

COME TO THE BIRTHDAY PARTY.

THE VOTE

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

Vol. XXV. No. 766.

(Registered at
the G.P.O.)

ONE PENNY.

FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 1924

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

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS.

THE BIRTHDAY PARTY.
GERMAN WOMEN M.P.'s.
GUARDIANSHIP OF INFANTS BILL.
IN PARLIAMENT. F.A.U.

9 "MULTITUDES OF IDLE WOMEN"!
WOMEN AND INTERNATIONAL HOUSING.
TRAFALGAR SQUARE MEETING.
MORE WOMEN BARRISTERS.
ROYAL COMMISSION APPOINTED.

MRS. DESPARD'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

Reception,
Recitations,
Songs—Music,
Character Readings,
Refreshments,
Ices,
Strawberries and
Cream,
Welsh Produce,
Flower Stall,
Pottery Stall.

FRIDAY

7.0 p.m.

JULY 4

The
Birthday Fund
will be presented.

Mrs. Despard will
give her
Birthday Address.

Miss BONDFIELD, M.P.

Miss MARGARET McMILLAN, C.B.E.

Mrs. MUSTARD.

Councillor SCHOFIELD COATES, J.P., in the Chair.

GERMAN WOMEN M.P.'s.

Although the last German Reichstag had 35 women Members, the newly elected Parliament has only 19. Nine of these belong to the Social-Democratic Party; two are members of the Democratic Party; two others belong to the German People's Party, two to the Communist, two to the Centre (Roman Catholic Party), and two to the German National Party. The extreme Nationalists (Voelkische) and several smaller groups did not present any women candidates.

Most of the women Members who are going to sit in the new Reichstag were Members of the old, and it is interesting to note that a great many of those who have come back were trained for their work by long years of service in one or other branch of the Women's Movement.

Frau Mathilde Wurm, of the Social-Democratic Party, in her early youth was a busy welfare worker under the tuition of Dr. Alice Salomon. The two women Members of the Democratic Party, Dr. Gertrud Baeumer and Dr. Marie Elisabeth Lueders, are both of them University women. After having studied languages and literature, Dr. Gertrud Baeumer for a long series of years was President of the German Council of Women, whose chief representative at all international meetings she still is. Her colleague, Dr. M. E. Lueders, studied economics. She is a hard worker in committee, and a master of sharp repartee.

Fräulein Hedwig Dransfeld, the elder of the two Centre Members, is President of the Roman Catholic Union of Women, Editor of *Die Christliche Frau*, and wields great influence. Akin to hers is the position of Fräulein Paula Mueller-Otfrid, President of the Protestant Union of Women, and member of the German National Party. She is deeply interested in social questions, and has spent much time in trying to solve them. In this respect she goes hand in hand with her colleague, Fräulein Margarete Behm, whose whole life has been devoted to the cause of home-workers. Originally a Board School teacher, she early came into contact with the mothers of her school children, who very often eked out a small income by doing home work. She tried to organise them, and, in spite of all difficulties, succeeded in forming several unions, and in actually keeping the women interested in them. The Home Work Act of 1911 is chiefly due to her indefatigable efforts behind the scenes. She is now working for further reforms in the same field.

CANADIAN WOMEN CANDIDATES.

Candidates for the provincial election in British Columbia included five women aspirants for seats in the Legislative Assembly of the Province. Of the five, Mrs. Ellen Smith, who is Liberal Member for Vancouver, sat in the last Legislature, and for a time was a member of the Government without portfolio. Two other women of prominence contested Vancouver City, for which six members are elected—Mrs. S. D. Scott, Conservative, and Mrs. J. Z. Hall, both of whom have been prominent in the affairs of women.

MRS. DESPARD'S BIRTHDAY FUND.

If you have not already sent your contribution to the Fund please cut out the form below, fill it up and return with the amount (as much as you can possibly spare); we must have a record Gathering and a record Birthday Gift to make the Party a success, and to carry our League on into the Autumn. You will see in this number how hard we are working for the equal Vote, the Right of the Mother, Lunacy Reform, etc., and we look to YOU to make a Record effort.

E. Knight, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

I enclose £ s. d. my contribution to the Birthday Fund.

Name _____

Address _____

GUARDIANSHIP OF INFANTS BILL.

We do not see why women's societies who believe in the equality of the sexes should be asked to support the Government's Guardianship Bill which Lord Haldane recently introduced in the House of Lords. It is not an *Equal Guardianship Bill*, although it seeks to improve the present law in a few directions. In spite of the preamble of the Bill, which says: "Whereas Parliament by the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, 1919, and various other enactments, has sought to establish equality in law between the sexes, and it is expedient that this principle should obtain with respect to the guardianship of infants, and the rights conferred thereby," it contains no clause enunciating the principle of equality of guardianship of the children for fathers and mothers in the home, and under normal conditions. In moving the Second Reading of the Bill, Lord Haldane said: "It is proposed by this Bill to apply a very simple principle—that is, that the care and interest of the child shall be the first consideration. . . . That principle is connected with another, namely, that the status of women has very much changed in the last 25 years. Recently it has been so changed that the woman has almost the same status as the man. She has not altogether the same status, because it is necessary to preserve the position of the family as a unit, and, if you have a unit, there must be a head to that unit." In that statement the whole principle of equal guardianship of their children for fathers and mothers falls completely to the ground. Under this Bill, a woman cannot make any claim to the custody or upbringing of her children, unless she comes into Court, after a dispute on the matter with her husband. Then the magistrate or Judge will not give consideration to the equal position of the mother or father, but only to what he considers is the welfare of the child. So far, we have comparatively few *women* magistrates, and no *woman* Judge. Is it likely, except in extreme cases, that the woman claimant will succeed in obtaining the guardianship of her children under this Bill, if it becomes law, especially as the father in nearly every case has a better financial position than his wife? We sincerely believe that, if this Bill is passed, it will prove a formidable obstacle to women securing real equality of guardianship of their children; and in its working, this Guardianship of Infants Bill will prove as great a sham, delusion, and snare in regard to the principle of equality as the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, 1919. What we have to make Governments understand, the present Labour Government no less than other Governments—is that women intend to have *real* equality, and that they will not tolerate a sham equality. With regard to this particular Bill, women feel that they asked for bread, and that the Government has merely offered them a stone. The Women's Freedom League's message to the Government is, that no Bill will be acceptable to its members unless it contains a clause similar to one in Mrs. Wintringham's Bill—the mother of every legitimate infant shall have the guardianship and custody of such infant jointly with the father, and have equal authority, rights, and responsibilities with regard to such infant.

IN PARLIAMENT.

Medical Officers.

Replying to a question by Mr. COSTELLO (Huntingdon), Mr. WHEATLEY (Minister of Health) said that the total number of medical officers of health employed by local authorities in England and Wales was 1,455, all of whom were men. He had not complete information as to the numbers of assistant medical officers of health, but the available records indicated that the number of such officers in England giving whole or part time to maternity and child welfare services was 227, of whom approximately half were women; to tuberculosis services, 76, of whom nine were women; to venereal diseases 42, of whom 12 were women. Many assistant medical officers of health were engaged on more than one service, and, therefore, those figures were not mutually exclusive, nor did they include certain medical officers appointed wholly for special purposes. Corresponding figures were not available as to Wales. There were employed in England and Wales 317 school medical officers, and 710 assistant school medical officers; of those, 826 were men, and 201 were women; 286 school medical officers and 341 assistant school medical officers also carried out public health duties. During the last 12 months he was aware of one vacancy in the post of assistant medical officer of health, and one in the post of assistant school medical officer, previously held by women, which had been filled by men.

Government Departments (Women).

LT.-COM. KENWORTHY (Hull, Central) asked the Minister of Health how many posts above the lower clerical, excluding inspectors, there were in the Local Government Administration Division of the Ministry of Health, and how many of those posts were held by women? Mr. A. GREENWOOD (Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Health) replied that there were 39 posts in the Local Government Administration Division of the Ministry above the lower clerical grade. None of those posts were held by women. COMMANDER KENWORTHY further inquired how many posts above the lower clerical, excluding inspectors, there were in the infectious diseases division of the Ministry of Health; and how many of those posts were held by women? Mr. WHEATLEY replied that there were 20 posts in the infectious diseases division of the Ministry above the lower clerical grade. None of those posts were held by women.

Unemployment.

LT.-COM. KENWORTHY asked the Minister of Labour what was the number of persons, male and female, respectively, now registered as unemployed; how many were working systematic short time; and if he could give the approximate figures for the unregistered unemployed? Mr. SHAW replied that the numbers of males and females on June 9th, 1924, recorded on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain were 795,000 and 231,600, respectively. Of those, 22,100 males and 12,300 females were persons who were recorded as working short time on what was regarded, for administrative purposes, as a systematic basis, but who were not at work on the date in question. There were no statistics available showing the number of unemployed persons who were not registered at an Employment Exchange. The hon. and gallant Member would be aware that, since a recent date, the weekly figures of unemployment were compiled on a slightly different basis, which did not show separately the numbers on systematic short time.

Replying to a question by Mr. FISHER (English Universities), Mr. SHAW said that the number of persons under the age of 18 years recorded on the registers of Employment Exchanges and Juvenile Employment Bureaus in Great Britain on June 9th was 62,500, of whom 31,600 were boys, and 30,900 were girls. He had not sufficient information to enable him to estimate the number of unemployed persons under 18 who were not so recorded.

Replying to Mr. GILBERT (Southwark Central), Mr. SHAW said that on June 2nd, 1924, there were on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the County of London, 81,442 men, 21,052 women, and 6,545 juveniles. Those figures, as compared with the figures of 12 months ago, represented decreases in unemployment of 20,048 among men, 2,849 among women, and 1,112 among juveniles.

Juvenile Offenders (Medical Examinations).

MR. BIRKETT (Nottingham, E.) asked the Home Secretary if he had received any reports from the Petty Sessional Divisions in England and Wales, or from probation officers, as to the desirability of a competent medical man being at the service of the probation officers in cases of young offenders who were suffering from epilepsy and kindred diseases; and, in the event of such reports having been received, if he would cause inquiries to be made? Mr. HENDERSON replied that the answer to the first part of the question was in the negative. Some juvenile courts had made arrangements for the medical examination, where necessary, of young offenders who were brought before them, and attention was drawn to the desirability of such a practice in the Report of the Children's Branch issued last year. The matter was receiving further consideration.

Probation Officers.

MR. BIRKETT asked the Home Secretary the number of petty sessional divisions in England and Wales in which no probation officer had been appointed; and what steps it was proposed to take in the matter? Mr. HENDERSON replied that a recent Return showed that, out of 1,029 petty sessional divisions in England and Wales, about 170 had not appointed probation officers. In reply to the second part of the question, he would refer the hon. Member to the proposals of the Government in Part I. of the Criminal Justice Bill, by which every petty sessional division would have the services of probation officers.

Day Continuation Schools.

MR. GRAHAM WHITE (Birkenhead, E.) asked the President of the Board of Education if, having regard to the position arising from juvenile unemployment and the insufficiency of juvenile unemployment centres, he would consider the advisability of bringing into operation the day continuation schools provided for in the Education Act, 1918? Mr. TREVELYAN replied that he was always prepared to consider any proposals that might be made to him by local education authorities, but, as at present advised, he did not think it would be wise to require authorities to undertake the provision of day continuation schools on a basis of compulsory attendance.

Special Schools.

Replying to Mr. R. MORRISON (Tottenham, N.) Mr. TREVELYAN said that the approximate number of deaf children in England and Wales was 5,700, of whom it was estimated that about 1,600 were only partially deaf. The recognised accommodation for those children in special schools or classes for the deaf was 4,582, and the number of children who were attending those schools on March 31st, 1923, the latest date for which complete figures were available was 4,041. Replying to Mr. FOOT (Bodmin), Mr. TREVELYAN said that the Board was actively considering the means of providing arrangements for those deaf children for whom at present there were no schools; and, replying to MAJOR HORE-BELISHA (Devonport), Mr. TREVELYAN stated that mentally defective children were not supposed to be taught in the same schools as deaf children.

Education (Employment of Young Persons) Bill was read a second time in the House of Commons on June 19th, and committed to a Standing Committee.

F. A. U.

THE VOTE.

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FRIDAY, JUNE 27th, 1924.

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

Telegrams: "DESPARD, Museum 1429, London."

Telephone: MUSEUM 1429.

EDITORIAL.

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

?

"MULTITUDES OF IDLE WOMEN"!

Where are they? Who knows anything about them? Well, Canon Alexander, who preached at the afternoon service at St. Paul's Cathedral last Sunday, when a number of Judges attended in state, together with the Lord Mayor and members of the Corporation, because it was Hospital Sunday, had a good deal to say about "multitudes of idle women." He told his congregation that the feeling which had brought them together in support of the London hospitals—in which 400 beds had been closed for want of funds—was that of national and personal responsibility. The reverend gentleman is reported as saying: "Who can look at modern society, and not see with sorrow and dismay the waste of manhood and of womanhood there—wasted because practically unused—of womanhood, especially, for men, after all, are forced, as a rule, to work, to have an aim of some kind? With multitudes of women it is not so. They are in that saddest of positions of having nothing to do. . . . This frivolous conception of life is one from which women might well ask deliverance." We think that Canon Alexander should have given chapter and verse for his charge against what he vaguely calls "modern society." We hardly see how this wholesale indictment of the women who belong to it, whatever "it" may be, will help the funds of the London hospitals. Although numbers of women of all classes work for, or have stalls at, bazaars for these hospitals, collect for them in the streets, from house to house, and among their friends and acquaintances, and although they serve on ladies' committees to look after the linen and blankets of hospitals, in the vast majority of hospitals no woman serves on their management committees, or has any kind of say in the working, staffing, or direction of those hospitals. Women are considered good enough to do the drudgery for these institutions where the sick—men, women, and children—are treated and nursed; but they are not considered capable of having anything to do with their management. Some of these hospitals refuse to admit women medical students, and very, very few of them ever have a woman on their staff. What encouragement have men of the class to which Canon Alexander belongs given to women in the past to use their capabilities to the utmost, and to share with men the responsibilities of our national life? Have they not persistently told them that women's place was the home, and, no matter whether they were needed there or not, they should stop in the home? What opportunities did they offer to women to develop their splendid powers in the service of the nation, or even of the Church? Then what right have men to criticise women for their want of usefulness? We frankly say that Canon Alexander's charge that there are "multitudes of idle women" in our midst is not true—not even in modern society can he, or anyone else, find them; but if it had been true, the responsibility for their idleness or uselessness would have lain at the door of men who for generations did everything in their power to impede the progress of women, and to keep them in the position of dolls or drudges.

THE NEED FOR CLEAN MILK.

Medical Officers of Health and public-spirited women are continually bringing before the public the urgent need for a purer milk supply. This can hardly be called a controversial question, and it is certainly not a party question; yet no Government, apparently, can find time or inclination to deal with this matter. Last week, Dr. Rashell Davison, Medical Officer of Health for the Maldens and Coombe district, when reporting on milk brought into the neighbourhood for human consumption, stated that no bacteriological examination had been made during the year. The milk consumed by the public was only examined, under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, by the County Inspector, whose duty it was to see that nothing was added, and nothing taken away. It was a test to prevent adulteration, and no more. It had been proved beyond doubt that railway-borne milk was very often dirty, and contained large numbers of bacteria, including tubercle. In his opinion, all railway-borne milk not safeguarded by bacteriological examination or supervision must be dangerous to children and to the public. The Southampton County Council General Purposes Committee has had its attention called, on several occasions, to samples of milk in which a visible quantity of dirty debris is found, upon analysis, to be present, and has expressed the opinion that further steps should be taken to secure a higher standard of purity in the milk supplied, and is calling the attention of the Ministry of Health to the matter. As a writer in the *Surrey Comet* says: "There is no reason why clean milk should not be supplied to all, and, if that were done, many of our devastating diseases would disappear; but, whilst a local authority, through its medical department, can do something by way of seeing that water, even pure water, is not added to milk, there is no machinery to prevent the sale of milk containing dirt, which infects the milk with menacing bacteria."

STEER-ROPING CONTESTS.

We warmly congratulate Lady Terrington on her spirited protest in the House of Commons, last week, against steer-roping at the British Empire Exhibition. She asked to be allowed to move the Adjournment of the House, and have the matter settled at once, in view of the seriousness of the injuries that were happening to those animals. The Home Secretary (Mr. Henderson) declared that he had no power to stop the exhibitions, but he was doing the next best thing. He had instructed the police to take out summonses, and he had appealed to the authorities to have the contests suspended until the summonses had been disposed of. Lady Terrington protested that, by the time those summonses were heard, it might be too late to stop the display; and, as the people had been brought over by the British Government, the display could surely be stopped. Later, Lady Terrington made another attempt to secure the Adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the daily cruelty to animals, and the injuries inflicted on individuals in the performances at Wembley Stadium; but the Speaker ruled that, as they had been informed that the Government had not the power to stop the proceedings, it was for persons to take action in the Law Courts. The protests of Lady Terrington, and of other Members of the House who supported her, had behind them an enormous amount of public opinion, and the next morning it was reported in the Press that the organiser of the Rodeo competitions at the British Empire Exhibition had, after a conference with his legal advisers, announced that it had been decided to postpone the steer-roping competitions until after the summonses taken out by the Royal Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals had been heard at Wealdstone Police Court. The cases arising out of these contests were opened before the Wealdstone magistrates last Tuesday, but were adjourned until next Monday morning.

WOMEN AND INTERNATIONAL HOUSING.

Eighteen countries, including Europe, America, and the British overseas Dominions, have received invitations to the Women's International Housing Congress, which has been convened by the General Committee of the National Housing and Town Planning Council, and will be held at Caxton Hall, Westminster, from July 16-18. Practically all the women Councillors of Holland are expected to attend, and many other women housing experts, such as Mme. Plaminkova, of Czecho-Slovakia, who is a Town Councillor of Prague, and Frau Scheue Reisz, of Austria, who has done so much towards the rewriting of school text-books on an international basis. Scandinavian women, whose interest in housing is proverbial, will also be well represented at the Congress, and Germany, which leads the world in the question of town-planning, is also expected to send several women delegates. Every civilised country to-day is facing the problem of housing shortage—a problem which has naturally been immensely complicated by the war. England leads the world as regards municipal housing, and it is felt by women on all hands that the time for speech must now give place to action, in which this country must take a prominent part. The opening of the Wembley Exhibition is also favourable, as it is attracting an ever-increasing influx of foreign visitors to the capital. This is the first Women's International Congress ever held in any country, previous International Housing Congresses having been attended by both sexes, and it is fully expected that the active discontent amongst women with regard to this difficulty, which has been simmering in so many countries for some time past, will come to a definite head at the July meeting. It is possible that there may be a great diversity of opinion amongst those attending the Congress with regard to the lines which can best be followed in the realisation of a great national purpose, but there will assuredly be absolute agreement that it is the duty of every civilised State to prepare and administer a national housing and town-planning policy, with, as its definite goal, the cleansing of every civilised country of bad housing conditions, and the provision of homes with surround-

ings in which a proper family life can be lived under modern conditions of amenity and comfort.

A new note in Congress organisation will be struck at the Caxton Hall meetings, which might well become the rule at all subsequent Congresses, either of men or women. A series of reasoned memoranda will be distributed beforehand to delegates, stating in brief and clear terms the subjects to be discussed, instead of the usual delivery of papers or speeches by set speakers. These memoranda will be taken as read, so that much valuable time and energy will be saved, and allocated instead to individual discussion. The subject of these memoranda will include: (1) The duty of the State and Local Authorities in regard to Housing and Town Planning legislation and administration. (2) The standards of design and lay-out of new housing schemes. (3) The establishment of Garden Cities and Satellite Towns. (4) The establishment of Housing Trusts and Public Utility Societies by private citizens (including employers) interested in questions of social welfare. (5) The creation of occupying owners under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, or by means of Building Society Loans. (6) The work of trained women in the sphere of house property management. (7) The co-operative provision of Homes for Women Workers in centres of population.

Women will occupy the Chair at each session of the Congress, and include the Marchioness of Aberdeen and Temair, the Lady Emmott, Mrs. Henrietta O. Barnett, C.B.E., Lady Galway, and others. The sentiment of English women on the subject of Housing will be focussed at a mass Demonstration in the Queen's Hall, on July 17th, organised by the Women's Housing Councils Federation. Mr. F. M. Elgood will preside, the speakers including Lady Astor, Miss Margaret Bondfield, Mrs. Wintringham, Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence, and Mr. Henry R. Aldridge, Secretary of the National Housing and Town Planning Council. Whilst the Congress is sitting, visits to schemes of Housing and Town Planning interest will be arranged, including the Housing Schemes of the London County Council, an Urban District Council Housing Scheme, Letchworth Garden City, Welwyn Garden City, and the Hampstead Garden Suburb.

JOIN US IN TRAFALGAR SQUARE.

SATURDAY, JULY 5th, 3 p.m.

To DEMAND that Mothers shall have Equal Rights with Fathers in the guardianship and upbringing of their Children.

Speakers:—Mrs. Despard, The Viscountess Rhondda, Miss Agnes Dawson, Miss Anna Munro, Miss Nina Boyle, and others, including Members of Parliament.

Chairman:—Councillor Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P.

Supported by The Actresses Franchise League, The National Union of Women Teachers, The Six Point Group and The Women's Freedom League.

EQUAL FRANCHISE THROUGH COMMITTEE.

Mr. Adamson's Representation of the People Act, 1918, Amendment Bill, the principal object of which is to confer on women of the age of 21 and upwards the franchise for Parliamentary and Local Government Elections, passed its final stage in Committee at the House of Commons on June 19th, and the same day was reported to the House. Lord Eustace Percy (Hastings) was as diligent as ever proposing and supporting amendments in the Committee stage. He moved a new clause concerning the redistribution of seats; but Mr. Henderson, speaking on behalf of the Government, said that the final stages of the Bill should not be dependent upon any compromise with regard to the question of redistribution. The Bill, however, was not a Government measure, but one promoted by a private Member, and they must keep in mind that the question of redistribution was very fully put before the country at the last election, and he thought all parties were, to some extent at any rate, committed to the subject. If the Government found that, when the Bill had been operated, anomalies did exist, and the Government were in office at the time, they would be prepared favourably to consider the question of redistribution. Lord Eustace said that the clause need not postpone the operation of the Bill for a single month. The inquiry provided for it was one which, if the Government had any energy in it at all, should be carried into effect before the autumn Session. On a vote, the clause was defeated by 23 votes to 18.

Mr. S. Roberts (Hereford) moved an intriguing clause to the effect that electors aged 35 should be regarded as senior electors, and given distinctive coloured ballot papers, and that the vote of a senior elector should count as two votes. He considered this arrangement necessary, because the Act proposed to add many new people to the electorate, a great number of whom were young and inexperienced. Miss Susan Lawrence (East Ham) said that, if 15 years of political life gave twice the value to a vote, surely the next 15 years should give two more, and so on in geometrical progression. She thought it was a fascinating field for conjecture. The clause, however, was withdrawn. The Bill, as amended, is to be taken into consideration by the House of Commons on Thursday, July 3rd.

MORE WOMEN BARRISTERS.

Fifteen women were successful in the recent Trinity Bar examinations. Three women were successful in Roman Law: Miss Alice Schuster (Inner Temple), who gained a First Class, Miss Fanny Isabel Taylor (Middle Temple), who gained a Second Class, and Miss Mary Eleanor Ewart (Middle Temple). Three women were successful in Constitutional Law and Legal History: the Misses Winifred Packard Shyvers and Dorothy Scott Stokes (both of Gray's Inn), who gained Second Classes, and Miss Eileen Agnes Macdonald (Middle Temple). Four women were successful in Criminal Law and Procedure: Miss Eileen Agnes Macdonald, who gained a First Class, Miss Vera Beatrice Marjorie Meiklejohn (Middle Temple), who gained a Second Class, and the Misses Dorothy Evans (Inner Temple) and Mary Christina Sheppard (Gray's Inn). One woman was successful in Real Property and Conveyancing: Miss Ethel Lane (Inner Temple), who gained a First Class. One woman was successful in Roman-Dutch Law: Miss Gladys Evelyn Steyn (Middle Temple), who gained a First Class. Four women were successful in the Final Examinations: the Misses Lillie Agatha Monroe and Mildred Frances Carrothers (both of the Middle Temple), who gained Second Classes, and Miss Joan Clarkson (Inner Temple) and Miss Alice Lumsden Malcolm (Middle Temple). The total number of women called to the Bar, or qualified for Call, is now 41.

EDUCATION COMMITTEES & EQUAL PAY.

According to the *Northern Echo*, equal pay for equal work was discussed by the York Education Committee last week. The Staffing Sub-Committee introduced the matter by recommending that support should be given to the claim of the National Union of Women Teachers for equal pay for men and women teachers of the same professional status. This recommendation was opposed by Messrs. T. Gray and Leonard, on the grounds that the subject was a national one, and should not be discussed by the Committee, and they did not wish the Committee to express an opinion which would bind them for the future. The Secretary to the Committee stated that the cost of raising women teachers' salaries would be £5,440, equivalent to a rate of 3½d. in the £. Dr. Sanderson Long submitted that the matter should be considered by the Burnham Committee, and that the local authority should not prejudice the situation. Mr. F. Hawksby, however, argued that it was a question of principle, and trade unions had been pressing for equal pay for equal work for several years. The principle had been established in industry, and where a woman was doing the same work as a man, she received equal pay. Ald. J. B. Morrell submitted that, if the Committee agreed to the principle, they should be honest, and forthwith pay their women teachers the same salaries as men teachers. Miss Netherwood said equal pay for equal work was part of the movement towards the recognition of women, and of civic rights given them by the vote. The Committee decided to delete the recommendation, but carried an amendment by Mrs. K. E. T. Wilkinson, opposing any further differentiation as between men and women than that existing at present, and in favour of a continuance of present relations in regard to pay.

Mr. Trevelyan (Minister of Education) addressed the Education Committee's Conference at Bournemouth, last week. The Conference had previously carried a resolution that it was not desirable to raise the school age to 15 unless the change was compulsory for the whole country. The Burnham salary scales were considered in private. The Conference adopted the resolution in favour of greater differentiation in salaries of men and women teachers.

ROYAL COMMISSION APPOINTED.

A Royal Commission has been appointed with the following terms of reference:—

- (1) To inquire as regards England and Wales into the existing law and administrative machinery in connection with the certification, detention, and care of persons who are or are alleged to be of unsound mind;
- (2) To consider as regards England and Wales the extent to which provision is or should be made for the treatment without certification of persons suffering from mental disorder;

And to make recommendations.

The Commission will comprise the following eleven men and two women:—

The Right Hon. H. P. Macmillan, K.C. (Chairman), the Earl Russell, Lord Eustace Percy, M.P., Sir Thomas Hutchison, Bt., Sir Humphry Rolleston, K.C.B., M.D., D.C.L., LL.D., Sir Ernest Hiley, K.B.E., Sir David Drummond, C.B.E., M.D., D.C.L., Mr. W. A. Jowitt, K.C., M.P., Mr. F. D. MacKinnon, K.C., Mr. H. Snell, M.P., Mrs. C. J. Matthew, Miss Madeline Symons, with Mr. P. Barter, of the Ministry of Health, as Secretary.

All communications regarding the Commission should be addressed to "The Secretary, Royal Commission on Lunacy and Mental Disorder, Ministry of Health, Whitehall, S.W.1." Applications to give evidence before the Commission should be made in writing; personal interviews cannot be granted in this connection.

The Women's Freedom League has time after time urged that this Commission should consist of an equal number of women and men, and that a medical woman should be appointed to it. No medical woman has been so appointed, and our readers will note the disparity in the numbers of the women and men of this Commission.

Women's Freedom League.

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

FORTHCOMING EVENTS W.F.L.

LONDON AND SUBURBS.

Monday, June 30th, at 3.30 p.m. "Fair" Committee, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.
Friday, July 4th, at 7 p.m. Mrs. Despard's Birthday Party, Council Chamber, Caxton Hall, Westminster. Music, Recitations, Speeches. Light Refreshments.
Saturday, July 5th, at 10 a.m., at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1. National Executive Committee Meeting.

DARE TO BE FREE.

Saturday, July 5th, at 3 p.m. Protest Meeting in Trafalgar Square, against the Unequal Guardianship of Infants Bill.
Friday and Saturday, November 28th and 29th. Central Hall, Westminster. Green, White and Gold Fair. To be opened on Friday, at 3 p.m., by Mrs. Hilton Philipson, M.P., and on Saturday, at 3 p.m., by Miss Susan Lawrence, M.P.

PROVINCES.

Friday, June 27th, at 3.30 p.m. Ashford. Annual Meeting at "Glenariff," Albert Road. Address by Princess Karadja. Tea 4.30.

Wednesday, July 23rd, at 3 p.m. Middlesbrough. Garden Party, at "Agercroft," Linthorpe Road. Tickets 6d.

Tuesday, July 23rd, at 3.30 p.m. Hastings. Public Meeting, arranged by the Women's Freedom League and the Fellowship of Women, at the Albany Hotel, Robertson Terrace. Speaker: Commandant Allen, Chief of Women's Auxiliary Police Service. Subject: "Women Police." Chair: Mrs. Sieviking.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Wednesday, July 2nd, at 8 p.m. Women's League of Union. Oak Room, Kingsway Hall. Speaker: Miss M. Main (League of Nations Union). Subject: "Europe at the Moment."

BRANCH NOTE.

PORTSMOUTH.

The last Public Meeting this season was held at 2, Kent Road on Tuesday, June 17th. Mr. Allan George, B.Sc., gave a very able address on "The Extension of the Unemployment Benefits to Children of 14." He gave the reasons for and against, and, in concluding, said he thought the reasons against outweighed those for the proposal. Mrs. Whetton presided, and thanked Mr. George very heartily for his excellent speech.

Our thanks are due to Mrs. Ball for so kindly giving a Whist Drive at her house on Wednesday afternoon, June 18th. A very enjoyable afternoon was spent, the Treasurer being very pleased with the financial result.

We are desirous of sending the usual £5 to Mrs. Despard's Birthday Fund, and are appealing to members to subscribe at least a shilling. Subscriptions may be sent to the Hon. Sec., Mrs. WHETTON, 89, Festing Grove, Southsea.

RECITAL OF "ENOCH ARDEN."

We learn from the Six Point Group that Lady Rhondda is organising a Recital of "Enoch Arden" by Henry Ainley at 28, Belgrave Square (kindly lent by Lady Cory), on Tuesday, July 1st, at 3 p.m. There will also be a piano accompaniment by Mrs. Derenburg, of music written by Richard Strauss twenty years ago. Purchasers of tickets, 7s. 6d. each (from the Six Point Group, 92, Victoria Street, S.W.1), are promised a rare artistic and musical treat.

INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

A Garden Party and Sale will be held at Pembroke Lodge, Pembroke Gardens, W.8 (by kind permission of Mrs. Adrian Corbett), on Tuesday, July 1st, 3 to 7 p.m. There will be an International Stall, with objects of utility and beauty from all lands, and other stalls for original and artistic wares. There will also be folk-dancing, recitations, fortune-telling, tennis, etc. Refreshments and home-made teas. Entrance to the above is free.

TRAFALGAR SQUARE MEETING.

Readers of "THE VOTE" are urged to join us in Trafalgar Square on Saturday afternoon, July 5th, at 3 o'clock, to demand the right of the mother to be the guardian of her child. Speakers from the Actresses Franchise League, the National Union of Women Teachers, the Six Point Group, and the Women's Freedom League will include: Mrs. Despard, the Viscountess Rhondda, Miss Agnes Dawson, Miss Anna Munro, and Miss Nina Boyle, as well as Members of Parliament, the Chair being taken by Councillor Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P.

OUR OPEN COLUMN.

To the Editor of THE VOTE.

Women and Juries.

DEAR MADAM,—It is possible that your attention has not been called to the recent Jury Bill passed by the Government of the Irish Free State. By this Act, women are entitled to have their names removed from the Jury List, merely on request, without assigning any reason. Something like four-fifths of the women whose names were on the lists have had them removed, as, no doubt, four-fifths at least of the men would have done, had the chance been afforded them. This is a terribly retrograde step. Yours faithfully, (Miss) MAY HAYDEN.

OUR TREASURY.

NATIONAL FUND.

Amount previously acknowledged, October, 1907, to December, 1923, £40,474 16s. 2d. £ s. d.

Amount previously acknowledged.....	262	13	0
Special Emergency War Fund:—			
"A Friend"	4	7	6
British Overseas Committee Pavilion:—			
Miss Anna Munro	10	0	
Organisers' Fund:—			
Mrs. Cavendish-Bentinck	5	0	0
"Office Expenses"	6	0	0
Councillor Schofield Coates, J.P.	4	0	0
Mrs. Juson Kerr	2	0	0
H. S. L. Fry, Esq., M.A.	1	1	0
Mrs. Catmur ("Votes for Women NOW") ..	10	0	
Miss J. Gibson	10	0	
Mrs. Tizard	10	0	
Miss Hurry	5	0	
Mrs. Padfield	5	0	
Miss M. I. Saunders	5	0	
Misses Sprentall	5	0	
W. Stokes Hall, Esq.	3	0	
Miss Edith Rodgers	2	6	
Mrs. Strong	2	6	
Miss Vollenoweth	2	6	
Mrs. Ada Barlow	2	0	
Miss Alice Reutiner	2	0	
Miss E. Campbell	1	0	
Tickets	2	3	0
Sundries	9	17	0
(per Minerva Café)	18	12	8
Branches, Delegates Expenses:—			
Hampstead	17	8	
Montgomery Boroughs	5	6	6
Swansea	6	6	
Thames Valley	17	8	
	£326	18	0

BRITISH OVERSEAS COMMITTEE PAVILION.

The little Suffrage Pavilion belonging to the British Overseas Committee of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, at the British Empire Exhibition, is in the Eastern Section, near the Exhibition Station within the Exhibition, under the shadow of that prominent landmark, the States Express Cigarette Tower, directly behind Hampden's pretty little house, and Day & Martin, flanked by Spratt's exhibit, and looking on to the Shetland ponies and Pekingese puppies. The Women's Freedom League are responsible for the Pavilion on Mondays. Next Monday, our members, Mrs. Delbanco, Mrs. Ewen, Miss Wolfe Murray, and Miss Warriner will be in charge. All suffragists visiting Wembley are warmly invited to drop in at any time for a rest and a chat.

NOTES FROM THE PRESS.

Domestic Training Rejected.

The *Daily News* reports that Luton Employment Committee does not favour the Government's scheme for training unemployed women in domestic work. Between the straw hat and felt hat seasons, as many as 700 or 800 women may be registered as unemployed, but when the hat factories get busy again, the number rapidly falls to about 70. There is said to be no likelihood of the women factory workers leaving the staple trade, in which some of them earn £4 a week in the busy season.

Court in Charge of Women.

The *Daily Express* reports that, one day recently, only two J.P.s appeared for the sitting of the Bournemouth magistrates—both women. Mrs. Florence Laney, who manages a dyeing and cleaning business, presided, and her colleague was Mrs. Annie Tiller, wife of a journeyman carpenter. They had two indictable offences to deal with—one a theft of tools by a workman, the other a raid on slot machines. The first offender was bound over, and the second fined 15s. All business was disposed of in less than half an hour.

FRIDAY,
JUNE 27,
1924.

THE VOTE

ONE
PENNY
WEEKLY.

Please send me *THE VOTE* every week, post free, for 6 months, for which I enclose 3/3.

Name

Address

THE VOTE, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

CLUBS.

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

MINERVA CLUB, 56, Hunter Street, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Open to non-residents. Restaurant. Smoking Room. Papers. Bedrooms available during summer months. Membership, £1 1s. Entrance Fee suspended during present year. All particulars from the SECRETARY.

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

NOTICES.

INCOME TAX RECOVERED AND ADJUSTED. Consult H. M. BAKER, the only woman Income Tax Expert, 275, High Holborn. Telephone: Holborn 377.

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Sunday, June 29th. 3.30. Music. Lecture: Rev. Hudson Shaw, "Ruskin—Ethical and Religious Teacher." 6.30. Miss Maude Royden, "A Great Missionary Albert Schweitzer."

TRAVEL.

HOLIDAYS ABROAD.—Summer Holidays, in Germany, Switzerland, France, Italy. Two weeks (2nd class travel, hotels, service), £4 to £15.—**FRIENDSHIP TRAVEL**, 22, Princeton Street, W.C.1.

CONDUCTED FRIENDLY TOURS.—Belgium, France, Switzerland. Fortnight—Ardennes, 11½ guineas. Fortnight—Belgium Coast, 8½ guineas.—**WHITTON**, 21, Coventry Road, Ilford.

REST AND HOLIDAYS.

BOURNEMOUTH.—"Loughtonhurst," West Cliff Gardens. Food Reform Guest House. Best situation. Old established. Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. Hume.—Apply SECRETARY.

BUSY WOMEN requiring Rest will find comfortable Board Residence at MISS TURNER'S, "Sea View," Victoria Rd., Brighton. Early dinner. Tel. Brighton 1702

FOOD REFORM GUEST HOUSE, 13, Marine Parade, Dover. Excellent cooking. Gas-fires in bedrooms. Specially recommended Eustace Miles. Unequaled excursion centre.

PARKFIELDS, near Ross-on-Wye.—Vegetarian Holiday Guest House. Spécial Holiday Fortnight, July 25th to August 8th.—Write for Prospectus, E. D. MOODY.

PEACEHAVEN.—On the Downs by the Sea. Vegetarian Guests received in Bungalow Home, £2 2s.—MRS. MILLS, Southdown Avenue, Peacehaven, nr. Newhaven.

THE GUILD HUT, Cranbrook, is the place for your holiday. Furnished for 3. Tents available. Full particulars—SECRETARY: 2, Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1.

TO LET.—Large Caravan, attractively furnished for two, stationed near sea, golf and shops, in pleasant surroundings, and with reasonable conveniences. By the week-end, 15s.; the week, £1; after July, 30s.—Apply MISS NAPIER, Upton House, Sandwich.

WENSLEYDALE.—Comfortable board-residence, country cottage. Lunches packed when desired. Special terms long period.—SMITH, Low Green, Thoraby, Aysgarth, Yorks.

JERSEY.—Paying Guests received. Every Comfort. Terms from 2 guineas per week.—PROPRIETRESS, Ashton House, Rouge Bouillon, St. Helier, C.I.

TRADE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

BARGAIN—list free. Plants, Garden Utensils. Beautiful dwarf roses, named varieties, 6/- dozen, carriage paid.—MCELROY, 33, Saville St., South Shields.

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

ANCONAS lay the largest eggs. Hand-some birds, good layers. Sittings 6/- Chicks 12/- doz., carriage paid.—PARRIS, Danecroft Poultry Farm Bagshot.

IRISH LINENS, Afternoon Tea Cloths, Hemstitched, size 36 x 36, 3/6 each. Bleached Heavy Linen Damask Tablecloths, size 2 x 2, 10/6 each. Serviettes to match, 14/- doz. Linen remnants in 5/-, 10/- and 20/- bundles. ORMEAU LINEN CO., 2, Clarence Street, Belfast, Ireland.

WANTED.—Second-hand Clothing, best prices given; parcels sent, valued, and money sent by return. Stamped addressed envelope for reply.—RUSSELL, 100 Raby Street, Byker, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

REST AND HOLIDAYS.

BEAUTIFUL BUTTERMERE. Better than the Seaside. Best rambling centre in Lakeland. Wildest scenery. Bracing Mountain air which cures insomnia.

"VICTORIA," R.A.C. Listed Hotel. Pleasanter for not being licensed. "Suffragists' rendezvous." Suitable for conferences. Central Heating. Inclusive tariff, £4 4s. during short Season, £3 3s. rest of year. Taxi from Cockermouth. Coach from Keswick.

MARBLE ARCH.—To let furnished, upper part four rooms (or would divide), suit two or three lady friends. Geyser, bath, gas fires, cooker, own meter, phone. Moderate rent to include electric light.—18, Connaught Street, W.2.

VEGETARIAN LUNCHEONS

Served from 12 to 2

IN THE MINERVA CAFE
(over the W.F.L. Office, 144 High Holborn, W.C.)

LUNCHEON & SMOKING ROOMS.

GOOD FOOD. QUICK SERVICE. BRIGHT ROOMS.

SMART CUT, AND
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AT MODERATE
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62, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1.

Membership Application Form.

To be returned to The Secretary, 144, High Holborn.

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, 1s.