

THE VOTE,  
JUNE 28, 1929.

AN INTERNATIONAL TRIUMPH.

# THE VOTE

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

VOL. XXX. No. 1,027. (Registered at the G.P.O.)

ONE PENNY.

FRIDAY, JUNE 28, 1929

**OBJECTS :** To use the power of the Parliamentary vote, now won for Women upon equal terms with men, to elect women to Parliament, and upon other public bodies; 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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**THURSDAY, JULY 4th, at 7 p.m.**

**CAXTON HALL, WESTMINSTER.**

**THE EIGHTEENTH YEAR.**

Reception by the First-President.

Recitations.

Songs—Music.

Character Readings.

Strawberries and Cream.

Refreshments.

Flower Stall.

Pound Stall.

Ices.

The  
Birthday Fund  
will be presented

Mrs. Despard will give her  
Birthday Talk.

Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence will take  
the Chair.

*All members, friends and "Vote" readers are cordially  
invited.*

**MRS. DESPARD'S BIRTHDAY  
PARTY.**



## WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

### Woman Superintends Decoration of Steamship.

Mrs. Metcalfe, wife of Mr. Herbert Metcalfe, the managing director of the Swedish Lloyd, is largely responsible for the decorations and the furnishings of the "Suecia," the new turbine steamer which is one of two sister-ships just built for the old-established service of the Swedish Lloyds between London and Gothenburg.

### Woman Director.

Mrs. David Lynch, wife of Col. D. A. Lynch, is a director, with Lady Peacock, of a London dressmaking business.

### Progressive Edmonton.

Edmonton Education Committee, which has a woman chairman and a woman vice-chairman, has elected women to preside over its five sub-committees.

### Woman Scientist Honoured.

Last week the degree of LL.D. was conferred upon Madame Curie, after which she was admitted to the freedom of the city. Madame Curie's knowledge of chemistry was invaluable to her husband, the late Dr. Curie. The patient researches of husband and wife led to their joint discovery of radium and polonium.

### Woman Company Director.

Lady Eleanor Smith, daughter of Lord Birkenhead, who has earned a name for herself as a shrewd business woman, has been made a full-time director of Gooch's, the West-End fashion store. Her services command a high salary.

### Women Golfers Win.

The women beat the men for the second year in succession at Stoke Poges last Saturday, and by the record margin of 12 games to 3.

Since women have enjoyed increased facilities for playing, their standard has improved in far greater degree than that of men golfers. As an instance, there is no man in the world who can give a stroke at every hole to Miss Joyce Wethered. On this occasion, Miss Wethered beat Mr. W. L. Hope, who has appeared three times for Britain against America in the Walker Cup Match, by 4 up and 3 to play.

### China's First Woman Magistrate.

Miss Kuo Feng-Min, who secured her position in the civil service examination, has been appointed a magistrate by the Government of Hoep (formerly Chilhi) province. Miss Kuo, who is only twenty-nine, has the great distinction of being the first woman magistrate in China.

### Women's University Founded in Brazil.

With the object of facilitating the higher education of women in Brazil, the Universitaria Feminina has been founded in Rio de Janeiro. Carmen Vellasco Portinho, the president, is a graduate engineer of the Escola Polytechnica of Rio de Janeiro, and Eloisa Marinho, the vice-president, is a graduate in philosophy at the University of Chicago. Bertha Lutz, the Feminist leader, and other well-known Brazilian women, have been invited to serve on the directorate.

### Expert Woman Janitor.

Out of the eighty-one certificates of merit recently awarded by the Philadelphia Building Congress, for conspicuous service in the various operations performed in the construction and management of buildings, only one went to a woman—Reba Carey, whose certificate announces that she is an expert in the cleaning and care of buildings.

### SCOTTISH WOMEN BAKERS.

For the first time in the 42 years' history of the Scottish Union of Bakers, a woman delegate attended the annual conference held at Dunfermline last week. Before the war no women were employed in bakeries in Scotland, but many women are now engaged.

### NEW YORK'S SECOND WOMAN MAGISTRATE.

Jeanette G. Brill, of New York City, who was Mayor Walker's first appointee as a magistrate, is the second woman magistrate in New York. THE VOTE readers will recall that the other woman magistrate is Jean Norris.

Mrs. Brill, who is her husband's partner in the law firm of Brill, Bergenfeld and Brill, has a record in Brooklyn for her political and social activities. She began her career as a teacher, meanwhile studying law. In 1908, she matriculated at Brooklyn Law School of St. Lawrence University and for some years took special courses at New York University. She was admitted to the Bar in 1910, since when she has practised continuously.

In 1923, Attorney-General Carl Sherman appointed Mrs. Brill a deputy State's attorney-general and she was assigned to the Labour Department. Mrs. Brill was the organiser of the Brooklyn Women's Bar Association.

### AMERICAN WOMEN AND THE CHURCHES.

We are glad to see that the 141st General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States voted unanimously in St. Paul, Minnesota, on May 25th, to submit to the 214 presbyteries of the church overtures which would make women eligible for ordination as ministers, elders, and lay evangelists. If the overtures are approved by a majority of the presbyteries, women will be equal with men in the law of the Presbyterian Church of America.

### OUTSTANDING CHINESE WOMEN.

We are indebted to *The Dawn* for the following information:—

#### Women Cabinet Ministers.

Among Chinese women who have it within their capacity to make a great contribution towards the progress of their country, no one is better placed than Madame Chiang Kai-Shek, wife of the President of the National Government of China. A graduate of Wellesley College in the United States, and a brilliant speaker in English, Madame Chiang Kai-Shek is an extremely able woman. She has been appointed one of the Members of the Legislative Yuan (or Chamber) in the National Government. The family of which she is a member is playing an important part in the new government. She is sister to Mrs. Sun Yat Sen, widow of the "Father of the China Republic"; her brother is Mr. T. A. Soong, Minister of Finance; her mother-in-law is Dr. H. H. Kung, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour.

#### A Courageous Woman Educationalist.

Mrs. C. Y. Tang, a Chinese woman graduate of Education (Columbia University, New York City), is in charge of the Extension Division of the Education Department of the Province of Kiangsu, with headquarters in Nanking. She has undertaken the enormous task of organising the province in such a manner that the opportunity of learning to read Chinese will be extended to everyone. She is training a large group of teachers to carry out her scheme.

#### A Woman Diplomat.

Dr. Soumay Tschang, graduate of French Universities in Law, has had unique opportunities. She was appointed in charge of the Chinese District Court in Shanghai, with several judges under her jurisdiction, and was offered the post of Director of the Provisional Court, where cases involving foreigners and Chinese are heard. Following on a visit to Europe, on behalf of the National Government of China, she was appointed Chinese Minister to France.

## THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

By MARIAN BERRY.

In view of the transfer of the work of boards of guardians to the county and county borough councils, the town council elections this year will be of special interest to the men and women who have given time and service in the administration of the Poor Law.

There are eighty-four county borough councils in England and Wales, and these bodies will become the authorities for public assistance both for home and institutional relief. On seventy-three of these councils 185 women are serving, but there are still eleven county borough councils without a woman member. They are: Barnsley, Blackburn, Blackpool, Darlington, Dudley, Grimsby, Portsmouth, Rochdale, Salford, South Shields, and Wakefield. The 259 non-county borough councils, of which 156 are composed of men members only, will, too, have new duties in respect to the administration of relief, and this new work will probably induce many, who are now guardians, to stand for election on November 1st.

### Methods to increase Women's Representation.

It is not easy to become a candidate in a county borough unless you are a member of one of the political parties, an independent having little chance unless a well-known and strong personality. In the smaller boroughs, where party politics do not play such a prominent part, it is possible for the independent candidate to stand with every chance of success, provided that the necessary machinery is evolved.

During the coming weeks organisations will be considering the names of candidates, and if an adequate number of women are to participate in the future administration of relief, women's societies must take steps to see that a fair proportion of women are included. Various methods can be adopted, but it has been found useful in many places to convene a conference of representatives of local organisations (both women's and social welfare), with a view to preparing a panel of candidates to submit to the political parties and to other associations promoting candidates. In some instances an election committee has been formed to select and support the candidature of women for all local authorities within the area, but this has only been the case in the smaller towns.

### Qualifications for Candidates.

We would remind readers of THE VOTE that the qualifications for candidates are identical for all local authorities. A candidate, who must have attained the age of twenty-one, can be either a local government elector, or an owner of property, or can have resided for twelve months prior to the election within the electoral area. This gives a wide field for selection, and doubtless this year the number of women candidates will exceed that of last year.

### Powers and Duties of Town Councils.

The county borough council is now the most complete unit of local government administration. In addition to the usual sanitary powers and duties of a public health authority, it is the authority for education, namely, elementary, technical, and higher, and for the care of the insane and mentally deficient. In regard to these latter duties the councils have power to provide mental hospitals and institutions. Early treatment for border line cases is urgently needed, and hospitals on the lines of the Maudesley Hospital, established by the London County Council on Denmark Hill for the treatment of border line cases without certification, should be opened in all parts of the country. In the future it is likely that county councils, in co-operation with the county borough councils in the county, will combine in establishing such hospitals. Under the new conditions many existing Poor Law institutions will be available for other purposes, and in Hertfordshire it is proposed later on to utilise some of the surplus ones as homes for unemployable blind people. Doubtless this method will be adopted in many county boroughs, as the councils are responsible for the care of the blind

and have power to open workshops and training centres for them.

With about nine exceptions, county borough councils are police authorities, and it is important that women police shall form an integral part of every Police Force. This will certainly not be the case until a much larger number of women are members of Watch Committees, which is the special Committee that is responsible for the appointment and maintenance of the police. At the present time outside Tynemouth, where Dame Maud Burnett holds the office of Mayor, only ten Watch Committees include women among their members.

Public health questions and work for maternity and child welfare make a special appeal to women councillors, and their point of view is wanted in planning the new houses which municipalities are building. In every part of the country, and especially in the industrial centres, there is a crying need for houses for the working classes at lower rents. The rents of the majority of post-war houses erected by local authorities are far too high, and the housing of the large family is a problem that has to be met. Women councillors, too, realise the importance of employing trained women to manage municipal property, and those authorities that have already appointed women managers find that the cost of repairs is decreasing.

If a real increase in the number of women on local authorities is to be obtained, women local government electors must take as much interest in local elections as they did in the recent General Election. In the majority of places the percentage of electors voting for local bodies is deplorably low. At the elections for town councils last year the percentage of the electorate voting in Bristol was 49.97; in Nottingham, 54; in Gateshead, 50; and in South Shields only 14.189 of the 32,800 electors went to the poll.

### Proportional Representation and Local Elections.

Many people consider that party politics should not be introduced into local government administration; such would, if standing, prefer to be nominated as independent candidates. Practically in all large towns it is now the custom to conduct local government elections on party lines. Probably if the system of Proportional Representation was adopted, many social workers, who are not attached to any political party, but whose knowledge and experience would be of service to the community, could secure their due share of representation. As the Proportional Representation Society pointed out in their Memorandum to the Royal Commission on Local Government: "Action taken by a councillor in the interests of sound administration—for example, the support of the general good of the city as opposed to ward interests—may turn his majority into a minority. Refusal to comply with the demands of some exiguous section in his ward, or a mere change in the general political sentiments of the country, may drive him from civic life. Yet successful administration, indeed, the whole functioning of local authorities, depends in no small measure upon the ability of the personnel available for service."

### Membership Application Form.

To be returned to the Secretary, 144, High Holborn, London, W.C.1.

Please enrol me as a Member of the Women's Freedom League.

Name .....

Address .....

I enclose £ : s. d., as my first

Annual Subscription.

Minimum Annual Subscription, 1/-.



## 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 stamped addressed envelope be enclosed, but the Editor cannot be responsible in case of loss.

### THE NEW PARLIAMENT.

Last Tuesday, the newly-elected Parliament met at Westminster and elected Captain Fitzroy as Speaker. The real work of the Session will not begin until next Tuesday, when the King's Speech will disclose the immediate intentions of the new Government. Cabinet meetings are now being held for the further consideration of the King's Speech, which, it is said, will be of unusual length. With fourteen women in the new Parliament, and two of them in the new Government, women generally will take a very special interest in all its proceedings. We note that by reason of their increased number, the women Members have had a new sitting-room allotted to them, and we look forward to the time when this accommodation will have to be still further increased. The nine Labour women Members will be an invaluable asset to the present Government, while three Conservative women, who have all had very considerable Parliamentary experience, can be relied upon to hold their own during the coming Sessions. Miss Rathbone, as an Independent Member, and Miss Megan Lloyd George, as the only Liberal woman Member, will also doubtless make their own mark in Parliamentary history before the life of the present Parliament comes to a close. We heartily wish all these women every possible success. We know that every one of them has special gifts of knowledge, experience, and training, which should be of the utmost service in our national affairs, and while they may be expected to oppose each other in many matters, we hope that they will all be found in the same Lobby in support of measures dealing with equal opportunities, equal rewards, and equal responsibilities for men and women. The Government is pledged to give its immediate attention to the great problem of unemployment, and we earnestly hope that all the fourteen women will remember that there are nearly one quarter of a million women who are unemployed. While we yield to no one in our sympathy with unemployed men, we insist that the plight of unemployed women needs the immediate consideration of the Government. It must be clearly understood by Parliament, the general public, and the Press, that it is futile to suggest that all these women can at once find employment in domestic service. Special training schemes in various kinds of work and special provision of work are as necessary for workless women as they are for workless men, and we rely upon the women in Parliament to press this point of view, as well as women's special point of view on every question which comes before Parliament. Women, however, are not only concerned with national affairs; they take a very real interest in international life, and they hope that the new Government will send a woman as a fully-accredited delegate to the Assembly of the League of Nations in Geneva next September. They hope, too, that this new Government, which has been the first to admit a woman to its Cabinet and to secure for her a Privy Councillorship, will also see the wisdom of opening the whole Diplomatic Service to women, and of recognising women's claims to be put forward for membership of all Committees and Commissions of the League of Nations—not only the humanitarian Committees, but the Committees which are directly concerned with maintaining World Peace.

### ARE WOMEN "PERSONS"?

After the war the British North America Act was amended so that women were entitled to vote in elections, and to become eligible as members of the House of Commons. The question as to whether women were entitled to be appointed by the Governor-General as members of the Senate, the Upper Chamber of the Dominion Parliament, was left in abeyance until three years ago, when the Canadian women appealed on the subject to the Supreme Court of Canada. Last April that Court decided that women were not to be reckoned among those "qualified persons" whom the Governor-General may nominate, and the Canadian women appealed against this decision to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. The hearing of their Appeal opened last Tuesday. The petitioners take the view that the term "person" means a woman as well as a man. They also claim that the term "person" can be construed as meaning a Canadian entitled to franchise rights of citizenship. As the franchise has been extended to women, it is urged that other rights and privileges equally fall on them. The Counsel for the petitioners is the Hon. N. W. Rowell, K.C., and the Hon. J. F. Lymburn, the Attorney-General of Alberta, is to argue the reference which has been brought about on the petition of the five Alberta women who are seeking decision. The five appellants all reside in Alberta. They are Mrs. Murphy, the prime mover in this matter; the Hon. Irene Parby, who was the first woman in the Empire to become a Cabinet Minister, and was given this rank in the Alberta Legislature in order that she might have the special oversight of women's and children's interests; Mrs. Louise McKinney, the first woman to be elected to a Canadian Legislature; Mrs. Nellie McClung, known as a writer and lecturer in the feminist movement; and Mrs. Alice Jamieson, of Calgary, one of the first two women in Canada to be appointed a magistrate. None of these women are attending the proceedings before the Judicial Committee.

### THE HYGIENE OF PARLIAMENT.

We are delighted to hear of a prospect that at last the all-important subject of the Hygiene of Parliament may have some consideration. Mr. Ramsay MacDonald is said to have set his face against the ludicrous indulgence in late hours and all-night sittings to which all Governments have of recent years given way.

Women detest waste and wasteful methods of work which use up time and strength with nothing to show for it, and undermine physique to no purpose; yet frequently party leaders decree that, for tactical considerations, business shall be held up as long as possible, the helpless private Member is obliged to fall into line, and we get the unedifying spectacle of the Mother of Parliaments yawning, headache, cross, napping, or slumbering to the rhythm of the division bell, while she regulates the details of the lives and liberties of our millions.

Women M.P.s go to Parliament to work, not to play a schoolboy game, and men M.P.s should have outgrown any devotion to such inconvenient "rags."

The work of Parliament is complicated and important; it requires clear heads and brains unclouded by exhaustion and not handicapped by want of necessary sleep. Women are now the majority of Parliamentary voters and will demand that their M.P.s carry into the House those laws of health which hold sway in the Home and legislate under the healthy conditions which are provided for other workers.

After the House has decided to rise by midnight or sooner, it may be possible to turn our attention to its ventilation and make a few holes in the roof.

Women fought and worked hard for the vote they now possess, and they are determined to obtain its full value; having sent their chosen candidate to Parliament, they have no patience with artificial obstacles placed in the way of efficiency and would sweep away all barriers to the accomplishment of the best Parliamentary work.

## THE WOMEN'S CONGRESS IN BERLIN.

Early this week the great Congress, held at the Kroll Halls in Berlin by the International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship, came to an end. From every point of view it was an outstanding success. The charm, personality, and brilliant linguistic attainments of Mrs. Corbett Ashby—she can speak fluently and effectively in French, German, Italian, or English—would make her an incomparable chairman at any international assembly, and the Congress was no less well served by its able secretary, Mrs. Bompas, whose indefatigable industry and enthusiasm made light of all the many difficulties and intricacies connected with its organisation. The kindness, warmth of welcome and wonderful generosity of our German hostesses were beyond belief. Through their influence the beautiful city of Berlin threw open all its doors to the delegates and visitors who came from over forty different countries, and offered them most generous hospitality, and we shall never forget the gay friendliness and helpfulness of the girl students and young women workers of Berlin, who acted as our guides, philosophers, and friends throughout the strenuous sessions of the Conference and the many entertainments, social functions, and receptions which followed in such profusion.

The Board of the Alliance and the various Commissions of the Alliance—the Commissions on Peace and the League of Nations; an Equal Moral Standard; Like Conditions of Work for Men and Women; the Unmarried Mother and her Child; the Nationality of Married Women; the Equality of Women under the Law; and on Women Police—held their meetings and submitted reports in the week beginning June 10th, and Miss Anna Munro represented the Women's Freedom League at these early stages of the Congress proceedings. She was joined the following week by Dr. Knight, Mrs. Bigland, and Miss Underwood for the full sessions of the Congress.

It is only possible to mention a few of the many activities outside the actual Congress, but all readers of THE VOTE will be glad to learn that the Public Meeting on Women Police was crowded out and the garden filled with an overflow, and created an enormous amount of interest; indeed, it seems that women from every part of the world realise the necessity for an active body of policewomen. The meeting in the Reichstag was a great achievement. There, in the German Parliament, women Members of Parliament from every country where they exist, made short speeches under the presidency of Madame Plaminkova, herself a Senator in Czecho-Slovakia. An official tea was given to the delegates by the Prime Minister in the wonderful garden of his house, most members of the Cabinet and their wives and many German ladies being present. Another evening all the women delegates were officially received by the German Home Secretary and the German Minister for Foreign Affairs in the Gardens and Hall of the Zoological Garden. Not only were they received with the utmost friendliness, but they were afterwards fêted with the most lavish hospitality. The next evening, by invitation of the Prussian Government, the delegates attended a Gala Performance of *The Marriage of Figaro* in the State Opera House, and this was followed by a very merry supper. Then there was a memorable meeting for Peace, presided over by Miss Ruth Morgan, a delegate from America. The speakers were Herr Dr. Wirth, a representative of the German Government; Count Bernstorff, President of the International Federation of League of Nations Societies; Dame Rachel Crowdy; Madame Dr. C. C. Bakker (Holland); Mademoiselle Emilie Gourd (Switzerland); and Dr. Gertrud Bäumer (Germany). These speeches were followed by brief greetings given by Mademoiselle Bertha Lutz (Brazil), Madame Schwab (France), Mademoiselle Aloysie Stebi (Jugo-Slavia), Madame Eugenie de Reuss Jancoulescu (Roumania), Mrs. Naidu, and Mrs. Corbett Ashby. This meeting

was crowded, and the enthusiasm of all present for World Peace was unmistakable and unforgettable.

One of the most interesting visits arranged was one to the Women's Prison in Berlin. Through the efforts of Frau Friedländer, who for many years has been working for prison reform in Germany, a woman, Frau Enders, M.P., a Member of the Prussian Landtag, was appointed Governor of this Prison only ten weeks ago. In this prison Frau Enders is working on theories of her own, and there is already a most marked difference between the alertness and responsiveness of her women "residents" and the depression of our own women prisoners in Holloway. Medical women, women journalists, and women teachers in Germany each arranged a really delightful reception to the members of their particular profession in all the countries represented at the Congress.

Last Saturday evening, at the close of the Congress, delegates and visitors went in crowds to the Sportforum, a few miles out of Berlin, where, in the open air, the German Youth Movement arranged a wonderful festival. Gymnastic displays were given by the girl sport students; effective part songs by students of both sexes; a charming address of greeting by Dr. Annemarie Wulff; country dances and folk songs by the young people; and community singing by all assembled. Afterwards came a silent but dramatic plea for the peace of the world. At first, young people, interlocked together like gangs of slaves, heavily and wearily paced up and down and across the grounds, driven one way, hurled another, and cut down by forces and persons, which and who, for some unintelligent reason, rose up against them from their midst. Then came a change. Instead of hampering and hindering each other in masses, everyone became free, strong, and joyous, and in the darkening night, from distances one could not see, young people came hurrying with torches carried high, and independently traversed the high stadium and gathered round small vessels in its midst, lighting in them with their torches the fires of friendship, of Peace and goodwill, which burned brightly long after the guests had dispersed. There were greetings from these young people to all who had gathered together. Youth, with its ideals, its confidence in the future, and its insistence upon a newer and better world, and the older people who had struggled through a world of chaos faced each other, the proceedings being brought to a close by Mrs. Corbett Ashby, who bridged the gulf between the audience and the young people by joining them at their fires and in a touching speech thanked them for the wonderful festival they had arranged.

Another demonstration on behalf of Peace was that held in *The Volksbühne* last Sunday morning, the *Volksbühne* being as much the People's Theatre in Berlin as the "Old Vic" is the People's Theatre in London. Greetings were again given by women of all nations and were followed by a realistic play, which showed the tragic meaning of war to the men, women and children whose country takes part in it, whether as victors or vanquished.

In former issues of THE VOTE we have given some indication of the actual business of the Congress. As at previous Congresses, the resolutions aimed at securing for women, nationally and internationally, an equal status, equality of opportunity and reward, and equal responsibility of women and men. Special consideration is to be given to the way in which the women who are enfranchised can help those women who live in countries which still deny equal voting rights to women. In all countries women have their own special problems, and international Congresses are of incalculable value to women working for the same objects, because they enable the experience gained by women in various countries to be pooled by all; and the more frequently women come together internationally and try to understand each other's problems and point of



view, the more determined they will be to secure equal power with men in the solving of those problems.

The members of the new Board of the Alliance are: President: Mrs. Corbett Ashby (re-elected unanimously); Hon. Treasurer: Miss Sterling (re-elected unanimously); Madame Atanatshevitch (Jugo-Slavia), Madame Charoui (Egypt), Mademoiselle Gourd (Switzerland), Miss Hansen (Denmark), Madame Grinberg (France), Dr. Paulina Luisi (Uruguay), Madame Sellier Malaterre (France), Miss Rosa Manus (Holland), Miss Ruth Morgan (United States), Miss Alison Neilans (Great Britain), Madame Plaminkova (Czechoslovakia), Madame de Reuss (Roumania), Mrs. Rischbieth (Australia), Frau Schreiber-Krieger (Germany), Miss Bella Sherwin (United States), The Marquesa del Ter (Spain), Madame Theodoropoulos (Greece), Frau Von Velsen (Germany), and Miss Walin (Sweden).

#### SEX BARRIERS IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.

Although women have secured equality of entrance to the Civil Service, they are denied equality of opportunity and advancement after entry. Women above the clerical class are excluded from the Natural History Museum, the Charity Commission, the Mines Department, and the Stationery Office. With the exception of typists, they are entirely excluded from the British Museum, Cabinet Secretariat, Forestry Commission, Government Actuary's Department, Colonial Office, Lord Chancellor's Office, Dominions Office, National Debt Office, Paymaster-General's Office, Privy Council Office, Geological Survey, and Supreme Court of Judicature. Only typists and writing assistants are employed at the Office of Works, a Department responsible for the accommodation of 74,000 women servants.

Apart from the Woman Director of Establishments, the Hon. Maude Lawrence, there is only one woman above the clerical class employed in the general work of the Treasury, and no established women other than typists are employed in the general internal work of the Home Office.

Another serious injustice is the exclusion of women from participating in the work of the headquarters branches of various departments. Even at the Ministry of Health, which is accredited with being freer from sex prejudice than other departments, at the Ministry's headquarters in Whitehall, there are only three administrative class women and one executive class woman employed.

Although the General Post Office has admitted educated women since 1873, there are no women in the executive training grade, and only one administrative post is filled by a woman.

In pressing for equal pay, the removal of the marriage bar, and the opening of the consular and diplomatic posts to women, the Federation of Women Civil Servants point out that if entry were granted to the services in question, the status of women civil servants would be raised by the removal of the last sex barrier to entry.

#### MRS. DESPARD'S BIRTHDAY FUND.

The Birthday Party is just upon us and we must have a Record Birthday Fund for this great occasion. Many thanks to all who have already sent their contributions. I hope to see them at Caxton Hall next Thursday.

Much more is needed to support the work of the League through the summer months. We have now reached the point when we may look for results from the work of the past; 14 women M.P.'s are a great advantage but we must redouble our efforts in propaganda, the making and focusing of public opinion and the extension and consolidation of our League. All this is at the same time very expensive and very cheap—it requires much money but it affords the greatest possible value for the money used, so I must make a very urgent appeal to all economically minded friends and readers to send me before next Wednesday as large a donation to the Birthday Fund for the Freedom of Women as they possibly can. All amounts large or small will be equally warmly welcomed.

E. KNIGHT, *Hon. Treasurer.*

144, High Holborn, W.C.

#### ENGINEERING SCHOLARSHIPS OPEN TO WOMEN.

The recent decision of the Board of Education to offer twenty Royal Scholarships and twelve Free Studentships in 1930 is significant to women as the awards are open to either sex.

The awards which will be made on the results of the Service Scholarships Examination, held at various centres, will be tenable at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London.

The awards, include all fees for lectures and laboratory or any other work approved by the Board. The Royal Scholarships also carry a maintenance grant of £80 per year.

Among the Whitworth Scholarships for 1930, there are two of the value of £250, and six worth £125, all tenable for two years. These are open to students with handicraft experience obtained in a mechanical engineering workshop.

We hope that many women will enter for these Scholarships and prove successful candidates.

#### THE THIN EDGE OF THE WEDGE.

Last week when the Westminster City Council passed recommendations of the General Purposes Committee for revision of staff and salaries, including an increase of salary for women clerks of £20 per annum (basic), a protest was made by a woman member of the Council at the inequality in salaries between men and women working in the same division. In one division she said their maximum salaries were placed at £11 less than the men's, in another at £35 less! Why, if they were worthy of the pay of this division, did they not get it?

In supporting the protest, another woman councillor is reported to have said: "The Committee must remember that women to-day are held to be capable of filling Cabinet Ministers' posts, and it upsets me very much that real old die-hards should put forward such a recommendation."

#### WOMAN GAINS FULL MARKS IN COSTING EXAMINATION.

In a costing examination recently held at Stationer's Hall, women took the first and third places. In the examiner's report it was stated that Miss Hewett, who held the first place, had obtained full marks—an achievement never before accomplished.

Costing is one of the few branches of the printing industry open to women. We think it more than time the London Society of Compositors admitted women as members.

#### MINERVA CLUB.

### ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING

Friday, June 28th, at 8.15 p.m.

Chair: MRS. PETHICK-LAWRENCE.

Speakers: MRS. DESPARD, MISS NINA BOYLE, AND OTHERS.

MUSIC      TEA      COFFEE

#### Sunnydown School, Langton Matravers, Dorset.

Country Home School for Girls near the Dorset Coast. Individual attention to health and to a well-balanced development of mind and character.

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## Women's Freedom League.

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



### WHERE TO GO.

#### WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

#### DARE TO BE FREE. LONDON AND SUBURBS.

Friday, June 28th, at 3.30 p.m.

**Kew and District Branch.** Garden Meeting at 134, Leyborne Park, Kew Gardens (by the kind invitation of Madame Kagarlisky). If wet the meeting will be held indoors. Speaker: Mrs. Mustard.

Friday, June 28th, at 8.15 p.m.

**Minerva Club.** Annual Public Meeting, at 56, Hunter Street, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Speakers: Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence, and others.

Saturday, June 29th, at 10 a.m.

**National Executive Committee Meeting** at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Monday, July 1st, at 4 p.m.

**Hampstead Branch.** Garden Party (to be held by kind invitation of Mrs. Waring, at Althorpe House, Branch Hill, N.W.3) to meet Mrs. Despard who will speak. Tickets (in aid of the Birthday Fund), price 2/- including Tea, from the Hon. Secretary, 16, Denning Road, N.W.3. Members and friends of all Branches will be most welcome.

Thursday, July 4th, at 7 p.m.

**Mrs. Despard's Birthday Party**, at Caxton Hall, Westminster. Make up little parties of your friends for this.

Tuesday, July 9th, at 3 p.m.

**Finchley and Golders Green Branch.** Garden Party (by the kind invitation of Mrs. Legge), at 24, Village Road, N.3. Speaker: Miss Reeves, "Restrictive Legislation." Sale of second-hand novels in aid of Mrs. Despard's Birthday Fund. Contributions of second-hand novels will be gratefully received by Mrs. Legge or the Hon. Secretary, Miss Stephens, 11, Fallowcourt Avenue, N.12.

Wednesday, July 10th, at 3 p.m.

**Brentford and Chiswick Branch.** Whist Drive and Social afternoon in aid of the funds to be held at Harvard Towers, Harvard Road, Gunnersbury. Tickets from the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Beckwith, 5, Duke Road, Chiswick. 1/6, including tea.

Wednesday, July 10th, at 7.30 p.m.

**London Members' Meeting**, at the Minerva Club, 56, Hunter Street, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Speakers: Dr. Knight and Miss Underwood.

#### PROVINCES.

Friday, June 28th, at 3.30 p.m.

**Ashford Branch.** The Annual Meeting of Members will be held at "Glengarriff," Albert Road (by kind permission of Mrs. Kither). Tea 4.30. All are cordially asked to attend.

Friday, June 28th, at 4.15 p.m.

**Leeds Branch.** Jumble Sale in the Castleton Council School, Armley Road.

Saturday, July 20th.

**Portsmouth Branch.** Garden Party at "Bellevue," Finchdean Road, Rowland's Castle. Hostess: Mrs. Whitehead.

Saturday, August 3rd, at 3.30 p.m.

**Hastings Branch.** A Garden Meeting will be held at "Rossiana," Pine Street, Ore (by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Prelooker). Speaker: Mrs. Zangwill: "What we expect from the present Government." An entertainment arranged by Miss Miriam Prelooker will be held after the meeting.

#### OTHER SOCIETIES.

Friday, June 28th, at 3 p.m.

**Women's Indian Association.** Special Conference at the Caxton Hall, Westminster, S.W.1. "The Problem of India." Speakers: Dr. Annie Besant Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar and Mr. B. Shiva Rao. Visitors' tickets 2/- and 1/-; from the Commonwealth of India Group, 7, Hobart Place, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1.

Saturday, June 29th, at 8 p.m.

**The Commonwealth of India Conference.** Public Lecture at the Caxton Hall, Westminster. Subject: "India's Demand and its Justification." Speakers: Dr. Annie Besant, and Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar. Tickets 2/-, 1/-, some free seats. From the Secretaries, 7, Hobart Place, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1.

Saturday, June 29th, 2.45 to 7 p.m.

**Brackenhill Open-air School**, Upper Hartfield, Sussex. International Fair, to be opened by Miss Margaret MacMillan.

Monday, July 1st, at 8.15 p.m.

**Speech Club.** At the Minerva Club, 56, Hunter Street, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Ancient Greece—Miss Solomon. Modern Greece—Miss Agelasto.

Tuesday, July 2nd, at 5.15 p.m.

**The Six Point Group.** Public Meeting at 92, Victoria Street, S.W.1. Speakers: Mrs. Helen Archdale. Subject: "Feminism To-day in England and America." No charge for admission.

Wednesday, July 3rd, 4 to 5. 0 p.m.

**British Commonwealth League.** Re-union Reception to all Members, Overseas Delegates, and others returning from the Berlin Congress. "Bring and Buy" Stall. Each guest is asked to bring a small gift and to buy a small gift.

#### BRANCH NOTES.

##### HAMPSTEAD.

A members' meeting was held by kind invitation of the Misses Berry at 16, Denning Road, N.W.3, on Thursday, June 20th—Miss Harburn presided. Arrangements were made for the Garden Party to be held by kind invitation of Mrs. Waring at Althorpe House, Branch Hill, on Monday, July 1st. The sale of the paper was discussed and suggestions were made to increase the sale of the THE VOTE. The Flower Stall at the Birthday Party was also discussed. Miss Harburn, Mrs. Seymour Pritchard, Mrs. Stedman and Miss Berry will be in charge of the stall. Any gifts of flowers or plants for this stall will be most welcome and should be sent to the Caxton Hall on July 4th, before 6.30 p.m.

The Branch collection for the Birthday Fund is still open, and donations should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Miss Lyndon, 53, Willow Road, N.W.3, before the end of this week.

All members and friends of the League will be most welcome at the Garden Party on July 1st. Mrs. Despard has promised to speak, Madame San Carolo will recite, and Mrs. Peters will tell stories out of tea-cups. Tickets, price 2/- (including tea) from the Hon. Secretary, or from Miss Keeves, The Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1, or from our Head Office. The nearest station to Althorpe House is Hampstead Tube Station, and the bus from Highgate to Golders Green Station passes near the house. It is therefore easy for all London members to get to the Garden Party.

(Hon. Sec.) MISS E. BERRY, 16, Denning Road, N.W.3.

##### HASTINGS.

Our members will be glad to know that I have news of Mrs. Buckingham. Mrs. Prelooker writes to me from Berlin. She has seen her, but I am sorry to say that she found her very ill.

**Birthday Fund.—S.E. Branches.**—Many thanks to the following: Mrs. Cavendish Bentinck, 5s.; H. L. Fry, Esq., 5s.; Mrs. Stanley Brown, 1s.; Mme. Osterveden, 1s.; Mrs. Richardson, 6d.; Miss Baenziger, 6d.; M. W., 6d. MAUD L. WHITE.

##### GATESHEAD.

A Branch Meeting was held in the Bewick Hall, Gateshead, on Wednesday, June 19th, at 7.30 p.m., at which Miss Tooke, J.P., presided and Miss Lenton spoke.

Miss Tooke proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs. Bewicke and Mrs. Sticks, who, at the meeting in April, had so kindly consented to act as Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer respectively until the return of the Organiser. After this had been duly carried, she asked for nominations for successors to these ladies and also for President.

After some discussion, Miss Tooke herself was elected President; Miss McCathie, Hon. Secretary; and Mrs. Annable, Hon. Treasurer. It was then pointed out that very little could be done until after the summer holiday, but the President suggested that in the early autumn she should meet the other office-bearers with a view to arranging regular monthly meetings on subjects of particular interest to women.

Miss Lenton reported, on behalf of Mrs. Bewicke, that the Women's Freedom League questionnaire had been sent to the local Parliamentary candidates in accordance with the decision reached at the meeting in May, and stated briefly how each man had answered.

A collection was taken towards the expenses of this meeting (which were lessened by the kindness of Mrs. Stagg, who paid for the room). Three new members were enrolled, "VOTES" were sold, and the gathering dispersed. (Organiser) LILIAN LENTON.

##### PORTSMOUTH.

Mrs. Whitehead has kindly invited members and friends to Rowland's Castle, on Saturday, July 20th. Time of train will be sent to members later on. There will be a collection in aid of the Birthday Fund.

Gratefully acknowledged:—Miss Peacock, 2/-; Mrs. Brading, 1/-; Mrs. Davies, 1/6; Mrs. Speck, 1/-; Mrs. Ware, 5/-.

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

#### MRS. DESPARD'S BIRTHDAY PARTY.

Eighteenth year

CAXTON HALL, WESTMINSTER.

Thursday, July 4th, 7 p.m.

THE POUND STALL!

We are very grateful to those who have already kindly offered to contribute to this stall. Gifts in money or in kind will still be very welcome. If you have not already done so, please send a card to Miss Auld, at the Women's Freedom League Office, to say whether we may expect a contribution from you.

#### OUR OPEN COLUMN.

To the Editor of THE VOTE.

DEAR MADAM—Is it possible for the Women's Freedom League to do anything to get the Registration Officers to appoint women in connection with election work? I tried in my own district to persuade the Returning Officer that now we had equal suffrage he should put some women on the count, but without success. Perhaps representation from the League would be more effective.

Yours truly,  
EQUALITY.



FRIDAY,  
JUNE 28,  
1929.

# THE VOTE

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PENNY  
WEEKLY.

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**MONTAGUE HOTEL**, Montague Street, Russell Square, London, W.C. First-class accommodation; room, breakfast and attendance from 7s. 6d. Pension from 3 guineas.—Phone: Museum 4660. (Highly Recommended.)

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

**CORNWALL**.—Well-furnished kitchen and double bedroom to let in farmhouse. No attendance; every convenience. Garage, if required. Good motoring centre.—SELSEY, St. Stephen's, St. Austell.

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**FRENCH ALPS**.—Furnished Chalet to let. View Mt. Blanc, Seven beds, bath, inside sanitation.—“E.C.F.,” 31, Meadhurst Road, Leicester.

**HASTINGS**—“Furness Mount,” 4, Holmesdale Gardens. Board Residence. Moderate terms.—Hostess: MRS. STANLEY BROWN.

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**REALLY** comfortable and moderate terms.—Gentlewoman's own Kensington house; bed and breakfast, partial or full board by day or longer. Very hot water. Lounge, dining room.—Phone 6693 Frobisher, or write Box 100. W. H. SMITH & SONS, Earls Court Road, London.

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## NOTICES.

**QUEEN'S HALL**

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SUNDAY NEXT, 7 P.M.

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**ON** Friday, July 5th.—Minerva Club, 8.15 p.m., 56, Hunter St., Bloomsbury. Mrs. FLORA AMES, N.A.M.H., Diplomate Medical Botanist, will Lecture on “The Curative Principles of Herbs, Flowers, Roots.” Doctor Julius Ames' discoveries.

**THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH LEAGUE** can arrange, on favourable terms, evening use of its charming Clubroom for any well-accredited small group desiring to meet regularly.—Apply ORGANISER, 17, Buckingham Street, W.C.2.

**FELLOWSHIP SERVICES**.—Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Sunday, June 30th. 6.30. Sir Jagadis C. Box, F.R.S., C.S.I., C.I.E., etc.: “The Unity of Life.” Miss Royden will take the Service.

**PUBLIC SPEAKING**.—Lectures, classes, and private lessons. Saturday Speech Club.—Miss LUCY BELL, Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Tel.: Museum 4791.

**INCOME TAX RECOVERED AND ADJUSTED**—Consult Miss H. M. BAKER, 275, High Holborn, W.C.1. Income Tax Returns, Repayment Claims of all Descriptions. Telephone: Holborn 0377.

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