THE VOTE. OCT. 14, 1927.

MENACE TO WOMEN WORKERS.

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

VOL. XXVIII. No. 938. (Registered at the G.P.O.)

ONE PENNY.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1927

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 wellbeing of the community.

## PRINCIPAL CONTENTS.

SUCCESS AT LAST! GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD FAIR. WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD. BRITISH WOMEN DELEGATES AT THE ASSEMBLY,

EQUAL FRANCHISE AT CARDIFF-"GOING TOO FAR." MENACE TO WOMEN WORKERS. BOOK REVIEW: "From a Victorian to a Modern."

# SUCCESS AT LAST!

THE CHANNEL CONQUERED AGAIN.

Wednesday last week, Miss Mercedes Gleitze, the Hammersmith typist of 26, started from Cap Gris-nez at 2.55 a.m. last Friday, October 7th. This was her eighth cross-Channel swim and was an amazing success.

The sea was very calm, with a slack tide running and long intervals between the waves, but it was intensely cold-never over 60 degrees—with dense fog practically all the way. Passing steamers formed a danger; one passed quite close, and the friendly siren and cheers of passengers encouraged the swimmer.

Picking her way in the fog and sounding for rocks, the pilot Folkestone fishing-boat came unexpectedly upon the chalk cliffs of England, and Miss Gleitze, who had been swimming in great pain from the cold for the final two or three hours, felt her feet upon the rocks and lost consciousness. She remembered nothing more till she came to

After her plucky 8-hours' swim in the Channel, on cabin of her fishing boat on the way to Folkestone.



Miss Mercedes Gleitze and her two mascot pets.

Miss Gleitze landed at 6.10 p.m., having taken  $15\frac{1}{4}$  hours for the passage. She used breast and back strokes and single over-arm side stroke during the day, reached land between the South Foreland and St. Margaret's Bay, and was, at 10 p.m., cheered by large crowd at the top of the Fish Market, Folkestone.

Miss Gleitze is the third woman to succeed and the first Englishwoman, Miss G. Ederle and Mrs. Corson being American. She is slight, small and deter-mined. Next year she hopes to beat the record time from France to England, and then to try the crossing from England to France.

She has grown up near Brighton, the sound of the sea in her ears, and her ambition as quite a little girl was to conquer the Channel. Her great ambition now is to found a home for destitute men and women, and to this she will devote whatever money she may win by her endurance.

## SUCCESS OF WOMAN DOCTOR.

woman champion. During the night of Monday, October 10th, the Channel was again conquered by a woman-Miss Mona McLellan (in private life, Dr. Dorothy C. Logan). Entering the sea about tea-time next number,

The past splendid week has given us one more on Monday, she landed on Folkestone beach the next morning in time for breakfast. We hope to give our readers a portrait of Dr. Logan and fuller particulars of the fine achievement of Miss Mona McLellan in our

### ADVANCING IN OTHER COUNTRIES.

From The News Bulletin of the International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship.

Brazil.-Women in the State of Rio Grande do Norte of Brazil expect to receive full political rights next year. Senator Juvenal Lamartine, who becomes Governor of this State on January 1st next, made the granting of the vote and eligibility of women to the State Congress one of the main points of his platform as candidate for the Governorship.

Dr. Joana Lopes, a very able woman physician and ardent suffragist, has been appointed gynecologist to the Federal establishment for feeble-minded women by the President of Brazil from among many male candidates.

Finland.—As a result of the recent General Election, 16 women members have been elected, as compared with 18 in 1924; among them Annie Furuhjelm, the doyenne of women members of Parliament.

France.—In August, the new law on nationality was passed, containing clauses which are a triumph for women. By Article 8, a French woman marrying a foreigner does not lose her French nationality unless she makes a statutory declaration that she desires to adopt her husband's nationality. Further, a foreign woman marrying a Frenchman does not thereby acquire French nationality, unless under the laws of her husband's country she automatically loses her own nationality by the fact of marrying a foreigner.

Germany.—Frau Edith Mendelsohn Bartholdy, city councillor, has been appointed a member of the new Censory Board on Obscene and Trashy Literature in Leipzig, and Frau Anna von Gierke in Berlin.

## WOMEN AS ARCHITECTS.

A few weeks ago, we recorded instances of husbands and wives working together in partnership as archi-Now Dr. Henderson, Medical Officer of Health for Westmoreland, is reported by the Daily Express to have said that women should take up architecture to remedy the mistakes made by men! He stated that preposterous sites were chosen for homes, and that many houses were built with their backs to the sun, so that they would front a particular view. He added: "It is a wonder to me that women have so long kept out of the profession of architecture, considering how glaringly men have blundered in the matter of homemaking.

## TO ALL READERS OF "THE VOTE."

I want to make an appeal to all readers of The Vote to help us in the special effort we are making to increase the circulation of our paper.

We are all convinced of the valuable work The Vote is able to do in the Woman's Cause, so that we can unhesitatingly press for its wider distribution. At this particular time, when the women's societies are directing their efforts in a big push for Equal Franchise, members of the Women's Freedom League cannot do the cause better service than by making the paper more widely known. It is an excellent means of informing public opinion.

To the large body of prospective voters it should prove especially useful, for they will undoubtedly want to fit themselves for the use of the franchise when it is

All who read The Vote know that a special feature of its usefulness is its conciseness, that in political matters it contains multum in parvo, so that for busy people who want accurate and up-to-date news of the current position and happenings, it is the very thing to save their time and give them just the information

We hope to make a real forward movement this year, and THE VOTE should be one of our chief instruments.

I shall be glad to hear from any of our readers who will be willing to sell THE VOTE at public meetings, or get it taken at libraries, clubs, etc.

(Hon. Head, Vote Sales Department) E. Rodgers.

# OUR ANNUAL GREEN, WHITE & GOLD FAIR.

To be held this year on

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23RD AND 24TH,

## THE CAXTON HALL, WESTMINSTER.

from 3 to 9 p.m.

To be formally opened each day at 3 p.m.

ON WEDNESDAY BY

Mrs. ELIOTT LYNN.

Chair: MRS. PETHICK-LAWRENCE.

## ON THURSDAY BY THE LADY BALFOUR OF BURLEIGH.

Chair: MRS. SCHOFIELD COATES, J.P.

Entertainments:

DISPLAY OF OPERATIC, CLASSICAL AND CHARACTER DANCES

(by pupils of Miss Grace Woollacott of Wimbledon).

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 24th AT 6 PM

COMPETITIONS. CONCERTS. GAMES CHARACTER READING. PHRENOLOGY. NUMEROLOGY.

Teas and Refreshments at moderate prices served in the Lounge

> Teas from 3.30 to 6 p.m. Refreshments after 7 p.m.

### Other Societies and Friends taking Stalls:-

The Alliance of Honour (The Women's Section).

Barclay Workshops (for Blind Women).

The British Commonwealth League.

The Dewdrop Curtain Co.

The Equal Political Rights Campaign Committee.

The St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance.

The Nine Elms Settlement

The Town Crier Ltd.

Miss Burwood (Beads).

The Baroness Halse De Ville (Devon Stall).

Miss Ida Stamm (Veloutine Work).

Tickets-1/10 (including Tax) the first day until 5 p.m. after 5 p.m. and on the second day 1/2 (including tax)—on sale at 144, High Holborn, or from the Societies and Friends taking Stalls.

All Communications and Gifts (also applications for Stalls) should be sent to Miss E. Berry, Hon. Fair Sec., at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

## WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

### Two Men-One Woman J.P.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1927.

Mrs. Marion Swabey, Little Sampford Rectory, and two men have been appointed Justices of the Peace for the county of Essex.

### Woman Mayor for Whitehaven.

Miss Caroline Helder, the first woman to be elected to the Town Council of Whitehaven, has been nominated Mayor of Whitehaven. Miss Helder is the District Commissioner of West Cumberland Girl Guides.

### Woman Mayor for Salisbury.

The Hon. Lady Hulse, sister of Viscount Burnham, the only woman member of the Town Council, has accepted the invitation to become Mayor of Salisbury.

### Smethwick Woman Councillor.

Mrs. Chesney (Unionist) has been elected by a large majority to fill a vacancy in the Bearwood Ward on Smethwick Town Council.

## Woman's New Appointment.

Miss Ida C. Mann, new assistant surgeon to the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital (Moorfields) is the first woman to be appointed to the honorary staff of the hospital.

### Aberdeen Honours Lady Cowdray.

Last week, at Dunecht House, Aberdeenshire, Viscountess Cowdray received from representatives of Aberdeen Council, caskets containing the burgess tickets admitting herself and the late Lord Cowdray to the Freedom of the City. The public presentation of the Freedom was prevented by the death of Lord Cowdray on the eve of the intended ceremony in May.

### Girl's Successes for Poster Designs.

Miss Margaret Robinson, of Forest Gate, secured the first prize, in a competition recently organised by the West Ham Electricity Department, for poster designs suitable for the Department's use. Robinson, who is a promising young student at the West Ham Municipal College School, also won, last autumn, the first prize offered by the West Ham Council for the design used for poster reproduction purposes in connection with the Health Week Exhibition, held at the Stratford Town Hall.

### Mrs. Eliott Lynn creates new World's Record.

Last Saturday, at Manchester, Mrs. Eliott Lynn, in an Avro-Avian two-seater plane, reached a height of 19,000 ft., nearly four miles. She carried a passenger, and the flight was officially observed by officials on behalf of the Royal Aero Club. The previous record, created by Lady Bailey last July, was 17,283 ft.

### Girl's 300-ft. Climb.

Miss Vera Tomlinson, the 20-year-old daughter of a steeplejack, climbed last week to the top of Brookes' chimney, Huddersfield, which is 303 feet high, the loftiest chimney in England, and thus established a

### Woman as Joint Hunt Master.

Miss Wharton has been made one of the four Joint-Masters to the Cleveland Hunt.

### Holland Appoints Woman Consul.

Miss E. F. Rankel has been appointed Dutch Consul in Jerusalem.

## Woman Councillor in Rangoon.

Mrs. A. A. Ure, O.B.E., has been elected to fill the seat in the Rangoon Corporation that had been left vacant by the death of the former woman Councillor, Dr. Mary Kingsley. She defeated a powerful opponent, Mr. H. J. Green, official bookmaker of the Rangoon Club.

### BRITISH WOMEN DELEGATES AT THE ASSEMBLY.

The National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship are to be warmly congratulated on the opportunity they provided last Monday afternoon for members of women's organisations to meet and to listen to Dame Edith Lyttelton (substitute delegate for Great Britain to the Assembly of the League of Nations) and Mrs. Moss (substitute delegate for Australia). The Council Chamber of Caxton Hall was crowded when Miss Rathbone, from the Chair, said that last September was the third occasion on which Dame Edith had represented this country at the League Assembly. It was the first time that Mrs. Moss had gone to Geneva from Australia, but her country had, on previous occasions, included a woman in its delegation. Dame Edith Lyttelton said she believed that the last Assembly had been the most interesting and the most hopeful of all. It was more evident that the League was now really settling down to business, facing facts, and becoming active, and there was healthy and open criticism in the League which gave promise for the future. She herself had served on the Fifth Commission and on the Intellectual Co-operation Section of the Second Commission. The 1925 Convention on Opium had not yet been ratified. The manufacturing interests were against Government control of opium in many countries. With regard to the Traffic in Women and Children, there had been real advance against this traffic. Germany had decided to abolish licensed houses, and licensed houses would be abolished in Hungary by May, 1928. Dame Edith Lyttelton said that the only way to deal with this traffic was by giving the matter full publicity, because the mass of people did not know what was happening. There was a perpetual stimulus given to vice by people who made money out of it. Touching on the Armenian refugees, Dame Edith urged all women to do everything in their power to get the Government to redeem this country's pledge to Armenia to provide it with a national home. With regard to future peace, the speaker believed that the Security and Arbitration Committee was another route by which it might be reached, and if once we got near to security, disarmament would come in sight. She also believed that, if children were taught to respect children of other nationalities, the foundations of peace would be more securely laid.

Mrs. Moss said that she was appointed to the Fourth Commission, and was put on the Finance Committee. She had to travel 12,000 miles to get to Geneva from Australia, but it was well worth the journey. She herself had to replace a delegate on the Finance Committee. When she first entered that Committee room, it was politely suggested that perhaps she had lost her way! When she was the only woman among 49 men and had to uphold a grant to the Codification of International Law, she was pleased to feel that she was just blazing the way for other women to follow. Mrs. Moss said that when she returned to Australia she would do all she could to influence everyone there to appreciate and value the work that was being done by the League of Nations in the cause of peace. If war record for a woman. She took 15 minutes to make was to be outlawed, women must work harder in training their children in the laws of peace. Mrs. Moss cordially agreed with Dame Edith Lyttelton that the present position of the Armenians was a blot on England and on the Empire. The meeting was brought to a close by according the speakers a hearty vote of thanks, which was proposed by Miss Helen Ward and seconded by Miss Chrystal Macmillan.

## OLIVER GOLDSMITH SCHOOL, PECKHAM ROAD.

Sunday, October 16th, at 7 p.m.

Mrs. SEATON TIEDEMAN on

"THE SEX WAR."

Questions Invited.

## THE VOTE.

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

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14th, 1927.

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.

### Telegrams: "DESPARD, Museum 1429, London." Telephone: MUSEUM 1429. EDITORIAL.

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

### EQUAL FRANCHISE AT CARDIFF.

Women have every reason to be gratified with the

magnificent support given to the Equal Franchise

ence. held last week at Cardiff. This was a splendid

victory for women, only about 30 votes being given

resolution at the Conservative and Unionist Confer-

for the amendment which asked that the voting age of women should be 25 instead of 21. In moving the resolution, Mr. Morgan said it was common knowledge that among a section of the Conservative Party considerable influence had been at work to frustrate justice being afforded to women; but he had not heard or read of any tangible argument adduced against the placing of women on the same footing as men in regard to the franchise. In seconding, Mr. Holmes, of York, declared that if they were to insult women by turning down the proposal to extend the franchise, thousands of them would show resentment at the next election. In opposing the amendment, Capt. Ian Fraser, M.P. (N. St. Pancras), said that this amendment was based on misleading arguments and much misrepresentation. If there were any "flappers" in this country-and he doubted it now-they were charming young people of 16 or 17. They were not, and they never were, women The proposal of the Government was not to add to the Register a vast number of persons too young to know what they were about. One-third of these people who were to be added were over 30, one-third were over 25, and only one-third of them were under 25. Some of these, probably four-fifths, were 24, 23, or 22. To compromise at 25 was not practical politics Opponents of the proposal talked about placing power in the hands of the women, but he asked if the power was not already in those hands? We are told that, at the conclusion of his speech, Capt. Fraser sat down amid loud cheers, which continued for some little time, and were renewed when it was seen that the amendment had been so definitely defeated and Mr. Morgan's resolution carried by an overwhelming majority. We congratulate the Prime Minister, who gave us his pledge for Equal Franchise, on the backing of his own Party for that pledge; and that he was able to say at Cardiff that the Conservative Party had made up its mind on this question of women's votes. He added that he did not think they were going to show at this date a lack of faith in their own countrywomen. It is well known that both the Labour and Liberal Parties are pledged up to the hilt on this question of Equal Franchise, so that there can be practically no opposition to the Government's promised Equal Franchise measure. The measure ought to be safely on the Statute Book next year. Long experience has taught us that all delay is dangerous; even the Prime Minister could not rule out of all calculations an "unexpected catastrophe." We do not anticipate disaster, but we do urge most emphatically that, in order to ensure that women shall vote at the same age and on the same terms as men at the next General Election, the Government's Equal Franchise measure shall not only appear in the King's Speech, as we confidently expect that it will, but that the placing of this Equal Franchise measure on the Statute Book shall be the first business

### THE COMING ELECTIONS.

On November 1st, we shall again have elections to the Municipal Councils outside London. Women have done splendid work in local government, and we are delighted to see that there will be an increase of women Mayors next year. We also hope that many more women will be elected to local Councils. There are so many questions to be dealt with, which have a direct bearing on the health, the welfare, and good conduct of the locality, in which women's experience would be specially helpful; but we also insist that in every matter which comes before the Council, women citizens are as vitally concerned as the men. We therefore urge that local parties and associations should see that a number of suitable women should be nominated as their candidates and given every support; and that, where a public-spirited woman comes forward as an Independent, public-spirited men and women should help in every possible way to get her elected. We urge our readers to look to the Education Committees appointed by the Councils, and to see that able women get elected and co-opted to them. Municipal elections give an excellent opportunity to press upon public attention the need for women police to patrol the streets, the parks, and the public places. All candidates should be closely questioned as to their attitude in regard to the employment of married women by the Council, and definitely opposed if they will not recognise a married woman's right to independence. Marriage did not prevent the Duchess of Atholl being appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Education. Why should marriage prevent a woman from being appointed as a teacher? Women and men electors who believe in equal opportunities for the sexes should make it clear that they will only vote for those candidates who are prepared to support the opening of all posts under the Council equally to men and women, and to choose the best candidate for the post, irrespective of the candidate's sex. It is only in this way that women can secure full equality with men in regard to opportunities, rewards, and responsibilities—the object for which we are working. It is only in this way, too, that we can eliminate the appalling waste of women in our

### "GOING TOO FAR."

Mr. J. C. Harvey, a member of the Deptford Borough Council, is very upset because a woman, Mrs. B. M. Drapper, has been asked to become the next Mayor of Deptford. He declares that he will resign his seat if she becomes Mayor! He has gone farther and has issued a statement, in which he says: "I object to sitting under the chairmanship of a woman. It is bad enough for women to have votes and to be eligible for election to Borough Councils and Parliament, but when they are elected to the Chair, it is going too far. If Mrs. Drapper is elected Mayor for the ensuing year, I shall have no other course than to resign my seat on the Council. I have always been an opponent of woman's suffrage, and the mentality and attitude of most modern women in endeavouring to ape man gives me cause for alarm as to the future of this dear old country. My opinion may seem archaic, but if men had the courage of their convictions, I am certain that women would not have votes now, neither would they be tolerated so much in business." Well, well, he does seem to take himself seriously, but Deptford Council may be able to get on without him. Mrs. Drapper is one of the women members of the Food Council; she has been a member of the Greenwich and Deptford Board of Guardians for 21 years, and chairman for the last three. Mrs. Drapper has also been a member of the Deptford Borough Council for eight years, and her nomination as Mayor is supported by the entire Council, with the exception of Councillor

## WOMEN WORKERS. MENACE TO

of the public which is interested in the State schools,

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but which are, nevertheless, important and far-reaching. These changes have occurred in the elementary schools, where, gradually, the system of separate junior schools and senior schools is being developed instead of having, as formerly, one school for children between the ages of 7 and 14. Educationists have come to believe that, at the age of 11 or thereabouts, when the boy or girl has learnt to read intelligently and easily, and has mastered the elements of arithmetic, and when, generally speaking, the foundations of education have been laid, the time has come for a break in the school-life, and that a new educational régime should come into existence. It is at that age—11 or 11 plus—that transfers to the secondary schools are made, and therefore it is at that age, too, that those children who are to complete their education in some form of elementary school should make a change, if that change is to be made at all. A fillip to this belief was given by the publication, in the latter part of last year, of the Report of the Consultative Committee of the Board of Education on " Education of the Adolescent." This Report definitely advocates the establishment of either special schools -central or "modern" schools-or of special classes for the education of the over-elevens. The central or modern schools may be of two types: (1) Those in which the pupils are selected by a competitive examination, and (2) those in which the pupils are simply compulsorily transferred from other schools or groups of schools. Naturally, the character of the work done in the two types of schools will vary considerably, that in the former probably partaking somewhat of the nature of that usually done in the secondary schools, while in the latter attention would probably be more given to handicrafts and similar work. The Report suggests that schemes should be devised by which there can be a regular and systematic flow of pupils from these schools to the secondary schools, so as to give the opportunity of full secondary school education to those who show the ability for it. In order that the fullest possible benefit could be derived from the central schools, the Committee recommended that the schoolleaving age should be raised to 15-a reform for which educationists have been agitating for years, and which was provided for by the Fisher Act of 1918; this clause of the 1918 Act, however, has never been put in force and is not to be even now, for, with the issue of the Report, the present Minister of Education sent a letter stating that it was not his intention to adopt this suggestion. It is to the credit of the parents that so many of them see the wisdom of giving their children as much education as possible, so that the number of elementary school children who remain at school till 15 or later is steadily increasing.

Although the issue of the Report has focussed attention upon central schools, they are in reality no new thing, various types of such schools having been in existence in many parts of the country for a long time; but the suggestions of the Committee will be helpful in bringing some system and order out of the indefiniteness of the position of these schools in the educational system of the country, and will cause their establishment in those districts where hitherto there have been none.

In reorganising their schools so as to provide for the special education of the older pupils, local education authorities have adopted varying plans; sometimes two contiguous schools are correlated, one becoming a junior school and the other a senior school, each school the arduousness, of their work.

During the past few years, quiet changes have been having separate departments for boys and girls; sometaking place in the educational world, which have, times a group of three schools is altered, so that the perhaps, not been obvious to even that small section centrally situated one becomes the senior school to which the children from the other two junior ones are transferred at the appropriate age; in other cases, a single school of two departments is reorganised as a senior mixed and a junior mixed, with a head teacher in charge of both girls and boys in each department.

It is greatly to be regretted that an educational development which is, in many respects, so excellent, should have been made the means of meting out injustice and hardship to women teachers. The idea, in spite of evidence to the contrary, that women cannot control boys, is one that dies very hard indeed in the minds of members-nearly all men-of education authorities; and so, in practically every case where senior mixed school is established, a master is appointed to the headship, the women who are employed acting always as assistants in the senior schools. In some instances, too, masters have even been appointed as heads of junior mixed, or of junior mixed and infants' schools, though they are fitted neither by temperament nor training to deal with very young children.

In the reorganisation of schools, also, for economical reasons, schools which have previously worked as separate departments, each with its own head teacher, are being formed into single department schools, with one head teacher in charge of the whole. Thus, girls' schools are being joined to boys' to make a mixed department, and infants' schools are being combined either with a mixed or with a girls' school. This naturally means the displacement of a head teacher, and, in practically every case, the one who is displaced is a woman, who has either to take a subordinate position or to seek work elsewhere. In the past few years, some hundreds of school departments have in this way ceased to exist, with a consequent loss of headships available to women, and a corresponding loss of avenues of promotion for the women in the

Thus, women teachers are suffering loss of status in two ways-in the senior schools they are often being relegated to the subordinate positions, while their chances of promotion in the profession generally are being reduced.

This is a serious position, not only for women teachers themselves, but for all women, as the status and interests of any one set of workers reacts upon others. For years feminists have been fighting for Equality of Opportunity for men and women workers and have been claiming the right of women of ability to the higher posts in industry and in the professions. It is well that women should realise what is now taking place in the teaching profession, and that they should put their strength into combating this steady pressure of women into inferior positions. The force of the pressure is a revelation that the old sex prejudices and jealousies are still in existence, and is a further proof, if any is needed, that the time has not yet come when women can rest assured that justice will be given them unless they themselves fight for it. The present position is a menace to all our ideals of equality, and should show to those who thought that the obtaining of the vote by SOME women would bring the attainment of their desires, that the struggle is by no means ended Even when all women are enfranchised, the vote must then be used as a weapon to continue the breaking down of all the barriers to women's complete freedom to share equally with men in the honours, as well as in

TEA AND POLITICS-UP-TO-DATE MEETING. Wednesday, Nov. 2nd, 4 to 5.30 p.m., at the Minerva Club, Brunswick Sq., W.C.1 LEADER OF DISCUSSION: Mrs. PETHICK-LAWRENCE.

### NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the National Executive Committee was held, last Saturday, at the Women's Freedom League Offices, those present being Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence (President), in the Chair, Dr. Knight (Hon. Treasurer), Mrs. Brading (Portsmouth), Miss A. M. Clark (Montgomery Boroughs), Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P. (Middlesbrough), Miss Manclark (Edinburgh), Miss Anna Munro, Miss C. Neal (Swansea), Miss M. I. Neal, Mrs. Pierotti, Miss Marian Reeves, Mrs. Stedman, Mrs. Zangwill, and the Secretary.

Reports were considered, discussed and passed from the Hon. Treasurer, the Hon. Organising Secretary (Mrs. Whetton), the Secretary, and from the Political, Literature and Vote Sales Departments. Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence and Miss Munro had taken part in the first public meeting held by our new branch at Newbury, and Miss M. I. Neal had spoken at meetings arranged by our Ashford and Rye branches. Branches and organisers had arranged good programmes of work for the coming winter months

In a report read from Miss E. Berry, Hon. "Fair" Secretary, all members were urged to collect goods for the various stalls, and to do their utmost to get people to come to our Green, White and Gold Fair, to be held at Caxton Hall, Westminster, on Wednesday and Thursday, November 23rd and 24th, members living out of London being asked to write to friends in London to come to it.

In connection with the Cardiff Conference, the following statement was sent to the Press, signed by our President: "The National Executive Committee of the Women's Freedom League congratulates the Prime them she helped to expose the horrors of prison life for Minister on the enthusiastic backing he received from women 20 years ago. She was also a vigorous taxhis own Party at the Cardiff Conference for his Equal Franchise pledge, and urges him to introduce his Equal Franchise Bill as the first business in the Parliament of 1928, so that his promise that women shall vote at endured had a serious effect on her health, and she was the same age and on the same terms as men at the obliged to retire from active service for a time. Later next General Election shall not be endangered."

With regard to future work, the Committee asked our branches to continue to organise deputations to Equal Franchise, and to renew their work on behalf of married women's right to independence, women in the House of Lords, and the removal of all restrictions on the work of women which are not imposed on the work of men. Our branches were further asked to do everything in their power to get women nominated, either as Independents or through their political Parties, as candidates for the forthcoming municipal elections outside London, and to work for women candidates, irrespective of the Party for which they stand. Branches are also urged to question all candidates on their attitude towards the employment of married women, and the throwing open of all posts under the Council equally to women and men.

The Committee expressed great pleasure that Miss chivalry is made in vain. Rodgers had become Honorary Head of our Vote Sales Department, and asked for the cordial co-opera- ciated with the international movement for the freedom tion of our members in her work. We all want to see of the workers, and in its ranks she came into contact the circulation of our paper increased, and shall be with many interesting personalities who flit across the most grateful for all our readers may do to help us in this matter.

Mrs. Pierotti reported that the Women's Freedom League Diaries will soon be in the Office, and asked for orders. The price of these Diaries is 2s. The Hon. Head of our Literature Department also reminds readers that all their books can be obtained through her differs from some of her contemporaries, she can under-Department, and that she will have a choice selection of books on sale at our Green, White and Gold Fair.

## "VOTE" SELLERS' RALLY.

last Friday evening, proved to be a very enjoyable business meeting. After supper, Dr. Knight presided, formally welcomed Miss Rodgers as the Hon. Head of The Vote Sales Department, and appealed for support Dora B. Montefiore must always have been a modern! from League members in Miss Rodgers' efforts to

increase the circulation of our paper. Miss Rodgers, who received a very cordial welcome, said how highly she appreciated our paper, and declared it was the best means of propaganda the Women's Freedom League had. She asked for definite promises of help to get it more widely known in London, and stated that she meant to try for the co-operation of our branches and members outside London to make it known in their areas. Miss Rodgers was supported by Mrs. Schofield Coates, Miss Clark, Miss Munro, and Mrs. Flowers. A good many practical suggestions for increasing our circulation were made in the discussion by those present, who also offered their help in carrying out those suggestions. During the evening, Miss Marks gave some delightful Irish songs and recitations.

### BOOK REVIEW

From a Victorian to a Modern, By Dora B. Montefiore. (E. Archer.) Price 5s. (Can be obtained from our Office.)

Suffragists of all denominations will be keenly interested in Mrs. Montefiore's reminiscences, for she was one of the pioneers in the movement for the political emancipation of women, first in New South Wales and later in this country. She was associated with our own beloved First-President, Mrs. Despard, with Mrs. Pankhurst and others, in the early days of the great struggle, and took her full share of the fighting. She was one of the first women to go to prison for the cause with Mrs. How Martyn, Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence, Mrs. Cobden Sanderson, and others, and along with resister, and the siege of her house at Hammersmith, christened "Fort Montefiore," provided a nine days wonder for Press and public. But the hardships she on, she became identified with the adult suffrage move ment, as is well known, and did yeoman service therein.

In this book, Mrs. Montefiore gives an interesting Members of Parliament who were not favourable to account of her long and adventurous life spent in the service of humanity. From the days of her happy childhood at her father's beautiful home in Surrey to the present day she has used her many and varied gifts in the effort to obtain freedom and happiness for her fellow-creatures in this and other countries. Herself independent and well-endowed, she has devoted herself, with singular generosity, to the service of the oppressed and the disinherited. Whether she is organising working women in the East End of London, or caring for the Dublin children during the great lockout, or looking after the poilus in the French Army during the Great War because they were so much worse off than the English soldiers, she is always on the side of the "under-dog," and no appeal to her

Mrs. Montefiore has, of course, always been assopages of this book. Artists and writers have been her friends, as well as politicians, and her travels in many lands, including Australia, South Africa, and the continent of Europe, have given her a wide knowledge of the world and a deep understanding of her fellow-men. While explaining quite frankly the points on which she stand and tolerate another's point of view-a rare virtue among women or men! It is, indeed, a gracious personality which shines upon us from these pages, like the beautiful portrait of the author which adorns the book, and we must hope that Mrs. Montefiore may long The "Vote" Sellers' Rally, held at the Minerva Club be spared to enrich the world with her wisdom and her charity. There is only one criticism that occurs to this reviewer--why did the author choose such a title? Surely, whether she wore long skirts or short ones,

## Women's Freedom League.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1927.

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

Telephone: - MUSEUM 1429. Telegrams :- " DESPARD, MUSEUM 1429, LONDON." Colours-GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD. President-Mrs. PETHICK-LAWRENCE. Hon. Treasurer-Dr. E. KNIGHT. Hon. Organising Secretary-Mrs. WHETTON. Hon. Head Literature Department-Mrs. PIEROTTI. Hon. Head Vote Sales Department-Miss RODGERS. General Secretary-Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD.

## WHERE TO GO.

### WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

LONDON AND SUBURBS



Thursday, October 20th, 7.30 p.m. Equal Political Rights Campaign. Meeting at Highbury Corner. Thursday, October 27th, at 7.30 p.m. Equal Political Rights Campaign. Meeting at Highbury Corner. Speaker: Miss Olive

DARE TO

BE FREE.

Wednesday, November 2nd, at 4 p.m.

Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Tea
and Politics - up - to - date. Leader of Discussion: Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence.

Cussion: Mrs. Petnick-Lawrence.

Thursday, November 3rd, at 7.30 p.m.

Equal Political Rights Campaign. Meeting at Highbury Corner, arranged by the Women's Freedom League. Speaker: Mrs. Lawry Wednesday and Thursday, November 23rd and 24th, 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. Green, White and Gold Fair at Caxton Hall, Westminster, S.W. PROVINCES.

Tuesday, October 18th, at 3.30 p.m. Hastings. Committee Meeting at the Open Door Club, Trinity Street. October 21st.

Darlington. Whist Drive at the Temperance Institute.

Monday, October 24th, at 8 p.m. Wallasey. Whist Drive at Memorial Hall, Manor Road. Tickets

Saturday, October 29th, at 2.30 p.m.
Newtown, North Wales. Jumble Sale in Congregational Schoolroom Tuesday, November 8th at 7.30 p.m.

Portsmouth. Equal Franchise Meeting. Speaker: Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence. Monday, November 21st, at 8 p.m.
Walla by. Public Meeting in the Central Liberal Hall. Speaker:
Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence on "Will 1928 bring us Democracy?"

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Friday, October 14th, at 7.30 p.m.
Debate at Commercial Institute, Raverston Street, Balham, on Debate at Commercial Institute, Naverston Strest, Balnam, on "Shuud Women have the Vote at 21?" Opener: Miss Marian Reeves. Opposer: Mr. Ignatius B. Kelly, M.A., Barrister-at-Law. Friday and Saturday, October 14th and 15th.

At the London School of Economics, Houghton Street, Aldwych, W.C.2. Public Conference on "Family Alluwances."

October 15th, at 3 p.m.

Speech Club, Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Speaker R v Devereux on "The Contempora y Theatre." Chairman : Miss

Lucy Bell.

Saturd 3y, October 15th, at 3 p.m.

Equal Political Rights Campaign. Hyde Park. Meeting arranged by the Guild of Girl Citizens.

Sunday, October 16th, at 3.30—4.45 p.m.

Guildhouse, Ecclest n Square, S W.1. Speaker : W. M. R. Pringle "Parliament."

Tuesday, October 18 h, at 6 p.m.

Women's International League. Lecture at King's College, Campden
Hill, W.8, by Mr. T'Ang Leang-Li, on "The International Position in

Monday, October 24th, at 8 p.m.
League of Nations Union. Public Meeting in Queen's Ha'l, on
"Disarmament." Speakers: Mrs. Lloyd George, M.P., Mrs. Philip

Speakers: Mrs. Lloyd George, M.P., Mrs. Philip Snowden, and Professor Gilbert Murray Monday, October 31st, at 8 p.m.

Bexley Heath Congregational Guild Lecture Hail. Debate on "Equal Franchise." Proposer: Miss Marian Reeves. Opposer: Miss Carthew.

Miss Carlow.
Thursday, November 3rd, at 8 pm.
National Council for the Abolition of the Death Penalty. Public Meeting at Friends' House (opposite Euston Station). Speakers: Commander Kenworthy, M.P., The Hon. Lady Barlow, and Sir

Robert Newman, M.P.

Saturday, December 17th, at 3 p m.

Speech Cub. Debate between Dr. Marion Phillips and Miss Marian Reeves on "Protective Legislation for Women," at the Minerya Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1.

### BRANCH NOTES.

We are very grateful to Miss Bellhouse for lending her room for the meeting last Thursday evening. In introducing the speaker, Miss Bellhouse said that there was greater need to-day for women to band together than ever before. Miss M. I. Neal spoke clearly and lucidly on the subject of the work of the Women's Freedom League, emphasising the fact that co-operation amongst women is essential. Her remarks with regard to education west listened to with great attention. She pointed out various post that are still held by men only, and urged her hearers to come forward and help in the fight that women are making. Several questions were asked, and Miss Neal dealt with these in a satisfactory manner. New members were made. The Vote sold well. We are calling a members' meeting at an early date, to form a Committee. There are now 12 members, and we want to go

ahead with what promises to become a successful branch.

Dr. Lewin is again speaking at the Old Hope Anchor Hotel early in November. Miss Bellhouse has kindly consented to preside.

### ASHFORD.

Miss Neal received a warm welcome from her admirers at Ashford last Friday. Mrs. Miles presided. Miss Neal spoke on "Housing," always an interesting subject, but she gave fact that were engrossing in the extreme. Miss Neal dealt largely with figures, pointing out how many houses kad been built of late years. As an outcome of this meeting, Mrs. Palmer has sent a letter to the local M.P., reminding him of his promise to support

a letter to the local M.P., reminding him of his promise to support votes for women of 21.

An appeal was made for gifts for the S.E. Branches' Stall. Will members please send direct to Mrs. Palmer, "Castlemaine," Temmett Road.

### WALLASEY

The date of our public meeting, to be held in the Central Liberal Hall, has been changed to Monday evening, November 21st, when our President, Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence, will speak on "Will 1928 bring us Democracy?" Before that meeting, we are having a whist drive in the Memorial Hall, Manor Road, on Monday, October 24th, at 8 p.m. Tickets, 2s., including Tea. (Hon. Sec.) Mrs. Andain, 22, Cromer Drive.

### EQUAL POLITICAL RIGHTS CAMPAIGN

### HIGHBURY CORNER MEETING.

In spite of indifferent weather, the Women's Freedom League held its usual meeting on Thursday evening, September 29th, when an interested audience gathered to hear Miss Pearson speak on "The Need for Equal Franchise." Miss Pearson explained that we were not merely asking for "Votes for Flappers," and stressed the injustice to voteless women over 30. The sympathy of the audience was manifest when Miss Pearson cited her own case. Living with parents, she was without the right to vote, while three younger brothers, also living at home, had been voting for many years.

many years.

Members of the audience promised to send postcards to their respective M.P.s., and also to visit them at the House of Commons.

The usual resolution was put and carried enthusiastically and

unanimously.

An audience of about 250 people, mainly men, gathered last Thursday evening. Miss Lightman asked their support in our claim for full powers of citizenship, and explained how wom a could thus work more effectively for reform in education, housing, hospital, and poor law administration, etc. Half an hour was devoted to questions, and at the close the resolution was carried unanimously. Eighteen copies of THE VOTE were sold.—H. C.

### OUR OPEN COLUMN.

To the Editor of THE VOTE.

### First Woman Lord Mayor.

October 9th, 1927.

Dear Editor,—Referring to the interesting article in last week's Vote, in regard to women Mayors, may I point out that Miss Beavan will not be the first woman Lord Mayor. Miss Ethal Mary Colman was Lord Mayor of Norwich in 1923-24.—Yours very truly,

D. M. NORTHEROFT.

### FLEET STREET PARLIAMENT.

This Parliament meets on first and third Mondays, from 7-45 p.m. to 10.15 p.m., at St. Bride's Institute, Bride Lane, Ludgate Circus, E.C.4. The official opening of this Parliament will be on October 17th, when the King's Speech will be introduced, followed by a discussion. The Secretary writes that members, both men and women, will be cordially welcomed in any of the Parties.

### GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD FAIR.

Mrs. Turriff and the Misses Underwood cordially thank the following for their kind gifts to the Aprons and Overalls Stall:

Mrs. Juson Kerr, £2 2s.; Miss E. Morton, 5s.; Miss Ayles,
2s. 6d.; Dr. Knight, parcel of goods; Mrs. Foster, material;

Miss Eunice Murray, parcel of goods; and Miss McGregor, parcel of goods. Further gifts will be gratefully acknowledged.

FRIDAY. OCT. 14, 1927.

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PUBLIC SPEAKING.—Lectures, classes, and private lessons. Saturday Speech Club.—Miss Lucy Bell, Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Tel.: Museum 4791

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W.1.
Sunday, 'October 16th, 1927, 3.30.
Music. Lecture. W. M. R. Pringle:
''Parliament.'' 6.30. Maude Royden:
''Dick Sheppard's Book.''

### FOR SALE.

N EW Brick Bungalow, double-fronted, square bays; verandah; six rooms, bath (h. & c.); inside sanitation; Co.'s water; good bus service; pretty piece woodland; \(^2\_4\) acre. Price freehold, £650. \(^2\_500\) mortgage obtainable.—Mockford, Eastcote, Kingsnorth, Ashford, Kent.

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