

THE CURSE OF TIPPING. BY DOROTHY JEWSON, M.P.

THE VOTE

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ONE PENNY.

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

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THE FUTURE OF WOMEN POLICE.

A Public Meeting, organised by the British Overseas Committee of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, and presided over by Lady Nott Bower, was held at Wembley last Saturday.

Dame Helen Gwynne Vaughan said the question women in all countries had got to ask themselves was, What sort of work should be done by the Women Police? One fact lay uppermost. It was essential that the women police should form an integral part of the regular police force of the town or country in which they worked. In no other way could this question be effectively dealt with, except by training, disciplining, and attesting the women in exactly the same way as the men. Discipline was a particularly important point. Police work was not easy. It required special training and discipline, and could not be carried on in accordance with mere impulse, however good in itself. It was equally important, also, that women police should be chosen and recruited by the police authorities, acting in conjunction with women advisers. Men Chief Constables were not always the best judges of the suitability, or otherwise, of policewomen. Women police should also be eligible for the same pension rates as the men. British women police were already eligible. There were certain aspects of police work which women could do far more efficiently than men. These included the hearing of statements from children and young women in cases of criminal assault, conducting women prisoners from any part of the country, searching female prisoners, and watching female cases of attempted suicide. The real object of police work was the prevention of crime

and the preservation of public order, and the employment of women as well as men in this work would achieve a greater economy in the State than using the services of men only. Women police would pay for themselves five times over, for it was more expensive to send people to prison than to prevent them going there. In this country there was already a considerable number of policewomen employed in small, scattered groups over the country, but with only the pathetic nucleus of 20 women in the Metropolis. It was said that women were physically incompetent to make an arrest; but one had only to watch the outdoor games and exercises of a modern girls' school in order to defeat that argument.

Commandant Allen said that London had been very backward over the question of swearing-in its women police, and then only when the women in the Metropolitan Division had dwindled to a negligible quantity. Women police had been sworn-in in the Provinces as far back as 1915. She, the speaker, was personally in favour of only educated women undertaking police work. It was educated women who first set the standard of the Women Police Movement in this country. The duties of women police



WOMEN POLICE IN COLOGNE.

would always be entirely different from the duties of men police, and they would never prevail in such great numbers as the men.

She, Commandant Allen, had recently spent a month in the United States and Canada, and had been struck by the enthusiasm everywhere for a uniformed women police. At present there were no uniformed women police in any of the American States or in the British

Overseas Dominions. All policewomen, however, were sworn in. New York's hundred policewomen had very strictly defined duties, but these were more on the detective side than in this country, where the duties of women police were more protective and deterrent. A good deal of work was being done by American policewomen in the dance halls amongst business girls, and also in the subways, where the immense foreign population and constant overcrowding presented peculiar difficulties. In such cases the speaker believed a uniform would be more efficacious. New York policewomen had not yet been given the work of taking statements from women and children in cases of assault, even in the children's courts, but in the women's courts women police in uniform were in attendance.

She, the speaker, had spoken to the women police in several towns in America, without either the Press or the police authorities being present, and had been struck by the women's enthusiasm for their work. There was a great desire throughout the United States to employ only educated women in police work, mistakes having been made in the past owing to the selection of the wrong kind of woman. Mrs. Mary E. Hamilton, New York's Chief Woman Police Officer, had recently been conducting a propaganda for police work in the American women's colleges, with the result that a number of the colleges had invited her to speak on the possibilities of police work as a career for women. Detroit bore the palm in the States for the best organised police work for women. Here the women's division occupied four floors of the ordinary police headquarters in the centre of the city, including a Detention Home on one of the floors. No policeman in Detroit ever dealt with any woman or child, these being invariably handed over to the women police. Canada also had women police, but not in any great numbers. Toronto, for instance, had only three, and there were others in Montreal. It was very essential that the movement for women police in this country should be linked up not only with America but with all other countries which employed them. The movement in this country was being closely watched. The position of British women police was not as good as it ought to be, considering that they were no longer a luxury but a necessity for the common weal.

Mrs. Corbett Ashby dwelt upon the present employment of women police in the occupied territory of Cologne, in Germany, and the special difficulties these had had to encounter with regard to British soldiers and German girls. There was no doubt, since their appointment some months ago, that British women police had saved the situation with regard to this problem. They had cleared up Cologne in an almost miraculous manner. After six months' work, the town was hardly recognisable. German women police were also helping in this work, and in thus working together on the same moral problem a most beneficial sense of solidarity had been engendered between the women of the two nations. Attempts were now being made to extend the scope of policewomen to other German cities, but at present a good deal of prejudice against policewomen still lingered in Germany. Equally difficult work had also been successfully carried out by policewomen in Ireland during the Civil War, and some had been retained ever since in Ulster. Prison reform and reforms in asylum administration were urgently needed in this country, and the employment of increased numbers of women police would be of great assistance in their solution.

Lady Nott Bower referred to the enormous number of criminals who went free because there were not enough women police. The lowest type of criminal also frequently escaped because women would not give evidence of what had happened to men police. It was better to train only educated women, to begin with, and then, as the movement grew larger, both educated women and working women could be amalgamated.

An interesting discussion followed the close of the speeches, in which the position of women police in Australia and New Zealand was referred to by various overseas speakers.

WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD

Englishwoman Pastor.

Mrs. E. E. Pickles, widow of the Rev. Albert Pickles, has accepted an invitation to become pastor of the Stanley Congregational Church, Liverpool, of which church her husband was minister at his death a few months ago. Within a week of her induction she had the distinction of being the first woman in the North to officiate at a wedding. During the war, when her late husband was with the Y.M.C.A. in France, Mrs. Pickles took over his duties, and preached in the Stanley Church on several occasions, as well as in other Liverpool Churches.

Women Students First.

The Anthropological Tripos, published at Cambridge last week, showed an early success for women. The best that men could do was a third class, but Miss C. H. Wedgwood, Bedales and Newnham, daughter of the Rt. Hon. Col. Josiah Wedgwood, M.P., secured first class honours, and Miss O. L. M. Walters, Lingholt, Hindhead, and Newnham, was placed in the second class.

British University Women Meet.

By invitation of the Glasgow Association of the British Federation of University Women, the 14th annual general meeting of the Federation took place in Glasgow, last week, in Queen Margaret's College Students' Union. The Edinburgh Association has only lately been formed, but has already a membership of over 60.

An All-Women Administration.

Columbus City, Iowa (U.S.A.), founded 84 years ago, has leaped suddenly into position as a leader in matters of Municipal Government experiments, after a recent revolutionary town election in which an all-women administration—mayor, assessor, treasurer, and council—was swept into office.

Women Navigators.

Miss Susan Dudley Ryder and Miss Jean Cochrane have returned to the Isle of Wight from a cruise to the Mediterranean by way of the French rivers and canals in their motor-boat *Rosemary*, which they navigated without assistance except across the Channel to Havre.

Officials for the World's Y.M.C.A.

Lady Parmoor has been elected President, and Lady Portsmouth Treasurer, of the World Committee of the Young Women's Christian Association.

Woman Relief Officer.

By thirteen votes to six, the Dudley (Worcestershire) Board of Guardians has decided to appoint a woman relieving officer at a salary of £150 a year.

Woman Steeplejack.

Mr. J. W. Smith, the well-known Lincoln steeplejack, is in partnership with a woman, Miss Florry, who, it is said, has had some thrilling experiences.

German Woman Lawyer.

The first woman lawyer has been admitted to the Berlin Courts. She is Dr. Marie Munk, daughter of a former high official, and is the authoress of a book on Divorce Reform.

A Youthful President.

Miss May Banbury, aged 17, who lives on her father's farm at Brumpton, Berks, is President of the Kingsclere Young Farmers' Club, Basingstoke.

Women Doctors' Successes.

In the results of the May examination for the degree of M.B., B.S. (Lond.), out of 79 in the Pass List, 34 are women, and of 10 in the Honours List, three are earned by them, whilst a woman carries off the gold medal.

Woman Engineer's Honour.

Miss V. Holmes, B.Sc., has recently been admitted the first woman member of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers.

OUR FRIENDS—THE ANTIS.

Nine-tenths of the humour of life would vanish if the free expression of opinion were suppressed. We always welcome a debate about women, even when it takes place under the auspices of the Cambridge Union Society. Such a Debate took place last week, when Mr. C. W. Pilkington-Rogers (Queen's) proposed the motion, "That the emancipation of woman spells the doom of civilisation," this title reminding us of Mr. G. K. Chesterton's famous contribution, "Female Suffrage—the Last Blow to Democracy." Mr. Pilkington-Rogers stated that the whole universe was based on duality, light and darkness, male and female. The outer world of business required masculine qualities, but, in the inner world of the home, feminine qualities were essential. The greatness of a nation depended upon the pre-eminence of home life in the national life, and the present emancipation of women tended to introduce women to a mode of life that was unsuitable. Mr. Gibbert Frankau supported the motion, and asked what would happen to the House if women were allowed to dominate? They knew that woman had got more brain; they knew she had got far less honesty; they knew there was nothing a woman would not do to gain her ends; and yet there were Members of the House who, in order to gain a few votes, would give these clever, mean, and unscrupulous creatures everything—would give them power! "When I look forward ten, fifteen, twenty years, perhaps we shall see a flapper Prime Minister," exclaimed Mr. Frankau; and he asked the House, "as the last bulwark left against the rising tide of feminism," to pass the motion with every possible vote, and to send a message to the Empire that Cambridge stood firm. Mr. W. L. George, opposing the motion, said that women had always had savage attacks made upon them. Even Jeremiah deplored the fact that women painted their faces. Throughout the ages, the position of women had been unsatisfactory, and he suggested as an alternative motion, "That the lack of emancipation of women spells the doom of civilisation." He declared that women could not make a greater mess of the world than men had done, and they should be freed as much as possible.

In that "last bulwark against the rising tide of feminism," the motion was lost by 211 votes to 193.

Meanwhile, the correspondence in the Press about giving votes to women of 21 goes merrily on. A lady writing in *The Times* declares that if the women's vote is to be increased, we are on the sure way to the deterioration of England, her arguments for this assertion being that the mind of the average woman of 21 is reflected in her jerky chatter, . . . the average woman of any age is ruled by sentiment . . . she has less intellectual initiative than a man, and, apparently, only makes any substantial advance in knowledge when under masculine influence. Then the trouble seems to be that the men teachers generally "fall martyrs to the ignorance of those they would elevate." Which, of course, is all very harassing and depressing.

Another writer, a dear old person of 87, indignantly asks, "What does the ordinary girl of 21 know about politics, or care?" and proceeds: "Why, sir, I am now 87 years of age, and it is only a few years ago there came to me a sufficient supply of common sense to use the vote wisely. Let me enter a serious protest against this proposal, which is reform—run mad."

The people who prefer 25 as the age for voters—now that women are asking for the Parliamentary vote at the same age as men have always exercised it in this country—are still writing to the papers about it; and now another gentleman comes forward with a proposal in *The Times* that all electors who reach the ripe age of forty shall have two votes!

It is hoped to conclude the Committee Stage of Mr. Adamson's Bill this week. So far, the Government has not adopted it, and has given no lead concerning it, so that its progress is naturally slow.

MRS. DESPARD'S BIRTHDAY PARTY.

CAXTON HALL, WESTMINSTER.

Friday, July 4th, 7 p.m.

Mrs. Despard will receive members and friends at 7 p.m. There will be songs by Mrs. Cunningham, recitations by Miss Julie Huntsman, delightful stories from Miss N. Jacob, character readings by Mrs. Goodall, a Pottery Stall (Dr. Lewin), a Pound Stall (Miss Harverson, LL.B.), a Welsh Produce Stall (Miss Alix Clark), refreshments, strawberries and cream, etc.

Speakers:—Miss Margaret Bondfield, M.P.
Miss Margaret Macmillan, C.B.E.
Mrs. Mustard.

PRESENTATION OF THE BIRTHDAY FUND AND LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS.

Mrs. Despard's Birthday Address.

Chair:—Councillor A. Schofield Coates, J.P.

Tickets, 1s., from 144 High Holborn. Secure your tickets, and bring all your friends; we shall have a delightful evening and a record gathering.

The Pound Stall.

The kind support of all members of the Women's Freedom League is solicited for the Pound Stall at Mrs. Despard's Birthday Party. The Stall is in the hands of Miss Harverson, who is prepared to receive not only pounds, but fractions of pounds of anything convertible into hard cash. Quarter Day will be past, and the family exchequer in consequence somewhat empty, but everybody can spare a pound of cookies, of chocolates, of nuts, of tea, sugar, coffee, cake (look in the store-cupboard for an inspiration). A pound of pennies would be acceptable, or a fraction of a pound of pennies, of silver, or of gold. Please, everybody who reads this appeal, do something to encourage the stallholder, and send parcels, marked "Pound Stall," to 144, High Holborn, or 79, Fitzjohn's Avenue, Hampstead, or bring contributions to Caxton Hall on Friday, July 4th.

THE BIRTHDAY FUND.

During the next two weeks we have a very busy time in front of us, to get in the contributions for the Birthday Fund. It must be ready for presentation at the Party, so there is not a moment to lose. Branches are hard at work getting up concerts, garden parties, etc., to bring in money. Many of our members are busily getting their collecting cards filled up (please send for one; I have several left). This is an excellent way of making it possible for all your friends to help us with small sums they might think not worth the trouble of sending. Some contributions have already reached me, for which I am very grateful. Many more are on their way, but we must make a great effort before July 4th to ensure a splendid success.

144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

E. KNIGHT.

"A VALIANT CHAMPION OF A GREAT CAUSE."

The Letters of Lady Constance Lytton, selected and arranged by her sister, Lady Betty Balfour.

These delightful articles, illustrated with beautiful portraits and views, are being published in the June, July, and August numbers of "English Life." The magazine contains many other interesting features, but these numbers will be particularly appreciated by all suffragists, who must ever hold dear the name of Jane Warton, and keep her memory alive. We are stocking these three numbers of the magazine, and shall be pleased to receive orders, and to forward them, price 1s., and postage 2½d., from 144, High Holborn.

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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 a stamped addressed envelope be enclosed, but the Editor cannot be responsible in case of loss.

MEN'S PRESERVES IN THE CIVIL SERVICE

Men have curious ideas concerning women's work. Last Tuesday, Mr. Hogge (Edinburgh, E.) asked, in the House of Commons, if women writing assistants were to form part of the complement of the clerical staff at various victualling yards in connection with the Admiralty; under what circumstances they were being admitted, bearing in mind that the work they would be engaged upon was being performed by temporary ex-Service men, and could in no way be stated to be work appropriate to women; and if, in view of the large number of temporary ex-Service men in a precarious position, the inclusion of the writing assistant class into the clerical staffs of the victualling, dock, and naval store yards could be cancelled? Mr. Ammon (Parliamentary Secretary to the Admiralty) replied that the answer to the first part of the question was in the affirmative. The approved post-war complements of those victualling yards provided for a certain number of posts normally to be filled, under normal conditions, by writing assistants. Though the work to be performed by those writing assistants could be, and in many cases was being, performed by ex-Service men, Mr. Ammon said it was work which had been definitely decided to be work appropriate to women. It was not possible to vary the decision by which posts for writing assistants were included in the complements referred to, but it was clearly laid down that no writing assistant was actually to be appointed in any case where her appointment would displace an ex-Service man.

The same afternoon, Capt. Terrell (Henley) inquired what was the nature of the branches of the Civil Service, either at home or overseas, in which employment was solely reserved to men; and if further legislation was needed in order to modify such reservation? Mr. Graham (Financial Secretary to the Treasury) replied that the following posts were reserved to men under Regulations made by the Civil Service Commissioners, and laid before the House of Commons (Command Paper 1244):—

All posts in the Diplomatic Service and in the Consular Service.

All posts in the Government Services of the Colonies and Protectorates to which appointments are made in the United Kingdom, other than posts for which women may be specially recruited.

All posts in the Civil Services of His Majesty in India to which appointments are made in the United Kingdom, other than posts for which women may be specially recruited.

All posts in the Commercial Diplomatic Service and the Trade Commissioner Service, provided that this reservation is not applicable to the post of Chief Clerk in the respective offices of His Majesty's Trade Commissioners.

Mr. Graham added that these Regulations were made under the authority of the Order-in-Council of July 22nd, 1920, made under Section 1 (a) of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, 1919.

We are curious to know why Mr. Hogge thinks that clerical work in connection with the Admiralty is "in

no way appropriate to women," and why Mr. Graham failed to reply to the latter part of Capt. Terrell's question. Section I. of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act says that a person shall not be disqualified by sex or marriage from being appointed to, or holding, any civil office or post; but the reservation is, "Provided that (a) notwithstanding anything in this section His Majesty may by Order-in-Council authorise regulations to be made providing for and prescribing the mode of the admission of women to the Civil Service . . . and giving power to reserve to men any branch of or posts in the Civil Service in any of His Majesty's Possessions overseas, or in any foreign country." There are no women members of the Privy Council, so women could hardly expect that their interests would be safeguarded under any of its Orders. The Regulations quoted above were issued by the Civil Service Commissioners under the authority of the Order-in-Council July 22nd, 1920. We find that the Civil Service Commission (entirely composed of men) was established, in 1855, to apply tests of fitness for junior situations in all branches of the Civil Service. In 1870, an Order-in-Council applied the system of competitive examination throughout the Service. The establishment expenses in 1921-22 of this Commission amounted to £77,190, the first Commissioner receiving £1,500, and the two Assistant Commissioners £1,000 each, one of these Assistant Commissioners being Director of Examinations. There also seem to be an Assistant Secretary and two senior clerks, with salaries ranging from £700 to £550. We fail to see why these gentlemen should be empowered to exclude women from all posts in the Civil Service overseas; and we should like to know if legislation is necessary to curtail their powers? It is the business of the State to act impartially as between its men and women citizens; but until we have women Members of the Privy Council, women on the Civil Service Commission, and more women in Parliament, men are likely to hold the monopoly of the best posts in the Civil Service.

WOMEN'S WAGES.

At a Conference held the other week at Leeds by the Tailors and Garment Workers' Union, the *Daily Herald* reports that it was resolved to apply for an increase of 2d. an hour in male rates, and 1d. an hour in women's rates, with corresponding increases for learners. The Conference also agreed unanimously to the inauguration of a national campaign for increases for all clothing workers, having for its object the establishment of a minimum rate of wages of £4 a week for adult male workers, and £3 a week for adult women workers, with equal pay for men and women doing the same class of work. Practically the whole day was occupied in the discussion of wages and conditions. Mr. Elsbury (London) spoke of children being employed in the trade at 6s. a week, and said that in the East End consumptive men and women, under insanitary conditions, were employed in making silk costumes. Another London delegate said that there were girls getting 26s. a week. For making feathered boas, girls got 6s., and had to take them home, often to insanitary dwellings. It took two days to make one. Mr. Conley (the General Secretary) said that there were women working in this trade for 6½d. an hour as time rate. This was not sufficient to keep a woman in decent security, particularly in a seasonable trade, where the average weeks worked in a year were 30.

The *Morning Post*, on the other hand, reports that the shortage of domestic servants is being felt so severely on farms that at Cumberland half-yearly hirings, at Carlisle, recently, women able to manage the house and dairy were given wages almost equal to the best men, £30 for the half-year, plus board and lodging, being secured in several cases. Even young women obtained a pound a week and keep. *Wages almost equal to the best men* is as illuminating to us as it is apparently surprising to the *Morning Post*.

THE CURSE OF TIPPING.

By DOROTHY JEWSON, M.P.

It must have been last summer that I overheard two well-dressed women in a London restaurant discussing tipping. While partaking of tea, they had been indulging in a favourite topic—the scarcity of domestic servants—when one turned and remarked to the other, "Personally, I am not giving any more tips, as I consider all these girls should be in service."

While not agreeing with her motive in withholding a tip, the possibility of a number of such ladies refusing gratuities opened up to me vistas of a tipless world, where workers would receive a fair wage for their work, and not be dependent for their existence on charity.

This tipping system has obtained such a grip on the restaurants and hotels in this country that it is difficult to imagine any other. Yet on the Continent it is the custom since the war to find a percentage charge on your bill for "service." This uniform addition to the bill is certainly an advance on our system of the individual tip, and would be welcomed by many hotel and restaurant workers in this country. But others would prefer to do away with tipping altogether, if they had a wage on which they could live, apart from tips. For no system could be more unfair to the worker. In busy seasons, quite a lot of money may be made in tips. But what happens when things are slack? Tips are scarce, but board and lodging and other necessities must be paid, and the worker inevitably suffers.

Again, tipping often sets one worker against another. Customers use certain tables more than others, and this leads to jealousy between the waiter or waitress serving these tables, and those serving the less frequented. Moreover, the kitchen worker, often slaving long hours underground, rarely sees a tip.

But tipping is not only economically and morally bad for the worker. Too often it destroys their independence, and is especially disastrous in its effect on the young woman. Perhaps she may be moved by poverty and trouble at home, perhaps by the desire for pretty clothes and a little excitement. But she learns that a little extra fussing over that man who comes in to tea every day will produce a bigger tip. It is but a little later that another offers a still larger sum, on the understanding that she meets him when she leaves work.

I remember a girl was sent from one of the London Exchanges to work in a restaurant near Leicester Square at a wage of 10s. a week. She accepted because she had been out of work a long time, and was

told tips would be plentiful. She started at 11 a.m., and at 11.30 p.m. she asked leave to go, as she had a long distance to get to her lodging. But the manager pointed to a notice stating the restaurant would be open till 2 a.m., and assured her that one of the customers would be sure to give her a lift in his motor-car!

It is so easy to slip down the hill, when the temptations are so great. The miracle is that so many are fine and strong enough to resist; the crime is that many a young woman should be forced to face temptations unnecessarily. Give her a fair wage apart from tips, and you give her a chance.

Our attention has perforce been drawn of late to the bad conditions prevailing among the waitresses at Wembley. These conditions, be it noted, are not the result of competition or poor trade, for one wealthy and well-known firm has a monopoly of the catering there. Yet the waitresses receive the wretched wage of 15s. a week, and out of this, and an uncertain sum earned in tips, they must pay for lodging and clothes and all other necessities. Fares to and from the Exhibition cost some of them 4s.-5s. I am further informed that all employees have to pay 12s. 6d. for lavatory accommodation during the period of the Exhibition.

Everyone knows that 15s. is a grossly inadequate wage in London at the present time, even for the barest existence. The result is, doubtless, that many kindly ladies, noting their overworked appearance, will leave a generous tip, and think they have done all, and more than all, that is necessary and just. But actually, in doing this, they will be helping to perpetuate a system that is fundamentally bad. They know these girls are being badly treated, but, instead of blaming the employer for his meanness, and in fear of being themselves thought mean, they ease their consciences by leaving 6d. under their plate.

Truly, tipping degrades those who give, as well as those who receive. Let those well-intentioned ladies pause and think whether they are not helping to destroy in others that which they value most themselves—their independence. I do not suggest they should abandon tipping altogether—such an action would not be understood by those they wish to help; but I do suggest they should help the waitresses to help themselves, by encouraging them to demand a wage on which they can live—and to unite in order to get it. Let them make rebels, and they will do waitresses a greater service than by giving them a double tip.

The future is in their hands; they don't want charity—they want to live.

THE "ASSISTED" HOUSING SCHEME.

By M. I. NEAL.

The problem of houses affects, of course, every class of the population. People who would a few years ago have built their own, found the increased cost of materials and labour, and the difficulty of getting labour, quite prohibitive. The many building societies found their funds increasing, but were unable to make use of them; in many cases they were obliged to limit their deposits.

In Manchester, the Corporation formulated a scheme—it was the work, practically, of Mr. E. D. Simon, then Chairman of the Housing Sub-Committee, and now M.P. for the Rusholme Division of Manchester—for the assistance of persons wanting to build for themselves, of which the provisions are as follows:

Grants of £100 to persons building for their own occupation (this includes the Government subsidy).

Loan on mortgage—limited to 85 per cent. of the value as ascertained by the City Treasurer—made as the building of the house progresses; the total of the advance not to exceed 50 per cent. of the value of the

work done before the completion of the house. This loan can be obtained in three instalments—(1) when the house is ready for the roof timbers; (2) when the house is ready for the final coat of plaster; (3) after the house has been completed and inspected by the City Architect.

Repayment.—Such a loan must be repaid in equal amounts half-yearly within 20 years. Interest will be calculated each half-year at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum on the outstanding balance. Monthly payments of interest and principal can be arranged if desired.

Insurance.—The property must be insured, the policy deposited with, and premium and renewal receipts produced to, the Corporation. Of course, no sale or mortgage of the house can be effected without the consent of the Corporation.

Area.—Such houses must be of a superficial area of not less than 620 sq. ft., and not more than 950 sq. ft. It must have a living-room, three bedrooms, bathroom,

scullery, larder, and lavatory. There must not be more than 12 houses to an acre.

The value of the scheme may be shown as follows:—For a house of the value of £500, the subsidy will be £100, the Corporation will loan £325, the owner-occupier will find £75, plus duty on mortgage stamp, 10s., and $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on £325, to cover out-of-pocket expenses, £1 12s. 6d. Thus, a man (or woman) with savings of under £80 can become immediately owner of the house he inhabits. The repayment, spread over the whole period of 20 years, would be at the rate, for the first half-year, of 12s. 6d. per week; this is gradually reduced, so that the last half-year of the time it would amount to only 6s. 5d. per week.

Similar assistance is granted to builders, under the same conditions, for houses either for letting or sale. In the case of sale, the purchaser would take over the mortgage, by arrangement with the Corporation.

An extension of the scheme to other than "subsidy" houses is also of interest. In this case, the value of the house must not exceed £1,500, and the loan is limited to 80 per cent. For example:—Value of house, say, £1,400; Corporation loan, £1,120; occupier-owner, £280; plus stamp duty, £1 10s.; $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on £1,120, to cover out-of-pocket expenses, £5 12s. Repayment, first six months at the rate of £2 3s. 1d. per week, gradually reduced until the last six months it is £1 2s. 1d. per week.

Of course, freehold property is preferred, but loans will be made in cases where the lease has not less than 30 years unexpired.

It will be seen that the scheme is simple and practical, and that every inducement is offered to persons to become the owners of the house in which they live.

The difficulty which confronts Corporations as well as private builders is, of course, that of labour. The skilled workers, bricklayers, joiners, and so forth, have shrunk to half the number that were in the country in 1901. Until the work as a whole can be made more attractive, and the workers given a sense of greater security, there is little prospect of improvement in housing conditions. Neither subsidies nor loans will solve the problem, which is, above all, the human one!

GUARDIANSHIP OF INFANTS BILL.

The following letter has been sent to the general Press:—

DEAR SIR,—We shall be grateful if you will allow us the hospitality of your columns in order to draw attention to the extremely unsatisfactory character of the Government's Guardianship of Infants Bill. It is regarded by large numbers of women in this country (not only the articulate ones, represented by organisations we speak for, but many thousands of women who feel more than they are able to express) as a betrayal of their hopes.

The Government, it appears, has entirely failed to understand the mother's claim to equal guardianship with the father over her children. It is the status of the mother in the home that is the point at issue, and the women of the country will not be satisfied until the married mother no longer occupies her present derogatory position in law. The Government's Bill only crystallises the present inequality by conceding a shadow of equality to those mothers whose position has become so intolerable as to render a resort to law the only remedy, and to mothers after their deaths. The position of the vast majority of women in their homes remains untouched by this Bill which is held out to us as the fulfilment of a pledge, but which is, in fact, merely a stumbling-block in the way of those who are striving to attain the principle of equal rights for motherhood. We can only trust that it will be either amended or rejected.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) ALICE SCHOFIELD COATES, J.P.
(Women's Freedom League).
ETHEL E. FROUD
(National Union of Women Teachers).
RHONDDA (Six Point Group).

EQUAL GUARDIANSHIP.

We have pleasure in giving the following extract from a letter, signed by Miss Rathbone and Mrs. Hubback, on behalf of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship. We only regret that our space is insufficient to give the whole of a really long letter:—

DEAR MADAM,—The volume of public opinion which has done so much to bring the question of Equal Guardianship before Parliament is, we feel, largely due to the fact that the chief women's organisations have been unanimous with regard to the need for legislation to give complete equality of rights between mothers and fathers with regard to their children. It is regrettable, but perhaps not unnatural, that, when it comes to the question of immediate Parliamentary tactics, this unanimity should to some extent have broken down. But we think that the articles in your last two issues fail to do justice either to the Government Bill or to the organisations, which hope that, at any rate, it will not be wrecked. . . . The defects are grave. Where we differ from you is in your description of the Government Bill as a "worthless contribution to legislation." What, in fact, does the Bill give, and what does it fail to give? First, in the preamble it lays down the principle that "this principle" (i.e., equality in the law between the sexes) "should obtain in respect to the Guardianship of Infants, and the rights and responsibilities conferred thereby." It is true that this principle is only inadequately safeguarded by the remaining clauses of the Bill, but it is something that it should be stated as a principle of British law. Secondly, the Bill gives complete equality between father and mother in every case concerned with the custody or upbringing, or property, of children which comes before the Courts. These are ordered to have regard solely to the welfare of the infant, and to give no priority to the rights of the father over the mother, notwithstanding "any right at common law possessed by the father." Thirdly, it allows such cases to be brought before ordinary police-courts, instead of, as at present, only before Chancery or the County Courts, thus opening the benefits of the law to all classes, instead of only to the well-to-do. Fourthly, it enables a woman to obtain orders for custody and maintenance while still living with her husband, and, although these only become operative after she has left him, yet the mere possession of such an order is likely to prove of value to the mother in compelling an unworthy father to behave himself. Fifthly, it gives equal rights to both parents with regard to the appointment of guardian after death.—Yours faithfully, etc.

ED.—We regret that there is such a divergence of opinion on this Bill between the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship and the Women's Freedom League. We recognise the immense amount of work done by the former Society in trying to secure legislation by which mothers and fathers shall have equal rights in regard to the guardianship of their children; but we regard the Government's Bill as a grave obstacle to securing equality of guardianship for both parents. The "preamble" referred to is not a clause in the Bill, and the Lord Chancellor, when moving its Second Reading in the Upper House, said: "Recently it (that is, the status of women) has been so changed that the woman has almost the same status as the man. She has not altogether the same status, because it is necessary to preserve the position of the family as a unit, and, if you have a unit, there must be a head to that unit." Our view is, that this statement of the Lord Chancellor effectively disposes of the "principle" contained in the preamble; and we are prepared to offer uncompromising opposition to any Guardianship Bill which does not contain the principle laid down in Mrs. Wintringham's Bill—that the mother of every legitimate infant shall have the guardianship and custody of their children jointly with the father, and have equal authority, rights, and responsibilities with regard to their children.]

On June 25th, at 3.30 p.m., a Garden Meeting will be held at "Holmwood," Hastings Road (by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Bryan). Princess Karadja will speak on "Different Aspects of the Women's Movement." Chair, Mrs. Bryan. A collection will be taken in aid of local funds. Tea, 9d.

Women's Freedom League.

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

FORTHCOMING EVENTS W.F.L.

LONDON AND SUBURBS.

Tuesday, June 24th, 3.30 to 7.30. Mid-London Branch. Pound Tea, at 25, Wimpole Street, W. (by kind permission of Dr. Octavia Lewin). Proceeds for Mrs. Despard's Birthday Fund.

Monday, June 30th, at 3.30 p.m. "Fair" Committee, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Friday, July 4th, at 7 p.m. Mrs. Despard's Birthday Party, Council Chamber, Caxton Hall, Westminster. Music. Recitations. Speeches. Light Refreshments.

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

Saturday, July 5th, at 3 p.m. Protest Meeting in Trafalgar Square, against the Unequal Guardianship of Infants Bill.

Friday and Saturday, November 28th and 29th. Caxton Hall, Westminster. Green, White and Gold Fair.

PROVINCES.

Wednesday, June 25th, at 3.30 p.m. Bexhill. A Garden Meeting will be held at "Holmwood," Hastings Road (by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Bryan). Chair, Mrs. Bryan. A collection will be taken in aid of local funds. Tea 9d.

Thursday, June 26th. Swansea. A Garden Party will be held (by kind invitation of Mrs. Dawson), at "Cwm Garw," Penygraig Road. Tea 5 p.m.

Monday, June 30th, at 3.30 p.m. Ashford. Meeting of Members will be held at "Glengarriff," Albert Road (by kind permission of Mrs. Kither).

Wednesday, July 2nd, at 7 p.m. Middlesbrough. Garden Party, at "Agecroft," Linthorpe Road. Tickets 6d.

BRANCH NOTES.

MID-LONDON.

Will all London members and friends read this carefully, please? On Tuesday, June 24th, Dr. Octavia Lewin has very kindly consented to allow us the use of her house at 25, Wimpole Street, W., to hold a POUND TEA, from 3.30 to 7.30. Please help to make this a great success. We want everyone to "bring a pound and buy a pound." From £1 in cash to a pound of anything. Food (tea, sugar, coffee, chocolates, fruit, jam, marmalade, cake, etc.), or wool, material, flowers, or anything useful. Anyone may bring £2, or two pounds of food, etc.; in fact, any number of £s—pounds—will be gratefully received. There will be two or three speeches, music, singing, etc. We want this to be really successful, as all the proceeds will be devoted to Mrs. Despard's Birthday Fund for the work of the League. Come yourself, and bring a friend.

(Hon. Sec.) Mrs. G. FLOWERS, 3, Sidney Rd., Forest Gate, E.7.

LETCHWORTH.

On Monday, June 16th, through the kindness of Mrs. Jonathan Lynn, who gave a Drawing-room Meeting at 27, Baldock Road, the branch of the Women's Freedom League in Letchworth was re-formed. The work of the League has been lying dormant in Letchworth for over a year, but now there is every hope that it will again become a force in Letchworth. Mrs. Mullard made a very enthusiastic speech, and dealt with all the objects of the League in a very lucid manner, which quickly convinced her audience of the great need of re-forming the branch. A very interesting discussion followed, in which Miss Cartwright, Miss Sugden, Miss Ibbitson, Miss Porter, and others took part. Mrs. Lynn has kindly consented to act as Secretary, and Miss Cartwright as Treasurer, and, with two such able officials, the membership and work of the branch will increase. Eighteen members joined, all of them taking THE VOTE. There will also be others, who were unable to come to the meeting. Mrs. Lynn kindly entertained the guests to tea in her beautiful garden, and a hearty vote of thanks was given her, moved by Miss Cartwright, and seconded by Mrs. Pease. Literature and 160 copies of THE VOTE were sold, and a collection was taken for the Birthday Fund. (Hon. Sec.) Mrs. LYNN, 27, Baldock Road.

BEXHILL.

On June 25th, at 3.30 p.m., a Garden Meeting will be held at "Holmwood," Hastings Road (by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Bryan). Princess Karadja will speak on "Different Aspects of the Women's Movement." Chair, Mrs. Bryan. A collection will be taken in aid of local funds. Tea, 9d.

ASHFORD.

The Annual Meeting of members will be held at "Glengarriff," Albert Road (by kind permission of Mrs. Kither), on Monday, June 30th, at 3.30 p.m.

SWANSEA.

We are very grateful to all members and friends who helped to make the Jumble Sale a success, either by sending goods or by helping at the actual sale.

A Garden Party will be held, by kind invitation of Mrs. Daw-

son, on Thursday, June 26th, at "Cwm Garw," Penygraig Road. Tea at 5 p.m. All members and friends are cordially invited to be present. There will be a Pound Stall, to which contributions of a pound in weight of anything saleable will be gratefully received.

(Hon. Sec.) Miss C. M. JELLEY, 14, Carlton Terrace.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

On June 2nd, a Grand Concert was given by Percy Wearmouth and his party, the proceeds of which went towards this Branch's contribution to Mrs. Despard's Birthday Fund. Councillor Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P., presided, and gave an account of the work of the Women's Freedom League, pointing out that, through its continuous propaganda, we had made great headway during recent years. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Wearmouth for his kindness, and in his reply he said he was always ready to do what he could to help the Women's Freedom League.

The Garden Party arranged for that week was unavoidably postponed. The working party for the Green, White, and Gold Fair will take place next Monday at 3 o'clock. Workers will be welcomed.

(Hon. Sec.) Mrs. HUGHES, 35, Kildare Street.

INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

A Garden Party and Sale will be held at Pembroke Lodge, Pembroke Gardens, W.8 (by kind permission of Mrs. Adrian Corbett), on Tuesday, July 1st, 3 to 7 p.m. There will be an International Stall, with objects of utility and beauty from all lands, and other stalls for original and artistic wares. There will also be folk-dancing, recitations, fortune-telling, tennis, etc. Refreshments and home-made teas. Entrance to the above is free.

BRITISH OVERSEAS COMMITTEE RECEPTION.

The British Overseas Committee of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance will hold an "At Home" on Thursday, June 26th, at 8.30 p.m., at the Lyceum Club, 138, Piccadilly, W.1, to give visitors from overseas an opportunity of meeting the Women Members of Parliament, and other women prominent in public life. Subject to the claims of Parliamentary duty, the following have promised to be present:—Viscountess Astor, M.P., the Duchess of Atholl, M.P., Miss Susan Lawrence, M.P., Mrs. Hilton Phillipson, M.P., Lady Terrington, M.P., Mrs. Wintringham, M.P., Mrs. Corbett Ashby (President, I.W.S.A.), Mrs. Henry Fawcett, Miss Maude Royden, and others. Tickets (including refreshments), price 2s. 6d. each, may be obtained from the Women's Freedom League Office.

BRITISH OVERSEAS COMMITTEE PAVILION.

The little Suffrage Pavilion belonging to the British Overseas Committee of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, at the British Empire Exhibition, is in the Eastern Section, near the Exhibition Station within the Exhibition, under the shadow of that prominent landmark, the States Express Cigarette Tower, directly behind Hampden's pretty little house, and Day & Martin, flanked by Spratt's exhibit, and looking on to the Shetland ponies and Pekingese puppies. The Women's Freedom League are responsible for the Pavilion on Mondays. Next Monday, our members, Mrs. Delbanco, Mrs. Ewen, Miss Wolfe Murray, and Miss Warriner will be in charge. All suffragists visiting Wembley are warmly invited to drop in at any time for a rest and a chat.

PAVILION WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON CONFERENCES ON

"The Legal and Economic Status of Women throughout the Empire," at 5.30 p.m.; admission free.

June 25th.—Nationality of Married Women. Miss Macmillan (N.U.S.E.C.).

July 2nd.—Population (1).—Vital Statistics of the Empire, etc. Mrs. Stocks (N.U.S.E.C.).

July 9th.—Population (2).—Problems of Migration within the Empire. Miss A. C. Franklin (Overseas Settlement for British Women).

July 16th.—Family Allowances (1).—The Case for Family Allowances throughout the Empire. Miss Rathbone, J.P., C.C.

July 23rd.—Family Allowances (2).—Schemes at work on the Continent—France, Germany, etc. Schemes at work in the Empire. Miss Rathbone, J.P., C.C.

July 30th.—Equal Opportunities for Men and Women in Industry and in the Professions. Mrs. White (Federation of Women Civil Servants). Equal Pay for Equal Work. Miss Agnes Dawson.

TRAFALGAR SQUARE MEETING.

Come to Trafalgar Square, Saturday, July 5th, 3 p.m., to protest against the Government's Unequal Guardianship of Infants Bill. The speakers will include Mrs. Despard, Lady Rhondda, and Miss Anna Munro, the Chair being taken by Councillor Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P.

FRIDAY,
JUNE 20,
1924.

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FELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Guild-house, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Sunday, June 22nd, 3.30. Music. Lecture: Rev. Hudson Shaw, "Ruskin, 19th-century Prophet." 6.30. The Rt. Hon. S. S. Sastri, P.C., "Home Rule for India."

CLUBS.

MINERVA CLUB, 56, Hunter Street, Brunswick Square, W.C.1. Open to non-residents. Restaurant. Smoking Room. Papers. Bedrooms available during summer months. Membership, £1 1s. Entrance Fee suspended during present year. All particulars from the **SECRETARY**.

ISIS CLUB, 79, Fitzjohn's Avenue (2 minutes Hampstead Tube Station). Magnificent Reception Rooms. Central heating. Sunny bedrooms. Sandy soil. Lectures, dancing, listening-in. Telephone: Hampstead 2869.

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BARGAIN—list free. Plants, Garden Utensils. Beautiful dwarf roses, named varieties, 6/- dozen, carriage paid.—**MCCELROY**, 33, Saville St., South Shields.

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

A PLEASANT, Furnished Bed-sitting room, with breakfast.—43, Black Lion Lane, Ravenscourt Park, W.6.

WANTED.—Second-hand Clothing, best prices given; parcels sent, valued, and money sent by return. Stamped addressed envelope for reply.—**RUSSELL**, 100 Raby Street, Byker, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ANCONAS lay the largest eggs. Hand-some birds, good layers. Sittings 6/-. Chicks 12/- doz., carriage paid.—**PARRIS**, Danecroft Poultry Farm, Bagshot.

SUMMER JUMPERS.—All Colours, hand crocheted, made to order, 10/-. Materials extra, complete, 30/-.—Apply **A.B.C.**, **THE VOTE**, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

IRISH LINENS, Afternoon Tea Cloths, Hemstitched, size 36 x 36, 3/6 each. Bleached Heavy Linen Damask Tablecloths, size 2 x 2, 10/6 each. Serviettes to match, 14/- doz. Linen remnants in 5/-, 10/- and 20/- bundles. **ORMEAU LINEN CO.**, 2, Clarence Street, Belfast Ireland.

REST AND HOLIDAYS.

BOURNEMOUTH.—"Loughtonhurst," West Cliff Gardens. Food Reform Guest House. Best situation. Old established. Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. Hume.—Apply **SECRETARY**.

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PARKFIELDS, near Ross-on-Wye.—Vegetarian Holiday Guest House. Special Holiday Fortnight, July 25th to August 8th.—Write for Prospectus, **E. D. MOODY**.

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Address

I enclose £ : s. d. as my first Annual Subscription.

Minimum Annual Subscription, 1s.