

THE VOTE,  
JANUARY 9, 1920.  
ONE PENNY.

## WOMEN MAGISTRATES.

J. THEODORE DODD, M.A., J.P.

# THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

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FRIDAY, JAN. 9, 1920.

**OBJECT: To secure for Women the Parliamentary vote as it is or may be granted to men; to use the power thus obtained to establish equality of rights and opportunities between the sexes and to promote the social and industrial well-being of the community.**

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### WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

#### Madrid Convention.

The eighth Conference of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, to be held in Madrid from May 2—8, is creating great interest among the Spanish public. The Spanish Cabinet recently approved a Bill for introduction to the Cortes which would give the vote to women over 23 years of age. Many Spanish feminists oppose this Bill as it allows a woman to transfer her voting right to another member of her family. In a country where a married woman cannot have a bank account of her own, has no right to her own earnings, and can be put into a convent by her husband if she displeases him, this indirect voting clause would stultify the whole Bill. Questions such as these will be discussed by the International Woman Suffrage Alliance Congress; and it will also discuss and decide its attitude towards the League of Nations in connection with the status of women.

#### Ardent Politicians.

A correspondent of the *Rome Messaggero*, lately returned from Fiume, says the most difficult element in the town to govern is the female. At all the meetings the women arrive first and occupy all the best seats or positions. They cheer, or hiss, vociferously and frequently interrupt the speakers. They often ask most embarrassing questions, which are characterised by shrewd sense. Their manifestations in the streets eclipse those of the men in ardour and enthusiasm. When they vote they are always of one mind, and their votes are never found to have been shared or split. Ninety-five per cent. of the women record their votes, as compared with the men's percentage of 50 to 70. D'Annunzio himself says that the female element is Fiume's greatest strength.

#### Woman President.

Dr. Mary Scharlieb is to be English President of the section on hygiene and women's work at the annual meeting of the Royal Institute of Public Health, which is to be held this year after a five years' interval. The Congress will be held in Brussels in May.

#### Novel Cookery Scheme.

The South Metropolitan Gas Co. is running a highly successful scheme for supplying trained women cooks to customers' houses. Originally started to employ the girl employees who had worked for the firm during the war, but who were obliged to give up their jobs when the men returned, it is now developing into a highly successful domestic department. The girls train for several months under the head cook, where they practise on the staff, 700 of whom lunch on the firm's premises daily, their final test being the preparation of lunch for the directors' table. The visiting cook sends in a list beforehand of the commodities and quantities for the required dinner, arrives early in the afternoon on the day itself, and stays until the last course is served. The Company's charge for the two visits is 10s. 6d. All the meals are of course cooked on the Company's gas cookers.

#### Woman Magistrate and Mayor.

Councillor Mrs. Ada Summers, Mayor of Stalybridge, took the oath and presided over the Borough Bench at the Police Court last week. The new Act enabled Mrs. Summers to become a magistrate by virtue of her office as Mayor, and she was probably the first lady in the country to sit as chief magistrate. She is the first and only lady member of the Stalybridge Town Council, having been elected in 1912.

There were only a few people in court to witness her appearance in a judicial capacity, but there was a full Bench of magistrates, and she was warmly welcomed. Her duties were extremely light, three chimney-firing cases and a music application forming the business of the Court. Mrs. Summers dismissed all the defendants and granted the application.

#### A Bad Precedent.

The names of four men have been placed on the Commission of the Peace for Cheshire—two farmers, one cotton broker, and one builder. We should have thought that it would have been possible to find a local woman with qualifications for a Justice of the Peace at least equal to any one of these men.



## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE IN THE LAND ARMY.

The January number of the *Landswoman* contains a List of the 57 Land Girls whom Princess Mary recently decorated with the "Distinguished Service Bar" for acts of conspicuous courage and endurance. Limitations of space prevent the enumeration of all the splendid deeds which won the "V.C. of the Land Army," but the following selection will give some idea of the fibre of which our national womanhood is composed:—

MISS J. BARR (Hertford).

For exceptional courage and devotion to duty in saving valuable pigs from drowning. They ran on to the ice during frosty weather, and as the ice was not strong enough to bear them they fell into the water. Miss Barr succeeded in pulling them out by holding to a fence with one hand and catching hold of their ears with the other.

MISS BEVIS (Devonshire).

A cow, after calving, had become savage and dangerous. The farmer endeavoured to approach her without success, and the foreman refused to go near her in her dangerous mood. Miss Bevis asked if she might try, and on receiving permission went up to the cow, coaxed her into a more tractable temper, and succeeded in removing the calf and quieting the cow. The foreman considered that no man would have undertaken the job.

MISS KITTY BOTTING (Nottingham).

For exceptional courage in rescuing a fellow land-worker from a boar which was attacking her. Miss Botting held the boar down with a fork while the other girl escaped, and she undoubtedly owed her life to Miss Botting's presence of mind and courage.

MISS BRIDGEMAN (Lancashire).

For exceptional courage and devotion to duty. Miss Bridgeman, at the risk of her own life, stuck to an "Overtime" Tractor which had got completely out of control on a very steep hill, and by her presence of mind undoubtedly saved the tractor from utter destruction.

MISS F. DOBSON.

For unselfish devotion. This girl tramped many miles on her Sunday off to render assistance to a little farm servant who was dying of influenza.

MISS HENLEY (Stafford).

A frightened cow waded too far into the River Trent, and it was obvious that the animal would inevitably be drowned unless help was forthcoming. The banks at the spot are very high, and there is an accumulation of mud under the water through which it was impossible for the cow to get back. The men employed at the farm were all on strike at the time, and Miss Henley took off her overall, boots and stockings, swam across the river, roped the cow in mid-stream, and drove it to the side, where it was pulled out.

MRS. HALLAM (Cornwall).

For exceptional skill and devotion to her work as shepherdess. Mrs. Hallam has had charge of 200 pedigree South Down sheep, and in all weathers, day and night. During her second lambing season the crops of lambs beat all previous records at the farm where she was employed. It is interesting to note that Mrs. Hallam took up shepherding because she was given to understand that it was the one branch of farm work which no woman could undertake single-handed. The farmer who employs her had been warned that no woman could throw his large sheep, but Mrs. Hallam soon learnt the knack, and the farmer now says that she is better than a man at this job.

MISS D. LARDNER.

This girl was wheeling a barrow along the road in a small town in Northampton when she was suddenly confronted by two runaway hunters. Both animals were entirely out of control. Miss Lardner planted her barrow across the road to impede the progress of the frightened animals, and then with great courage seized the trailing rein, succeeded in stopping one horse, and with its assistance, in catching the other.

MISS MORLEY (Surrey).

For great presence of mind when suddenly confronted by a cow in a choking, gasping condition. She called upon a man to help her, but he would not come. She then seized a long, crooked stick, got the cow's head under her arm, wrenched its mouth open, rammed in the stick, and pushed the turnip down the animal's throat. The farmer says the girl's plucky action saved the animal's life.

MRS. MALLALIEU (Carnarvon).

In recognition of an act of great courage. Mrs. Mallalieu averted a dangerous accident by hanging on to the head of a runaway horse going at full speed, until a man was able to grip the reins.

MISS PITMAN (Wiltshire).

For exceptional skill and devotion to duty. She worked as a shepherdess in a very exposed aerodrome on Wiltshire Downs for a whole winter. She lived alone in a shepherd's hut during the lambing season, which she carried through successfully unaided.

MISSSES GARNET and WORTHINGTON (Kent), and MISSSES THOMPSON, RISIŁOWSKI and SMITH (Berks).

For exceptional courage and skill in the course of their employment as tractor drivers. These women have all ploughed more acres with the use of less petrol than any men similarly employed in their respective counties. They have also offered to plough difficult and dangerous ground which the men had refused to undertake, and have carried out the work successfully.

MISS THOMAS (Wiltshire).

For exceptional presence of mind on the occasion of a fire. Miss Thomas started the engine of a machine which was in a barn, when it back-fired, and some petrol and oil which had been spilt caught alight. She immediately turned off the petrol and smothered the flames.

### BRITISH OUTCASTS.

Hundreds of women live among us outcasts in their own land. We are constantly receiving letters from these British wives of aliens begging for help to regain the British nationality lost to them through marriage. Many are now permanently separated from their husbands and no longer supported by them, yet they are denied their native land and forced into a position which often seems unbearable. It must be remembered that many of these girls met and married their husbands in our Overseas Dominions and have never set foot on alien soil.

The Women's Freedom League has always called for a short Bill giving British-born women the right to determine their own nationality; it should be open to every woman who marries an alien either to keep her own nationality or to assume that of her husband.

This question of the nationality of the married woman will come in for special consideration at the International Conference of Women, to be held at Madrid next May. Some international agreement may then be drawn up. Meanwhile our own oppressed countrywomen are under many disabilities, and the injustice under which they suffer should be removed without delay. Any such Bill should of course be retrospective.

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## NOTES FROM JANUARY NUMBERS.

### The Englishwoman.

Mrs. Fawcett contributes an article, "The Difference Suffrage Has Made," in which she records the progress of the Women's Movement in this country since the passing of the Representation of the People Act, and compares it with the favourite anti-suffrage argument that even if women were granted votes "it would make no difference!" Concentrating on the years between 1900-1914, but purposely omitting the years of the war, because domestic legislation was then very largely suspended, Mrs. Fawcett points out that only two measures of first-rate importance affecting women were passed during that period—*The Midwives Act of 1902* and *The Qualification of Women (County and Borough Councils) Act, 1907*. But within less than two years after British women became enfranchised, no fewer than six important Acts affecting women passed quickly and quietly through both Houses. These were *The Eligibility of Women Act (1918)*, which rendered the election of women as M.P.'s a possibility; *The Affiliation Orders (Increase of Maximum Payment) Act (1918)*, which amended the Bastardy Laws Amendment Act of 1872, and doubled the sum a father could be made to pay for the maintenance of an illegitimate child; *The Midwives Amending Act (1918)*, which greatly improved the preceding Act of 1902; *The Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act (1919)*, which fulfilled to some extent the pledge given by the Government in 1918, to "remove all existing inequalities of the law as between men and women"; *The Mothers' Succession (Scotland) Act (1919)*, which established for the first time in Scotland the right of a mother to succeed to the estate of an intestate child; and *The Nurses' Registration Bill (1919)*, which was then adopted as a Government measure. Miss Beatrice Harraden narrates her experiences, "In Devastated France," being one of the twenty Englishwomen recently invited by the Mayor of Lille to make that city their headquarters whilst they visited the devastated regions of northern France. Miss Mary C. Fair describes the hard, incessant labour, amidst poetic surroundings, of the Fell Dale womenfolk of the Lake District, in their isolated mountain farms, where bread, meat and dairy produce are all prepared at home, and "candles are still made from the fat of the sheep, rendered down and poured round wicks in moulds."

### The Fortnightly Review.

In the article, "Bolt Seventeen," contributed by Miss Elizabeth Robins, the title is derived from the following anecdote. A workman, by special favour, was lent to one of the new munition factories in America. The man came with a record of nine years' service in the greatest motor works in the world. "What did you do there?" his new employer asked hopefully. "I put in bolt seventeen." "Not for nine years?" "Yes, for nine years." "Bolt Seventeen" is a powerful plea to women to use their own initiative and capacity for co-operation, instead of working mechanically in detail, and depending on others for leadership. Miss Robins describes the mental attitude of newly-enfranchised women in Germany, Russia, Italy and Hungary as that of "sitting, watching, listening," rather than one of active co-operation with their men associates. She calls upon British women, possessors of "the oldest political tradition, and the longest political training," to act as "natural leaders in that contribution which is the privilege of these islands to give to the world." Women, Miss Robins fears, are too absorbed in, and hypnotised by, bolt seventeen—viz., habits of minute detail—to see greater and equally important details in their true proportion, as means to power. That power, she insists, must be moral, the sole antidote to the perversions of physical power which has desolated the world.

### The Nineteenth Century.

Lord Ernle, M.V.O., eulogises "The Women's Land Army" in a wise and appreciative essay. The enrol-

ment of the women, he points out, was a direct incentive to re-vitalise the stagnation of remote country life, whilst the introduction of outdoor work formed the death-blow to the widely prevailing prejudice that all forms of agricultural work were degrading to women. He traces the gradual thawing of the farmers towards the Land Girls as time went on and they became more efficient, also proving their grit and endurance in many unexpected ways. Women in the Land Army have shown themselves particularly successful in the handling of livestock, and, above all, dairying and the rearing of young animals. In dealing with horses their light hands compensate for any want of strength. They excel in milking and dairy work, and have introduced a high standard of cleanliness. "A woman's secret with animals seems to be that to her they are not machines, but individuals: in intercourse with dumb creatures she has found companionship; even a sow is a Jezebel or an Isabel according to character and behaviour." Miss Edith Sellers contributes a sympathetic review of the recent Majority and Minority Reports of the Committee on Old-Age Pensions, "From the Old-Age Pensioners' Standpoint." Women are proverbially longer lived than men, and, according to Miss Sellers, "there are already nearly twice as many women as men; and there would probably be nearly four times as many were universal pensions ever to become the order of the day."

### The World's Work.

Viscountess Astor, M.P., occupies the place of honour in the series "Men and Women of the Day," and Mr. F. A. Talbot contributes an informative paper, describing the influence of the Borstal system on reclaiming "young offenders" of both sexes. Some excellent illustrations of the boys and girls at work and at play in their respective institutions accompany the article. D. M. N.

### A BABIES' PARADISE.

In the Allied countries, as in Great Britain, the extensive use of women workers has accentuated a need for day nurseries for the care of the children, and all the more in France that the scarcity of milk and the high price of food and coal are sources of much anxiety to working-class mothers. A model crèche has been established in Paris since 1917 by the firm of André Citroën, who is enthusiastic for all kinds of welfare work on behalf of children. Close to the workshops is a model breast-feeding nursery surrounded by a garden. On the ground floor is the matron's office and several nurseries, each containing twelve cots. Toys and sunshine and white paint are everywhere visible; the only regulation is that no bottle-fed babies are accepted. For the two years that the nurseries have been running only two babies out of all those that can be accommodated regularly have died. The cost of construction and establishment is about £21,000, and the cost of maintenance eight francs a day. The mothers slip out three times during their working hours in order to nurse their babies.

### A NEW YEAR GIFT

will be very welcome!

### WOMEN'S RIGHT TO LIVE

is the foundation stone of our League and the thousands of women who lose their jobs with the new year appeal to you for the success of our big public meeting at Essex Hall on January 19th.

Everything is expensive to-day so contributions are particularly needed.

E. KNIGHT.



## THE VOTE.

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 9th, 1920.

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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.

### SUBSCRIPTION RATE.

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## WOMEN'S RIGHT TO LIVE.

It is a far cry to the annual meeting of the Bar which took place in the Inner Temple Hall, January, 1917. At that meeting Mr. Holford Knight moved a resolution that women should be eligible to become members of the Bar, and the resolution was lost by a large majority. In supporting it, however, Mr. H. T. Sweeney said he supported the right of women to live, and contended that wherever man had the means of gaining a livelihood women should have the same right. Mr. Sweeney was evidently more advanced in his views than many men in other sections of the community. Under the heading, "Women in Machine Shops," we read in the *Manchester Guardian* of January 2nd, 1920: "At the Halifax Munitions Court on Wednesday, Messrs. Smith, Barker and Willson, machine tool makers, Halifax, were summoned, at the instance of the A.S.E., under the Restoration of Pre-War Practices Act, for employing women in turning, fitting, etc. For the defence it was urged that the employment of women (about 20) on lathe work was not in consequence of the war but owing to the re-organisation of the works. The firm had simplified the manufacture of lathes to such a point that it became purely repetition work. They claimed the right to employ women on such work because they contended it was the custom and practice of the industry to employ women on repetition work, wherever it was offered, before the war. The case was adjourned for a fortnight for further evidence regarding the reorganisation of the works."

We learn that the Tramway Union in Edinburgh has succeeded in securing the dismissal of every woman on the local trams, these women being replaced by ex-Service men (not necessarily old employees) and young lads. The women who were dismissed especially resent the fact that the latter have taken their places. Our Edinburgh Branch asked the Tramway Union to receive a deputation on this matter, but the request was refused.

We also learn from the *Star* of December 30th last, that on Christmas Eve the War Office issued a large batch of notices to be served immediately after the holidays on its temporary clerks. The male temporary clerks received a month's notice, but the females only one week. Surely sex discrimination in matters of employment is an obsession of the official mind! How long will it take mere men to realise that women have the same right to live as they themselves have, and the same right to the means of existence? Women have long ceased to expect any chivalry from their male competitors; but they are determined to secure justice in the matter of gaining a living.

## NO COMPROMISE!

The principle of "Equal pay for men and women teachers of the same professional status" was re-affirmed at the Special Conference convened in London last week by the National Federation of Women Teachers to consider the findings of the Standing Joint Committee appointed by the Education Minister, and presided over by Viscount Burnham, when the proposals of this Committee were rejected as inadequate by an overwhelming majority. The purpose of the Committee was to secure a contented teaching service and to attract large numbers of new entrants to the profession. The Conference protested against the constitution of the Standing Joint Committee, pointing out that the representatives of the Education Authorities were drawn from four different Associations, but the teachers from one only; and, further, that although women teachers form about 67 per cent. of the teaching profession, only 11 per cent. of the members of the Committee were women, i.e., 5 out of 44 members. The under-representation of women teachers is shown very clearly in the differentiation of salaries for men and women teachers, whether as assistants or as head teachers, this being in direct opposition to the result of the recent referendum of the National Union of Teachers, which gave a large majority in favour of equal pay. The Federation declares it will not be bound by the findings of this Standing Joint Committee, and will take action whenever it is deemed advisable to resist this injustice to women teachers. We warmly congratulate the Federation on the stand it has taken in this matter. No self-respecting members of any profession should tolerate a sex differentiation in salary, which must lower the status of the whole profession. The Committee should surely have realised by this time the impossibility of securing any sort of "contentment" among women teachers until they receive equal pay with men of the same professional status. In refusing to compromise on this matter, and in putting up a strenuous fight for justice, the members of the National Federation of Women Teachers are rendering a splendid service to women of all classes who have to work for their living. We wholeheartedly wish the Federation the best of Good Luck for an early and complete victory.

## NO HONOURS FOR WOMEN.

The Premier's list of New Year Honours has appeared, and includes 3 Peers, 19 Baronets, 42 Knights, and 7 Privy Councillors—all men, and not one woman among them! How much longer are women to see their sex passed by as unworthy of any of the Honours of the State? Many of the men in this new list were capable administrators during the period of the war. But were there no women who did splendid service for their country—service as important in many cases as that rendered by these men? Why should these women remain unhonoured? And why should they be excluded from Privy Councillorships? Men of alien birth have before now become Privy Councillors. Surely they had less right to this honour than British-born women who have rendered public service to the State! Every such list which appears is an affront to women so long as it does not include the name of any woman. When it was a question of consulting architects, Dr. Addison confessed that he did not know that any women were available; and when it is a question of State Honours our Prime Minister is equally oblivious of the existence of women.

The only remedy, so far as we can see, is to secure the return of a great number of women to the House of Commons at the earliest possible date, where they will be constantly seen (and heard, we hope) by the Head of the Government, as well as by Heads of Departments, who will not then be able to excuse themselves to Members of Parliament on the ground that they did not know that any women were about.

## WOMEN MAGISTRATES.

### HOW TO OBTAIN THEM.

The Lord Chancellor has taken a very wise and forward step in appointing a Committee of Women to advise him as to what women he should appoint as Magistrates. So much injustice has been done by the old-fashioned system of permitting the Lords-Lieutenant to nominate—and practically to appoint—the County Magistrates that Lord Birkenhead deserves the grateful thanks of the community, because he has, on this occasion, sought other assistance. At this point, however, our notes of praise must begin to falter; for he has indicated that he does not intend to appoint many women, and apparently where the Benches are "full" usually to appoint none.

### An Old Excuse

It should be understood at once that this is just the old excuse made by former holders of Lord Birkenhead's responsible office. For when it was pointed out that nearly all the Magistrates in Home County districts were Conservatives, although the population on whom they "executed justice" were mainly Liberals, and applications were made to the Chancellor for the appointment of some Liberals on the Bench to rectify the obvious unfairness of having a Bench stuffed with members of one political party, the reply was "The Bench is full." This is nothing but an excuse; for even if—after deducting all the Magistrates who seldom or never attend—the Bench would be ordinarily over-full, it would be easy to follow a very usual practice, and have a rota of Magistrates so as to divide the work. No person can justify the "stuffed Bench" cry who understands that the happiness and welfare of large numbers of children and others will be enhanced by the appointment of women.

### The evidence from Official Circulars.

Home Secretaries are not sentimental gushers, or irresponsible enthusiasts, yet their official circulars show very clearly that while some Benches take proper care of the children, the administration of other Benches both with regard to children—and with regard to women—has been very unsatisfactory. I advise anyone who doubts this to obtain a copy of the Home Office Circular to Justices, 1907-1912 (Wyman and Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., price 3d.), and the later Circular of August 22nd, 1917. These circulars also show the great need for women's help with regard to child "offenders" and the importance of some Magistrates taking a personal interest in the children. See especially the Circular of August, 1907. A brief account of the well-meant efforts of successive Home Secretaries to persuade some Benches to act more reasonably and with more humanity will be found in an address published by the Women's Local Government Association, and written by myself (price 3d.), so I need say no more on this part of the subject.

### Juvenile Courts.

In 1909 Mr. Gladstone, as Home Secretary, issued a circular on the advantages of Juvenile Courts, and said:—

"Where there is a sufficient attendance of Magistrates it is in his opinion desirable that the formation of a Juvenile Court should be assigned to a separate rota of Justices who possess, or who would soon acquire, a special knowledge of the Acts relating to children, and special experience of the methods of dealing with juvenile crime, and of institutions for the treatment of youthful offenders. At places where the number of cases to be heard and the number of available Magistrates is so small that such arrangements would be impossible, it may be necessary to hold the Juvenile Court on the same day and in the same building as the ordinary Court; but in such cases it is imperative that the time should be different. . . ."

I find it stated in *The Justice of the Peace* that the Chancellor will ask his Advisory Committee, mentioned above, to assist him—

"in making appointments of Women Justices, and also in selecting Women Magistrates for the existing Children's Courts."

This, taken in connection with the "full Bench" announcement, is somewhat ominous for two reasons. First, it looks as though the Chancellor did not intend to appoint women in those cases where the Magistrates have been too careless or apathetic to appoint a Juvenile Court; and yet these are some of the very cases where the help of women is urgently needed. Secondly, it may mean that he is about to appoint women as "limited Magistrates," who may sit only in the Children's Courts and not adjudicate in other cases. Even if this is, I hope that women—for the sake of the children—will put up with this want of appreciation, and accept office.

### How to obtain women Magistrates.

I will conclude with a few practical suggestions. Let Public Bodies and Associations, political and non-political, both of men and women, pass resolutions asking the Lord Chancellor to appoint "some women Justices of the Peace" for their own town or district. This should be sent to the Chancellor, the local Press and to the local M.P. Do not apply for merely one woman Magistrate. Do not wait for vacancies. If you do you will probably find some men are appointed while you are waiting. By passing the Act removing the disqualification you have "reaped the corn." Now is the time to carry home the harvest.

J. THEODORE DODD, M.A., J.P.

## WOMEN & THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

A manifesto of women in favour of the League of Nations Union is now published with sixty-two signatories. It will be remembered that a draft of this manifesto, submitted recently to a gathering of representative women, was referred by them for revision to Mrs. Fawcett, Miss Maude Royden, and Lady Rhondda, who have produced a very effective appeal. Among the signatories are Lady Astor, Miss Gertrude Tuckwell, J.P., Mrs. Creighton, Miss Mary Macarthur, and Miss Margaret Bondfield (representing Labour women), Lady Baden-Powell, Miss Lilian Barker, Mrs. Booth, Dame Florence Leach (head of the W.A.A.C.'s), Miss Muriel Talbot (of the Women's Land Army), Dame Sidney Browne (representing the nursing profession), and Mme. Melba, whose inclusion will interest Australians. The signatories of the manifesto say "they strongly urge the women to take their share in showing that the support of the League is not only a matter for Governments and officials, but for the whole nation—women as well as men," and the manifesto concludes: "Governments, especially in democratic countries, such as ours, are practically powerless to act unless they are supported and inspired by the existence of a strong public opinion. It is useless, therefore, to criticise statesmen for not acting unless we have done our part. If women share this duty with men they will help to create a new force in the world, which will strengthen the foundations of peace. The League of Nations will then become not merely words written upon paper, but a living and powerful force for putting an end to war. Women who desire to help in this great work for the future peace of the world should at once join the League of Nations Union (22, Buckingham Gate, London, S.W. 1), which has been founded to educate and give effect to public opinion in this country."

## HANDS AND FORTUNE.

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## BOOK REVIEWS.

*The New Outlook.* By Lord Robert Cecil, M.P. (George Allen & Unwin, Ltd.) 1s. od. nett. (Can be obtained at this office.)

The New World of our Prime Minister has failed to materialise; and the mass of the people who find that the difficulties of life have latterly increased, rather than decreased, have completely lost faith in his land of dreams. Lord Robert Cecil's *New Outlook*, however, breathes again the spirit of hope. He has seen the wreckage of humanity for which the war was responsible; and in a finely reasoned essay on "The League of Nations," urges that if the spirit of competition is strong the spirit of co-operation is its equal, and that the common interests of the nations of the world are nowadays far larger and more important than national antagonisms. Lord Robert also deals with the problem of Industry, and suggests a remedy for its present discontents. He has little liking for the State management of industry when all employers would, in effect, be bureaucrats, but he strongly advocates the raising of the status of the worker to that of a partner in all branches of industry. In the essay on "Finance," the writer says it is of enormous importance that Government expenditure should be cut ruthlessly down, and that it is necessary to press with increased vigour for a real policy of economy. He would also "sweep away all the worst indirect taxes and replace them by an extension of the income-tax, to include, though of course at a very reduced rate, a much larger body of the population." The chapter on "Parliament" is of special interest. Lord Robert is jealous of the rights and liberties of this ancient institution, and insists that the House of Commons must for the future be taken seriously, both by the Government and itself. He urges a reform of the Upper House, and suggests the substitution of an elective for the hereditary basis. He writes in moderation about Ireland, but we doubt that his views will satisfy any section of the Irish community. Whether one agrees with Lord Robert Cecil's views or not, it cannot be denied that they bear the impress of a high-minded statesman; and are the sincere convictions of one of our few thinkers. We warmly recommend this little book to every reader of *THE VOTE*.

*The Mind of a Woman.* By A. T. Schofield, M.D. (Methuen.) 3s. net. (Can be obtained at this office.)

This little book, by a well-known physician, is the outcome of some thirty years study of women. From the physical point of view, Dr. Schofield says that all through nature the female type is in advance of the male, and that even in plants, while the male flower is intermediate between leaf and flower, the female flower is the perfect product. The senses, especially touch and smell, are keener in women than men, and they are superior in intuition, instinct and tact. The equality of brain power between the sexes was indubitably demonstrated by a German professor some 20 years ago, when Professor A. Kirchhoff, in 1897, collected opinions from over one hundred leading German professors on the capacity of women for intellectual science, and published the result in a volume of 400 pages. The authors of this remarkable manifesto declared themselves unable to detect any difference in brain organism as in intellectual capacity. Dr. Schofield is sufficiently optimistic with regard to Woman, in the new era now dawning on the world, to satisfy the most ardent amongst feminists. To support his belief he furnishes liberal quotations from Benjamin Kidd's "Science of Power" (a noteworthy book first published in 1918, and containing a veritable apotheosis of the Woman's Movement), in which the author predicts that the dynamic centre is just now on the point of being shifted from *man*, with his intellect, his fighting force, his egoism, his individualism and obsession with the present, to *woman*, with her emotional ideal, her altruism, her social instincts, and her vision of the future.

## WOMEN'S RIGHT TO WORK.

There is no subject which needs more clear thinking to-day than that of the woman worker. Before the war it was generally held that women should not work for their living—this was in theory only, because the vast number of women did do so—but when the war came it was necessary to use every available source of labour. Every hoarding, railway station, etc., was placarded "Women, your country needs you!" etc., and the women came forward by thousands in response to their country's call. Opinions on women's capacity altered with startling rapidity, in many directions they had great ability, and were capable of responsible work, and all over the country women were found occupying important posts with the greatest possible success. To use the words of the Prime Minister and other members of the Government, this war has been won by the women, for "without their help, co-operation and skill it would have been impossible for us to have achieved the great victory we have." Now the war is over, and it seems we could justly post on every hoarding throughout the country, "Women, your country no longer needs you, and wishes to get rid of you!" What has our Government done for the women who so bravely responded to their country's call? The training schemes which they have promulgated for domestic work, tailoring, dressmaking, etc., are limited in scope, and inadequate as to maintenance grants, so that it is impossible for the majority of women workers to take advantage of them. What we should demand of the Government is that they give the same grants and training schemes to the women which they have given to the men, at our Universities, Conservatoires, Medical Schools, Pharmaceutical Societies, etc. These to-day are filled with ex-Service men, and the maintenance grant given them by the Government is sufficient to maintain them in comfort, whilst all over the country men are being taught various skilled trades and crafts to enable them to earn a decent living.

This war has taught us that there is not a single trade or profession in which women cannot shine if given the chance, and the great experience gained by them in their war service should be turned to useful account now. It has been remarked that the Government do not intend these inadequate training schemes to go on longer than March 31st, 1920.

Every member and sympathiser of the Women's Freedom League should rally to the Public Meeting in the Essex Hall, Strand, on January 19th, and see that the outcome of the meeting shall be a united demand that the Government shall extend their official training schemes to women on the same terms as men.

ALIX M. CLARK.

## CAREERS FOR WOMEN.

We have received a copy of the fifth edition of "Careers," a guide to the professions and occupations of educated women and girls (3s. 6d.), copies of which can be obtained at this office. Viscountess Bryce, President of the Central Bureau for the Employment of Women, who has written the prefatory note, refers to the ever-growing need of skilled and experienced women workers, especially since the cessation of war service has so greatly increased, for the time being, the number of women who are in need of fresh employment. The day of the unskilled worker is now definitely at an end. Over one hundred articles on various women's professions, all written by experts, are included in the present volume. There is a growing demand for more teachers under the new Education Act, and in the newer professions of Architecture, Forestry, Accountancy, Actuarial and Statistical work, Scientific Research, and the Law there is so far no overcrowding.

## Women's Freedom League.

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

DARE TO  
BE FREE

**Wednesday, January 14.**—Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C. Speaker: Mrs. Nevinson, L.L.A. Subject: "Our Young Women Poets." Chair: Mrs. E. M. Moore. 3 p.m.

**Wednesday, January 14.**—Mortimer Hall, Mortimer Street, W.1. 6.30. New Year's Party.

**Thursday, January 15.**—Political Sub-Committee, 144, High Holborn, W.C., 12 o'clock.

**Saturday, January 17.**—National Executive Committee, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 10 a.m.

**Monday, January 19th.**—Public Meeting, Large Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand. "Women's Right to Live." 7.30 p.m. Speakers: Mr. George Lansbury, Miss D. Evans, M.A. (Sec. Assn. Women Clerks and Secretaries), Miss Haslett (Sec. Women's Engineering Society), Miss Anna Munro

**Wednesday, January 21.**—Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C. Speaker: Mrs. Mustard. Subject: "Mothers' Pensions." Chair: Mrs. Tanner, 3 p.m.

**Wednesday, January 28.**—Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C. Speaker: Miss Raleigh. Subject: "The Rights of Animals in Ancient and Modern Times." 3 p.m.

**Wednesday, January 28.**—Golder's Green: Dance. Tickets 3s. Particulars from Hon. Sec., 59, Ashbourne Avenue, N.W. 4.

**Friday, January 30.**—Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C. Debate: "Does Dr. Montessori Preach a New Gospel in Matters Educational?" Speakers to be announced later. 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, February 4.**—Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C. Councillor Norah March, B.Sc. Subject: "Child Welfare." Chair: Miss F. A. Underwood. 3 p.m.

**Thursday, February 5.**—Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C. Speaker: Mr. W. Clarke Hall. Subject: "The Naughty Child." Chair: Mrs. J. E. Cliffe. 6 p.m.

**Wednesday, February 11.**—Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C. Speaker: Mrs. Zangwill. Subject: "The Reading Public." Chair: Mrs. Earengy. 3 p.m.

**Monday, February 16.**—Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C. Speaker: Miss Rebecca West. Subject: "Women and Crime." Chairman: Miss Munro. 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, February 18.**—Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C. Speaker: Miss Edith Neville. Subject: "The Work of the Penal Reform League." 3 p.m.

**Monday, March 1.**—Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C. Speaker: Major A. C. Morrison-Bell, M.P. Subject: "Proportional Representation." 7 p.m.

**Monday, March 8.**—Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C. Speaker: Mr. W. L. George. Subject: "Women Under Socialism." Chair: Miss Pierotti. 7.30 p.m.

**Wednesday, March 10.**—Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn. Miss Jessie March. Subject: "The Unmarried Mother." Chair: Dr. Patch. 3 p.m.

**Saturday, March 27.**—Women's Freedom League Annual Conference, Council Chamber, Caxton Hall, Westminster, 10 a.m.

## PROVINCES.

**Wednesday, January 21.**—Portsmouth. Public Meeting, 2, Kent Road, 3.15 p.m. Speaker: Dr. Marie Grigsby. Subject: "Sex Hygiene."

**Monday, January 26.**—Westcliff. Social at "Ensbury," Eastwood Lane, Westcliff (by kind permission of Mrs. Newberry). 7.15 p.m. Tickets 1s. Each member may bring a friend.

**Monday, February 2.**—Ashford. Speaker: Mrs. Mustard. Subject: "Mothers' Pensions." 3 p.m.

**Monday, February 9.**—Westcliff. Labour Hall, 6, Broadway Market, 7.30. Speaker: Mrs. Alexander. Subject: "Proportional Representation."

**Monday, February 23.**—Westcliff. Labour Hall, 6, Broadway Market, 7.30. Speaker: Miss F. A. Underwood. Subject: "The Political Work of the Women's Freedom League."

## OTHER SOCIETIES.

**Thursday, January 22.**—S.W. London Women's Question Group, 72, Thurlough Road, Clapham (by kind permission of Miss Fryer). Speaker: Mrs. Nevinson, L.L.A. Subject: "Woman—the Spoilt Child of the Law." 8 p.m.

**Sunday, February 1.**—Ashford P.S.A. Speaker: Mrs. Mustard. 3 p.m.

## OUR TREASURY.

NATIONAL FUND.

Amount previously acknowledged, October, 1907, to December, 1918, £31,454 1s. 5d.

	£	s.	d.
Amount previously acknowledged	1,363	12	1
Green, White and Gold Fair—			
Previously acknowledged	307	3	1
Goods sold at office	2	3	6
Tickets	6	3	
	309	12	10

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A Friend	1	17	6
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Mrs. Angold	3	0	

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Miss Fryer	6	6	0
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Mrs. A. M. Dawson	11	0	
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Office Sales	8	7	
	£1,700	8	7

Cheques to be made payable to the Women's Freedom League, and crossed "London, Provincial and South-Western Bank, Ltd."

## BRANCH NOTE (PORTSMOUTH).

Our New Year's Eve Party was a distinct success. Prompt on the stroke of 7 the proceedings opened with a dance. Games and dances then followed each other in quick succession, interspersed with songs by Miss Eileen White and a recitation by Mr. Ockenden. Refreshments were then handed round, after which more games and dances and two humorous recitations by Mr. Williams. At 10 o'clock the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" brought a very jolly evening to a close.

Special thanks are due to Mrs. Speck, Mrs. Bilney, Miss Motterhall, Mrs. Ball, Miss le Page, and Mrs. Whetton, for contributing to the refreshments and decorating the room. Also to Miss Violet Ball for so ably presiding at the piano. We are anticipating that quite a good sum of money will be handed to the Treasurer for the Local Election Fund as the result of the Party.

On Wednesday, January 21st, Dr. Grigsby will give her postponed lecture on "Sex Hygiene," at 2, Kent Road, at 3.15 p.m. Will members please make this meeting known to their friends? Hon. Sec.—MRS. WHETTON, 89, Festing Grove, Southsea.

## NEW YEAR PARTY.

Members and friends who would like to contribute to the expenses of the New Year Party at Mortimer Hall on January 14th are invited to send donations to Miss Pierotti, 144, High Holborn.



FRIDAY,  
JAN. 9,  
1920.

# THE VOTE

ONE  
PENNY  
WEEKLY.

Organ of the Women's Freedom League.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS.

We congratulate the Women's Engineering Society on the first number of *The Woman Engineer*, which is to appear quarterly. It has an excellent article on "The Training of a Civil Engineer," and another on "Notes from an Engineering Shop." We learn, too, that women have been admitted to the Institution of Naval Architects, to the North-East Coast Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders, and to the Institution of Electrical Engineers. On its front page *The Woman Engineer* has a foreword from Olive Schreiner's "Woman and Labour," from which we take the following extract:—

"There is no need to legislate that woman should be restricted in her choice of fields of labour; for the organic incapacity of the individual, if it exists, will legislate far more powerfully than any artificial, legal, or social obstruction can do, and it may be that the one individual in ten thousand who selects a field not generally sought by his fellows will enrich humanity by the result of an especial genius. Allowing all to start from the one point in the world of intellectual culture and labour, with our ancient Mother Nature sitting as umpire, distributing the prizes and scratching from the lists the incompetents is all we demand, but we demand it determinedly."

*The Daily Mail Year Book*, 1920 (1s. net—can be obtained at this office)—is full of facts which women will find particularly useful in the present day. To mention only a few of these, we learn that 1,659,000 women are now doing men's work, of whom 59,500 are in banks; of the six million women voters, five million are married, and although there are about two million more women than men in England and Wales, in Ireland they only outnumber the other sex by 60,000. In view of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Bill, the list of Peeresses in their own right forms a useful reference. The article on High Prices and Their Cure will interest not only housewives, but all women wage-earners. The political information is nowadays an absolute necessity of the woman voter's mental stock-in-trade.

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

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