

THE VOTE,  
JULY 20, 1923.  
ONE PENNY.

"NO MORE WAR!"

JULY 28TH.

# THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

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FRIDAY, JULY 20, 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 well-being of the community.

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## GIRLS' SCHOOLS IN PALESTINE.

Miss Hilda Ridler, the only woman delegate at the recent Imperial Education Conference, in whose honour the Women's Freedom League gave a Dinner on July 9th, is Principal of the Women's Training College in Jerusalem, and Inspector of Girls' Schools in Palestine. Miss Ridler went to Palestine in 1918, equipped for her task with European scholarship gained in London, Paris, Berlin, Vienna, and Graz, and with the experience of having been Principal of the English School at Cairo, opened in 1916 for the children of British officials detained abroad during the war period. Immediately after her arrival in Palestine, three elementary schools for girls were started in Jerusalem. During the succeeding months the reorganisation of girls' education was actively continued, and during the autumn of 1918, schools were opened in Nazareth, Nablus, Acre, and Tiberias, buildings being utilised which had been employed as schools during Turkish dominion. Gradually the work has been extended, until at the present time there are 32 elementary schools for girls open in Palestine under the jurisdiction of the official Department of Education, over which Mr. H. E. Bowman (also delegate from Palestine to the Imperial Education Conference) presides. No secondary schools are as yet established. The girls attending the schools are Palestinians, of either Moslem or Christian faith. They sit side by side, participate in the secular education, and receive separate instruction in their respective religions. The Jewish residents attend their own self-supported schools, which obtain—as do the Mission schools—a Government grant towards their expenses. A six years' free course is provided for the girls in the Government schools, the average age of the pupils

being six to twelve years. The curriculum covers such subjects as history, geography, arithmetic, hand-work, drawing, singing, physical drill, and the Arabic language, which is used throughout as the language of instruction. The time of leaving varies, according to whether the girls marry or not. Arab girls may marry at 11 years of age.

The Government Education Department has the hearty co-operation of the Public Health Department, and much is being done to improve the children's health. Nurses attend daily at the Schools to treat the children's eyes, some 91 per cent. of the children of Palestine being afflicted with eye trouble. In districts where nurses are not obtainable, the teachers are instructed what to do for early cases.

In the early days of the enterprise, Miss Ridler realised that it would be essential to train a staff to her hand, and, in 1919, a women's training college was opened at Jerusalem, which provides residence and instruction for about 60 students. Free board, lodging, and tuition are given during the course of training, which extends over six years. The students now in residence are all Palestinians, and comprise Christians, Moslems, Bahais, and adherents of the Greek



MISS HILDA RIDLER.

(Orthodox) and the Latin Church. The training college curriculum includes the Arabic language, English (learned as a foreign language), nature study, and domestic subjects, such as cookery, hygiene, laundry, housewifery, and infant care, the students carrying out the housework for the college residents, both students and the teaching staff of five, of whom two are Englishwomen. Singing, drill, and games also form part of the course. The first batch of 25 students will complete their training this autumn.

## IN PARLIAMENT.

### League of Nations—Woman Representative.

CAPT. WEDGWOOD BENN (Leith) and COMMANDER KENWORTHY (Central Hull) both asked the Prime Minister whether it was intended among the delegates to the next Assembly of the League of Nations to appoint a woman? THE PRIME MINISTER replied that no decision had yet been taken in regard to representation at the meeting of the Assembly of the League of Nations.

### Married Women (Nationality Law).

SIR EDWIN STOCKTON (Manchester, Exchange) asked the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether, in view of the fact that, under American law, English women married to Americans were regarded as aliens, he could state whether any other countries adopted a similar policy with respect to alien women marrying their nationals; and whether he would see if there was any possibility of arriving at an agreement internationally? MR. RONALD MCNEILL replied that the law of nearly all foreign countries was in accordance with English law in holding that the wife took the nationality of her husband. It would not be possible, within the limits of a reply to a question, to state the actual provisions of the law of each country, but information on the subject had been communicated by the Foreign Office to the Joint Committee on the nationality of married women, the substance of which he could supply to the hon. Member. For reasons given to the Committee, he did not think there was any present possibility of arriving at an international agreement on that question.

### Women Police.

VISCOUNTESS ASTOR (Plymouth, Sutton) asked the Home Secretary if the system under which the 20 Metropolitan women police had worked during the current year had proved efficient; and if he could give the record of work performed by those women from January 1st to July 1st, 1923? MR. BRIDGEMAN said that the answer to the first part of the question was in the affirmative. As to the second part, no record was kept of the number of cases in which persons had been warned, admonished, or assisted by the women police. The number of charges preferred by them in the period in question was two. LADY ASTOR inquired if it was not a fact that the number was totally inadequate, and that until women were put under a trained officer they could not do what was expected of them? MR. BRIDGEMAN said he could not accede to that statement. MR. DUFFY (Whitehaven) asked if the right hon. Gentleman thought, having regard to the number of women's cases dealt with in the City of London, that 20 women police were sufficient? MR. BRIDGEMAN replied that it was not a question of sufficiency alone; it was also a question of the cost. VISCOUNT CURZON asked if something could not be done to extend the use of women police to Plymouth as well as to London. LADY ASTOR called out "Hear, hear!" when MR. J. JONES (Silvertown) asked if we could not have a woman Home Secretary?

No reply was given, but the Women's Freedom League would enthusiastically support that proposition.

### Juvenile Centres.

MR. HARDIE (Springburn) asked the Minister of Labour if he was aware that last week an additional 7,000 boys and girls in the Glasgow area left school and were now in search of employment; and if he could take steps to provide employment or continuation education centres to prevent the evils that accompanied enforced idleness? SIR MONTAGUE BARLOW replied that he understood that approximately 7,000 boys and girls had left the elementary schools in the area of the Glasgow Education Authority at the end of the summer term. Every effort would be made through the Employment Exchanges to provide employment for those who required it. As to the last part of the question,

if, as he assumed, the hon. Member referred to juvenile unemployment centres, he might say that he had written to the Glasgow Education Authority, among others, inviting them to open centres from September 17th, on the usual lines of a Government grant of 75 per cent. of the cost. LORD HENRY CAVENDISH-BENTINCK asked if raising the school age would not be the most effective method of dealing with the large number of unemployed children? SIR MONTAGUE replied that that was a question which ought to be addressed to the President of the Board of Education.

### Wife's Allowance.

MR. HARDIE (Springburn) asked the Minister of Pensions if the wife of an ex-Service man in receipt of a pension could claim her portion of the pension without having a deed of separation; and if, where a wife was so separated, her portion was paid to the husband or withheld by the Pensions Department? MAJOR TRYON replied that an allowance in respect of a wife was specifically granted to the pensioner, and was paid to him so long as his wife was living with and being maintained by him in his own home. When a separated wife had not substantiated her claim for maintenance against her husband, no allowance was payable; but if it was clear that the husband was liable for the wife's maintenance under a Deed of Separation or a Maintenance Order, he (the Minister) had discretionary power to grant an allowance payable direct to her.

### Factories (Inspection).

MR. A. GREENWOOD (Nelson and Colne) asked the Home Secretary when the Report of the Chief Inspector of Factories for 1922 would be published? MR. BRIDGEMAN replied that he could not specify the precise date, which depended on the printers, but he was advised, after consultation with the Stationery Office, that it should be possible to publish the Report before the end of the present month. LORD HENRY CAVENDISH-BENTINCK (Nottingham, S.) asked the Home Secretary how many factories and workshops had not been visited by one of His Majesty's factory inspectors for more than a year; and how many for more than two years? MR. BRIDGEMAN replied that the figures for 1922 were in the case of factories 34,666 and 9,009, and in the case of workshops 75,474 and 33,357.

### Executions (Pentonville Prison).

MRS. WINTRINGHAM (Louth) asked the Home Secretary if he was aware that when an execution took place in Pentonville Prison, which was in the vicinity of a London County Council School, notices were posted on the gates of the prison both before and after the execution, and that children on their way to school waited about, hearing the subject of the notices discussed by adults; and if, to obviate that undesirable state of things, he would consider some other method of notifying the public that a death penalty was about to be imposed, and subsequently that it had been paid? MR. BRIDGEMAN replied that the matter had been frequently considered, and he did not see his way to modifying the existing Regulations on the subject.

### Women and Children in Coal Mines.

LORD WINTERTON, replying to MR. T. SMITH (Pontefract), said that the number of men, women, and children employed in underground work in the coal mines of British India in 1921 was 65,786, 42,000, and 1,171 respectively. The returns relate to children under twelve years of age. About 90 per cent. of the above workers were employed in Northern India (Bengal and Bihar and Orissa). COMMANDER KENWORTHY asked if they were to understand that we tolerated the employment of children under 12 in a country under British rule? LORD WINTERTON replied that from July 1st, or some date in the summer of next year, the employment of children under 13 would be prohibited throughout British India. F. A. U.

## WOMEN POLICE.

On the Police Vote Debate in the House of Commons last week, Lady Astor raised the question of Women Police. She reminded the House that the primary duties of the Women Police Patrol consisted in dealing with women and children, ill, destitute, and homeless, and those who had been the victims of sexual offences, or were believed to be drifting towards an immoral life. There were 100 women properly organised in 1918-19, and in 1920 their work was investigated by a Departmental Committee. Evidence was given by Sir Nevil Macready, Sir Leonard Dunning, and chief constables and social workers, and the Committee unanimously reported that in thickly populated areas, where offences against the law relating to women and children were not infrequent, there was not only scope, but urgent need, for the employment of women police, and they also said that the women should be specially qualified, highly trained, and well paid. But the Geddes Committee said the powers of women police were very limited, and their utility was negligible. Lady Astor said that their powers were limited, because the late Home Secretary had refused to give these women the power of arrest. She then gave the following facts about their utility:—There were nearly 2,000 persons cautioned by those women police for acts of indecency in parks and public places, and those people should have been arrested, but could only be cautioned, because the women had no power of arrest. Nearly 3,000 persons were cautioned for unseemly behaviour in parks, and 2,700 young girls were cautioned for loitering in the streets, and advised as to the danger of doing so. One thousand girls passed into homes and hospitals, and 6,400 respectable girls and women stranded at night were found shelter. The Geddes Committee recommended the turning down of the women police, and the Government decided to retain only a nucleus of 20. That was at present their total force, and it meant that, with annual and sick leave, there were only ten women on duty at a time for the whole of London. They were not properly organised, and, being so small a number, were not really efficient for the job they were out to do. Lady Astor stated that the Home Secretary had said that women prisoners were escorted by women officers. They were escorted by policemen's wives, under an arrangement made by the late Home Secretary. There was practically no woman patrolling going on at Hampstead Heath, Clapham Common, Wimbledon Common, and Putney Heath, yet it had been proved that such patrolling was the greatest preventive of improper conduct and criminal interference with children. Cases of indecent exposure had been brought up by women teachers at various schools in London, and there was no possible way of dealing with them until women police were appointed. Only a very small percentage of the women police were told off to take statements from little girls, the victims of outrages. Two ladies were allotted for that work for the whole of London. Yet the taking of a statement from a child was very important, and only highly trained and qualified women could do it properly. It was proved that to keep up a very efficient women police force the cost would only be £18,000 for the whole of London. Five hundred girls weekly went to those women police for advice about treatment. They would not go to a policeman for such advice; and if unfortunate girls could be provided with quick and proper treatment, it would be not only a saving to themselves, but a saving to the whole community. Sir Arthur Steel-Maitland supported Lady Astor's plea for women police. The Home Secretary, replying, said the force to-day consisted of 2 inspectors, 3 sergeants, and 15 patrols, and the only reason why the number was not in excess of 20 was that of economy. The women were now sworn in as members of the force, had the power of arrest, and performed their duties very well. Mr. Bridgeman declared himself a sympathiser with the work of the women police, but he had to consider the question of expense, and could not hold out any hope of being able to increase their number.

## FACTORY INSPECTION.

Mr. Turner, Lord Henry Cavendish-Bentinck, and Mr. A. V. Alexander, in the Debate on the Home Office Vote last week, emphasised the need for more efficient factory inspection. Mr. Turner stated that there was not at present a sufficient number of factory inspectors to go round to all the factories and workshops in this country within a period of two and a half years. In Yorkshire they could not inspect the smaller factories and point out the need for ventilation and fresh air. Women employed in wool-combing workshops suffered excessively through lack of proper ventilation, and those workshops especially required inspection. There had also been a great number of breaches of the Truck Acts. Women had been fined on the most flimsy excuses. Fines were imposed if the girls sang at their work, and if they were five minutes late they lost an hour's pay! There were, too, many preventable accidents, if the Home Office would see that its Regulations were properly carried out. Lord Henry Cavendish-Bentinck also referred to needless accidents, particularly in the case of laundries. He said that the factory inspectorate of this country was utterly inadequate; and what we were saving in our factory inspectors' salaries we were losing in damage to the community, and in the waste of the life of the nation. During the war there was no increase in their number, and at the end of the war, although there was a great increase in the number of factories and workshops, there was no increase, but rather a reduction, in the inspectorate, and now the factory staff was only 205 for 280,000 factories and workshops. Therefore, each inspector ought to inspect each year 1,400 factories and workshops, which was an utterly impossible and a ridiculous job. Mr. Alexander urged that it was of enormous importance to the industrial workers, and especially to the women and children workers, that there should be a far larger staff of factory inspectors. In replying, the Home Secretary said that if the need for economy were not what it was, he would welcome the opportunity of getting money to appoint more inspectors, but that would be most difficult at the present time. He asked members of the Labour Party and of the Unions they represented to call the attention of inspectors to any breaches of regulations which they noticed. Mr. Turner reminded him that the mines had compulsory inspection by the workpeople, and asked if the Home Office could not institute a similar proceeding for factories, so that there should be a monthly inspection. Mr. Bridgeman said he would like to consider that question, which certainly deserved consideration.

## THE VIENNA FRAUENKLUB

The Frauenklub, or Women's Club, of Vienna, was founded 20 years ago by Frau Yella Hertzka, when women's political organisations were forbidden in Austria. Under the guise of citizenship classes, the Club went ahead preparing women for the vote, and is still continuing these courses, even though Austrian women are now enfranchised. One of its earliest activities was to call together the various groups of women in business and professions. It has organised a women's orchestra, which this year will tour Germany and Holland. It has also a women's choir. It has organised the women painters, the women writers, and the women photographers. Its union of office-workers includes some 30,000 members. The Club as a whole works for the recognition of women workers, and for placing their labour on an equality of wage and conditions with the labour of men. The Frauenklub is responsible for most of the reform movements among women in Austria, and it has organised a large number of the economic and industrial groups which are to-day advancing the interests of Viennese women. When war was declared in 1914, the Club as a unit went on record in opposition, and to-day is among the foremost Austrian groups working for permanent peace.

## THE VOTE.

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### EDITORIAL.

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

## "NO MORE WAR!"

It is now nearly nine years since the beginning of the greatest war in the history of the world, which nearly shattered civilisation and turned some of the fairest fields of Europe into ghastly human slaughterhouses. It is less than five years since the Armistice, when the peoples of all nations went again in search of Peace, and out of the ruins and chaos of War tried to build a better order of things, which would make war in the future impossible. Before the war, the women of most of the nations were shut out from all participation in their Governments, and in the policy pursued by those Governments. Out of the wreckage of war, women in most countries gained political influence, and are now uniting throughout the world in working for friendly international relations, are demanding the substitution of judicial methods for those of force, and are prepared to do their utmost to support their Governments in all measures tending to bring about the economic reconstruction of the world and the reconciliation of the nations. The Women's Freedom League does not lag behind its fellow suffragists in other parts of the world in this matter. We stand for the equality of the sexes, and our motto is, "Dare to be Free." We realise that when nations are at war, and for many years after that war has ceased, for the majority of the people of those nations, whether they are victors or vanquished, there can only be equality of misery and equality of poverty shared by men and women. We know, too, that war is the negation of all freedom, and that liberty is invisible within the shadow of war. For these reasons, and because we believe that the desire for mutual co-operation among all the nations of the world is so strongly implanted in the masses of the people, the Women's Freedom League is taking part in the No More War Demonstration, to be held in Hyde Park, on Saturday, July 28th. Our own contingent will form up at York Gate, Regent's Park, at 3 o'clock that afternoon, and we urge all women and men members and sympathisers of our League to join us and march with us in the procession to Hyde Park, and to demonstrate that the people of this country are determined not again to face the horrors of war, which can only prove the futility of force. All men and women who believe in progress, whatever their creed, race, or nationality, are demanding that sanity and order in the universe must be substituted for the madness and disorder of war. Progress can only be made along the lines of order. War spells misery, discontent, and poverty among the nations, and is an intolerable waste of the world's resources. Peace alone can bring order out of chaos, prosperity to the nations, content to the masses of the people, and a possibility for them to share in the culture and resources of their own and other nations. Come with us, therefore, and demonstrate in Hyde Park, on Saturday afternoon, July 28th, that, so far as lies in our power, there shall be NO MORE WAR!

## WOMEN AND THE UNIVERSITIES BILL.

Last week, Standing Committee B, under the Chairmanship of Col. Nicholson, considered the Oxford and Cambridge Universities Bill. The first amendment was by Mrs. Wintringham, that the Board of Education should appoint a woman member to the Commissions of each University. To this, Lord Hugh Cecil wished to add "and one man," so that younger members' opinions might be represented. Both amendments were adopted by 24 votes to 10. Mr. J. R. Butler moved an amendment to provide that the Commissioners should make statutes and regulations in accordance with the recommendation of the Cambridge Committee in relation to the position of women at Cambridge. Quite recently, he said, Cambridge had received a very generous benefaction, establishing a readership in a group of languages not very generally studied. There was a woman at Cambridge peculiarly qualified for such a position, but her appointment was impossible under existing conditions. Oxford and Cambridge Universities were in a unique way national institutions, supplying a particular kind of education to both men and women which could not be got elsewhere. The State could not step aside in the matter of the admission of women to membership of Cambridge University. Lord Hugh Cecil declared that this amendment was inconsistent with the autonomy of Cambridge University, and therefore of all Universities. Mr. W. Graham argued that in the use of public money there should be no discrimination between the sexes. At present, women students at Cambridge were penalised. Mr. J. Murray said that the limit of interference had been reached, and he hoped the Committee would leave Cambridge itself to solve, as he believed it would solve, the question of the status of women in relation to the University. Mr. Fisher said he believed women should and would be admitted to membership of Cambridge University; but he infinitely preferred that the change should be carried out by the constituted senate of the University. Cambridge had been a pioneer in the education of women in the past, and it ought to be left itself to put the crown on its splendid work. Mr. Wood (President of the Board of Education) said it would be a very strong line for a Committee to take to advise Parliament to act in a manner which the Royal Commission, after having considered the pros and cons, felt unable to recommend. He prophesied that if the Committee left the Bill as it was, women, when they got full admission to the University, would thank them for having preserved its autonomy. Mr. Butler's amendment was defeated by 22 votes to 14. All amendments were disposed of, and the Bill was subsequently reported to the House.

## LADY ASTOR'S BILL.

Last Friday, the House of Commons, by a majority of 257 votes to 10, passed the Third Reading of the Intoxicating Liquor (Sale to Persons under Eighteen) Bill. It was supported by Members of all parties, by the heads of the Catholic, Anglican, and all the Free Churches, as well as by large numbers of the medical and teaching professions, and practically by all women's organisations. It provides that intoxicating liquor shall not "knowingly" be sold to anyone below the age of eighteen, though in the case of beer, porter, cider, or perry, the age limit is reduced to sixteen, provided that a meal is consumed with them. Sir Frederick Banbury moved the rejection of the Bill, and did his utmost to obstruct its passage. He was supported by Sir Martin Archer-Shee, Viscount Curzon, and Sir Frederick Hall. Mr. Scrymgeour denounced the Bill as a treachery to the Temperance cause; but in the Division the opposition only mustered ten votes. Mrs. Wintringham and Mrs. Philipson both supported it. We very cordially congratulate Lady Astor on her success with this Bill.

## CRIMINAL ASSAULTS ON CHILDREN.

Mr. Frank Briant raised this question on the Home Office Debate last week. He asked the Home Secretary to consider if it was not now time to issue some form of circular to the magistrates' and other Courts, calling attention to the comparatively small penalties inflicted for criminal assaults on children. He pointed out that in the case of these assaults, a police-court could only inflict a penalty of six months, and suggested that all such cases should be sent to the Sessions, where a heavier penalty could be inflicted. Courts of magistrates who had the power to inflict a six months' sentence frequently did not do so, but imposed penalties which would be ridiculous if they were not tragic in their leniency for these offences. In one case of indecent assault on a child of nine, the penalty was four months' imprisonment. In another case of an assault on a child of six, there was a sentence of one month's imprisonment; in another, on a child of seven, in which the man who was convicted gave as a reason that the child had given him any amount of encouragement, the total penalty was a fine of £3. There was a case of a child of seven in which the man was only bound over. In another case, in which the child was about to become a mother, the sentence was one week's imprisonment; and there was a case which had been under his own observation of a child of 12 who was losing her sight through communicated venereal disease. Mr. Briant urged that the men who committed these outrages should have heavier penalties, or, if they were abnormal or irresponsible in these matters, they should be segregated, and the children protected. A magistrate who imposed a penalty of £5 for such an offence, and then sent a man to prison for stealing a pound of apples, was guilty of a travesty of law and justice, and it was time that our Courts were cleared of men who had so little appreciation of what was just, right, and wrong. Mr. Briant pointed out that the House of Commons consisted almost entirely of men, but it should not allow the question to be, as it had been in the past, a woman's question. It was his sex that was responsible, and all the more shame to his sex that the money required to save those poor children's lives had to be largely appealed for to women.

Lady Astor also spoke on this question of assaults on children. She said that the late Member for the Sutton Division of Plymouth was made an ardent supporter of women's suffrage by a case of child assault. A man was brought up for a most horrible and ghastly assault on a little girl of seven, and another man was brought up for stealing. The man for stealing got two years' imprisonment, and the man for the child assault got six weeks, the Judge remarking, "This is the kind of thing that might happen to any man!" That made an ardent woman suffragist of the late Member for the Sutton Division. Lady Astor declared that most of the girls who do wrong, certainly an enormous percentage of them, were girls who had been assaulted by men when they were children. She asked the Home Secretary to take action in this matter. If he would act quickly and strongly, he would have the whole of the awakened public conscience behind him.

Mrs. Wintringham supported all that had been said by Mr. Briant and Lady Astor. She declared that most of the men who committed assaults on children were degenerate in every sense of the word. She had recently heard of a man of 63 who for 40 years had continually committed these offences, being repeatedly sent to prison, and released, and then committed the offence again. That man ought to be looked upon as a mental degenerate, and treated as such. There was so often lack of evidence in these cases, and the Court failed to convict through lack of evidence. She knew of a little girl who had been assaulted. After some pressure, the mother let the case go to Court. The evidence was outstanding, and there was no question as to the man who had committed the offence. As the trial went on, this child of seven years was rather overcome. She could not answer all the questions, and finally broke down. The consequence was that the man was allowed to go scot free, was now committing similar offences, and had had no punishment whatever. Many of these children had to be taken to homes for treatment. There was not anything like sufficient accommodation in these homes for the cases. At present there were only four in England, and quite fifty were needed. Mrs. Wintringham asked the Home Secretary if he would consider the appointment of a Committee to look into the question of child assault, both with regard to the children and with regard to the offenders. She suggested that the Committee should consist of medical men and representative women and lawyers, who had a knowledge of crime, that could inquire into the question with a view to setting up machinery such as that which was now working in its early stages in Birmingham and Essex, which would bring about the examination, from the psychological and scientific point of view of the men who committed such offences. She also urged the appointment of more women magistrates on the benches, and of more women police.

The Home Secretary replied sympathetically to these criticisms. He declared that anything up to two years' imprisonment with hard labour could be given for an offence of criminal assault, and, if it amounted to a felony, it could also be punished with penal servitude. He pointed out that, unless one was present at the trial, it was very possible to be misled as to the real extent of the crime by abbreviated newspaper reports. He hesitated to decline to take the opinion of local justices, who, as a rule, he thought imposed reasonable sentences. There was no evidence that this horrible crime was on the increase, but he promised that the Home Office would watch the matter very carefully. Mr. Bridgeman also said that Mrs. Wintringham's suggestions as to the treatment of mentally defective persons, in this connection, deserved consideration. The fact that the subject had been debated, and that Members had emphasised the necessity of severer punishment for such crimes, would be of itself an indication that public opinion was in favour of it. Wherever it was possible, by circular or otherwise, he would continue to call further attention to this subject.

## WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

### More Women Solicitors.

Miss Edith Annie Jones Berthen, M.A. (Lond.), and Miss Edith Lilian Ingram, have passed the final examination of the Law Society. Other successful women students were Miss Winifred Johns (Intermediate), the Misses Fanny Buckle, Ethel M. Hallmark, Wilhelmina T. Leviansky, and Hilda Parry (Legal Section), and the Misses Ulrica Anne Hastie, Kathleen Hoobing, and Kathleen Stephens (Trust Accounts and Book-keeping Section).

### First Scottish Woman Barrister.

The first woman barrister in Scotland was introduced to the Scottish Court at Edinburgh last week, when Miss Margaret Henderson Kidd, daughter of Mr. James Kidd, ex-M.P. for Linlithgowshire, was admitted a member of the Faculty of Advocates. Miss Kidd is an M.A. and LL.B. of Edinburgh, where she has taken a prominent part in the social and political life of the University.

# MRS. DESPARD'S BIRTHDAY FUND.

## THE TWELFTH YEAR.

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Henry Holiday, Esq. ....	2 2 0	Miss S. G. Barnet .....	2 6
W. R. Snow, Esq. ....	2 2 0	Miss Ballard Dawson .....	2 6
Mrs. Sargent Florence .....	2 0 0	Mrs. D. Dickson .....	2 6
Dr. Patch .....	2 0 0	Miss C. A. Duckett .....	2 6
Minerva Café, per Miss White .....	1 9 0	Miss Dorothy Evans .....	2 6
Miss B. Malone (Coll. Card) .....	1 7 0	Miss J. Holford .....	2 6
Miss Gulland .....	1 5 0	Miss Hutchinson .....	2 6
Miss K. G. Cooper .....	1 1 0	Mrs. G. Hyde .....	2 6
Miss Fryer .....	1 1 0	J. W. Jeudwine, Esq.....	2 6
Minerva Club .....	1 1 0	Mrs. A. J. Lane .....	2 6
Mrs. Mustard .....	1 1 0	Miss C. Leicester .....	2 6
Mrs. Valentine Russell .....	1 1 0	Mrs. Lucas .....	2 6
Mrs. Saul Solomon .....	1 1 0	Miss M. Mudge .....	2 6
Mrs. M. E. Thomas .....	1 1 0	Miss Lettice Newman.....	2 6
Mrs. Baillie Weaver .....	1 1 0	Mrs. A. Oxlin .....	2 6
Mrs. Lucie Winter .....	1 1 0	Miss B. M. Skeat, Ph.D. ....	2 6
Miss Esther Bright .....	1 0 0	Mrs. Sutcliffe .....	2 6
Mrs. M. E. Sadd Brown .....	1 0 0	Miss Underwood .....	2 6
Mr. and Mrs. Budd .....	1 0 0	Miss A. Withers .....	2 6
Mrs. Bancroft Clark .....	1 0 0	Miss E. Bullen .....	2 0
Miss R. Eamonson .....	1 0 0	Miss F. L. Fuller .....	2 0
Mrs. Dexter .....	1 0 0	Mrs. McGrouther .....	2 0
Allan Graham, Esq. ....	1 0 0	Dr. Outram .....	2 0
Mrs. Pethick Lawrence .....	1 0 0	Miss D. Watkins .....	2 0
Mrs. Bell Lloyd .....	1 0 0	Mrs. Allum and Miss Seymour.....	1 0
Miss Anna Munro .....	1 0 0	Mr. E. R. Bacon .....	1 0
Mrs. E. Rosa Napier .....	1 0 0	Miss Candlin .....	1 0
The Hon. Lady Parsons .....	1 0 0	Mr. W. Stokes Hall .....	1 0
Mrs. Powell (Coll. Card) .....	1 0 0	Miss Tagg .....	1 0
Mrs. D. Rayner .....	1 0 0	Flower Stall, Birthday Party, per Minerva	
Miss A. Sherwood .....	1 0 0	Club .....	1 10 0
Miss E. J. Sherwood .....	1 0 0	Refreshments, ditto, per Minerva Café ..	19 4
Miss F. A. Underwood .....	1 0 0	Strawberries and Cream, ditto, per Mrs. J.	
Dr. Alice Vickery .....	1 0 0	R. Knight.....	3 6 0
Mrs. Zangwill .....	1 0 0	Collection, Birthday Party .....	4 14 6
Mrs. Fingland .....	16 9	Tickets .....	7 9 6
Madame Kubler (Collecting Card) ..	12 0		
Mrs. Mockford .....	10 9		
Miss E. Birt .....	10 6		
Miss A. W. Lance .....	10 6		
Mrs. Aaron .....	10 0		
Mrs. Abbott .....	10 0		
Mrs. Evelyn Amrah, per Miss Farmer ..	10 0		
Mrs. Cavendish-Bentnick, per Miss White	10 0		
Mrs. George Cadbury .....	10 0		
Miss Emily Carter .....	10 0		
H. G. Chancellor, Esq. ....	10 0		
Miss Hetty Cowen .....	10 0		
Miss Davies .....	10 0		
Mrs. A. M. Dawson .....	10 0		
Mrs. B. Gilbert .....	10 0		
" M. G. H. " .....	10 0		
Miss M. M. Homersham .....	10 0		
Miss Hurry .....	10 0		
Margate Pioneer Society .....	10 0		
Miss F. M. Newton .....	10 0		
Miss C. E. Price .....	10 0		
Mrs. Purchas .....	10 0		
Mrs. Samuel .....	10 0		
Miss Steven (Mid-London Branch) ..	10 0		
Mrs. McCracken .....	7 6		
Miss C. Leicester .....	7 6		
Mr. and Mrs. Prelooker, per Miss White ..	7 6		
Mrs. Harrison .....	7 0		
E. G. Clayton, Esq. (Coll. Card).....	6 3		
Miss Elsie Underwood .....	6 0		
Miss S. Bergman .....	5 0		
Miss Lily Cockerill (Coll. Card) .....	5 0		
Mrs. Eagle .....	5 0		
Mrs. Evans .....	5 0		
Mrs. Flowers .....	5 0		
Miss O'Halloran .....	5 0		
Misses E. C. and A. M. Henry .....	5 0		

All friends who have not yet sent in their contributions to this Fund are asked to do so. They will be acknowledged in our Second List. E. KNIGHT.

### READERS, PLEASE NOTE!

From the current week and onwards, Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son will be displaying our showcards at some of their bookstalls.

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  - Liverpool Street (Main).
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# Women's Freedom League.

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General Secretary—Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS W.F.L.

### LONDON AND SUBURBS.

Saturday, July 28th. "No More War" Demonstration. Form up at York Gate, Regent's Park, at 3 p.m., and march to Hyde Park.

Friday, September 21st, at 5 p.m. Organisation Sub-Committee, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

Saturday, September 22nd, at 10 a.m. National Executive Committee Meeting, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

Monday, September 24th, at 3.0 p.m. "Fair" Sub-Committee, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

Friday and Saturday, November 23rd and 24th, Central Hall, Westminster, Green, White and Gold Fair. To be opened on Friday, at 3.30, by The Lady Amherst, of Hackney, and on Saturday, at 3.30, by Miss Lilian Barker.

### SCOTLAND.

July 19th to August 25th. Clyde Campaign, Rothesay. Meetings each evening on the Pier Head. Also at Largs, Dunoon, and Millport during the day.

### PROVINCES.

Saturday, July 21st, at 3 p.m.\* Hastings. Garden Meeting at "Rossiana," Pine Avenue, Ore, near Hastings. Speeches on "The Women's Congress at Rome." Chair: J. Macer Wright, J.P. Tea 1/-.

Friday, July 27th, at 3 p.m. Ashford. Garden Meeting, at "Lodore," Albert Road. Speaker: Mrs. Juson Kerr. Subject: "The Housewives' Protest."

## BRANCH NOTES.

### MIDDLESBROUGH.

The monthly members' meeting was held on July 2nd in the Suffrage Rooms, Mrs. Schofield Coates presiding. After the usual business was gone through, the letter re tea and sugar tax from Headquarters was discussed, and it was agreed that the working women of Middlesbrough were already purchasing the minimum supplies, being forced to do so on account of the terrible depression in trade prevailing in the town and district. The Hon. Secretary, Mrs. E. Wallace, informed the members that she would probably be leaving the town at the end of the month, and she would therefore be resigning the post of Hon. Secretary. (Hon. Sec.) E. WALLACE.

### BEXHILL.

A delightful meeting was held at "Holmwood," Bexhill, last Thursday, when Miss F. A. Underwood came down to tell us of her interesting visit to the Women's Congress at Rome. Mrs. Bryan, who very kindly allowed us to have the meeting in her beautiful garden, made an efficient Chairman. In spite of the fact that it was one of the hottest days we have had this month, some of those in the audience forgot all about the heat in the interest they felt in the Women's Freedom League, and Miss Underwood was bombarded with questions until she had to hurry off to catch her train. The next meeting will be held early in the autumn, when Mr. and Mrs. Lathbury, the Rev. J. Thompson, and Mr. Avey have all promised to give substantial help in connection with a mass meeting to protest against Capital Punishment. (Organiser) MAUD L. WHITE, 8, Holmdale Gardens, Hastings.

## 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. Miss Mary Grant will be the principal speaker for the Campaign. Special numbers of "The Vote" will be published, and I shall be glad of offers of help and donations towards the expenses of the Campaign. (Hon. Organiser) ALIX M. CLARK, The Hut, Newtown, Montgomeryshire.

## NOTES AND COMMENTS.

### Mrs. Schofield Coates' Activities.

Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P. (Middlesbrough) is having a strenuous time. She has been speaking this week at a Garden Meeting under the auspices of the Sunderland Women's Citizens' Association, and at two other garden meetings in Middlesbrough. During the last fortnight she herself has had three garden parties at "Agercroft," more than 250 people being present at one of them. She is taking the lectures at a Summer School at Guisboro' Hall on July 28th and 29th, and has just arranged to speak at the Town Hall, Middlesbrough, in October, at a meeting arranged by the National Union of Teachers.

### London Teachers' Conference.

At the twenty-fifth Conference of the London Teachers' Association, held recently at the Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, Miss C. Hyde and Miss W. Organ were responsible for a Resolution protesting against "the so-called training of infants' assistants, and their employment in the Council's schools," and called upon the London County Council to abandon the scheme forthwith. This Conference also agreed to send a message of congratulation to Lady Astor on the passing of the Intoxicating Liquor Bill in the House of Commons.

### More Married Women Discharged.

Last Saturday, the Shropshire County Education Committee confirmed the recommendation of the Staffing Sub-Committee that 29 married women teachers should be dismissed, as it was considered that they could be dismissed without any undue hardship.

### "A Successful Strike."

Under the above heading, *The Times* reports that a "lightning" strike of employees of Messrs. Schweppes, Ltd., at their Vauxhall factory, lasted only half an hour. Two hundred men and women in the mineral water factory were involved, and the dispute was about wages and conditions of work. The directors met the strikers' representatives, and granted an increase of 4s. per week to the men, and 3s. to the women, whereupon the workers agreed to go back. *This strike was evidently more successful for the men than for the women workers!*

### Infantile Mortality.

Replying to a question asked by Mr. W. Thorne (Plaistow) in the House of Commons last Monday, Lord Eustace Percy said that the number of children who died before reaching the age of twelve months during the year ending March, 1922, was 8,334 in the London County Council area, 3,644 in Glasgow, 705 in West Ham, and 978 in Stoke-on-Trent. The corresponding infant death rates per 1,000 births for London, West Ham, and Stoke-on-Trent were 82, 83, and 138, respectively.

### Maternity Hostel.

Lady Astor opened a maternity hostel, in connection with the West London Mission, at Holloway last week. This hostel is chiefly needed for the accommodation and treatment of expectant mothers infected with certain diseases and needing special treatment. The Ministry of Health has promised a financial grant and expert medical attendance.

### House of Commons Refreshment Department.

Sir James Agg-Gardner, Chairman of the Kitchen and Refreshment Rooms Committee, was asked last Monday why the prices of food in his various Departments were much higher than outside? He replied that he was not aware that they were higher; but another Member asked what was the justification for the present price charged for a glass of milk in the House? Sir James asked for notice of that question. Another Member asked for a reduction in portions, and still another for the abolition of all tipping. Finally, the Chairman was asked why it was necessary to charge 4d. for an orange, and 3d. for a banana, and replied that those prices were necessary to cover the wholesale prices prevailing at the time, and the expenses incidental to retail supply!

### GIRL CHAMPION SWIMMER.

Our member, Mrs. Harrison, of Letchworth, now in Buenos Aires, writes to tell us that one of her daughters, Gemna, gives most of her interest to swimming, and for a short time last February was woman World Champion for time (21 hrs. 40 min.). She may come to try the Channel next year.

## SECURE YOUR VOTE!

The Autumn Register of Parliamentary Voters was published July 15th. Claims must be in before August 10th.

All readers should search the list at once for their own names, and if they have been wrongly omitted, should send in a claim immediately.

FRIDAY,  
JULY 20  
1923.

# THE VOTE

ONE  
PENNY  
WEEKLY.

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### MISCELLANEOUS.

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

**F**ELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Guild-house, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Sunday, July 22nd. 3.15. Music, Poetry, Lecture, Dr. Dearmer. 6.30. Miss Maude Royden, "An Old Testament Story and a Modern Play."

**Y**OUR Character and Capabilities delineated, with colours, jewels, etc., from handwriting, and date of birth. P.O. for 2/- and stamped addressed envelope to Miss Adams, Box 2, 92, Victoria Street, S.W. 1.

**W**OMAN Teacher leaving Training College middle July seeks Holiday Engagement as Companion or Governess till end third week August. Fond of children. Good refs.—"X.Y.Z.," VOTE Office.

**L**ITERARY SOCIETY having good first-floor front room in Square in Bloomsbury, wishes to sub-let for part time; available daily—morning, possibly some afternoons.—Apply, VOTE Office, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

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**N**EW THOUGHT FELLOWSHIP HOME, Highcliffe-on-Sea. Proprietor: W. S. Hooper. Own grounds, 13 acres; sun baths; lectures; tennis; concerts.—Write Prospectus.

**C**HILTERN HILLS.—Ideal for Country Holidays. High, bracing, lovely views. Good walking district. Comfortable home near beech woods.—STEWART, Bungalow, Charbridge, Chesham, Bucks.

**H**UT CAMP in Sussex woods. Descriptive leaflet free.—NICHOLLS, Ballinger Grange, Great Missenden, Bucks.

**T**HE PIONEER CLUB has reopened at 12, Cavendish Place. Entrance fee in abeyance *pro tem*. Town Members £5 5s.; Country and Professional £4 4s.

**F**OREIGN TRAVEL, Germany, Paris, Switzerland; two weeks inclusive. Second railway, passport, visa. Circulars, Friendship Travel Office, 85, Clarendon Road, London, W. 11.

## Membership Application Form.

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Name .....

Address .....

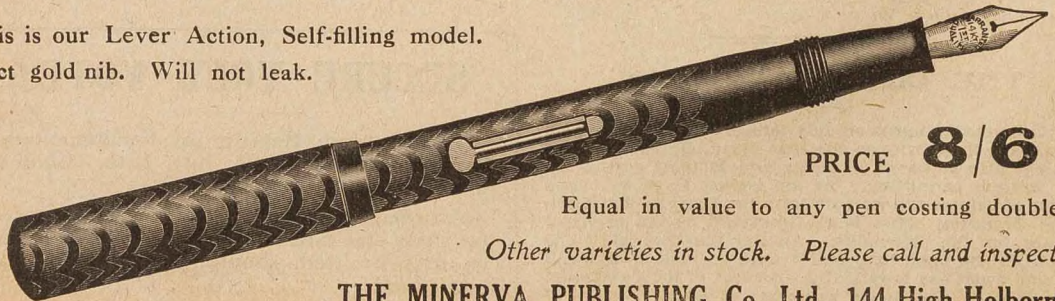
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