Monday, on the Duty on Tea, in connection with the Finance Bill, Sir William Joynson-Hicks defended the duty on the grounds that it added £11,000,000 to the Revenue, which the Government could not do without, and that every member of the community must pay something in taxation. This duty amounts to 63d. per lb. on all Indian tea, and 8d. per lb. on China tea. Opponents of this duty declared that of all the indirect taxes, this duty on tea is the one which bears the most heavily on the general mass of the population; that tea is almost the most universal article of consumption of all classes in this country, and that it is taxed out of all proportion to its value. An unemployed or a poor person who buys at 2s. a pound has to pay exactly the same amount in taxation on that pound as a person who buys tea at 6s. a pound, and, whereas last year the people who paid direct taxation were relieved to the extent of £50,000,000, those who paid indirect taxation were relieved only to the extent of £5,000,000. All these items are of great interest to housewives, who find no comfort in the fact that most of the companies in the tea trade are making fabulous profits. Mr. T. Johnston (Stirling and Clackmannan), quoting from the previous week's Observer, informed the House that the Buda Beta Tea Company last year made a profit of 105 per cent. on a capital of £80,000; that the Tara Tea Company has been paying dividends of 10 per cent, to 25 per cent, over a long period of years; that the Telbidde Ceylon Estates, Ltd., is paying a dividend of 20 per cent. to 25 per cent.; and that the Travancore Tea Estates Company has been paying anything from 10 per cent. to 50 per cent. In view of all these facts, housewives must take matters into their own hands. They are the great body of purchasers of tea, and if they resolutely determine to restrict their purchases of this commodity to the minimum quantity that they can do with, explaining to the retailers why they are doing so, and urging them to pass on this information to the wholesalers, we are confident that not only will the Government soon find some means of reducing the amount of the duty, but that the great tea companies will certainly find it expedient to reduce their prices to the retailers. Very similar arguments would apply to the case of sugar, and we are glad to see that the Woman Citizen for June, the organ of the National League of Women Voters, in America, has a long article to prove that there is no sugar shortage, and that the present high price of sugar is quite unnecessary.

#### EQUAL DIVORCE.

Major Entwistle's Matrimonial Causes Bill, the object of which is to make the grounds of divorce equal for men and women, went through its Report stage, and secured a Third Reading in the House of Commons last Friday, by 257 votes to 26. Briefly, this Bill gives the right to a woman to divorce her husband solely on the ground of his adultery, and without having also to prove cruelty, just as the husband now has the right to divorce his wife solely on the ground of adultery. The Bill, in fact, exacts from men the same standard of morality as they have for so long exacted from women. Mr. Dennis Herbert was the most voluble opponent of this Bill. First of all he tried to move a clause making insanity a ground of divorce for both parties, but this had already been ruled out of order in the Committee stage as being outside the scope of the Bill. He then tried to get the Bill recommitted, but failed, on a division, by 145 votes to 17. Major Barnett, Mr. Blundell, Mr. Remer, Mr. Herbert, and Sir Frederick Banbury tried to get through a clause by which a husband who was divorced by his wife should not be deprived of the custody of the children. This was opposed by Major Entwistle, Chapple, and Major Birchall, who insisted that this Clause could not be accepted because it imposed a different condition on the woman from what was imposed on the man, and the Courts already had discretion in these matters. Mr. Rawlinson also opposed it, on the ground that it would make it easier to get collusive forms of divorce, for the man would not then regard the divorce as a moral stigma. Various other amendments were also introduced by Mr. Herbert, but were defeated. In opposing the Third Reading of this Bill, Mr. Blundell said it was an attempt to enforce an artificial equality where no equality existed; that there was a fundamental difference between the sexes, no amount of legislation would alter it. Mr. Blundell seemed to forget that all women and their friends were asking for was that there should be equality of treatment for men and women by the law of the land. To advance his case, Mr. Blundell informed the House that, when Mrs. Philipson came to London after her great victory, and was interviewed by the newspapers, he could not help noticing that the questions put to her were not connected with policy, but what she was asked was what she was going to wear when she was introduced! Lady Astor promptly informed him that it was men who asked that question! Still Mr. Blundell pursued the argument that they would not have asked men that question, and then declared it was merely a straw! Sir Ellis Hume-Williams maintained that the right way to remove the present inequality would have been to make it as hard for the husband to divorce his wife as it is at present for the wife to divorce her husband. That is quite plausible, but we wonder how many opponents of the present Bill would have supported one on the lines suggested by Sir Ellis Hume-Williams. Mr. Jack Jones spoke in favour of the Third Reading, but Sir Frederick Banbury opposed it on the ground that there cannot be equality between the sexes. We, however, maintain that there can and ought to be an equal moral standard for both sexes, and if the breaking of that standard penalises a woman, t should also equally penalise a man. The Rev. H. Dunnico objected to the imposing of this common penalty. Major Barnett opposed the Bill because he believed that it would break up a great many homes which are happy under existing circumstances, and that it would lead to an enormous extension of divorce. We are constrained to point out that Major Barnett's gloomy prognostications will find no substance in fact, if men are willing to live up to the same standard which they have imposed on women; and if they value a happy home they will do so. Mr. Dennis Herbert was making another long speech in opposition to the Third Reading when Major Entwistle called for the Question to be put; and when the House divided, it was found that the opponents were defeated by a majority of 231. Lady Astor and Mrs. Wintringham took part in all the Divisions, in support of the Bill.

### THE HOUSING BILL.

By OLIVE M. ALDRIDGE.

men and women applicants for homes, whose names are on the long waiting lists, that before many weeks

It will be welcome news to the many thousands of the building of more than twenty houses on any one

Under the Bill as first introduced, the granting of tod by the State and Local Authori-

those cases in which purchasers ake payments to Building Socie-Housing and Town Planning this subsidy should be given over range, and more especially to which occupying owners have Local Authorities to enable them ises (under the Small Dwellings as amended by the Bill).

nended will enable Local Authorisubsidies to occupying owners under the terms of the Act; to ne grants to houses actually built irrying of the scheme into effect cent. of the value of the work letion of the house; to lend such Local Authority in their discretion der earlier Acts the sum to be per cent. of the market value, Bill this limit is removed.)

ubsidy under the powers of the will only apply to houses coming isurements set forth above. these powers, care must be taken ise and the estate on which it is d standards of design and town

## ,53,75,107, ,163,171,190, ,Tame),211, ,345,363,371, 19,203,259,294. 62,122,197,251,259,307,386,410. 171,285,299,307,315. 147,285,195,251,291,345. 278,281. 0,14,19,21,59,75,131,158,190. 5,171,245,251. 27,45. 299,386. 123,171,190,275,410. 123,171,18,19,26,27,35,52. 115,129,142,263,154,16. 195,198,203(Hall of Fa 262,263,283,315,330,34 394. 10,14,19,21,59,75,131,75,171,245,251. 302,283,289. 265. 62,122,197,251,259,307,315. 171,285,299,307,315. 278,281.

ctresses ctuaries, Women ddams, Jane dvertisers, Women bbott, Grace griculture, Women merican Women

rtists, Women rchitects, Women shby, Mrs Corbett stor, Lady shwell, Lena sian Women thletes, Women ustralian Women viation, Women and yrton, Hertha and

Josephine Butler and the devoted men and women who worked with her through abuse and ruffianism, and the lying charges of a venomous opposition, after many years of struggle delivered our country, in 1886, from the infamy of the official degradation of a minority of women for the supposed good of the rest of the nation. The net result of this reform has been an to find out later that their efforts had aggravated the immense improvement in the physical, mental, moral, evils which they thought to lessen; but as suffragists and spiritual health of our population.

looked back, and every proposal to depart from the a foe.

## ITH INFAMY.

own, that vice cannot be made ith a storm of public condemna-British men and women owe to Federation of the World? Surely sdom of our own experience, and nations in which Regulation is their courage in both hands and

Il Regulation countries there is a emns this horrible system. This to our strongest backing in its ost overwhelming odds. Calling nding of this evil, is it good or it? The evil is inherent in the empts at ameliorating any of its sive details can make less offenly abominable

reign women (who would simply or places of occupation), official tutes of their "rights" (which cupboard or behind a door), rules emain except of her own free will neered), all these futile proposals

are not only wortness but mischievous, for, by allaying public indignation or uneasiness, they prolong the life of a system for which destruction is the only remedy, and we cannot help suspecting that they often originate in quarters commercially interested. Many persons are supporting these proposals from the best of motives, just as they did in similar circumstances in India, only our course is clear. We can hold no parley with, we From the position taken in 1886 we have never will give no quarter to, so formidable, wily, and monstrous

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11,29. 3,19,35,63,95,171 (Sweden),183, 199,245,255,259,291,345,363. 142. 34,41,131,163,211,266,293,373. 131,227. 157,283,315. 147. 107. 122. 259. 9. 283. 378,410. 107,133,163,262. 90,235.

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1\$6,363.
195.
49(Stancioff),51,142,171.
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30,59,63,75,115,245,249,283,291,345.
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322.
10,386,402.
90.
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259,363.
29.
42,66,131,171,179,245,259,263,
275,299,307,315,394.
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Housework for both sexes
Housing, Women and

Icelandic Women
Italian Women
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Indian Women

Institutes, Women's
Intestacy Laws, Women and
Inventors, Women
Irish Women

Japanese Women
Jersey Women(Voting)
Jewish Women
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Journalists, Women
Judges, Women
Juggo-slavian Women

Lawrence, Susan League of Nations, Women and

Librarians, Women Local Government, Women and Lord Saftesbury. Lyttleton, Dame Edith

Married Women
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Mason, Charlotte
Matriarchates
Mayors, Women
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Ministers, Women
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Peers, Women
Philippines Women
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Polish Women
Portuguese Women
Preachers, Women
Preachers, Women
Probation Officers, Women
Prisons, Women and
Publishers, Women
Punch, Women and

Railways, Women and Renan, Henriette Registrars, Women Reptiles, Women and Rhodesian Women Royden, Maude Rulers, Women Rumanian Women

Scientists, Women
Scotswomen
Sculptors, Women
Seafaring Women
Seafaring Women
Secretaries, Women
Serbian Women
Senators, Women
Sheriffs, Women
Shipbrokers, Women
Shipbrokers, Women
Shoting, Women and
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10.

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Teachers, Women
Thorndike, Sybil
Traffic Managers, Women
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Trades, Women's Strange
Travellers, Women
Town Chamberlain, Woman
Turkish Women
Typists, Women

University Women

Veterinary surgeons, Women

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Writers, Women

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154,171.

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163.
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267,275,291,307,371,386,394,414.
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3,34 (Cust).

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## THE VOTE.

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

#### FRIDAY, JUNE 15th, 1923.

NOTICE.—Letters should be add To the Advertising Manager—on adve-To the Secretary—on all other busin printing, and merch

#### Telegrams : " DESPARD, Muse Telephone: MUSEU EDITORIA

The Editor is responsible for unsig paragraphs, or cuttings dealing with a generally will be welcomed. Every e unsuitable MSS. if a stamped address the Editor cannot be responsible in

#### WAKE UP, HO

The taxation of tea has play history. Because of it we los America, and, unless some ear by the Chancellor of the Exchelikely to lose the support of the of this country. In the Debat mons, last Monday, on the Dut with the Finance Bill, Sir defended the duty on the £11,000,000 to the Revenue, could not do without, and the community must pay someth duty amounts to 63d. per lb. or per lb. on China tea. Oppone that of all the indirect taxes, one which bears the most heav of the population; that tea is a article of consumption of all and that it is taxed out of all An unemployed or a poor per pound has to pay exactly the on that pound as a person who and, whereas last year the peo tion were relieved to the exter who paid indirect taxation w extent of £5,000,000. All t interest to housewives, who fir that most of the companies in fabulous profits. Mr. T. John mannan), quoting from the pr informed the House that the I last year made a profit of 105 £80,000; that the Tara Tea C dividends of 10 per cent. to period of years; that the To Ltd., is paying a dividend of cent.; and that the Travanco has been paying anything fro

cent. In view of all these fact

matters into their own hands. They are the great body of purchasers of tea, and if they resolutely determine to restrict their purchases of this commodity to the minimum quantity that they can do with, explaining to the retailers why they are doing so, and urging them to pass on this information to the wholesalers, we are confident that not only will the Government soon find some means of reducing the amount of the duty, but that the great tea companies will certainly find it expedient to reduce their prices to the retailers. similar arguments would apply to the case of sugar, and we are glad to see that the Woman Citizen for June, the organ of the National League of Women Voters, in America, has a long article to prove that there is no sugar shortage, and that the present high price of sugar is quite unnecessary.

#### EOUAL DIVORCE.

Major Entwistle's Matrimonial Causes Bill, the ebject of which is to make the grounds of divorce equal for men and women, went through its Report stage, and secured a Third Reading in the House of Commons last Friday, by 257 votes to 26. Briefly, this

Ballies, Women	386
Balkan Women	104711672567863.245.
Bankers, Women	9
Barker, Lilian	116.
Barristers, Women	3,19,22,35,42(Ivy Williams),44,
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sondfield, Margaret	313.
Blind Women	386.
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Chant, Mrs Ormiston	62.0000101010101010000000000000000000000
Chemists, Women	26,275,287,345.
	51,171,203,363.
China restorers, Women	20,60.

Dunnico objected to the imposing of this common Major Barnett opposed the Bill because he believed that it would break up a great many homes which are happy under existing circumstances, and that it would lead to an enormous extension of divorce. We are constrained to point out that Major Barnett's gloomy prognostications will find no substance in fact, if men are willing to live up to the same standard which they have imposed on women; and if they value a happy home they will do so. Mr. Dennis Herbert was making another long speech in opposition to the Third Reading when Major Entwistle called for the Question to be put; and when the House divided, it was found that the opponents were defeated by a majority of 231. Lady Astor and Mrs. Wintringham took part in all the Divisions, in support of the Bill.

### THE HOUSING BILL.

By OLIVE M. ALDRIDGE.

men and women applicants for homes, whose names are on the long waiting lists, that before many weeks have elapsed, Local Authorities will be able to resume work on their long-delayed housing schemes.

The Bill is almost through the Committee stage, and will shortly come up for its Third Reading. In the Bill as first submitted to the House of Commons, the maximum measurement of the houses coming within the range of the subsidy was 850 superficial feet in the case of the two-storey house, and 780 superficial feet in the case of the one-storey house. But, as amended in Committee, these measurements were altered as follows: - Two-storeved house: Maximum, 950 superficial feet; Minimum, 620 superficial feet.

Structurally separate and self-contained flat or onestoreyed house: Maximum, 880 superficial feet; Minimum, 550 superficial feet. The subsidy to be given to these houses by the State to Local Authorities is £6 per house per annum for a period of 20 years

Unfortunately, the amendment definitely limiting the number of houses to twelve to the acre was not accepted by the Minister, but in this connection he made the following statement:—"The Minister does not propose to prescribe a maximum density, and he considers that a discretion may properly be exercised in this matter by the Local Authority, in view of the particular circumstances of their district. He is of opinion, however, that a density of approximately twelve houses per acre represents a desirable standard, and that as a general rule a Local Authority should not approve of

It will be welcome news to the many thousands of the building of more than twenty houses on any one

Under the Bill as first introduced, the granting of subsidies (contributed by the State and Local Authorities) was limited to those cases in which purchasers had undertaken to make payments to Building Societies. The National Housing and Town Planning Council secured that this subsidy should be given over a greatly extended range, and more especially to cover those cases in which occupying owners have money lent to them by Local Authorities to enable them to purchase their houses (under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, 1899, as amended by the Bill).

The Act as now amended will enable Local Authorities to give annual subsidies to occupying owners brought into existence under the terms of the Act; to limit the giving of the grants to houses actually built as the result of the carrying of the scheme into effect to lend up to 50 per cent. of the value of the work done before the completion of the house; to lend such total amounts as the Local Authority in their discretion may determine. (Under earlier Acts the sum to be lent was limited to 85 per cent. of the market value, but under the present Bill this limit is removed.)

The giving of the subsidy under the powers of the Bill as quoted above will only apply to houses coming within the limited measurements set forth above. the administration of these powers, care must be taken to secure that the house and the estate on which it is built conform to good standards of design and town planning.

#### WILL MAKE NO TERMS WITH INFAMY. WE

The question of State Regulation of Vice is one of the problems of the League of Nations. The Assembly of the League last autumn had before it a proposal to prohibit foreign women from being employed or carrying on their profession as prostitutes in any licensed houses. In such an International body as the League of Nations there were, of course, many diverse views, and the Assembly came to no decision, but referred the question to its Advisory Committee on the Traffic in Women and Children, which investigated the question minority which condemns this horrible system. This and passed a resolution last March, by four votes to two, recommending that, pending the abolition of the struggle against almost overwhelming odds. Calling system of State Regulation, foreign women should be as we must for the ending of this evil, is it good or excluded from licensed houses.

We now learn that the Secretariat of the League of Nations has sent out a questionnaire to all countries, asking whether Regulation is in operation, or whether it has been abandoned, and, if so, for what reasons, and what results have been found in either case.

Every member of the Women's Freedom League, and every progressive man and woman, must be wide awake as to the position which we in this country should take up, and on which side our influence should be thrown.

Josephine Butler and the devoted men and women who worked with her through abuse and ruffianism, and the lying charges of a venomous opposition, after many years of struggle delivered our country, in 1886, from the infamy of the official degradation of a minority of women for the supposed good of the rest of the and spiritual health of our population.

looked back, and every proposal to depart from the a foe.

principle then laid down, that vice cannot be made 'safe," is greeted with a storm of public condemnation. What, then, do British men and women owe to the great International Federation of the World? Surely it is to go with the wisdom of our own experience, and boldly call upon those nations in which Regulation is still rampant to take their courage in both hands and abolish it straightway!

We know that in all Regulation countries there is a minority has a right to our strongest backing in its useful to try to mend it? The evil is inherent in the principle, and no attempts at ameliorating any of its most glaringly oppressive details can make less offensive what is essentially abominable.

The exclusion of foreign women (who would simply change their names or places of occupation), official notices to the prostitutes of their "rights" (which would be hung up in a cupboard or behind a door), rules that no inmate must remain except of her own free will (a consent easily engineered), all these futile proposals are not only worthless but mischievous, for, by allaying public indignation or uneasiness, they prolong the life of a system for which destruction is the only remedy, and we cannot help suspecting that they often originate in quarters commercially interested. Many persons are supporting these proposals from the best of motives, just as they did in similar circumstances in India, only nation. The net result of this reform has been an to find out later that their efforts had aggravated the immense improvement in the physical, mental, moral, evils which they thought to lessen; but as suffragists our course is clear. We can hold no parley with, we From the position taken in 1886 we have never will give no quarter to, so formidable, wily, and monstrous

THE VOTE

## WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

#### More Women Barristers.

Four women were amongst those "called" at the Four Inns of Court last Wednesday. They were the Misses Cornelia Sorabji (Lincoln's Inn), Edith Hesley (Gray's Inn), Evelyn Sanderson and Alice Horsman (both of the Middle Temple). Miss Sorabji is already a Bachelor of Civil Law of Somerville College, Oxford, and is a Vakil, or Native Attorney, of the High Court of Judicature of Allahabad, and Advisor of the Courts of Wards of Bengal, Behar, Orissa and Assam. Miss Hesley is LL.B. of Victoria University, Manchester, and won the Dauntesey Legal Scholarship in 1921. Miss Sanderson is a district inspector of factories at Ashton under-Lyne, and Miss Horsman is an Oxford

#### Woman Minister of Agriculture.

Argentina has just appointed a woman, Señora de Castro, Vice Minister of Agriculture. She is a native of Germany, but came to South America at an early age and was married to an Argentinian. She is the owner of a farm which has developed under her personal supervision, and has actually worked it. Her book on agriculture, "Manual of the Future Farmer," aroused much favourable comment when published and was approved by the agricultural experts of the Permanent Exposition of Cordoba. Señora de Castro speaks English, German, French and Spanish.

#### Exeter's Noted Women.

Miss Daphne Drake is the first woman in England to be appointed as Glazier to the Dean and Chapter of a Cathedral. In succession to her father, the late Mr. Maurice Drake, the novelist, she has been appointed Glazier at Exeter Cathedral. Her grandfather, the late Frederick Drake, also held the position. The post dates back to 1304 and probably earlier. Miss Drake is an associate member of the Society of Master Glass Painters. Exeter also possesses the first woman stockbroker, and an enterprising woman engineer, Miss Partridge, B.Sc., who specialises in electric lighting.

#### Woman Composer's New Opera.

Dame Ethel Smyth's new opera, "Fête Galante," is enjoying the unusual, if not unique, privilege of first being played for a run in the Provinces, and then being staged in London as part of the repertoire of an established opera company. Its first production took place in Birmingham last week, the London performance following this week. A woman is also responsible for the production—Miss Maggie Teyte. "The Bo's'n's Mate," an older composition by Dr. Ethel Smyth, is preceding "Fête Galante."

#### American Woman Artist.

Miss Violet Oakley, who is exhibiting in the St. George's Gallery, George Street, Hanover Square, is the first woman to receive the Medal of Honour from the Architectural League of New York, and the youngest artist ever awarded the Gold Medal of the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Miss Oakley made her reputation by large mural decorations in various public buildings in the United States, particularly those in the Senate Chamber of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

#### Woman Lecturer at Royal Institution.

Miss Joan Evans, B.Litt. (Oxon), is the first woman to lecture before the Royal Institution, which she did last week. Her subject was "The Jewels of the Renais-Miss Evans is a daughter of the late Sir John Evans, the archæologist, and is on the Council of St. Hugh's College, Oxford, besides being a member of the

#### Japanese Women in War Office.

For the first time in its history the War Department of Tokio is engaging women. It is asking for applications from girls to learn draftsmanship.

#### Ramsgate's Woman Mayor.

At the invitation of all her colleagues on the Council, Dame Janet Stancomb Wills has consented to accept the office of Mayor of Ramsgate next year. Dame Janet, who was the first woman town councillor elected in Kent, has been a generous benefactress to the town and is at present beautifying the east cliff at her own expense. She is known as Ramsgate's Lady Bountiful.

#### Women Captains of Industry.

No fewer than half-a-dozen women directors of business concerns attended the meetings of the Labour Co-partnership Congress at the Royal Society of Arts, on Thursday of last week, when the subject for discussion in the afternoon was "Women in Industry." Lady Parsons, who took the chair, is a director of Atalanta Ltd., the pioneer firm of women engineers.

#### Women in Council.

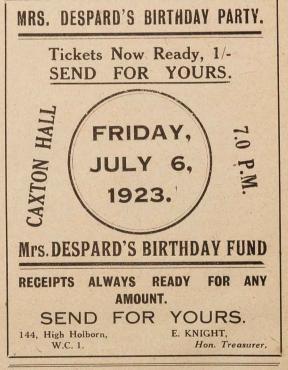
The National Council of Women will hold its Annual Conference this year at Edinburgh, from October 16-The general programme of the Conference will be The Call of the Children," and a number of interesting papers will be read by experts.

#### Mary Slessor Memorial Window.

Dundee is placing a beautiful stained glass window in the hall of the Albert Institute next September, to commemorate one of its most notable daughters, Mary Slessor, who, from work at the loom, came to be a missionary and a governing official in West Africa.

#### A Legal Lady.

Mrs. Mabel Walker Willebrandt, Assistant Attorney-General in the United States, is known at the Department of Justice as "the first legal lady of the She is in charge of prohibition and tax cases.



For a Delightful Holiday visit the LONDON VEGETARIAN SOCIETY'S SUMMER HOLIDAY CENTRE

#### BEXHILL-ON-SEA

from JULY 28th to SEPTEMBER 8th.

Prospectus and full particulars on application to the Secretary, London Vegetarian Society, 8, John Street, Adelphi, W.C.2.

#### Women's Freedom League. Offices: 144, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C. 1.

Hon. Treasurer—Dr. E. KNIGHT. Literature Department—Hon. Head: Mrs. PIEROTTI.

Hon. Organising Secretary—
Mrs. SCHOFIELD COATES, J.P.
VOTE Sales Department—Hon. Head: Miss ALIX M. CLARK.
General Secretary—Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD.

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

Monday, June 25th, at 3 p.m. Political Sub-Committee Meeting, 144, High Holborn,

W.C. 1.

Friday, July 6th, Mrs. Despard's Birthday
Party, Caxton Hall, Westminster. Further
particulars later.

- Saturday, July 7th, at 10 a.m. National
Executive Committee Meeting, 144, High

DARE TO Holborn, W.C.1.

BE FREE. Monday, July 9th, at 3 p.m. Fair Sub-Committee Meeting, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1

PROVINCES.

Tuesday, June 26th, at 7.30 p.m. Portsmouth. Public Meeting, 2, Kent Road. Paper by Mrs. Tanner. Subject: "Galsworthy, Novelist and Feminist." Chair: Mrs. Whetton.

#### OTHER SOCIETIES.

Wednesday, June 20th, at 8 p.m. Women's League of Union, Oak Room, Kingsway Hall. Speaker: Miss Hessell. Subject: "The Use of Leisure."
Wednesday, July 11th, at 8 p.m. Women's League of Union. Oak Room, Kingsway Hall. Speaker: Miss F. A. Underwood, Subject: "How Women are using their Opportunities."

#### BRANCH NOTE.

HAMPSTEAD.

The Annual Meeting was held on Monday, June 4th, at 8 p.m., at the Isis Club, 79, Fitzjohn's Avenue, N.W. 3. (by kind permission of Mrs. Harverson). Miss B. Lyndon presided, and Mrs. Mustard gave a most interesting address on "Woman—the Unknown Quantity," Miss B. Lyndon was again elected Hon. Treasurer, Miss E. Berry Hon. Secretary, and Mrs. Harvey James and Mrs. Harvey James Mrs. Harvey was elected Hon. Assistant Secretary. The Annual Report and Balance Sheet were read, and adopted, and it was decided that a collection should be made by the Branch towards the Fund for onlection should be made by the Branch towards the Fund for Mrs. Despard's Birthday Party. All members who were unable to be present are asked to give towards this Fund. Donations should be sent (in the temporary absence of the Hon. Treasurer abroad) to Mrs. Harvey James, 51, Willow Road, before July 4th.

(Hon Sec). Miss E. Berry, 16, Denning Road, N.W. 3.

#### OUR OPEN COLUMN.

To the Editor of THE VOTE

DEAR MADAM,—In view of the many appeals to members of the League for help in increasing the circulation of THE VOTE, may I suggest that the tone of the criticism of "An Outlaw's Diary," in

the issue of June 1st is hardly conducive to that end.

Quite a considerable number of your readers look on the Red
Flag as the symbol of the emancipation of the workers, men AND
WOMEN, from the tyranny and oppression of the Capitalist class,
and resent the airy assumption that on its trail come "lawlessness,
dirt, drink, cold and death" (which are all to be found under

Capitalism).

Also, they would look on what your critic calls "Miss Tormay's brave and clever efforts to bind together the women of Hungary to preserve their country against disruption and to enforce law and order" as merely the efforts of a counter-revolutionary to coordinate the forces of reaction in order to place the necks of the workers once more under the yoke of their exploiters.

As it may be urged that an editor is not responsible for the opinions of those to whom books are sent for review, I suggest that works dealing with such highly-controversial matters are best left alone in future. In the present case, however, it is only fair that some book dealing with the Hungarian Revolution from a sympathetic point of view should be on sale at The Vote office, and that a review of the same should appear in your columns at an early date.

K. S. Tanner.

K. S. TANNER.

[We must point out to Mrs. Tanner that books are selected for review in The Vote not for their political views but because they are sent to us, and because they are of special interest to women as being by women writers, describing women's work and experiences, etc. Should a book upon Hungary, also giving equally interesting first-hand experiences of a woman, but taking the "Red Flag" side, be sent to us, we shall be delighted to review it. We must also point out that Mrs. Tanner's letter itself proves how admirably our reviewer in this case has portrayed, in a few lines, the spirit and substance of the book reviewed.—Ed.]

#### VOTE STALL AT THE HAMPSTEAD FÊTE.

At this Stall The Vote was well advertised, a large number of copies sold, and new subscribers to the paper and new members of the League secured. Many thanks for the hard work of Mrs, Boyd, Mrs, Cunningham, Mrs, Flowers, Miss Furbank, Mrs. Newsome, Mrs. Northcroft, and Miss Wishon.

#### THE WORLD'S HEALTH.

The League of Nations Health Committee has just concluded its 6th Session in Paris. Representatives of over twenty countries were in attendance, including Surgeon-General H. S. Cumming, Chief of the United States Public Health Service, and Sir George Buchanan, Senior Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health, the

Buchanan, Senior Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health, the British delegate.

The Committee reviewed the whole field of international cooperation in matters of health. The campaign of the League Opium Committee against illicit drug traffic was approved. It was decided to hold a Conference in various European States having navigable inland waterways, for the purpose of co-ordinating and tightening up sanitary control and anti-epidemic measures with the traffic with the cornul functions of these exteriors.

having navigable inland waterways, for the purpose of co-ordinating and tightening up sanitary control and anti-epidemic measures without interfering with the normal functions of these arteries of rade. A report on the results of the system of study visits or "interchanges" for health officers of various countries showed that these are proving remarkably successful. The next of these visits will be to the United States.

Surgeon-General Cumming made an important announcement on the eve of his return to the United States. He declared that the United States were desirous of co-operating in all the humanitarian efforts of the League. Owing to its increased shipping, its world-wide commercial interests, and to immigration, the United States were deeply and directly interested in the whole problem of preventing and controlling epidemic diseases. He believed that the most important result of the present session of the League's Health Committee was the decision to establish an efficient Epidemiological Intelligence Service, with a view to prompt and effective quarantine measures. Surgeon-General Cumming was also impressed by the efforts of the League to co-ordinate the work of all organisations, public and private, whose object, it is to improve the world's health. He was very glad to know that health officers of twenty-one countries were about to visit the United States under the League's interchange scheme.

#### WOMEN HORSE-BREEDERS.

An increasing number of women are breeding horses, dogs, cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry, and goats, says R. C. Reed, in a recent copy of the Daily News, not merely as a hobby, but for the sake of the profit to be derived out of the enterprise. This accounts for the increasing number of women exhibiting in the show ring nowadays, and occupying the highest positions in the agricultural societies to which they belong.

This year there are two lady presidents of leading agricultural and show-promoting associations. Mrs. Calverley, of Harlow, rules over the destinies of the Essex Agricultural Society, and the Hon. Lady Hulse occupies the presidential chair of the Wiltshire Agricultural Society. Both these ladies possess a practical knowledge of stock breeding, Mrs. Calverley favouring Jersey cattle, while Lady Hulse's Breamore House flock of Hampshire Down sheep is famous.

sheep is famous.

Baroness Wentworth is the sole proprietress of the justly celebrated Crabbet Park stud of Arab horses, which she manages herself. So famous has the strain become over a period of more than fifty years that foreign potentates, even from the home of the Arabs, come to Lady Wentworth when in search of the best.

Hackneys are the interest of Mrs. A. C. King, of Braishfield Manor, Romsey, of Mrs. F. E. Colman, of North Park, Epsom Downs, of Mrs. Fletcher, Mrs. Morton, and the Hon. Mrs. Ward. One of the most notable breeders of hunters is Mrs. R. C. Bainbridge. Mrs. James Putnam, of Farringdon, near Exeter, started with hunters, but she has lately turned her attention to hackneys. She also breeds steeplechasers and race-horses, while the premier milking herd of black-and-white Frisian cattle is in her ownership.

ownership.

The most prominent woman breeder of race-horses is undoubtedly Lady James Douglas, of Harwood Lodge, near Newbury. She is the only woman who has won the Derby, which she secured, moreover, with a colt of her own breeding—the celebrated Gainsborough. The Oaks also fell to her with Bayuda. She also has a herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle.

#### THE HAMPSTEAD FÊTE.

Very many thanks to all our members and friends who supported our Green, White, and Gold Stall at "The Hill," last Thursday; to Mrs. Holmes and Miss Lyndon, who were in charge of the Stall, and their helpers, Mrs. Pierotti, Mrs. and Miss James, Miss E. Berry, and the Misses Armstrong.

#### THE CLYDE CAMPAIGN.

This Campaign opens on July 19th to August 25th, when meetings will be held on the Pier Head, Rothesay, every evening, also at Largs, Dunoon, and Millport during the day, weather permitting. We are hoping to have a good muster of helpers and workers from the Glasgow and Edinburgh Branches. We have not yet been able to fix up the principal speaker for the Campaign, but shall do so in the course of a few days. Special numbers of "The Vote" will be published, and I shall be glad of offers of help and conations towards the expenses of the Campaign. donations towards the expenses of the Campaign.

(Hon. Organiser) ALIX M. CLARK,
The Hut, Newtown, Montgomeryshire.

JUNE 15 1923.

## ONE

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