

"The Suffragette," July 3, 1914.

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Suffragette

Edited by Christabel Pankhurst.

Official Organ of the
Women's Social and Political Union.

No. 90—Vol. III.

FRIDAY, JULY 3, 1914.

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Dame Partington and the Ocean (of Votes for Women).

[Reproduced, with the necessary modifications, from a cartoon published in 1831, in reference to the opposition of the House of Lords to the Reform Bill of those days.]

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[Extract from a speech by Sidney Smith, in which he compared the Lords' resistance to Reform to the efforts of Mrs Partington to sweep back the Atlantic in the great storm of 1824.]

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The Suffragette.

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Review of the Week.

Great Meeting of Rejoicing.

The W.S.P.U. is about to hold a great meeting, at which they will rejoice in the continuing victory of women over the coercion, amounting to torture, used against them by the Government. Never in the history of the world has the human spirit achieved conquests so great as those now witnessed in the course of winning Votes for Women.

The great meeting, which will be one of defiance as well as of rejoicing, is to be held on Thursday Evening, July 16, in the Holland Park Skating Rink, Holland Park, London, W. Tickets of admission may be had at 5/-, 2/6, 2/-, and 6d. (the seats are reserved and numbered). Applications for tickets should at once be made at Lincoln's Inn House, and our readers are asked to purchase supplies of tickets for their friends as well as for themselves.

In order to simplify book-keeping, and the arrangements generally, it is requested that tickets shall be paid for at the time they are ordered.

The meeting is for women only.

The Protest Fund.

Once more we are able to give the most satisfactory news of the advance of the Great Protest Fund. A promise of £500 has just been received, and other promises include three of £100 each, one of £70, and other substantial sums.

Self-Denial collecting cards, as we have already announced, may, for greater security, be taken by hand to Lincoln's Inn House. If collectors live at a distance from London, they may post their cards and money to personal friends, who can take them by hand to Lincoln's Inn House.

It is evident that a magnificent total will be reached when the Great Collection is completed at the big meeting on July 16.

The Trial of Miss Nellie Hall.

The trial of Miss Nellie Hall took place last Friday. She was originally charged in company with Miss Grace Roe, Mrs Hall, Mrs Armes, and Miss Jameson, but in the event she has been tried separately from them, the reason alleged by the Government for this change of plan being, we understand, that her condition of health was so serious that it would be impossible to delay her trial until the date fixed for the trial of the others.

She was certainly very weak and ill when she came into the court, and here we have new proof of the dangers of forcible feeding, because Miss Hall, at the time of her arrest, was in vigorous health. Her present illness comes as the sequel to a few weeks of forcible feeding.

A Brilliant Defence.

Rallying all her force of spirit, Miss Nellie Hall carried through a brilliant cross-examination of the witnesses for the prosecution, and made an equally brilliant address to the jury, which we publish in this issue. The jury occupied 48 minutes in considering their verdict, twice returning for direction. Their verdict was one of guilty, coupled with a recommendation to mercy, "as we consider that she was only the paid agent of others who ought to have been beside her in the dock." The judge deferred sentence until the following week.

We reserve comment upon the case until sentence has been passed.

It should be noticed that although Miss Hall is admittedly very ill, the Government still detain her in prison.

The Alleged Hostility of the Public.

We have made careful enquiry of W.S.P.U. organisers and workers in London and other parts of the country as to the truth of the statements that have been made by outsiders that the public are actively hostile to those representing the W.S.P.U. As the result of this enquiry, we are able to state that such hostility is conspicuous by its absence.

In the days before serious militancy began W.S.P.U. speakers and workers had on many occasions to suffer real violence at the hands of a certain section of the public—for example at the Mid-Devon election, where Mrs Pankhurst and Mrs Martel were mobbed, and, but for a timely rescue, would have been killed by a host of Liberals infuriated by the defeat of their candidate, which defeat they attributed to the campaign of the W.S.P.U.

Again, in those days before serious militancy began, speakers were sometimes stoned as they stood on the platform, or violently hustled by a section of the crowd at the close of the meeting.

The Truth of the Matter.

Nowadays W.S.P.U. speakers and workers meet with no violence, except when they attend meetings addressed by Liberal Cabinet Ministers, or at those moments when newspaper and other incitements to lynch law are particularly vigorous. As the result of such incitement a gang of hooligans—well or ill-dressed as the case may be—attend certain meetings of the W.S.P.U. Some W.S.P.U. centres report that they find the best way to escape the attention of these hooligans is to refrain from informing the police that they intend to hold a meeting.

A typical report is the following, sent to us by a W.S.P.U. organiser:—

"My experience is that there is a very strong feeling in favour of us among the people, and when we explain our militancy, there remains nothing to be said," as a Liberal told me at a meeting.

"A short time ago, while I was speaking at an outdoor meeting, a drunken man was knocked down by a man, and the action applauded by the crowd, which was very large and a Saturday night one! During the week that the papers were inciting the mob to lynch law, one of my members selling the paper, had one snatched from her hand, but a man instantly knocked the man down, made him pay for the paper, and apologise.

"It is really inspiring to see the deep, deep interest and sympathy we have, and in all the mining villages that we have visited up-to-date, we have only one word for the people, meetings, and sales of the paper, and that is—'magnificent!'"

The incitement to lynch law has failed again!

A Gallant Fight.

Mr Lloyd George, speaking at the National Liberal Club the other day, said, in reference to the Government's position:—

"The motto of the moment is 'Be not afraid.' If we fall fighting, we will rise again—not if we fall because we are timorous or lose heart. The British people are a brave race, and they understand a gallant fight, and they will come our way again."

Are we to understand that Mr Lloyd George is referring to the Government's fight against women? For that certainly is the most conspicuous part of their fighting! We should hardly have thought, however, that a fight waged by forcible feeding tubes could properly be described as "gallant." The fact is that the gallantry is on the side of the women, and it, as Mr Lloyd George declares, the British people are a brave race and understand a gallant fight, then most assuredly the women are, if for that reason alone, fighting a winning battle, and the Government are fighting a losing one.

That Labour Party!

Wonders will never cease! The other day the Labour Party in the House of Commons actually abstained from voting for the Government, the reason for this being their disapproval of the reduction the Government have made in the Income Tax. The Government secured a majority all the same—perhaps the Labour Party knew they would!

There have been divisions in which the Labour Members could have defeated the Government. Had they used this power to force the enfranchisement of women, women would have been voters, and militancy and the attendant suffering would have ended long ago, but the Labour Members, rather than use their power in this direction prefer to allow working women to be helpless, because disfranchised; to let prisoners' lives be in jeopardy under torture; and to make matters all the worse, these Labour M.P.'s—Mr Philip Snowden, for example—prate about the danger of conceding Votes for Women at the present day, lest it be supposed that militancy is the cause of such concession. Never did high and dry old Tory in the days before the Tory Party took to militancy, show such solicitude for the cause of what the Labour M.P.'s are pleased to call "law and order!"

The Crafty Premier.

The Prime Minister certainly out-matches Mr Lloyd George in craft and guile. Thus the members of the East End deputation left him the other day, filled with a sense that they had gained at least their point of winning unconditional release for Miss Sylvia

Pankhurst. But not at all! A few days afterwards, it was stated in the House of Commons that Miss Sylvia Pankhurst can be free of her sentence if she will undertake not to continue in the path of militancy. This, as the Prime Minister knows, is something totally different from that which the deputation asked him, and he led them to suppose would be conceded.

The Intention to Delude.

As for the idea which he further sought to implant in the minds of the deputation—that he intended to do something on the main issue of Votes for Women, that too has not been confirmed by any subsequent word or deed on Mr Asquith's part. The fact is that his deliberate and fixed intention was to delude the deputation, and send them away empty-handed without knowing it. And then there are people outside the movement so misguided as to ask the W.S.P.U. to put their faith in Liberal promises and assurances for the future.

Forcible Feeding.

Elsewhere in this issue will be found the latest news of those who are suffering under the Cat-and-Mouse-Act, and those who are being forcibly fed. The use of forcible feeding is not as we have before pointed out confined, as Mr McKenna declared, to the case of people who are convicted of damaging works of art or committing arson. It applied in the case of certain prisoners convicted of small offences and sentenced to short terms of imprisonment. It is applied also in the case of prisoners not yet convicted and, therefore presumed by the law to be innocent. According to Mr McKenna's own declaration in the House of Commons, the Cat-and-Mouse-Act, is sufficient to meet the Government's purposes where unconvicted prisoners are concerned. Therefore they can offer no excuse whatever for the forcible feeding of unconvicted prisoners. The forcible feeding of these prisoners is a breach of the Government's understanding with Parliament and the country that such treatment is only meted out to women convicted of "more serious offences, such as arson or the destruction of works of art."

A Word to Lord Curzon.

We notice that Lord Curzon is reported to have said at a recent meeting:—

"You must not suppose for a moment that with the grant of the vote to one million, or five or six million women, militancy would necessarily cease. It would find a fresh outlet of activity perhaps even more sinister and more devastating than those with which we are now familiar."

Lord Curzon is mistaken if he supposes that when women gain the vote on the same terms as men, militancy will continue. But perhaps when he refers to "new and more sinister and more devastating outlets of activity" he is referring merely to the moral crusade, and to other beneficent objects which the Suffragettes intend to advance by means of the vote.

Lord Curzon claims that militancy is breaking down that "sense of chivalry and respect which has hitherto existed like a shield to defend women from the outrage and insult of the world." Whose outrage and insult, we should like to know! The outrage and insult of men, obviously. That being so, where is the chivalry? It is a mockery to talk of chivalry in a country where white slaves and outraged children exist with little-legal interference.

£250,000 FUND.

Contributions, Mar. 13 to 28, 1914.

Already acknowledged	£170,221 15 11
Miss Atkinson	0 8 0
Anon.	3 0 0
Miss Ethel Birnstingl	0 14 4
Miss Olive M. Fontaine	0 2 6
Anon. Per Miss Brett	5 0 0
From Germany	0 5 6
A Glasgow Sympathiser	0 2 6
Mrs E. Graham Campbell	0 3 6
Miss Ethel J. Johnson	0 1 0
Mrs John H. Clark	1 0 0
Miss May F. Johnson	0 1 0
Miss E. Fowler	0 2 0
Mrs M. E. Anderson	5 0 0
Per Miss Birch	1 0 6
Mrs Richard Henderson	2 0 0
Mrs Johnson	0 3 6
Miss Grace Bumpstead	0 2 6
Anon.	50 0 0
Mrs Harriet Heasman	0 10 0
Anon.	0 1 0
Mrs L. Harrison	0 2 6
A Member	3 0 11
Miss Edith Beck	1 1 0
"Found"	0 9 6
Mrs and Miss Branch	10 10 0
Birmingham	50 0 0
Miss E. Blake	0 2 0
Miss M. Balchin	0 10 0
Miss Gordon Holmes	2 0 0
Miss Ethel Wynn	0 2 6
Mrs H. Witten	0 10 0
Miss Smith Poster Fund	0 15 0
Miss Eveline Wattlely	0 6 2
"Officer's Wife"	2 2 0
Miss L. Lindsay	0 5 0
Miss Rosa Leo	0 5 0
Miss J. M. Penson	0 5 0
Miss Mary G. Sloan	2 0 0
Per Miss Shedden	0 1 0
Mrs Alfred Willis	0 4 0
Sale of Bags	0 2 6
"Mandril" (per Mrs M. G. Alexander)	0 1 0
Miss Angela Whately	0 10 0
Sympathiser	1 0 0
Extra on SUFFRAGETTE	1 11 7
Miss Anne Udney	2 0 0
Mrs L. I. Sinclair	0 10 0
Miss Vera Laughton	2 2 0
Mrs Moorhouse	0 2 6
"Lenton Savings"	0 5 0
Major W. J. Lister	1 0 0
Miss E. S. Evans	0 5 0
Miss A. Court	0 5 0
Per Miss Kennedy	1 19 0
Joseph B. Alogs, Esq.	0 4 0
"Bridge Winnings from Madras"	0 13 0
Anon.	0 1 0
"A Friend of the Cause" "Gt. Scourge"	0 19 8
Mrs M. L. Allan	0 2 6
Miss S. E. Hall	0 10 0
Mrs A. M. Black	0 5 0
Miss M. Balchin	0 2 0
Miss Margaret Edwards	0 2 0
The Misses Brent	0 5 0
Mrs Geraldine Gais	0 2 6
Miss Crawshaw	8 16 0
Miss Edith Clarence	0 10 6
Collected	1 14 11
Mrs V. M. Day	0 5 0
Miss E. S. Evans and Mrs Court	0 10 0
Miss Lizzie Barr	0 5 0
Miss Minnie Evans	0 10 0
Miss Ethel Birnstingl	1 10 0
Mrs H. Gibson	0 3 0
Mrs A. M. Burton	0 5 0
Miss Chalmers	0 15 0
Mrs Bevan	1 2 0
E. C. B.	0 10 0
Mrs E. Graham Campbell	0 10 0
Miss Godfrey	0 1 0
Mrs M. E. Anderson	0 2 0
E. B. E.	0 3 0
Mrs K. M. Dodd	0 6 1
E. Garfield Green, Esq.	0 10 0
A. M.	0 5 0
Fletcher, Esq.	0 6 6
Miss Pelly	0 10 0
"Officer's Wife"	0 10 0
Mrs E. Ross	0 5 0
Miss H. S. Lewis	0 5 0
Mrs and Miss Parr	0 5 0
Mrs A. W. Raikes	1 0 0
Miss L. Lindsay	0 5 0
Miss A. Connor Smith	2 2 0
Mrs F. Meyrick-Jones	1 0 0
Lady Constance Lytton	0 7 0
Collections, Membership Fees, etc.	31 7 5
Total	£170,438 2 0

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8 p.m. (Doors open 7.30 p.m.)

SPEAKERS:
Dr. F. MOXON, M.B., B.S.,
Mr. ERNEST DUVAL,
Rev. C. A. WILLS,
(who was thrown in the lake by "Liberals" for protecting a woman)
Mrs. J. A. BOUVIER,
Chairman: Mr. V. D. DUVAL.

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A clergyman writes:—"DEAR MADAM, I am thankful to be able to send you £100 towards your self-denial fund as my protest against the various atrocities and illegalities practised on women who are fighting for the vote. The one especially in my mind is Forcibly Feeding of which I have heard full particulars at first hand that are almost incredible."

Miss Lelacheur gives £100 as a protest against Forcible Feeding, and the Government's Torture of Women.

The third gift of £100 is given as a protest against Forcible Feeding of Suffragettes.

Among other substantial promises received, is one for £70.

THE MEETING OF WOMEN.

The final collection for the Protest Fund will be taken at a **Great Meeting** of women, to be held in the Holland Park Skating Rink, London, on Thursday Evening, July 16. Those who do not send in their promises before will have the opportunity of sending them up to the Platform on that occasion.

Tickets for the Meeting are now ready, and early application should be made for these at the W.S.P.U. headquarters, Lincoln's Inn House, and at other W.S.P.U. centres.

The objects of the Meeting are to raise a Record Sum of Money, and to demand "Votes for Women" NOW!

Women's Social and Political Union.

A GREAT MEETING

WILL BE HELD IN THE

Holland Park Skating Rink
Holland Park, London, W.

Thursday Evening, July 16

Tickets of Admission, 5/-, 2/6, 2/-, and 6d.
(The Seats are Reserved and Numbered.)

Application for Tickets should at once be made
at Lincoln's Inn House.

The Meeting is for Women only.

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FRIDAY, JULY 3, 1914.

Votes for Women NOW!

Votes for Women now!

Why not!

If it is right, and if it is inevitable that women shall have the Vote—and all rational beings know that it is both—then what honest purpose can there be in delay!

It is an amazing thing that some men—and some women even—who claim to be Suffragists, should be talking, not of Votes for Women now, but of Votes for Women in the "next Parliament." We know by experience what Votes for Women in the next Parliament means. We know that the next Parliament, like to-morrow, never comes!

We know that it was said earlier in the present Parliament, that owing, not to the opposition of the majority of the Cabinet, for they are professing Suffragists, but to the opposition of the Prime Minister, it was impossible for the Government to give Votes for Women.

But it is likewise true that in this present Parliament the Prime Minister and the Government have changed their mind—or at any rate, their policy, where the Irish question is concerned. And did not Lord Crewe say, when introducing into the House of Lords the measure for amending the Home Rule Bill: "We of the Government have never professed to admire the Exclusion plan!"—Yet, in answer to Ulster's argument of militancy, that plan has now been embodied in a Government measure and laid before Parliament. Not only so, but as Lord Crewe, in introducing the measure, further said:

"The title of the Bill affords the widest possible latitude for amendments to be introduced. We have thought it wise and right to give this latitude, and I fully anticipate that amendments will be moved to this measure, both numerous and in some cases far-reaching."

Lord Crewe further said that he could assure the Unionist Party in the House of Lords that any amendments which they might move would receive the most careful and respectful consideration from the Government. In other words, the Government have not only abandoned their Irish policy in its original form, but, subject to their fear of Mr Redmond, they are prepared to let the Unionist Party make their new Irish policy for them!

If the Government can change their mind, and change their policy, and go back upon their own refusals where the Irish question is concerned, they can do precisely the same where the Votes for Women question is concerned.

The Government are making concession to Ulster as the price of, and for the sake of, peace. This the Prime Minister has in so many words declared.

The Government also want peace with women. They are trying to compel it by methods of coercion and torture. These methods of coercion and torture have failed.

Then why should they not, at the same time that they are carrying a Bill for the pacification of militant Ulster, carry a Bill for the pacification of militant women!

The Home Secretary, speaking on behalf of the Government, has admitted that Votes for Women is one remedy for what they regard as the evil of women's militancy. Then why not apply it forthwith, since other

remedies have been tried and have most completely failed!

The Prime Minister and the Government too, are still opposed to the Exclusion of Ulster, and yet they are prepared to grant it; but the Prime Minister would have us believe that he has now ceased to be opposed to the enfranchisement of women. Therefore it is all the easier for him, all the more fitting for him to carry into immediate effect a new policy—that of giving Votes to Women.

What is the real obstacle to the winning of Votes for Women? It is the attitude of people such as Mrs Besant—peacemakers we will not call them, but truce-makers. Blessed are *not* the truce-makers.

A few days ago, Mrs Besant was holding forth on "Women and Politics: How to Solve the Present Difficulty." She began by saying "I am speaking to-night because appeals have come to me from many quarters to try and do something that perchance may be of help in the struggle that is now proceeding." The suggestion she then made was one calculated, in so far as it might have any effect at all, to hinder, not to help. She suggested, that is to say, that a truce might be declared on the basis of a promise made by the Liberals that if they come back into power at the next election, there shall be a Government measure to enfranchise women. "It would mean," Mrs Besant said, "that the militant women would wait and see if the promise were not carried out. The militant women would give up for eighteen months."

It is hardly credible that anyone should ask Suffragists again to put their faith in Liberal promises. Every promise that the Liberals have made to women in the past has been broken. The men that made and broke those promises have not changed their nature. Never again can we believe their promises.

Besides, when absolutely no reason exists why a Government measure for Woman Suffrage shall not be introduced to-day, it would simply be cringing and kow-towing to the Liberal Party to fall in with their obvious wish, that we shall place our trust in hopes, understandings, or promises to be fulfilled by a Liberal Government in the next Parliament.

If those who are not taking a direct and personal share in the struggle for the Vote have nothing better to suggest than compromise and trust in the pledges of the politicians, then they had better be silent for their counsels of compromise, if they have any effect at all, are simply playing into the hands of the enemy.

By encouraging the Government to hold out against the demand for Votes for Women now, the would-be truce-makers are prolonging the agony of the tortured prisoners.

CHRISTABEL PANKHURST.

UNEVEN JUSTICE.

A Review.

By CHRISTABEL PANKHURST.

"Can it be wondered that the Suffragettes are asking how much farther the Government invites them to advance along the road of crime before capitulating to the only sort of argument it seems to understand?"

This is the question asked by Mr J. A. Hobson, the well-known Liberal in his recently published booklet, "Traffic in Treason."

The subject of "Traffic in Treason" is what Mr Hobson describes as "the Conservative Party's policy of treason, and the Government's surrender to that policy."

Mr Hobson seems to think that the Conservative Party's adoption of a policy of violence has been facilitated by what he describes as the "startling appearance of a militarist suffragism, based on outlawry and in its later phases concentrating in a violent and promiscuous attack on property." This movement, he continues, "has exercised a special influence in sapping the authority of law and in offering an exhibition of the way in which a determined minority can defy law and order."

Mr Hobson contrasts the pleasant fate of the imprisoned Lurkin and Tom Mann, but he says nothing whatever about the forcible feeding and Cat-and-Mouse torture of militant women. Nevertheless, unbiased readers of this book will not fail to draw for themselves the comparison between the Government's answer of meek concession to the militancy of the Conservatives, and the torture and other forms of coercion that are their answer to the militancy of women.

"The Tories," says Mr Hobson, "have based their calculations upon the hope that the Government would be so timid, or so considerate, as not to interfere with Ulster's preparations until they had obtained really formidable dimensions. This hope has been fulfilled far beyond the most sanguine anticipation. The audacity of Ulster and the answering cowardice of the Government have passed all expectations. The formal victory of Home Rule is already humbled by the white flag of an Amending Bill."

"Those," says Mr Hobson, "who consider the language of the Treason Felony Act, can hardly fail to hold that Sir Edward Carson, Lord Londonderry, and their fellows are guilty of that crime, and that their English supporters are accomplices. The material words of section 3 of that Act run as follows:—

"If any person . . . shall within the United Kingdom, or without, compass . . . or intend . . . to levy war against His Majesty, within any part of the United Kingdom, in order by force or constraint to compel him to change his measures

or counsels, or in order to put any force or constraint upon, or in order to intimidate or overawe, both Houses or either House of Parliament . . . and such compassings . . . or intentions shall express, utter or declare by publishing any printing or writing, or by any overt act or deed, every person so offending shall be guilty of felony."

"But what," asks Mr Hobson, "has been the attitude and conduct of the Liberal Government thus confronted with rebellion in Ulster and the open support of it by Unionist leaders in this country?" He answers the question as follows:—

"They have watched this treason ripening during the last three years—the stirring in Ulster, the early rioting, the Covenant, the drilling, the arming, the gun running, the forcible interference with civil government. They have watched the connivance and support given to this treason by British Unionists, front bench leaders in Parliament, Peers, Privy Counsellors, Magistrates, King's Counsel, Generals and Admirals, and other servants of the Crown. And what have they done, what steps have they taken to meet this palpable growing danger of rebellion, to which its guilty agents give the euphemistic title, 'civil war.'? They have done nothing. They have simply looked it in the face, and—passed on."

Mr Hobson then proceeds to set forth certain facts upon which he founds his case against the Government. "The first incident," says he, "was the failure of Mr Churchill to fulfil his engagement to speak at the Ulster Hall in Belfast shortly after the announcement of the Home Rule policy. The Belfast Orangemen forbade this meeting and announced their intention to prevent it by force. Mr Churchill gave way, the meeting was transferred to an innocuous place. The first victory for illegality and violence!"

The indictment proceeds:—

"This success was attended by a prolonged and organised series of brutal assaults upon Catholic and Home Rule workmen in the shipyards, with grave injuries to life and limb, resulting in the forcible expulsion of hundreds of workmen from their employment and their livelihood. The guardians of the law gave no protection to these men and exacted no punishment from their brutal assailants. Another victory for violence!"

Mr Hobson proceeds:—

"We next come to the Solemn Oath and Covenant, the formal though still cautious initiation of the policy of treason. Organised action under high patronage and accepted leaders now took the place of sporadic violence. From its beginning this was a clear announcement of the intention to resist, by armed force if necessary, the operation of the Home Rule Act. How did the Government regard this contingent treason? They believed, or pretended to believe, that it was only 'bluff.'"

Again says Mr Hobson:—

"When the 'bluff' theory was no longer plausible, in view of the serious nature of the armed preparations and the financial support of British Unionists, the Government continued its policy of masterly inactivity. Lord Aberdeen watched complacently the pouring in of arms and the active co-operation of Lords-Lieutenant, magistrates, and army officers in the treasonable conspiracy. When some Liberals ventured to suggest preventive measures on the part of the

Government, opinions were procured from the law officers of the Crown advising that the treasonable preparation were not ripe for interference. . . . How could they arrest such important men as Sir E. Carson and Lord Londonderry? If they did, they would only be playing the game of the treason-mongers. . . . It was much better to turn a blind eye at the present stage of the proceedings, and to give the enemy sufficient rope. Afraid to enforce the law! Not at all! It was entirely a matter of the proper time and opportunity. Above all, precipitation must be avoided. And so it went on."

Meanwhile English Unionists, as Mr Hobson reminds us, "were naturally emboldened in their patronage of a conspiracy which they saw might do so much more for their cause than idle debates upon the Home Rule Bill. If Irish Unionists might act treason with impunity, there could be no harm in English Unionists talking it. So they hastened to commit themselves. . . . Mr Bonar Law, Leader of the Opposition in the Commons, formally addicted his party to the support of illegal violence. Even this express repudiation of constitutional behaviour, without precedent in the modern history of this country, did not ruffle the composure of the Government. . . . Is it possible to conceive that Lord Palmerston or Mr Gladstone would have consented to continue transacting parliamentary business with a leader of the 'King's Opposition' who had openly committed himself and his party to the support of an armed rebellion?"

"Now there is human nature in Ulster as elsewhere," Mr Hobson goes on to say; and he says further:—

"The natural conclusion of the rebels was that the Government was afraid to act, and this was a great encouragement to go ahead. They did so. More drilling, more practice in mobilisation, further maturing of the Provisional Government."

Mercilessly Mr Hobson goes on:—

"Lord Roberts headed the signature to a so-called British Covenant, by which he undertook to do his best to obstruct the movement of the King's troops in the enforcement of the King's peace in this realm."

What is the response of the Government to this new audacity? Do they cashier Lord Roberts and Admiral Seymour and remove from the King's Privy Council and the magistracy those members of these bodies who put their names to this treasonable document? Not at all. They take no notice of the incident."

Then comes the further stage. Says Mr Hobson:—

"This was the atmosphere in which Mr Asquith came forward with the offers of concessions, the mangling amendments not purporting to improve the Bill, but proposed as 'the price of peace,' i.e., to buy off the rebellion which had been permitted to grow up into a marketable asset."

"Under such circumstances," asks Mr Hobson, "how could the Ulstermen form any other conclusion than that they had got the Government 'on the run'?" "This interpretation," he says, "was corroborated by the naive confession of leading Liberal journals of their willingness to go as far as the unlimited exclusion of Ulster so as to avoid the necessity of enforcing the law." Their

[Continued on page 205.]

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PUBLIC ROUSED AND SYMPATHETIC.

ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY AGAIN REBUKED.

"Unchristian and Unworthy."

A strong reminder of his duty was given to the Archbishop of Canterbury on Wednesday afternoon by Suffragettes. As soon as the Bishop alighted from his car to go into the Caxton Hall for the Reception of Missionary Church Workers, a woman ran forward to him and said: "Your behaviour in giving Annie Kenney into the hands of her persecutors was unchristian and unworthy of the Master you pretend to follow." Another woman sprang forward and caught hold of him, but the Archbishop, who seemed thoroughly annoyed, shook her off and said hastily: "I can't stop to talk about that now," and passed on into the Hall.

Later Canon Field, D.D., entered the pulpit and announced his text, "I was sick and ye visited me." Immediately a woman stood up, and in a loud voice prayed, "O God, Eileen Casey is also sick. We beseech Thee to comfort her in her solitude, and grant unto her immediate release."

Before she could continue, she was seized from behind by the throat, and with great violence, hustled out of the Church, and kicked by a churchwarden. The other women were set upon and also ejected, and one was violently attacked by a member of the Congregation in the churchyard. A great deal of sympathy with the women was shown.

AT THE WESLEYAN CENTRAL HALL.

Many Women Roughly Ejected.

A touch of reality was given to the Service at the Wesleyan Central Hall on Sunday, by the presence of suffragettes amongst the congregation. Just before the reading of the first lesson, a body of women stood up in the centre of the Church, and in loud clear tones chanted a prayer for Mrs Pankhurst and the women who are being tortured in prison. The Minister and Congregation seemed greatly astonished, and the suffragettes, too, were astonished that a man who had just offered a prayer for enlightenment should be so little desirous of enlightenment as to refuse to listen to the prayer of the women. He ordered the organ to play to drown their voices.

When calm was restored, the Minister proceeded to read a very beautiful extract from St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans, at the end of which a woman stood up and said: "And when you have such a spirit in your midst, you do not recognise it. This is the spirit of the women who are fighting for freedom, and you persecute them!" Immediately a dozen or so of the stewards rushed towards her, knocking down chairs and pushing aside the congregation in their frantic efforts to silence the Suffragette. They dragged her over the chairs, but the congregation protested and called on them to let the woman walk, which at length they did. Immediately other protesting voices were raised, and many women were roughly ejected.

Later on during the sermon, other protests were made, and it was evident that a great impression was made on the congregation.

IN COURT.

No Evidence offered, and Case Discharged.

At the Borough Police Court on the following morning, Mrs Geldard appeared before the Magistrate, the charge being that she did wilfully and contemptuously disquiet and disturb persons lawfully assembled for religious worship. Mr Hall, who appeared for the prosecution, said that under instructions from the Vicar of Bolton he offered no evidence. Mrs Geldard was accordingly discharged.

THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM.

At the Annual Hospital Saturday Church Parade held on Sunday at Nottingham, the torture of suffragist prisoners was strikingly brought before the Congregation.

After a special prayer for the sick, some women clearly chanted, "O God save Mary Richardson, Grace Roe, Eileen Casey, who are being persecuted and tortured for conscience sake."

The church warden became agitated and called up the police to stand at the doors and a police officer was placed in a seat immediately behind the women.

SCENES AT THE ST. JAMES' THEATRE.

Brutality of Stewards.

Suffragettes were present in large numbers at the St. James' Theatre, on Wednesday night, June 24, and during the intervals speeches were made from all over the house, and numbers of handbills were thrown and distributed amongst the audience. There was a great deal of understanding shown to the protesters, although in some cases the stewards behaved with unnecessary violence in ejecting the women. One steward behaved in an abominable manner to a protester in the Upper Circle; she was literally kicked down stairs, and was bruised from head to foot.

Some of the speakers called upon the audience to go to the Old Bailey to the trial of Grace Roe and Nellie Hall; others protested against the apathy of people who enjoy themselves while women are being tortured for fighting for their principles, while other speakers made a strong protest against unconvinced prisoners being forcibly fed. The greatest excitement was caused.

Suffragettes with handbills also visited several other West End Theatres the same night.

"THE LAND OF PROMISE."

Interruptions Applauded.

There are some good points for Suffragettes in "The Land of Promise," and on Wednesday these were not overlooked.

There are four acts to the play. During the first a woman seated in the Dress Circle rose, and actors and audience alike were spellbound for some minutes as her clear voice rang out, pointing out that instead of applauding sentiments about women's hard lives, it would be better to protest against the torture of those women who were striving to make things better.

It was some time before she was silenced, and when at last she was removed, the buzz of excitement in the audience made it quite impossible for the play to be resumed.

"Go back to where you were interrupted," came a man's voice to the actors, when at last it was discovered that for some minutes they had been trying to make themselves heard,—and back they went.

The same thing happened during the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th acts, voices coming from the Upper Circle, the Stalls, and again from the Dress Circle, and each time the interrupter was warmly applauded by many of the onlookers.

"UNTIL THE CHURCH PROTESTS."

During his sermon on Sunday last, at St. Margaret's, Upper Norwood, the preacher remarked that "we have reached such a state in the political world that from day to day we never know what may happen."

"And this state of things will continue," cried a suffragette in the congregation "until the Church rises up and protests against women being persecuted for conscience sake."

RESTAURANT PROTESTS.

Suffragettes visited Fleming's Restaurant in Oxford Street on Thursday evening; short speeches were made from two tables, and many handbills were given away. A great deal of interest and sympathy was aroused, and much indignation expressed by many present against the treatment of women in prison. A similar protest was made at Lyon's, in the Strand, on June 23.

ECHOES OF SELF-DENIAL WEEK.

Contribution from the Tortured Prisoners.

Reports still come in telling of the success of Self-Denial Week all over the country.

One contribution that has been received, and which should spur others on to make fresh efforts, is that of £1 subscribed by the tortured prisoners in Holloway Gaol.

Novel Schemes in Hastings and Bexhill.

During a most successful Self-Denial Week in Hastings and Bexhill £61, 9s. 3d. was raised, the following being among the schemes adopted: Piano-Organ, Ice-Cream barrow, American Tea, sale of marmalade and cakes, sale of flowers, cakes, and crochet brought by working women, sale of ostrich feathers sent from the Cape, a garden meeting, a maid collected £1, 15s. 6d., "a prisoner" collected 4s. 3d. Many donations have also been received, and further sums have been promised.

Activities in Leicester.

Leicester members have been very busy making cakes, sweets, pastries, etc., and all kinds of home-made produce for the sale in the shop. These have all sold well, and a good trade was done in the morning at the stall in the market. One member has taken orders for home-made jam, the proceeds to go towards the fund; another has done *pass-partout* picture framing; further orders for this will be gladly received. Another has been making blouses to order, and individual subscriptions toward the Self-Denial Fund are coming in well.

The Kensington Hon. Sec. writes: "Up to date, but incomplete, our Self-Denial Fund amounts to £135."

PRAYERS FOR TORTURED WOMEN.

On Sunday evening, June 21, a protest was made inside St. Andrew's Church, Whitehall Park, N. The protesters chanted a prayer for the women being tortured in prison, and the congregation remained kneeling, evidently receiving the protest sympathetically and reverently. The clergyman had been preaching a sermon about pioneers in great reform movements, and the persecutions they had to bear, and the courage they displayed.

THE WHEREABOUTS OF MRS PANKHURST.

There is no truth whatever in the statements which have appeared in the Press that Mrs Pankhurst is on the Continent. Mrs Pankhurst is still in England, and has not been on the Continent since the beginning of the present year.

PERSECUTED FOR CONSCIENCE SAKE.

On Sunday, June 28, at St. James' Church, Darlington, the Rev. T. C. Gobat, asked for the prayers of the congregation for Miss Grace Roe, and all suffering in the cause of Freedom.

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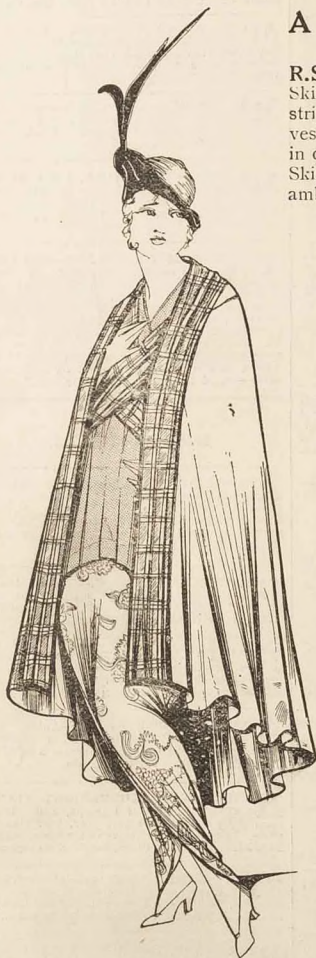
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