

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

NON-PARTY.

VOL. XXX. No. 1,038. (Registered at the G.P.O.) ONE PENNY. FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1929

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

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS.

WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

WOMEN IN THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT SERVICE.

WOMAN SWIMMER FINED.

DR. ALETTA JACOBS.

THE EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD.

THE CURE FOR RECIDIVISM.

THE SCHOOL-LEAVING AGE. By Winifred Hindshaw, M.A.

OUR BOOK REVIEW: "Treading on Eggs."

By C. Nina Boyle.

OUR WOMEN M.P.S.

Miss Eleanor Rathbone, J.P., C.C., M.P., on Bills coming up in the New Session.

"None of the Bills promised for next session," declares Miss Eleanor Rathbone, M.P., "affect women exclusively, but there are several which are of very great interest to women, and at least one on which women are acutely divided."

The most controversial issues, Miss Rathbone explained, are likely to arise in connection with the promised Factory Bill. The greater part of this will probably affect both sexes equally. A new Factories Bill should be a splendid opportunity for getting rid of all the differentiation between men and women, except in the one respect—maternity—in which such differentiation is inevitable. Over ten years ago, so keen an advocate of factory legislation as Mrs. Sydney Webb declared that the time was ripe for this step, but there seems no evidence that the political party to which she belongs agrees with her.

A less controversial Bill will be the promised measure to amend the Widows' and Old Age Pensions, Contributory Pensions Act. Miss Rathbone fears there is not much chance of allowances for children being raised, although most people will agree that 5s. for the first child and 3s. for each subsequent child is insufficient for maintenance. One point of particular interest in the Bill will be the inclusion of widows without dependent children, hitherto shut out of the Act because their husbands died before the Act came into operation and so had never contributed. Objections have been raised to the inclusion of childless widows, but it is hard on elderly widows who come under this heading

to be pensionless while young women able to earn a fair wage receive 10s. weekly.

Another expected Bill of particular interest to women is a Housing Bill, to provide for the clearance of the slums. The question which everyone is asking is how the Government is going to provide houses for the slum dwellers to move into when the overcrowded, insanitary hovels they at present occupy have been cleared away. By the aid of the Housing Subsidy, municipal authorities have been enabled to bring down their rents by a sum averaging 3s. 6d. per week for each house. This reduction benefits many who do not need State aid, while it is totally inadequate to meet the needs of unskilled workers, or even skilled workers with large families. The utmost a man (with several young children) earning from 40s. to 50s. per week can reasonably be expected to pay without aid is from 6s. to 8s.

"The House," said Miss Rathbone, "seemed interested in the suggestion I made in my maiden speech that part of the subsidy be used, not in an all-round flat reduction, but in a rebate in rent for each dependent child, the period of child dependency being that period during which a man can least afford money for



ELEANOR RATHBONE, M.P.

rent. Whether the Government will adopt it or not I cannot say, but it is evident that the House will expect the proposal to be considered seriously."

The Government will also introduce a Bill to carry out the proposition to raise the school-leaving age to fifteen as from April, 1931, and to pay maintenance allowances for the extra year. "Not the Labour

Government or any other Government," said Miss Rathbone, "would dare to add on another year to the period that children are dependent on their parents. Women's societies must insist that the allowance is paid to the mother. It is she who has to make the housekeeping money go round, and will feel the burden of the extra mouth to feed just when she has been expecting the eldest boy or girl to begin earning."

"These are only some of the questions specially

concerning women likely to be dealt with during this Parliament," Miss Rathbone said, "but, after all, every question with which Parliament deals concerns women as citizens, and, fortunately, in Parliament women are becoming more and more regarded as citizens rather than as women. No one any longer thinks of Miss Margaret Bondfield and Miss Susan Lawrence in terms of their sex, but as a Minister of the Crown and a member of the Government."

WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Miss Bondfield, M.P., Freeman!

Chard Town Council proposes to confer the freedom of the borough upon the Rt. Hon. Margaret Bondfield, M.P., Minister of Labour, who is a native of that place.

Lady Warwick to be Mayor.

The Countess of Warwick has accepted an invitation of the Warwick Town Council to take the mayoralty of the county borough on November 9th. The fifth Earl of Warwick, the Countess's father-in-law, was Mayor of Warwick in 1894, and again in 1902.

Woman Sculptor's Achievement

A bust of the late Earl of Oxford and Asquith—the work of Lady Hilton Young (Lady Scott)—has been presented to the Tate Gallery by Sir Joseph Duveen, for the collection of works by modern artists.

Lady Hilton Young is the wife of Sir E. Hilton Young, the Conservative M.P. for Sevenoaks, Kent, and was the widow of Captain Scott, the Antarctic explorer. She executed the statue of Captain Scott in Waterloo Place, S.W., and that of the Hon. C. S. Rolls, one of the pioneers of flying, on the sea front at Dover.

Women's Alpine Ascents.

This year, the first women to make the ascent of the Grépon, perhaps the most difficult of the Chamonix Aiguilles, were Miss Miriam O'Brien, a well-known American rock climber, and Mme. Damesme, perhaps the best woman rock climber in France. *The Times* states that Miss O'Brien, who is exceptionally quick on rocks, ascended the Schreckhorn by the difficult south-west arrête in six hours, and crossed from the Schreckhorn to the Lauterahorn in three hours forty minutes—this was the traverse that Miss Gertrude Bell was the first to accomplish—descending in five hours by the difficult rock ridge to the Strahlegg Pass. Any one of these three difficult ridges would have sufficed a normal party for the day. Miss O'Brien accomplished the complete traverse of all three ridges in just over fourteen hours.

Dover Schoolgirl's Splendid Swim.

Last Saturday, Joan Brunton, a twelve year old Dover girl, swam from Dover Harbour to Ramsgate, a distance of about twenty miles. She started from Dover at 12.35 p.m., and landed on Ramsgate sands at 6.37 p.m. in exceedingly fine trim. The Mayor and Mayoress of Ramsgate went out to meet her. She landed on the sands 500 or 600 yards farther than other swimmers, who have always gone to the harbour entrance.

Women and Trade Union Council.

Miss A. Loughlin (in place of Miss Bondfield) and Miss J. Varley were elected last Friday to the Trade Union General Council at the Trade Union Congress held at Belfast, to represent the women workers. Thirty men were at the same time elected to this General Council.

South Australian Woman Parliamentary Candidate

Mrs. L. E. Polkinghorne has been selected by the Women's Non-Party Association of South Australia to stand as a non-party candidate for Parliament in the campaign which the Association intends to undertake at the next State elections.

Japanese Woman Consul.

Tsuru Shiskawa recently passed the examination for appointment as a consul-general of Japan.

Woman in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Mademoiselle Irène Malinska, well known in the public life of Czecho-Slovakia, has recently been appointed Secretary to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in that country. She has worked in the Foreign Office since 1919, but this is the first time that a woman has received such an appointment. Mlle. Malinska has attended many women's international congresses, among them those organised by the International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship. She is an active member of the Peace Commission of the Alliance. The Women's Freedom League's warm congratulations to Mlle. Malinska!

WOMAN MOTOR CYCLIST'S PLUCK.

The Women's Freedom League express their hearty sympathy with Miss Edith Foley, a member of the British Women's team in the great International Six Days' Trial, in the unfortunate accident resulting in personal injuries, which necessitated her elimination from the race.

We cannot sufficiently express our admiration for the gallant manner in which Miss Foley continued to ride and assist others, in spite of a badly cut face and a fractured rib. Not only did she render first aid where necessary, but towed a competitor, who had broken down, for 80 miles into the control station.

Our readers will remember that Miss Foley was a member of the British women's team which gained first place in the final results of the International Six Days' Trial in 1927. The other members of the team were Mrs. McLean and Miss Cottle.

BOWLING CLUB & WOMEN COUNCILLORS.

Pymmes Park Bowling Club, the membership of which is exclusively male, changed its mind, and the bowls match between Edmonton Urban District Council and Pymmes Park Bowling Club was played last Saturday, the Council being beaten by 75 shots to 42. The Park Club had refused to play if women were included in the Council team, but gave way when the women members of this Council insisted on their right to play. Four women took part, including Mrs. L. Ithell, the Chairman of the Council.

A BRAVE GIRL TYPIST.

Miss Irene Bell, aged 15, a girl typist, of Stratford, who was instrumental in saving two lives from a fire, was recently presented, on behalf of the Society for the Protection of Life from Fire, by the magistrate, Mr. Clark Hall, at Old-street Police Court, with a silver wristlet watch in recognition of her bravery. On arriving at her office in Wilson Street, Finsbury, on June 8th, she found that a fire had broken out in the basement. Although the staircase was threatened by the flames, she ran up to the top floor and roused the housekeeper and another woman.

Come to the MINERVA CLUB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9th,

7.30 p.m.

Speakers: MRS. PETHICK - LAWRENCE

AND OTHERS.

Chair: DR. E. KNIGHT.

Collection.

WOMEN IN THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT SERVICE.

EQUAL PAY RECEIVED FOR EQUAL WORK.

(Reprinted from the *Daily Telegraph*.)

Women are steadily but surely strengthening their position in the United States Government service, and their standard of remuneration is advancing. One woman official gets £1,800 yearly; several others draw from £1,000 to £1,700 yearly.

The woman scientist, the woman economist, the woman specialist in many fields, is invited to compete for Federal positions that offer increasing opportunity. And the great army of women stenographers and clerks maintain their ratio on a basis of "equal pay for equal work."

For several years that ratio has remained substantially the same, with women occupying about two-fifths of the departmental positions in Washington and about 55,000 scattered jobs throughout the country. Though the scattered jobs for men number 450,000, the Civil Service Commission declares that women fill more than half of all the positions for which men and women are equally suited. The preponderance of men merely means that women are not ranging the forests, carrying the mail from door to door, inspecting cattle, and so on.

HIGH PAYMENTS.

Three years ago Mr. W. C. Deeming, President of the United States Civil Service Commission, quoted high Federal salaries for women, as follows:—

Jessie Dell, Civil Service Commissioner, £1,300.

Bessie Parker Brueggeman, Chairman, United States Employees Compensation Commission, £1,040.

Adelaide Baylor, Chief of the Home Economics Education Service, Federal Board for Vocational Education, £1,040.

Grace Abbott, Chief of Children's Bureau, Department of Labour, £1,500.

Katherine Lenroot, Assistant Chief, Children's Bureau, £1,040.

Mrs. Katherine M. Cook, Chief Rural Education Division, Bureau of Education, £1,040.

This year Jessie Dell is receiving £1,800; Bessie Parker Brueggeman, £1,700; Adelaide Baylor, £1,500; Grace Abbott, £1,500; Katherine Lenroot, £1,250; and Katherine Cook, £1,160.

In the three years the salary of Dr. Louise Stanley, Chief of the Bureau of Home Economics in the Department of Agriculture, has advanced from £1,200 to £1,500, and that of H. Kneeland, Chief of the Economics Division of that Bureau, from £1,040 to £1,120.

"SEX EQUALITY."

The Civil Service Commission, which proclaimed sex equality in its first report, forty-six years ago, now employs 210 women, as compared with 147 men, and pays the highest salary to any woman in Departmental service—that of £1,800 to Miss Dell.

Latest available statistics show that the United States Treasury tops the list numerically, with 7,749 women workers and but 6,107 men. The United States Veterans' Bureau, with its voluminous correspondence, has the greatest feminine preponderance, with 3,270 women and 1,528 men.

The Departments of Labour and of Agriculture strike a close balance, the former having 341 women and 332 men, and the latter 2,036 women and 2,899 men. The Federal Radio Commission employs fifty-four women, as compared to thirty men, and the new field of Federal advice for aviation requires the services of seventeen women and but sixteen men.

The grand total of 62,140 Government workers in the district of Columbia shows a masculine majority with 37,404. But women may content themselves with their achievement of a 24,736 minority when they consider that the name of a woman did not appear on the Federal pay-roll in Washington until 1862.

WOMAN SWIMMER FINED.

"Not the right part of the Serpentine."

Although there is no law prohibiting women from swimming in the Serpentine, women have hitherto behaved as if such a restriction were in existence. Yet on a hot summer day the cool water of the Serpentine must often have been coveted by would-be women bathers.

Miss Dart, a young woman who is a keen swimmer and who lives close to Kensington Gardens, could see no reason why she should not take her morning swim in the Serpentine—except that men bathers undress and dress on the banks. She got over the difficulty by wearing her bathing costume under a mackintosh and entering the gardens by climbing the railings in a secluded place, from which she could enter the Serpentine.

After Miss Dart had enjoyed a number of early morning swims, a policeman took her name and address, and a summons was issued. Miss Dart, who was a complete stranger to the law, imagined she could only be fined once for the offence, and while the summons was pending, continued to visit the Serpentine. Four days later she received a second summons! The park-keeper, too, made it his business to take out a summons against her for scaling the railing, with the result that, on September 9th, Miss Dart appeared before Mr. Mead, at Great Marlborough Street Police Court, on three counts. Mr. Mead said that, since Miss Dart was bathing in a part of the Serpentine closed to either men or women, it was not a question of sex, whereupon Miss Dart pointed out that she had chosen that part as she did not wish to enter the water where men were undressing on the banks. But Mr. Mead showed no inclination to discuss the matter further, and imposed fines, amounting in all to 21s.

Since there is no reason why women should not

avail themselves of the Serpentine except their disinclination to do so while no accommodation is provided for undressing, we suggest that some simple device, such as that provided at every seaside resort, should be installed in Hyde Park for the convenience of bathers of both sexes.

By a strange coincidence, on the same day that Miss Dart was summoned to appear at Great Marlborough Street, a statement was issued by the Office of Works to the effect that the First Commissioner of Works, Mr. Lansbury, had received several promises of assistance from generous persons towards the cost of providing shelters and other amenities, particularly in the interests of children, in the Royal parks. Amongst others, offers of £500 each have been received from Sir Arthur du Cros and Mrs. Van den Bergh.

An anonymous donor, in addition to promising a sum of £500, undertook to provide a further £5,000 if the Government would agree to contribute an equal amount, for the purpose of providing accommodation for bathers of both sexes in the Serpentine and for children's dressing shelters.

We congratulate Miss Dart—who is, we are pleased to say, a member of the Women's Freedom League—on the courageous way in which she has brought this matter to the notice of the public.

QUALIFIED WOMEN CHEMISTS.

According to the figures of the Pharmaceutical Society, women represent nearly 10 per cent. of the qualified chemists in this country.

1,718 women hold the diploma of membership of the Society, which entitles them to full recognition as dispensing chemists.

THE VOTE.

Proprietors: THE MINERVA PUBLISHING CO., LTD
Offices: 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th, 1929.

Telegrams: "DESPARD, Holborn 9301, London."
Telephone: HOLBORN 9301.

DR. ALETTA JACOBS.

We greatly regret to record the death of Dr. Aletta Jacobs, at the age of seventy-five, on August 10th last, at Baarn, Holland. Dr. Jacobs was Hon. President of the Netherlands Women Citizens' Union, a Foundation member of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, and well known to suffragists throughout the world. At the recent Berlin Congress she was one of the most active members. Aletta Jacobs was the first girl to go to a high school in Holland, and to secure this right it was necessary for a Minister of the Cabinet to give his consent. Later, she became the first woman physician in that country. She was one of the earliest leaders of the feminist movement in Holland, and for many years was the President of the Dutch Woman Suffrage Association, working in every possible way to secure the enfranchisement of women. In 1883 she made formal application to become an elector, basing her claim on the fact that the Constitution of 1848 did not explicitly exclude women from the right to vote. Her application was refused by the different Courts, and in 1887 the word "masculine" was inserted against each of the articles referring to the right to vote! But, like our own Dame Millicent, she lived to see the women's victory. In 1919 women gained the vote in Holland. Women now sit in her Parliament and Municipal Councils, and hold many high offices; all schools have been opened to them, and women practise in all the professions. The whole of this is very largely due to Dr. Aletta Jacobs' initiative, energy, and determination to win through.

THE EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD.

This month the Empire Marketing Board will be a large exhibitor at the Grocers' Exhibition in the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, and next month it will be represented at various Exhibitions to be held at Bristol, Birmingham, and Newcastle-on-Tyne. The declared policy of this Board, as we have already reminded our readers, is "to invite the public to buy first the produce of their own country, and next the produce of the other parts of the Empire." The Board consists of Lord Passfield, Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, and eighteen other distinguished gentlemen belonging to this country or to the Dominions. No woman has a place on the Board. That women could be of invaluable assistance to this Board will be acknowledged by all who read Mrs. Ettie A. Hornibrook's letter in *The Times* last Monday on "Settlers and their Products." As an overseas woman, Mrs. Hornibrook writes intelligently of the problem of Empire development, of which marketing and migration are different aspects. She refers to the difficulties of land-settlement, the inadequacy of marketing facilities in Australia, and to the uncertainty and insufficiency of British Empire supplies. She states that at present the Empire does not "deliver the goods" and the foreign country does, and cites as examples soya and maize, which could both be perfectly well grown within the Empire, yet millions sterling per annum are spent in purchasing both these products from foreigners. She fully agrees that voluntary preference for Empire foods is all that is practicable; but suggests that to secure this voluntary preference it would be useful to establish Empire Food Markets. These would be of immense help in Empire development and of greater benefit to all concerned than mere exhibitions. Mrs. Hornibrook urges that these Empire Markets would introduce the scientist and dietist to the housekeeper; at present, she says, the scientists know very little about housekeeping, and the housekeepers know less about science. But we all

want to know what is good to eat and why, and in Mrs. Hornibrook's opinion the stability of the British Empire at present demands that we should grow our own food and eat it. Whatever views our readers may take about that statement, we are sure they will agree that a woman like Mrs. Hornibrook would make a very useful member of the Empire Marketing Board, which is paid for by the women as well as the men taxpayers of this country. It is absurd that women in the Empire with brains, special knowledge, and experience in the matters with which it deals, should be excluded from this Board; and we urge the present Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs to take immediate steps to appoint suitable women to the Empire Marketing Board.

THE CURE FOR RECIDIVISM.

No woman has yet been appointed a member of the Prison Commission in this country, and no woman has ever been appointed by our Government as a delegate to any International Prison Congress. In this matter the United States is ahead of us, for Mr. Hoover has recently appointed Mrs. H. O. Wittpenn, the head of the Probation Office in New Jersey, as American Commissioner on the International Prison Commission, now sitting at Berne. Whenever our Prison Commissioners issue a Report they have always a great deal to say about the recidivism of women prisoners and the hopelessness of any attempts to reform them. We have insisted time and again that much of this recidivism is the direct result of the prison system, which is initiated, controlled, and practically administered by men only, and that if suitable women were appointed to the Prison Commission, to the Governorships, and to all the official posts in women's prisons, this recidivism amongst women would be considerably lessened. Some years ago, Mrs. Wittpenn and her friends found appalling conditions among both men and women prisoners in America; they were treated like wild beasts, and when they came out of prison they behaved like wild beasts. Mrs. Wittpenn concentrated on the women prisoners, and succeeded in getting the whole penal system reorganised in that country, with wonderful results so far as the women were concerned. A writer in the *Daily Telegraph* last week describes her work at Clinton Farms, an estate of 20,000 acres far out in the country. This land was granted under the Governorship of Woodrow Wilson, but the scheme of management is entirely Mrs. Wittpenn's. The idea of it was based on confidence in and re-education of the prisoner. The girls and women who are sent there have committed every conceivable crime. The work given to these prisoners is the work best suited to their capacity. Trained psychologists look after the girls, and, as each advances, more confidence is placed in her. Finally, she is put on parole. Groups of women prisoners work about the estate under no supervision. There is no wall round it, no barriers. The prisoners are simply on parole. In the fewest possible cases have the girls taken advantage of the liberty allowed them, and after their discharge the girls come back of their own accord to testify as to the life they are leading.

We know perfectly well that neither men nor women are treated like wild beasts in British prisons. We are not asking that an experiment like Mrs. Wittpenn's should be tried in this country; we do not even suggest that the same treatment which Mrs. Wittpenn found effective for girls and women of different nationalities, colours, and creeds, would be the best for women and girl prisoners in this country. We only point out that Mrs. Wittpenn succeeded in her scheme because she understood the girls and women with whom she had to deal, and again we express our conviction that if suitable British women, with the necessary sympathy, understanding, and determination were given the same opportunity and authority to deal with women and girl prisoners in this country as Mrs. Wittpenn had in America, the results would be just as marvellous.

THE SCHOOL LEAVING AGE.

By WINIFRED HINDSHAW, M.A.

Before we reach the centenary of the first State Grant for elementary education, we shall have entered upon a policy of "secondary education for all"—with the leaving age of 15 as a modest minimum. For those who are inclined to depreciate our educational record it is valuable to glance through the stages of public provision of schools since the Whigs of the Reform Parliament in 1833 gave £20,000 to the National Society and the British and Foreign School Society, then mainly concerned with educating "the poor." Consider the gulf then between "My Lords" of the Committee of Privy Council responsible for the grant, educated at the great Public Schools, and the youthful scholars and schoolmasters—themselves often drawn from the "labouring classes" in the old monitorial schools!

Any old Log Book of a Church school, which goes far back into the nineteenth century, impresses upon one the extreme slowness of the business of getting the children into school at all. An early schoolmaster, who entered on his duties in 1839, reports in 1850 that only about half the Manchester and Salford children of school age are being educated; the rest are running the streets, doing work at home, and putting off the evil day when, as "half-timers," they will perforce make the regulation school attendances demanded by the Factory Acts.

Twenty years' campaign for a national system of education, in which the growing industrial towns played a great part, gave us the School Boards and means of enforcing attendance, with the corollary of provision by degrees of free schooling. From 1870 we may trace the steady raising of the school age, till, at the end of the century, 14, if not universal, was a common limit.

In the diaries of the old Manchester schoolmaster formerly referred to, one finds that in the '50s and '60s ten was regarded as a natural leaving age in an industrial town. Children could then read, write, and do "compound rules," and were in demand in the mills if they were to "get on." Most of us have met the type of elderly mill-owner who worked himself at nine or ten.

Children who stayed on till eleven or twelve almost always became "apprenticed" as pupil teachers and were instructed before school opened by the head teacher. In these mid-nineteenth century diaries it is clear that the schoolmaster was content to see the majority of his pupils drawn into the mills at ten, leaving a small élite for a quite generous further training. We find them almost part of the headmaster's family, sharing in breakfast and holiday expeditions, and sometimes coaching the younger children. One remembers the intimacy of the relation between schoolmaster and pupil-teacher in "Our Mutual Friend," or "Jude, the Obscure." Moreover, the training fitted the ambitious boy—if not girl—for other callings. The Log Book often mentions visits to bestow prizes of a former pupil-teacher, now distinguished in commerce or in banking! Might one not even become a Chancellor?

But against the industrious apprentice we must set the reluctant rank and file, the rebels and truants. Truant Schools, Day and Residential Industrial Schools spoke of the wear and tear of ordinary school life. "The attendance" was a bug-bear to many a teacher. In the industrial towns parents and children often fretted for the moment of release from school, the former thinking of wages, the latter of independence. In the writer's own recollection of Lancashire in the '90s, "Teacher!" was still an epithet of abuse in the streets; attacks of some violence from the younger members of the factory crowd were not infrequent, and a visit in school from "a mother" generally meant a dangerous and abusive raid. One more generation's progress has softened manners—on both sides. School

discipline is less harsh, school voices are quieter, and the streets are now safe for the teacher. In fact, school is nowadays fairly popular, and the new generation of parents not unsympathetic. "Commenced my duties this morning," says the Log Book in a new writer's hand, after the old schoolmaster had completed thirty-three years' service; "and found the scholars very defective in discipline and attainments, but not of so degraded a nature as would be expected from their appearance."

"They don't look degraded, do they?" said the young post-war headmaster, looking at his flock in that same school in an even shabbier slum nowadays. For, more and more, our school children might belong to the same class. School caps and blazers, gymnasium tunics and shoes, assimilate young people to a surprising extent. And the gradual unifying effect of the 1902 Act has made the step from the elementary to the secondary school, if not practicable for every child, at least within the bounds of every-day practice.

From general observation and from more particular inquiry among members of summer schools where Labour is strongly represented, one gathers that the new measure for a public system of education up to fifteen is approved. It is agreed in most quarters that the unemployment evil will be lessened by the removal of the fourteen year olds from the labour market. The "blind alley job" will be less easily offered to the rather older and better-trained boy or girl. Teachers have for long dwelt upon the tragedy of losing their pupils just when they begin to respond to more thoughtful teaching. The fifteen year old is already a genuine adolescent, with the adolescent's desire to understand his world as a whole. Under the new system he will have been taught in the senior school or senior classes, and, let us trust, by methods where discussion and research are encouraged. Modern teaching in geography and history brings home to the pupil the relation between his own immediate environment and its problems, and world conditions. Simple Economics must inevitably be considered. Social Hygiene, already well taught in some girls' classes, might be much more developed among both girls and boys. The writer knows of a Children's Parliament, where older pupils in an after-school meeting discuss social questions selected by themselves.

"Can we alter these things?" a boy once inquired in an employment discussion. "If not, why are we talking about them?" We ought to see an enormous development of the feeling that we can alter these things; in the gallant phrase of the Trade Union Congress President, "We must not only prepare for the scientific reconstruction of industry; we must forthwith begin to influence and direct it."

The tragic burden of unemployment in our hitherto basic industries is bringing home to everyone the need for fundamental inquiry into the conditions of living. Our mills will no longer absorb armies of children; the mine is no longer the inevitable calling of the miner's boy. For what, then, are we preparing these young people in the new senior schools? Mr. Fisher's continuation schools were planned to solve that problem. In some surviving efforts the relation between school and livelihood is well maintained. But the teaching profession has on the whole preferred a continuous school course. If this is not to fall under the condemnation of a mere academic refuge from the harsh world of business—a "Freudian Dream" to be preserved as long as possible—then we must see that these later years do really open the way to a working life. Educationists must come out into the open and know (as Professor Kinmont Hart counsels in his "Social Interpretation of Education") "the streets and factories and business houses, and what machines are doing to men." One might in this paper lay special stress on the contribution to be expected from women. Their

intimate knowledge of life in all its aspects should help to counteract the over-industrialised, over-mechanised character of the present age. "The man-made world" of which we used to talk is in a sorry plight in factory town, shipbuilding port, and mining valley. Women

OUR BOOK REVIEW.

Treading on Eggs. By C. Nina Boyle. Published by Stanley Paul & Co. Price 7s. 6d. (Can be obtained from this Office.)

Miss Boyle describes this book as a novel of to-day. It is certainly up-to-date, and from start to finish the story goes with a swing, as everyone who knows its author and who has read her earlier books would expect. *Treading on Eggs* is an excellent title, and aptly describes the performances of the chief characters. The three Trellice sisters are fairly endowed with brains, and one of them, Wanda, creates a good deal of mischief, the clearing up of which heavily taxes the varying resources of three men and her two sisters. A love story with a street-player—a down-and-out friend of the Trellice family—runs through the book. There are also encounters with the police, a jolly old Irishwoman, Mrs. McGragh, a difficult mother-in-law, and last, but not least, a psycho-analyst, who himself comes to grief, and, but for the intervention of the street-player, would have caused the social ruin of a good many other people. We warmly commend *Treading on Eggs* to all our readers who like a good yarn racily told. F. A. U.

THE SERVANT PROBLEM IN GERMANY.

In Germany, as in this country, there have been many difficulties between housewives and the girls or women they employ for domestic help, but in Germany there seem to have been more organised efforts on both sides to secure a working basis for present-day requirements. According to *The Observer*, when the new session of the Reichstag opens, the new code of regulations for domestic life, popularly referred to as "The Servants' Charter," will come before it. This Charter has twenty-six paragraphs; the only one to which the servants themselves strongly object and on which the Housewives' Union as strongly insist, is a servants' identity card, with photograph and police stamp. This identity card is to take the place of the old "Service Book," which was abolished after the great social upheaval in Germany, and in which was a complete record of the situations held by the servants—complete with "character" and police stamp upon every change.

In the original draft of this Charter a mistress was to have the right to control her maid's acquaintances in her leisure hours, with a view to protecting her from moral harm. The present proposal is that this supervision is to extend only up to the age of eighteen. Even so, great difficulties are anticipated in Berlin and Hamburg, where the young women are highly independent.

The writer states that the hours of sleep for all indoor servants are to be regulated at "at least" nine hours per night, and for girls under eighteen ten hours. This is one way of dealing with the vexed eight-hour-day problem. Four hours every weekday, and "from 3 o'clock every other Sunday," are to be official recreation hours, with a week's holiday after nine months' service, and a fortnight every year after that. The problem of "good food and an adequate bedroom"

are prominent in condemning war; but do not let us imagine that peace is made by leaving weapons of war to rust inactive—spears must be beaten into ploughshares, and swords into pruning hooks.

can only be solved, it is believed, by official inspection of the households concerning which complaint is lodged, and this will be carried out by specially-trained female factory inspectors.

Another clause will make it illegal to dismiss an unmarried, expectant mother on grounds of immorality alone, if she has been in the service of the household for longer than six months. Nor may she be forced to work for four weeks before, and two weeks after, the birth of her child, it being claimed that this protection is specially necessary on farms and country estates, where heavy work is performed by women. Another clause aims at protecting the overworked town housewife from the temper of her maid-of-all-work by stipulating that no servant may give notice for a month before, or a fortnight after, an addition to the household is born, unless there are very urgent reasons of ill-treatment.

The promoters of this Charter hope that its provisions will help to make domestic service more attractive to the average young woman of the people. She has already been given the name of "household official" in place of the "help," which even before the war had superseded the word "servant." Her numbers, however, have continued to dwindle. It will be interesting to learn in a few years' time whether the substitution of the legal trade union relationships between mistresses and maids for the former personal relationships will succeed in popularising domestic service in Germany.

WOMEN & THE LICENSING COMMISSION.

A writer in last Sunday's *Observer* reminds us that the Chairman and ten members of this Commission were announced two weeks ago, but that completion is still delayed. Later, the same writer proceeds: "A Labour Cabinet, responsible to universal suffrage with a majority of women, appoints on the Commission, so far, one woman and ten men. Now, the drink problem concerns working-class wives and mothers as vitally as any question next to peace. If Mr. Clynes does not know of women entirely competent to serve, let Miss Margaret Bondfield tell him at the Cabinet table. Again, as the drink problem touches public health at many points, it will be foolish and weak if one medical man and one medical woman are not placed on this Commission."

With the above views the Women's Freedom League is in very cordial sympathy.

AGAIN NO WOMAN MEMBER!

Under the Order in Council, dated February 6th, 1928, the Lord President of the Council (Rt. Hon. Lord Parmoor) has appointed Lord Rayleigh, Sc.D., F.R.S., Sir Arthur Balfour, Sir William H. Bragg, D.Sc., F.R.S., and Sir James Walker, D.Sc., Ph.D., LL.D., F.R.S., to be members of the Advisory Council to the Committee of the Privy Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. The following members of the Advisory Council have retired on completion of their terms of office:—Sir H. C. Harold Carpenter, F.R.S., Dr. G. C. Clayton, Sir Richard T. Glazebrook, F.R.S., and Sir James H. Jeans, D.Sc., LL.D.

Green, White and Gold Fair,

Thursday and Friday, November 14th and 15th,

at

The Caxton Hall, Westminster.

Women's Freedom League.

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

President—Mrs. PETHICK-LAWRENCE.

Hon. Treasurer—Dr. E. KNIGHT.

Hon. Organising Secretary—Mrs. WHETTON.

Hon. Head Literature Department—Mrs. PIEROTTI.

Hon. Head of THE VOTE Sales Department—Mrs. LEGGE.

General Secretary—Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD.



WHERE TO GO.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

DARE TO BE FREE. LONDON AND SUBURBS.

Friday, September 13th, at 7.30 p.m.
Green, White and Gold Fair Entertainment Committee at the Minerva Club, 56, Hunter Street, Brunswick Square, W.C.1.

Monday, September 23rd, at 6.30 p.m.
Mid-London Branch Meeting at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1. Important business.

Monday, September 30th, at 3 p.m.
Hampstead Branch Meeting at 16, Denning Road, N.W.3 (by kind invitation of the Misses Berry).

Friday, October 4th, at 7.30 p.m.
Dinner at the Minerva Club, 56, Hunter Street, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Speeches by Delegates to the Berlin Congress. Tickets 3s. 6d. each, from the Secretary, Minerva Club.

Saturday, October 5th, at 10 a.m.
National Executive Committee Meeting at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Tuesday, October 8th, at 7.30 p.m.
North Kensington Branch. Meeting at 14, St. Quintin's Avenue, North Kensington (by kind permission of Miss K. Raleigh).

Wednesday, October 9th, at 7.30 p.m.
London Members' Meeting at the Minerva Club, 56, Hunter Street, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Speaker: Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence. Chair: Dr. E. Knight.

Thursday, October 10th, at 2.45 p.m.
"Fair" Sub-Committee at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Thursday, October 17th, at 4.30 p.m. (Tea 4 o'clock.)
Meeting at the Minerva Club, 56, Hunter Street, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Speaker: Miss Jenner, from South Africa. Subject: "The Development of the Woman's Movement in South Africa." Chair: Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence.

Thursday, October 24th, at 4.30 p.m. (Tea 4 o'clock.)
Meeting at the Minerva Club, 56, Hunter Street, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Speaker: Miss Agnes Dawson, L.C.C. Subject: "Women under the New Local Government Act." Chair: Dr. E. Knight.

PROVINCES.

Saturday, September 14th (Set off, 1 p.m.)
Middlesbrough Branch. Picnic for members and friends. Whitby and Helmsley.

Friday, September 26th, at 3 p.m.
Ashford Branch Meeting at the Hempsted Street Hall. Chair: Mrs. Miles.

Monday, October 7th, at 7.30 p.m.
Hastings Branch Meeting at 4, Holmesdale Gardens. Speaker: Mrs. Prelooker. Subject: "Berlin Congress."

Monday, October 14th.
Middlesbrough Branch. Whist Drive, at the Grey House.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

September 2nd to 15th.
Women's International League. International Summer School in Lepence-Visegrad, Hungary. Subject: "Effects of Public Economics on the Interior and Foreign Politics of Different Countries."

Monday and Tuesday, October 7th and 8th.
National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship. Conference on Proposals for Improving the condition of Women in India, at Caxton Hall, Westminster, S.W.1.

Sunday, October 13th, at 11 a.m.
The Hampshire House Discussion Circle, Hog Lane, King Street, Hammersmith. Speaker: Miss Marian Reeves, on "Equal Pay for Equal Work."

October 14th to October 18th.
National Council of Women. Annual Meeting and Conference in the Albert Hall, Manchester.

Thursday, October 17th, at 3 p.m.
Women's International League. Reception to the two women delegates of the British Government to the Geneva Assembly, at Aubrey House, Aubrey Walk, W.8. By kind permission of the Misses Alexander. Tickets 2/6 each, which will include tea.

Wednesday, October 23rd, at 3 p.m.
Women's International League. Meeting at Friends' House, Euston Road, to discuss the report of the work of this year's Assembly.

Wednesday, October 30th to Saturday, November 2nd.
National Council for Mental Hygiene. Conference at the Central Hall, Westminster, on "Mental Health."

Wednesday, November 13th.
Women's International League. All-day Conference of "Opium."

MARRIAGE AND SLAVERY.

Miss Nina Boyle, in a forceful address at Harvard Towers, Chiswick, on Thursday of last week, enlightened members of the Chiswick Branch on the conditions under which women of many races live to-day. Miss Boyle referred to the Slavery Convention, signed at Geneva in 1925; but, in spite of that, girls were still bought and sold in China, and Japan had refused to abolish the law which allows women to be purchased for immoral purposes.

Miss Boyle dealt with the native women of South Africa, where conditions are most disgraceful. Although the girls are sold by their parents, the Government does not admit them to the status of wives; so that forced concubinage is their position.

Miss Boyle pointed out that if Conventions are signed at Geneva, something should be done to carry out what is agreed. In referring to the work that is being done on the matter, Miss Boyle mentioned that a Parliamentary Committee had been formed inside the House of Commons to ask questions, in order to bring the Government's attention to these matters, and, further, an outside committee of influential people is at work. None of us should remain silent till we see that girls are not married without their consent, that the widows are free, and the abuses of child marriage and the inheritance of women as property are stopped. This is not a campaign, Miss Boyle said, to disorganise their tribal lives. Not only do we want to help them, but they are lady in need of it, and so we must intervene just a little. Mrs. Parkin, the chairman of the meeting, in expressing grateful thanks to Miss Boyle, said they would do what they could in Chiswick to create public opinion on the question.

WOMEN ON GOVERNMENT BOARDS.

The following is taken from the Annual Report recently issued by the Women's Non-Party Association of South Australia:

As one of the planks of the Association is the appointment of women to Government Boards, every means is taken to secure such when opportunity arises. The retirement of Mrs. Jeanne F. Young, J.P., caused a vacancy on the Public Library Board, on which occasion the name of Dr. E. Allen, B.A., was forwarded to the Government, but the appointment went to a man. As this was the second occasion on which a vacancy caused by the retirement of the only woman member of a Government Board had been so filled, a letter of protest was sent to the Government.

During the year two vacancies have occurred on the Charities Commission, and on each occasion the Association has asked that a woman be appointed and suggested Miss Dorothy Vaughan, J.P., but both appointees have been men.

Greater success has, however, attended the Association's efforts to get a second woman appointed to the Aborigines' Advisory Council.

When it was made known that the Federal Government intended to discriminate between the members of the Film Censorship Board, by paying the woman less for her services, the Women's Non-Party Association wrote to the Prime Minister, protesting against this injustice.

CONFERENCE ON CONDITIONS IN INDIA.

The National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship is arranging a representative Conference to discuss certain definite constructive proposals for improving the condition of women in India. This Conference will take place at Caxton Hall, Westminster, S.W.1, on the afternoon and evening of Monday, October 7th, and the late afternoon of Tuesday, October 8th.

Among the speakers will be Mr. F. L. Brayne (former Deputy-Commissioner of Gurgaon District, Punjab) or one of his colleagues, who will speak on his scheme of Village Uplift; and Mrs. Sen, who will speak on The Women's Institute Movement in India. A discussion will also take place on raising the age of marriage.

Visitors' tickets, price 1s. per session, or 2s. 6d. for three sessions.

BERLIN CONGRESS DINNER.

The Women's Freedom League is arranging a Dinner at the Minerva Club, 56, Hunter Street, Brunswick Square, W.C.1, on Friday, October 4th, at 7.30 p.m. After dinner there will be short speeches by those who attended the Congress of the International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship, recently held in Berlin. Those who have already promised to take part include Mrs. Corbett Ashby, Dr. Knight, Mrs. Bompas, Mrs. Montefiore, Miss Anna Munro, and Miss F. A. Underwood. Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence has kindly promised to take the chair.

Tickets for this dinner 3s. 6d. each, which must be obtained beforehand from Miss Reeves, Minerva Club.

Membership Application Form.

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

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

Name

Address

I enclose £ : s. d., as my first

Annual Subscription.

Minimum Annual Subscription, 11-.

FRIDAY
SEPT. 13,
1929.

THE VOTE

ONE
PENNY
WEEKLY.

Please send me *THE VOTE* every week, post free, for 12 months for which I enclose 6/6.

Name

Address

THE VOTE, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Prepaid Classified Advertisements.

Number of Words.	Once.		Three Times.		Six Times.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
20	1	6	4	0	7	6
30	2	3	6	3	12	0
40	3	0	8	6	16	0

Displayed Advertisements,
8/- inch.

HOTELS AND CLUBS.

MONTAGUE HOTEL, Montague Street, Russell Square, London, W.C. First-class accommodation; room, breakfast and attendance from 7s. 6d. En pension from 3 guineas.—Phone: Museum 4660. (Highly Recommended.)

THE Mint Tea Rooms, 34, The Mint, Rye. Light Refreshments, Home-Made Cakes, Afternoon Teas, Fuller's Chocolates.

ROBERT and JOHN RESTAURANT, 10, Adam Street, Strand.—Lunches, teas, home-made cakes. Good cooking. Moderate prices. Peace and Quiet.

REST AND HOLIDAYS.

BRIGHTON.—"Sea View," Victoria Road. Midday dinner. Gas fires in Bedrooms. Wireless. Vegetarians catered for.—Hostess: Miss TURNER.

CORNWALL.—Well-furnished kitchen and double bedroom to let in farmhouse. No attendance; every convenience. Garage, if required. Good motoring centre.—SELSEY, St. Stephen's, St. Austell.

FRENCH ALPS.—Furnished Chalet to let. View Mt. Blanc. Seven beds, bath, inside sanitation.—"E.C.F.," 31, Meadhurst Road, Leicester.

HASTINGS.—"Furness Mount," 4, Holmesdale Gardens. Board Residence. Moderate terms.—Hostess: MRS. STANLEY BROWN.

KENDAL.—Residential or Holidays, from 2½ guineas a week. Altitude 350 ft. Grounds 5 acres, open view to the sea. Tennis, golf links, motor-buses to all parts. Garage. Excellent cooking. Recommended.—MRS. WILLIAMSON, Underfell, Kendal.

NEAR FOLKESTONE.—Charming House for paying guests. Large garden, tennis, garage.—Miss HASLAM, The Grey House, Lyvinge, Kent.

BOARD-RESIDENCE & TO LET.

CORNWALL, PERRANPORTH.—Furnished Bungalow, beautifully situated, sea view, 4 rooms and kitchen, bath-room: modern sanitation; garage; also Board-residence in lady's country cottage.—Apply first to MRS. STEBBING, The Cottage, Carnkie, Callestick, S.O.

REALLY comfortable and moderate terms.—Gentlewoman's own Kensington house; bed and breakfast, partial or full board by day or longer. Very hot water. Lounge, dining room.—Phone 6693 Frobisher, or write Box 100, W. H. SMITH & SONS, Earls Court Road, London.

FURNISHED Suite, 2 bedrooms, one sitting-room, kitchenette, bath, telephone; newly decorated, moderate terms. Central position. Viewed between 10 and 12, or by appointment.—"C.C.," THE VOTE Office, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

FOR SALE.

SOUTH AFRICA.—35 miles Port Elizabeth.—47-Acre Orange Farm, Rich soil, under irrigation. 500 Trees, all in bearing. Lucerne. Small House, near Railway. Personal interview till Oct. 10th.—Apply E. G. SAMER, Barclay's Bank, Circus Place, London Wall, E.C.

MRS. RUTH KEITH'S Poultry Farm at Snetterton, Norwich, Norfolk, is for sale as a going concern, to include everything except furniture; 300 head of pure-bred laying stock, White Leghorns and White Wyandottes, also three goats in milk. Comfortable house; inside sanitation; good garden; in all 6 acres. Price £850. Freehold.

PROFESSIONAL.

JESSIE D. WALLINGTON (Drugless Practitioner) treats all conditions of ill-health by natural methods—spinal therapy, osteopathy, dietetics, &c., particularly successful with nerve cases. Consultation by appointment.—37, St. George's Road, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.1. Telephone: Franklin 6487.

SCIENTIFIC RIGHT THINKING. Daily Public Meetings, showing method of healing by Right Thinking, 11—6 p.m.; Tuesdays, 7 p.m.; Saturdays, 3 p.m.; Sundays, 11 a.m. All interested invited. Literature on Sale and Loan. For full information apply:—SECRETARY, Society for Spreading the Knowledge of True Prayer, 12, Buckingham Palace Gardens, London, S.W.1.

WANTED.

DAILY Work.—Plain sewing, mending or housework. Personal references.—Mrs. D. ROBERTS, 14, St. Quintin Avenue, North Kensington, W.10.

NOTICES.

THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH LEAGUE can arrange, on favourable terms, evening use of its charming Clubroom for any well-accredited small group desiring to meet regularly.—Apply ORGANISER, 17, Buckingham Street, W.C.2.

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Guild-house, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Sunday, Sept. 15th, 6.30 p.m. The Rev. Constance Coltman, B.D.

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

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

BOOKS, PRESENTS, Etc.

FROM A VICTORIAN TO A MODERN

By DORA B. MONTEFIORE.

Publisher: E. Archer, 63, Red Lion St. W.C.1

PRICE 5/-.

64-PAGE BOOK ABOUT HERBS AND HOW TO USE THEM. 2d. Send for one.—TRIMNELL, The Herbalist, 144, Richmond Road, Cardiff. Est. 1879.

CLOTTED cream 3/- lb., post free.—SELSEY, St. Stephens, St. Austell Cornwall.

GOOD'S CAMEO CORNER

SPECIALISE IN

ANCIENT INTAGLIOS RUSSIAN ENAMELS
ANTIQUE CAMEOS OLD IVORIES
STONE CARVINGS GEORGIAN SILVER
ORIENTAL JEWELS RARE SNUFF BOXES

Etc., etc.

1, NEW OXFORD STREET, W.C.1.

We buy entire collections or single specimens to any amount for cash.

Phone: Holborn 8230.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED
BY

MEMBERS of the WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

W. J. Morrison,

Ladies' Tailor & Habit Maker

WESTMORELAND HOUSE,
127, REGENT STREET, W.1.

Phone: GERRARD 3730.

COSTUMES. COAT FROCKS. SPORTS SUITS.
MODERATE CHARGES.

(All Orders receive personal attention).

Published by the MINERVA PUBLISHING Co., LTD., at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1, and Printed for them by PAGE & PRATT, LTD., 151-2, Gt. Saffron Hill, London, E.C.1.