

The War Paper for Women

VOTES FOR WOMEN

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE UNITED SUFFRAGISTS

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WAR SERVICE FOR WOMEN

VOTES FOR WOMEN

4-7, RED LION COURT, FLEET STREET

Telegraphic Address:—Votfowom. Fleet. London.
Telephone:—Holborn 5880 (2 lines).

FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 1915.

WOMEN'S "ROLL OF HONOUR"

We might claim that our cartoon and poster last week bearing the inscription, "Women into the Breach!" were prophetic. On the very same day on which our paper appeared the Board of Trade issued a Circular inviting women to enter themselves upon a Register for "war service." The Circular stated that, owing to the shortage of labour, which will spread as more and more men join the army, the Government wishes for particulars as to the women available for paid employment, with or without previous training. The Register is to be a census of women who could fill existing or future shortage, so that "if employers patriotically allow their men to go," women can be supplied. A woman's "war service" is "to release or equip a man," and while various forms of possible employment are mentioned, special stress is laid upon the manufacture of cartridge cases, shell cases, and army clothing. In broad terms, a Board of Trade official told the *Daily Chronicle* that they "desire to form a Roll of Honour of women who are ready to give their services to the nation."

In the first place, we heartily congratulate the Government upon having at last woke up to the fact that women have services to give. The terms of the Circular do not show us whether they have yet discovered that, besides the enormous number of women doing national service by looking after their homes, there are nearly six million women at regular work in organised trades, whose service may truly be described as national. But, in any case, it is something that a Government which has so shamefully and habitually ignored the demands and position of women, should at last have become conscious of women's existence and of their possible assistance in this time of need. From the very beginning of the war we have urged the employment of women to carry on the work which reservists and the volunteers for our new armies have been obliged to drop. As we showed last week, many private employers have already seen the good sense and necessity of this substitution, and now, after eight months of war, even the Government is beginning to stir. We congratulate them.

The dangers of the scheme outlined by the present Circular are obvious. There is the very serious danger that the Government may use it as an indirect form of conscription—a conscription by economic pressure. We are not arguing for or against conscription in itself. We only say that if we are to have conscription, let us have it legally and openly, so that men and women may know how they stand. Let us not see the Government slinking round and advising employers to substitute women's labour for

men's in order that men may be forced by hunger into the army. Again, we must prepare for the complications sure to arise when at last the war is over and thousands of men return, either to find themselves unemployed or to throw women out of the work to which they have become accustomed. Further, there is the immediate difficulty of the upper class, well-to-do, or so-called "independent" women. It is natural to expect that, in their patriotic zeal and longing for active employment, these will be among the first to inscribe their names on the Register, and the danger is that they should be satisfied to accept a nominal or pocket-money wage, forgetting that their praiseworthy desire to serve on any terms may involve the ruin of many working women, and the lowering of the general standard. If they act thus, who is to guarantee that of the 50,000 working women at present out of employment any large proportion will be engaged?

To obviate such difficulties two things are essential. We do not say that even these two will remove all risk of trouble. We only say that without them no solution is possible. In the first place, all women who register for employment upon the work of men must refuse to accept a penny less wages than the man was receiving whose place they take. In the Board of Trade Circular there is no guarantee whatever that the standard of wages will be maintained. Nor is there any safeguard for women in the Memorandum drawn up by the Government and Labour representatives at their conference in the Treasury last Friday. Women are mentioned only in one clause, and that is ambiguous:—

The relaxation of existing demarcation restrictions or admission of semi-skilled or female labour shall not affect adversely the rates customarily paid for the job. In cases where men who ordinarily do the work are adversely affected thereby, the necessary readjustments shall be made so that they can maintain their previous earnings.

If this does not mean that a woman may receive lower wages than a man during his absence, but that on his return his wages shall rise to the old standard, it is only too capable of that interpretation, and a law-court might so interpret it. Unhappily, we have no reason to trust any department of the Government where women are concerned. Shameful as the conditions of many women working under our armament firms has been shown to be, the Government is itself the worst of sweaters. On March 9 Mr. Anderson raised the question as to a Government subcontract for khaki and other thread under which women are paid 7s. or 8s. a week for eleven or twelve hours a day. Mr. Harold Baker promised inquiry. We suppose the inquiry is going on.

In the second place, for their protection against such treatment, as well as on every ground of human dignity, women must demand political enfranchisement. Month by month the absurdity of their exclusion from a voice in their own government becomes more obvious. If women are capable of "war service," if they are to be inscribed on the national "roll of honour," it is not only shamefully unjust, it is increasingly ridiculous that they should be penalised by disfranchisement and dishonoured by inequality. Should women refuse to enter their names on the Register until their political status were assured, they could bring the Government to its knees. Everybody knows—and the Government trades upon the knowledge—that women are too generous, too patriotic, too forgiving to exercise this pressure at such a crisis. But in any case, we call upon all honourable men and women alike to join in our demand for a non-party measure of woman suffrage during the existing party truce.

A HOUSE WITH "A PAST"

By Laurence Housman

It is an immeasurable loss to the nation that, at this great crisis of its fate, such representative functions as are still left to it should be exercised by a House of Commons already debauched by subservience to bureaucratic task-masters, and by guilty connivance at the increase of Cabinet control.

After a period of decadence which has seen humbug become hardened into a habit, and criticism methodically subordinated to the calculations of party, it was scarcely likely, when the supreme test came, that a miracle would occur. In any case it has not; and "the People's House," which has proved itself so complaisant to the bureaucratic ideal in time of peace, remains the same to-day as it was yesterday. Since the opening of the war it has been true to its acquired characteristics: it preserves its face, and it provides a vacuum.

With an eye to the former, it rose fearlessly on the first day of war and sang "God save the King"; with an eye to the latter, it sat down in panic, and without discussion voted away whatever public liberties the Government chose to regard as superfluous. It declared that to be patriotic you must be uncritical, and assumed that to preserve a party truce it was necessary also to pass non-party measures without discussion.

"Minor Bodies"

It spent a blissful week in demonstrating that Government in war time could do no wrong; and left behind it an abominable mess to be cleared up and put right, at considerable expenditure of time and energy, by such minor bodies as the United Suffragists, the Women's Freedom League, and the House of Lords.

Now this characteristic irresponsibility was not acquired in a day. The heart and conscience of the People's House have been for a long time past in bureaucratic keeping. This undemocratic readiness to vote or not to vote, to debate or not to debate, at the bidding of others, is but the natural outcome of what Suffragists have, for years past, so bitterly criticised, and what the accredited defenders of Liberal principle and constitutional liberty (since their own party came into power) have refused to criticise. The House of Commons to-day, in the hour when constitutional rights are in abeyance, is what it made itself, and what the nation carelessly allowed it to become, in time of peace; and it is a little late in the day for anyone to be surprised.

Liberals on a Bed of Thorns

Yet a couple of weeks ago the *Manchester Guardian* expressed the most naive astonishment at the bed of thorns on which, at the Cabinet's dictation, men of Liberal principle now find themselves. Upon the indifference toward constitutional liberty shown by the House of Commons in its recent debate on the bill for amending the Defence of the Realm Act, that paper wound up its editorial comment with these words:—

Fortunately for our liberties, there is still a House of Lords—that we, of all people, should be driven to say this!

That the *Manchester Guardian* was not driven to saying it, or something like it, any time during the last six years is the real marvel. Yet the comedy still remains that it is on the House of Lords in its present unreformed condition—that "scrap of paper" reform which

"brooked no delay" so many peaceful sessions ago!—that it is on such a body that a great Liberal paper should now depend for the salvation of its liberties.

Conspiracy Against the Constitution

But there is, of course, far less danger to popular liberty in an institution of limited power which is frankly undemocratic, than in one, functionally strong, which pretends to democratic principles but in act constantly betrays them. And thus we have to-day a House of Commons which is the very focus and fulcrum of those undemocratic forces that have taken hold of war conditions to exploit them to their own ends—simply because that House is to-day, as it was yesterday, the creature of the most highly organised of all conspiracies against constitutional liberty, a Cabinet which, having seized to itself the power to impose dissolution, holds also the power of the purse in its control of the party funds. Upon that point there is, of course, a close and life-preserving agreement between the two Front Benches, which works out in an opposite direction to democratic control. The subservience of the House of Commons to Front Bench discipline was succinctly and admirably expressed by Mr. Bonar Law in last week's debate on Welsh Disestablishment and the compact made by the Government with the Church Party behind the backs of the Welsh Members and without any cognisance by the rank and file of their own supporters.

"He had no fault to find," he said, "with what the Prime Minister had stated. A Parliamentary bargain had been made, and there was no instance or record of such a Parliamentary bargain being broken, even where a bargain between the Front Benches was bitterly resented by the supporters of one side. Very often these bargains would not have been made if those who made them had known the feelings of their supporters, but never at any time had that been suggested as a reason why the bargain should be broken. He said to the supporters of the Government that if they had any confidence in their leaders, if they had any respect for the traditions of the House of Commons, they would not ask it to depart from the bargain which had been definitely and firmly made."

Thus in a representative assembly, whose power of initiative has been steadily and calculatingly diminished, we hear Members put upon their honour by one of the calculators to abide by a legislative decision, which they have not been allowed legislatively to discuss! And this degradation of its character the House of Commons is bidden to regard as a Parliamentary tradition. To-day it has become so fixed and firm that a party leader makes free to boast of it as a healthy and normal part of our Parliamentary system. To-morrow, if the two Front Benches carry this point, it may become a binding precedent. Thus, while the party Press enjoins upon Parliament the observance of that "truce" which bureaucracy has arranged for it, bureaucracy continues to invade the liberties of debate.

Reaping What Was Sown

And all this is but part of an evolution in which the struggle for Women's Suffrage has been involved. For here we see effect following upon cause—the gradual democratic undoing, through its own sin, of a great national institution. The House of Commons has accepted for eight years the tortuous resistance of a Liberal Government to the most democratic movement that has ever been known in this country; and it did so because that movement failed to conform to the requirements and interests of party.

In its connivance at the Cabinet's attempts to suppress the Suffrage agitation, it passed without discussion and in breathless haste coercive and vindictive measures, while it choked with debate, or averted by shady manoeuvres, the remedial legislation which would have caused all disorder to cease. And while thus resisting the advance of democracy, it not only lost character, but established "Parliamentary traditions" which bureaucracy is using to-day to limit still further its powers of initiative and debate.

It is no wonder that a House of Commons so trained should show an uncritical complaisance to the anti-democratic conditions in which war has involved it. But a quaint Parliamentary situation has now arisen; and the House of Lords—that other repository of popular liberty for which we must try to thank our stars—withholds the extension of local government in India as hostage for the temporary salvation of the Welsh Church!

Truly, in the face of such a situation, we realise that the instinct for government belongs to man alone; and that, extended to women, it would become a danger to the Empire, more especially in India, as the Anti-Suffragists have said.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF WOMEN

(From our Special Correspondent)

Since the beginning of the war women have longed to keep up their international relations. Here and there open letters have been published from individual women as well as from organisations proposing the utterance of common feelings of sympathy among women and aversion to war, for the promotion of mutual understanding. The Austrian National Council of Women sent an ardent appeal to all the other N.C.W.'s that they might share the feelings of the Austrians who had—as we observe each of the belligerent nations states in turn—been forced into the war quite without their will. To which the Dutch N.C.W. responded, saying that they all agreed so far that now that the catastrophe had come, every woman would feel it her duty to alleviate the sufferings of the wounded soldiers and starved workers.

Then the Socialist women of Switzerland and Italy held a peace meeting, but we know how the Socialist men of all countries have had no choice but to follow their Governments into the disgraceful slaughter. Clara Zetkin's voice calling upon the women to keep international Socialism united found an echo in Great Britain and Russia, but what is the cry of women against armies marching?

Thereupon, as the demand of Democratic Control made itself heard from various quarters, some leaders of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance proposed a meeting of women from different countries to make the world understand that the female sex should have its say where "the people" were to be consulted. But National W.S. Associations, who understand their business, and know that their members are united only to obtain the vote for women, and not to express horror or disapproval of the war, in which thousands of husbands, brothers, and sons are engaged with more or less conviction, cannot join in an action of world-wide scope for demanding peace, whatever the feelings of individual members may be.

Seeing this, Miss Chrystal Macmillan planned with Dr. Aletta Jacobs a congress of women to be held at the Hague. Some prominent women from Germany, Belgium, England, and the Scandinavian countries came over to arrange the meeting, and in *Jus Suffragii* (March) the programme is to be found. May the congress be successful!

Martina G. Kramers.

Rotterdam, March 6, 1915.

BOOKS RECEIVED

"Where the Soldanella Grows." By P. S. Lang. (London: Heath, Cranston and Ouseley. Price 6s.)
"Ecco Mater." By M. A. R. Tucker. (London: Southern Publishing Co. Price 3s. 6d. net.)
"The Love Affair of Mr. Wilkinson." By S. H. Sadler. (London: Heath, Cranston and Ouseley. Price 3s. 6d. net.)
"The Idols." By Romain Rolland. (Cambridge: Bowes and Bowes. Price 6d. net.)
"After the War." By G. Lowes Dickinson. (London: Fifeild. Price 6d. net.)

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CORRESPONDENCE

OPEN LETTER TO THE RT. HON. HERBERT SAMUEL, M.P.

Sir,—I read that you opened a "Maternity Home" at Bradford on the 15th of this month. When you were invited to do so one would have thought your reply would be couched in the following terms: "I thank you for the honour you do me, but although I am President of the Local Government Board, I am nevertheless merely a man. If you start a Paternity Home I will open it with a few appropriate words, but a Maternity Home is not my job. It is essentially woman's sphere. Get a mother to deal with it." Presumably the temptation of speaking on a subject of which you cannot know anything proved too strong, and accounts for your hurrying off to Bradford, where they presented you with a cigarette box. You seem to have suspected some hidden meaning in that gift when you suggested it might signify a belief that your words would end in smoke. But that cigarette box is a symbol of much more to us. It reminds us that smoking is, like preaching to the other sex, an essentially masculine pleasure. It serves also to remind us that a man's pleasures are considered necessities, while our necessities are considered luxuries. Can you, for instance, imagine a working woman allowing herself the luxury of a few cigarettes with impunity? Or conceive it possible that a working-class mother should seek a little necessary relaxation on a Saturday afternoon, claiming the right to enjoy herself unaccompanied by any of her family, and spending as much as the entrance to a football match would cost a man?

Setting aside that cigarette box ("suitably ornamented"—no doubt with Milton's words, "He for God only, she for God in him")—let us consider your own words as they appear in the Press. "If the birth-rate to-day were at the level it was forty years ago, half-a-million more babies would be born every year." Quite so, Sir. And now, let me ask you whether you have any idea of the sort of life every married working woman in this country has to live? Also, whether women as sentient beings are likely to forget the sort of existences they saw their mothers and aunts leading, and whether such recollections may not be influencing their own mode of life? And finally, let me ask you whether you really think that the world, as it now is, appears to any reasonable woman a delectable spot into which to introduce an innocent and promising young life?

No, Mr. Samuel! This world, as it is, is not good enough for our children, and we claim the right, and the power, to improve it. You admit that "in the main, the infant must be saved by the mother." Why "saved"? And "saved" from what? You add that the best the State can do is "to teach the mother () . . . and to teach her at a time she feels she needs teaching () . . ." But what we feel is that it is not for the "State" to teach the mother, but for the mother to teach the State! That, to us, is a "work of national importance," and one towards which the Chancellor of the Exchequer would be well advised to pay not only "the half," but the whole of the cost, for it would mean a nation with a higher standard of strength and endurance, both moral and physical, and with a very much higher standard of intellectual capacity than the England of to-day.—Yours faithfully,

Ruth C. Bentinck.

SUFFRAGE SECOND?

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Dear Editors,—I really must protest against the letter of Miss Gwynneth Chapman in to-day's issue, with its (perhaps unintentional) intimation that those feminists whose activities are wide enough to embrace the Suffrage side of the Woman's Movement

must therefore have leisure for nothing else, and no interest to spare for any other form of social or national service. Surely Miss Chapman must know that since the war broke out the women who have most successfully taken their places beside men in the struggle, both at home and abroad, have at the same time been the keenest Suffragists. Where do the dependants of our fighting men, the unemployed workgirls, the hard-up "professionals" out of a job, find their most generous and helpful friends? Amongst the Suffragists. Who is it who has done the most, not indeed, towards the "coddling" of the wounded, but towards the proper doctoring and nursing of them under the best scientific conditions? Again, the Suffragists. Does Miss Chapman really imagine that the production of one or two periodicals and the conduct of a deliberately limited amount of propaganda work can now absorb the whole time and intellect of such an intensely capable and energetic body of workers? If so, she is very grievously mistaken. Suffragists are the last people in the world to shirk any other branch of the Woman's Movement; but I, for one, cannot understand any feminist shirking the Suffrage question on the ground that we might obtain certain other reforms, without the vote, by "organisation." There are many reforms obtained by men through the medium of those powerful organisations, the great Trades Unions, which were equally desired before the passage of the Suffrage Bills enfranchising the working man; but as out of reach then as a slice of the moon.

Nor do we cry helplessly to man to come and "Give us a pretty vote, please, sir." We simply demand an essential piece of work to be done at the earliest possible moment by our paid servants, the members of Parliament, as an obvious right, and most assuredly not as a favour. Even if the vote carried with it no practical power for good (and the experience of every country, the withholding of franchise testifies to the contrary), the withholding of it would still be an intolerable insult. I will go as far as Miss Chapman in contempt for party politics, and farther than she does, perhaps, in feminism; but I remain

A SUFFRAGIST.

MRS. DAVIS'S PROTEST

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Dear Editors,—Concerning the suggestion that English illegitimate children should be given the father's name instead of the mother's, and that she, too, should take it, will you permit me to express my disappointment that any woman in these days, and especially Suffragists, should hold and air such (to my mind) stupid and worn-out views? I quite fail to understand any woman desiring to take for herself or her child the name of a blackguard who hasn't the decency to stand by her and his child.

If I had any difficulty in supporting an illegitimate child, I should do all I could to make the father contribute, but I should most certainly keep my own name, and, without any sense of shame, give it to the child also.—Yours, &c.,

KATHLEEN OLIVER.

A LETTER FROM THE FRONT

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Dear Editors,—The following is a quotation from a letter received this morning from my husband, who is an officer at the front:—

"I heard a thing to-day that roused my ire, and which will probably rouse yours. It appears that there is a stringent Army Order to the effect that no female of any sort is permitted to travel in a car of any sort. This prohibition extends equally to all nursing sisters, &c. Isn't it iniquitous? A certain officer told me to-day that he was going along in a car that he has used of, and he met a hospital matron trudging the road. He offered her a lift and took her to her hospital. He was promptly run in and taken up before a General Staff officer, who hauled him severely over the coals. This fellow, being inclined to argue the point, was told that the order was very strict, and was based mainly on two grounds—firstly, moral (sn't that astounding?); and secondly, as several German spies have been caught dressed in nurse's dress. The first reason is almost unbelievable, and as to the second, what about all the German spies dressed as medical officers and other officers? One was caught in a battery alongside as the other night, and another came into a battery in the evening and asked the sentry the way to some infantry brigade. The sentry didn't know, but gave almost unlimited information as to the battery, its officers, and their observation post, with the result that that battery got an awful heavy bombardment the next morning. Shouldn't they issue an order prohibiting officers to battery alongside as the other night, and another came into a battery in the evening and asked the sentry the way to some infantry brigade. The sentry didn't know, but gave almost unlimited information as to the battery, its officers, and their observation post, with the result that that battery got an awful heavy bombardment the next morning. Shouldn't they issue an order prohibiting officers to

ment meted out to the nurses here, especially that reduction in pay they suffered just lately." Comment seems needless!—Yours, &c., AN OFFICER'S WIFE.

"VOTES FOR WOMEN"

Poster Inspectors

The following have gallantly offered to join our corps of poster inspectors: Miss Lettice Fox (Kensington); Miss Aickin (Letchworth); Miss Nan Perry (Glasgow); Miss Oldrini (Kensington); Miss Lester (Golder's Green). This is a most important branch of the work of spreading the circulation of VOTES FOR WOMEN, so necessary during the present crisis; and we call confidently for more volunteers ready to undertake to inspect the VOTES FOR WOMEN posters displayed in their neighbourhood, or any neighbourhood visited regularly by them. Apply to the Publisher, VOTES FOR WOMEN (4-7, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, E.C.).

Another Idea!

An excellent idea is conveyed in a letter from Mrs. P. H. Ovenden, who writes from Cardiff:—

If you will send a poster each week I will undertake to show it either inside or outside my shop. I consider VOTES FOR WOMEN the best of the suffrage papers, and I am endeavouring to increase its circulation; some copies I sell, some I give away.

There must be many among our readers who are in business, or who have relatives—fathers, brothers, husbands, and so on—who own shops that are not necessarily newsagents' shops. A poster displayed in the window of any kind of shop or office, or inside the premises, is an effective advertisement of the cause, and a VOTES FOR WOMEN poster would decorate any premises! We trust many applications will reach us as the result of this appeal.



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COMPARISON OF PUNISHMENTS

LIGHT SENTENCES

Assaults on Boys
The *Morning Advertiser* (January 15) reports case of a clerk charged before Mr. Biron at Lambeth Police Court with having committed a serious offence on two occasions in regard to a boy. He pleaded guilty to the two charges.

Sentence: *Twelve months' hard labour.*

Assault on Soldier's Wife

The *Derbyshire Times* (January 30) reports case of an assistant overseer summoned before the Bench at Ekeington Police Court for a common assault on a young soldier's wife who went to his office for relief after her husband enlisted. It was alleged that he afterwards tried to visit her at her house.

Sentence: *Fined £5 and costs.*

HEAVY SENTENCES

False Pretences
The *Bedfordshire Times* and *Independent* (January 15) reports case of a clerk and a boot finisher, both charged at the Bedfordshire Assizes with obtaining money to the amount of £14 19s. and £15 from firms by false pretences. There were previous convictions.

Sentence: *Three years' penal servitude each, afterwards reduced in the case of the boot finisher to eighteen months' hard labour.*

Forgery

The *Chester Chronicle* (February 27) reports case of a labourer wearing a recruit's uniform, charged at the Chester Assizes with obtaining £5 by means of a forged note, purporting to be from a farmer authorising the payment of the money for some oats. There were previous convictions.

Sentence: *Twelve months' hard labour.*

GOVERNMENT'S APPEAL TO WOMEN

We discuss the Board of Trade circular, issued last week, in other parts of this paper. The following are a few of the views which have been expressed by different women during the week:—

Miss Mary MacArthur (in the *Evening News*):—

The Government talks about women being paid ordinary industrial rates, and speaks of pay ranging from 32s. a week, including overtime, in some of the munitions of war factories. I know of a war factory where the girls are working twelve hours a day, with a break of only one and a half hours for meals, and the scale of pay is as follows: Girls of 17, 8s. a week; girls of 18, 9s.; girls of 19, 10s.; girls of 20, 11s. There is a bonus, which girls lose if they take Sundays off. In another factory making khaki thread, girls are working very long hours for under 10s. a week, and their health is suffering from the continual strain.

As I understand the appeal, it is made to women who are not normally wage-earners, and knowing as I do that 50,000 women normally wage-earners are out of employment, I should like some assurance that the possibility of training and using these women has been fully tried before the introduction of new and presumably economically independent women is contemplated.

Duchess of Marlborough (in the *Times*):—

It would be a cause for satisfaction among women to know that official recognition will not be denied to those women who, in the words of the Board of Trade, "by working, help to release a man, or to equip a man, for fighting." The present emergency and the Government's appeal to women form a propitious occasion for creating a precedent in the bestowal of honours in which other countries have already set us an example.

Mrs. Pankhurst (in an interview at Glasgow):—

Whatever it is possible for a woman to do work at present being done by a man, that man ought to be released for fighting purposes. I have been in France a good deal lately, and there saw women tellers in the branch offices of the banks. Women were also on the trams, and acting as taxi-cab drivers. Wherever one went in Paris one saw women doing work formerly done by men. In London only recently women who had trained themselves as taxi-cab drivers applied for licences, but were refused by the Home Office on the grounds that the public would not have confidence in them. The same argument was used with regard to women conductors on the trams in Edinburgh. These views are very interesting to me, because in Paris the women taxi-cab drivers and

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COMING EVENTS
The North London branch of the Men's Political Union for Women's Enfranchisement will hold a public meeting to-day (Friday, March 26), in the Highbury Hall, Highbury Place, N., at 8 p.m. Speakers: Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, Mr. Victor Duval, and Mr. H. G. Everett. Chair: Mr. S. Franklin. Tickets—3d. and 6d.—can be obtained at the door.

The Espérance Girl's Club will give an entertainment in aid of the U.S. Women's Club at the Parish Hall, 60, Paddington Street, High Street, Marylebone, to-day (Friday) at 8.30 p.m. Speaker: Miss Evelyn Sharp. Tickets: 2s. 1s., 6d.

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All advertisements must be prepaid. To ensure insertion in our next issue, all advertisements must be received not later than Tuesday morning. Address, the Advertisement Manager, VOTES FOR WOMEN, 4-7, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, E.C.

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II.—FRIDAY, MARCH 26, at 8.30 p.m. — ENTERTAINMENT in AID of U.S. WOMEN'S CLUB, by Esperance Girls' Club. Folk Singing, Dancing, Children's Games. In the **PARISH ROOM, 60, PADDINGTON STREET, MARYLEBONE** (near Baker Street Station). Miss Evelyn Sharp on "The Women's Club." Tickets: 2/6, 1/-, and 6d., from Miss Mary Neal, 50, Cumberland Market, N.W.

III.—THURSDAY, APRIL 15, at 8 p.m. — PUBLIC MEETING in ESSEX HALL, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, W.C. Speakers: The Rev. E. J. Barson, Dr. Letitia Fairfield, Mr. Charles Gray; Mrs. Ayrton Gould (Chair). Admission Free. Reserved Seats 1/- (from U.S. Offices).

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