

# THE VOTE

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

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ONE PENNY.

FRIDAY, JULY 27, 1928

**OBJECTS :** To use the power of the Parliamentary vote, now won for Women upon equal terms with men, to elect women to Parliament, and upon other public bodies ; to establish equality of rights and opportunities between the sexes ; and to promote the social and industrial well-being of the community.

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## JOY TRIUMPHANT.

ELLEN TERRY, D.B.E., LL.D.,  
Actress,

Born in Coventry, February 27th, 1848.

Worked continuously from April 1856 to April 1921.

Died at Small Hythe, Kent, July 21st, 1928.

The name of Ellen Terry has been such a cherished household word for so many years that a universal regret and sympathy unites the English speaking world to-day.

We give our deepest sympathy to her devoted daughter ("my crutch and my sweetheart"), her son, her husband, and other relatives and friends.

Born into an old theatrical family, to Sarah Yerrett and Benjamin Terry, practically all her relations have been or are upon the stage.

Little Nellie's first part (the page Mamillius in Charles Kean's revival of "The Winter's Tale") came when she was eight years old, at the Old Princess's Theatre, and Dame Ellen's last appearance on the stage was at the Lyric, Hammer-smith in November, 1925, as an old lady in "Crossings." When with the Bancrofts her wonderful "Portia" first brought her into prominence and initiated her glorious career as our greatest actress. During the quarter of a century partnership with Henry Irving, her famous parts included Juliet, Ophelia, Beatrice, Desdemona, Viola, Lady Macbeth, Queen Katherine and Mistress Page.

Among other favourite parts were Olivia, Margaret in "Faust," and Nance Oldfield.

Lecturing on Shakespeare's heroines, she visited America and Australia.

Ellen Terry at the age of 16 left the stage to marry G. F. Watts the famous artist who immortalised her in "Love and Life," etc. A few years later she married the actor Charles Kelly, her son Mr. Gordon Craig and daughter Miss Edith Craig were born, and her third marriage came in 1907 to the actor Mr. James Carew.

In the New Year's List of 1925, the King created her a Dame Grand Cross of the British Empire. Throughout her long life Dame Ellen has been the best beloved actress of her time, with beauty, keen intelligence, a radiant charm of the spirit proceeding from a warm heart full of graciousness and kindness, she awoke affection everywhere. "A star danced, and I was born under it" she quoted.

We, of the Women's Freedom League, are proud and glad that we have had our own particular share in the wide interests of Dame Ellen.

In the early and struggling days of the League, Miss Edith Craig was an enthusiastic member of our Mid-London branch and both she and her mother were very kind to us.

On April 15, 1909, Dame Ellen opened our famous Green, White and Gold Fair at the Caxton Hall, and acted there in a new one-act play, and on December 11 in the same year, at our Albert Hall Festival, she



"PORTIA."

delighted us by taking the part of Nancy Oldfield in the Pageant of Women.

The beautiful bust of Ellen Terry as Portia, so generously given to the Women's Freedom League by her a few years ago, the pride of our Minerva Club, is depicted on the front page.

Gaily, with a smile, she rose to meet the vicissitudes of life, and gallantly she met death smiling, steadfast, unafraid.

Written in her own firm hand, not long ago, is her last wish:—

No funeral gloom, my dears, when I am gone.  
Corpse-gazings, tears, black raiment, graveyard grimness,  
Think of me as withdrawn into the dimness,  
Yours still, you Mine,  
Remember all the best of our past moments and forget the rest.  
And so to where I wait come gently on.

I should wish my children, relatives and friends to observe this when I die.—E.T.

And at the little ancient Church at Small Hythe on Tuesday all was sunshine, flowers, sweetness and beauty, when relations, friends and neighbours of Dame Ellen, women and children in summer frocks, labourers from farms and fields, with their dogs and implements, gathered to honour their friend, and stripped their gardens of the brightest blossoms.

At the Memorial Service, St. Paul's Church, Covent Garden (the Actors' Church) on Wednesday, London had its chance to gather in memory of Ellen Terry. The building was completely filled with relatives, friends, and a great concourse of actors and actresses, and representatives of organisations including, the Women's Freedom League (Dr. Knight, Miss Underwood, and Mrs. and Miss M. Pierotti). The brilliance of flowers of all hues was on every side; many Covent Garden workers had come early in the morning and placed bunches near the urn containing Dame Ellen's ashes. The scent of these, and sweet smelling sprigs of lavender, mint, thyme and rosemary, with which the aisle was strewn, filled the air.

The fragrant joyous service included Ellen Terry's favourite hymn of nature-praise, "All Things Bright and Beautiful," and the flowers were afterwards taken to Hospitals.

#### WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

##### Another Barrier Past.

Dr. Justina Wilson has been admitted as a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, being the first woman upon whom the College has conferred this distinction.

##### Medical Woman as President.

Dr. Christine Murrell, Past President of the Medical Women's Federation, has been elected President of the Metropolitan Counties Branch of the British Medical Association.

##### Woman Aviator Takes Challenge Cup.

In the Siddeley Trophy, Miss W. E. Spooner took the Challenge Cup and £150. The only woman competitor for the King's Cup, she led as far as Lympe, finished third, and received the £50 award of the Blackpool Tower Co.

##### Woman's Triumph at Bisley.

Miss B. Badcock, the only woman who shot this year for the King's Prize, beat every man competitor at Bisley, on Saturday, in two club contests. Miss Badcock claimed her right to shoot in the King's Prize on account of her war service with the R.A.O.C., and was entered as Driver Badcock.

##### Another Woman Solicitor in Wales.

Miss Edith M. Ebsworth recently passed the Law Society's final examination for solicitors, and is the first woman in the Rhymney Valley to become a solicitor. She proposes to practise with her father in the district.

#### A Woman at the Helm.

Frau Funz is at the head of the organization known as the "Meinl University," where the managers and higher employees of the firm of Julius Meinl, with its 400 branches spread over Central Europe, receive their training. She has been thirty years with the firm, and has trained the present general manager.

#### Women Long Distance Telephone Operators.

Miss Florence Sullivan is the champion long-distance Telephonist of the United States. She handles the channel wire which carries the calls between America and Europe. She is relieved at her post by Jean Ficoratta. The average number of foreign calls is about sixty a day.

#### MEDICAL WOMEN AND WEIGHT-LIFTING BY WOMEN IN INDUSTRY.

From the *News-Letter*, issued by the Medical Women's Federation, we learn that the following resolution was recently passed unanimously:—

"That, in the opinion of the Council of the Medical Women's Federation, the limitation by legislation of the amount of weight to be lifted by women, as separate from men, is unwise as well as unscientific. The amount lifted depends not solely on sex but also on physique, general health and training: such limitation, if enforced, might do serious harm by further restricting the employments open to women."

#### WHY NO WOMEN MEMBERS?

Yet another Committee has been appointed by the Government! Lord Eustace Percy, the President of the Board of Education, stated in the House of Commons last week that a committee has been appointed "To inquire and report as to the Construction of School Buildings, with special references to (i) the use of new materials and methods of construction; and (ii) the reduction of cost. The members of this Committee are: Sir Frank Baines, F.R.I.B.A. (Chairman), Sir G. F. N. Clay, F.R.I.B.A., and Mr. G. Topham Forrest, F.R.I.B.A., with Mr. A. F. Birch-Jones, M.C., as Secretary. It is hoped that the results of the Committee's inquiries will be published in the Autumn. We protest against the exclusion of women from this Committee. There are women architects, and there are women builders, one of whom is well-known as a practical builder who has a genius for keeping down costs.

#### BEST WISHES TO MISS ELEANOR RATHBONE.

Miss Rathbone has accepted the invitation of a group of graduates of Liverpool, Manchester, and other Universities forming the combined Universities to be their prospective Independent Candidate at the next Election. Miss Rathbone is an M.A., a City Councillor of Liverpool, and a Justice of the Peace for Lancashire. As our readers know, Miss Rathbone is President of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, and an assessor to the League of Nations' Commission on the Traffic in Women and Children. We send our heartiest good wishes for Miss Rathbone's success.

#### BRITISH SWIMMING TEAM FOR OLYMPIA.

The British Swimming Team for the Olympic Games which left Liverpool Street at 9.30 a.m., Wednesday, for Amsterdam, includes the following women swimmers:—

100 Metre Free Stroke.—Miss J. Cooper, Miss J. McDowall, Miss V. Tanner.

Team Race.—Miss J. Cooper, Miss J. McDowall, Miss V. Tanner, Miss E. King, Miss S. Stuart, Miss E. M. Hamblen.

High Diving.—Miss B. White, Miss K. le Rossignol, Miss D. Grimes.

200 Metres Breast Stroke.—Miss D. Gibb, Miss E. M. Hamblen, Miss E. Hinton.

100 Metres Back Stroke.—Miss E. King, Miss J. Cooper, Miss P. Harding.

400 Metres Free Stroke.—Miss S. Stuart, Miss E. Mayne, Miss V. Tanner.

## WOMEN DEMAND REFORM OF POLICE SYSTEM.

Thursday evening, July 19th, a meeting was held at the Minerva Club to consider the Reports of the Tribunal appointed to inquire into the interrogation of Miss Savidge. From the Chair, MISS UNDERWOOD stated that the Women's Freedom League claimed the right to express an opinion on these Reports, because the League had been represented in the Law Courts throughout all the sittings of the Tribunal, Dr. Knight herself having attended all but two of them; and that we also claimed to comment on the police system, because many of our members had had direct personal experience of it in pre-suffrage days when we were agitating for the Vote, and because for many years our members had attended police courts where they had special opportunity of studying our police system.

MRS. PETHICK-LAWRENCE said that women suffragists had no quarrel with the police themselves, and that the police were the friends of the public was a tradition in this country founded on truth; but behind the police there had grown up a system which the police were called upon to administer, and which was dangerous to the liberty of the private citizen. In pre-suffrage days women had come up against that system, but it was not then their policy to challenge it—their object was to get the Vote, not to reform the police system; now things were different. There had recently been a phenomenal series of cases which had exposed those methods; the confidence of the public had been rudely shaken in our police system, and with all women's past experience in Courts and Cells they had a unique opportunity to bring about a radical change in this system. The evils of the police system were mostly seen in the police court itself. In the other Courts of Justice, in all of which the speaker had had to defend herself, ample justice was given to the defence—they were really Courts of Justice so far as their procedure was concerned; but the police court was not a Court of Justice, it was literally a Police Court, for registering the decrees of the police, and the name and the system behind it both needed to be changed. Arrest and conviction were one sequence in the police court, where the word of a policeman was so frequently just a professional lie. The Inquiry into what was known as the Savidge case had shown that our police system, under which the police authorities had usurped extraordinary powers, could become, and had become, a grave menace to individual liberty. The Director of Public Prosecutions told the police to get evidence from both sides, and Miss Savidge was subjected to several hours interrogation by two police officers, without having been warned that what she said could be used against her, without anyone in the room, except the two police officers, and

without her parents, her solicitors or anyone belonging to her knowing that she had been taken to Scotland Yard by the police. Even longer had been the interrogation of Mrs. Pace by the police also without witnesses. There had also been the interrogation of her children. The speaker said she had been collecting newspaper cuttings of cases in which the police had acted in extraordinarily arbitrary fashion to secure convictions, and some of these she read to the audience. The arbitrary power which the police court exercised in regard to our Solicitation laws must be taken away from it—the Solicitation laws themselves must be swept away. The defendant must have an equal chance with the accuser in putting forward his or her case; and for that reason we must have a Public Defender as well as a Public Prosecutor. Now that women had equal voting rights with men, they were in a strong position to demand that there should be equal justice for all in our police courts, and that there should be a thorough reorganisation of our police system.

DR. KNIGHT said that women's fight for freedom was not yet over and there were still many things they had to alter. They had wandered in and out of prison effecting some reforms as they went. In prison they had protested against the non-ventilation of their cells, which the authorities again and again declared could not be altered. The suffragists settled the matter by putting their boots through the panes of glass at the top, and the authorities soon afterwards found means to make the cell windows to open. To alter the police system it was necessary to change the people at the head of it. At present there was a Chief Commissioner, with four Assistant Commissioners. The Women's Freedom League asked that two of these Assistant Commissioners should be women, and that one of them should be Deputy Commissioner. A great many more women police were needed to whom the oath would not be merely a technical means of securing a conviction. The old police system must give place to a newer one in which there was a combination of women with men to work together and to secure justice for all.

An interesting discussion followed in which several of those present took part, including Mrs. Harvey James, Miss Alison Neilans, Miss Reeves and Mrs. Horton. Before the meeting closed the following resolution was passed unanimously: "That in the opinion of this meeting, there should be two women Assistant Commissioners of Police, one of whom should be the Deputy Commissioner; a great increase in the number of women police who should have equality of status and equal chances of promotion with the men police; a Public Defender as well as a Public Prosecutor; and that our present Solicitation laws should be swept away."

#### AMERICA'S WOMEN VOTERS.

The approaching American Presidential election is causing that familiar question "How will the women vote?" to be asked on the other side of the Atlantic. Women have taken a very minor part in the nominations; only 72 women were State delegates out of the 1,100 members of the Democratic National Convention at Houston, Texas, while at the Republican Convention in Kansas City, there were only 64 women out of 1,089 delegates.

But the importance of the woman's vote in a country which has adult suffrage cannot be ignored. The American women—many of whom are members of women's clubs—devote more time to politics and culture than the pre-occupied business men to whom they are married. The club-woman is an authority on what constitutes a true republican or true democrat.

In America, as elsewhere, there are women voters who put women's interests before party. The National Woman's Party—based on the principle of strict equality—recently called upon its members to oppose Governor Smith on account of the regulations restricting women's employment, embodied by him in the factory legislation of New York State.

#### BISLEY MARKSWOMEN.

Bisley has fallen in line with modern advancement, and for the first time in its history has had a competition solely devoted to markswomen. The new competition, known as the Amazons, was open only to women who have not already won a prize with the service or miniature rifle at a National Rifle Association meeting. Competitors included women from all parts of the British Empire.

Women are joining rifle clubs in increasing numbers, and are proving that they can hold their own with men. Miss M. Williams—a member of the Ibiş Rifle Club, which is run for the employees of the Prudential and has one woman member to every four men—recently defeated 70 other competitors in a London and Middlesex Counties Rifle Association contest. Miss B. Badcock, of the South London R.C., was only one point behind. Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son has a women's section of their rifle club; the Admiralty markswomen comprise a considerable number; and of the 1,700 clubs attached to the Society of Miniature Rifle Clubs, 130 have women's sections.

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### EDITORIAL.

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

### THE HOUSE OF COMMONS AND THE TRIBUNAL REPORTS.

Last Friday the Reports of the Tribunal in regard to the interrogation of Miss Savidge were discussed in the House of Commons upon the Police Vote of the Civil Service Estimates. MR. JOHNSTON, the Labour member for Dundee, who had first brought the fact of the Police interrogation of Miss Savidge at Scotland Yard to the notice of the House, moved to reduce the Vote by £100. He denounced the way in which Miss Savidge was taken to Scotland Yard, declaring that she was got there by a trick; her detention at Scotland Yard; her examination there by two police officers, lasting for four or five hours, without any warning in advance that any statement she made might be used against her and without a woman or any other witness in the room; and the method of taking her evidence;—"no shorthand writer, no dictaphone, not even the girl's statement taken down verbatim, but construed, with all the finer nuances of language." Mr. Johnston quoted extracts from Law papers which expressed much the same point of view as his own; and he made it clear that he believed it was the system which was wrong, and that he did not ask for the penalisation of individuals. He also reminded those present that the House of Commons, with all its faults, is still the last rampart of our Civil liberties.

MR. MORRIS (Lib., Cardigan), pointed out that both the Majority and the Minority Reports agree that the method by which Miss Savidge was taken to Scotland Yard was an unfortunate and an unjustifiable one. He thought the trouble arose through the Home Secretary sending the papers of the Hyde Park case to the Director of Public Prosecutions. He suggested that the Director of Public Prosecutions really misdirected himself, and arrived at the confused position indicated both in his instructions to the police and in his letters to Sir Leo Money and Messrs. Syrett, that he was inquiring into a crime which had been committed, whereas he was not instructed to do anything of the kind; he was to investigate whether the two police officers at Hyde Park had committed perjury. Mr. Morris described Sir Archibald Bodkin's letter to Messrs. Syrett as offensive in its terms.

SIR WILLIAM JOYNSON-HICKS, the Home Secretary, maintained that he could do no other than send the papers to the Director of Public Prosecutions, because where there is a serious possibility of a serious charge against the police, the Commissioner must not deal with it, but it must be dealt with by the ordinary Courts of Law. He said he had no option whatever but to accept, on matters of fact, the view of the Majority Report. With regard to the recommendations of the Minority and Majority Reports of the Tribunal, these will come before the new Royal Commission which is to be appointed. In the meantime, he was issuing provisional instructions for the protection of witnesses, and that where a statement has to be taken by male officers from any woman, and it appears that it may be necessary in doing so to put to her questions of an intimate character, that is only to be done in the presence of a policewoman or a matron, unless the person making the statement expressly requests that no woman shall be present.

MR. HAYES (Lab., Edge Hill) did not quarrel with the Majority Report, and supported much contained in

the Minority, but he did not agree with its censure of the police officers. He thought the 15 questions it contained very pertinent ones and that the answers were very necessary. His personal view was that Hyde Park should either be lit up or shut up. The police had tremendous difficulty and they had a right to know what the public demanded of them. When it is admitted on all sides that it is the system that is at fault, the police officer is entitled to say: "It is unfair to make me a victim of a system when it is my lot and duty to carry out my work under the very system complained of."

CAPT. O'CONNOR (U., Luton) did not approve of the proposed Royal Commission—"the persons who will be prepared to give evidence openly will, in most cases, be found to be cranks, either cranks or lunatics," and "the really serious matters on which complaint can be made will never be brought to light at all." He asked for a private Tribunal.

MR. HORE-BELISHA (Lib., Devonport) also thought very little public advantage would be served by further public inquiry into the matter. We wanted to get rid of the prosecuting mind, and the Home Secretary could do all that was required by executive orders.

MR. THURTLÉ (Lab., Shoreditch) believed there is wide-spread public disappointment with the nature of the Report because it is indeterminate and inconclusive. He said that if the Home Secretary was satisfied by the Majority Report, the public were not, and they will regard the exoneration of the Public Prosecutor and of the police officials concerned as a wholly unsatisfactory termination to the indefensible treatment of a poor defenceless girl.

LT.-COL. MOORE thought that Hyde Park was the proper place for young people to do their courting in. He would clear every plain-clothes policeman out of the park and lower the lights. He did not want the police to be turned into a force of peeping Toms and organised legalised footpads. If people see a uniformed policeman, they will stop their wrong doing—"the purpose is achieved and you prevent a crime taking place."

MR. MACDONALD (Lab., Aberavon) said that the Report raised the very fundamental consideration of what is the relation or what ought to be the relation between a British citizen and the British police; the methods of the Savidge inquiry were wrong, and we must be protected against a repetition of those methods. He declared that this was not an anti-police trial; it was an attempt to establish public liberty, and at the same time to restore public confidence in our police forces.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir Thomas Inskip) gave a great tribute of praise to the Director of Public Prosecutions. He "was allowed to say by the Director that if he had sat down with greater consideration to draft a letter appropriate to the occasion he has no doubt that there are words and sentences in it which would have been differently phrased," and he stated that a wrong interpretation had been given to the last sentence in the letter to Messrs. Syrett—it merely meant that he would have to look elsewhere for information, and it was not intended as a threat. He also said that the Director had a right to re-open the Sir Leo Money case as far as a prosecution for perjury was concerned.

In our view, the Attorney-General's views were entirely unsatisfactory; and we believe they will be so considered by all who hold dear the rights and liberties of the ordinary citizen; and after all those are the only people who have ever really mattered in this country.

It is to be regretted that the Vote had to be taken on party lines, and that Mr. Johnston's Motion was lost by 63 votes to 211. Of the women members present, Miss Margaret Bondfield, Miss Susan Lawrence, and Miss Ellen Wilkinson voted for Mr. Johnston's Motion, while the Countess of Iveagh voted against it. We also regret that no member pointed out that women as well as men should have been on this Tribunal, but we rely upon our friends in the House of Commons to ensure that women in adequate numbers are on whatever Commission or Committee the Government may appoint in the future to inquire into our Police system.

## IN PARLIAMENT.

### Civil Service (Women).

MR. BRIANT (Lib., Lambeth, N.) asked the Financial Secretary to the Treasury: (1) For what positions in the Civil Service women already serving are declared to be ineligible for promotion; (2) for what examinations in the Civil Service are women ineligible to sit; and what authority is responsible for decisions on this matter?

MR. A. M. SAMUEL: I will answer these questions together. As the hon. Member will see from what is stated below, there are certain classes of situations in the Civil Service to which women are not admitted. In certain Departments the work is divided into men's branches and women's branches, or separate avenues of promotion are provided for men and women. Apart from these arrangements, I am not aware of any barrier to the promotion of women Civil Servants, on merits, to higher posts in the branches or Departments in which they are employed. Regulations were made by the Civil Service Commissioners under the authority of the Order in Council of July 22nd, 1920, made under Section 1 (a) of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, 1919, whereby the following posts, involving service overseas, are reserved to men:—

All posts in the Diplomatic Service and in the Consular Service;

All posts in the Government Services of the Colonies and Protectorates, to which appointments are made in the United Kingdom, other than posts for which women may be specially recruited;

All posts in the Civil Services of His Majesty in India, to which appointments are made in the United Kingdom, other than posts for which women may be specially recruited;

All posts in the Commercial Diplomatic Service and the Trade Commissioners' Service, provided that this reservation is not applicable to the post of Chief Clerk in the respective offices of His Majesty's Trade Commissioners.

In addition, there are certain situations in the Civil Service designated for men, or in regard to which it has been found necessary to prescribe that women shall not be accepted as candidates, examples of which are as follows:—Postmen; Male Warders; Executive Officers in the Defence Departments; Assistant Preventive Officers in the Customs Waterguard Services; Officers of Customs and Excise; Cartographers in the Hydrographic Department of the Admiralty.

Under the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries: Veterinary Inspectors; Assistant Fishery Officers; Assistant Naturalists in the Fisheries Department; Live Stock Officers.

The regulations governing appointment to these situations are made by the Civil Service Commissioners, in consultation with the Department concerned, subject to approval by the Treasury.

### Aliens (British Wives).

COL. HOWARD-BURY (U., Chelmsford) asked the Home Secretary whether he is aware that an Englishwoman who marries an American living in this country loses her nationality, and is unable to obtain American citizenship unless she resides in her husband's country for twelve months; and whether, under such circumstances, he can arrange for the woman to retain her British nationality until she is qualified to obtain the nationality of another country? SIR WILLIAM JOYNSON-HICKS: Yes, sir; but any hardships in this connection are the result of changes in the United States law some six years ago. As regards the possibility of any amendment of the long-standing English law, that a British woman loses her British nationality by marrying an alien, I can only refer to the answer I gave on the 2nd instant. [This reply was: We must await the Report of the Committee of Experts mentioned by the Imperial Conference of 1926, and when the recommendations are available, they will have to be considered by a further Conference.]

COL. HOWARD-BURY: As it is only a case with regard to British women marrying Americans, and as they are unable to obtain passports and have no civil rights at all, could not the right hon. Gentleman, until they are qualified, allow them to retain their British citizenship? SIR W. JOYNSON-HICKS: It is a difficult question. I explained on the last occasion that I have no power. It would mean a new Act of Parliament dealing with the nationality laws of Great Britain, and it would create a difference between our laws and the laws of the rest of the Empire. We are anxious to keep the nationality laws the same throughout the Empire.

MR. PETHICK-LAWRENCE (Lab., Leicester, W.): Is it within the recollection of the right hon. Gentleman that this House, in its early days, passed a unanimous Resolution, asking the Government to take some steps in this direction, and, in view of that, cannot the Government do something definite? SIR W. JOYNSON-HICKS: The Government has done something definite. The matter was raised by them at the Imperial Conference two years ago. I myself was the Chairman of the Committee of that Conference, which dealt with the whole question, and I think it appears in the Report of the Conference that, in consequence of the objection of one of the Dominions, we were unable to arrive at a decision.

### Trade Boards (Inspectorate).

MISS BONDFIELD (Lab., Wallsend) asked the Minister of Labour what are the duties allocated to woman Deputy-Chief Inspector for Trade Boards, and senior woman Inspector for Insurance, together with the duties allocated to women acting as secretaries to Juvenile Advisory Committees or performing District Inspectoral work for the Trade Board Department, and the grade of officer employed upon the last-named duties? MR. BETTERTON (Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Labour): The post of Deputy-Chief Inspector under the Trade Boards Act is occupied at present by a woman officer. She is responsible under the Chief Inspector for the organisation and control of the inspectorate throughout Great Britain and for the consideration of reports submitted by Inspectors to the Department. Officers of the first, second, and third class of the Departmental Class of the Ministry of Labour, some of whom are women, are employed upon the local inspection of firms in Trade Board trades. The duties allocated to secretaries to Juvenile Advisory Committees, some of whom are women, involve, in addition to the usual secretarial duties, the executive functions of the Committees in giving information, advice, and assistance to boys and girls and their parents with respect to the choice of employment and other matters bearing thereon. The senior woman Inspector for the Employment and Insurance Department is responsible to the Chief Inspector for the inspection of the Women's and Juveniles' Departments of the local offices.

### Home Office (Appointments).

MR. PETHICK-LAWRENCE asked the Home Secretary what is the total number of vacancies for posts with minimum salaries of £300 and over, which have occurred since 1921, when the Civil Service was declared by Parliament to be equally open to men and women, which have been filled by a transfer from other Departments or by appointments under Clause 7; and how many of these vacancies have been filled by women? SIR W. JOYNSON-HICKS: Since January 1st, 1921, twenty-six vacancies for established posts in the Home Office, with minimum salaries of £300 or more, have been filled by transfer from other Departments or by appointments under Clause 7. In thirteen of the cases the officer was already serving in the Department, either in an established or unestablished capacity. Three of the vacancies were filled by the appointment of women.

## Maternal Mortality.

MR. VIANT (Lab., Willesden, W.) asked the Home Secretary whether he is prepared to order that an inquiry shall be held in all cases where death has resulted from puerperal causes? SIR W. JOYNSON-HICKS: I have no power to make such an order. But I understand that my right hon. Friend the Minister of Health is arranging, with the concurrence of the British Medical Association, for maternal deaths to be investigated for scientific and public health purposes by competent medical officers in each area, and that these investigations will be considered by the Committee on Maternal Mortality, which he has recently appointed.

## THE VICTORY GARDEN PARTY.

Nothing could have been more delightful than the Garden Party arranged last week, in glorious weather, by the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship in the grounds of Cliveden, the beautiful home of Lady Astor, our first woman to sit in Parliament. We met there representatives of all women's organisations as well as a great number of workers of the older Suffrage Society, and all were cordially welcomed by Miss Rathbone, J.P., C.C., its President. The guest of honour was Dame Millicent Fawcett, G.B.E., J.P., and very happy she seemed in this Victory celebration. Games and many attractions were arranged in the grounds, but to a good number of those present the cool of the river which they reached by shady, pleasant paths proved irresistible. After tea there were short speeches under trees. Mrs. Wintringham apologised for the unavoidable absence of Lady Astor who had hoped to be present, but as she had been called to Plymouth she asked Mrs. Wintringham to deputise for her, sending her very best wishes for the enjoyment of all. Miss Rathbone presiding over the meeting, voiced the feelings of all present when she declared how pleased they were to have Dame Millicent with them at this Victory celebration. Mrs. Oliver Strachey reminded them of some of the difficulties and differences experienced by workers in the suffrage cause before the War; other difficulties and other differences awaited them in the future, but in spite of this women would remember that their aim was the same. Dame Millicent Fawcett, who had a magnificent reception, declared that on looking back through sixty years, she had had an extremely happy and a very interesting time. She generously acknowledged the value of work done by all sections of the woman's movement in securing equal franchise, and she looked forward with confidence to the work for fuller equality in the future. Mrs. Corbett Ashby, President of the International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship, spoke of the experience British women had gained in their struggle for the Vote, which would be of inestimable assistance to them in politics generally and in securing real equality with men in the State. In countries where women had been granted political power without having to work and struggle for it, their progress towards real equality with men had been very slow and they had had to find out for themselves how to organise and how to work politically. After reading a list of donations sent that day for their Victory Celebrations, Miss Macadam, the Hon. Treasurer, made a stirring appeal for more funds for the Union which had a great deal of work on hand. Miss Macadam recognised that there were members of other Societies in the audience, and she urged them not to cease their support, but to increase it to the Societies to which they belonged.

In the early afternoon a pleasing little ceremony took place. Miss Burgoine, on behalf of the Women's Freedom League, presented Dame Millicent with a bouquet in our Colours "With congratulations and love from The Women's Freedom League; our best thanks for all her work for equal franchise; and our best wishes for her happiness." Dame Millicent thanked her most cordially.

## THE CLYDE COAST CAMPAIGN.

*Organizer and Speaker:* MISS LILIAN LENTON, *Assisted by* MRS. ASH and THE MISSES SCOTT. *Headquarters:* 18, BATTERY PLACE, ROTHESAY. We are awaiting with hopeful and pleasurable anticipation the coming of that heat-wave which friends in England, in their letters, tell us they are enjoying. Such glorious weather, they say, must be invaluable in our campaign. So it would be, if it came! We cannot remember a year when our activities were commenced under such chilly conditions. Mrs. Ash and Miss Scott went to Ettrick Bay to try their luck there with THE VOTE and pamphlets, hoping to find hundreds of visitors sitting on the sands, welcoming something to read, but an intensely cold and cutting wind blew, so that there were none.

Still, things might have been much worse. The weather, on which the success of our Campaign so greatly depends, has not been unduly unkind. Only heavy rain can really stop us, and of that there has been but little. When it did come, however, it was at a time particularly trying. On Tuesday evening we had a large crowd, so hoped for a good collection, but just as the boxes were about to go round, what had been, during the meeting, a mere drizzle resolved itself into a heavy downpour, and our audience ran away! This was particularly annoying, as the following two evenings we had to cancel our usual nightly meeting, as all available space on the pier head was occupied by the roundabouts, cocoanut shies, fortune tellers, auctioneers, and general personnel and impedimenta of the Rothesay Fair. We held no meeting, but our helpers wriggled through the mass of people on the fair ground with their collecting boxes and VOTES, successfully raking in the pennies for the funds.

Not only meteorologically, but in other ways, too, there is a different atmosphere on the Clyde this year—an atmosphere more peaceful than previously, but with a certain effect of strain, as of a *waiting* peace. There is, as always, opposition to our demands, but it is subdued, not aggressive, as though our opponents realize that women having attained equal franchise, are a real force to be reckoned with, and are waiting to see what the future will bring.

There is one elderly gentleman who comes nightly to our meetings whom it is difficult to acclaim as either friend or foe. From the questions he asks he would appear to be against us,—he arouses indignation in our many supporters, who say he is a "back number," and "of the old school"—but we cannot feel that he is really unfriendly for he helps us substantially. We want questions,—meetings tend to be dull without them,—but audiences are inclined to be shy. No one likes to ask the first. Here our friend comes in. He sets the ball rolling. His aggressively-worded queries give the speaker excellent opportunities, and are often so phrased as to elicit roars of laughter, which is all to the good, as the crowd is thereby increased. So, whether friend or foe, we welcome him.

All our helpers are young women,—a useful point, as it makes approach to other young women comparatively easy. Miss Scott finds this year that many girls, asked to buy a pamphlet or VOTE, respond enthusiastically, sometimes despite the obvious disapproval of their elders, showing that the political responsibility which is soon to be theirs, has brought with it, as we knew it would, political interest.

It has been a very full week for all of us; we have had eight open-air meetings; taken daily collections; sold 500 copies of the "Victory" issue of THE VOTE, price 2d., besides 250 of another issue at 1d., and several hundreds of pamphlets—chiefly "Josephine Butler," and Miss Eunice Murray's "Reply to the Bishop of Durham."

During this coming week, if the weather permits, we shall again hold meetings nightly on the pier head at Rothesay, and daily in Largs, Dunoon, Millport and Helensburgh.

We shall welcome personal assistance from friends in the neighbourhood, and, as our expenses are heavy, donations will be gratefully received from all who are kind enough to send them.

## Women's Freedom League.

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WHERE TO GO.  
WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

DARE TO BE FREE. LONDON AND SUBURBS.

Friday, September 28th, at 5 p.m.

Organisation Sub-Committee Meeting at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

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

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

## PROVINCES.

Clyde Coast Campaign.

Headquarters: Rothesay. Meeting every evening on the pierhead and daily in Largs, Dunoon, Millport and Helensburgh.

Saturday, July 28th.

Ashford Branch. Garden Meeting at Grammar School Woods. Hostess, Mrs. Lamprey.

## OTHER SOCIETIES.

July 27th to August 10th.

Women's International League. International Summer School in Westhill Training College, Selly Oak, near Birmingham.

September 4th to September 11th.

National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship. Summer School at St. Hilda's College, Oxford.

Wednesday, October 24th, at 1 for 1.15 p.m.

Equal Political Rights Campaign Committee. "Victory and -After Day." Luncheon at the Hotel Cecil. Chairman: The Viscountess Rhondda. Tickets 5/- each from Women's Freedom League Office.

Wednesday, October 24th, at 7.30 p.m.

Equal Political Rights Campaign Committee. "Victory and -After Day." Reception at Caxton Hall.

## SUMMER SCHOOL AT OXFORD.

The National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship are holding a Summer School at St. Hilda's College, Oxford, from September 4th to September 11th. There will be Courses of Lectures on The Problems of Democracy, The Woman's Movement, and International Problems. Another special feature will be Speakers' Practice Classes. Among the lecturers will be Mr. Norman Angel, Mrs. Blanco White, Miss Vera Brittain, Miss K. D. Courtney, Mrs. Hubback, Miss Marjorie Maxse, Mr. Pethick-Lawrence, M.P., and Miss Eleanor Rathbone, J.P. St. Hilda's College is beautifully situated on the river, with delightful gardens in which the classes could be held in hot weather, and where there are tennis courts. Lectures and Conferences will be held in the mornings and evenings, the afternoons being left free for boating and other recreations. Expeditions in Oxford and the surrounding country will be organised by a Recreation Committee, composed of students of the school.

## BRITISH COMMONWEALTH LEAGUE.

The Report of the fourth Annual Conference of the British Commonwealth League, an account of which appeared in THE VOTE last week, will be ready shortly. Price 1/6. Please book your copy.

## Membership Application Form.

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

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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I enclose £ \_\_\_\_\_ s. \_\_\_\_\_ d. as my first

Annual Subscription.

Minimum Annual Subscription, 1/-

## BRANCH NOTES.

## HASTINGS.

By the great kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Prelooker, this Branch held a delightful Garden Party at "Rossiana," Pine Avenue, last Saturday afternoon. The day was gloriously fine and about 70 guests assembled to hear an address by Miss F. A. Underwood on "The Life and Work of Josephine Butler." Councillor Mrs. Badcock, C.B.E. (the Deputy Mayor) was kind enough to spare the time to occupy the chair, and she was supported by Councillor Annie Lile, another very busy woman, and by Mr. Prelooker. After some questions and discussion, the meeting concluded with cordial votes of thanks to the chairman, the speaker, and the host and hostess. Miss Underwood reminded those present that Mr. Prelooker was one of our oldest members and staunchest friends. Then came a very enjoyable tea, the arrangements for which were in the charge of Miss A. K. Rance, the cakes being provided by the members of the Branch. After tea a first-class entertainment was arranged for the audience by Miss Miriam Prelooker. There were songs by Miss Prelooker and Mr. Archibald Winter, a very busy professional man who had given up the afternoon to help the Branch's effort, recitations by Miss Millicent Reed, a scene given in costume from *Twelfth Night*, and folk-song duets by Miss Prelooker and Miss Reed, and pianoforte solos by Miss Evelyn Lavender. Too great praise cannot be given to the carrying out of a most attractive programme, and the artistes were most cordially thanked.

Eleven new members were gained for the Branch; £2 10s. was collected for its funds; all copies of Mrs. Marion Holmes's "Life of Josephine Butler" were sold out and an order sent at once to Headquarters for a further supply. Copies of THE VOTE were also sold. It was good news to learn that Miss Miriam Prelooker has been persuaded to become Hon. Treasurer of our Hastings Branch.

## PORTSMOUTH.

Roses, roses, everywhere! So it seemed in Mrs. Whitehead's garden last Saturday afternoon. After some refreshing tea, Miss Fryer sang four delightful songs, and two of Miss Whitehead's pupils gave recitations. Mr. Andrewartha added to the gaiety of the party by singing, dancing and conducting the games and competitions. Everybody said it was the jolliest party we have had at Rowlands Castle, and Mrs. and Miss Whitehead were heartily thanked, the visitors singing for "She's a jolly good fellow." A good sum was collected for the Birthday fund. This will be the last meeting until September.

Gratefully acknowledged, Mrs. Basting 2/-, Mrs. Dober 2/- (Hon. Sec.) MRS. WHETTON, 89, Fending Grove, Southsea.

## Organisers and Hon. Secs. Please Note.

Will Organisers and Hon. Secs. kindly endeavour to send their notes to reach this office by *Monday Morning*?

## TO "THE VOTE" READERS.

Vols. No. 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13 and 14 of "The Vote" are urgently required by the Women's Freedom League. The gift of any or all of these volumes to Headquarters would be much appreciated.

## THE BIRTHDAY FUND.

Belated Contributions are still coming in and are met with a warm welcome. Please swell the stream and send yours this week.

144, High Holborn, W.C.1. E. KNIGHT (Hon. Treas.)

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## NOTICES.

**F**ELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Sunday, July 29th, 1928. 6.30. Rev. W. B. Selbie, D.D. "Religion and Reality."

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

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