

THE VOTE,  
JULY 12, 1918.  
ONE PENNY.

## ARE YOU ON THE REGISTER?

# THE VOTE

## THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE

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FRIDAY, JULY 12, 1918

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

### PRINCIPAL CONTENTS.

ORGANISED OPINION - - - - C. D. Despard  
MRS. DESPARD'S BIRTHDAY PARTY.  
WOMEN CITIZENS! REGISTER!  
IN PARLIAMENT: STATUS OF WOMEN DOCTORS IN THE ARMY.  
WOMEN IN WAR TIME.

40D PROTEST MEETING AT KILBURN.  
WOMEN TEACHERS' MEETING AT QUEEN'S HALL.  
THE EDUCATION BILL - - - - E. M. N. C.  
OUR OPEN COLUMN.  
CLYDE CAMPAIGN, &c.

## WOMEN CITIZENS! REGISTER!

YOU CANNOT CLAIM A VOTE AFTER NEXT WEDNESDAY.

The lists of voters are now to be seen at Town Halls, etc., also at the offices of all the local Party agents. Every woman who thinks she is entitled to a vote must go at once and search these lists.

Each constituency has a number of polling districts and each street is to be found in its proper polling district.

The list for each polling district is arranged in three divisions:—

1. Both Parliamentary and Local Government electors.
2. Parliamentary electors only.
3. Local Government electors only.

Search all the divisions in which your name should be found.

If you are not there, and you think you may be qualified for a vote, write for a claim form to your local Registration Agent at your Town Hall, or call there for it and fill it up at once and post it back.

**Wednesday, July 17, is the last day that a claim can be accepted.**

If you have made your claim and are in any doubt or difficulty write to us (Registration Guide), at 144, High Holborn.

### WOMEN GRADUATES MUST THEMSELVES CLAIM THEIR VOTES.

All universities are anxious to have their women voters on their Parliamentary register, but it is not their business to put them on; it is the women's business to get a claim paper and send it in.

The present addresses of most graduates are not those they possessed when they took their degrees, and their universities are helpless in tracing them.

Graduates of more than one university should be on the register for each one. The votes may be wanted at a bye-election, or one constituency may be uncontested at a General Election.

The university vote is an extra vote for the woman graduate, apart from her residential qualification. Having been an outcast in the State till now it is every woman's duty to secure now all the votes to which she is entitled, and especially to take her full share of the special representation accorded to all who are supposed to have absorbed the educational nutriment of a degree examination.

Write to the Registrar of your university for your claim paper and return it at once, July 17 is the last day. The L.L.A. St. Andrews and the various diplomas do not qualify.

### WOMEN TEACHERS DEMAND JUSTICE.

An excellent and enthusiastic meeting, organised by the National Federation of Women Teachers (London unit) to demand that the L.C.C. should refer the question of women teachers' salaries, without delay, to arbitration, was held at the large Queen's Hall last Monday evening. It was presided over by Miss Agnes Dawson, who made a fine and excellently reasoned speech. From her knowledge and experience as headmistress in a Council School in South London, she has had every opportunity of observing the ill-effects of the inadequate salaries to which the bulk of the women teachers are condemned. They had intended to demonstrate once more at the L.C.C. chamber, but the chairman announced that this project had been postponed owing to the fact that "the prospect looked a bit rosier than it did a week ago." A letter was read from Mr. Bernard Shaw, who advised a strike for a minimum wage of £3 a week. Speeches were made by Miss Lowndes, Miss Croxson, Mr. H. G. Chancellor, M.P., Mr. Joseph Martin, M.P., Mr. Mr. Duberry, and Mr. Harry Gosling, but we hear the laurels of the occasion fell to the representative of our own League, Miss Helena Normanton, B.A., who received a rousing reception. She has for some years been well known in the educational world, having held important teaching posts and has employed her ready pen in the service of the teaching profession. Her determination to seek admission as a law student in the Middle Temple with a view to being called to the Bar has brought her before a still wider public. It was evident that the meeting heartily approved her spirited intentions. She alluded to the speech which the King had made that morning to the deputation from the L.C.C., and to his reference to the good relations which existed between teachers and children, and teachers and parents. Being a truthful gentleman, she said, he had not been able to affirm that excellent relations existed between the women teachers and the London County Council. Both teachers and nurses were exploited because the public knew that the nature of their work made it difficult to strike, and counted on their "better feelings." She noticed that there was one job priced at £400 a year, for which there was fairly keen competition. She wondered how the ninety members who had voted against Mr. Whitehouse's amendment, which would have ensured equal pay for equal work to the women teachers, would regard an attempt on the part of women to undercut them by offering to do the work at £200 a year.

The following resolution was passed unanimously:

That this public meeting protests against the failure of the London County Council to deal satisfactorily with the question of women teachers' salaries, a failure which has already greatly affected the supply of women teachers and is seriously crippling the efficiency of London education.

The meeting calls upon the Council to refer the question to arbitration without further delay, and also calls upon the Government to extend to women teachers the same right of arbitration as it has given to all other industrial and professional sections of the community.

### Protest Against Regulation 40D at Kilburn.

Speaking at a meeting organised by the Independent W.S.P.U. at Brondesbury Hall last Tuesday Mr. Joseph King, M.P., said that Sir George Cave and the War Office had converted him ardently to desire the presence of women members in Parliament. For the last three years, when the Army Annual Bill was being dealt with, Mr. King had put down a new clause to the effect that a soldier suffering from venereal disease should not receive his discharge from the Army until he was known to be cured of this disease in a communicable form. The Government had, however, refused to consider

this clause, and Mr. King contended that this alone showed that the authorities were insincere and inconsistent in their attempts to stamp out venereal disease.

Dr. Christine Murrell stated that medical science was not exactly like arithmetic. It was rather a summation of probabilities, and the effectiveness of Regulation 40 D was discounted because of the uncertain results of medical examination. She also declared that this regulation was really class legislation, and it had been demonstrated in police courts that when women could afford expert counsel and advice the case against them broke down, but when women could not afford the expense they were convicted. This regulation created a new privilege of money. It gave a sense of false security to men and prevented them from realising that they could not play with nature, for nature would beat them every time.

### IN PARLIAMENT.

#### Women Army Doctors.

SIR ROBERT NEWMAN (July 2) asked whether women serving as whole-time doctors in the Army, and doing precisely the same work as their male colleagues, receive neither military rank nor status, thereby being deprived of equal pay, ration, and travelling allowances, as well as a gratuity; their letters being censored and many disabilities suffered because they do not hold commissioned rank; and whether steps will be taken to grant women temporary commissioned rank, so removing these grievances and showing a just appreciation of the services rendered by women doctors in connection with the war?

MR. FORSTER (Financial Secretary to the War Office): "My hon. friend has been misinformed. Women whole-time doctors in the Army at home and abroad receive the same pay, ration, travelling allowances, and gratuity as temporary commissioned officers of the Royal Army Medical Corps. Women for home duty only, in temporary engagements, were treated the same as civilian medical men similarly employed. All officers have their letters censored. It was not proposed to grant commissions to women doctors."

SIR ARTHUR SHIRLEY BENN asked if it was not advisable to give the same rank or commission to the women who were rendering such excellent service and doing men's work.

MR. FORSTER: "I have just said that in regard to pay, ration, travelling allowances, and gratuity they do get the same."

SIR A. S. BENN: "I said 'commission'—the same rank."

MR. FORSTER: "No, not commission."

SIR R. NEWMAN asked if any communication had been received from the Medical Women's Federation, who had unanimously decided to press the Government by all means in their power to grant temporary rank to medical women serving in the war?

MR. FORSTER did not think he had seen that.

MR. CHANCELLOR: "Is it sex or incompetence that prevents them getting commission?"

No answer.

### Women Teachers' Salaries.

On July 3rd Mr. Whitehouse moved in the House of Commons the following new clause to the Education Bill:—

In making arrangements with respect to the appointment of teachers a local education authority shall not make or authorise any differentiation as regards salary on the ground of sex.

He explained that the Amendment simply asked that where there was equal work done by a woman she was to have equal pay given her. Sir H. Hibbert interrupted with the assertion, "They want more than that," but Mr. Whitehouse insisted that the Amendment simply meant that where a woman performed equal work with a man she should not receive less payment because of her sex. Mr. Fisher refused to accept the amendment on behalf of the Government, and it was lost by 90 votes to 20.

We have said before and repeat with emphasis that women will never have their interests properly safeguarded until they send women members of Parliament to represent them, and we hope that women teachers will see that this is done at the next general election.

### WOMEN IN WAR TIME.

#### From Land to Land.

The following message from the Woman's Land Army of America has been received by Miss Broadhurst, President of the National Political League Land Council. In approaching the women of America to stimulate them to do their great part for the food supply of the Allies, the council was able to show several years pioneering and successful efforts of its own, which has roused a worthy response on the other side of the Atlantic.

#### TO THE WOMEN'S LAND ARMY OF ENGLAND.

At this time, when our forces are fighting together in France against the enemy, the Women's Land Army of America, inspired by your example, is recruiting women over here to take the places of men who have been called from the farms, and to fight with you against hunger and famine for our armies and nations.

Inertia and conservatism are slow to yield, and the great variation of climate and enormous distances have made our first progress difficult, but now nearly twenty States are organised, and we hope to have a Woman's Land Army of appreciable numbers this year, in order to raise the extra amount of food which our Allies look to us to supply.

We pledge you our loyal support, and assure you that we are conscious of the responsibility of the enormous task in which we are both engaged, but we have put our hand to the plough and we will not turn back.

THE WOMEN'S LAND ARMY OF AMERICA.  
(Signed) HILDA LOINES, Secretary.

#### Miss MacAdams, M.P.

It will be remembered that Miss MacAdams, formerly in charge of the Canadian Hospital at Orpington, was elected by the soldiers of Alberta to represent them in the legislature of that province. She has a woman colleague—Mrs. McKinney—and they are both proud to know that there was no question of sex in their election. They were elected by both men and women, but more particularly by men, not because they were women, but because they were human beings capable of serving their constituents. No fuss was made over them when they took their seats: they were neither regarded as monstrosities nor as angelic beings. They have already done good work. An able speech was made by Mrs. McKinney on the care of the feeble-minded, and by Miss MacAdams on the problem of the returned soldier, whose needs she understands so well. Her speech on the proposal to place the returned soldier on the land is marked by insight and good sense, and might well be taken to heart by other legislatures. She says:—

The isolation of homesteading is likely to be the converse of what the returned soldier needs. The mental strain of war tends to unfit him for the further strain of homesteading. Then, too, our frontier agriculture is of a primitive type. It is the farming of rough operations and arduous labour, often offering little of creature comfort, and the sustained discomfort of warfare makes him hungry for physical comfort. But the therapeutic advantages of outdoor life are undeniable. Given a fair chance, Nature can do much toward the reconversion of the soldier into the normal successful citizen. If the Province can offer this outdoor life with a reasonable incorporation into some established social group, and can offer land within the local improvement belt within some settled area, with school, church, and transportation services, we should be able to take care of a great many returned soldiers.

It is said that in this country, after the war, there will be at least 750,000 returned soldiers and sailors desiring land work.

#### Miss Suze Groeneweg, M.P.

One woman has been elected to the Dutch Parliament. Miss Suze Groeneweg, the new member, is a school teacher at Rotterdam. The attendance of members of the British House of Commons during important discussions on the Education Bill was frequently very attenuated. The contributions to the debate of a few experienced women teachers would certainly have been of great assistance.

What Every Woman Needs—

## THE VOTE.

Every Week.

One Penny.

In these days of restrictions with regard to paper we make a special appeal to our readers and all friends of women's progress to become annual subscribers to the VOTE. This can be done either through a news-agent—who can only supply the exact number ordered, as no "returned" papers will now be allowed—or through the Secretary, Minerva Publishing Co., 144, High Holborn, London, W.C. 1. Cost 6s. 6d. post free. You cannot afford to miss the news which specially concerns women's interests and progress, published every week in the VOTE.

#### A Nurse-Policewoman.

Mathilde Boserup, who has served for many years as a nurse at the Copenhagen Municipal Hospital, has been appointed a member of the moral police of that city. She is paid at the same rate as her men colleagues. Her hospital experience will doubtless serve her well in her new career.

#### Memorial to Dr. Elsie Inglis.

A sum of £12,000 will be required to found the Chair of Medicine at Belgrade in honour of Dr. Elsie Inglis, whose heroic work on behalf of the Serbian wounded has earned the undying regard of that sorely-stricken little nation. £2,000 was raised at the meeting at the Mansion House last week. The Chair is to be established at the end of the war, and will enable Serbian students to study in their own country. Hitherto, they have followed their medical courses abroad—usually at Vienna or Berlin. It is proposed that the first occupant of the Chair should be a British woman. There is no doubt she would be warmly welcomed, for the Serbs entertain the warmest feelings of gratitude towards the British women doctors who served them so ably.

A memoir of Dr. Elsie Inglis, by Lady Frances Balfour, will appear shortly.

#### House Surgeon at a London Hospital.

Miss C. Bevis, M.B., Ch.B., has been appointed House Surgeon at the Great Northern Central Hospital.

## The Emily Davison Club.

Friday, July 12th—

Speaker: H. G. CHANCELLOR, Esq., M.P.  
Subject: "40D: THE FIGHT THUS FAR."  
Chair: Miss FITZHERBERT.

Friday, July 19th—

Speaker: Mrs. SEN.  
Subject: "POSITION, FAMILY LIFE AND EDUCATION OF WOMEN IN INDIA."

Friday, July 26th—

Speaker: Rev. C. A. WILLS.  
Chair: Miss NINA BOYLE.

Each evening.—Conversation and Coffee 7-7.30 p.m.

Address: 7.30 p.m.

Admission free. Collection for Club Funds.

144, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

JEAN LAMBIE, Hon. Organiser.

## THE VOTE.

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FRIDAY, July 12th, 1918.

NOTICE.—Letters should be addressed as follows:—  
To the Editor—on all editorial matters.  
To the Advertising Manager—on advertising.  
To the Secretary—on all other business, including Vorr orders, printing, and merchandise, etc.  
Telephone: MUSEUM 1429.  
Telegrams: "DESPARD, Museum 1429, London."

### EDITORIAL.

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

### SUBSCRIPTION RATE.

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

## ORGANISED OPINION.

"What we seek is the reign of law, based upon the consent of the governed and sustained by the organised opinion of mankind."

These weighty words form part of President Wilson's address to the American nation on Independence Day. Embodying as they do a fine ideal, showing how that ideal may be realised, and spoken at a time when not law by consent of the governed but an anarchy which, if not arrested, will lead the nations headlong to destruction is the order of the day, they possess a peculiar significance.

That the ideal, even in America, has not been reached we are well aware. President Wilson, like the most clear-sighted of European thinkers, is still seeking. In the United States the almighty dollar is too dominant a factor in political and industrial life for true democracy to be possible. It is doubtful, in fact, whether, bound as the nations are to one another by commerce and the finance which grows up around it, there can be any such settled order as he foresees in one nation until all participate in it.

If, then, we are to have that for which we seek, if our vision is to be realised, it must have behind it as motive-force the organised opinion of mankind.

That this is true we have abundant evidence in history. Over and over again the same tragic story has been enacted. Clear-sighted reformers have brought their message; brave pioneers, full of love and enthusiasm, have proclaimed it; and here and there the multitudes, dazzled and spellbound, have followed them. Then the danger-signal is run up—"These men are turning the world upside down"—subtle forces are set to work to organise opinion, and the multitudes who to-day acclaim the teacher as prophet, to-morrow denounce him as traitor or jeer at him as fool.

To those who, like ourselves, believe that the present social order, not in one country alone, but in all, is grievously inadequate to meet the highest aspirations of mankind, the words of President Wilson should come as a spur to vigorous endeavour. Let us never for one moment forget that the business of organising opinion is going on all the time. In every country the lovers of the old order and the patrons of competition and the war-god have their battalions. It was said by a great Master, "The children of this world are wiser in their generation than the children of light." You may say, "That is so; then how are we to keep pace with them?"

Our League, which, coming to birth in littleness and obscurity more than ten years ago, has survived innumerable shocks and is now—as our fine rally of Friday last at Caxton Hall showed—more united and determined than ever, gives the only possible answer. Those who were present will have felt, through the heart-stirring music—one item of which,

the violin solo, brought back to us vividly the memory of the player's mother, whose joy it would have been to have taken visible part in our festival—through the recitations, and through the speeches, mostly from members of the "Old Guard," the same spirit ringing out: "Play your own part, and play it strongly; make use of all your power, of all your opportunity, for not a moment is to be lost. Organise opinion!" We have seen certain results of that process in our long fight for the emancipation of women. Forceful, purposeful thinking, first criticised and derided, then accepted grudgingly, at last gripping the soul of humanity as the magnet grips steel—that, and that only, can save the world.

It would be idle to veil from ourselves that when we talk of organising opinion we are setting out on no party of pleasure or light holiday task. Still, as in the times that have been, we shall have to battle against misunderstanding, passion, and prejudice. But that must not deter us.

It was said by Mr. Chancellor—one of our staunchest friends—at the Caxton Hall Rally, "You are not only a suffrage society, you are a Freedom League." He called upon us to be true to our title. The partial victory we have gained, while it puts an instrument into the hands of some of us, does not lessen (it should rather increase) the strenuous demands we must make upon ourselves.

Ignorance and apathy are abroad. They must be met. Public opinion on many vital subjects is barely alive. It must be quickened into action. Under the cover of national necessity many iniquitous acts of injustice are being committed. They must be brought to light.

One concrete fact is of more value in rousing and stimulating opinion than many arguments. We must remember that with regard to the great things for which throughout our battle for the franchise we have been fighting, opinion is still disorganised. Equality of opportunity for men and women; equal reward for equal work; education for every child with a view to enabling it to use worthily its own natural gifts; the opening of mechanical, artistic, or intellectual training to all who seek it; the recognition of motherhood as work for the nation, to be honoured and rewarded; revision of the stupid, antiquated land laws; revival of the village and agricultural life—these are some of the questions vitally important to the country concerning which public opinion is still disorganised and therefore, even when sympathetic, weak. As we look forward, out beyond this awful war to that which is to come after, must we not feel that our work is merely beginning?

The spirit of the Women's Freedom League—the energy and determination of its members, the knowledge that we are being joined daily by young workers and by those who have fought valiantly in other fields strengthens us in our conviction that we have our part to play—and that no small one—in "organising the opinion of mankind" and so creating a more stable world.

C. DESPARD.

### Nonconformist Protest Against State Regulation of Vice.

Much alarm is felt at the working of Regulation 40D, D.O.R.A., which practically reintroduces State regulation of vice, and undoes the lifelong work of Josephine Butler.

Free Church men and women realising the danger and degradation of this legislation are holding a protest meeting at Bloomsbury Central Church, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C., Tuesday, July 16th, 7.30, to demand the withdrawal of this Regulation. Speakers: Mrs. Bonwick, Principal Garvie, LL.D., Hon. Emily Kinnaird, Rev. Maurice Watts. The chair will be taken by Rev. T. Phillips. Admission free.

## MRS. DESPARD'S BIRTHDAY PARTY.

Mrs. Despard's Birthday Party, held at Caxton Hall last Friday evening, was a great success. Many friends, new and old, were present, and the hostesses are to be congratulated on the fact that no one had a dull time the whole of the evening. After the reception held by Mrs. Despard we had a brief entertainment, consisting of recitations by Miss Laverty ("The Bishop and the Cow") and Miss Sloan ("The Hymn to Intellectual Beauty"), and two violin solos by Miss Jessie Snow. Each item was a genuine delight to the audience, and we offer our most cordial thanks to the artistes for the pleasure they gave us. We also thank all the kind friends who sent us contributions for the flower stall, and Mrs. Lindus, who made such a success of it. Montgomery Boroughs branch and Miss A. M. Clark earned our most grateful thanks for the welcome contents of the stall they supplied, most of these contents being sold before the speeches began. Mrs. Easton's little boy presented Mrs. Despard with a beautiful bouquet.

The musical programme was followed by a few short speeches. Mrs. Mustard, who was in the chair, referred gracefully to the occasion of the gathering, and offered the congratulations of the meeting to Mrs. Despard.

Mrs. Tanner spoke of Mrs. Despard as a great pioneer. She said that women had made themselves a great force in the nation, and men were expecting great things from them. Indeed, they were always expected to do things better than men. She, at least, hoped that they would be able to use the vote better than men had done. One of the first tasks before them was the removal of the infamous regulation, 40D. She congratulated Mrs. Despard, and hoped that, before her next birthday the world would again be at peace, and that we might look forward to a better and more secure future, not only for ourselves but for generations yet unborn.

Mrs. Mustard introduced Dr. Clark as a lifelong friend of Woman Suffrage, and an old friend of the Women's Freedom League. Mrs. Despard, he said, remained young because she was young in spirit. It had been said that the old looked to the past, but Mrs. Despard showed her youth because she was always looking forward and working for the future. Women had, as yet, only received a part of what ought to be theirs. A great work lay ahead, and he believed in the new Parliament, because it would be, to a great extent, controlled by women. "We men," he said, "have made a mess of things." "Fixing the age at 30 was just one of the foolish things which we men do." But the disability of sex was gone, and he congratulated Mrs. Despard in having seen the fruition of so great a part of her work.

Mrs. Cobden-Sanderson recalled the day, ten years ago, when some of the older women had determined to take part in the militant movement. She had remembered waiting with Mrs. Despard to make their first protest in the House of Commons, and her feelings on that occasion. "She did not mind, but I did," said the speaker. The other day she had walked through the lobbies unchallenged, and had thought of the day when, one after another, women had stood up on the benches, and shouted "Votes for Women," only to be hurled off and taken to prison. Women had earned the respect of the nation, and they must get women into the House of Commons. We have to rouse women, and especially the older women, to use the vote. The struggle was not over. She urged the Women's Freedom League to fresh fights, and heartily wished for them fresh victories in the future.

Mr. H. G. Chancellor, M.P., would like to see the

Women's Freedom League a great educational institution, so that those who attended its meetings would go back to their own localities and wake up their neighbours to prepare for the next election and to the live problems which were awaiting solution. The insight and the sympathy of women were needed to solve them, and the sooner women entered the House of Commons the better.

He greatly regretted that the House had rejected the clause in the Education Bill which would have given equal pay for equal work to the women teachers. Much ground still remained to be cleared before that happier state of society, for which Mrs. Despard had worked, could be built up. He hoped that every succeeding birthday would be marked by fresh victories.

Dr. Knight then made the presentation of the funds collected in honour of Mrs. Despard's birthday, and in handing it back, Mrs. Despard said that no society could possess a more splendid treasurer than Dr. Knight, and a peculiar debt of gratitude was owed to her. She could not express her gladness at finding herself, as successive birthdays rolled by, still upright and able to be at work. She was glad to come and meet her old friends, and as their names had been read out by Dr. Knight, each seemed to bring a thrill to her heart. She was taken back to the family life of the days of her youth when, on the occasions of birthdays each member was allowed to do and say what they wished. She would take her birthday privilege and venture to tell the Anglo-Saxon race that what they lacked was vision. It was for lack of vision that the people perish. Her advice to women was to sweep away the bulk of the dead, half-dead, and half-alive men who cumbered the present House. She would like to see every constituency putting forward its own candidate. The apathy of the people was saddening, but she firmly believed in the new day that was dawning, and that faith gave her hope and courage.

Mrs. Sproson recalled the first time that Mrs. Despard was arrested when she had told the policeman "If you take her, you take me, too." She believed that the vote had been given to women because of the moral progress of the human mind, but the status of women was still an anomaly. A still more tremendous advance lay before women in the future. They were not far off from full emancipation.

Mrs. Whetton, from Portsmouth, expressed herself as being proud to have been led to partial victory by Mrs. Despard. We had passed through times of depression and disappointment. We must now show that we can use our victory. It was interesting to find that, in the election of many local authorities, the influence of women would be paramount.

The birthday celebration would, indeed, have been incomplete without the assistance of Mr. Harrison Hill, whose renderings of "We won't go home till morning" (1) as a hymn tune, and (2), (3), and (4), as Mozart, Chopin, and Handel, respectively, would have written it were inimitable. The audience greatly enjoyed the song with the refrain, "Come and see the cabbage patch where our potatoes grow," while the rendering of "Auld Lang Syne," containing appropriate allusions to the occasion, sent us home with the thought that none of the birthdays in the past had been quite like the one we had been celebrating that evening. The world was passing through its darkest hour of sorrow and suffering, but the year-stone marked a victory for women—greater and more far-reaching than most of us had hoped for last July. In the lesser things of life, women had been tried and had not been found wanting. Would they fail in the greater things that lay before them. A message of hope had been sounded. The command had been given to go forward.

### THE EDUCATION BILL.

The fears that were expressed as to the safety of the Education Bill appear to have been groundless. The Committee stage was ended after THE VOTE went to press last week, and important clauses added. Clause XV. gives the local education authority the power to prohibit altogether the employment of a child who is being employed "in a manner prejudicial to his health or physical development, or to render him unfit to obtain the proper benefit from his education at school." This is clearly an important addition to the child's charter of liberty, especially as the Bill greatly curtails the possibility of child labour. Under this Bill a child cannot be employed before the close of school hours on any day that he has to attend school. On other days, *i.e.*, on Saturdays and other holidays, he must not be employed before six in the morning or after eight in the evening. If the education of the youth of the nation is to be at the cost of the State, it is clearly in the interest of the community to ensure that public funds are not wasted. They undoubtedly are wasted if children come to school in a physical and mental condition which precludes them from benefiting by the instruction given to them. Sir F. Banbury made his usual protest in the name of liberty. (Oh, liberty! What things are said, as well as done, in thy name.) The wrongs done to parents by depriving them of their children's earnings fill him with indignation. He appears not to recognise that the most elemental of all rights is the child's right to health.

Clause 19 not only makes permissive the provision of nursery schools, but recognises also that the health, nourishment and physical welfare of the children attending these schools are a matter of public concern. This clause will be of great interest to mothers in servantless homes. It was a pity they were not more directly represented than was possible in a purely male assembly, whose members did their best to talk wisely of crèches and day nurseries and nursery schools, and to discriminate between the requirements of children of two and three years old.

The subject of equal pay for equal work, *i.e.*, equal pay for men and women when they are doing the same work, is one of special interest to the League. The subject was brought up on three separate occasions by Mr. Whitehouse, who has shown himself most valiant in championing the cause of women. His amendment to Clause 25, on the appointment of teachers, would have made it impossible for the local authorities "to make or authorise any difference as regards salary on the grounds of sex." A further amendment to Clause 38 on education grants would have made grant-in-aid contingent on the local authority giving "no privilege or differentiation of salary to any teacher on the grounds of sex." Both these amendments were declared to be out of order, and the matter was brought up again in the form of a new clause. Mr. Whitehouse reminded the House that "throughout the whole world of industry there had been a gradual but, generally speaking, a well-defined tendency towards the ideal aimed at in this amendment." In answer to the argument that a woman should be paid less because she has fewer responsibilities, he said: "I do not think that is a sound argument. If we are to act upon that argument, we ought to pay less to unmarried and more to married men. To consider the individual responsibilities of every person is obviously impossible." He was strongly supported by Sir R. Newman and Mr. Chancellor, and opposed by Mr. Booth, Sir C. Bathurst and Sir H. Craik. Mr. H. A. L. Fisher expressed himself as unable to accept the amendment because the payment of salaries was a matter

for the local authorities, "and for that reason, if for no other, it would be improper for the Government to adopt any such plan as the hon. member suggests." The phrase "if for no other" is certainly non-committal, but to protest that the educational work of the women was less effective than that of the men would scarcely be possible. The arguments used against the passing of the new clause were so carefully shrouded that any meaning they may have appears unattainable. Perhaps this was intentional. Sir C. Bathurst delivered himself of the dictum that teaching by women was in some cases undoubtedly a different commodity to teaching by men, and he deprecated the "equalisation of price of what is, after all, an economic commodity." This possibly refers to what the economist would call the "scarcity value" of men. Mr. Booth declared that women were not agreed on the question, and expressed himself as puzzled to know the views of teachers themselves. He said that when he had come to examine them he had been informed that "the men teachers as a rule vote in favour of equality of salary, but the women are against it." Where do our legislators go for their information? Certainly not to Queen's Hall.

A most interesting discussion took place on the provision of medical treatment for school children. By the provisions of the Act of 1907 the duty was imposed on the local education authority of medically inspecting the children, while power was given to them to provide treatment. The clause moved by Mr. Rowntree would have the effect of making the provision of medical treatment obligatory, and not permissive, as at present. Mr. Rowntree held that the House would agree with him "that the imposition of the duty of inspection by the State carries with it, as a natural corollary, the duty of treatment, and that the one without the other is a barren remedy, and really somewhat of a mockery." Quoting from the report of the Chief Medical Officer of Health for 1916, he said that 1,000,000 children—one in six of the children in attendance at school—are so physically or mentally defective, or so diseased, as to be unable to derive reasonable benefit from the education which the State provides." The same report states that "not more than one-half of the children suffering from serious but remediable defects are cured of these defects during their school life." There was strong support in favour of the clause. Mr. Sherwell showed how imperfect was the system of inspection, and that there is always a large proportion of the school population suffering from ailments which are curable, but which "very materially affect the educational attainments" of the children. The trouble does not end with school life. "In my experience in East London," said Mr. Alden, "I have seen so many lives crippled and maimed, and so many boys and girls going through life utterly unable to compete with their neighbours because they never had a fair chance. They were never medically inspected or treated in those days. The State ought to be in these cases *in loco parentis*, and, if the parents do not care enough to get the children attended to—although it is generally ignorance in these cases, and not carelessness—the State should see that it is done, not merely for the sake of the child, but for the sake of the nation."

The President of the Board of Education was unwilling to accept the clause, holding that the development of medical treatment might be left to the voluntary action of the local authorities; but so strong was the feeling that he consented to reconsider the matter further and to bring forward proposals on the Report stage.

E. M. N. C.

### Women's Freedom League.

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Hon. Head of Literature Department—Miss MARGARET HODGE  
Secretary—Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD.

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS: W.F.L.



#### LONDON AND SUBURBS.

Saturday, July 13.—Hackney Branch Garden Meeting at 26, Pembury-road (near Hackney Downs Station, G.E.R.), 4.30 p.m. Speakers: H. W. Nevinston, Esq., and others. Chair: Mrs. Mustard.

#### PROVINCES.

Tuesday, July 16.—HASTINGS. Public Meeting to protest against Regulation 40D in Wellington-square Lecture Hall, 3 p.m. Speaker: Miss F. A. Underwood. Chair: Mrs. Tuppeney, supported by Rev. Undie Draper, M.A., Rev. Chas. Askwith, M.A., Rev. C. Barton, M.A., Rev. F. Shaw, M.A., Rev. G. Talbot, M.A.

Wednesday, July 17.—WILLESBOROUGH. Public Meeting, Gladstone-road, 7 p.m. Speaker: Miss F. A. Underwood. Chair: Mr. J. Marsh, of the Trades and Labour Council.

#### OTHER SOCIETIES.

July 14th.—Ashford P.S.A. Mrs. Mustard on "Women and To-Day," 3 p.m.

### THE CLYDE CAMPAIGN.

The above campaign will be opened on July 17th, at Rothesay, Mrs. Mustard, Miss Bunten, Miss Gibson will be the speakers during the first part. Special meetings will be held. "A Citizenship of Women," "The Future Possibilities of Women," "How Women must use the Vote," Protests against Regulation 40D, and other important subjects will be discussed.

Members and sympathisers in Scotland are urgently asked to do all they can to make the campaign a success, because there never was a time in the history of the women's movement when it was more important to arouse the men and women of the country to the great responsibility of citizenship. Money is urgently needed, also VOTE sellers, speakers, and helpers generally, so please send your donations and names to me.

The Hut,  
Seven Street, Newtown,  
Montgomery Boroughs.

until July 16th. Headquarters at Rothesay will be announced next week.

ALIX M. CLARK.

### WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE SETTLEMENT, 93, Nine Elms Lane, S.W. 8.

The Settlement closes for about six weeks from July 25, but it will be difficult for the residents to get away by then unless a home can be found for our baby guest, aged 24. Will every reader try and think of a possible holiday-mother for her, who will give her her special diet (extras provided by us) conscientiously, and plenty of fresh air? We would pay the ordinary charge, and deliver her at the door not later than July 24, if possible? Another want is more jumble goods—many more—for Mrs. Tippett's jumble sale in aid of our funds. Parcels should reach the Secretary by July 20.

KATHLEEN HOLMES.

### The Birthday Fund.

The Birthday Fund has done very well, but I am not yet satisfied. Some friends have been unable to send to me in time for the Birthday Party but they have still a chance to be in time for the list and the Vote. The first Birthday Fund list will be published in our issue of July 19, so please post to me at once.

E. KNIGHT.

### The Northern Men's Federation for Women's Suffrage and Land Reform.

Assured of Votes for Women, or at least for some women, the thoughts of suffragists widen out towards other aspects of reform, human rather than feminist. If it takes all kinds of men and women to make the world of to-day, it takes every shade of reformer to build up the world that is to be in the future. The Northern Men's Federation proposes to devote a portion of its energies to the subject of land reform. Speaking at a recent meeting at Edinburgh, presided over by Mr. Alexander Simpson, Mr. A. W. Madsen said:—

"One hundred and thirty-eight acres of land were lying idle within the city of Edinburgh, because the holders of that land were holding it up for their price. For the land on which the Flora Stevenson School stood, the authorities had paid the enormous sum of £4,860 per acre. It stood to reason that proper houses for the people at reasonable rents, could not be built until this land monopoly was broken down."

Mr. James Brunton entreated all thinking men and women to consider the land question. For the sake of the weak and oppressed, and for the sake of the little children, thousands of whom were sacrificed every year as a result of bad housing and unhealthy environment, he asked them to do all in their power to break down the present system of land monopoly.

Mrs. Arneliffe-Sennett has drawn up a Land Charter, which has for its object the breaking of the laws of primogeniture and entail so unfair to women as well as to younger sons. These ancient and uncouth customs are one of the anomalies of to-day, and are, we hope, not likely long to survive the entry of women into Parliamentary life.

### OUR OPEN COLUMN.

\*\*\* Letters intended for publication must be written on one side of the paper only, and authenticated by the name and address of the writer. It must be clearly understood that we do not necessarily identify ourselves with the opinions expressed.

To the Editor of THE VOTE.

DEAR MADAM,—It is not generally known that there are many interesting peculiarities attaching to the University franchise. In view of the fact that this is as new a franchise to women as is the ordinary Parliamentary one, the External Registrar of London University has very kindly promised to give a lecture upon it on Friday, July 12, at London University Club, Conference Hall, 21, Gower-street, W.C., at 5.30 p.m.

All graduates of any university, teachers, organisers, workers in the women's movement, etc., will be cordially welcomed. The lecture is under the auspices of the National Women's Citizen's Association.—I am yours faithfully,

HELENA NORMANTON.

FRIDAY,  
JULY 12,  
1918.

# THE VOTE

ONE  
PENNY  
WEEKLY.

Organ of the Women's Freedom League.

## BRANCH NOTES.

### Swansea.

A very enjoyable evening was spent at Caledon, Langlands, on June 27, when the Misses Kirkland kindly entertained the members of the Swansea branch. Miss Holmes, who has so successfully filled the post of branch treasurer for the past six years, was presented with a handsome handbag, as a token of the appreciation which the branch feels for her untiring efforts in its cause. During the evening a resolution, to be sent to the local Education Authority, was passed, proposing that "equal pay for equal work" should be granted to teachers in Swansea schools.

Miss Maude Royden will resume her ministry at the City Temple at the 6 p.m. service on Sunday, August 11.

## S.E. DISTRICT.

Organiser, Miss White.

### Hastings.

A public meeting has been arranged for July 16, at the Wellington-square Lecture Hall, to protest against Regulation 40 D. Speaker: Miss F. A. Underwood. Chair: Mrs. Tuppeney.

### Ashford and District.

A public meeting has been arranged at the Hall, Gladstone-road, Willesborough, July 17, at 7 p.m. Speaker: Miss F. A. Underwood. Chairman: Mr. J. Marsh, of the Trades and Labour Council. On Sunday afternoon, July 14, Mrs. Mustard will address the P.S.A. meeting at Ashford, and arrangements are being made for Mrs. Despard to address the railway men in September. A jumble sale is also being arranged in that month for expenses in carrying on the work of the Women's Freedom League in this district.

## ARTICLES FOR SALE.

NEW STRIPED COTTON DRESS; 12s. 6d.

NEW BLACK and WHITE ALL WOOL CHECK (best quality, tailor-made) COAT-FROCK; £2 12s. 6d.

SEVERAL NEW SPORTS COATS; 21s. 9d. to 27s. 6d.

COAT - FROCK, small brown-and-white check, all wool, taffeta collar; suit tall lady; 52s. 6d.

LARGE SIZE DARK GREY COSTUME; 30s.

14 - CARAT GOLD WALTHAM KEYLESS WATCH, case set diamonds; £7 10s.; lady's or gent.'s.

LARGE SIZE SILVER-PLATED COCOA-JUG; 33s.

BROWN GABARDINE COSTUME (medium); 35s.

PINK - AND - WHITE COTTON CREPON DRESS; 14s. 6d.

NEW ALL-WOOL SUMMER COAT, small size; 52s. 6d.; brown.

JIG-SAW PUZZLES for Soldiers and others; well cut; from 9d. upwards. —Write or call "THE VOTE" Office.

## ARTICLES FOR SALE.

VERY THIN BLACK SILK COSTUME; 15s. 6d.

SEVERAL NEW VOILE JUMPERS, from 12s. 11d.

SUPERIOR BLACK and PIN STRIPE TAILOR-MADE COAT FROCK; stock size; £3 12s. 6d.

SEVERAL VERY DAINTY EMBROIDERED CREPE-DE-CHINE BLOUSES; also BLACK GEORGETTE.

ART GREEN WOOL and SILK DRESS, small size; 38s. 6d.

SMALL STILL; good condition; 15s.

NEW, SUPERIOR GREY TWEED SKIRT; stock size; 19s. 11d.

BLACK MACKINTOSH COAT, worn once; suit outdoor worker; 29s.

DARK MAUVE SILK DRESS; oxidised silver trimmings; 37s. 6d.

SEVERAL NEW COTTON VOILE DRESSES, newest designs; 25s. 6d.

SEVERAL NEW PAIRS BOOTS and SHOES, size 4-7; 19s. 11d. pair.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

OPPORTUNITY to Practice Handloom Weaving and Spinning; share of country cottage and use of weaving studio 35s. a week; vegetarian non-smokers only.—Particulars from A. L. FAIRBANKS, The Old Cottage, South Holmwood, Surrey.

SUFFRAGE HEALTH FOOD STORES, MIDDLESBROUGH.—Wanted, a Secretary-Manager, good suffragist and a vegetarian preferably; salary commencing £2 per week.—Apply SECRETARY, 231A, The Arcade, Linthorpe-road, Middlesbrough.

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64-PAGE BOOK ABOUT HERBS AND HOW TO USE THEM, post free 2d.—TRIMNELL, The Herbalist, 144, Richmond-road, Cardiff. Established 1879.

The Articles for Sale are on view at the Minerva Exchange, 144, High Holborn, W.C. 1, 10 to 5.30. Saturdays, 10 to 12.

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