

THE VOTE,
AUGUST 31, 1923.
ONE PENNY.

PAY OR PIN-MONEY?

THE VOTE

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 31, 1923

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

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WOMEN IN THE ASSEMBLY OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Dame Edith Lyttelton, J.P., widow of the Rt. Hon. Alfred Lyttelton, P.C., K.C., M.P., who has been appointed as British substitute delegate to the Fourth Assembly of the League of Nations, which opens at Geneva next week, succeeds Mrs. Coombe Tennant, J.P., who acted, it will be remembered, as substitute delegate to the Third Assembly last year, and was the first woman to be appointed from Great Britain.

Dame Lyttelton has special international qualifications for her important position in the World Parliament at Geneva. She knows America well, and visited the United States last year with Lady Astor. She is also well known in France, and has had close associations with Belgium, where, with Lady Lugard, she started the War Refugees' Committee, and received the D.B.E. for her services, and also the Belgian Order of Elizabeth. She is also greatly interested in work in our Overseas Dominions, and not only helped to found the Victoria League, but was its first hon. secretary.

Dame Lyttelton is, above all, a good suffragist, and is in close touch with women's organisations of various kinds, and with women's work generally. She is a member of the Central Committee of the Training and Employment of Women, and served on the Cave Committee which inquired into the action of Trade Boards. In 1917 she became

Deputy Director of the Woman's Branch of the Ministry of Agriculture, which raised, equipped, and trained the Women's Land Army.

As regards other activities, Dame Lyttelton is a J.P. for St. Margaret's Division, City of Westminster, a

member of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre Committee, and also a Governor of the "Old Vic," and of the Stratford Memorial Theatre.

Another British woman substitute delegate will attend the Fourth Assembly in the person of Miss Jessie Webb, a well-known educationist, who, as already mentioned, in a previous issue of THE VOTE, has been appointed by Australia, in succession to Mrs. Dale, of Sydney, who acted as Australian substitute delegate last year.

Other women substitute delegates attending at Geneva this year are the three Scandinavian women who have already done such good work in previous years, both in the Assembly and on its various Commissions: Miss Henni Forchhammer, of Denmark, who has sat in each Assembly since 1920, was the first woman to address the As-

sembly; Mme. Bugge-Wicksell, a noted Swedish lawyer, has proved herself invaluable on the Mandates and Legal Commissions; and Dr. Kristine Bonnevie is Norway's foremost woman scientist. There is also Mlle. Vacarésco, appointed by Roumania.



Hugh Cecil

[100 Victoria St., S.W.1.]

DAME EDITH LYTTELTON, J.P.

GREAT SISTERS OF GREAT MEN.

HENRIETTE RENAN.

The world of letters has recently been commemorating the Centenary of Ernest Renan, France's great philosopher and *littérateur*. His equally famous sister, however, has received very little public recognition. Few biographical details concerning Henriette Renan are known to the world. Of these, the greater part are contained in the Letters written during her lifetime to the brother whom she helped to become famous, and in a brief Memoir by Ernest Renan compiled after her death.

Henriette was born in 1811 in Tréguier, in Brittany. For several years after her birth, the family was in prosperous circumstances. Then a cloud settled upon the domestic horizon. M. Renan, a merchant captain on his own account, a true Breton, of a simple, dreamy, and unpractical temperament, became involved in disastrous money speculations, which gradually wasted the whole of the modest patrimony with which he had started out in life. In spite of the courageous efforts of Mme. Renan, who appears to have been by far the better horse, the family fell into very poor circumstances, and when Ernest Renan entered the world, his sister was already prematurely aged by the troubles which had overtaken her.

Ernest was only five when a fresh trouble befell the Renan family. M. Renan's ship returned without him, and it was not until a month later that his dead body was found, under circumstances which pointed to suicide, washed up at some distance upon the seashore. Of all his wasted patrimony nothing now remained to his wife and children but considerable debts.

The death of M. Renan cruelly shattered his daughter's personal plans. The peace of the cloister, which she had been meditating, receded far into the distance, and, indeed, was never so much as contemplated by Mlle. Renan again. There was a dark stain upon the family honour. Even if it meant the exertions of a lifetime, her father's creditors must be appeased. And added to this responsibility was now the charge of little Ernest's future. At this critical moment she received an offer of marriage. It was a terrible temptation. If she accepted it, wealth and standing would be hers, and the whole course of her life different. But her suitor had intimated that he could not undertake to mitigate the family difficulties, and the debts and Ernest's future would alike have been shelved. Henriette's decision was characteristic. She refused a life of ease and plenty and turned back to her family.

For the next few years she kept a little school at Lannion, near Tréguier, and manfully struggled to make it a success. When it failed, owing to the non-payments of the pupils, she was forced to look further afield for the means of subsistence. Her education easily obtained for her a situation as governess in a fashionable ladies' school in Paris, and, tearing herself away from her mother and the beloved little Ernest, she made this painful venture. Her sufferings were intense. The pangs of true Breton homesickness constantly assailed her. The frivolous boarding-school Misses made game of her homely features and awkward manners, and her easy-going colleagues despised the conscientious little provincial, whose strict adherence to duty put their own actions to shame.

The little brother, whose welfare Henriette carried so constantly at her heart, was meanwhile growing up at Lannion into a remarkable schoolboy. His companions nicknamed him "Mademoiselle," on account of his delicate appearance and absorption in study, but they none the less secretly envied him his undoubted talents. In Ernest's fifteenth year he carried off the whole of the school prizes, and the result was that he was offered a bursary at the Seminary of St. Nicholas du Chardonnet, at Paris, in order to prepare for the priesthood. His arrival in Paris was of absorbing interest to Henriette. For the next two years she went constantly to see him at the Seminary, consoling him in his homesickness, mending his linen, and generously providing him with clothes and pocket-money out of her scanty savings.

Then came an interruption. Henriette received an offer to go to Poland as governess in a distinguished family. The terms were too liberal to refuse, for, although her father's debts were gradually clearing, owing to her strenuous economy, sufficient creditors remained to necessitate still further effort.

At first, as usual, she suffered horribly, but persevered nobly in this fresh sacrifice of love, and remained for ten years in exile. She became deservedly loved and trusted both by her pupils and their parents. She was happy in the friendship of books, and had opportunities besides of visiting Dresden, Florence, Rome, and Venice, and of meeting distinguished people.

Ernest wrote constantly of his work and plans. Occasionally he laid bare to his beloved confidante certain doubts as to his fitness for the priestly vocation. As the time drew near for him to enter upon his novitiate, these doubts increased.

Henriette met the dilemma with her usual forethought. Ernest must break the news to his mother that he could not enter the priesthood, and in the meantime he should have the choice of a year or two of freedom at Henriette's own cost.

In 1850, Henriette Renan completed the task she had set herself more than twenty years previously. Not only were her father's creditors appeased, and the dark stain lifted from the family honour, Mme. Renan was provided for, and Ernest was achieving rapid distinction as the foremost French writer of the day. It was entirely due to Henriette's energies that these happier circumstances had been realised.

The next six years were probably the happiest of Henriette's life. She kept house with the exquisite thrift of a true Frenchwoman, shared her brother's studies, copied his MSS., and corrected his proofs. Her own fine literary taste made her an invaluable ally in the labours of composition, and her gentle influence helped to soften the tendency to satire and flippancy upon serious subjects which the writings of Ernest Renan so often betray.

Probably these halcyon days in Paris might have gone on indefinitely had not Henriette's exacting conscience impelled her to instil thoughts of marriage into Ernest's imagination. Possibly the various suggestions she put forward from time to time were not intended to be taken seriously. Ernest, however, read them otherwise. One day he came home to tell Henriette of his betrothal to Mlle. Cornélie, the niece of the famous Dutch artist, Ary Scheffer, naively surmising that the announcement would add to his sister's happiness, since he had carried out her suggestions. Henriette's outburst of wounded affection was a revelation. Ernest immediately declared his intention of breaking off the engagement, but before the evening the unselfishness of a lifetime had conquered personal predilection.

In 1860, the French troops were about to occupy Lebanon, as in 1849 they had occupied Rome. The Emperor Napoleon offered Renan a mission in search of Phœnician antiquities, which, though not very largely endowed, Henriette advised him to accept, and pledged herself to accompany him.

The early summer months were spent in Galilee and Jerusalem, but the autumn found them at Amschit, where the *Vie de Jésus* was already in preparation, Henriette collaborating with her brother or acting as amanuensis.

In September, Renan triumphantly announced to his friend Berthelot, "In eight days it will be finished," but before the congratulations of his friend could reach the author came the shock of Henriette's death. Mlle. Renan had been seized with fever some days previously, and her brother had not realised the weakened state of her health. Before the doctor from Beyrouth could arrive, she had passed from earth with a last word to her brother as to the disposal of her will, in which she left him all her money.

WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Woman Teacher and Novelist.

Kate Douglas Wiggin, the American author and philanthropist, and creator of "Penelope," who died last week, began life as a charity worker, having organised the first free kindergartens for poor children on the Pacific coast of the United States. Over 60 of these schools became established by her efforts. Mrs. Wiggin's real interests were with children, for whom most of her scores of books were written.

"Women Publishers, Ltd."

A publishing company, financed, managed, and staffed by women, under the management of Miss Evelyn Gates is about to be registered in London. Miss Gates, who is a graduate of Newnham, where she took a degree in history, has learned her business methods at Selfridge's, and has also done a good deal of lecturing and public speaking. The first of the new firm's publications in the autumn will be a *Woman's Year Book* on all subjects of interest to women.

Working Girls' Rest Cure.

The municipality of Paris is considering a scheme for the purchase of a large property at Hyères, to be turned into a home of rest for Paris working girls. M. Godin, a member of the Municipal Council, who is the chief organiser of the scheme, has already enlisted the support of many of the big business houses and dressmaking establishments. The girls will pay a small sum towards their keep, the difference being made up by subsidies from the Municipal Council, supplemented by gifts from employers.

Centenarian Woman Voter.

Mrs. Garrett, of Oak Grove, Anerley, who died last week soon after celebrating her 106th birthday, was married in the year of Queen Victoria's Coronation, and witnessed the Coronation Procession. About three years ago she recorded her vote at the local Council election, her reason for doing so being that she was not in favour of the local housing scheme.

Woman Master Mariner.

Mrs. Jennie Crocker, of Cliftondale, Massachusetts, has applied for a master mariner's licence, to command any sailing vessel on any waters. Mrs. Crocker sailed with her late husband for twenty years, at times navigating the schooner entirely alone.

Woman Agricultural Expert.

Dr. Louise Stanley, of Nashville, Tennessee, has recently been selected by Secretary Wallace to take charge of the newly established Bureau of Home Economics of the Department of Agriculture. Dr. Stanley is at present Dean of Home Economics at the University of Missouri.

International Summer School.

Delegates from twenty different countries are attending the annual Summer School of the International Women's League for Peace and Freedom, which is being held at Podebrady, near Prague, from August 16th to 29th.

A Woman's City.

The city of Des Moines, Iowa, boasts a woman's Chamber of Commerce with over 300 members, and a Rotary Club for women with a hundred members, each representing some special profession or business, whilst a woman is at the head of the city's financial department, which, for the first time during the last 15 years, has kept within its means.

Woman Chemist Successful.

At the recent examination held by the Society of Apothecaries, London, Miss M. Summers was successful in qualifying for the assistants' certificate in dispensing, etc., at her first attempt. Miss Summers served her apprenticeship with her father, Mr. H. T. Summers, chemist, and for the last twelve months has been a student at the College of Pharmacy.

A Large Family.

Mrs. Leonard Newman, whose husband has a caterpillar and butterfly "farm" at Bexley, assists her husband in the work. She recently brought up a family of 800 infants, the young of the "Common White" butterfly, which she hatched out of 1,000 eggs! At the farm some 30,000 caterpillars are fed in a year, and of these some 5,000 to 6,000 are sold.

Woman Sheepdog Breeder.

Mrs. Mianie Charter, of Furze House, Brentwood, whose recent death is reported, was a noted breeder of old English sheepdogs, and the winner of many championships. Mrs. Charter was also a judge at many shows in England and abroad.

Mountaineering Records.

Miss Lorimer, head of the girls' college at Nelson, New Zealand, has made an ascent of the Matterhorn in five hours, in the same record time as was recently done by Professor James Strahn, of Londonderry.

Votes for Turkish Women.

In the next Turkish elections all Turkish women will have the vote. This is one of the constitutional changes agreed upon by the People's party, which now almost commands unanimity in the new Assembly.

Queen of Holland's Jubilee.

The Queen of Holland, who celebrates the Silver Jubilee of her reign to-day (Friday), is not only one of the longest reigning present-day monarchs, but is the only woman in the world now ruling in her own right, a constitutional sovereign of an independent people.

WOMEN AT THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

A large number of women are taking part in the proceedings of the British Association at Liverpool next month, either as lecturers or demonstrators. Since Miss Ethel Sargent presided over the botanical section ten years ago, it has been customary for one woman to hold office of the kind in the Association, and this year's sectional President is Dr. Gertrude Elles, who will preside over the geology section.

Some twenty other women are taking part as speakers, invading no fewer than nine scientific sections, including physics, chemistry, zoology, geography, anthropology, physiology, and botany. Miss E. R. Saunders, who became a member of the Council nine years ago, and Mrs. Scoresby Routledge are important speakers, and some highly technical papers are being given by Miss Usherwood, Miss M. Campin, Miss E. M. Rees, Dr. Marie Lebour, Miss E. S. Semmens, and Miss M. S. G. Breeze. In the physiology section, Miss M. S. Macdonald will speak on "The Cost of Walking," and Miss I. Burnett will describe "An Experimental Investigation of Repetitive Work." Miss E. Fox will speak on "Mental Deficiency," Miss B. S. Hosgood on "Post-War Emigration from the British Isles," Miss W. Spielman on "Vocational Tests for Dressmakers' Apprentices," and Miss A. G. Ikin on "An Inquiry into the Qualities Desirable in a Foreman."

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THE VOTE.

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 31st, 1923.

NOTICE.—Letters should be addressed as follows:—
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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.

PAY OR PIN-MONEY?

It has frequently been argued by employers and women's male competitors that women do not need as much money as men; that they frequently live at home, and have not the family cares that men have; that, in fact, all that they need is "pin money." Women teachers in this country, by their carefully prepared statistics, showing that a very large number of the women members of their own profession have relatives dependent on their earnings, have done a good deal to knock the bottom out of this argument; and statistics taken of women in various industries have had a similar result. Now the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labour at Washington has issued a report on "The Share of Wage-Earning Women in Family Support." This report states: "In general, women are wage-earners not only for their own support but to meet a very definite responsibility as sharers in the support of others, or the maintenance of a higher standard of living in the families." It further points out that among those of low earning capacity more women than men give their entire pay to family support; that unmarried women contribute more to family budgets than unmarried men; that on the whole women are more generous contributors to the family purse than are men; and that the working woman to-day is not only self-supporting but a prop and a stay to others. In countless ways, in professions and in industries, women are doing men's work, very often doing it better than men, and for this work it is only just that they should receive the same pay as would be given to men. Men workers of all grades should in their own interests support equal pay for equal work, irrespective of the sex of the worker. To allow employers to exploit women for cheap labour can only mean unfair competition against men workers. Even if women workers had an income or a home, men in their own interests should see that those women should not consequently receive less pay for similar work than their male fellow-workers. Men in professions not infrequently, and men in industries occasionally, have perhaps a little property, shares in paying concerns, or other private means, but these matters are not taken into consideration, or inquired into, when they are given employment. Members of Parliament often earn big incomes as lawyers or as business men, but that does not prevent them from receiving another £400 a year when they enter the House of Commons. Since no objection is raised to men acquiring money from more than one source, why should any such objection be raised in the case of women? The only practicable way of rewarding the worker, whether man or woman, the only defensible principle on which to calculate the award, is to see that it is based simply and solely on the value of the work done. To argue that a woman should be content with less pay than a man for similar work is to suggest that she is an amateur, an inferior, or a parasite, a position which no self-respecting woman can tolerate. The sex of the worker should no more come into the calculations for settling the pay for any piece of work than the colour of the eyes or of the hair of the worker.

CHOOSING A HOME.

By the law of England and of most of the States of America, the husband possesses the right to select the family domicile without the consent of the wife. The National Woman's Party in Pennsylvania has succeeded in altering the law in this respect in that particular State. Until recently in Pennsylvania, whatever legal domicile the husband chose became automatically the domicile of the wife for voting purposes, for taxation, for a place from which to sue and be sued, for the distribution of personal estate, and for all other legal purposes. Not long ago, in a case which came before the Court, it was stated that "the right of a husband to change his residence, and the obligation of the wife to follow him, is undoubted." Of a husband's change of his abode, another Court said: "This he may lawfully do, consulting merely his business, his comfort, or his convenience; and it therefore generally becomes the marital duty of the wife to accompany him." A woman who had been living with her mother for over a year brought a suit in 1921 for divorce in Philadelphia against her husband, who was living in St. Louis. The Pennsylvania Court refused to hear her suit, on the ground that her legal residence was not in Pennsylvania but in St. Louis, since that was the residence of her husband; and that her legal residence was necessarily at whatever place he chose to make his legal residence. Under the same law, a woman could be deprived of her right to vote at the place where she was living, and where her interests actually were, if her husband decided to have his voting-domicile at another address, which might be in another State. When a particular residence was a necessary qualification for the election or appointment of any officer, a married woman holding such office might forfeit it, if her husband decided to remove his domicile to some other place. The National Woman's Party in Pennsylvania, however, through Senators Stites and MacDade, secured the introduction into the Senate of the Married Woman's Domicile Bill. This Bill has quite recently passed into law, and it gives the married woman in the State of Pennsylvania the right to say where her legal domicile is, just as a man or any unmarried woman now does.

WOMEN'S PLACE IN THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

In spite of the pressure brought to bear by various women's societies at the time the Peace Treaty was drafted in Paris, and the subsequent inclusion of Article 7 in the Covenant, which states that "all positions under or in connection with the League, including the Secretariat, shall be open equally to men and women," the movement towards sex-equality in the League of Nations is a comparatively slow one. No woman has as yet been elected as full delegate to the Assembly, and only six countries out of the 53 nations affiliated to the League have appointed women to the Assembly at all. Appointments of women to Commissions arising out of the deliberations of the Assembly, however, have been rather more liberal, and about a dozen women of varying nationalities are now serving on these. In the International Labour Office, matters are a little more elastic where women are concerned. One of the provisos, in Art. 389 of the Labour Section of the Peace Treaty, says that, when any industrial matter specially affects women and children, "one at least of the advisers should be a woman," and this recommendation has been fairly faithfully observed on the whole. Over twenty women attended the first two Conferences, in 1919 and 1920, though these numbers have dropped again lately. The delegates to this year's Conference in October are not yet announced, but, as we understand the chief subject of this year's discussion will be that of factory inspection, which intimately affects women, we profoundly hope that the number of women delegates will be increased in proportion, and that Great Britain will not be behindhand in the matter.

WOMEN & POLITICAL PARTIES.

Mrs. Anna Bugge-Wicksell, Sweden's foremost woman lawyer, has contributed an interesting article on the above subject to this month's *Jus Suffragi*. She notes that, in most of the newly enfranchised countries, plans, or even a definite movement, have been made to form a special woman's party, a natural sequence of the fight for the vote, which caused the women of most countries to gather into large, non-partisan organisations, and work side by side, regardless of party differences. Women realised also, at that time, that it was not only the abolition of sex discriminations and the aim of an equal status with men that they were fighting for, but also the fact that women as a whole looked at various social questions and social evils from a different point of view to the way men did, and that the woman's point of view invariably broke through party lines. In Sweden, according to Madame Wicksell, the world-famous Feminist, Ellen Key, is a keen advocate for the forming of a non-partisan party, consisting mainly, but not exclusively, of women.

Madame Wicksell herself, however, is not in favour of a special woman's party. She does not consider that women *per se* have a sufficient number of common political demands to warrant their working on their own, and that such questions as they really have in common are better served by women who already work within the political parties. Women's hope of getting a much stronger representation in Parliament and a deciding influence on all questions by keeping themselves together instead of mingling with men is an illusion, in Madame Wicksell's opinion.

A woman's party, she argues, like any other party must have a definite programme to stand for, and should this platform consist of purely feminist questions, she thinks it will tempt the men to leave women to struggle alone with their newly acquired voting power. Moreover, in Northern Europe at least, so many rights and privileges have already been conceded, that the main business in life, at least in the Scandinavian Parliaments, is to convert into a living reality what has already been formally conceded. Madame Wicksell believes that the real equality of status between the sexes can never be won by political means, but can only be demonstrated by every woman doing good and reliable work for generations in the appointments they have succeeded in winning.

On the other hand, however, Madame Wicksell thinks women could profitably unite over certain moral questions and moral problems of a fundamental nature, though these also frequently fall outside politics and legal measures. Parties, she holds, are indispensable, because they have not been formed by chance or by accident, but have come to life because they were necessary, and so women will find them as necessary and inevitable as men have done.

Madame Wicksell has no wish to see "women flooding into Parliament in masses," as she expresses it. She wants good, capable, intelligent women there, but considers a great number is not necessary. "One really well-trained and experienced woman is worth a dozen nonentities."

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE: SECOND ANNUAL REPORT.

The Consultative Committee of Women's Organisations (of which the Women's Freedom League is a constituent society) has recently issued its Second Annual Report. This Committee was founded in the spring of 1921, and over sixty women's organisations now belong to it. Viscountess Astor, M.P., is its Chairman and President; Mrs. Wintringham, M.P., Vice-President; Lady Galway, Vice-Chairman; and Lady Greenwood, D.B.E., Hon. Treasurer. The objects of the Consultative Committee are: (1) to collect and communicate information of mutual interest respecting the activities of the constituent societies, or the political situation generally; (2) to consult together on questions of policy and methods of action; (3) to

ENGLISH FOLK SONG AND DANCE.

The English Folk Dance Society, which has recently completed the twelfth year of its existence, now has branches in 36 provincial towns in England, one in Edinburgh, and two in America—at New York and Boston. The London membership is over 700, with several hundred members and associates in Scotland and the Provinces, and the membership in America is between 200 and 300. An interesting development is the institution of junior branches. For the third year in succession, a Festival of Folk Song and Dance has been held at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith. There seems little doubt that this Festival Week has now established itself as an outstanding event in the Society's work each year.

The trustees of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust have offered to the Society a grant of £500 a year for three years, this sum to be devoted to the development of the Society's work in villages. This offer the Committee have gratefully accepted. The educational value of folk-dancing, folk-songs, and singing games is being increasingly recognised. The President of the Board of Education presided at the Christmas Vacation School, held in London, and at a later date, in the House of Commons, referred to the "enormous debt of gratitude the Board of Education owed to Mr. Cecil Sharp," the Society's Director. Cambridge University has recently conferred an honorary musical degree upon Mr. Sharp. A scheme for reorganising the provincial branches on a county basis is now under the Society's consideration.

During the Festival Week at Hammersmith, this year, a special performance of folk-singing and children's games was given by members of the English Folk Dance Society to delegates to the Imperial Education Conference. The Director of Education for Ontario, in replying on behalf of the delegates, expressed their delight with the entertainment, and his conviction that what he had seen that afternoon could be applied in the Dominions Overseas, not only with valuable educational results, but in such a way as to strengthen and enrich their traditional inheritance.

There is no doubt that a movement like this Society, over which Mr. Cecil Sharpe has presided so long, which has brought traditional English dances and songs of this sort into our schools, has done invaluable work. The problem of training the aesthetic and emotional side of children, who mostly disappear entirely from the schools at the age of 14, is bound to be a difficult one. In the past, English people have relied for such training almost entirely upon literature. But there is not really very much literature of high value which can come home to the hearts and minds of such young children. Folk songs and dances, with their immediate appeal to the unsophisticated, their rich traditional content, and their undoubted artistic value, appear to afford at any rate a happy complement, if not a substitute, for the more ambitious and artificial teaching of literature to young children, and are of the more value on account of their happy association of music with rhythmic movement.

recommend action to its constituent bodies to be carried out by them jointly or severally.

During the last year the Consultative Committee has held seven meetings, at which most of the measures before Parliament affecting women and children were discussed. The following Bills were considered and supported by the Committee:—Universities of Oxford and Cambridge Bill, Intoxicating Liquors (Sale to Persons under 18) Bill, Legitimacy Bill, Bastardy Bill, Women's Enfranchisement Bill, Guardianship, Maintenance, and Custody of Infants Bill, Summary Jurisdiction Separation and Maintenance Bill, Performing Animals Bill, Matrimonial Causes Bill, and the Finance Bill (Rebate on Sugar).

Among the subjects which came under discussion by the Committee were Education, Housing, the League of Nations, Unemployment of Women, Juvenile Occupation Centres, Equal Status for Women, Invasion of the Ruhr, Closing Hours for Public-houses, Women's Prisons, Married Women in the Public Services, Salary of different grades in the Civil Service, Freedom of the City for Women, Solicitation Laws, Lunacy Legislation and Administration, Women in the Church, Films in Elementary Schools, and Women in Local Government. At the April meeting, Miss Lilian Barker, C.B.E., who had just been appointed Governor of Aylesbury, gave a most interesting address on Borstal Institutions.

The Committee has issued a valuable little pamphlet on Housing, and keeps in close touch with the Women's Joint Congressional Committee, New York, which is the American parallel of the Consultative Committee, the two Committees having arranged for an exchange of Minutes.

When Parliament is sitting, the Consultative Committee meets once a month, and at other times when considered necessary by the officers, or at the request of ten affiliated Societies. The value of the opportunity of consultation and joint action on the part of all responsible women's organisations cannot well be estimated. It is certain that this Consultative Committee could become an immense driving force in the realm of politics, and we cordially congratulate its officers on the record of the Committee's activities, as described in its Second Annual Report.

MRS. HERTHA AYRTON.

All suffragists will regret the announcement of the death, last Sunday morning, at North Lancing, Sussex, of Mrs. Hertha Ayrton, who was an ardent supporter of the woman's cause during its militant stage. Mrs. Ayrton was a distinguished woman scientist, and the nearest English parallel to Madame Curie. She assisted her husband, Professor Ayrton, in his work on the physics of the electric arc, and herself became a recognised authority on the phenomena it presents, and contributed papers to the British Association, Royal Society, Institution of Electrical Engineers, and other scientific bodies. She also wrote many works on electrical subjects, and was the only woman member of the Institute of Electrical Engineers. She was nominated, and would probably have been elected, a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1902, if the Council of that body had not decided, on legal advice, that they had no power to elect a woman. She received, however, in 1906, the Hughes Medal of the Royal Society for her investigations on the electric arc and phenomena of sand-ripples. In the spring of 1915 she set to work and invented a fan for dissipating and countering poison-gas attacks. This received the name of the "flapper-fan," and over 100,000 of them were eventually and successfully used at the front during the war. She had serious reason to complain of official apathy towards scientific work, of delay in supplying the device to the troops in the field after it had been accepted, and of failure to secure proper use of the fans when delivered. Mrs. Ayrton claimed that if the fan had been used when it was offered in 1915, instead of waiting till April, 1916, very many lives would have been saved.

We send our sincere condolences to her daughter, Mrs. Ayrton Gould, and to her step-daughter, Mrs. Zangwill.

MARY MACARTHUR MEMORIAL FUND.

The final report of the Committee of this fund has been published. The total sum contributed is £2,347, of which £500 has been used for the endowment of a bed in the Mary MacArthur Holiday Home for Working Women at High Ongar, Essex. The remainder has been added to the Emma Paterson and Lady Dilke Memorial Funds, to provide scholarships for women who wish to serve the Trade Union and Labour movement.

THE AUSTRIAN TYROL.

HOLIDAY IMPRESSIONS.

To the inexperienced traveller a wandering holiday in the Tyrol is an unforgettable event. A wonderful country, with ever-changing scenery producing thrill after thrill, and a feeling that before long the dream will end—for a dream it must surely be.

However far I may travel in the future, it will be impossible to forget the feelings of indescribable wonder and delight, as one after one the beauties of the Tyrol, the joyous valleys, the stately, rugged mountains and glaciers, gradually became a part of everyday life.

As the train crawled up the heights to Landeck, valley after valley stretched away below us. Wonderfully green fields, bordered by dark pine woods, rushing glacial torrents wandering away into the distance, and, above, a sky of almost unbelievable blue. Surely a fairy picture which will instantly fade!

The first night among the mountains was spent at Landeck, close to regions of snow and ice, and next day the journey continued along the Inn Thal to Otzthal, and thence to Umhausen and Solden. From Solden, Obergurgl, the highest village in the Tyrol, was within walking distance. Here we first came into contact with the Tyrolean peasants, in their quaint and picturesque costumes—brightly coloured frocks and aprons, and, in contrast, the heavy, black clothes handed down from one generation to another, and worn only when attending religious services.

The Tyrolese are a fine-looking race, and distinctly friendly and charming in manner. The smallest children had some greeting, even whilst gazing with amazement at the large party of Englishwomen who had invaded their peaceful valleys.

Down in the valleys were numerous small villages, with their low, picturesque chalets, and brightly coloured church steeples rising above them. As we climbed upward, the villages gradually became smaller and farther apart, the fields less cultivated, although still covered with flowers of every colour. On, past all vegetation, to the almost bare rocks; and then, again, a brilliant spectacle of snow and ice.

Returning to Otzthal, we passed on to Innsbruck, the capital of the Tyrol, nestling at the foot of a high range of mountains.

On to Jenbach, and thence, by cog-wheel railway, we travelled upwards until, high among the peaks, appeared the Achensee, the largest and most beautiful of the lakes in the Tyrol. So the wonderful tour continued up and down the valleys. Up the Ziller valley to Maierhofen, surrounded by wooded slopes, narrow gorges, and sparkling, foaming waterfalls of the Zillergrund, and thence to Zell-am-See. Here we experienced the joys and terrors of a long midnight climb, through eerie, shadowy pine woods, to the summit of Schmittenhöhe, to see the sun rise over the mountain ranges; and, as the day became clearer, there appeared one of the most romantic scenes imaginable. Range after range, peak after peak appeared, one above the other, some bare and rugged, some snow-clad terminating in glaciers, one and all majestic and almost terrifying in their magnitude, yet entrancing in the glorious reflection of the rising sun.

The view from Schmittenhöhe, and a night spent at Moserboden surrounded by numerous glaciers, were two splendid memories. Turning south to Cortina, and driving along the New Dolomite Road from Cortina to Balzano, the scene is totally different. Nothing but a glimpse of the Dolomites themselves can convey anything even remotely resembling the scenes we encountered—a truly wonderful picture, yet marred with the tragedy of recent warfare. Two days at Riva, on the Lago di Garda, and close to the lemon and olive groves, brought to an end a fascinating holiday in an enchanting land.

LILIAN PIEROTTI.

Women's Freedom League.

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

Hon. Treasurer—Dr. E. KNIGHT.

Hon. Organising Secretary—

Mrs. SCHOFIELD COATES, J.P.

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Literature Department—Hon. Head: Mrs. PIEROTTI.

General Secretary—Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD.

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



Friday, September 21st, at 5 p.m. Organisation Sub-Committee, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Friday, September 21st, at 8 p.m. Rally and Re-Union at Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. "Holiday Sketches and Reminiscences." Chairman: Dr. Lewin. Songs. Further particulars later. Dinner can be obtained at the Club beforehand, 2/6. Coffee and biscuits during the evening, 3d. Collection for the funds of the League.

Saturday, September 22nd, at 10 a.m. National Executive Committee Meeting, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Monday, September 24th, at 3 p.m. "Fair" Sub-Committee, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Monday, October 1st, at 3 p.m. Hampstead Branch Meeting, at 16, Denning Road, N.W.3. To discuss work for Autumn and Winter work.

Thursday, October 18th, at 3.30 p.m. "At Home," at Minerva Club, Brunswick Square (corner of Coram and Hunter Streets). Tea 3.30. Mrs. Juson Kerr will speak on the "Tea and Sugar Boycott Scheme," at 4 p.m.

Monday, October 29th, at 7 p.m. Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C. Speaker: Mrs. Northcroft. Subject: "Women at Work in the League of Nations."

Friday and Saturday, November 23rd and 24th, Central Hall, Westminster, Green, White and Gold Fair. To be opened on Friday, at 3.30, by The Lady Amherst of Hackney, and on Saturday, at 3.30, by Miss Lilian Barker.

BRANCH NOTE.

GLASGOW.

The Committee of the Glasgow branch of the Women's Freedom League, at its meeting on August 24th, passed the following Resolution:—"That we accord our heartiest thanks to Miss Clark and Miss Grant for their splendid work during the Clyde Campaign, which we are sure has given a great impetus to our work in Scotland."

EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE AT ILKLEY.

The Conference just concluded at Ilkley, Yorkshire, organised by the Union for the Realisation of Spiritual Values, was marked by a series of lectures by Dr. Rudolf Steiner, the Director of the now well-known Waldorf School at Stuttgart. In these lectures Dr. Steiner has shown how the education of the young should depend upon a true understanding of the whole child nature, and how development takes place in the soul and spirit and body of a child. To-day we divide training of the young into two unnaturally distinct parts: intellectual training, and the training of the body by physical exercises. As an example of how the working of the spirit can be seen in outward manifestation, Dr. Steiner explained how the development of thinking is bound up with the bodily growth until about the seventh year, and how feeling is physically connected with the organism till the age of fourteen or fifteen, when it frees itself and seeks expression in a realm of its own.

WOMEN ANGLERS.

This week's *Sunday Times* enumerates quite a lengthy list of noted women anglers, and gives the foremost place to the Princess Royal, sister of the King, and widow of the late Duke of Fife, who for many years has given her allegiance to the sport. Amongst the women anglers of the nobility are included the Duchess of Bedford, who, at 57, is still one of the most active all-round sportswomen of the present day, the Duchess of Northumberland, the Duchess of Portland, Lady Katherine Hamilton, and Lady Decies. Other keen women anglers are certain women writers, notably Mrs. Edward Kennard, Miss Dorothea Conyers, Roma White, and Mrs. Stobart Greenhalgh.

SCHOOL FOR WOMEN SPEAKERS.

The National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship broke new ground last summer, when it held a school for women magistrates. This year another type of school will be held—one mainly intended for speakers, leaders of study circles, and officers of its societies, but to which all interested are invited. It will be held at Portinscale, Keswick, from September 21st to September 28th. The lecturers include: Miss R. Courtney, Mrs. Hubback, Mrs. Layton, Miss Fraser, Miss E. F. Rathbone, Miss E. Macadam, Mr. J. L. Stocks, of St. John's College, Oxford, and Mrs. Stocks. The subjects will include political, economic, legal, and international problems of special concern to women.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Domestic Service Inquiry Report.

The Report of the Committee appointed by the Government to inquire into the Domestic Service problem is expected to be in the hands of the Minister of Labour at the end of September. The Women's Freedom League hopes to arrange a meeting at the Minerva Club in the coming autumn to discuss this Report.

Girl Student Rings Church Bells.

The *New York Evening Post* reports that a girl student in one of the German Universities has adopted the occupation of ringing church bells to add to her inadequate income. She also did factory work and mending until a gift from the students at Vassar College provided her with money enough to buy meal tickets for the students' mess. Now she is able to devote more time to her studies. The students' messes give two hot meals a day at a cost, in American money, of 2 cents, but many of the women students cannot afford even this small sum. These two meals, moreover, fall short of providing adequate nourishment. They contain no meat or fats of any sort, being chiefly boiled vegetables and cereals.

Mrs. Hilton Philipson, M.P.

According to the *Newcastle Daily Journal*, Mrs. Hilton Philipson, M.P., had a wonderful reception at Berwick last week, when she made a speech at the Annual Meeting of the Women's Branch of the Unionist Association. Mrs. Philipson told her audience that she had served on various Committees in Parliament, that the work was interesting, and, she thought, helpful to the constituents of the Berwick Division. Although she had not asked questions verbally in the House of Commons, she had put questions to the Departments. In her Committee work she had been very busy. The Guardianship of Infants Bill had caused her some concern, because there were certain clauses therein to which she could not agree. For instance, the Clause which allowed a person under the age of 18 to summon its parents through the agency of a best friend, for failing to maintain and educate it, was wrong in her eyes, because respect for parents should be ingrained in every child. There might be isolated cases where action would be necessary, but there might be cases where young persons, under evil influences, might take advantage of this Clause.

"Married" though a Widow.

A woman at Lambeth County Court last week said that her husband died twenty years ago, but she argued that she was correct when she described herself as a married woman when applying for a registration certificate as a money-lender. She informed the Registrar that she must be a married woman to be a widow, and he replied, "She is right; a widow is a married woman." So that fact is on record!

Women Guardians Refuse Hassocks.

The motion to provide hassocks for the women Guardians at Barnet was defeated by ten votes to seven, the women members expressing great indignation at the proposal. One of the women declared that when she grew so feeble as to need a hassock she would bring one with her; another, that she did not want a hassock, and if she ever did, she would not think of asking the overburdened ratepayers to provide one for her; while a third said she was having a foot-rest made. We should have thought that the enterprising gentleman who was responsible for the motion could have found more important business to discuss at the Board of Guardians meeting.

Poplar's Baby Mortality Reduced by Two-thirds.

Dr. Alexander, Medical Officer of Health for Poplar, stated last Monday that, while in 1911 the rate of infantile mortality in that district was 158.5 per 1,000 births, the Registrar-General's latest return—that for the quarter ended June last—showed that the rate was only 47 per 1,000 births. Rates for the same quarter for other Metropolitan boroughs are as follows:—Westminster, 49; Stepney, 50; Greenwich, 51; Islington, 52; Bermondsey, 50; Deptford, 57; Battersea, 62; Southwark, 62; Kensington, 64; Paddington, 64; Camberwell, 67; Fulham, 67; Hammersmith, 76; Bethnal Green, 77; Holborn, 81; and Shoreditch, 92.

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VISITORS TO LONDON. Rooms now available during the holiday season at Minerva Club, Brunswick Square. Breakfast, Luncheons, Teas and Dinners for Non-Residents.

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Sunday, September 2nd. 6.30 p.m. Dr. Learner.

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