

THE VOTE,
DEC. 29, 1922.
ONE PENNY.

EVENTS OF THE YEAR.

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

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FRIDAY, DEC. 29, 1922

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.

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS.

A PIONEER WORKER FOR WOMEN.
WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

WOMEN VOTERS IN THE COUNTRY.
Christabel Lowndes Yates.

WOMEN TEACHERS IN CONFERENCE.

EVENTS OF THE YEAR.

CATHOLIC WOMEN IN PUBLIC LIFE.

Leonora De Alberti.

THE ROME CONGRESS.

WOMEN ARCHITECTS.

A PIONEER WORKER FOR WOMEN.

Miss Clementina Black, whose death was reported in last week's VOTE, just as we were going to press, was well known as a suffragist, and leader in the women's industrial movement. She was born at Brighton on July 22, 1853, the second child of a family of eight, her father being Town Clerk of Brighton. She was educated partly at a private school, but principally at home, and from her earliest years showed a decided leaning towards a writer's career. Her first novel, "A Sussex Idyll," was published in 1877, and she early contributed to such magazines as *Temple Bar*, *Longman's*, and the *Gentlemen's Magazine*.

After a period spent in foreign travel, Miss Black settled in London, and began to turn her attention seriously to industrial subjects, in which she had always been interested. For three years she acted as Secretary to the Women's Trade Union League, then called the Protective and Provident League, and all through the dock strike, and later, she was



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associated with Mr. John Burns, Mr. Stephen Fox (author of the tobacco chapter in Charles Booth's book), Mr. David Schloss, Mrs. Amy Hicks, Miss Mary James, and others, who formed part of a group that started the Trade Unions Association, with the object of organising women's labour in the East End. All this time she was writing on industrial subjects in the *Nineteenth Century*, and other reviews. When the League widened its scope by merging into the Women's Industrial Council, Miss Black became one of its most active members. She was for some years honorary secretary of its Investigation Committee, and afterwards Chairman. Subsequent association with the Anti-Sweating League gave her much of the material for her book on "Sweated Industry" (1907), and for her share in "Makers of Our Clothes" (1909), written in collaboration with Lady Meyer. Her revelations of sweated industries were the principal factor in securing the estab-

ishment of Trade Boards, a check on sweated labour.

In 1906-7, Miss Black was drawn into the Suffrage Movement, partly impelled by her experience of the political disabilities of women workers gained in her work on the Women's Industrial Council. She became a member of the Executive Committee of the London Society for Women's Suffrage, and was also a member of the Hampstead local Committee. She spoke a good deal in public on behalf of the Suffrage cause, and, in 1906, originated, and was the principal organiser of, the Women's Suffrage Declaration, intended primarily for women workers, to which about 55,000 signatures were rapidly collected. She also acted for some time as Editor of the *Common Cause*, now the *Woman's Leader*.

In 1913, Miss Black was awarded a Civil List Pension of £75 a year, in recognition of her services to women workers. These services included the writing of such books as "Sweated Industry and the Minimum Wage" (1907), "Makers of Our Clothes; a Case for Trade Boards," written in 1909 in collaboration, and "Married Women's Work" (1915), the last-named being the report of an inquiry conducted by the Women's Industrial Council. Miss Black also wrote, among other books, "Miss Falkland and Other Stories" (1892), "The Princess Desirée" (1896), "The Pursuit of Camilla" (1899), "Caroline" (1908), and "The Linleys of Bath" (1911), while, in 1912, she edited "Cumberland Letters." She also contributed to many reviews and newspapers.

A WOMAN'S TENANCY.

Readers of THE VOTE will remember a recent case in which an eviction order was given against a woman whose husband had deserted her, on the grounds that the husband had taken the rooms, and, after deserting her, had written to the landlord giving up the tenancy. Last week, His Honour Judge Snagg, at Bow County Court, ruled that a wife whose husband left her was the tenant of the house she occupied, although the house had been taken in the husband's name. Repayment of rent overpaid on the standard rent was ordered. There seems to be more common sense in the latter ruling than in the former. At this time of day, marriage should surely be recognised as a partnership of husband and wife; at any rate, it should not be possible, because one of them refuses any longer to live in the house, for the other to be turned out at the caprice of the landlord, provided that the other can pay the rent, and so long as the Rent Restrictions Act remains in force.

WOMEN MIND THEIR OWN BUSINESS

A Housewives' Association, which is working with great effectiveness, has been formed in the State of Victoria, Australia. There are already 75,000 members, and it is reported that 1,000 new members are being enrolled every week. Through its efforts, the price of sugar has been forced down 16 per cent., the price of milk 37 per cent., and the price of cream 60 per cent. This Association has purchased the entire berry crop of the State, and in that way has completely routed the fruit trust. It has also arranged to distribute wheat directly to its members, thus eliminating profits which formerly went to the middleman. Food prices are of the utmost importance to the home-keeping woman, and when home-keeping women make it their business to wage war on profiteering, there will soon be an end of the profiteer and exorbitant prices.

WOMEN AT HOME & ABROAD

First Woman Vet.

Miss Aileen Cust obtained last week the distinction of being the first woman to secure the diploma of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, having passed the final examination for membership. She is a daughter of the late Sir Leopold Cust, and sister of Sir Charles Cust, equerry to the King.

Frenchwomen's Social Settlements.

A number of well-to-do Frenchwomen have formed a "Résidence Sociale" at Levallois Perret, one of the poorest suburbs of Paris. Besides the familiar features of a settlement—clubs, classes, etc.—the Frenchwomen have specialised on outdoor attractions, as the "résidence" boasts of both a garden and large playgrounds.

Frenchwomen Celebrities.

An Exhibition has been opened, in Paris, of portraits of women celebrities—painters, writers, actresses, philanthropists, etc.—of the 19th century. The proceeds of the Exhibition are to go towards founding a new club in Paris for women journalists and writers.

Icelandic Women in Parliament.

The one woman elected to the Icelandic Parliament, Miss Ingibjorg Bjarnason, is a schoolmistress in Reykjavik, and a very popular choice of the women of Iceland. In addition to the woman M.P., a woman Alternate has also been chosen, Fru Inga Larusdottis, Editor of the woman's paper, "19 Juni."

Uruguay's Appointment.

The Uruguayan Government has appointed Dr. Paulina Luisi as first Government delegate to the Fourth International Labour Conference at Geneva. Dr. Luisi was also elected one of the seven Government delegates who form the Committee on Unemployment. Norway has also appointed a woman delegate to the Conference, Miss Betsy Kjelsberg, the only woman factory inspector in Norway, who will act as Leader of the Norwegian Deputation.

Woman Principal Appointed.

Miss Barratt, D.Sc., A.R.C.S., Lecturer at the Imperial College of Science, has been appointed Principal of the Horticultural College, Swanley, Kent, in place of Miss Wilkinson, who is retiring. Dr. Barratt has had many years' association with the College as student, lecturer, and governor.

Woman Barrister in High Court.

The distinction of being the first woman barrister to appear in a case before the High Court falls to Mrs. Helena Normanton, who was briefed as counsel, last week, in an undefended petition for divorce, and succeeded in obtaining for her client, a woman, decree and costs.

COLLEGE TRAINED TEACHERS.

The President of the Board of Education, replying to a question by Mr. Morgan Jones, in the House of Commons, said that last summer, 5,702 teachers left English colleges, and 746 Welsh colleges, and of 5,046 who were definitely known by the training college authorities in October to have obtained employment, 4,631 were from English colleges, and 415 from Welsh. It could not be assumed that the residue were still unemployed. He had no power to provide unemployment benefits for teachers.

WOMEN VOTERS IN THE COUNTRY.

By CHRISTABEL LOWNDES YATES.

This election has brought to light some very interesting facts about women and politics, and some of these facts, as they appeared to one of the organisers in a big country constituency, it is the object of this article to set down, in the hope that it may be of interest to other workers in other constituencies to compare notes as to their experiences with the women electors.

In the mass, we found the working women more eager to talk politics than their better educated sisters, but we found their views very hard to fix, for these working women decided quickly, and changed their minds about the party they were going to vote for, with baffling suddenness.

When it was known that a General Election was imminent, the secretary of a men's political society went to the secretary of the local branch of the women's political society, and said, "We are amazed to find you have got your organisation ready. We men are all behind. We've got nothing ready." It was this same man who said on the night before the poll, "I think we are going to get our man in all right, but if we do, it will be the women workers who have done it. *I didn't know women could work like that.*"

Parochial Mentalities.

The work of women's political organisations all over the country is extraordinarily necessary. We found it extremely difficult to make the country woman think nationally. Promise them anything local—even something that it is most unlikely can ever be fulfilled—and they are with you at once. Promise something national, and it leaves them cold. One packed meeting of principally women applauded wildly the suggestion of abolishing the Navy, evidently under the impression that the money would find its way into their pockets. From the platform, a woman speaker reminded the women present of some of the things that the Navy had done for them in recent years—safeguarded the food supply, prevented invasion, and so forth. This left them cold. "Go on; there isn't a war now. What's the use of the Navy? Scrap it, and give us the money," they shouted.

Had this occurred in the slums of a great city, it would, perhaps, have been explicable, but this was at a meeting in a hamlet two or three miles from a station in the heart of the country. The meeting was packed to suffocation, and the woman speaker was deliberately geyed and laughed at.

It is quite useless to try and educate such people on the verge of an election. It is the work that goes on while Parliament is sitting that counts. Meetings that are nothing but speeches do not attract working women. They want a cup of tea, or a dance, or at the least some music, if they are to be attracted sufficiently to be willing to listen to speeches.

Some Curious Motives.

It is not only the working woman who wants educating, however. There were some surprising discoveries among the voters of the professional classes. One such lady said to me, "I'm going to vote Unionist this time. Last time I voted Liberal, and next time I shall vote Liberal, but this time the Conservatives get it. I don't know anything about politics, and I don't want to, but if I vote for each in turn that will be fair all round." That woman had been one of the mistresses in one of the best known girls' schools in England, and it was her reasoned point of view.

Several other professional women said, "It doesn't seem to matter which you vote for. The Government goes on just the same, and we always grumble, but nothing happens."

Another professional woman said, "I shall not vote at all. They have put my name down as Mrs., and I'm not married. If they don't want my vote badly enough to trouble to address me properly, I shan't vote at all." Several other women said, "My husband votes for me always. We think it best. He knows about politics, and I don't." This answer was given by various people of all classes.

The constituency, in which the writer of this article was interested, is a scattered one, containing three small towns and 134 villages and hamlets, with, roughly, 38,000 voters. Women political speakers were almost unknown, and in many instances did not get a fair hearing in consequence. It was stated that at one meeting men arranged to gey the woman speaker by laughter and interruptions; yet in the straight fight between two candidates it was the party that deliberately adopted the policy of utilising its women workers that won, and the losing side stated in the Press and elsewhere that the success of their opponents was due to the women, who had fought in the teeth of every difficulty.

Women to Clean up Politics.

If women of all classes took a definite interest in politics, it should exert a clean and healthy influence on the tactics employed. I believe they could, if they would, stop the policy of issuing statements about their opponents that they know to be deliberately untrue. One has nothing but sympathy for people who work hard for a policy that they honestly believe to be right, and then lose, but far greater sympathy should be given to the worker who believes and admires the policy of her party, but can only deplore the means used to gain those ends.

This is a field where women can use their power, and I believe they will. I believe they did use it to a certain extent in this election. They will do even more next time. Meanwhile, let them organise their forces so that they may be better prepared for the next contest than they were for this one—and that is saying a great deal.

WOMEN TEACHERS IN CONFERENCE

The National Union of Women Teachers are holding their Annual Conference in the Technical College, Cardiff, on January 2nd-5th. There are 98 resolutions on the agenda. The first, on False Economy in Education, will be moved by Miss Phipps and seconded by Miss Agnes Dawson: "This Conference declares that it is inconsistent with national welfare to curtail expenditure on education by (a) reducing staffs; (b) reducing teachers' salaries; (c) excluding the under-sixes; (d) employing unqualified women in place of teachers; (e) combining departments on other than educational grounds; (f) lessening the number of scholarships to secondary schools and universities; and calls upon the Government and Local Education Authorities to find other ways of economising instead of reducing facilities for education." One resolution calls for the extension of the franchise to women, on the same terms as it is granted to men; and another urges the appointment by local Education Authorities of women with qualifications as Health Visitors to act as Attendance Officers. Miss C. Neal (Swansea) is to move one on Equal Pay for men and women teachers of the same professional status. There is a resolution protesting strongly against the dismissal of experienced, fully-qualified women teachers on account of marriage; another which considers the imposition of compulsory domestic courses on girls under the age of fourteen to be an unfair handicap on a girl's education as compared with a boy's, for future wage-earning employment; and the last two protest against any reduction of educational facilities with regard to Special Schools, and deplore the present inefficient provision made for the care and education of mentally and physically afflicted children. We wish this Conference every success, and congratulate the National Union of Women Teachers on the broad view they take, as shown by their agenda, on the equal value of women and men, on education, the needs of the children, and the rights of trained professional workers.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29th, 1922.

NOTICE.—Letters should be addressed as follows:—
To the Advertising Manager—on advertising.
To the Secretary—on all other business, including VOTE orders,
printing, and merchandise, etc.

EDITORIAL.

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

EVENTS OF THE YEAR.

The year opened somewhat gloomily in this country in regard to women's interests in certain directions. The Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, which was to have been women's Charter of Equality and Freedom, showed itself capable of remarkably ingenious equivocations both in the letter and in the spirit of the law. In 1921, married women workers became the particular scapegoat of the moment, and early in 1922, certain Medical Schools, which opened their doors to women during the war, now began definitely to exclude them—the London Hospital in particular—whilst only comparatively few hospitals, even those with women and children patients, beyond the ones entirely organised by women, elected women, either on their medical staffs or governing bodies. The spirited action of Mrs. Simon, the Mayoress of Manchester, who refused to visit a local hospital in her official capacity because there were no women associated with its management, did much, not only to break down antediluvian prejudice, but to give the matter publicity.

The Geddes Report also did its best to hammer a few more nails in the coffin of this comparatively dead-letter Act. No woman found a place amongst the five members of its Committee, so it is perhaps not surprising that some of its findings included certain proposed reductions in the national outlay on Education, and the abolition of London's Women Police. The indignation amongst teachers and parents with regard to these proposed "cuts" in Education expressed itself, however, with no uncertain voice, whilst, thanks to our two indefatigable women M.P.s, and the concerted action of all the chief women's societies throughout the country, so insistent was the public demand for the retention of the Women Police, that Mr. Shortt was fain to bow his head before the storm, and agree to retain a nucleus of Women Patrols, with the object of expanding the force in the near future.

Another dishonesty in connection with the administration of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act was perpetrated in the late spring of this year, by the rejection of Lady Rhondda's claim to sit in the House of Lords as a woman peer. The Committee of Privileges, which, in March, decided to report in favour of Lady Rhondda's petition, on a later occasion reversed its original decision by a majority of 20 votes to four.

It is cheering to reflect, however, that in the midst of these disappointments and injustices towards women, some progress has undoubtedly been made in the direction of more equitable legislation between the sexes. At the opening of the Parliamentary Session, the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, which was withdrawn last year after it had passed its third reading, was included in the King's Speech. This Bill, which became law before the end of the Session, gave some additional protection to girls, though it did not raise the age of consent. Certain clauses, too, in the Law of Property Act, which equalise the law of inheritance between husband and wife, and the Infanticide Act, which protects desperate girl-mothers, represent other actual gains in legislation. Two other measures of special interest to women, viz., the Separation and Maintenance Orders Bill, and the Legitimation Bill, both of which had been taken over

by the Government, will now have to be reintroduced, owing to the interruption of the General Election in November; and two other Bills, the Guardianship of Infants Bill, and the British Nationality (Married Women) Bill, are suspended indefinitely.

Certain favourable changes in public opinion can also be traced, even if these have not yet been demonstrated by actual legislation. Attention is at last being focussed on the glaring sex inequalities of the franchise in this country, and the value of women jurors is no longer questioned in the Press. Women's employment, too, is beginning to receive more sympathetic treatment both in Parliament and by the public.

The position of the married woman in this country, however, is still most unsatisfactory. The married woman's right to work continues to be actively debated in various professional and industrial spheres, and we welcome the possibility of a test case in the near future. The Peel case, fortunately, shattered the prehistoric doctrine of "Coercion," whilst other cases dealing with heavy debts for clothes, incurred by married women, and many advertised hardships endured by British women married to foreigners, have all contributed their quota of publicity to the anomalous position of the married woman under British law. The Women's Freedom League, by means of pamphlets, and a special series of articles in THE VOTE, is determined to ventilate these special grievances so long as they remain unredressed.

Barriers in the pathway of women's emancipation continue to fall. This year has seen both the "call" of the first English woman barrister, Dr. Ivy Williams, and the appearance of the first woman solicitor, Miss Carrie Morrison. The Royal Society of British Sculpture has decided to admit women members, and the Royal Academy of Arts, for the first time in history, has elected a woman, Mrs. Annie Swynnerton.

For Feminists, however, the outstanding event of the year has been the General Election, on November 15th, when 33 women Parliamentary candidates stood for election. Even though it has only resulted in the return of the two original women members to the House of Commons, this Election is nevertheless a memorable one in the history of the Woman's Movement, inasmuch as it provided an opportunity for the carrying out of an enormous amount of propaganda work, and considerably weakened the prejudice, which still prevails in some constituencies, against women members of Parliament. The women candidates, too, none of whom were given a "safe" seat, polled fully twice as many votes as at the last General Election, in 1918.

The International aspect of the Woman's Movement is forging ahead. The British Government has at last yielded to pressure brought to bear by various women's organisations, and this year appointed a woman substitute delegate to the Assembly of the League of Nations in the person of Mrs. Coombe Tennant, who did excellent work in connection with the Humanitarian Commission at the Third Assembly at Geneva. There are 20 women, of varying nationalities, employed in an official capacity in connection with the Assembly, or with its various Committees. Only three of these, however, are British.

In 1921, 24 countries had enfranchised their women. This year the list has been increased by five more, the Irish Free State (where women sit both in the Dail and in the Senate), Bombay and Madras, which now have the vote for the Legislative Assembly, Burma, and Mysore State. The women of France, Italy, Bulgaria, Belgium, Roumania, Serbia, Spain, China, Turkey, Japan, Egypt, South Africa, Switzerland, Newfoundland, and all Latin America, however, are still struggling for the recognition of their political rights. A determined bid to help forward the freedom of their South American sisters was made by women of the North American Continent at the Pan-American Conference, held at Baltimore, in April, whilst still more strenuous efforts to assist the women of all the Latin countries will engross the energies of the Ninth Congress of the International Woman's Suffrage Alliance, which meets at Rome next May.

CATHOLIC WOMEN IN PUBLIC LIFE.

By LEONORA DE ALBERTI.

For some considerable time the majority of Catholic laywomen did not show any particular enthusiasm in taking up public work. Great progress, however, has been made in this direction of late years, and it is being realised daily more and more in Catholic circles how urgent is the need of women's work in public life.

Times are changing, and ideals, even in the most conservative circles, change likewise. Whereas, in former days, our ancestors would say that woman's highest duty was the family and the home, and think enough had been said, now the more enlightened among us say woman's highest duty is the family and the home; therefore, she must take her share in the making and administering of laws, if for no other reason than to protect the family and the home. It is not too sanguine to believe that this simple truth is permeating Catholic circles.

In most countries, Catholic women have powerful organisations of their own. The Catholic Women's Leagues in these various countries correspond, speaking generally, to our National Council of Women; the scope of their work is very similar, and they are definitely non-political. In a few countries, side by side with these Leagues, others have arisen, more on the lines of our Suffrage Societies. The Catholic Women's Suffrage Society of Great Britain is the pioneer along this more venturesome road. In the United States of America, the St. Catherine's Welfare Society worked for suffrage, and is a truly progressive society. In Belgium there is a strong body of Catholic suffragists, of which the best known to us is Mlle. Louise Van den Plas, Communal Councillor of Brussels, Secretary of the Ligue Catholique de Suffrage Feminin, and Editor of a progressive feminist paper entitled *Le Féminisme Chrétien*. In an article contributed to the *Catholic Citizen* of December, Mlle. Van den Plas tells us that only a strong Catholic majority will give Belgian women any chance of speedily obtaining the legislative

vote. In France, too, we have now a group of Catholic suffragists working under the leadership of Mme. Ghotard, a firm believer in the suffrage movement. These, with the Irish Catholic Women's Suffrage Association, now disbanded, are the only Catholic societies which have definitely worked for the suffrage. The Spanish Catholic feminist society, the *Accion Catholica de la Mujer*, has suffrage on its programme, but not as one of the primary aims of the society.

There are, however, on the Continent, very strong industrial organisations of Catholic women. At the International Congress held at Brussels in September, 1921, nine European nations were represented, Holland, Germany, France, Belgium, Austria, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, and Luxemburg. That Catholic working women from these countries should meet together to discuss closer co-operation for the betterment of economic conditions is a hopeful sign. The International Catholic Women's Leagues are also well organised and powerful. They held their fifth International Congress recently, when important discussions took place dealing with the moral question, and admirable resolutions on that subject were passed. Suffrage also was discussed, but the result was not very satisfactory. There seems to have been little opposition, and members were urged to prepare themselves to take up their civic duties; they were not urged to fight for political freedom.

There is a tendency among Catholic Women's organisations to stand aloof from international co-operation with non-Catholic bodies. It is a tendency which English Catholic suffragists deplore. There are, of course, difficulties on the Continent which do not obtain in England, but even so, Catholic countries are represented on the League of Nations, and there seems to be no insuperable obstacle to Catholic women co-operating in the same way with other international bodies. We can only hope that they will before long see the wisdom of such co-operation.

THE ROME CONGRESS.

The Ninth Congress of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance will be held in Rome, May 9th-19th, 1923. The headquarters will be the Hotel Quirinal, whilst the Congress itself will hold its meetings in the Palazzo del'Esposizione, Via Nazionale. The early part of the Session will be devoted to Board meetings and business generally, and public meetings and social features will predominate towards the end of the Congress.

On May 12th, an all-day Conference will be held under the direction of the four standing Committees which were set up two years ago, after the Geneva Congress. These are: (a) Equal Pay and the Right to Work, formerly under the Chairmanship of Mrs. Oliver Strachey, who has been forced to resign, owing to pressure of other work, and who has not yet been replaced; (b) Equal Moral Standard, presided over by Madame de Witt Schlumberger, first President of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, and President of the French Auxiliary; (c) Nationality of Married Women, presided over by Miss Chrystal Macmillan; and (d) Economic Status of wives and mothers, and of illegitimate children, presided over by Miss Eleanor Rathbone.

Reports of the results of the investigations carried on by these Committees during the last two years will be received and discussed. Under (a), women's pay and opportunities in all countries will be reviewed under three headings—Industry, the Civil Service, and the Professions. Under (b), the discussion will chiefly centre round Venereal Disease, and the subject of Pro-

phylaxis. Under (c), consideration will be given to the draft of an international agreement to get the same law passed in other countries which now obtains in the United States, by means of which a married woman is permitted the right to retain her nationality on marriage with a foreigner. Under (d) will be included not only the economic rights of children, whether legitimate or illegitimate, and the endowment of motherhood, but the right of a wife to a legal share in her husband's income.

Specially interesting features of the Congress will be an "Enfranchised Woman's Day," on May 16th, presided over by Miss Annie Furuhjelm, M.P. (Finland), the first woman M.P. in the world, when the topic for discussion will be "The Relations of Women to Political Parties"; a special meeting for women belonging to the unenfranchised countries, when the best methods of propaganda will be devised to bring such countries into line with the rest of the world; an evening Conference of women from all the continents—Europe, Asia, Africa, America, etc.; and a special meeting for women M.P.s. A ceremony within the Forum, tea on the Palatine Hill, a public dinner, and a possible suffrage procession, with banners, through the streets of Rome, are also being mooted.

The great feature of the Rome Congress will be the delegation from the East—India, China, and Japan being expected to send representatives—and the fact that for the first time an Eastern country, India, will answer to the roll-call of enfranchised women citizens.

WOMEN ARCHITECTS.

The recent election of three women Associates of the Royal Institute of British Architects, Miss Eleanor Katherine Dorothy Hughes, Miss Gertrude Wilhelmine Margaret Leverkus, B.A., and Miss Winifred Ryle, and the fact that, in London alone, there are 30 women students training to become architects, is sufficient evidence that women do not intend to neglect the possibilities of architecture as a profession. It is true that 22 years have elapsed since the first women passed their R.I.B.A. examination—Miss Ethel Mary Charles, in 1898, whose example was followed two years later by her sister, Miss Bessie Ada Charles—but this has not been the fault of the women themselves. Before the war, opportunities for training were practically non-existent, and it was only when the London Architectural Association at last consented to admit women students on the same terms as men, shortly after the Armistice, that women came forward in any appreciable numbers. The Architectural Association is the only school of architecture in the country which is carried on and controlled by practical architects, and therefore offers not only a specialised, but highly practical training.

The cost of training for an architect's profession probably also acts as a deterrent, for few fathers can afford a probable thousand even for a promising daughter. The period of training at the Architectural Association is five years, and the fees alone during this period amount to £300. The Association, however, offers some scholarships and prizes for open competition. Shorter courses of study may be obtained at the Society of Architects, or at the London University School of Architecture.

Miss Ryle, one of the new women architects to write A.R.I.B.A. after her name, is in practice in London, and is now engaged at Pangbourne, in Berkshire, in superintending the erection of one of the houses she has designed. She has probably inherited an architectural bent, as she is a relative of the late Sir Gilbert Scott and of the late Mr. George Bodley, the great ecclesiastical designer. Miss Ryle believes that a woman architect is peculiarly fitted to supply women's housing needs, and the houses she has in hand are full of labour-saving ideas, especially economy of space, easy communications, plenty of cupboard room, and special heating and cooking arrangements. Miss Ryle, at one time, was an instructress at the Architectural Association, where she had many men amongst her students. Like Miss Cooke, the first woman student to be awarded the Architectural Association Diploma in Architecture, she is engaged to marry an architect.

A MAGISTRATE'S IMPERTINENCE.

Last week a Holloway woman, although she strenuously denied the allegations made against her, was fined 10s. at Tottenham for accosting men. Two constables said they saw her speak to men, who were obviously annoyed. The magistrate, Mr. S. Platten, said he was quite satisfied with the evidence, and then made the surprising statement that the fact that the woman lived at Holloway and was walking in Tottenham at 10 o'clock at night was evidence against her! We are strongly of opinion that if this woman could have afforded legal defence, no conviction would have been recorded against her, or, if it had, it would subsequently have been quashed. This is the most unsatisfactory aspect of all these cases of alleged annoyance brought into court, and supported by police evidence only. They give the ordinary person the uncomfortable feeling that justice can only be obtained when people can afford to pay for it.

BOOK REVIEWS.

As I Remember. By E. E. Constance Jones, D.Litt., Late Mistress of Girton College. (A. & C. Black.) 7s. 6d. (Can be obtained at this Office.)

This "autobiographical ramble," as the writer describes it, narrates very pleasantly the childhood and early girlhood of one who was in turn student, Lecturer, Librarian, Vice-Mistress, and finally for thirteen years Mistress, of Girton, involving a period of over thirty years of unbroken residence at the College. In spite of luxurious surroundings in early life, very little satisfying mental fare fell to the writer's lot until she went to school in Cheltenham for one short year. "All 'novels' were forbidden," she tells us, "including Scott. Shakespeare was not allowed in the house. Longfellow was banned." In spite, however, of parental restrictions and abridged schooling, this ardent little scholar managed to get in touch with a Cambridge undergraduate, who lent her Mills' "Logic," and Fawcett's "Manual of Political Economy," which introduced her into the realms of Moral Science and Psychology, and opened up an entirely new and fascinating field of discovery. These subjects were studied by her to such good purpose, that, when, at a later period of her life, she was sent to Girton, through the agency of a sympathetic aunt, she was not only one of the first two students at Girton to get a First Class, in the Moral Science Tripos Examination, but was bracketed with the Senior Man in the Tripos. Incidentally, at this epoch, Miss Jones casts a sidelight on the method of examining women students in the Girton of her day. "The examination of women students at Cambridge in those days was quite informal, and depended entirely on the goodwill of the examiners; no examiner need look over the papers of a woman student unless he chose, and our results were not announced with the men's. So to us at Girton, remote, and anxious, and uninformed (we had then no telephones, bicycles, or taxis), it seemed that there was some delay in letting us know our fate, and, to relieve our minds, the Mistress, Miss Bernard, sent a messenger into Cambridge with a note of inquiry to Mr. Sidgwick, one of the examiners. He was at the 'Examiners' Dinner,' and the note came back with our results pencilled on the outside page" ! D. M. N.

Sowing Seeds in Danny. By Nellie L. McClung. (Hutchinson.) 7s. 6d. (Can be obtained at this Office.)

Those of our readers who followed the fortunes of the little Canadian suffragist, Pearl Watson, in "Purple Springs" (reviewed in THE VOTE, April 21st, 1922) will be interested to learn something of her somewhat precocious childhood, as the eldest but one of a family of nine children, struggling to maintain a precarious but cheerful existence in a little backwoods town in Manitoba. Danny is the youngest of the brood, and the seeds which are dropped into the somewhat unyielding soil of his young heart and mind are supposed to be planted by the "Pink Lady," Mrs. Francis, a well-to-do, childless woman, who indulges in theories to a greater extent than the Watson family care for. She thaws considerably, however, as the story develops, and some of the good deeds which Pearl credits her with, in the numerous romances she weaves for the younger children, actually take shape in the form of welcome material offerings. Dr. Horace Clay also figures in this earlier book, though far less prominently than in "Purple Springs."

The major portion of the story, however, centres again round Pearl, principally in her capacity as home help to the Motherwells on a distant farm, where she arrives with all her worldly belongings packed into an empty birdcage, the nearest thing to a Saratoga the Watson family can raise! Her adventures during her six months' sojourn under the Motherwell roof are sufficiently varied, and include saving the life of a young English gentleman farmer by prompt attention during an impromptu operation in the granary, carried out by Dr. Clay. For this Pearl receives quite a large sum of money from his grateful parents to put towards her future schooling. D. M. N.

Women's Freedom League.

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

Telephone—MUSEUM 1429.

Telegrams—"DESPARD, MUSEUM 1429 LONDON."

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS W.F.L.

LONDON AND SUBURBS.

1923.

Wednesday, January 17th, at 3 p.m., Hampstead Branch Meeting at 16, Denning Road, N.W.3.

Tuesday, January 23rd. Social, 7.30 to 10 p.m., at the Isis Club, Rockeslea, Fitzjohn's Avenue, Hampstead, N.W.3. (by kind invitation of Mrs. Harverson). Speech, 8 p.m., by Mrs. Nevinson, J.P., on "The Experiences of a Suffrage Speaker." Coffee.

Friday, February 2nd, at 5 p.m. Organisation Sub-Committee Meeting, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Friday, February 2nd, at 8 p.m. Reception to the Hon. Officials of the Women's Freedom League, at the Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Particulars later.

Saturday, February 3rd, at 10 a.m. National Executive Committee Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Friday, March 9th, at 5 p.m. Organisation Sub-Committee Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Saturday, March 10th, at 10 a.m. National Executive Committee Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Friday, April 27th. National Executive Committee Meeting, at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Saturday, April 28th. Women's Freedom League Annual Conference, Caxton Hall.

PROVINCES.

Wednesday, January 3rd, from 3—6 p.m. Hastings. Whist Drive, at Digsell, Baldslow Road (by kind permission of Mrs. Barlow). Tea 4.30. Tickets 1/6.

Wednesday, January 16th, at 3.15 p.m. Portsmouth. Public Meeting. The Lecture Hall, 2, Kent Road. Speaker: Mrs. Seaton Tiedeman. Subject: "Divorce Law Reform."

Tuesday, January 23rd, at 8 p.m. Southend-on-Sea and District. Public Meeting at St. John's Ambulance Hall, 76, Queen's Road. Speaker: Miss Dorothy Matthews, B.A. Subject: "Lunacy."

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Tuesday, January 2nd, at 8 p.m. Public Meeting in the Kingsway Hall, convened by the Women's International League.

NEW BRANCHES.

Preparations are being made for the formation of new Branches as follows:—

(1) Croydon, Sanderstead, Woldingham and district.

(2) Stroud Green, Hornsey, Finsbury Park, Harringay, Crouch End, Highbury and district.

(3) Teddington, Richmond, Kingston and district.

Will readers living in any of the above neighbourhoods, interested in the formation of these Branches, kindly communicate at once with (1) The Secretary, Women's Freedom League Office; (2) Miss Jamieson, 3, Oakfield Road, Stroud Green, N.; (3) Miss Underwood, 26, Cedar Road, Teddington, Middlesex?

ST. JAMES'S PARK KIOSK.

We learn with regret that Mrs. Orford has failed to secure the new kiosk recently built in St. James's Park. She offered £50 for it—all she could afford—but it has gone to another caterer for three times that amount. It will be remembered that Mrs. Orford's family has been associated with the supply of milk and refreshments in this neighbourhood for the past three hundred years, and we think it very hard that a woman of 64 years of age should thus be deprived of her livelihood. If she had been running a public-house, selling beer instead of milk, she would have been entitled to, and have received, compensation. We suppose that the authorities acted in accordance with their own commercial code, but we wish they had shown more generosity to Mrs. Orford, and more appreciation of the value of old associations, and of the claim established by centuries of useful service to the public.

OUR TREASURY.

GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD FAIR, 1922.

Branches:—	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Crosby and Waterloo	2	6				
Letchworth	9	6				
Manchester	8	6				
				1	0	6
Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P.	5	0	0			
Dr. Knight	5	0	0			
Mrs. E. Eagle	1	1	9			
Messrs. Jones and Higgins	1	1	0			
Mrs. Clarkson Swann	1	0	0			
Miss C. Newman	19	0				
Miss Bisdee	10	0				
Mrs. Beatrice Gilbert	10	0				
Miss E. Gulland	5	0				
Countess Raoul de Vismes	5	0				
Mrs. R. P. Underwood	4	0				
Mrs. Angold	3	3				
Miss K. Raleigh	3	0				
Mrs. Stafford Bailey	2	6				
Miss Alice Farmer	2	6				
Miss R. T. Wells	2	6				
Miss A. Fawcener	2	0				
				16	11	6

Rent of Stalls:—

Catholic Women's Suffrage Society	3	0	0
Crusader	3	0	0
Federation of Women Civil Servants	6	0	0
Women's Freedom League Nine Elms Settlement	3	0	0
Hartfield Hospital Home School	3	0	0
Minerva Publishing Co., Ltd.	5	0	0
Russian Shop	3	0	0
Friends' Relief Committee	3	0	0
Friends of Armenia	3	0	0
Bucks Cottage Workers' Agency	3	0	0
Miss Burwood	3	0	0
Miss Basnett	3	0	0
Messrs. Beatty Bros.	4	0	0
Messrs. Manuel Lloyd	3	0	0
Benefits	3	0	0
Portable Utilities Co.	3	0	0
Staines Kitchen Equipment	3	0	0

57 0 0

Stall Takings:—

Montgomery Boroughs (3)	65	5	6
White	37	19	3
Toy (2)	26	13	6
Miss Annie Hoare	10	0	
Miss M. E. Knight	2	6	
Swansea	23	14	9
Hampstead	18	17	0
Aprons and Overalls	15	2	3
Miss Fryer	1	0	0
Mrs. Thomas	10	0	
Mrs. Sutcliffe	5	0	
Pound	11	4	0
Miss Gillis	10	0	
Miss Munro	10	0	
Portsmouth	10	13	8
Stationery	10	5	3
Mid-London	10	0	7
Mrs. Lloyd	6	1	7
South Eastern	5	10	9
			244 15 7

Side Shows:—

Character Reading (Mrs. Goodall)	2	13	6
Phrenologist (Mr. Sons)	2	15	0
Silhouettes (Mr. Beech)	2	3	6
Numerology (Mrs. Westrup)	4	8	6
Hampstead Heath (Golders Green Branch)	3	4	10

Cloak Room	15	5	4
Refreshments (half takings), per Minerva Café	1	13	10
Tickets	15	9	0
	45	11	3

£397 7 0

To Branch Treasurers.

Please send me your Branch Cash Statements for 1922, to be included in our VOTE list; also Capitation Fees for 1922 should now be sent. E. KNIGHT.

Your Christmas Present!

The Christmas present that you intended to send to the Women's Freedom League—
If it has not been got off yet, please send it at once, and it will be just as useful as if it had come sooner.

FRIDAY,
DECEMBER 29
1922.

THE VOTE

ONE
PENNY
WEEKLY.

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Name

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

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30	2 3	6 3	12 0
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FRENCH LADY gives private French lessons in the evening. For particulars apply MDLLE. SABATIER, 33, Ardleigh Road, N.1.

CONVINCED Feminist (Practising Midwife) books lecturing engagements.—GATTY, 30 Retreat Place, Hackney

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Sunday, Dec. 31st, 3.15. Music, Poetry, Lecture. Dr. Percy Dearmer. 6.30. Miss Maude Royden. "Fellowship."

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- " 24th.—The Rise and Overthrow of the Beast. 666.
- " 31st.—The Truth about Birth Control and Pre-Natal Influences.

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