

THE VOTE,
May 22, 1914.
ONE PENNY.

AN OBJECT LESSON.

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE

VOL. X. No. 239.

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FRIDAY, MAY 22, 1914.

Edited by C. DESPARD.

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

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OUR POINT OF VIEW.

At Last!

Our Cause is coming on; on Sunday last many weary Suffragists must have rubbed their eyes in amazement to find in their pews the Call to Prayer this Rogationtide issued to all the faithful in his diocese—clergy and laity—by the Lord Bishop of London.

No longer can the clergy put us off with the paltry excuse that "the Church should take no part in politics," when from the High Throne of St. Paul's their chief calls upon them to pray:—

For a right judgment in regard to the special questions of the time—Ireland, Wales, the Woman's Movement, the problems of Housing, Sweating and Unrelieved Poverty, the Aspirations of Labour. For the arousing of a Public Conscience about the continued existence of a double standard of Purity and Honour for men and women; for the removal of conditions which allow cruelties to be practised upon the innocent; for the victims of the White Slave Traffic.

The Church may yet become a power in the land.

Sex Discrimination.

The proceedings of the Standing Committee on the Criminal Justice Administration Bill are illustrative of the slack fashion in which the interests and concerns of women occupy the law-givers who represent the male people. In this respect the Standing Committee resembles the Committee that considered the amendments to the Insurance Act. That body was presided over by Mr. Masterman; and it will be remembered that, in considering the question of whether or not the payments for maternity benefit should be made to the mothers or the fathers, Mr. Masterman assured his Committee that it was a point the Government did not mean to press. It was to be one of those "free votes" so generously granted when women's affairs are in question. The Whips would not be put on. That is to say, it was a matter of utter unimportance, in which the Government did not choose to create difficulties. It was not worth while. Women have no votes with which to resent any decision, so members could please themselves. The same course has been followed in the question—one of vast importance to women—of whether or not a wife or husband shall be a compellable witness against the other in criminal cases.

We do not think the woman's point of view for one moment intruded itself on the minds of the gentlemen who discussed this question. The position of the wife, compelled to give damaging evidence against a husband, and then relegated, without protection from the law that so compelled her, to his mercy in her home, is not one they would take an interest in. The possible inconvenience to a husband, of having this most intimate partner a compellable witness against him, was evidently the point that told. The privilege and right, possessed by a wife (and also shared by a husband, although that point does not concern us), who hitherto has been able to refuse to give evidence against the man who is supposed to be "one flesh" with her, was threatened. The Home Secretary, with his brutal record in regard to women, complacently followed the precedent established by Mr. Masterman. The Government would not make a point of this either way; there was no principle it cared to uphold or establish; it was left to the Committee's "free vote." The obvious indecency of leaving such a point as this, involving as it does such deep and intimate interests and long-established rights, to an insignificant Standing Committee sitting almost in private, speaks volumes for that "tenderness," of which Mr. Asquith boasted, displayed by the representatives of men for unrepresented women.

Mr. Scurr.

Good luck to Mr. Scurr and to Mr. Lansbury in their Ipswich campaign against Mr. Masterman. The pursuit of that gentleman is as good a piece of sport as it is good politics, and we hope that once more John Scurr will keep the Liberal out.

A Piece of Impudence.

We call attention to the cool impudence of Press organs like the London *Daily Mail*, *The Glasgow Herald*, *The Scotsman*, and others for their "severe criticism" of the Government's action in moving troops in the vicinity of Captain Craig's house. It was liable to be "misunderstood," and might have created a disturbance; and the rebel volunteers had to be called out, forsooth, to watch the Government troops. It was "suspected" that arms were to be seized and traders arrested, and any such "attempt" was to be resisted to the utmost. And these are the people and the Press organs who fire off volleys of abuse when militant women resist arrest! Well, well. There is, indeed, an "illogical sex"!

How Long?

How long will it take our male legislators, bent on party progress and profit, to realise the vital importance to the nation of a Ministry of Health, of which the woman's section should be staffed by women? Miss Margaret Bondfield made a convincing plea for such a Government Department at the Conference, on May 15, on the Prevention of Destitution. We fully agree with Miss Bondfield, but recognise that until the force of women's votes is behind the demand there is no hope of its realisation. Lady Bryce may charm Women Liberals by talking of the new England she has discovered in the Old Country after an absence of seven years, and the powerful influence of voteless women; but when it comes to legislation to remove a canker from the body politic, nothing is done. *The Times* furnishes a striking comment on Lady Bryce's dictum by taking up the cudgels for man against the tyranny of capable women, and pitifully appeals to them to be satisfied with Paris frocks!

Oh, Fie!

The Unionist women are to be lured out of their homes, away from minding the baby, mending the stockings, and making the puddings. Why? Because the Plural Voting Bill is threatening the Unionist strongholds and every elector must be influenced. The party question does not concern us at the moment; but what is noteworthy is the despairing cry of a correspondent in *The Outlook*—a paper which joins in the chorus of the retrograde Press in denouncing women's interference in politics—to get every ounce of help out of the women! "Every ward should have a strong woman's committee, with its own secretary and chairwoman"; these "strong" women are to be the intelligence department and cajole electors by house-to-house visits and garden parties. Note, too, that "ladies" are to be invited to these festivities, including even the "doubtful" and the "no politics." Truly, as Lord Courtney said, the strongholds of the Anti's are falling! We ask nothing better than this recognition of women. The Vote must follow.

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WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

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THE WOMEN'S REMINDER OF MAGNA CHARTA! 1215—1915.

The Women's Freedom League is continuing its organisation of a grand commemoration in June, 1915, of the passing of Magna Charta. Seven centuries will then have elapsed since King John reluctantly conceded the great charter of the people's liberties and signed the historic document at Runnymede. The Women's Reminder of this historic event will take the form of a Procession on Saturday, June 12, 1915; on succeeding days an Indoor Pageant and also a Water Pageant, as well as an outdoor Commemoration meeting, will take place.

Further particulars will be announced in due course. Help from outside is being welcomed and excellent offers have been received. All who are interested in the scheme are invited to communicate with the Secretary, Women's Freedom League, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, London, W.

THE PRESIDENT.

We are very glad to be able to state that the improvement in Mrs. Despard's health is maintained. Resting in her hammock in the beautiful garden of Brackenhill, our beloved President is taking in fresh stores of health and strength from the flowers and the sunshine and the loving friends around her. She sends her love to every member.

The Women's Freedom League sends warm love and greeting and the best of good wishes.

E. KNIGHT.
F. A. UNDERWOOD.

AT HEADQUARTERS.

Lecture by Mr. W. L. George.—The last of our Discussion Meetings this Session will be held at Caxton Hall, Monday evening, May 25, when Mr. W. L. George will speak on "Feminism and Passion," and those who wish to secure a good seat should send at once to the W.F.L. Office for tickets, the prices of which are 2s. 6d. (reserved and numbered) and 1s. (reserved, but unnumbered). Tickets can also be obtained at Caxton Hall on the evening of the 25th. Mr. George promises that his address will be very controversial, so we hope that our readers will come prepared to take part in the subsequent discussion. The chair will be taken by Miss A. A. Smith at 8 o'clock.

Caxton Hall Wednesdays.—These meetings are discontinued until Wednesday afternoon, June 10, when Mrs. M. W. Nevinson will speak on "The New Poor-Law Orders as They Affect Women." In view of the recent alterations which have been made in the Poor Law, this address will be of special interest, and we hope that our readers will remember this date, and come in good numbers to hear what Mrs. Nevinson has to say on the subject on which she is an expert.

Caravan and Summer Campaigns.—Volunteers are still wanted for the Caravan Tour from June 17, and for

the summer campaigns on the Lancashire and Welsh Coasts in July and August. Will those willing to take part in this work communicate with the Secretary of the W.F.L. at 1, Robert-street, W.C.?

F. A. UNDERWOOD.

BY-ELECTIONS.

Ipswich.

Women's Freedom League: Committee Rooms, 22, Queen-street, Ipswich.

In charge—Miss ANNA MUNRO.

Candidates: CHARLES F. G. MASTERMAN (Liberal).

F. J. C. GANZONI (Conservative).

JOHN SCURR (Independent Rebel).

Liberal majority last election with two candidates, 344.

Polling day, Saturday, May 23.

The campaign opened on May 14 with a special members' rally, to arrange work and workers for the election. The committee room was full, and excellent help in various ways was promised to enable the Women's Freedom League to "keep the Liberal out" this time.

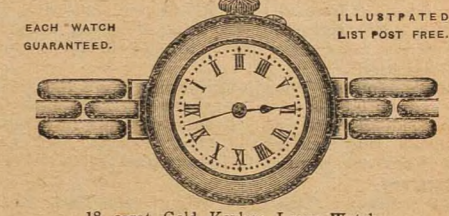
With Mr. Masterman as Liberal candidate and Mr. John Scurr as the Rebel candidate the fight began in earnest on Friday evening.

On the Cornhill a large crowd listened to Miss Munro. Towards the end the youths among the audience swayed and pushed in towards the speaker, but the prompt action of the police enabled the meeting to finish in perfect order. Mrs. Hossack, Miss Howard, Mrs. Ridmont, Mrs. Pratt and others helped magnificently. Saturday found us again on the Cornhill. In the afternoon a splendid crowd gathered outside the Town Hall and Miss Munro's speech was warmly approved and applauded. Our evening meeting was scarcely so fortunate. As time advanced, and the intoxicated of both sexes thronged the streets, it was necessary to close. Mrs. Hossack and Mrs. Cooper stood by the chair valiantly while the mob pushed and swayed, but several men gave us good help. Monday we were augmented by Mrs. Tippett at all the meetings. Her cheery presence and strong voice, telling speeches, and success with the factory girls helped the League forward tremendously. Dinner-hour, afternoon, and evening meetings were held to very large audiences. Miss Clark has given splendid help since her arrival on Tuesday. Mrs. Tippett and Miss Anna Munro were accorded a fair hearing as a rule—interruptions coming only from gangs of youths. The most serious attempt which was made to upset our meeting was from the anti-suffrage speaker who, unable to get a crowd in opposition to ours, bent his energies on assisting the youths who were scarcely a credit to any cause. The police have helped us by every means in their power, and the members

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of the Ipswich Branch have faced trying experiences with a valour and courage worthy of our League.

We are going on with the fight, confident that Saturday will find the Government Minister at the bottom of the poll. A. M.

N.-E. Derbyshire.

Candidates: MR. J. P. HOUFTON (Lib.).
MR. JAMES MARTIN (Lab.).
MAJOR HARLAND BOWDEN (C.).
Labour majority last election, 1,750.
Polling, Wednesday, May 20.

In charge: Mrs. SPROSON, 26, Scarsdale-road, Dronfield.

We made the best possible start in the campaign at our meeting at Dronfield; no other meeting was to be compared with it in size and the keen interest shown by the audience. Miss MacLennan was an excellent chairman, and though the usual drunks came to interrupt, members of the audience quickly silenced them when I had got under way with my speech. At the close of our first meeting we sold out all our copies of THE VOTE, also our Badges, and collected 12s. 6d. from a distinctly working-class audience. Miss Ellis, of Chesterfield, very kindly helped us, and Mrs. Roberts and Miss Macdonald did everything possible to relieve me.

We have issued a manifesto to the electors to keep the Liberal out as a protest against the Government's injustice in their betrayal and coercion of women. We have appealed specially to the miners to redeem the past. I pointed out to them that one of the causes of the defeat of the Conciliation Bill was due to the absence of the miners' representatives from the Division Lobby owing to the miners' strike. Miss MacLennan visited Wittington, and we shall have meetings also at Woodseats, Staveley, Clowne, &c. The election is unique owing to the disputes between miners and mining magnates, and will turn entirely on the question of Capital and Labour. Miss Violet Markham, the Anti-Suffragist, is assisting the Liberal candidate, which perhaps accounts for the fact that he has not mentioned Women's Suffrage in his address, but says he is not opposed to it. The electors, however, most keenly appreciate the point when I ask them to notice that if Miss Markham believes women are not fit and proper persons to have the vote, she—to be consistent—cannot be the fit and proper person to advise electors how to vote. Polling is taking place as we go to press.

SPECIAL APPEAL.

It is a heavy drain upon our funds to be fighting three by-elections at the same time.

The result of the Grimsby campaign, the defeat of the Government candidate, was eminently satisfactory. In North-East Derbyshire we aimed at a similar success. Ipswich offers a special opportunity of dealing this detestable Government a still more deadly blow. Miss Munro, with Miss Clark, Miss Evans, Mrs. Tippett, and the Ipswich Branch are working their hardest. Money for all the necessary expenses is urgently needed, and I should be particularly grateful for £40 this week so that these expenses need not come out of the general funds.

Many thanks to Mrs. Carey, Mrs. Catmur, and Miss E. Gore Browne for their kind contributions. E. KNIGHT.

LITERATURE DEPARTMENT.

A special stock of the works of W. L. George can be seen at the office. In the last chapter of "Woman and To-morrow" (price 2s. 6d., post free 2s. 10d.) Mr. George deals with Woman and Passion. We advise any who think of coming to his lecture for the Freedom League on May 25 to read this beforehand.

Special Reduction.

"How We Won the Vote in California," by Selina Solomans, published at 1s. 6d., is now being offered at 6d., post free 7d. It is an exceedingly interesting account of California's Campaign for Women's Enfranchisement, and contains six full-page portraits of eminent women, including Miss Selina Solomans.

Books Received.

"Woman Suffrage: The Only Way." By Earl of Lytton. (1d., post free 1½d.)
"Our Common Humanity." Speech by Miss Royden at Albert Hall. (1d., post free 1½d.)
"Some Points of English Law." By Mrs. Swanwick. (3d., post free 3½d.)
"The Illogical Sex?" Miss Eunice Murray. (1d., post free 1½d.)

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NOTHING LESS THAN EQUALITY.

The Scottish Home Rule Bill has served as another advertisement of our Cause and even of militancy, for did not the Radical Member for Clackmannan, Mr. E. Wason, ponderously declare that "as long as the women continue to pursue their present course they will not have my support for the vote, either for a Scottish Parliament or for the Imperial Parliament!" He used to support the franchise for women, but had given it up! He, the giant of the House had been "threatened"! Who could tell what might happen? No wonder the House "rocked with laughter" at the vision conjured up of the women's attack on the strong man. It must be rather trying, however, to "law-abiding" Suffragists to remember that they ever pinned their faith to such a weak-kneed "supporter."

But what concerns us is that many Liberals, among them Mr. E. T. John, who introduced the Welsh Home Rule Bill in the House of Commons on March 11, as well as prominent anti-Suffragists, are hailing the Federal System embodied in the Scottish and Welsh Home Rule Bills as a solution of the Woman Suffrage question. With characteristic condescension they are prepared to let women vote on "the entire range of domestic affairs in Scotland and Wales," but "all questions of Imperial and foreign policy, of the control of the Army and Navy, will be entirely beyond their province." There are to be separate legislatures for domestic and Imperial affairs; the taxation of the country, we presume, will be dealt with by the latter. As might be expected, Mrs. Humphry Ward hastened to bless this proposal, and in a letter to *The Times* says: "Advance on these lines would mean the rise of a Middle Suffrage Party, in which many who have hitherto been opponents might find themselves working side by side in the promotion of a settlement by consent. But for such a settlement it would be necessary that those who are now resisting the Woman Suffrage movement in its present form should have some assurance from the Suffragist party and its leaders that the line of demarcation between such local assemblies as might arise under Federalism and the Central Imperial Parliament would be loyally accepted and observed."

We admit that Mrs. Humphry Ward is "advancing" since she suggests the rise of a "Middle Suffrage Party," but we are far from recognising her right to dictate terms to Suffragist leaders. We are quite content to let her plough her lonely furrow a little while longer. It led her to form a Local Government Advancement Committee, although there was already a Women's Local Government Society well established in the country, and it may lead to plentiful occupation for many earnest but fearful men and women in that new debating assembly—the Women's Parliament.

The Women's Freedom League, however, is working for the complete political equality of women with men, and refuses to be content with anything less. In every calling women have undertaken, they have certainly proved themselves to be as competent as men competitors; they have performed the duties of citizenship equally with men, they have sacrificed time, money, energy, in some cases life itself, to gain political liberty, and they are not likely after all these years of struggle to welcome a compromise, the only advantage of which seems to be that it would suit the convenience of the Liberal party and prominent anti-Suffragists. To expect women to pay their full share of the upkeep of the Army and Navy, the State Departments, the salaries and pensions of Cabinet Ministers in addition to the salaries of members of the Imperial Legislature without giving them a voice in the control of this taxation is an insult to their intelligence, and if women acquiesced in this "re-hash of the Constitution," they would probably be demanding full citizen rights a hundred years hence with less hope than they have at present of securing those rights. Suffragists can brook no compromise in this matter; their demand is for political equality with men, and nothing less than equality will satisfy them. F. A. U.

"UBI TU CAIUS, IBI EGO CAIA."

"Where Thou Art, Caius, There am I, Caia."

The Roman bride pauses on the threshold of her husband's home, pauses as her foot falls on the "Salve" in its marble pavement, and the scent of the heavy garlands that festoon the classic portal to welcome her mingles with the incense of the acclaiming nuptial throng. She turns to the bridegroom, stately and glorious, and bends such a look upon him as a consort Queen may do who makes reverence to the new crowned King.

"Ubi tu Caius," she salutes him, "ibi ego Caia."

"Ubi tu Caius, ibi ego Caia"—thus also in effect the shabby woman with tears in her eyes on the deck of an emigrant liner to her lord in a slop-made overcoat lending a hand with some poor corded box down the narrow steerage companion.

If something of the secret of the unique colonising power of the British among modern peoples is due to the fact that the Englishman can make his home anywhere, an explanation of this, in turn, is that since British expansion began, the Englishwoman has been as willing as the women of the Continental nations have been loath, to face the unknown at the side of the pioneer. Wherever the red world round the British man is "toiling might and main to cinch the rivets of an Empire down," the British woman stands beside him. The toil of the prairie farmer's wife and the "martyrdom of Anglo Indian motherhood" are two instances of that salutation of the woman to the man which has made that home of the British race—the Empire—what it is to-day. "Ubi tu Caius," no matter what high seas or what vast continents have had to be crossed to found the pioneering and colonial home, it has always been a case of "ibi ego Caia." Nowhere is the Caia of to-day seen to better advantage than in the newly opened up homesteading districts of the western Canadian prairies. Nowhere has the salutation of the Roman bride been echoed more faithfully than by the emigrant wives and mothers who stand shoulder to shoulder with our emigrant men in the strenuous business of building up, not only their overseas homes, but the overseas nation of the west.

At no time has that nuptial salutation whose ceremonial use marked the finest legal, civic, and domestic level attained by woman in the golden age of the Republic, been interpreted more finely than it is being interpreted to-day by that intellectual array of women not only in England, but throughout the Empire, who demand in the best interests of that "home" their parliamentary enfranchisement.

Returning to "the old country," after some years of absorbing work hospital building on the Canadian prairie—work which brought the writer into intimate touch with Caia across the threshold—she believes she has found in this lofty little excerpt from the Roman marriage ceremonial the two-sided significance of what women are doing on the outskirts of the Empire and at its heart. And it is in the whole significance of Caia's salutation to Caius that the proper ordering of the home consists. Everywhere she says to him, first in the material sense of the words, and secondly in the spiritual, "Ubi tu, ibi ego." It will depend upon the enfranchisement of women if the Empire which may possibly have reached its territorial limits, is to attain its full moral growth.

The "woman's movement" of course is in evidence throughout the Empire, though it is by no means confined to it. The issues for which women have at home pressed constitutionally and fought unconstitutionally so long have been raised and settled already in Australia; they are attracting attention in South Africa, and they have pressed themselves upon the notice of every Province in Canada where social advancement and conditions generally have ripened the time. It is the colonial woman's good fortune rather than any lack

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of enthusiasm that however keenly she may be bent upon making the suffrage a "live question" in Ontario, Manitoba, and British Columbia, she has avoided creating the atmosphere around it, which is reflected in caricature, she has avoided "feminism," as she has avoided "militancy." The reason smilingly given to the writer by one of the most charming women in public life in Vancouver was simply this, "We just don't have to!"

In a man-made world, it really seems as if the "influence" with which women are accredited in lieu of a vote (!) is in inverse ratio to their numerical strength. This fact accounts for the enormous difference there is, from the woman's point of view, between life in the old country and life overseas. This fact accounts entirely for the difference between the "suffragette" in England and the "suffragist" of the Dominion. That the women in England have been driven into the attitude at which the unsympathetic or the ignorant rail or jeer is a point not for the colonial woman's criticism, but for her sympathy. And yet it does not seem that she always perceives this. It is a pity if what is held to be reprehensible about the "woman's movement," as exhibited in England alienates the sympathies of women active in that movement overseas. It is a pity if the Canadian woman for instance—and how much more the Australian!—who cares for the spiritual things of public life in countries where the frank materialism of making good is so much to the fore, become coldly critical in England, where the obstacles to be overcome are those not of a young country, but of an old one. It is a pity if she is so shocked by the outrages of a more extreme wing of the suffrage army than the Women's Freedom League, as to fail to perceive that underneath all this is the "ibi ego Caia," which interpreted by the

woman in the steerage has made the British Empire a material fact, as it is to be hoped the parliamentary enfranchisement of women will more largely enable them to do their share in making it a spiritual one.

There is a direct, unbroken if graduated, connection between any little organised group of prairie farmers' wives meeting in some school house thirty miles or more remote from the hamlet or the railway line, and the enthusiastic highly-charged meetings of those forceful Leagues and Unions and Affiliations of women in England which represent the head of steam as it were for the whole movement. It is a stimulating thing for the writer who has had the privilege of coming into touch with both, to find in the terms of Cain's salutation a synthesis for all that women are doing in the world-wide home of the British race to-day.

ALBERTA.

THE SCOTTISH HOME RULE BILL AND VOTES FOR WOMEN.

The debate on the Scottish Home Rule Bill, into which a Woman Suffrage Clause on the lines of the Dickinson Bill had been inserted, took place on May 15; the Bill was talked out; the Speaker withheld his assent to the repeated claims of Mr. Macpherson, who introduced the Bill, to move "That the question be now put." Before the Bill was introduced Mr. Booth asked for the Speaker's ruling on the point as to whether a Woman's Suffrage clause did not make the Bill "practically a different measure." Mr. Lowther's answer ran as follows:—"It is perfectly obvious that Clause 7, Sub-section (6), is a very important part of the Bill, and if that were struck out, the general provision of the Bill would be very different from what it is at the present moment. I cannot say further than that."

The discussion proceeded and Woman Suffrage was like "King Charles' Head": it could not be kept out. The following extracts give the pronouncements on the question:—

Mr. MACPHERSON (Radical, Ross and Cromarty), in introducing the Bill, said: "This Bill is, to all intents and purposes, the same as the Bill introduced by my hon. friend the Member for East Aberdeenshire (Mr. Cowan) last year, with the consent and concurrence of a united Scottish party, so far as that party is composed of Members sitting on this side of the House. There is, however, this year, a Clause introduced at the request of the majority of the Scottish Members—[An Hon. Member: "Not of a majority!"]—giving the Franchise to a large number of the women of Scotland. I see around me many of my hon. friends who have in the past, either by Bill or by Resolution, supported the principle of Home Rule. I could wish that this was no party measure. I could wish that on an occasion such as this, when national and Imperial issues are at stake, I had the support of hon. Members opposite as well as of my friends upon this side. I cannot claim perfection for the Bill which I am introducing. It may have all the demerits of a Bill that has not yet been passed through the scathing fires of criticism in a Committee of this House. But I do claim that it embodies that unquenchable and indefinable spirit of nationalism which hon. Members opposite cherish equally with us. I claim, too, that it is an expression—a clear and definite expression—of that sane and practical desire of Scotsmen for local self-government which has come down to us from the past."

To Be Left to "The People" of Scotland.

Mr. W. YOUNG (R., Perthshire, E.) supported the Bill with reservations as to the Woman Suffrage Clause. He observed: "I feel bound to make my position quite clear with regard to a Clause which has found its way into this Bill since it was last introduced. It is a Clause which, in my opinion, can only complicate, and perhaps destroy, the hopes of those who anticipated an early realisation of a measure of national self-government for Scotland. I need scarcely say that I refer to the Sub-section of Clause 7, which proposes to give votes to women, including married women, on practically the same terms as men. I desire not only to make my position perfectly clear with regard to this, but to state that whilst I am a convinced supporter of national self-government for Scotland, I am opposed to the Sub-section of Clause 7, which proposes to confer the Parliamentary Franchise upon Women. Why should this Parliament dictate to the people of Scotland any more than it did in the case of Ireland—though I admit the same supremely undemocratic line of action was attempted by Suffragists in the case of the Irish Home Rule Bill—whether they are to grant the Parliamentary Franchise to Women or not. That surely is a matter which might be left to the people of Scotland themselves, and, when they get their national Parliament, as I sincerely hope they will, then if a majority in favour of Woman Suffrage is to be found in that Parliament I for one shall have very little to say with regard to it, and neither perhaps will my hon. friend. What are the facts with regard to the Clause in question? It was only approved by a small majority at a meeting of Scottish Members at which there were only some twenty-eight Liberal Members present, or less than half the total number of Liberal Members; but, if you take the whole of the Scottish representation in this House, there is a decided majority against the pro-

posal to extend the Parliamentary Franchise to Women. It is, perhaps, not an easy matter to be certain about anything in this world, but if there is anything on which I do not harbour a shadow of doubt, it is that the vast majority of the people of Scotland, including the women of Scotland, are profoundly opposed to extending the Parliamentary Franchise to Women, and they are profoundly opposed to any measure which would place in the hands of woman the balance of political governing power. There is no accounting, however, for the actions of Suffragists, both male and female, for to me they appear to be under the dominating influence of their obsession, and they are not only prepared to wreck this measure, but they are even prepared to disintegrate and ruin the Liberal Party itself. . . . I greatly regret, in view of the importance of the measure as I originally stood, my hon. friend who introduced the Bill did not take a more firm stand with regard to this question. . . . I have been informed that many Members have been urged to come to this House, not for the purpose of supporting Home Rule for Scotland, for which they care very little, but for the purpose of supporting Votes for Women. On the other hand, I understand that some Members have stayed away because they are in favour of Votes for Women, so that it is a rather difficult matter for an ordinary Scottish Member like myself, unacquainted with such tactics, to decide as to whether this is really a Home Rule Bill for Scotland or a measure to serve the purposes of those who first of all are Women Suffragists and anything else afterwards."

Woman Equal to Man.

Mr. WATSON (U., Lanark): . . . There is the question of Women's Suffrage. I confess I do not understand why it has been put in at all. I think it is probably to make sure that there shall not be too enthusiastic a majority, if a majority at all, for the second reading to-day. It is very striking the way it is put in, because it defies Nature and declares that a woman is to be held as a man.

"I Have Been Threatened."

Mr. EUGENE WASON (R., Clackmannan): I do not understand why the proposal with regard to Women Suffrage was included in this Bill. I used to support the Franchise for Women, but I have given it up. I have been appealed to in the most pathetic language, and I have been threatened, but so long as women continue to pursue the course they are following at the present time they will not have my support, either for Votes in Scotland or for Votes in England. It is a mistake that my name appears on the back of this Bill. I asked that it might not appear simply for that reason. So far as the principle of Home Rule for Scotland is concerned, there is no firmer believer in it than myself.

The MARQUIS OF TULLIBARDINE (U., Perthshire, W.): There is only one other Clause in the Bill on which I wish to touch, and that is the qualification of voters. The qualification of the male voter has never been mentioned at all, but I presume he exists. Women are to have the same qualification as men if they are married. Apparently, if they are married, they are to have the same power as men to receive a household qualification during the period required by law to enable persons to be so registered as married persons. I presume that all these married ladies would have separate rooms of their own, and the key of their own door, and a latchkey very likely! If we are to have a separate body controlling affairs in Scotland, although I happen to be a strong Anti-suffragist in the Imperial Parliament, I am not prepared to say anything against Women Suffrage for a local Parliament. That is about the only part of the Bill which I might be in favour of.

Mr. CLYDE (U., Edinburgh, W.): Let me point out that the hon. Member for East Perthshire and the hon. Member for Clackmannan and Kinross are shocked at the possibility of a Woman being entitled to cast her Vote on a matter that affects her status or employment.

Mr. W. YOUNG: Scottish Home Rule does not mean Woman Suffrage.

Mr. CLYDE: That is the exact measure and value of their lifelong devotion to the cause of Home Rule! Apparently it is not worth the risk of a countrywoman putting her Vote into the ballot-box on a question which affects her status or is detrimental to her employment. If that be a fair indication of the view of the Seconder of this Bill and of the hon. Member for Clackmannan and Kinross, if that be a fair indication of their devotion to the principle of Home Rule, I am encouraged to think that on further reflection they might possibly come to agree with the view that the setting up of a separate legislature is expedient neither in the interests of Scotland nor of England, and Scotland might easily find a wider sphere for common action in revising our administrative system.

Mr. Balfour Blesses the Provision.

Mr. BALFOUR (U., City of London): Speaking for myself, I should have thought that, as regards the extension of the Suffrage to Women in Scotland, that many of those who object to the extension of the Suffrage to Women for the Imperial Parliament—of whom I need not say I am one—would have welcomed the extension in respect to an assembly which, truly or untruly, accurately or inaccurately, hon. Members opposite describe as one concerning merely local administration. But I am not going into that question. I am very glad that that provision has been put into the Bill, although I do not think the Bill is one which either can or will, in anything like its present state,

ever receive the assent of this House. I do not know that it is more than a general tribute paid by hon. Members opposite to an important cause.

Mr. MCKINNON WOOD (Secretary for Scotland): I believe that every Member of the House who has listened to the debate, or even part of it, must have been struck by the perfectly good humoured and passionless manner in which this subject has been argued. That is indicative of the fact that in Scotland we have no difficulties of passion or prejudice to surmount in regard to the question of local self-government. The speakers on both sides have dealt with the subject in a way that proves that that is true. Upon one point I will venture to express entire agreement with the right hon. Gentleman the Member for the City of London (Mr. Balfour)—although in this matter I can no more speak for my colleagues on this Bench than he can for those with whom he acts—but I share his hope that the question of the admission of Women to the Vote in regard to subordinate legislatures might have been separated by friends of Women Suffrage from the larger question of their vote for the Imperial Parliament. That was the only question on which there was any expression of feeling in this debate. I would point out to those who have a very strong feeling in the matter, that, after all, this question must come before the whole House. It does not affect Scotland alone, and it cannot be sent to a Grand Committee; it must be submitted to the decision of the whole House.

THE "PROTECTED" SEX.

How it Works Out.

Minnie Scott, child of fourteen, seduced by her sister's husband, Frederick Lyons. Gave birth to a child, which in her terror and misery she strangled. Tried for Wilful Murder at the Leeds Assizes, the Grand Jury finding a true bill against her. Convicted of concealment of birth, and sentenced to one year's detention in a home, as if she were the guilty party; while no punishment is, or can be by law, inflicted on the infinitely more guilty man, who goes free while the girl is punished and her unfortunate mother and sister censured.

Grace Ansell, six months for damage to a picture. [A man was given six months for killing a woman in a bout of drunken fury a short time back. See "The 'Protected' Sex," *VOTE*, April 3.]

Louisa Haley, Manchester, attacked Thomas O'Brien, with whom she lived, with a knife in the night. Both drunk and had quarrelled. She then screamed for help, and with her arms round him implored the neighbours to save him or she would die, too. Six months.

[Compare: Mrs. Kerr, Aberdeen, blind, set upon by her husband when the worse for drink, dragged out of bed by the throat, repeatedly struck while on the floor, her neck cut and torn with his nails, and thrown out on the landing and left there. The police-court bench, after the usual "stern" denunciation of such brutal conduct, fined Kerr 20s.]

Killed.

Mrs. Thompson, Hull, whose husband, employed in African gold mines, was about to return to work at the end of his leave. Thompson was depressed at the idea of parting from his family, and on May 16 shot his wife and two babies through the head and then attempted suicide by cutting his own throat.

Josephine Ryan, co. Clare, habitually ill-treated by her husband. Had eight children. Mangled body found locked in a room in her house. Witnesses bullied and intimidated till afraid to give evidence, so trial was removed from Clare to Dublin. Verdict against husband, for some incomprehensible reason, of manslaughter, not murder; sentence, three years.

[Compare: Charles McCafferty, at the High Court, Edinburgh, before the Lord Justice Clerk, charged with breaking into an unoccupied house in Glasgow and stealing a bracket and 7 ft. of piping. Previous convictions. Three years.]

Murderous Assault.

Grace Ann Hughes, Liverpool, refused to go to a theatre with George Cain, as she was going out with another man to whom she was engaged. Cain called to see her, smashed the lamp, knocked the girl down and hacked and sawed at her throat with a razor. More than twenty cuts and gashes, some almost fatal. Ten years.

Lily Kerry, Muswell Hill, shot in the shoulder at Alexandra Park grounds by George Galley, who boasted that he could not be dealt with because the girl would not charge him. She is at present too ill to appear in court.

Neglect.

James Crozier, neglecting his three children for drink. The children had had to be taken to the children's shelter and had been there since the end of February, and he never troubled to make any enquiry about them. Six weeks, at the Edinburgh Sheriff Court, by Sheriff Hepburn-Miller.

[Compare: Jessie Fraser and Colin Watt, charged with neglecting one child, which was found dirty and emaciated. Child died because the mother refused to go to the workhouse; in the case of Crozier, his children were put in the shelter in time to keep them well. Evidence was given that except for laziness, Jessie Fraser was an affectionate mother, and had to live seven in one room. She did not realise the responsibilities of life." Three months. Colin Watt discharged.]

THE CRIMINAL COURTS.

Clerkenwell.

On Wednesday, April 23, Richard Anstey was sentenced by Mr. Justice Laurie to three years' penal servitude for maliciously wounding Mary Ann Rumble. The couple had lived together until Anstey was sent to prison for stealing. When released he tried to make Rumble continue their relations. On her refusal he pestered and assaulted her. The severity of the sentence was due no doubt to the prisoner's previous criminal record.

Many Ann Godleman, begging. Three months.
Edith Wilson, twenty-two, soliciting. One month.
Florence Wilson, thirty-seven, soliciting. Three months.
Jessie Read, twenty-six, soliciting. Four months.
Martha Smith, soliciting. One month.
Ellen Corbett, soliciting. Six months.

Alice Mead, fifty, was charged with robbing Edwin Astley of money and jewellery. The man had gone home with her and alleged that she robbed him. The woman was married, but her husband worked at night duty. There were previous convictions against her for various offences, drunkenness, &c. Sentence: Twenty-one months.

On Thursday, before Mr. Laurie, William Treadwell was found guilty of an indecent assault on May Degavino, aged seven. Prisoner was married and lodged with Mrs. Degavino, at Battersea. On April 7, the child May was playing with prisoner's children, when he called her into his room and assaulted her. She told her grandmother, and the police were communicated with the next day. His counsel urged that he was a man of excellent character and that there was no corroboration. He said his client was in a position of deadly peril; he had to defend himself against a charge which might be made any day against any one of the jury. Three months.

Tom Jones Pickford, of Manor Park, was found guilty of living on the immoral earnings of a girl of twenty. Twenty-one months.

In one case Mr. Purcell, a barrister, remarked that in the witness-box policemen often made mistakes without committing perjury!

Old Bailey, before Lord Coleridge.

Sidney Farrington, seventy-two, was found guilty of committing incest with his two daughters. Four years.

William Clay, incest. Twelve months.

Harry Bromberg savagely attacked his wife with a flat-iron, smashing in her head and face and killing her. Found guilty. To be detained during his Majesty's pleasure.

EDITH M. WATSON.

NINE MAGISTRATES, SEVEN DOGS, FIVE LICENCES, AND ONE WOMAN.

Mrs. Lane was summoned before a full bench of magistrates at Woodbridge Police-court on May 14 for the non-payment of two dog-licences. It was certainly a dog puzzle. There were seven dogs at the farm, and five licences had been taken out. Mr. Lane last year had a summons served on him for one of the odd dogs, but he declared that that particular dog was not his. The case was lost, and Mr. Lane recovered costs. This year the long-suffering policeman went to see Mrs. Lane about the matter, but as she would give no satisfactory information he thought the easiest thing to do was to serve her with both summonses. When she appeared in the police-court she declared that only one of those dogs was hers, and called Miss Underwood as a witness to declare that one of them belonged to Dr. Knight. Mrs. Lane of course had refused to pay the licence on her own dog because she objected to taxation without representation, but she did not see why she should be summoned also for someone else's dog. The magistrates and various other officials wanted to know how Miss Underwood knew that Dr. Knight had a dog at Woodbridge, and whether she herself would know the dog if she saw it. The witness could only state that she saw no reason for Dr. Knight to tell her she had a dog at Woodbridge if she had not. Dr. Knight had often talked about that dog! Besides the doctor had been summoned for the same dog before that same bench of magistrates for several years previously. Miss Underwood was very sorry she would not know that dog if she saw it. "But," said Mrs. Lane, "the policeman knows it—he says he does!" So the policeman was called as witness, and one gathered that he knew it well by its ferocious bark, as he did not appear at all anxious to be sent to fetch it. After long deliberation and many questions the bench solemnly agreed to impose a fine of 30s. and 15s. costs on Mrs. Lane, who left the box smiling, without paying any money.

Mrs. Tippett, Mrs. Hossack, Miss Bobby, and Mrs. Watson were also present in court, and as soon as Mrs. Lane joined them they all adjourned with Freedom League flags and many copies of *THE VOTE* to hold a protest meeting in front of the police-court. Mrs. Hossack took the chair and was listened to with great attention. Miss Underwood followed, and Mrs. Tippett made a rousing speech. The crowd remembered her, too, from former protest meetings held in the same place. After the meeting was ended a drunken man incited a number of school children to some horse-play, and the Freedom Leaguers were escorted to the police-station with a great deal of noise. The railway station-master quickly dispersed the children, and, as is usual in these parts, after the trouble was over two men in blue leisurely strolled down in the direction of the station. They certainly were not out to look for trouble.

THE VOTE.

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FRIDAY, May 22, 1914.

NOTICE.—Letters relating to editorial and business matters should be addressed to THE EDITOR and SECRETARY respectively. Applications for advertising spaces to be made to the ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER.

Offices: 2, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI, W.C.

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.

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AN OBJECT LESSON.

That sense of humour, in which women are supposed to be deficient, will come to our aid in contemplating the situation as it confronts the Militant Suffragists in Scotland. Whether one looks upon the shocked horror displayed by wealthy and influential citizens at militant "outrages" while they themselves are preparing with feverish excitement to house "refugees" from Ulster and to send "detachments" and "reinforcements" to the new rebels in the "distressful country"; or whether one considers the debate, and the leading Press articles, on the Home Rule for Scotland question, the result is equally entertaining, and rich in matter for satire. Peers, prelates, and other persons who denounce the ecclesiastical patrons of the Church League for Women's Suffrage for countenancing any connection with women's militancy, gaze unrebukingly upon the spectacle seen last Saturday, in Glasgow, of a parade of Orange men and Orange women through the principal streets for the opening of a new hall for the Orange Lodge, while three divines—no less—made warlike and defiant speeches in support of male militant rebels. The chief banner carried on that occasion exemplified, better than any words of mine can do, the want of a sense of humour, or proportion, possessed by the male persons who are so critically exacting in regard to our qualifications for doing the things they are considered competent to do. The banner portrayed King William of Orange in his full-bottomed wig, and above him, side by side, were medallion portraits of the late lamented John Knox and Colonel Sanderson! Beneath this weird conjunction marched the solid and solemn Conservative strength of the City of Glasgow; truly, indeed, a "banner with a strange device."

There are students in Edinburgh and Glasgow, St. Andrews and Aberdeen: young men and women whose moral as well as mental ideals and standards are being formed. These students saw, a few weeks ago, the savage onslaught of London and Scottish police on the frail person of Mrs. Pankhurst, the rebel woman. They saw, later, how the Corporation of the City of Glasgow refused to take any responsibility in a matter involving the good repute of the city as a civilised centre. They saw the Committee of Magistrates, on whom the onus was thrown, refusing an inquiry into police methods and conduct, and stating that there were no grounds for such an inquiry. (The same Committee of Magistrates, be it remembered, that refused to take any steps to remedy the shameful offence committed by their police and their courts on Miss Jessie Brown.) These students now see a vivid contrast. Sir Edward Carson, the

rebel man, has been nominated, amid indescribable enthusiasm, for the Lord Rectorship of Edinburgh University.

Had one of the most notorious of the rebel women been so nominated to preside over an educational establishment for girl students, imagination could not have pictured the wild orgy of indignation the Press—and especially the Unionist Press—would have embarked on. There would have been a re-occurrence of all the most objectionable and reactionary features of the early Anti-suffrage antagonism, the prognostications of evil, the shrieks about unwomanliness, the general gloom about what independence and higher education meant for women. The example of a criminal, law-breaking man is, however, in some way admitted to be inspiring for youth; and Mr. Bonar Law has committed himself to the statement that of all men, Sir Edward, with his magnetic personality, is the kind most likely to appeal to young people and to gain an influence over them. It is this very thing, the magnetic personality, and the influence on young people, and the stirring example of their revolt, that is so deplored in rebel women leaders and considered so dangerous in its results. The youth at the Scottish educational establishments may be excused if it assimilates some very odd samples in public morality and political standards. The results of this system of education should be peculiar and hardly pleasant.

We now come to the Scottish Home Rule debate. We find there an altogether extraordinary position. We find the Member for the Camlachie Division of Glasgow, Mr. Mackinder, opposing the Bill on the ground that "there was no *passion* behind it." (*Passion*, of course, is what Ireland puts into its demands, and what makes Irishmen and Suffrage women militant.) Then comes Mr. Eugene Wason, a staunch Home Ruler, who in supporting the Bill's principle of Home Rule objected vehemently to the inclusion of Women's Suffrage because the women were militant. "So long as the Militants pursue the course they do," declared this champion of the Double Standard, "they will not get my vote." He had "quite withdrawn" his support from the Franchise movement. We wonder, then, why he has not withdrawn his support from the Nationalists.

Mr. Young, of East Perthshire, was prepared, having seconded the Bill, to vote against it on third reading if the proposal to Enfranchise Women was carried in the Committee stages. He considered it impudent for the Imperial Parliament to decide on a question like that, which should be left to "the people of Scotland." Why a great national and imperial question should be disposed of by local parliaments is not clear; but what is clear is, that the inclusion of Votes for Women quenched the national ardour of many of these Scottish patriots. More; it enlisted the sympathy and the intervention of the Speaker, who once more used—or misused—the prerogative of his position to hit a foul blow at Voteless women. The Bill was talked out because the Speaker would not allow the closure of the debate; and he would not allow it because of the inclusion of Votes for Women. So we have the curious concatenation of Women's Suffrage being jettisoned to save Home Rule for the militant Irishmen, and Home Rule for the peaceful Scotsmen jettisoned to avert Women's Suffrage. One's brain reels in trying to grapple with these strangely inconsistent and ill-consorted ethics.

C. NINA BOYLLÉ.

"THE DREAM OF ANNIE BROWN."—Those who read Mrs. Hugo Ames's articles in *The Daily Express* entitled "At the Gates of Hell," dealing with Holloway Prison from the inside, will be interested to hear that she has dramatised the story of one of the prisoners; the play is entitled *The Dream of Annie Brown*, and the scene is in a cell in Holloway. The play will be given on Friday, June 5, at 3 p.m. at the Arts Centre, 93, Mortimer-street; also *Blind* by Hugo Ames, and *The Soul of a Thief*, by Flora Hayer. Particulars from the hon. sec., White Rose League, 3, York-street, St. James's, S.W.

OUR INTERNATIONAL COLUMN.

Head of International Department: MRS. HARVEY,
4, Cleveland-gardens, Ealing, London, W.

The International Council of Women: Quinquennial Meeting, Rome.

The International Council of Women concluded its quinquennial session in Rome on May 13; it will meet again in Christiania in 1919, but executive meetings will be held during the interval in London and in Budapest. Dr. Anna Shaw is President of the Standing Committee for Woman Suffrage, and the question has come before the Rome gathering. Mrs. Creighton, President of the National Union of Women Workers, which is federated to the International Council of Women, spoke on the subject; she controverted the misapprehension of the Suffrage question which prevails in England and abroad, and laid the blame on the Press, which is largely anti-Suffrage. Sensational items, she said, are the most acceptable to the newspapers; a militant outrage is reported broadcast, no notice is taken of the constitutional work done by women. Dr. Shaw and others reported on the remarkable progress of the Suffrage movement in many countries since the last quinquennial meeting. A resolution reaffirming a motion passed in Berlin in 1904 in favour of Woman Suffrage in Parliamentary and local elections in all countries where representative Governments exist was unanimously adopted. This motion was proposed by the President of the National Council of France and seconded by Frau Hamisch, Vice-President of the International Council.

Other important resolutions which have been passed by the Congress dealt with Temperance, the protection of women and children, and the establishment of tribunals for juvenile offenders in which women could practise as advocates, the necessity of vigilance in the employment of women, the establishment of employment agencies and the supervision of emigration. The National Councils of Women were asked to endeavour to obtain laws from their respective Governments by which the civil capacity of married women in regard to personal rights and property would be guaranteed and the equal rights of both parents with respect to the control of children would be recognised; and, in the case of parental division and dispute, the State would be empowered to intervene and to adjudicate them.

The Right to be Well Born.

Lady Aberdeen was unanimously elected President of the International Council for the coming quinquennial period; this will give her twenty-one years of office. Mrs. May Wright Sewall (U.S.A.) is honorary president. In her presidential address Lady Aberdeen urged knowledge and education instead of "the conspiracy of silence" with regard to child life from the beginning. She said: "We claim the right of the child to be well born, and the claim may mean much which we do not yet see clearly. It means that if disease or crime or ignorance or vicious indulgence interfere with the right to be well born, we must take in hand the education of parents and teachers, nurses and doctors, instead of continuing the conspiracy of silence which has ruined many lives. If the right to be well born is admitted, the right to grow up must follow; . . . and then we have to consider the environment of the child during infancy and childhood, its right to be happy and to have the chance of expressing spontaneously the joyousness of childhood, its right to be so trained that it will be prepared to take part in the work of life with joy and dignity, not crushed by excessive hours and unproductive labour. . . . It is the right of every new generation to advance beyond that which has gone before, and parents and all who have the charge of children must set it before them to make the new generation begin where we left off, so that they shall climb on our shoulders to higher life, attainments, and power to serve their fellow-men."

The President and the Executive Council were received by the Queen of Italy, and at most of the Embassies the members of the Congress were entertained.

A CORRECTION.—We thank Mrs. Allan H. Bright, who was president last year of the National Union of Women Workers, for bringing to our notice the fact that Her Majesty the Queen has for four years been patroness of the Union. Our statement last week that the Queen had for the first time associated herself with the Union was therefore not accurate; the misunderstanding arose from the fact that Mrs. Creighton, president this year of the Union, announced in Rome Her Majesty's acceptance of the presidency of the British Council of Women, with which the National Union of Women Workers is federated. We congratulate the Union on the support Her Majesty has so long given to their important work, and welcome the further evidence of her interest in all that concerns women by her recent association with the British Council of the International Council of Women.

The Woman's Movement in Norway.

In the "Norway" Supplement, issued by *The Times* on May 18, an article appears on "The Position of Women." It is written by Mrs. Clara Thue Ebbell, and records the steps by which the equality of the sexes has been attained in Norway. We take the following extracts:—

"In the middle of the nineteenth century the activities of the women of Norway, as elsewhere, were confined strictly to the home, and even in this sphere their position was dependent and insecure. About this time, however, the tendency to give women a freer and more important position in the community

began to assert itself. The first concession made by the Norwegian State authorities at that time to the women of their country was the Inheritance Act of 1854, which abolished the difference that hitherto had existed between men's and women's rights in respect of inheritance. . . .

"The year 1884 is fundamental in the history of the movement, as it saw the commencement of an organised campaign which first reached its final goal when both sexes were put entirely on an equal footing in a social, moral, and economic sense. In 1884 the society called the Norsk Kvindesagsforening (Norwegian Women's Association) was organised, the aim of which was 'to work so that woman be given her just rights and place in the community. . . . The question of Suffrage for women very soon came to the front, and a proposal to forward to the Storting a memorial requesting an amendment to the constitution creating such a privilege was considered."

"The results of the women's campaign have been slow of attainment. In 1888 the Act was passed giving the wife equal rights with her husband as to their common property, the right to own her own property separately, and to have a separate income. In 1889 women became eligible as members of School Boards. In 1894 they gained the right to vote in the question of the 'samlag' (licensed liquor shops). In 1900 they became eligible as Poor Law Commissioners. In 1901 limited municipal Suffrage was granted, and in the same year permission was given to use a new marriage rite. In 1902 women became eligible for jury service. In 1903 power to vote on questions relating to the Church was granted. In the same year the first woman received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from the University. In 1904 women were admitted to practice as attorneys at law and advocates. In 1906 the first woman State official of the higher schools was appointed."

"In 1907 women were granted limited Suffrage in State affairs, Norway being the first of the European States to grant this privilege. In 1910 general municipal Suffrage followed. In 1911 the Storting opened its doors to the first woman representative, called in as a substitute. In the same year women were granted the right to act as guardians, a woman factory inspector was appointed, women became members of the police force, and acted as substitutes for justices of peace, while their admission to State offices was extended. In 1912 the first woman professor (of zoology) was appointed in the University, the first woman advocate authorised, and the first woman judge, the first woman district physician, and the first woman principal of a public school were appointed, while all positions and examinations as navigators were opened to women in 1913. Finally (June 11, 1913), the Act was passed unanimously, and without debate, which gave to women full general Suffrage, the same as for men."

"By this Act the last obstacle, so to speak, to the equality of Norwegian women with the men of their country was removed, and this after an organised campaign which has lasted about a generation. The special demands of women still to be settled are a more extensive admission to the offices of the State and better wages."

The Sorbonne (Paris) Honours a Woman.

For the first time in the history of the Sorbonne the degree of Docteur-es-Lettres has just been awarded to a woman. Mademoiselle Jeane Duportal is the woman thus honoured; she submitted to the severe academic criticism of the University of Paris a brilliant thesis on the illustrated books of the seventeenth century. She is the daughter of the Inspector-General of Bridges and Highways, and granddaughter of Armand Duportal, representative of the people in the National Assembly.

A WOMAN'S PLAY: "BREAK THE WALLS DOWN."

Break the Walls Down, by Mrs. Alexander Gross, is now being produced at the Savoy Theatre, and is essentially a modern play, dealing with the life we know and see around us. It is the story of a woman's enterprise in the world of business, an enterprise crowned with success which enabled her to save her husband's reputation and his business at a time of crisis, and all the while the husband had believed that women were incapable of understanding business or any of the affairs in which men are concerned. It is Mrs. Gross's first play, and is likely to make her name. Its reception last Saturday was very encouraging, and we heartily advise our readers to visit the Savoy without delay. There is very strong and good work in the play; it is not directly a suffrage play, but the able woman who rescues her husband from bankruptcy is, of course, voteless. Its strong woman interest has involved not a few difficulties in its course to public representation.

Mrs. Patrick Beufre was a middle-class woman, energetic enough to resent a narrow life within the four walls of her home with no other distraction than the ordinary "At Homes," where the only topics of conversation were the delinquencies of servants and the latest fashions. Early in their married life Mr. Beufre had made it quite plain to his wife that she was to be shut out of his business life, and all his interests outside the home. She was to dress well, to keep his home comfortable, and to be there in the evening when he returned from business. That was all that was required of her. While her boy and girl were little, life was quite tolerable, but when her husband insisted that the children should be sent to a boarding-school because "that was the usual thing to do," Mrs. Beufre could not face a life of unending boredom, and,

unknown to her husband, started a dressmaking business on her own account with a capital of £300—all the money which she herself possessed. This business succeeded beyond expectation. Artistic by temperament, she yet had sufficient business instinct to know the money value of the fashion, and to establish a business in Hanover-square. Meanwhile her husband had not been so fortunate. A few bad debts, his old-fashioned ideas of honesty, added to "rumours" in the City about his financial instability, rendered him an easy prey to the creditors who were also his competitors. Under the strain, Mr. Beufre became "nervy" at business and irritable at home. He quarrelled with his daughter fresh from college because of her advanced ideas, became suspicious of his wife, and set detectives on her track to find out what she did in her leisure time.

The scene in his office when he discovered the extent of his overdraft at the bank, his conversation over the telephone with the bank manager, his evasion and reception of dunning creditors, is the most realistic piece of work at present on the London stage. A creditors' meeting was arranged, but not before Mrs. Beufre had learnt the true state of her husband's affairs; and she decided to attend this meeting with her daughter. The husband resented this intrusion, but his authority was not great enough to turn them out. They sat apart from the creditors and viewed the refusal of some of the oldest creditors to shake hands with Beufre, their insulting behaviour to him, their distrust of each other and the disorderly proceedings generally, with that tolerant but satirical half-smile which means so much in a competent woman. When the creditors had fallen out with each other, and had played into the hands of Playfair, the clever, unscrupulous accountant, and just as he was about to grasp what he had striven for, Mrs. Beufre stepped forward and spoiled his plans by offering to pay 10s. in the pound on the spot and 10s. in a month's time. Poor Beufre was more confused than ever. Explanations followed. He learned that the dressmaker's establishment which he had visited, and where he had made a scene and accused the Hungarian artist of being his wife's lover, was his wife's business, bringing her in a net profit of £5,000 a year. "What a prig I've been!" was his comment.

Charles Rock as Mr. Patrick Beufre was excellent, the very man for the part; the acting throughout the play was good, but Madge McIntosh as Mrs. Patrick Beufre was perhaps too emotional for a successful business woman. It would add to the attraction of the evening if the intervals between these acts could be much shorter. Prolonged waits induce the feeling of reading a story in a periodical "to be continued in our next," and are unfair to the play. F. A. U.

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CAXTON HALL "WEDNESDAYS." WANTED: "A TRIBUNE OF THE PEOPLE."

Mrs. Huntsman had well demonstrated support from the audience when, as chairman at the Caxton Hall meeting on May 13, she said that we always looked for something good from Mr. Laurence Housman and were not disappointed. Mr. Housman prefaced his excellent address, "In this Sign Conquer," by pointing out the price that is paid for government of women without their consent. He had just spent a spare half hour in the National Gallery and had found it almost impossible to see the pictures for policemen and bored detectives; not only was the Rokeby Venus removed, but also nearly twenty other pictures; more than half the Gallery was closed. It was an object lesson showing that, though women cannot fight, one of them could inflict a far more serious wound upon the amenities of life than a soldier did in the firing line. Mr. Housman declared that those who did not recognise the awakening of women were throughout the world as "the biggest thing happening" were either "back numbers" or still asleep. The problems concerning the children could never be adequately considered until women are set free to say what they thought and do what they considered right. Women now demanded knowledge, and insisted that nothing relating to life should be kept from them. Parliament, he said, was still sticking in the mud; the great social revolution of the last six years had swept by it, having compressed into that short time what would have taken fifty years to accomplish under the old methods.

The women's fight for the Vote had taught them to break away from party, convention, silence, and from law and order which usurped the place of human nature. The Irish problem, which was human nature at flash point. Mr. Asquith had added, was human nature at flash point. Mr. Asquith had protested against "the great and unprecedented outrage" of the gun-running exploit, yet he was sitting down under it. The majority of Members of Parliament were pledged not to criticise the acts of Government, but, said Mr. Housman, the latest Bill, which allows political pressure to be brought to bear upon the administration of justice, is "a great eye-opener for you." What is needed is a great new departure—a Tribune of the People, from whom, and not from the Government, orders should go whether a prosecution is to be undertaken or not and who is to be prosecuted.

The Liberal Government, said Mr. Housman, is always boasting about the voice of the people, but it did not give the people much chance to make their voices heard when, as occurred recently, the party agent was sent to take every hall in the constituency of a member when a by-election was likely through his promotion to Cabinet rank. A few were granted to the Conservatives, but John Seurr was refused the use even of one. He held his meetings in the streets and kept Mr. Masterman out of Parliament. "We want to keep humbugs and hypocrites out of Parliament," he added, and assured women that in this sign—the Vote—they would conquer.

Mrs. Tanner, in an able speech, described the sympathetic reception Suffragists had met with during the Grimsby by-election campaign, and told of a Liberal meeting at which the chairman had stated that women were the best workers and best revolutionaries. A man's voice from the gallery was then heard shouting "Votes for Women!" whereupon there was a general declaration of all in favour of Woman Suffrage. Mrs. Tanner maintained that men could not be proud of the life-destroying conditions of poverty and the social evils which existed, and women's help was needed to bring about better conditions.

MADAME CURIE AND HER DISCOVERIES.

Keen interest was aroused by Miss Ashdown's address on Madame Curie at our Discussion Meeting at Headquarters on May 18. Miss Ashdown, a scientist, has already experienced the disabilities of her sex and has seen men who were below her in Chemistry Examination results receive appointments from which she is excluded because she is a woman. She has therefore become a science lecturer, and her most interesting address on Madame Curie was principally concerned with that eminent woman's scientific researches. She explained the importance to the world of the discovery of radium, not simply from the point of view of healing, but from its effect on hitherto accepted scientific theories. She also gave particulars of the recognition Madame Curie has won and the honours conferred upon her by the world of science. She told how the Nobel prize was first awarded jointly to her, her husband, and M. Becquerel, but that some years later that honour was conferred on her alone. This great scientist, who is also a keen Suffragist, is as yet denied the rights of citizenship. Questions and discussion followed, specially on the healing properties of radium as a cure for cancer, and a by-result was the addition of two recruits—an old gentleman and a younger one—for the Speakers' Class. Miss Broadly presided and made a capable chairman.

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POLITICAL NEWS.

The Speaker's Decision on the Scottish Bill.

It is understood that the reason why the Speaker did not consider it wise to grant the closure yesterday on the Scottish Home Rule Bill was because the root principle of the measure had been complicated by the questions of Women's Suffrage and Federalism. A vote of the House, if given, would have been tangled, and no very clear meaning could have been read into it.—"Political Notes," *Daily News*, May 16.

House of Lords and Woman Suffrage (Division List):

For the Bill.

Canterbury, Abp., Haldane, V. (L. Chancellor), Morley of Blackburn, V. (L. President).

DUKE.—Bedford.

EARLS.—Ancaster, Beauchamp, Brassey, Brownlow, Howe, Huntingdon, Lytton, Malmesbury, Nelson, Portsmouth, Russell, Selborne, Verulam.

VISCOUNTS.—Cross, Hill.

BISHOPS.—Bangor, Hereford, Llandaff, London, St. Asaph.

BARONS.—Aberconway, Basing, Berwick, Braye, Carow, Channing of Wallingborough, Claworth, Courtney of Penwith, Cowdray, Emmott, Farrer, Fingall (Fingall, E.), Glantawe, Glanusk, Gwydir, Hemphill, Kilbracken, Lawrence, Lucas, Lyveden, Meldrum (Huntly, M.), Monteagle (Sligo, M.), Newlands, Newton, Nunburnholme, O'Hagan, Oriol (Massereene, V.), Pontypridd, Ranfurly (Ranfurly, E.), Rayleigh, Reading, Rotherham, Rowallan, St. Davids, Tenterden, Willoughby de Broke.

Against the Bill.

Crowe, M. (L. Privy Seal).

DUKES.—Norfolk (E. Marshal), Devonshire, Northumberland.

MARQUESSES.—Bath, Lansdowne, Linlithgow, Salisbury, Zetland.

EARLS.—Amherst, Cathcart, Curzon of Kedleston, Darcey, Doncaster (Buccleuch and Queensberry, D.), Durham, Fortescue, Halsbury, Ilchester, Lanesborough, Leicester, Loreburn, Lovelace, Northesk, Onslow, Plymouth, Spencer, Stanhope, Waldegrave, Westmeath, Wharfedale, Winchelsea and Nottingham.

VISCOUNTS.—Allendale, Canterbury, Cobham, Colville of Culross, Falkland, Goschen, Halifax, Hampden, Hutchinson (Donoughmore, E.), Iveagh, Knollys, Peel, St. Aldwyn.

BARONS.—Sandhurst (L. Chamberlain), Abinger, Amptill, Arundell of Wardour, Ashby St. Ledgers, Ashton on Hyde, Balfour, Barrymore, Biddulph, Blythswood, Brodrick (Midleton, V.), Brougham and Vaux, Chamwood, Chylesmore, Colbrooke, Digby, Egerton, Ellenborough, Eversley, Faber, Haversham, Henegge, Hollenden, Hyton, Inchcape, Inverclyde, Joicey, Kenry (Dunraven and Mount-Earl, E.), Kilmarnock (Erroll, E.), Kinnaird, Kintore (Kintore, E.), Lamington, MacDonnell, Mersey, Montagu of Beaulieu, Ormathwaite, Parmoor, Raglan, Ray, Revelstoke, Rothschild, Sackville, St. Levan, Sanderson, Shute (Barrington, V.), Silchester (Longford, E.), Somerhill (Clanricarde, M.), Somerton (Normanton, E.), Stanley of Alderley (Sheffield, L.), Stanmore, Strachie, Sudeley, Swaythling, Sydenham, Templemore, Teynham, Weardale, Welby, Wolverton, Zouche of Haryngworth.

Railway Men and Votes for Women.

Barnsbury Branch of the National Union of Railwaymen have passed a resolution disapproving of the action of the Government in not granting full adult enfranchisement to women, and asking all Members of Parliament who represent the working class to give their support to any Bill that will enable women to get the vote.

The Manchester Men's League for Women's Suffrage.

The Manchester Men's League for Women's Suffrage sent an appeal to the King direct on May 15 to receive the Woman Suffrage deputation on May 21. In the course of the appeal they say: "Inasmuch as their constitutional right to petition Your Majesty's Ministers in person is refused them, notwithstanding that they are compelled to bear the burden of taxation on the same terms as men, and seeing that Parliament is neither elected by nor responsible to women, while Your Majesty is King of English women as well as of English men, we hopefully beseech Your Majesty to give favourable consideration to this plea, because: "Whereas on ascending the Throne Your Majesty made declaration that 'Under the good guidance of the Ruler of all men I will maintain upon the foundation of Freedom, Justice and Peace the great heritage of the united British Empire,' here in the heart of that Empire Political Freedom is withheld from all women, Justice is not meted out to them by men, and Injustice greatly abounds towards them, and there is and can be no Peace in England so long as one-half the nation is denied human rights."

An Irish deputation which demanded citizen rights was received by King George III. in person in 1793. Why should not a Woman's deputation be received by King George V. in 1914? The "Suffragette" Printer Committed for Trial.

At Bow-street on May 19 the hearing was resumed of the case in which Sydney Granville Drew, secretary and manager of the Victoria House Printing Company, of Tudor-street, E.C., is summoned for printing and publishing *The Suffragette* dated January 2 last, and thereby "inciting women to commit damage to property." In the result the magistrate announced his decision to commit the defendant for trial.

A BOWER OF FLOWERS.—It is almost as good as a visit to the country to spend a short time at Alexander and Co.'s, florists, 16, Brook-street, Bond-street, so beautiful and fresh are the flowers and plants on sale. Quite as surprising and gratifying are the moderate prices charged, and orders for a few cut flowers receive as much care as orders for the beautiful baskets and other designs for which the firm is renowned. Note the address.

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MISS BOYLE IN SCOTLAND (WEST COAST).

Miss Boyle has been with me for one short week; during her stay we have held ten meetings—five public indoor and five outdoor. All have been marked by enthusiasm, and new members have been added to the Women's Freedom League. We have sold nearly 500 pamphlets and eighteen dozen copies of *THE VOTE*, besides which we have had a financial profit on the meetings. There is no doubt to-day that when we follow Mr. Asquith's advice and go out to the high ways and by ways, we find the people are with us. Put your case to the man and woman in the street, and you find they understand your point of view; the men realise the value of the vote, and are willing that women, too, should have it to help them in the struggle of life. They know that there is no difference between militant men and militant women. At one meeting when I mentioned Sir Edward Carson's name, a man cried, "Why is he not arrested? Why is he not in prison for inciting to violence?" Echo answers, "Why?"

It is, alas, amongst men of the educated classes that we find our bitterest opponents. They are blinded by prejudice and deaf to reason. They are opposed to progress, purity, and decent wages for women. They hug their own power, and are too unchivalrous to share it with women; they talk the most cant about the militancy of women, but, as a class, they are the men who are most militant to-day. They supported a Government which fought a deadly and costly war to give votes to men; they are now ready to fight a Government which passes a piece of legislation they do not like. When women protest against legislation which they do not like being passed over their heads, these men call us unsexed, unbalanced; when they protest they are patriots.

In my own village we had a striking example of the methods of some of these gentlemen. When a few of them heard that the minister was to take the chair at our meeting, they informed him that if he did so, not only would they never enter the church again, but that not one penny of their money would help the schemes of the church. It is an example of male logic; they do not like one cause, so they punish another. Their motives and actions do not interest us; their lack of success does, for many who attended the meeting told us they came as a protest against such tyrannous, illogical, ungentlemanly behaviour. All who came enjoyed the meeting, and the resolution, calling upon the Government to grant the franchise to women, was passed with enthusiasm. Miss Boyle's presence has stirred us to further activities, and we all feel renewed determination to fight and conquer and wrest justice from an illiberal and tyrannous Government, a Government that is afraid to put its own principles into practice. EUNICE G. MURRAY.

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BRANCH NOTES.

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LONDON AND SUBURBS.—Bowes Park.

A meeting was held on May 11 at 8, The Lodge Drive, Palmers-green. Cicely Hamilton's "Woman in the Great State" was read by Mrs. Schonfeldt. Discussion followed. Nominations were given in for officers and committee for the Branch. The annual meeting will be held on May 25 at 84, Maryland-road, Wood-green, at 7.30 p.m.; election of officers and other business. An open meeting will be held on June 8, at 43, Caxton-road, Wood-green, at 7.30. A paper will be given by one of the members. On June 22 there will be a business meeting at 34, Highworth-road, New Southgate, 7.30 p.m. It is with much sorrow that we have to record the death of one of our members, Mrs. Barber, one who was ever ready to help forward the Cause and assist in the work of the Branch.

Clapham.

The annual meeting was held last week, when Miss A. Underwood was appointed hon. secretary and Miss Winifred St. Clair, hon. treasurer. On Sunday evening Miss St. Clair and Mrs. Ball addressed a large and appreciative audience on Clapham Common on the subject of Votes for Women. Last Tuesday evening a public meeting was held in the Lower Hall, Clapham. Mrs. Huntsman made a delightful chairman, and the splendid speeches of Mrs. Mustard and Mrs. Tanner will long be remembered by all those who heard them. Next Tuesday evening we are having a meeting at the Imperial Mansions, Bromells-road, when we are to discuss the advisability of continuing our week-night open-air meetings or of substituting for them Sunday meetings on Clapham Common.

Croydon.

On May 15 an open-air meeting was held at the top of Morland-road. Miss W. St. Clair was the speaker. The audience was very attentive to her interesting address, and eager to ask questions. Mrs. Loveday sold THE VOTE. More Branch members are wanted to help at the open-air meetings at 7.45 p.m. on Friday evenings. We thank Miss L. Denham for the good contribution of home-made marmalade, which she has given for sale at the office. Our competition tea on May 14 proved a very pleasant social gathering as well as a help to the Birthday Fund. Offers of gifts of refreshments, &c., for the garden-party will be welcomed.

East London.

An open-air meeting will be held at The Grove, Stratford, on Thursday, May 28, at 8 p.m. Mrs. Mustard has kindly promised to speak. Members are urgently requested to be present and help to make the meeting a success. The usual fortnightly Branch meeting will be held at 37, Wellington-buildings, Bow, at 6.30 on the same evening. It is proposed to have a ramble and picnic in Epping Forest on a Sunday early in June, with the object of gaining money for the President's birthday. Suggestions as to date and offers of gifts towards the tea will be gladly received.

PROVINCES.—Aintree.

A combined meeting representative of the Crosby, Aintree and Anfield Branches of the Women's Freedom League was held in the Clarion Café, Liverpool, on May 14, the object being to unite the various Branches and Groups already formed in the suburbs and to establish a central Branch which shall be known as the Liverpool Branch of the W.F.L. Miss Appleton occupied the chair, and pointed out the value of frequent meetings, as every meeting was a source of ammunition enabling those present to continue their work with fresh hope and strength. Then Miss Andrews spoke on the policy and organisation of the League and suggested many ways of expanding and strengthening the work. The meeting was most satisfactory, and it is expected that we shall soon be able to announce the birth of the new Liverpool Branch.

Manchester.

A Jumble Sale was held at 363, Stockport-road on May 16; it is evident that another one must be held soon as the goods for sale disappeared with extraordinary rapidity. Special thanks are due to Miss Hines, Mrs. Dean, Miss A. Hordern and numerous other members who worked hard to make the sale so successful. Will any friends in the district who can help with the Lancashire Coast Campaign, kindly communicate with Miss Andrews, 5, Friars-road, Sale?

Middlesbrough.

On May 11, at Hinton's Café, Miss L. Mahony gave an address on "George Eliot's Women," in which she said that though George Eliot might not be claimed as a Suffragist, yet by giving to her women the impress of a lofty nobility and holding up a high ideal of womanhood she had identified herself with the causes which make for the uplifting of womanhood. No one who had read her works could think lightly of woman's intellectual power. Will members please remember the "At Home" on Monday, May 25, and the Jumble Sale, Tuesday, 26th, in the schoolroom of All Saints' Church, 3-6 p.m.?

Portsmouth and Gosport.

The Misses Fraser and Avery kindly entertained our work-party at 14, Munster-road, North End, on May 13, and thanks to their hospitality a pleasant afternoon was spent. The next work-party will be held at 17, Lombard-street, by kind invitation of Miss Mottershall on Wednesday, May 27, at 3 p.m. An afternoon meeting was held at The Castle tea-rooms on May 15. Mrs. White, in a neat little speech, introduced Mrs. Leigh Rothwell, who gave a most inspiring address. Mrs. Rothwell spoke again in the evening at an open-air meeting to a large crowd which listened most attentively to her for nearly an hour. Miss Trotter of Portsmouth in the question of interest of the women teachers for teachers only has been arranged for Monday, May 25, at Murdock's Rooms, Palmerston-road, at 7.30 p.m. There will be music and speeches by Miss Trotter and Mrs. Whetton. The usual open-air meeting will be held in the Town Hall square on Friday, May 22, at 7.45 p.m. Miss Trotter has made two fine protests at one of the picture palaces here. "Joan of Arc" has been the subject of one of the films, and at the end of the film Miss Trotter called the attention of the audience to the present-day women's movement

and Votes for Women. She received some boing and a little cheering. The manager and two attendants hurried to her, but Miss Trotter left quietly after making a short speech. She repeated the protest the following evening.

SCOTLAND.—Edinburgh.—Suffrage Shop: 90, Lothian-road.

Mrs. Crabbe wishes to thank all who helped to make the Jumble Sale a success, either by contributing or by taking part in the pricing and selling of goods. Our associate, Mr. Alexander Orr, again very kindly collected for us. Please remember that second-hand articles too good for "jumbling" can be readily disposed of as "White Elephants" at the Sale of Work on May 30, and that there will be a special stall for second-hand books. Soft goods and etables of all kinds are also wanted. Mrs. Shaw McLaren will open the sale at 2.30 p.m. Thanks to Mrs. Currier for her donation of jam and marmalade for sale in the shop.

Glasgow.—Suffrage Shop: 70, St. George's-road.

A vigorous campaign is being carried on in Bridgeton during this month. The shop at 102, Canning-street, has been open for more than a fortnight and literature sold there. Open-air meetings have been held at Bridgeton Cross, and last Wednesday a very successful indoor meeting was held in the Mechanics' Institute. Miss Eunice Murray presided, and the speakers were Miss Nina Boyle and Miss Bessie Semple. The speeches were much appreciated, and some of those present asked for another meeting to be held soon. On May 16, Miss Shennan held a splendid open-air meeting at Saltcoats. A large crowd listened attentively for more than an hour and a half, and the few interrupters were treated with very little sympathy. Miss Johnston made a good chairman, and the helpers were Miss Baird and Miss Bunten who went early to make the arrangements and chalk the pavements. Four dozen VOTES were sold and a good collection taken.

Perth.

This week's campaign in Perth and district has been marked by an ever-increasing interest displayed by the crowds which have gathered to listen to W.F.L. speakers. The evening meetings, held at the Port or in King Edward-street have been most orderly and enthusiastic, and as a result of these meetings, our policy and aims are now more clearly understood. Our speaker, Miss Ada Broughton, has treated the question from various standpoints chiefly economic and legal, but at the two Saturday meetings she spoke on "Woman Suffrage in Practice." Regular dinner-hour meetings have also been held at the different factories, including Pullar's dye works, Shields', Campbell's, and Pullar's works at Fulloch. Several hundred girls were present at these meetings, as well as a large number of men, and in every case the girls evinced a great interest, staying to listen until the last moment. On May 11 several old members of the League met the organiser in the secretary's house, and strongly expressed the wish that the Branch should be revived, and it is expected that this wish will be realised. The sale of THE VOTE has been well maintained, as also of other Suffrage literature. The organisers have much appreciated the help of local members and sympathisers.

WALES.—Brynawr.

At the meeting on May 14 Miss Lewey gave us an account of the suffrage work done by the W.F.L. at Lowestoft during the N.U.T. Conference week. Miss Lewey is an enthusiastic member and is working hard for the Cause; she has already secured new members for our Branch. It was decided to arrange a picnic on July 1, the proceeds to be given to our contribution to the Birthday Fund.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Women's Tax Resistance League.

BAFFLING THE TAX COLLECTOR. The Sheerness tax-collector who, on May 11, endeavoured to baffle the women, found himself baffled. When Miss Raleigh, who was resisting the payment of taxes, arrived with speakers to hold a public protest in the schoolroom which had been taken for the purpose, she found the door and gates securely padlocked, and was informed by the caretaker that it had been decided not to allow the meeting to be held. The attempt of the tax-collector to silence the women failed completely. They procured a chair, hung their flag on a lamp-post, and held a most successful meeting outside the school. A huge crowd listened with interest to the speeches.

REBELS IN GROSVENOR GARDENS.

At Hardings' Auction Rooms, Victoria, silver candlesticks belonging to Miss Alice Davies, of St. George's-square, were sold for distraint for King's taxes. After the sale a procession marched across to Grosvenor-gardens, where a meeting was held from a gaily-decorated trap. Mrs. Cobden-Sanderson presided, and speeches were made by Mrs. Kineton Parkes and Mrs. Merivale Mayer.

Dr. Katharine Healey's goods were sold at East Ham on May 13. Mrs. Juson Kerr and Mrs. Kineton Parkes spoke at a big open-air protest meeting. The same afternoon goods belonging to Mrs. Vaughan, Miss Metcalfe, and Miss Anna Martin were sold at Peckham.

RESISTERS IN FORCE AT HAMPSTEAD.

At Hampstead on May 18 a large group of tax resistors had goods sold at Fitzjohn Estate Auction Rooms. They were Mrs. Thomson Price, Mrs. and Miss Hicks, Mrs. How Martyn, Mrs. Milligan, Mrs. Hartley, the Misses Collier and the Misses Davies Thompson. A procession with a band marched from Finchley-road Station to the auction rooms at Swiss Cottage, and after the sale an excellent meeting was held at the corner of the Avenue-road. From a gaily decorated wagonette speeches were made by Mrs. Thomson Price, Mrs. Nevinson and Mrs. Kineton Parkes, explaining the reason of the protest.

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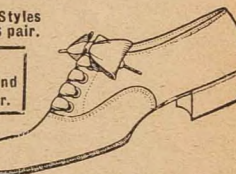
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Smart Walking Shoe in Black Glace Kid, **14/6**; patent, **16/6**.

All Shapes and All Styles stocked from **10/6** pair.

Agents for **NORVIC, LOTUS and DELTA** Footwear.

No more hot and burning feet. From **4/6** pair.



Comfortable Walking Shoe of Hygienic shape in black glace kid, **14/6**, post free

Relief for Tired Feet!! Scholl's Footteazer gives instant relief to flat feet; bridges the weight of body from heel to toe.

HALL & SONS specialise in non-leather Footwear for Vegetarians and Humanitarians, also Sandals and Sandal-Form Boots and Shoes which are made to the natural lines of the foot; they register all sizes for future reference.

Women who know MAPLETON'S

the value of health and the advantage of economy should send for our new complete list, with food tables and other useful information. Post free on request from [Mention this paper.]



MAPLETON'S, GARSTON, LIVERPOOL.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS: W.F.L. LONDON AND SUBURBS.

W.F.L. logo with 'VOTES FOR WOMEN' and 'W.F.L.' text. Schedule of events including Croxton, Regent's Park, and Caxton Hall meetings.

PROVINCES. Fri. May 22.—Winchester, Broadway. Open-air Meeting, 7 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Leigh Rothwell and others.

SCOTLAND. Fri. May 22.—Dunfermline, Masonic Hall, Public Meeting, 8 p.m. Speaker: Miss Boyle.

OTHER SOCIETIES. Miss Janet Steer holds Suffrage meetings at 53, Sloane-gardens every Monday at 5 p.m.

IN THE PARKS. Hyde Park. The Hyde Park meetings at 6 p.m. on Sundays, undertaken by the Kensington Branch...

Regent's Park. The Mid-London Branch held its usual meeting in Regent's Park last Sunday. The weather was superb.

"VOTE" BRIGADE.

VOTE sellers are wanted for a West-end pitch on Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings. A member of the Freedom League, who is professionally engaged during the day, has offered to sell in the evenings.

Advertising Fund.—The fund for advertising THE VOTE is increasing. Will all friends remember the box awaiting contributions on my table at Headquarters, as this is the only means of raising money to advertise our paper.—P. LEAHY.

WOMAN CHAIRMAN OF SCHOOL BOARD.

At the first meeting of the newly-elected Beath (Fifeshire) School Board, Mrs. E. Watson, President of the Cowdenbeath Branch of the Women's Freedom League, was unanimously appointed chairman.

WOMEN'S MUNICIPAL PARTY.

At a crowded and enthusiastic "At Home," given at Sunderland House by kind invitation of the Duchess of Marlborough on May 12, the Women's Municipal Party was inaugurated and its aims fully explained.

Doctor Sophia Jevons, of the L.C.C., in a very interesting speech, explained the workings of the Board of Education, and emphasized the lamentable lack of women on the Council and the sub-committees; in the very sphere which is popularly considered women's own, i.e., the Committee of Public Control, which has the care of babies and young children, and also the Public Health Committee, which is really the housekeeping of the nation, there are only two women.

Mrs. Phillip Snowden made an impressive speech, evoking immediate response and hearty applause. She explained that she was appearing for the first time on a platform not definitely devoted to Votes for Women, but it was difficult to separate the Parliamentary Vote from women's service to the race.

AN OLD FRIEND IN NEW SURROUNDINGS.—Readers of THE VOTE will be interested to know that Maud Barham, whose advertisements have appeared in THE VOTE from its start, and whose artistic dresses in original designs have given great satisfaction, has removed from 186, Regent-street, to 33-34, Haymarket.

ARTHUR'S STORES, 114 to 120, Westbourne Grove, W.

FOR GENERAL PROVISIONS AND HIGH-CLASS CONFECTIONERY. All cakes and pastries made of the finest ingredients by our own bakers.

Advertisement for William Clarke & Son's COAL. MAKE THE HOME BRIGHT by using William Clarke & Son's COAL. Lists prices for various types of coal.

Cooper & Co.'s Stores, 68 to 74, Brompton Rd., London, S.W.

DEPARTMENTS. Teas and Coffees. Bakery. Confections. Hardwate. Groceries. Fish. Patent Medicines. Stationery. Provisions. Meat. Perfumery, &c. Wines and Spirits. Cooked Meats. Fruit and Flowers Brushes. Tobaccos, &c. Poultry and Game. Vegetables. Turnery. Coal, &c., &c.

LUNCH ORDERS A SPECIALITY. FAMILIES WAITED ON DAILY FOR ORDERS.

JORDAN BROS., LADIES' TAILORS, 139, NORTH END, CROYDON.

We have a Reputation for Style, Finish, and Moderate Prices.

SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES' MEETINGS.

We accept Announcements of Suffrage and kindred Meetings for this Column at the rate per single insertion of 2s. for 24 words, 1d. every additional word; four insertions at the price of three.

PLEASE REMEMBER.—THREE PLAYS. SPECIAL MATINEE, ARTS CENTRE, MORTIMER-STREET, LANGHAM-PLACE, June 5, 3 o'clock, June 5. "A Scene in Holloway Prison" and "The Dream of Annie Brown," by Mrs. HUGO AMES.

MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS

For insertion in the next week's issue, copy must be sent in by Monday morning to THE ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

Change of Air. Educational. Boarding Houses and Pensions. Houses and Flats. Professional. Ladies' Businesses & Partnerships. Exchange and Sale. Home Produce & Domestic Pets. Employment. Recommended Servants. Governesses, Companions, and Lady Help.

BOARD-RESIDENCE. Rooms, Holiday Homes, &c.

AT THE STRAND IMPERIAL HOTEL, opposite the Theatre, Strand, London.—Absolute Privacy, Quietude, and Refinement.—Ladies will find the freshest, warmest, daintiest, cosiest quarters.

HASTINGS.—BOARD-RESIDENCE in charming cottage, from 16s. weekly.

LOWESTOFT.—THE DAGMAR. Recommended by Members. Minute sea. Liberal table; good cooking. Moderate.

WESTCLIFF.—"CANNONSLIGHT PEN-SION," 9, Westcliff-parade. Ideal position, top cliff, facing sea and bandstand. Near 2 stations and pier. Good tables. Terms from 25s. 6d. weekly; 6s. 6d. per day. Book early for Whitsuntide.

APARTMENTS WANTED.

CAN any LADY RECOMMEND COMFORTABLE APARTMENTS or a good BOARDING-HOUSE in Aldborough to Millie X., 26, Chapel Walk, Sheffield?

TO LET.

TO LET, on the Pantisson Estate, situated in beautiful country with sea and mountain air (1 1/2 miles from magnificent sea cliffs), 3 DETACHED COTTAGES, close to Home Farm. Rents from £4 to £8 per annum.—Apply Mrs. JAMES, Pantisson, near Cardigan.

LAUNDRY.

THE NEW GROSVENOR LAUNDRY, 55, Stafford-road, South Acton, W. UNDERTAKE FAMILY WORK ONLY. Flannels washed in distilled water. Open-air drying-ground. Highest-class hand work at moderate prices. Telephone, 10 Chiswick.

WANTED.

THE MINERVA PUBLISHING CO. LTD., are REQUIRING SIX COPIES of the following numbers of THE VOTE: 33, 48, 68, 133, 205.

WANTED, LADY TO MAKE, at reasonable charges, UNDERLINEN, BLOUSES, &c., from customers' own material. Member of the Women's Freedom League preferred. Particulars at interview.—S., THE VOTE OFFICE, 2, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C.

FOR SALE.

LADY'S Lea and Frances BICYCLE. Free wheel, two brakes, 23 inch frame. Excellent order.—Rox L., care of THE VOTE.

Holland House Laundry, BURMESTER ROAD, LOWER TOOTING.

Mrs. PIPER, Proprietress. Telephone: Wimbledon 504. A FAMILY LAUNDRY, under Distinguished Patronage. MY PRICES ARE MODERATE. Customers of over 20 years' standing.

Islington Dental Surgery.

69, UPPER STREET, N. Mr. CHODWICK BROWN, Surgeon Dentist, Mr. Fredk. G. Boucher, Assistant Dental Surgeon. Established 35 Years. Gas Administered Daily by qualified Medical Man, Fee 7s. 6d. Nurse in attendance. Mechanical Work in all its Branches. Send Post Card for Pamphlet. N.B.—No Show-case at door. CONSULTATION FREE. Tel. 3795 North.

BUSINESS, &c.

MRS. AYRES PURDIE, A.L.A.A., recommends overpaid Income Tax, buys or sells Stocks and Shares, effects all kinds of Insurances or Annuities, mortgages, loans on reversions, or any business of a legal or financial nature.—Hampton House, 3, Kingsway. Phone, 6049 Central.

EDUCATIONAL.

SCHOOL for GIRLS, EXETER HOUSE, WORTHY-ROAD, WINCHESTER. Excellent Modern Education. Facilities for Music, Art and Languages. Detached house. Good class-rooms. Garden. Vegetarian food if required. Terms on application to PRINCIPAL.

BOOKS.

"IF IT WERE TRUE." Explaining Spiritual Meaning of Women's Militancy. Obtainable, 7s. 6d. per 1,000, 10d. per 100 leaflets, from M.W.V.S., 26, Grand-parade, Brighton.

"SOCIAL CHAOS AND THE WAY OUT." By ALFRED BAKER READ. Price 7s. 6d. Nearly ready. Of vital interest to all who are fighting for the freedom of women.—Send for particulars (post free) to HENDERSON'S, 66, Charing Cross-road, London.

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

LITERARY.

PLAYS, DUOLOGUES, MONOLOGUES, dealing with all phases of the Woman's Movement, 3d. and 6d. For Drawing-rooms, Platforms or Stage purposes. Descriptive List (2d.) post free on application.—ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE, 2, Robert-street, Adelphi.

DRESSMAKING.

MORA PUCKLE, 399, Oxford-street, (opposite Times Book Club), MODERN ARTISTIC DRESS. Also Embroidered Djibbabs, Coats, and Skirts. (Entrance Gilbert-street.)

MISCELLANEOUS.

ATHENIC UNDERWEAR is made from the best materials, guaranteed unshrinkable and gives lasting wear. Write for Free Book and buy direct at first cost.—Dept. M. 8, ATHENIC MILLS, Hawick, Scotland.

BONELESS CORSETS.—New invention, unbreakable. List free.—KNITTED CORSET CO., Nottingham.

HANDKERCHIEFS FROM IRELAND.—Ladies' Fine All-linen Hemstitched Handkerchiefs. Size 12 1/2 by 13 in. Only 3s. per dozen, postage 3d. extra. Send to-day for Free Bargain Catalogue.—HUTTON'S, 166, Larne, Ireland.

SAFETY AT LAST!! Ask for "Veroid" non-inflammable Ladies' Fancy Combs, plain or jewelled. Recommended and Sold by HARROD'S STORES, Hairdressing and Haby Depts.

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See that every article is stamped as this:—VEROID * Non-Inflammable, in a small circle. REFUSE ALL SIMILAR NAMES.

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Advertisement for CHOOSE JAEGER Fine Pure Wool UNDERWEAR. FOR ITS PURITY Quality Finish Moderate Price & Record of 30 Years' Success.

Advertisement for THE ONLY PERFECT COFFEE MAKER IS THE CAFFETA. MAKES A USEFUL PRESENT. Place water and coffee together, light the lamp, and WAIT FOR THE WHISTLE TO BLOW—THAT'S ALL.

ONE
PENNY]

THE VOTE

[WEEKLY

Organ of the Women's Freedom League.



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Letter Orders receive the care and attention of a Special Staff.

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