

THE VOTE,  
JUNE 25, 1920.  
ONE PENNY.

## VOTES FOR WOMEN!

K. A. RALEIGH.

# THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

Vol. XX, No. 557.

(Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and transmissible through the post in the United Kingdom at the newspaper rate of postage, but to Canada and Newfoundland at the Magazine rate).

FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 1920.

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

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## THE NINTH YEAR!

### Mrs. DESPARD'S BIRTHDAY PARTY.

*Come to the*

**BIRTHDAY PARTY . at . CAXTON HALL, . . .**

On FRIDAY, JULY 2nd, at 7 p.m.

*This will also be our Reception to the Delegates from Geneva.*

RECEPTION AT 7.

Miss JESSIE SNOW . . . . . Violin Solos.

Miss JULIE HUNTSMAN . . . . . Recitations.

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Music. Songs. Recitations.

*Presentation of the Birthday Fund.*

SHORT SPEECHES. REFRESHMENTS. FLOWERS. CAKES, Etc.

Please secure your Tickets (1/-) at once.



## IN PARLIAMENT.

## Women and the Civil Service.

MAJOR HILLS asked the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER whether the Civil Service Commissioners had made unfavourable recommendations as to the employment of women administrative officers in their Department in spite of the acknowledged excellence of the work done by their temporary women officers? MR. BALDWIN said that the answer was in the negative.—MAJOR HILLS further asked the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER whether the Treasury and Civil Service Commission could see their way to appoint at least two women each to administrative posts at once under the relevant Order in Council of 1919, in order to set an example to the other Departments? MR. BALDWIN replied that he was in favour of the principle underlying that suggestion, and that a proposal for the employment of women of administrative rank was at the present time under consideration by the Treasury.

MAJOR HILLS asked the PRIME MINISTER whether the Government intended to take any, and, if so, what action, to carry out the resolution of the House on May 19th, on the subject of equal pay for women Civil servants? The PRIME MINISTER replied that His Majesty's Government had carefully reviewed that question in the light of the discussion in the House of Commons. In that connection he reminded Major Hills that important and far-reaching changes were recommended in a recent Report of a Committee of the National Whitley Council on the organisation of the Civil Service, to which the consent of His Majesty's Government was conveyed through the official side. Steps were being taken to give effect to those recommendations, and, pending further experience, the Government did not feel justified in varying them. In the nature of things, those recommendations could only be tentative, and the Government were prepared to review the situation afresh within a reasonable period of time, which in no case would exceed five years, and would, he thought, be considerably less. MAJOR HILLS then enquired when the Government's policy on this matter would be definitely announced? Was he to understand that the Government were going to pay no attention to the Resolution of the House? The PRIME MINISTER said that the House had really to decide between those varied recommendations, which added considerable sums of money to public expenditure for the various improvements which everyone desired, but which they could not afford. That applied to other subjects as well as the one mentioned in the question. MAJOR HILLS asked when the Government Policy would be announced, to which the PRIME MINISTER replied that he had just announced it! Will any reader please tell us what was the Prime Minister's announcement?

## Training for Women.

LIEUT.-COL. A. MURRAY asked the MINISTER OF LABOUR whether the 29 women at present in training at Craibstone Farm, Aberdeen, would have completed their training by June 30th; and, if the training scheme was to be terminated at June 30th, what arrangements the Government proposed to make for the training of other women who might be desirous of fitting themselves to be placed on farms? DR. MACNAMARA replied that 14 women had completed their training on June 6th—the rest would complete a course of nine weeks on June 30th. This would be shorter by three weeks than the previous course in consequence of the termination of training on June 30th. The question of the continuation of women's training was receiving further consideration, but he could give no assurance that the period would be extended beyond June 30th.

## Hospitals and State Aid.

The precarious financial position of several hospitals in London was brought to the notice of the MINISTER OF HEALTH last week by MR. MALONE and MR. A. T. DAVIES. DR. ADDISON stated that he was fully aware of this matter, and was considering what steps could be taken to assist such hospitals without prejudicing the voluntary principle.

## The PROBLEM OF SUFFERING.

Sermon by Miss Maude Royden.

At the request of several readers we are printing for the next few weeks a summary of Miss Maude Royden's Sunday sermons at Kensington Town Hall. Last Sunday evening Miss Maude Royden explained her belief that Suffering, though included in man's scheme of things, is entirely foreign to Divine plans for our development. The true comprehension of the mystery of suffering depended upon our understanding of the Fatherhood of God, and the subject of Freewill. The fact that we had free-will, and were not coerced by the Creator, was in itself a proof of the Fatherhood of God. It required a much greater store of patience and love to co-operate with a person than to order him about. Education in the past was almost entirely concerned with methods of severity, but to-day beneficent changes had replaced the rod of iron, and the child's own point of view was being carefully considered and co-operated with. In the same way the harsh industrial methods of an earlier era were gradually being replaced by a desire to promote universal brotherhood between employers and employed. This tendency to co-operate rather than coerce should help us to understand the difficulties involved in freedom of will. Free will, of course, involved the refusal to co-operate, and thus refusing, the original purpose fell away. In the parable of the Prodigal Son it was no part of the father's wish that his son should dissipate his living in a far country. The sufferings of the son arose out of his refusal to co-operate with his father's original purpose. The son made his own suffering; it did not originate with his father. The Universe was based on pain, and it was impossible to disentangle each one's responsibility in the problem of suffering. In many instances it seemed totally undeserved, as in the case of a brilliant young friend of hers, who, gifted with brains and genius, was hampered with a physical disability which threatened to cloud all his prospects. That very disability, however, proved the boy's salvation, for it taught him to concentrate his powers in one particular direction instead of dissipating his energies. Miss Royden had herself experienced this beneficent side to suffering, and doubted not that many of her hearers would say the same. God still continued to work out His purposes even when thwarted by our failure to co-operate with His original plan, and in so doing manifested the superiority of Divine Fatherhood as compared with our human ideas of love. It was as if a parent sought to offer his child some glorious gift, but was unable to bestow it because the child's conceptions were too limited, and it preferred a less worthy object. Some parents would try to force their own more superior gift upon the child, but a more perfect love would recognise the fact that the child was not ready for it, and would, instead, help it to make the best possible use of its inferior substitute. So it was in our own lives. In comparison with what God would give us, we "asked nothing." He never coerced, but adapted Himself instead, with understanding pity, to our sorry scheme of things. But He could not give us the Highest if we were not able to take it. This truth should enable us once for all to cease unworthy excuses for second-rate achievements, and refuse to acquiesce in the false conception that God was the author of the pain of the Universe.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON,  
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For particulars as to fees and courses application should be made to the Tutor for Women Theological Students, Miss E. W. Hippisley, S.Th., King's College, Strand, W.C.2. Next term begins on October 6th.

## WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

## The Geneva Sermon.

Miss Maude Royden prefaced her sermon in Geneva Cathedral on June 6th by a few short sentences in French, acknowledging to the Genevans her delight at the generous invitation they had accorded her to occupy Calvin's pulpit. The sermon was preached in English, but the text, "Except the Lord build the house, their labour is but lost that build it," was delivered in English, French and German.

## Women on the Land.

The Women's Farm and Garden Union and the National Association of Landwomen have amalgamated. These two societies represent the two different aspects of agricultural life for women, the former having been started to help women wishing to specialise in various branches of horticulture and agriculture, and the latter to help the ex-Land Army girl or village woman, chiefly employed as a farm hand.

## A Memorable Victory.

Sheringham golf course witnessed a remarkable victory recently, when Miss Cecil Leitch lost her English championship status to Miss Joyce Wethered, an 18-year-old girl who is sister to the Oxford University golf captain. Miss Wethered did more than defeat one of the greatest women golfers who ever lived: she defeated her after the game had apparently been won and lost—won by Miss Leitch and lost by Miss Wethered.

## Versatile Woman Student.

Miss Meenarkshi Devi is a woman medical student from Malabar, who has already taken her B.A. degree with honours. She is practising at the Bar, and is a student in the Middle Temple. She is one of India's progressive young women, and perhaps the first to study art, medicine, and law.

## Women Rug Makers.

The first exhibition of Serbian rugs to be shown in England is now on view at Messrs. Heal and Son's gallery in the Tottenham Court Road. The rug-making industry in Serbia, which dates back 1,500 years, has been carried on almost entirely by women, those woven by men being of inferior quality.

## Rhodesia's Woman, M.P.

Few people will recognise in the election of Mrs. Tawse Jollie as the first woman member of the Rhodesian Parliament an old "Anti" opponent of women's suffrage—Mrs. Archibald Colquhoun, who, after her husband's death, went to live in South Africa.

## V.C.'s for Women.

The V.C. is now to be awarded irrespective of sex. Matrons, sisters, nurses, and civilians of either sex serving regularly or temporarily under the armed forces of the Crown are eligible. As before, the award will be given for conspicuous bravery, or self-sacrifice, or devotion to duty in the presence of the enemy. Women will no doubt wish that the V.C. should be given for other types of courage, not merely the physical sort, and will probably hold the idea that a peace time V.C. is every bit as meritorious as one gained in war time.

## Girl's Students Boat Race.

A race between students of the London School of Medicine for Women and undergraduates from Newnham College, Cambridge, was rowed on Saturday from Barnes to Chiswick Church, Newnham winning by a few feet.

## Echoes of Josephine Butler.

Josephine Butler's great fight for social purity began, as is well known, in Liverpool, and the Archbishop's Advisory Board for Moral and Spiritual Work has decided to establish a Memorial Training House there for workers in the cause to which she devoted her life. The house will be run on Church of England lines, but will be open to candidates of all denominations.

## An Enlightened Magistrate.

Women who have had to deal with magistrates of the older school in London and insist on their right, as part of the public, to be present in Police Courts at cases dealing with women and girls, even if the magistrate went out of his way to express the view that "no nice woman" would hesitate to leave the Court in such circumstances, are glad to know that at any rate Mr. Leycester, a magistrate at Marylebone, is not only endowed with legal knowledge, but also with common-sense. When a man came before him charged with assaulting three schoolgirls, Mr. Leycester remarked that he could never see any reason for the calling upon women to leave the Court during the hearing of certain cases. If men were asked to leave it would be more to the point, but he could never see any objection to women who were interested in the case being present.

## The Geneva Congress.

France has invited the International Women Suffrage Alliance to hold its next Congress at Paris in 1922, but if the women of France obtain the vote within the next twelve months another country will be chosen for the place of meeting, as the Alliance prefers to hold its meetings in those countries where woman suffrage does not exist. Roumania has also extended an invitation to the suffragists for a future Congress.

## Women's Co-operative Guild.

The Annual Conference of the Women's Co-operative Guild met in Derby last week. With its membership of something like 50,000 scattered over the whole country, it is by far the most representative organisation of working-class women, and is probably the only body of women who really voice the opinion and point of view of the working-class housewife.

## The Birthday Fund.

## STILL IN TIME!

Mrs. Despard's Birthday Party is fixed for July 2nd, at Caxton Hall.

Of course you mean to be there and to make it a great success. We shall welcome back Mrs. Despard and the other delegates from the Great World Gathering of Women at Geneva; please do your part in making that important item, the BIRTHDAY GIFT, worthy of this Historic event.

The cost of living for your League is much increased, just as it is for each one of us. Our funds must increase in proportion and we must double the Birthday Fund upon which we live during the summer months.

Branches are working hard. Will YOU double your usual contribution and see that it reaches me, if possible, this week.

E. KNIGHT.

144, High Holborn, London, W.C. 1.

Hon. Treas.



## THE VOTE.

Proprietors: THE MINERVA PUBLISHING CO., LTD.  
Offices: 144, High-Holborn, W.C. 1.

FRIDAY, JUNE 25th, 1920.

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### EDITORIAL.

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

### SUBSCRIPTION RATE.

At Home and Abroad ... Post free, 6/6 per annum.

## EXCESS TAXATION OF MARRIED WOMEN.

Last Monday MR. BONAR LAW stated that the Finance Bill will probably be taken the week after next, so that there is time for our readers to urge their Members of Parliament to support amendments which will certainly be moved to secure the separate assessment of the incomes of husbands and wives for the purpose of income tax. Mr. Locker-Lampson's amendment on this matter was defeated on the Report stage, but the injustice which this Finance Bill will impose on women is so flagrant that we feel sure that our representatives in Parliament cannot fail to be impressed by it. Women in Bath are conducting a lively correspondence with their Member on this subject, and the following extract from a letter signed by Mrs. K. E. Symons and appearing in the Bath Herald is of special interest:—

"It is not a question of minor change, but of fundamental principle, that married women should be allowed to share in the great new method of uniform taxation devised by the Royal Commission, and adopted by the Chancellor. With the exception of married women, every person is to be allowed £135 of income free from the standard tax of 6s. in the £. The value of this remission is £40 10s. With the exception of married women, every person is to be allowed reduction of the tax to 3s. on the first taxable £225 of income. The value of this remission is £33 15s. The result of denying married women these remissions is that a woman possessed of an income of £360 may have to pay £74 5s. more tax if she marries than if she remains single. A husband will have a right to £90 additional abatement on the joint incomes of himself and wife, which, by grace, he might allot to her, and reduce her excess taxation by £27, but, legally, the benefit of this abatement is his.

"The amount of the excess tax borne by married women is not the most serious part of the wrong. The worst feature of it is that the full ferocity of a 6s. tax falls on the private means of a married woman in the first few hundreds of income, and it may be extracted pound by pound from the very smallest contributions made by a wife to the family budget. For the married woman this entirely reverses the taxation principle of giving greatest relief to the lowest income."

There were twenty-two men appointed on the Royal Commission on the Income Tax, and only one woman, Miss Lilian Knowles; and it is worthy of note that she was responsible for a Minority Report strongly advocating the separate assessment of the incomes of husband and wife for Income Tax purposes. We urge all our readers to ask their Members of Parliament to do their best to get this special injustice to married women remedied when the Finance Bill is again discussed in the House of Commons.

## NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE.

Changes have been made in the National Health Insurance which are now to come into operation. Both the contributions and benefits are to be increased, the contributions of men being 5d. a week and those of women 4d., the employer paying 5d. in each case, and the sickness benefit received by men and women respectively being 15s. and 12s.

Mr. Hackworth, Deputy Controller of the Insurance Department, who gave an address on this subject last Monday in Westminster at a meeting arranged by the Women's Local Government Society, when asked why the contributions and benefits were less in the case of women than in that of men, replied that women were paid so much less than men that the smaller contribution was as much as they could pay, and as there was so much more sickness among working women than among working men it was impossible to make the benefits to women higher than 12s. a week. Working women's interests are indeed in a vicious circle. When they are ill they stand very little chance in these days of high prices of recovery to health and earning capacity on 12s. a week; and before they are ill enough to receive sick benefit their underpayment, as compared with men's wages, keeps them undernourished and diminishes their earning value. If men insist on excluding women from the better-paid trades and giving women a lower wage than men for equal work, the equalisation of the sickness benefit of women and men should be charged to men's insurance. Last Monday the Master Printers' Federation announced the acceptance by the Printing and Kindred Trades Federation and the Binders' Union of the offer of 10s. a week increase to all male members and 3s. 6d. a week to all qualified women workers! The high rate of sickness of women workers is one of the tragedies of the industrial life of to-day; and employers and men trade unionists are directly responsible for it.

## WOMEN MAGISTRATES.

For some unaccountable reason women magistrates are hanging fire. Over a week ago it was ceremoniously announced in the Press that the list of women magistrates, about 150 in all, would be published "within a few days," but as we go to press it has still not appeared. As minute enquiries have been made for many months past into the histories, past, present and future, of these women, and they have all been approved by the celebrated "distinguished women's committee" created by Lord Birkenhead to come to his rescue, official slackness is probably to blame for this delay. Meanwhile it was quite rightly thought that London women would not be pleased to see no women upon a London Bench, and special arrangements are in prospect for them. The Juvenile Courts (Metropolis) Bill, which passed its second reading in the House of Lords on June 15th, proposes to establish juvenile courts in London under the control of one Stipendiary Magistrate and two justices of the peace, of whom one shall be a woman. It will be observed that in dealing with "naughty" children, which is generally considered peculiarly a woman's job, men are still to have a majority of two to one. Asked by the Lord Chancellor what was the best thing to do with women magistrates in London, the majority of the London Police Magistrates suggested that women should sit in the children's courts as assessors to themselves but with no power to affect the decision. Naturally, such an arrangement would prevent the best type of woman in London from accepting the office. The Bill proposes to take one London Police Court and use it exclusively as a Central Children's Court with as many branch courts as necessary, so that children would be altogether removed from the general police courts. LORD ASKWITH opposed the Bill because the children's Courts were so excellently conducted by men, but LORD READING said it was all to the good to have a woman sitting in the children's Court.

## VOTES FOR WOMEN!

### A Tea Cup Talk.

Mary.—When we met in April I forgot to ask about the Suffrage Agitation. It's dead now, I suppose.

Joan.—No. It is only crouching for a spring.

Mary.—You don't say so! What is there to spring at? Haven't we got the Vote?

Joan.—Not on the same terms as men. But you should know. Have you become a voter?

Mary.—Oh no! I'm too young. Only twenty-eight last week. But two years will soon pass. I never did think the vote worth all the fuss the women made about it. Education, now, and the right to work do affect women's lives. Yes, and being parents of their own children would make a tremendous difference.

Joan.—When did you come to that conclusion?

Mary.—Oh, long ago! At least some time ago. I fancy it was in April, about the time I saw you last.

Joan.—So you would rather have the rights of education, work and parenthood than a paltry vote.

Mary.—Exactly.

Joan.—But just consider. Those three rights have formed a male monopoly in this country for centuries, and men had reserved to themselves all political rights. Soon after the beginning of the Suffrage Movement ("Fuss" you call it) Education and the right to work were conceded, though only partially at first, and not completely even now. Parliament will shortly be asked to bestow on women, in addition, the privilege of being parents to their own children. Will you now maintain that the vote has nothing to do with these reforms?

Mary.—You mean that the reforms progressed as the demand for the vote grew, and not as a mere coincidence?

Joan.—Yes. These developments are the direct result of the awakening of women to a sense of their own place in the state, as citizens with the power of choice.

Mary.—Doubtless you are right. I must take more interest in public affairs, and vote for somebody or something when I am thirty.

Joan.—A noble resolve. You have two years to acquire the possessions which are necessary to qualify you for a vote, unless Parliament abolishes that necessity in the meantime.

Mary.—What can you mean? Charles and Tom are both qualified, and they have no possessions except debts.

Joan.—And your brothers are both younger than you, are they not? That is unfair, surely.

Mary.—Oh no! They both explained it to me. The arrangement is for the protection of women. Many girls under thirty are wanting in balance, and might vote for the wrong side, if the candidate happened to be attractive. So Charles and Tom say.

Joan.—And, of course, your brothers never vote for the wrong side.

Mary.—Never. Tom is a student living at home, and Dad pays for Charles' lodgings because he can't make his salary last out. Their opinions are fixed.

Joan.—Your mother has a vote too.

Mary.—Yes, but it makes no difference. She agrees with Father, as always. You see, it's really the only way. Now we come to me. I am living at home, so I am qualified as Tom is, and shall be able to vote at 30, and I shall vote as I like.

Joan.—I am sorry to damp your ardour, but there is a special restriction for women voters. They must have possessions, as I have just told you, besides being of the right age.

Mary.—What kind of possessions?

Joan.—Furniture—or a Husband.

Mary.—That sounds like nonsense.

Joan.—It is the law at present. You will have to live in a rated dwelling taken unfurnished. (This practically implies that you must possess furniture) or

you must be married. Each of these plans has its own advantage. If you are married before you are thirty and your husband is a voter, you cannot vote until you are thirty, but your dwelling taken "unfurnished" will qualify you as a spinster before the age of 30. Moreover, furniture lasts a lifetime, whereas if your husband dies you will lose your vote.

Mary.—This requires thought. I decide for furniture. But I forgot. I have none, and no money to buy it. Oh dear, oh dear, what shall I do?

Joan.—Tut tut. All this fuss about a paltry vote! You have the right to work. You have been educated. Earn the furniture.

Mary.—Why tell me this now? I have no trade, no profession and no training. You should have told me sooner.

Joan.—I did.

Mary.—Yes, I remember. I wouldn't listen. But trained women are being turned out of their jobs in thousands. I read that somewhere—I forget where—so what chance would there be for me? Tom is all right. He votes without earning a penny.

Joan.—All this is most unjust, but it will be put right, and that very shortly.

Mary.—We must agitate!

Joan.—Of course. But meanwhile here is a suggestion for you. Choose an occupation. Try to persuade your Father to allow you money for three or six months' training. Then make a determined effort to get a post. If you fail there is still your "second string." To acquire a husband will not take long, and can be accomplished without previous training.

Mary.—What a grand idea! So I'll have a vote, anyway. I simply must, because of Charles and Tom.

K. A. RALEIGH.

## WOMEN IN THE CHURCHES.

Many well-known bishops are now in this country for the Lambeth Conference, which commences on July 3rd, under the presidency of the Archbishop of Canterbury. America is sending 70 bishops from the Protestant Episcopal Church, and out of the 275 who are expected a large proportion have arrived. The Conference, which is the sixth of its kind, will extend over a period of four weeks, and a great variety of subjects will be discussed, amongst these being the now burning question of "The position of women in connection with the administration of churches." Curious to relate the most deeply-rooted prejudice against the spiritual equality of the sexes has been found to emanate from the laity, rather than from the clergy, of whom a large majority have pronounced favourably for the women's cause. The League of the Church Militant is seizing the great opportunity afforded by the Lambeth Conference to plead the cause of Women Preachers, and has arranged a service, in St. George's Church, Hart Street, Bloomsbury, on Saturday afternoon, July 3rd, at 2.45, at which Miss Royden will give an address. At 3.30 a Procession with Banners and Music will march, wet or fine, from the Church to a mass meeting in Trafalgar Square, where the speakers will include Miss Royden, Dr. L. Fairfield, C.B.E., Rev. G. Hudson Shaw, Mr. Holford Knight, and others. All Freedom League sympathisers are invited to join the Procession and walk under the banner of the League. The following week a Public Meeting will be held, also under the auspices of the League of the Church Militant, in the Church House, Westminster, on Friday, July 9th, at 8 p.m., when the chair will be taken by the Rev. Canon Simpson, and the speakers will include Dr. H. B. Hanson, Miss M. Royden, Miss' Picton-Turbervill, O.B.E., Rev. Dr. Dearmer, and others.

It has been decided to erect a bust of John Stuart Mill on the estate of Pont des Deux Eaux, where he lived for some time, and where he died on May 8th, 1873.



## BOOK REVIEW.

*Race Motherhood.* By Dora B. Montefiore. Price 6d.  
Women's Freedom League, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

This admirable little pamphlet, portions of which have already appeared in *THE VOTE* of March 12th, 19th, and 26th, should be in the possession not only of all feminists, but of all searchers after truth. It presents in a readily accessible form the world-important fact re-discovered and patiently enunciated by the American scientist, Lester Ward, in his treatise, "Pure Sociology"—viz., that the female is the race, the male sex merely an adjunct introduced at an advanced period in evolution to facilitate organic progress through the crossing of strains. This truth, known as the Gynæocentric Theory, dimly apprehended at different periods of history by various writers, is therefore directly opposed to the widely prevailing Androcentric Theory hitherto universally held, in which it is contended that the male sex is primary and the female secondary in the organic scheme. The whole question, according to Professor Ward, is intimately associated with the subject of Reproduction. All science points to the fact that Reproduction has manifested itself in an ascending scale from the simple to the complex, from mere fission or falling apart of living protoplasm, budding, spore formation, and parthenogenesis or virgin reproduction, in the lower forms of plant and animal life until such time as the principle of fertilization, viz., the crossing of one strain with another, enters into reproduction as the new phenomena of sex. A tremendous deduction follows in consequence, which Professor Ward expresses in significant terms. "Life begins with the female organism, and is carried on a long distance by females alone. . . . The female sex, which existed from the beginning, continues unchanged, but the male sex, which did not exist at the beginning, made its appearance at a certain stage, and had a certain history and development, but never became universal. . . . The male is therefore, as it were, a mere after-thought of nature." After the introduction of the sex element in the reproduction of the human species the female still reigned supreme during a long stage of gynæocracy or female rule, better known under the title of Matriarchate, evidences of which in the earlier stages of humanity have been attested to by many writers. Gradually, however, this supremacy became superseded by male predominance or androcracy, when the discovery of paternity gave the father the desire to exercise power over the child in equal authority with the mother. The over-development of certain male characteristics, too, chiefly size and strength, was another important factor in woman's final subjection, typified in the Hebrew Scriptures by the allegory of the "Fall." The force and persistence with which androcratic theories have prevailed in the past, and are still prevailing, even in those communities which have apparently cast away the conventional fetters of a man-made world, is no new problem to feminists, but is now beginning to be recognised, however dimly, by the ordinary thinking person, if sufficiently honest. "A presentation of the real and fundamental relation of the sexes is something new to those who are able to see it, and something preposterous to those who are not. The idea that the female is naturally and really the superior sex seems incredible, and only the most liberal and emancipated minds, possessed of a large store of biological information, are capable of realising it." But brighter days are ahead, and are already being heralded in by profound and far-reaching modifications of the relationships between the sexes. Whilst he rings the death-knell of androcracy with one stroke of the pen, Professor Ward prophesies an approaching glorious future, not only for woman, but for man also, when both sexes alike will find themselves on a far higher plane of social and economic conditions, in which "both man and woman shall be free to rule themselves." D. M. N.

## P.R. ELECTION AT ASHFORD.

An interesting Proportional Representation Election, arranged by the local branch of the Women's Freedom League, was held at the Parish Hall, Ashford, last Tuesday evening. Mr. W. R. FitzHugh presided, supported by Mr. and Mrs. J. Murgatroyd-Dickinson.

The Chairman said he had been a member of the Proportional Representation Society for many years, and if people only understood the proposal they would realise its justice, necessity and absolute fairness. As a result of the present system of voting the minority were hardly represented at all. He went on to give a concise outline of the scheme, remarking that the recent trial in Irish municipal elections was very successful. If this system had been in vogue at the last election, instead of the Coalition having a majority of 347 they would only have had one of 75.

Eight candidates for five seats then placed their views before the audience, each speaker being limited to three minutes.

Miss Bentley (Independent) claimed that it was necessary to have in Parliament a body of non-party representatives, who would listen to the voice of their own intelligence and conscience rather than the party whip. They were sick of the party system, which was played out and rotten to the core. They were tired of the forceful methods of the present Government.

Mrs. Caister (Independent) found it impossible to be either Liberal or Labour, because she agreed with so many of the proposals of both sides. Women should take up the cause of freedom alone. They must vote for the candidate out for humanity and a dry England.

Mrs. Coppins (Liberal) urged that the public life should be lifted to a higher level. Women had a passion for justice and righteousness, and were against war.

Mrs. Dew (Labour) related what the Labour Party stood for—redistribution, nationalisation, a capital levy, the abolition of secret diplomacy, the full franchise, and the pension of the blind were amongst the aims she set before the audience. The Labour Party stood for the upliftment of the hewers of wood and the drawers of water.

Mrs. Goldsmith (Independent Liberal) preached freedom and liberty, neither class nor creed, but a combination of men and women with democratic tendencies. "Peace for the whole world" was her motto, and a loosening of the bonds of unhappy Ireland.

Mrs. Harrod (Labour) thought her party would uplift the bottom dog. That Labour was as fit to govern as any other body was proved by the co-operative movement.

Mrs. Lamprey (Unionist) urged retrenchment, not in the Army or Navy, but in the useless army of highly paid officials. Labour should be well paid, but extreme views would only result in higher food prices. Apparent riches were useless; they benefited nobody. National Insurance needed revision. Regarding Ireland, she urged the safeguarding of Ulster. The Unionist Party had always done the best for the country.

Mrs. McConnell (Liberal) paid high tributes to Mr. Lloyd George. She was greatly in favour of women candidates, was a social reformer, but not a "Bolshie," and pleaded for more houses. The Coalition Government was best at present, for it ensured peace and prosperity.

There were 60 ballot papers returned, the quota thus being eleven. The first count elected: 1, Miss Bentley; 2, Mrs. Lamprey; 3, Mrs. Dew; 4, Mrs. Caister. There remained one seat to be filled, and this eventually was secured by Mrs. Goldsmith.

## OUR ADVERTISERS

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

D. M. N.

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

DARE TO  
BE FREE

Wednesday, June 30.—Open-air Meeting, Hyde Park. 7 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. Mustard. Subject: "Legal Disabilities of British Married Women." Chair: Miss Kirby.

Friday, July 2.—Mrs. Despard's Birthday Party. Council Chamber, Caxton Hall, Westminster. 7 p.m. Tickets, 1s.

Saturday, July 3.—National Executive Committee Meeting, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 10 a.m.

Wednesday, July 7.—Open-air Meeting, Hyde Park. 7 p.m.

Tuesday, July 13.—Public Meeting, Central Hall, Westminster, S.W. To demand (1) A Royal Commission to enquire into the treatment of Women under Martial Law in India. (2) Votes for Indian Women. Speakers: Miss Agnes Dawson, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, and Miss Normanton, B.A. Chair: Mrs. Despard. Admission free. Reserved seats 1s. 8 p.m.

Thursday, July 22.—Mayflower Garden Party and Festival of the Pilgrim Mothers, at the Hill, North End (Hampstead Heath), N.W. 3 (by kind permission of Lord Leverhulme). 3—9 p.m.

Saturday, October 2.—Dance, Caxton Hall, Westminster.

Friday, November 26, and Saturday, November 27.—Green, White and Gold Fair, Caxton Hall, Westminster.

## PROVINCES.

Tuesday, June 29.—Letchworth. Public Meeting, Girls' Club. Speaker: Mrs. How Martyn. Subject: "The Need for More Women in Parliament and on Local Councils." 8 p.m.

Tuesday, June 29.—Hastings. Whist Drive, Hastings Pier. Tickets 1s. 6d. (including refreshments). M.C.s: Mr. and Mrs. Pomphrey. 7.30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 30.—Letchworth. Garden Meeting, 6, Hillshot (by kind permission of Miss Porter). 4—6.30. Admission 9d. (including Tea).

Thursday, July 1.—Manchester. Garden Meeting (on behalf of Mrs. Despard's Birthday Fund) at Elm Lodge, Carlton, near Walley Grange (by kind permission of Mrs. Scanlon). If wet, in the Edinburgh Hall, Alexandra Park, Moss Side. 4 to 8 p.m. Admission by Programme, price 2s. 6d. (including Tea).

Wednesday, July 7.—Hastings. Public Meeting, Y.M.C.A. Hall, Breeds Place. Subject: Criminal Law Amendment Bill (Bishop of London's Bill). Speaker: Mrs. Mustard. 3.30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 7.—Rye. Public Meeting at the Monastery. Mrs. Mustard will speak on the Criminal Law Amendment Bill. The chair will be taken by the Rural Dean (the Rev. A. P. Howes, M.A.). 7.30 p.m.

## OTHER SOCIETIES.

Monday, June 28.—Uxbridge Woman's Suffrage Society. Speaker: Mrs. Tanner. Subject: "The New Education Act."

Wednesday, June 30.—British Dominions Women Citizens' Union. Public Meeting, Minerva Café, to explain the significance of the Geneva Conference. Speakers: Mrs. Naidu, Mrs. Tata, Mrs. Sen, and representative women from the British Dominions Overseas. 3.30—6 p.m. Tea 4 p.m.

Saturday, July 3.—League of the Church Militant. Procession to Trafalgar Square to advocate Women Preachers in the Church. Those wishing to take part are asked to be at St. George's Church, Hart Street, Bloomsbury, at 3.30 punctually.

Friday, July 9.—League of the Church Militant. Public Meeting, Church House, Westminster, to advocate the full equality of lay women with lay men in all the Lay Ministries of the Church. 8 p.m.

## THE PILGRIM MOTHERS.

## PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

Readers of *THE VOTE* are urged to keep July 22nd, the three hundredth anniversary of the sailing of the "Mayflower," free, and make every possible effort to be present at the Garden Fête and Festival of the Pilgrim Mothers which we have arranged at The Hill, North End, Hampstead (by kind permission of Lord Leverhulme). Further particulars will appear in next week's *VOTE*, but in the meantime we should welcome gifts of cakes and home-made produce, flowers for the flower stall, and attractive articles for 6d. or 1s. dips. We are relying on the Fête to add substantially to the funds of the Women's Freedom League.

## OUR TREASURY.

## NATIONAL FUND.

Amount previously acknowledged, October, 1907, to December, 1919, £33,542 6s. 2d.

	£	s.	d.
Amount previously acknowledged	382	16	5
Special Emergency War Fund—			
"A Friend"	1	5	0
Mrs. Cavendish Bentinck	5	0	0
Mrs. M. Legge	1	1	0
"An Old Subscriber"	1	0	0
Mrs. Catmur	1	0	0
Miss Ballard Dawson	5	0	0
Miss E. M. Moore	5	0	0
Miss K. Stone	2	0	0
Miss C. G. Jeffreys	1	0	0
Tickets	3	8	6
Collections	1	18	1
Office Sales	4	2	
Sundries	24	11	6
Branches—			
Nottingham	5	0	0
Branches: Capitation Fees—			
Edinburgh	2	0	
	£427	19	8

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

## BRANCH NOTES.

## PORTSMOUTH.

Our last Public Meeting this season was well attended. Mr. H. C. Sawyer, secretary of the Local Insurance Committee, gave an instructive address on "National Health Insurance." He specially dealt with the Act as it affects women, and explained the new regulations which will shortly become operative. A great many questions were asked, and ably answered by the speaker. Mrs. Ball presided, and at the end of the meeting heartily thanked Mr. Sawyer for the lecture. Tea was then served, to which a great many of the audience stayed. The proceeds of the tea will be added to the Branch's donation to the Birthday Fund. Hon. Sec.—Mrs. WHETTON, 89, Festing Grove, Southsea.

## HASTINGS.

Will members rally to the Whist Drive which is being held at the Hastings Pier on Tuesday, June 29th, at 7.30 p.m.? The proceeds will go to the local branch funds. The organiser will be very glad to receive the promised donations to the Birthday Fund. Gratefully acknowledged: Mrs. Darent Harrison, £1; Mrs. Barlow, 1s. 6d.; Mrs. Linfoot, 1s.; Miss Powell, 1s.; R. Goddard, Esq., 1s.; Mrs. Baldwin, 6d.; Mrs. Kither, 6d.; M. L. W., 3d. Please send all further donations to Miss M. White, 9, Holmesdale Gardens, Hastings.

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE SETTLEMENT,  
93, NINE ELMS LANE, S.W. 8.

We have very especially to thank our kind friend, Mrs. Walpole, of Devonport, Tasmania, and her band of helpful and helping girls, to whose kindness we owe the Devonport Tasmania Cot, for their magnificent collection just to hand. We have now eleven children in the Guest house, originally intended for six, and as funds come in not only from our friends in Tasmania, but from those nearer home, we shall be enabled to help many a poor home when the mother is in hospital.

We have received from Miss Riggall a lace mantilla for Miss Wells' Garden Sale, also a promise of china for the same, and a suit of summer clothes for a boy of six, value £1 1s., which we are hoping to dispose of at the same time from Miss Haward. Miss Pinchen is thanked for needlework and typewriting done; Miss A. Wells and Miss K. Scammerton for flowers; as also is Mrs. Delbanco and Miss M. Cole. Gifts of rhubarb would be especially welcome just now for jam, of which we use a great deal in the feeding centre.

EDINBURGH CHILD OUTRAGE PROTEST  
COMMITTEE.

As a result of concerted action by the local feminist societies, a large and representative committee of members of women's organisations has been formed to see what action can be taken to call public attention to the inadequacy of sentences on those guilty of child outrage, and to the weaknesses of the present law as regards such crimes. It is proposed to call a public meeting in the early autumn and provide prominent persons to take part. Recently very useful work has been done by deputations of women to influential legal men and to the local M.P.s. There is already a distinct improvement in the treatment of such cases, but very much more remains to be done if this horror in our midst is to be abolished. It is felt that more rapid progress would be made if similar committees were set up in every town in the British Isles. It is time women roused themselves to protect the helpless children of their poorer sisters.



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**FELLOWSHIP SERVICES.**  
Kensington Town Hall, Sunday, June 27th. Dr. Dearmer, 3.15. Subject: "The Personality of Christ." Miss Maude Royden, 6.30. Subject: "Modern Criticism and Trust in a Personal God."

**BRITISH DOMINIONS WOMEN CITIZENS' UNION.** (Indian Section). Public Meeting at Minerva Café, 144 High Holborn, on Wednesday, June 30th, 3.30—6 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, Mrs. Tata, Mrs. Sen, and other Indian Ladies, and Representative Women from the British Dominions Overseas.

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