

BORN IN PRISON.

THE VOTE

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

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ONE PENNY.

FRIDAY, MAY 23, 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.

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WOMEN IN HOLLAND AND IN SOUTH AMERICA.

INTERVIEW WITH MISS ROSA MANUS.

Miss Rosa Manus, one of the officials of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, is a frequent visitor to England on behalf of the affairs of the Alliance. She had no small share in the enfranchisement, both municipal and Parliamentary, of the women of Holland, and of late years has been intimately associated with the activities of Mrs. Chapman Catt, the well-known American suffrage leader.

In a recent interview with our representative, Miss Manus said, "Though reckoned as one of the small countries of the world, the women of Holland are more advanced than the women of many of the larger countries. The Dutch Women's Suffrage Society, after twenty years' work to obtain women's enfranchisement, has now changed its title to that of the League of Women Voters, and is working to-day on more general lines for the advancement of women. This League has several subsidiary Committees. One of these is composed of eminent women lawyers, who have drawn up a scheme for new marriage laws. Another is concerned with the question of married women's nationality, and a third is finding out how much criminality towards children exists in Holland, and how this is being punished.

"Dutch women voted for the first time on equal terms with men in 1917, and two women were elected to Parliament the same year. In the present Parliament we have seven women Members, all belonging to different political parties. Dutch women now take a full share in all professional activities. Over a thousand women are at present studying at our Universities, and we also have a number of women teachers, engineers, doctors, etc. Dr. Aletta Jacobs, now in her 71st year, was the pioneer in opening the medical profession to women. She had great difficulties to overcome, and was only permitted to study for one year at the University, and then was not allowed to speak, or take part in any of the discussions! She graduated in 1879, and became a practis-

ing physician. Once she was arrested by the police for visiting a patient at 10 o'clock at night, and on another occasion because she went to the theatre unescorted! Dr. Jacobs is now busy writing her Memoirs, which later will be translated into English.

"As you may know, I accompanied Mrs. Chapman Catt when she made her well-known suffrage tours in Central Europe, and in South America. The chief drawback to the progress of women in Central Europe is, of course, their terrible poverty since the war, and the great difficulty all classes of the community experience in obtaining even the commonest necessities of life. In South America we spent six months, studying the progress of the Woman's Movement in the various Republics.

"After the Pan-American Congress at Baltimore in April, 1922, it was decided to organise a Pan-American Association for the advancement of women, with the special object of stimulating the women of South and Central America, and Mexico. Mrs. Catt was elected acting President for one year, and promised during that period to visit some of the South American cities. Hence our visit. In Brazil we found an organised Woman Suffrage Movement, under the able leadership of Miss Bertha Lutz, who holds the important Government post of Secretary to the National Museum, a position which she gained as the result of a competitive examination with many men, all the previous holders of the office having been men. Miss Lutz arranged an important Women's Congress in our honour at Rio, to which nine out of the twenty States which form the Brazilian Republic sent official delegates. We found Brazil a country of strange contrasts—women living in harem-like seclusion, side by side with other women who were freely working in all the recognised professions, physicians, dentists, lawyers, writers, sculptors, poets, painters, and civil engineers.

"At Buenos Aires, in the Argentine, the Woman's Movement is chiefly in the hands of a small group of



MISS ROSA MANUS.

Catholic women of high birth. In this movement are three distinct Suffrage groups, each one led by a woman doctor. The difficulties in this Republic are very great, as the laws of the country are far behind the times. In Uruguay, we received a great ovation. The Government paid our hotel bill, and two Government motor-cars were placed at our disposal. Dr. Luisi is the foremost feminist in Uruguay, where she has been working for many years on behalf of women's interests. In Chile, the women are remarkably well educated. A thousand young girls are studying at the Universities, and there is also an enterprising Women's Club. The President of Chile is an avowed feminist. In Peru, where the Woman's Movement is much more backward, the President is also friendly to our cause."

WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

American Girl Journalists.

Girl students of journalism at Wesleyan Women's College, Macon (U.S.A.), since 1917, have taken complete charge annually of one month's issue of the *Macon Daily Telegraph*, writing its sport, society, local, and special articles, soliciting its advertisements, writing the leaders, and directing the general news policy. Wesleyan College is said to be the first chartered college for women in the world, and to have had the first women's journalism class to take complete charge of a city newspaper.

Woman M.P. for South Australia?

Mrs. A. K. Goode, an Australian woman, is contesting Adelaide (South Australia), a strong Labour borough, in the Liberal interests. Australia's only woman M.P., Mrs. Edith Cowan, who represented East Perth in the Lower House of the Western Australian Parliament, has recently been defeated. She retained her seat for three years—one term of Parliament.

Russian Women Workers.

A movement is on foot in Russia to improve the education of its women workers. The average wage of a Russian woman worker was 47.4 per cent. of that of a man in 1914, and 62.8 per cent. in 1923. This is partly due to the fact that Russian women often lack the technical qualifications for skilled work. A definite number of places in workers' high schools and technical schools are now being reserved for women workers.

Woman's Sailing Record.

Seventeen voyages round the world is the remarkable travelling record of Mrs. Reid, wife of Capt. William Reid, a Belfast shipowner. In all these journeyings, Mrs. Reid has been the companion of her husband. Since she first shipped with the Captain on the barque *Rosedale*, she has crossed the Equator 108 times, and passed round Cape Horn 17 times. They calculate that they have sailed nearly a million miles.

A Peeress Dairy Farmer.

Viscountess Cobham has started a poultry farm, dairy, and piggery on her estate at Bromley Common, Kent, the stock including 450 head of poultry, a dozen Jersey cows, and many pigs. She is personally supervising the dairy and the piggery.

Woman Horticulturist.

Miss Welsford, an old Swanley College student, has an important appointment on the clove plantations belonging to the Sultan of Zanzibar, where she combats disease amongst the plants.

Factory Girls' Opera.

The Shoreditch Women's Operatic Society gave a performance of "The Gondoliers" at Shoreditch Town Hall, last week. The leading parts and chorus were taken by girls from factories in the Hackney and Shoreditch districts.

Woman Ship Engineer.

Miss Victoria Drummond, of Megginch Castle, Perthshire, a god-daughter of Queen Victoria, sailed last week, for her fifth successive trip, as a marine engineer in the liner *Archises*, to the Far East.

WOMEN POLICE.

The question of Women Police was well ventilated in the House of Commons last week. On Mr. LUNN's motion for increased guarantees towards the British Empire Exhibition, Mrs. WINTRINGHAM moved an Amendment that this increase should be granted, "provided that among the police required for the purposes of the Exhibition the authorities undertake to employ a proportion of women police." She urged that the 21,000 persons employed at Wembley need the protection of women police. This protection was needed for the young girls working there on behalf of the exhibitors, for the Girl Guides who gave voluntary service, and for the thousands of children who were visiting the Exhibition. At present there were only four women police employed there, and these worked in two shifts, which meant that there were only two police-women on duty at the same time, and they had a distance of 15 miles to patrol. Mrs. Wintringham pointed out that the number of four women police to 250 male police was altogether out of proportion. Those women took observations, looked after petty thefts, and exercised a general supervision. They had been selected from the force dismissed when the Metropolitan Police were reduced. There were many more available from the same source, and she asked the Government for an assurance that others, if needed, would be appointed.

Mr. R. W. ALLEN (Leicester, S.) urged that, if there was a case anywhere for women police, it was in connection with this Exhibition; but Mr. LENG-STURROCK (Montrose Burghs) declared that there was no indication in any part of the country that the extension of the force composed of women was desired in any degree whatsoever. He challenged anyone to show any evidence that in any part of Scotland there was the least desire for women police on duty. The women police force was the most extravagant thing, from the point of view of expense, that had ever been suggested.

Mr. THOMAS, the Colonial Secretary, speaking on behalf of the Government, said that they had taken what seemed to be the necessary steps, but if more women police were required, they would be employed.

On the Home Office Vote for the Police, Mr. ALLEN said that, in regard to the question of women police, we had rather overdone the economy cry, and that we could pay too big a price for certain economies. The reduction of the women police force was an illustration of this. He suggested that the function of our criminal administration was not merely to arrest the criminal, but to do everything possible to ensure that he would never need to be arrested. In 1921, before the force had been substantially reduced, 49,813 cases were assisted as the result of the activities of the women police, while 70,140 people were cautioned by those women in respect of contemplated offences. Sir Neville Macready had such a high opinion of those women police that he gave it as his opinion that the whole question of dealing with prostitution might safely be handed over to them. Mr. Allen urged that properly qualified women police should patrol our parks and open spaces, and that women police should take statements from young children who had been assaulted.

Lt.-Col. LAMBERT WARD (Kingston-upon-Hull) expressed the hope that women police might be increased in numerical strength. In recent years a sudden and insidious traffic in dangerous drugs had arisen in this country, and he considered that women police were in many ways extraordinarily well qualified to combat that evil traffic. From the point of view of the prevention of crime and prostitution, they were invaluable.

Readers of THE VOTE will remember that the matter of Women Police has been referred to a Committee—a very favourite method of the present Government of dealing with subjects which have public pressure behind them; but we hope that public opinion on this question of Women Police will be sufficiently insistent to compel the Government at an early date to increase the number of women in the police force.

IN PARLIAMENT.

Juveniles and Unemployment.

Replying to Sir CYRIL COBB (Fulham, W.), Mr. SHAW (Minister of Labour) said that the 1921 Census showed 697,219 boys and 711,001 girls between 16 and 18 years of age in England and Wales. The number of persons between 14 and 18 years of age registered on April 28th, 1924, at Employment Exchanges and Juvenile Employment Bureaux in England and Wales was 29,720 boys and 28,118 girls. He could not give separate figures for those between 14 and 16 years of age. The average daily number of boys and girls in attendance at juvenile unemployment centres during the week ended April 30th, 1924, was 4,849 (3,137 boys and 1,712 girls), of whom about 4,000 (2,600 boys and 1,400 girls) were between 16 and 18 years of age. A total of 53,520 boys and girls had passed through the juvenile unemployment centres between September 17th, 1923, and April 30th, 1924.

Trade Boards (Dressmaking and Millinery Trades).

Mr. LENG-STURROCK (Montrose Burghs) asked the Minister of Labour whether, in view of the resolution passed by the Drapers' Chamber of Trade, in which it was declared that trade boards had had a disastrous effect upon the dressmaking, bespoke, and millinery trades, he would inform the House of further contemplated extension of those boards, so that full consideration could be given to the question of safeguarding traders in smaller towns, who found themselves handicapped in business by reason of the imposition of rates of wages based upon the conditions prevailing in the larger centres? Mr. SHAW replied that he had seen the resolution in question, but he did not agree with its terms. The hon. Member was probably aware that differential minimum rates of wages had been fixed for the smaller towns and rural districts, as compared with the larger towns, by the trade boards dealing with retail and bespoke dressmaking in England and in Scotland, and for the retail branch of the hat, cap, and millinery trade in Scotland. While he deeply deplored the unemployment in the trades mentioned, there was nothing to show that it was caused by the trade boards, and, indeed, it was no higher than unemployment in trades where no boards existed. He added that, so far as the establishment of new boards was concerned, the fullest notice of intention to proceed would be given, in order to enable all interested parties to make observations.

Unemployed Women.

Mr. HANNON (Moseley) asked the Minister of Labour what was the number of women between the ages of 18 and 35 at present registered as unemployed and in receipt of unemployment benefit; how many of them had been in receipt of benefit for three months or longer; and if, in view of there being no immediate prospect of their obtaining employment in factory or clerical posts, consideration would be given to a scheme for training such women for domestic service for a period of, say, three months, after which, should they refuse positions in domestic service, no further liability on their behalf should be incurred by the State? Mr. SHAW replied that the total number of women in Great Britain with current claims to unemployment benefit on April 28th last, was 183,953. According to a sample analysis made last November, about 78 per cent. of women claimants were between the ages of 18 and 35. He had no statistics as to the number now on benefit who had drawn benefit for 15 weeks or more. With reference to the last part of the question, he would first observe that a large proportion of the women on benefit consisted of factory and mill workers on short time, particularly in Lancashire. A requirement that those women should enter domestic service would certainly not be advantageous to the trade of this country. Speaking generally, he was not prepared to make that requirement a condition of the home-training courses

which were being promoted and extended, with Government assistance, through the Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment.

School-Leaving Age.

Mr. GRAHAM WHITE (Birkenhead, E.) asked the President of the Board of Education how many local education authorities had applied for powers to raise the school-leaving age in their areas to 15, and if representations had been received from any education authorities to the effect that, while wishing to raise the school-leaving age to 15, they were unable to do so unless that age was fixed for the whole country? Mr. TREVELYAN replied that the Board had at different times since October, 1919, received proposals from 15 local education authorities for the approval of by-laws raising the school-leaving age to 15. They had also received a resolution from one authority to the effect that the raising of the age should be of general application throughout the country, and suggesting legislation for that purpose. Lady ASTOR (Sutton, Plymouth) asked if the present was not the time for the Labour Government to put into practice what they had always preached, and raise the school-leaving age to 15, owing to the unemployment throughout the country? Mr. TREVELYAN said he would be very glad to assist any local authorities who wished to raise the school age.

Workshop and Factory Inspection.

Lord HENRY CAVENDISH-BENTINCK (Nottingham, S.) asked the Home Secretary how many workshops and factories had not been visited by His Majesty's factory inspectors for more than a year, and how many for more than two years? Mr. HENDERSON replied that the figures for 1923 were, in the case of factories, 24,065 and 1,776; in the case of workshops, 59,948 and 35,280.

Training College Students.

Mr. TURNER (Batley and Morley) asked the President of the Board of Education the number of teachers discharged from the training colleges of England and Wales at the end of the 1923 term, and the number, if any, who had not received appointments? Mr. TREVELYAN replied that the latest information at his disposal was based on returns received from the training colleges at the beginning of April. Those returns showed that, out of 7,271 students who left the colleges in 1923, and about whom the colleges possessed information, 6,268 (86.2 per cent.) had then obtained teaching posts, 177 (2.4 per cent.) had not attempted to obtain posts, and 826 (11.4 per cent.) had failed to obtain posts.

Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Bill.

This Bill was read a second time in the House of Commons, without a division, last Tuesday. It provides for an increase in the weekly rates of benefit from 15s. to 18s. in the case of men, and 12s. to 15s. in the case of women. The weekly benefits of 7s. 6d. payable to youths between 16 and 18, and of 6s. to girls of the same age, remain unchanged. The weekly allowance for a wife remains at 5s.; the allowance for each dependent child being raised from 1s. to 2s. weekly. It also provides that men thrown out of employment because of a strike in which they are not participating are to be eligible for benefit. An entirely new feature is a proposal to treat boys and girls as insured persons, the weekly benefit for unemployed boys to be 5s., and for girls 4s. The weekly contribution for boys is to be 5d., and for girls 4½d. Boys and girls will only be eligible for benefit after payment of contributions for 30 weeks. This new feature was strongly criticised by Members of all Parties. It was stated by a Labour Member that no Education Committee in the country would dare to raise the school age, in face of unemployment insurance benefit being given to children of 14 years of age. It is expected that this Bill will be somewhat altered in Committee.

F. A. U.

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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.

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.

WOMEN AND EQUALITY.

Now that Mr. Gardner's Rent Restriction Bill has been disposed of, Standing Committee A will be able to begin the consideration of the Representation of the People Act Amendment Bill, which has been held up since the early part of the Session. Some of the proposals of this Bill are very controversial, among them being the clause to put the Local Government franchise on the same basis as the Parliamentary franchise. If the promoters of this Bill would agree to drop all except the plan conferring the franchise on women at the same age and on the same terms as men, there might be a chance for the Bill to get through its Committee stage by Whitsuntide. Otherwise, it will make no progress this Session. There is a really big majority in the House for the equal enfranchisement of men and women, and we cannot but think that those responsible for this measure would be well advised, if they sincerely believe in the principle of equal voting rights for men and women, to drop the other clauses. Failing this, we think it is the plain duty of the present Government to introduce and pass through all its stages into law a simple Equal Franchise Bill at the earliest possible moment, and thus ensure the right of women to vote at the next General Election, at the same age and on the same terms as men.

The next matter of concern to women is the Equal Guardianship of Infants Bill. The Government has promised to introduce a Bill dealing with this subject "in another place." We may perhaps be forgiven if we are a little suspicious of this Bill, and the Government's desire to send it first for a trial trip in the Upper House. We have no use whatever for the kind of measure which Mr. Rhys Davies outlined some time ago in the House of Commons. There was no real principle of Equal Guardianship for fathers and mothers contained in it. We have had quite enough experience of piecemeal legislation in regard to the franchise for women. If an unsatisfactory Equal Guardianship Bill is passed now, we shall have years of agitation with Amending Bills. Frankly, if the Government cannot see its way to draft a measure conferring real equality of rights and responsibilities for parents in respect of their children, we would rather that they left this matter alone. At any rate, the Women's Freedom League will protest against any measure the provisions of which are less than those contained in Mrs. Wintringham's Bill.

The Birthday Honours List will appear this week-end. Will the names of women be included? It is rumoured that Mrs. Fawcett's will appear in this List, because of her long record of educational work. In a State in which the Governments acted impartially as between its men and its women citizens, Mrs. Fawcett's name would long ago have been included in an Honours List. We hope it may be this time, as well as the names of other women distinguished in science, art, music, medicine, travel, etc. Equality with men in the matters of opportunity, responsibility, recognition, and reward is what women are demanding. They desire nothing more than this equality; but they will be satisfied with nothing less.

VILLAGE PARLIAMENTS.

Over 180,000 countrywomen, members of the 3,934 Women's Institutes which now exist in the villages and smaller towns of England and Wales, were represented by their elected delegates at the Eighth Annual General Meeting of the National Federation of Women's Institutes, in the Queen's Hall, on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. Ever since the formation of the first Institutes, now nearly ten years ago, questions of public interest have obtained the consideration of these village Parliaments, in addition to those more homely interests to further which the movement was first started. The discussion of these public questions finds a spirited outlet at the Annual Meetings, and this year's gathering was no exception to the rule. Though a large part of the agenda was occupied with a redraft of the rules governing the movement, the meeting found time to discuss resolutions on the League of Nations, Widows' Pensions, Housing, Local Government, Press Reform, and Women Police. Study of the work of the League of Nations in all Women's Institutes was recommended at last year's Annual Meeting, and since that date a simple leaflet has been compiled, putting the matter in a nutshell for these busy housewives. In this year's resolution on Widows' Pensions, the Government was urged to introduce legislation giving pensions to civilian widows with dependent children, free from the taint of Poor Law relief. Local Housing Committees were pressed to build small houses of approved pattern as quickly as possible; and County Councils urged to make full use of the opportunities for the development of adult education in rural areas afforded by the Women's Institute Movement. The Board of Education was notified of the importance Women's Institute members attach to the teaching of plain cooking, and allied domestic subjects, to girls of 12 years and upwards. The necessity was urged for the presence of a responsible woman in all Courts of Justice when women and girls are concerned, either as principals or witnesses, and for an increase in the number of women police throughout the country. The reintroduction of the Judicial Proceedings (Regulation of Reports) Bill, 1923, in the interests of public morality, was strongly advocated.

BORN IN PRISON.

During the last two months the Women's Freedom League has on several occasions urged the Home Secretary to make some arrangement by which Ivy Cusden's child should be born out of prison. More than 50,000 other signatures were also obtained to a petition which was presented to Mr. Arthur Henderson, asking him to exercise the prerogative of mercy, and so obviate the stigma attaching to a baby born in prison. We ourselves pointed out to the Home Secretary that, in cases of attempted suicide, a man or woman was frequently removed to an infirmary or hospital for treatment, a wardress or a warder being stationed near the bedside, and we suggested that, for the child's sake, who would surely be sufficiently handicapped through life, Ivy Cusden should be similarly and temporarily released from prison until the child was born. Mr. Henderson declined to make any such arrangement, and the 20-year-old Reading girl, now serving a sentence of 18 months' imprisonment in the second division for throwing vitriol over the wife of the man who betrayed her, has given birth to a daughter in prison. When we remember the volumes of sentimental appeals made by the members of the Labour Party for giving every child a fair chance in life, we are amazed at his attitude. Mr. Henderson is apparently so paralysed by the sense of his own official importance, that he is powerless to take any action which does not receive the blessing of permanent officials. So far, by his lack of courage and initiative, he is proving himself to be the most unsatisfactory Home Secretary of modern times.

WOMEN ARTISTS AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

By E. MARGARET TAIT.

The work of women is well represented, in quality no less than quantity, in this year's Academy. The most interesting portrait group is undoubtedly Flora Lion's life-size painting of the Duchess of York and her sisters, Lady Elphinstone and Lady Rose Leveson-Gower, which has been somewhat captiously criticised. Why, it is difficult to conjecture, for the portraits in themselves are admirable, and cannot fail to acquire historic interest in time to come. Other notable portraits by women are "Lord Novar," by Marion Jones, the Australian artist; Olive Bigelow's vivacious "Mrs. Rudolph Elwes," Catherine Oulless's "Miss Wyatt," Headmistress of Heathfield School, Ascot, a frank, fine, kindly face, full of character, and the texture and colour of the gown and fur very well done; Lena Alexander's dignified picture of her mother; Juliet Wigan's spirited "Helen," a comely coster woman enjoying her glass of beer; Jean Inglis's thoughtful and sympathetic "Mrs. Harter"; Catherine Mann's "George Hind"; the spirited "Portrait of an Old Gentleman," by Barbara Shifner, who also has a capital hunting scene; and, among the water-colours, Nancy Sheppard's pastel of a woman's head, and Florence Humphrey's really beautiful portrait of Mr. Walter Sickert, which is one of the best among the very many portraits.

Other Notable Pictures.

Mrs. Swynnerton, who is still the only woman Associate of the R.A., has only two paintings, one, "New-Risen Hope," which has been bought by the Chantry Bequest for the nation—the radiant little figure of a girl child, the charming face alive with light and joy, against a characteristic background of delicate opalescent tints; the other, "Sibyl guarding the Tomb of the Oracle," mystic and curiously indefinite, with an unfinished appearance. Laura Knight's two are both in her later and more restrained style, the large "Rehearsal," a life-size group of Russian players, with fine colouring and detail in the rich blue and gold of the man's uniform, and the peach-tinted brocade sacque worn by one of the women, and "Peasants Dancing." Lucy Kemp-Welch's "Winter's White Silence" is entirely worthy of her now-famous art—two teams and a wagon wending homeward over the snow, with the lovely light of the setting sun on the chestnut horse. Flora M. Reid has two characteristic and well-studied

French market scenes, and a wistful portrait of the old Frenchman who figures in the first. There is fine colour and sensitive atmosphere in Emily Court's "Southbourne Sands" and "The Christchurch Bend," and an exhilaratingly breezy effect in Alice Fanning's "Smacks Trawling." Conspicuous among the decorative work is Marianne Stokes's large panel, "The Source," an ancient Egyptian goddess with beautiful green and blue raiment. Dorothy, Lady Stanley, has only one tiny canvas, "River Lily Bud," a nude nymph reclining on a river bank—refined, but very conventional of its school. Admirable of their order are Isabel Dod-Withers' "Albi after the Inundation," a picturesque bit of the famous old French town, and her "Martigues"; Ethel Wright's views of old "Cagnes," Rhoda Dawson's "Church in East Anglia," and Hope Joseph's "Quimperle"; while the best among the very few devotional subjects are Angela Gibbons's "Descent from the Cross," one of a series of "Stations of the Cross" she is painting for a Warwickshire church; and Katherine Pearson's "La Festa," a procession of priest and acolytes, well grouped, and with restrained colour effects in black, white, and red. Other sound work is Mary Elwell's dignified "No. 17, Hengate," and "At the Mirror," an interior with light and detail very ably done; Clare Atwood's "At José Martin's," a Spanish courtyard, with ox-cart, donkeys, and peasants; Mia Arnesby Browne's "The Doorway," a girl in a Mary-blue frock, and "Child with Flowers"; and Penelope Clarkson's "The Lace Veil," the best among the very few "still life" subjects.

Water Colours, Miniatures and Sculpture.

Among the water-colours is a delicately beautiful decorative panel by Anna Airy, a plum-tree branch with fruit, her only exhibit this year. Conspicuous among the miniatures are three fine ones by Edith Hinchley, "Mrs. Buller," "Miss Victoria Drummond," and the late "Miss Alys Stanton," and a perfectly exquisite medallion, "Life, Peace, and Love," by Jessie Bayes. Of the sculpture, Mary Buchanan's "L'Aube" is noteworthy, a beautiful kneeling female figure in white marble; also, Isabel Donaldson's portrait bust, Rose Bower's bronze bust of "Mrs. Halpern," Phyllis Blundell's effective bust, also in bronze, of a young Red Indian chief, and Winifred Turner's portrait bust of Mr. John Wilcox and Mr. Oliver Burridge.

ELLEN.

By DORA MELLONE.

A century and a half ago, Wordsworth wrote of those unnamed, unremembered drudges who form the very basis of the social pile, whose silent, unremitting toil lays the foundation on which the proud fabric of national greatness is reared. The words came to my mind again as I read a poem in the *Irish Statesman*, the new paper edited by "A. E."—

Often at night I passed her in the street—
Poor stunted Ellen, in her beaded cape
That once was velvet; rusty, draggled crépe
Around the hat that crown'd her grizzled head,
And broken, widespread boots upon her feet.
"But that's the lovely night," was all she said,
Although the North wind brought the stinging rain.
If she was chilled and sad, she made no sign,
For if you asked her of her health—"I'm fine;
Now, glory be t' God, I can't complain!"

They say her man is just a porter shark,
Who drinks the money, if it comes his way.
You'll see him propping walls up, every day,
Or, with drink taken, reeling home at night;
For many times I've passed him in the dark,
And pitied her, poor woman, for her plight.
All day she must contend with work, to earn
The scanty wage that goes to pay the rent,
And feed the children; yet no discontent
Shadows the face her neighbours see return.

Is it not a faithful portrait of many another "Ellen," that "married working woman" of whom Anna Martin (was it not?) wrote in a little pamphlet which should have been saved from that waste-paper basket to which so much suffrage literature was consigned when the great day came, and the woman voter went to the poll? Indeed, there is no need to go to literature for her portrait; we all know her. That little boy who had transgressed the rules of the big model lodging-house, and who was told by the angry janitor, "I'll speak to your mother about this," replied, "Mother's out working every day." "Well, then, I'll speak to her at night." "Oh, she always has the washing to do when she gets home"—that boy was delighted at scoring off the official, and did not think he was stating a truth which should shame the most selfish of us into action.

Women have been enfranchised five and a half years. Irishwomen in the Free State have entered into possession of "national freedom"; in Northern Ireland they have local self-government. What has been done in those five years to render the path trodden by the Ellens of this world less hard? In Northern Ireland, the foundation of a sound educational system has been

laid; medical inspection of schools has been commenced; an Act restricting drink facilities has been passed. All this is good, a movement in the right direction. Widows' pensions? School meals for the children in the bitter winter of unemployment in an acute form? Here again the reply is made, "The State cannot afford it." More than this. It is said, Irish industries must be developed. How is this to be done? Put a tariff on boots and sugar confectionery? Raise the cost of living? Well, it will increase employment, and this will help the workers. And how are the children to be fed and shod? "Oh, it is only for a short time, even if prices are raised." And who is to pay for that food for the children, the cost of which is too heavy for the public purse? North and South, business men and professional politicians, ask yourselves that question—Who is to find the money? No answer? It is more convenient not to think of an answer. Again ask the question. These children are hungry, the father is out of work, or is dead, or is a hopeless sot. Who is to feed them? These children go barefoot; boots will cost more for your tariff; who is to pay for them? No reply? Ask Ellen; she knows. But in her sad patience, her uncomplaining hopelessness, she just goes her way, "working every day," till at last the blessed relief comes, and the kind Angel of Death lays a hand on her tired heart, and she is at rest.

BORSTAL GIRLS' DISPLAY.

A little while ago, we reported that a party of boys from a Borstal Institution had given an admirable public entertainment, and we expressed the hope that the girls from Aylesbury would have a similar opportunity. It is with great pleasure that we see, from a report in the *North Bucks Times*, that a very large meeting was recently held at the Women's Institute, and that Miss Lilian Barker, O.B.E., Governor of the Aylesbury Borstal Institution, brought a party of girls, who gave an excellent programme of songs, sketches, dances, and choruses. Those items were followed by refreshments and dances, in which everyone joined. The President, Mrs. Leopold de Rothschild, thanked the girls on behalf of the Institute, and Miss Barker replied for the girls. They were given hearty cheers by the members as their charabanc drove away.

In Memoriam.

Members of the Women's Freedom League, and particularly those of the Swansea and Mid-London Branches, will bear with great regret the death, at Acton, of our old friend Mrs. Thomas. Mrs. Thomas joined the Swansea Branch on its inception in 1908, and never swerved in her loyalty to the League. In Swansea she was one of its most active and useful members. She could always be depended on to take complete charge of the catering for all social functions, and during the whole of the agitation for the suffrage helped in every way possible. She probably never missed in attendance at a branch or suffrage meeting.

On leaving Swansea, and settling in the London area, Mrs. Thomas immediately got into touch with Headquarters; she joined the Mid-London Branch, and became an active member of the "Fair" Committee. On two occasions she took charge for Swansea of their stall, or half-stall, at the Fair.

Mrs. Thomas was one of those whom the League can ill afford to lose, and the sympathy of the members will go out to her daughter, who has in a short time lost her brother (who was killed in France) and her mother, who were her only close relatives.

BEST SEATS FOR THE THEATRES!

We now have a Theatre Ticket Agency; so, when you want to book seats for the theatre, phone Museum 1429, or send to THE VOTE Office, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1. Do this, and you will be helping THE VOTE.

FACTORY INSPECTION.

In Supply Committee on the Home Office Vote, Mrs. WINTRINGHAM raised the question of Factory Inspection. She reminded the House that before the war we had 222 factory inspectors, but, when the economy stunt came along, the number was reduced to 205; that at present was the total number of factory inspectors working in Great Britain, and they had to supervise 283,542 factories, so that each inspector had to have charge of 1,383 factories. The obvious result was that many of them were never visited, and, with so few inspectors, proper supervision could not be made. Mrs. Wintringham said that there was too much talk about our debt to the industrial workers, particularly the women and children and young people, and there was too little action taken to discharge that debt. We wanted the enforcement of the Regulations made for workers in factories, and she asked the Government for an assured guarantee that we should have an increased and fully trained staff of inspectors.

MR. GODFREY LOCKER-LAMPSON (Wood Green) said it was certainly beyond the power of any inspector to look after more than a certain number of factories. Regulations were now being made for the safety of people in the shipbuilding industry; a White Lead Bill was shortly coming before the House, advocating further very stringent Regulations, which, if adopted, would necessitate an increase in the inspectorate.

LADY ASTOR stated that there were very many girls who were not in any organised trade working 12 hours a day, and that would not be tolerated if a proper number of inspectors were going round. The matters of lighting, temperature, washing accommodation, and cloak rooms were most important for the workers, and they needed more attention and time than the present number of inspectors could give to them.

LORD HENRY CAVENDISH-BENTINCK said that our present system of factory inspection was reduced to a farce. He was convinced that a large proportion of the accidents that were not due to mere carelessness were due to the fact that factory inspectors were not numerous enough to see that the Factory Regulations were strictly kept. To make Regulations, and then not to have an adequate staff to see that those Regulations were put into force, was a great mistake. There ought to be at least 250 factory inspectors at the present time.

MR. HENDERSON, in replying, said he was encouraged to believe that there was going to be a non-Party attitude towards the new Factory Bill, and, if it was maintained, he believed we should make a substantial beginning towards a new standard of factory life, and, if that could be done, it was his intention to set up, as soon as he saw the time had arrived when it could get the new proposals of the Bill for its guidance, a Committee dealing with the whole question of factory inspection. Yet another Committee! In the meantime, we fervently hope our friends will continue to press on every possible occasion for an increase in the number of men and women factory inspectors.

BRITISH OVERSEAS COMMITTEE PAVILION.

All readers visiting Wembley must make a point of dropping in for a chat at our Suffrage Pavilion. It 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, and flanked by the Shetland Ponies and Spratt's exhibit. Our members, Miss Lyndon and Mrs. Harvey James, will be in charge to-day.

OUR ADVERTISERS

like to know the results of their Advertisements. When writing them, mention THE VOTE.

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

Friday, May 23rd, 10.0 a.m.—10.0 p.m. Suffrage Pavillion, Wembley. Miss Lyndon and Mrs. James.

Friday, May 23rd, at 8 p.m. Thames Valley Branch. Public Meeting at Holmwood, Waldegrave Road, Teddington (by kind permission of Mrs. Foster Lumb). Speaker: Miss Froud. Subject: "Equal Pay for Equal Work." Chair: Miss Double.

Monday, May 26th. Suffrage Pavillion. Woman's Freedom League Members.

Tuesday, May 27th, at 3 p.m. Political Sub-Committee, at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Friday, May 30th, 3 to 5 p.m. Reception to Overseas Suffragists, at the Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Speeches, Music. Admission (including tea) 1/-.

Monday, June 2nd, at 3 p.m. Hampstead Branch. Annual Meeting at the Isis Club, 79, Fitzjohn's Avenue, N.W.3 (by kind permission of Mrs. Harverson).

Tuesday, June 24th, 3.30 to 7.30. Mid-London Branch. POUND Tea, at 25, Wimpole Street, W. (by kind permission of Dr. Octavia Lewin). Proceeds for Mrs. Despard's Birthday Fund.

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. Further particulars later.

Thursday, May 29th, at 8 p.m. Edinburgh Branch. Meeting at 44, George IV. Bridge. Speaker: Miss Alix M. Clark.

WALES.

Friday, May 30th. Swansea Jumble Sale. (See below).

PROVINCES.

Monday, June 2nd, at 7.30 p.m. Middlesbrough. Concert at the Suffrage Café, by Mr. Percy Wearmouth's Party. Tickets 1/- and 6d.

Wednesday, July 2nd, at 7 p.m. Middlesbrough. Garden Party at "Agecroft," Linthorpe Road. Tickets 6d.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Wednesday, May 28th, at 8 p.m. Women's League of Union, Kingsway Hall. Speaker: Miss Somers (London Labour Party). Subject: "Women and Labour."

BRANCH NOTES.

HAMPSTEAD.

A very enjoyable afternoon was spent on Wednesday, May 14th, at the Isis Club, 79, Fitzjohn's Avenue, N.W.3 (by kind permission of Mrs. Harverson), when the branch gave an "At Home" in aid of the Women's Pavilion at the Empire Exhibition, organised by the British Overseas Committee. Mrs. Corbett Ashby (President of the I.W.S.A.) gave a most interesting account of the work the Overseas Committee were doing, and appealed for helpers for the Pavilion, and funds to maintain the work that was being done at Wembley. Mrs. Sudd Brown presided. Recitations were given by Miss Margaret Hepburn and Mrs. Harvey James, and songs by Miss Smith. On the motion of Dr. Knight, seconded by Miss Lyndon, a cordial vote of thanks was given to speaker, chairman, entertainers, and hostess.

Members are reminded that they should make a point of being present at the annual meeting of the branch, to be held at the Isis Club (by kind permission of Mrs. Harverson) on Monday, June 2nd, at 3 p.m.

(Hon. Sec.) Miss ELIZABETH BERRY, 16, Denning Road, N.W.3.

MID-LONDON.

Will all London members and friends read this carefully, please?

On Tuesday, June 24th, Dr. Octavia Lewin has very kindly consented to allow us the use of her house at 25, Wimpole Street, W.1, to hold a POUND TEA, from 3.30 to 7.30. Please help to make this a great success. We want everyone to "bring a pound and buy a pound." From £1 in cash to a pound of anything—Food (tea, sugar, coffee, chocolates, fruit, jam, marmalade, cake, etc.), or wool, material, flowers, or anything useful. Anyone may bring £2, or two pounds of food, etc.; in fact, any number of £s—pounds—will be gratefully received. There will be two or three speeches, music, singing, etc. We want this to be really successful, as all the proceeds will be devoted to Mrs. Despard's Birthday Fund for the work of the League. Come yourself, and bring a friend.

(Hon. Sec.) Mrs. G. FLOWERS, 3, Sidney Rd., Forest Gate, E.7.

HASTINGS.

Miss White will be at the Glenroyde Hotel, Wellington Square, on Monday afternoons, from 3 to 4.30, and will be very glad to see any member of the League. Copies of THE VOTE will be on sale.

SWANSEA.

A Jumble Sale will be held on May 30th, and an appeal is made to all members and friends to make it a success. Parcels of cast-off clothing, boots, shoes, household articles, etc., will be gratefully received, and may be sent to the Secretary at 14, Carlton Terrace. If members would like parcels to be fetched, arrangements can be made if they will kindly notify the Secretary.

Mrs. Dawson has kindly promised to hold a Garden Party at "Cwm Garw," on June 19th, to which all members are cordially invited. Particulars will be sent out later.

(Hon. Sec.) Miss C. M. JELLEY, 14, Carlton Terrace.

WOMEN HOUSE PROPERTY MANAGERS.

A Public Meeting which should be of special interest to all interested in Housing questions will be held in Conference Hall No. 4, at the British Empire Exhibition, on Thursday, May 29th, at 3 p.m. The meeting is arranged by the Association of Women House Property Managers, the subject being "Houses and Homes." The special point to be discussed is House Property Management on Miss Octavia Hill's lines, as carried on at the present time. The speakers will be the Lady Emmott (Chair), the Rt. Hon. Neville Chamberlain, M.P., and others. A discussion will follow, at which trained managers will be present to answer questions. Among representatives from the Provinces will be, it is hoped, friends from Manchester, who will be able to give information as to the work there. Admission will be free, by ticket only. Apply to the Secretary, A.W.H.P.M., 3, Bedford Square, W.C.1, and after May 25th to Pavilion E.S.S.2, British Empire Exhibition.

OUR OVERSEAS VISITORS.

The National Council of Women has drawn up a very useful list of "Women's Societies in London," giving some of the largest and most representative organisations, with their addresses and hours for interviews, in the hope that it will be of use to the visitors from our Overseas Dominions to the British Empire Exhibition, and especially to the members of the 36 Councils federated to the International Council of Women. By this means it is hoped to make it possible for them to get into touch with the work of any society in which they are especially interested. Organised visits have also been arranged by certain of the societies to various institutions, particulars of which may be obtained from Miss E. M. Zimmern, at the I.C.W. Pavilion (near H.M. Government Building), at the British Empire Exhibition.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE SETTLEMENT,

2, CURRIE STREET, NINE ELMS LANE, S.W.8.

On April 29th, the Mayoress of Battersea and the Committee held a reception at the above address, to ask for help of various kinds, not only to enable the Settlement to keep up its present standard of work, but also to commence a new department.

A short report of the past year's work was given by the Secretary, showing that about 34,000 dinners had been served, chiefly to children, but including a number of mothers as well. The Guest House had been kept busy, and the various treats to children and the aged poor, also various activities formerly undertaken by Mrs. Despard, accomplished. Very hearty thanks were given to the large number of helpers, who in various ways had helped in the work of the Settlement.

Mrs. Ganley introduced the Mayoress, to whom Mrs. Delbanco proposed, and Miss Riggall seconded, a vote of thanks for presiding.

Dr. Knight spoke a few appreciative words of the work which had been done at the various temporary homes of the Settlement. A discussion followed as to the best means of getting in funds, after the Medical Officer of Health for Battersea had asked those present to help in every possible way in collecting the sum necessary to get the Health Ministry to agree to a grant from Battersea Borough Council, which would go far to relieve the anxieties of those responsible for obtaining funds for the work. Miss Bradish kindly offered to arrange a garden party at Chiswick, and others went away discussing the possibilities of a progressive tea party. It was generally agreed that a sub-committee should be formed as soon as possible to deal with the question of raising funds, and volunteers were asked for to sit on this committee.

Hon. Superintendent: Miss A. M. COLE.

BUYING SUNSHINE.

It is such a common cry, "My holiday would have been lovely if only the weather had been better." That one wonders why people who love sunshine and warmth do not make sure of it by going South. The hills of the French Riviera or the Italian Lakes are the most lovely pleasure grounds for those who want an outdoor life. At Nice, for instance, one could spend the morning bathing in the sea or basking in the sun. An early lunch, a good siesta, a tramp in the mountains (the Maritime Alps), with a picnic tea, till dark, make up a strenuous day, and in June you sit out after dinner and watch the fireflies dancing. When simple pleasures fail, you dance in the Casino yourself, or take the tram along to Monte Carlo and have a gamble. On the Italian Lakes, boating might take the place of bathing, and, though one meets few English in the summer, gay holiday-making Italians of the better class visit their lakes and mountains, and make life very pleasant for visitors from farther afield. Tremozzo, on Lake Como, is as good a centre as any, as Como is on the main St. Gothard line; so English visitors who want to be "braced" can stop on Lake Lucerne on their way home and climb the Rigi, while those who hanker after still more sun and heat can drop down to Milan and Florence and do some sight-seeing.

A dose of "real summer" can be safely bought this way at a not unreasonable price. The Friendship Travel Association, for instance, which specialises in sending the English away from other tourists, so that they make friends with foreign hosts, will arrange a fortnight in Nice or on Lake Como for £14, with a pound more for Florence, and less for Switzerland. A month might include several visits, and be done for about £20. The address of the Association is 22, Princeton Street, Red Lion Square, W.C.1. (See advt. on back page.)

FRIDAY,
MAY 23,
1924.

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THE NEW PSYCHOLOGY. A correspondence course in Biology, Psychology, and Religion has been arranged under the title "The Ladder of Life." It is hoped that the course will help students to co-ordinate the ideas which are contributing to form the new age. Particulars will be forwarded to those sending a stamped and addressed foolscap envelope to—**THE PRINCIPAL**, Walsham Hall, Walsham-le-Willows, Suffolk.

NOTICES.

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1. 3.30. Chamber Music by Students Royal College of Music Lecture. Rev. Hudson Shaw, "John Ruskin." 6.30. Miss Maude Royden, "The Humanity of Christ."

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

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

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MISCELLANEOUS.

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.

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.

HOME-MADE Cakes and Chocolates. Luncheons and Teas.—**RESTAURANT**, 36, Dean Street, Soho, W. 1.

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

SUMMER JUMPERS.—All Colours, hand crocheted, made to order, 10/-. Materials extra, complete, 30/-.—Apply **A.B.C.**, *THE VOTE*, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

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

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

REST AND HOLIDAYS.

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. Unequalled excursion centre.

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.

SOUTH COAST.—Lady, on Exhibition route, wishes to exchange her four-room London flat for similar accommodation at any South Coast resort for the months of July and August.—Apply No. 40, *THE VOTE*, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

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**.

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

HOLIDAYS ABROAD.—Whitsun 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.

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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.