

"Voices for Women," August 27, 1909.

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VOTES FOR WOMEN.

EDITED BY FREDERICK & EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.

VOL. II., No. 77.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 1909.

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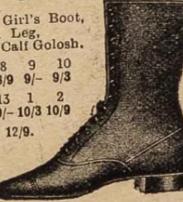
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DEDICATION.

To the brave women who to-day are fighting for freedom: to the noble women who all down the ages kept the flag flying and looked forward to this day without seeing it: to all women all over the world, of whatever race, or creed, or calling, whether they be with us or against us in this fight, we dedicate this paper.

THE OUTLOOK.

Stirring events have taken place during the last week, which, in spite of the holiday season, has been full of activity. At the principal Budget meetings where Cabinet Ministers have gone to defend their position striking scenes have been witnessed. Women, excluded from making their protest within the halls where the Ministers were speaking, have called upon the crowds outside the buildings to mark their disapproval of the behaviour of the Cabinet, and this they have done in no uncertain manner. In Glasgow on Friday last they were only held at bay by a charge of the police with drawn batons; in Liverpool on the same day several windows of the hall in which Mr. Haldane was speaking were broken. We deal elsewhere with the principles underlying this behaviour on the part of women.

At the Police Courts.

The sequel to this action was the arrest at Glasgow and at Liverpool of several members of the Women's Social and Political Union. Brought up on the following day at the police court, the prosecution in both cases asked for a remand until Tuesday, which was granted. This coincident request in two places where the police are strictly under local authority cannot but suggest to the casual observer that the advice of the Government is being taken as to what is to be done with the offenders. In Liverpool the women, with the intention of protesting against the whole proceedings, refused to accept bail, and were accordingly kept in the cells on remand during the interval. They did not lose any time in making strong protests against being treated otherwise than

as political prisoners. They communicated with one another and broke the windows of the cells, and immediately began the Hunger Strike, which they are still carrying out. On Tuesday they were given sentences of two months and one month. In Glasgow, though the women were in the precincts of the courts, they were not informed that their case was being called, and the magistrates by a piece of very sharp practice decided to escheat their bail. This unwarrantable action called forth a vigorous protest from Mrs. Pankhurst and from the prisoners, who refused to give any undertaking to appear when next the case came on, and as they accordingly did not answer to their names on Tuesday, warrants were issued against them. How the spirit of the women is fortified by suffering is well instanced by the fact that on Tuesday, after having already starved for several days, the Liverpool prisoners sent up their names as volunteers for the next deputation.

The Women's Freedom League.

Meanwhile the members of the Women's Freedom League have been continuing their silent watch at the House of Commons and at Downing Street, and on Thursday last Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Cobden Sanderson, and others were arrested. Brought into the court on the following day they took up the same line of defence as was taken by Mrs. Pankhurst and the Hon. Mrs. Haverfield in July, and claimed the right of personal presentation of a petition to the Prime Minister. The case stands adjourned until to-day.

Interruptions at Meetings.

The joy which a section of the Liberal Press shows over the interruptions at Budget-protest meetings effectively disposes of the pious platitudes by which they have attempted to dissuade women from protesting at the meetings of Cabinet Ministers. In its issue of August 24 the *Daily Chronicle* describes with glee how Anti-Budget meetings have had to be abandoned on account of well-informed opposition, and mentions one meeting in particular where the speaker "was exasperated with perpetual interruptions." This would seem to suggest that some of the Liberal Press have one code of morals for the Liberal party and another for everybody else, and women will understand how much salt they will have in future to take with precepts on "free speech" coming from this source. Whatever may be thought of the policy of interruption and protest by men who have other ways of expressing their disapproval, it is perfectly evident that women who have no votes have the right to make use of such means in order that their claims shall not be ignored.

Rumours of a Dissolution in January.

Rumours are being circulated that, whatever be the action of the Lords with regard to the Budget, the Government will probably dissolve early in 1910. This rumour is supported by the *Nation*, the *Observer*, and the *Daily News*, but is discredited by the *Daily Mail* and the *Westminster Gazette*. Members of the Women's Social and Political Union can rest assured that, whatever action the Government attempt to take, the Union will be ready for the situation.

Contents of this Issue.

Amongst the special contents of this issue is a further series of articles by some of the women who have taken part in the Hunger Strike. Mrs. Zangwill contributes an exceedingly interesting and witty article on the present position. We also give very full accounts of the scenes in Liverpool and Glasgow. On page 1103 will be found a few extracts from an account by Mr. Philip Snowden, M.P., of his visit to Holloway, from which it will be seen that he substantiates the principal charges made by the Suffragettes. The reports which we publish of the holiday campaigns show that many members of the W.S.P.U. are using their holidays to good advantage. We hope that they will all come back in splendid health, ready to take up the autumn work in their respective centres.

HISTORY OF THE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT.

By Sylvia Pankhurst.

LIII. The Growth of the W.S.P.U.

The last chapters of this history have mainly dealt with the part played by women in the bye-elections which took place during the spring and summer of 1907. Between March and August of that year the Women's Social and Political Union had fought, as we have seen, no fewer than seven strenuous election contests. Something of the great work which this entailed may be understood when it is realised that in each constituency the W.S.P.U. had held from one hundred to two hundred meetings. These had included dinner and tea-hour meetings at factory and works gates, afternoon meetings for women, and meetings in the evening for both men and women, at which, in thickly populated centres like Jarrow, upwards of 5,000 people had frequently congregated. During the Colne Valley election sixteen meetings had been held every day, and in North-West Staffordshire this number had frequently been exceeded.

It must be remembered that the W.S.P.U. was but a comparatively new society, and that it had not, therefore, that network of local organisations covering the whole of the country upon which the old-established political parties could rely. When the Union had begun its bye-election work in 1906 it had only been able to send down one or two of its organisers to fight an election contest, with the aid of any local women whom they could stir up to take action. In the later elections, however, the staff of regular organisers had been largely increased, and from thirty to forty women volunteers, in addition to any who might offer in the locality, had always been forthcoming to assist the organisers. But even under these improved conditions it will be seen (for the number of meetings held would alone prove it) that the amount of work accomplished by the women was extraordinary, and it is certain that, but for their untiring zeal and very great efficiency, little headway could have been made by them against a powerful Government, supported by a powerful Press, and a party organisation which had left scarcely a village or hamlet throughout the kingdom without its Liberal Association, containing at least some scores of members. As had been the case at each of the bye-elections at which the women had hitherto fought, there had been a decrease in the Liberal vote since the General Election. Thus, at Cockermouth the Liberal poll had been reduced by 1,446, at Huddersfield by 540, in North-East Derbyshire by 1,021, in South Aberdeen by 3,001, at Hexham by 231, at Stepney by 503, at Rutland by 202, at Jarrow by 4,575, at Colne Valley by 1,204, in North-West Staffordshire by 271, and at Bury St. Edmunds by 306, making, in all, a total loss of votes to the Government of 13,300.

Ever since the very beginning of the Women's Suffrage agitation, whenever the women had pressed urgently for the vote, the cry: "Why do you not go on with the steady work of conversion?" had been raised, and the women had been told "You will never get the vote until you have converted the country." This being the case, it was, of course, natural that the W.S.P.U., with its magnificent impatience of delay and its militant tactics, should be accused of caring only for "sensational methods," "cheap martyrdom" and "notoriety," and of altogether neglecting the "less conspicuous" but more "useful" and "solid" forms of propaganda. The accusation was, nevertheless, entirely unjust and absolutely without foundation, for the W.S.P.U., in addition to its militant demonstrations and its arduous work at the bye-elections, was contriving to get through more ordinary peaceful propaganda work in the space of a few weeks than the older Suffrage societies before its formation had been able to accomplish during many years, and in the midst of this Women's Suffrage revival, which it, with its militant tactics, had created, the W.S.P.U. was holding far more meetings, distributing far more literature, and was, in fact, by purely peaceful means, converting a very much greater number of people

of all classes to the cause of women's enfranchisement than all the other Women's Suffrage societies in the country put together. Between March 1, 1907, and the following end of August over 3,000 meetings, 1,200 of which had been arranged by the National Executive and the remainder by its organisers and local branches, had been held by the Women's Social and Political Union. At one of these (the Exeter Hall meeting in May) that wonderful Treasurer, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, inaugurated a scheme for collecting a Votes for Women Campaign Fund of £20,000. During this time also the literature department of the Union, of which Mr. Pethick Lawrence had become the hon. secretary, had developed very considerably. During the year 1906 the total literature sales had only amounted to £60, but between March 1 and August 31, 1907, literature to the value of £450, including upwards of 80,000 penny pamphlets, badges, and postcard photographs of the leaders, and 6,000 books, had been sold. One hundred and fifty thousand free leaflets had also been distributed.

Energetic propaganda campaigns, similar to those of the bye-elections, were being held in every important centre in which the W.S.P.U. was able to place one of its organisers. It is interesting here to note a typical day of Annie Kenney's at Preston, as detailed by Mrs. Edith Rigby, the secretary of the local branch of the Union there:—

"This morning Miss Kenney visited various local people worth winning to a more generous and intelligent understanding of the women's claim, and was rewarded in most cases by sympathy and help promised and money.

"At 3 p.m. a parlour meeting was held in one of our member's houses, and her neighbours had been canvassed to attend. The little room was full, and was won by Miss Kenney's speech of nearly three-quarters of an hour, given quite as earnestly, be sure, as to a great crowded meeting. . . . At 3.30 p.m., as the largest mills in the town unloosed, at the busiest corner a lorry was drawn up and surrounded by a great crowd of hundreds and hundreds that pressed round to listen, jeering until sobered by remarks that touched tender places. Miss Kenney spoke for nearly an hour here. . . . At 7.30 p.m. in the covered market (the banner being the only advertisement) a meeting was got together and stayed, glad and proud to hear her. The greatest goodwill was evident in the crowd to deal with any sign of interruption. Yes, they know well all over the town that there is a Votes for Women campaign on, and that Miss Annie Kenney is conducting it as bravely as ever."

In addition to this sort of work and all the usual forms of propaganda adopted by Suffragists and other politicians, the W.S.P.U. had introduced an entirely new means of bringing the question of Votes for Women to the public notice by opening a stall for the sale of literature and badges at the Earl's Court Exhibition. The stall remained open daily from May until October, and during this time it was almost always surrounded by a crowd of visitors, who listened with interest to the answers to questions which were put and the informal arguments and speeches that were constantly taking place.

Point and value were given to all this propaganda work, and especially to that of the bye-elections, by the keen political insight possessed by the leaders of the W.S.P.U., which enabled them to seize every opportunity that occurred of making political capital for the women's movement. Thus, when, in 1906, the Government had introduced its Bill for the Abolition of Plural Voting, the W.S.P.U. leaders had been ready to show that the Government's excuse that they had no time to so amend the Representation of the People Acts as to make it possible for women to vote, was now rendered absurd by the introduction of this measure to deal with an infinitely smaller and less important franchise anomaly. In support of this contention of theirs the women had sent up so many resolutions to the House of Commons and agitated generally in so vigorous and capable a manner that when the Plural Voting Bill was finally thrown out by the House of Lords, the *Saturday Review* had declared that the quietness with which the Liberal party had received this blow was due to the know-

ledge that the W.S.P.U. would, by means of counter-demonstrations, make the Liberal demonstrations of protest appear ridiculous. Later on the Government's agitation against the House of Lords was similarly turned to account by the W.S.P.U., who pointed out that the House of Commons itself was, so far as the women of the country were concerned, in no way more representative than the House of Lords.

When, on June 24, 1907, the Prime Minister introduced a resolution to restrict the power of the House of Lords, "in order to give effect to the will of the people, as expressed by their elected representatives," copies of a manifesto which had been issued by the W.S.P.U. were placed by friendly members of Parliament upon the Treasury Bench, and during the three days of the debate a band of women waited outside the House of Commons and handed leaflets containing the manifesto to the members.

The gist of this manifesto may be gathered from the following extract:—

"The Prime Minister says that he intends that the power of the House of Lords shall be so restricted as to secure that the will of the people, as expressed by their elected representatives in the House of Commons, shall prevail.

"We say that so long as women are denied the Vote the House of Commons does not represent the will of the people, and we demand that the first constitutional change to be made shall be the enfranchisement of the women of the country.

"We women say to the Government that in order to give effect to the will of the people, the Parliamentary franchise must be so reformed that the House of Commons shall represent, not the men alone, but the women of the country also."

Whether the women's method of thus pressing home their own question in connection with agitation produced any substantial effect upon them it is impossible for any but Cabinet Ministers to say, but it is a significant fact that, though it was widely expected that either in 1908 or early in 1909 a House of Lords Bill would be introduced by the Liberal Government, no further action was taken.

From all the foregoing facts it may be gathered that the Women's Social and Political Union was growing and developing with unprecedented rapidity in every direction, but, in spite of all its success, it was approaching a very difficult crisis in its history. This matter is of too personal a nature and too recent a date to be dealt with at length in a series of articles of this kind, and with the Vote yet to be won it would be but a waste of time to concentrate attention upon it. Suffice it to say that, little by little, certain differences of opinion in regard to questions of organisation and of policy had grown up, and as a result, in September, 1907, a reconstruction of the National Committee and the formation of the society which bears the name of the Women's Freedom League took place. The W.F.L. shortly afterwards opened offices at 18, Buckingham Street, Strand.

(To be continued.)

PROGRESS OF WOMEN.

A Suffragist Heroine.

One of the saddest incidents of the last week is the death of Miss Eileen Nicholls, M.A., who gave her life for that of another. With two friends—Miss Crohan and Miss Kehane—she was bathing at Ventry, Co. Kerry, when Miss Crohan got out of her depth. Both Miss Nicholls and Miss Kehane made a gallant attempt at rescue, but Miss Nicholls was overpowered by the strength of the current and drowned, her friend being ultimately rescued by a passer-by. Though only twenty-four, Miss Nicholls was an M.A. of Dublin University, and was universally recognised as having a great future before her. She was a member of the Irish Ladies' Franchise Association, and a very keen supporter of the Suffrage movement. All Dublin seemed in mourning on the day she was buried at Glasnevin, the streets being lined by a crowd of sorrowful sympathisers.

Rescues from Drowning.

A lady artist, whose name is not disclosed, was instrumental in saving the life of Mr. Sunderland Malone, the well-known author and song-writer, who, while bathing in Lake Belvedere, became entangled in the weeds in the lake. This lady, interrupted in her sketching by the cries for help, dashed into the water and succeeded in bringing Mr. Malone ashore.

The river Dee was also the scene of a valiant rescue. Three Chester girls were walking on the bank when they saw that not only a bather, but a man who had gone into the water fully dressed to try to save him, were both exhausted by their struggles, and in imminent peril of their lives. The three girls promptly scrambled across an intervening sandbank, waded waist-high through mud and water, and succeeded in dragging both men to land. One of the three then applied "first-aid" to the rescued men, and was successful in resuscitating them.

Women Capture a Footpad.

On a lonely road near Barnsley recently, a solitary traveller was attacked and robbed by four other men. During the fracas the Misses Gertrude and Lena Hardie, the daughters of an ex-police officer, drove past. Miss Gertrude at once leapt to the ground and seized one of the men, but was knocked down by another of the gang. Her sister came to her aid, and between them they recaptured the man and drove him to the nearest police station. They were very warmly complimented by the Bench for their plucky conduct.



A Suffragette Auctioneer.

Miss Mercy Halton was chosen from 722 applicants to fill the post of lady auctioneer to the "Women of All Nations" Exhibition, which will open at Olympia on September 1. On being asked the inevitable question as to whether women would be better at that profession than men, Miss Halton replied that she was a Suffragette, and thought that in selling abilities, as, indeed, in everything else, the sexes were equal. Until she mounted the auctioneer's rostrum at Olympia Miss Halton had never attempted anything of the kind, but being a Suffragette she naturally resolved to succeed, which she did with flying colours. The picture above was kindly lent by the *Daily Mirror*.

A Child Heroine.

Heroic was the action of a little girl at Freystrope, Pembrokeshire. Her baby sister found a new plaything, and promptly put it into her mouth. It turned out to be an adder, which bit her very severely on the lower lip. The elder girl, however, immediately neutralised the danger by sucking the poison from the wound, and the child is now recovering.

THE GREAT SUFFRAGETTE.

By Edith Ayrton Zangwill.

As I was standing on the pavement by St. Margaret's during the last memorable raid, my head cushioned against the flank of an amiable police horse, and one thought kept dinning in my brain. Why? Why had Mr. Asquith got up this huge demonstration? Why did he run the risk of so many casualties? Why was he uselessly spending several thousands of pounds of public money? Why had he called out all the King's horses and all the King's policemen, or at any rate a considerable proportion of them? Why did he hold up the traffic in busy thoroughfares for several hours? Why was he courting unpopularity for himself and the Liberal Government? Why, in short, did he choose to do all this sooner than meet nine women?

For, mind you, it was not as though these women had made any stipulation as to their reception. Mr. Asquith might have taken his own precautions. He could have summoned a regiment of the Horse Guards to protect him and have conversed with the ladies through a megaphone. He could have entrenched himself behind barbed wire or have erected an iron grating. He could have borrowed a diver's costume. If such safeguards failed to give him confidence, he, on his side, might have laid down conditions. He could have insisted that no woman under seventy should serve on the deputation unless holding a medical certificate of physical incapacity. He could have had every feminine fist mitigated by a boxing glove. He could have arranged that the ladies should only come into his presence bound and fettered. All these precautions he might have taken, but why refuse to see the deputation under any circumstances? Was Mr. Asquith a Trappist monk in disguise? But no, the report of French millinery displays at Downing Street came to my mind. I gave up the conundrum.

Why Encourage Martyrdom?

Since then the same question has often recurred to me. Each time a batch of Suffragettes has been sent to prison, I have again asked "Why?" Surely Mr. Asquith must realise that these women, unlike ordinary criminals, do not commit irregularities for the pleasure of committing them. Thus the only way to punish them would be not to punish them. Or, if it were feared that their liberty would entail too heavy a glazier's bill, why arouse popular sympathy by placing them in the second division? Why give them sentences of an unwarrantable length? From the suffrage point of view it is, of course, magnificent, but from Mr. Asquith's point of view "ce n'est pas la guerre."

The other day we heard of the latest development of the prison protest—the hunger strike—and once again I wondered. I wondered at the heroic courage of the women. I wondered still more at the apparent obtuseness of the Government. Was it possible that Mr. Asquith had never heard the well-worn aphorism, "The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church"? Why did Mr. Asquith allow woman suffrage to be thus propagated? If the Suffragettes were to be eventually discharged, why were they not discharged on the first day of the hunger strike? Why give them their coveted martyrdom?

Yesterday I was once more present at a deputation to Mr. Asquith, a static raid that has already lasted some seven

weeks, and in which every Suffragist may well take part. As I stood there, sash across chest and petition in hand, I heard from members of Parliament themselves of the striking results of this eternal demonstration. The endurance and constancy of the women were putting the House to shame, they said. Waverers were being daily converted. I looked around anxiously lest I should see Mr. Asquith. Surely he would seize the first opportunity to rush forward and snatch out of our hands the little brown cardboard cylinders containing the petition. This would bring an end to our deputation. It would stop our propaganda. Perhaps Mr. Asquith feared a hidden bomb, but a pail of water loaned from the nearest cab-stand would cool this terror. Why, then, did he hesitate? Who could answer me my riddle?

"I used to know quite a lot of 'Antis,' but they went to 'anti' meetings and all got converted into Suffragettes." It was the neighbouring "picket" who was talking. "I expect soon the Anti-suffragist will become extinct, like the dodo."

"The Anti-suffragist is Dodo—unfortunately not yet extinct." Even as I spoke the explanation I had sought so long burst upon my dazzled brain. "Yes, the Anti-suffragist is Dodo, and the Suffragist is Mr. Asquith. That explains it all."

"Mr. Asquith is a diplomat, you see," I told my puzzled neighbour. "Diplomacy means getting your own way while other people believe that they are getting theirs. We ought to pass a vote of thanks to Mr. Asquith at every meeting. Three cheers for Mr. Asquith, the great Suffragette."

THE REVEILLE.

(With apologies to Bret Harte.)

Hark! I hear the tramp of thousands,
And of busy tongues the hum;
Lo! a nation's wives have gathered
Round the quick alarming drum—
Saying, "Come,
Women, come!
Take a stand for equal justice," said the quick alarming drum.

"Let me of my heart take counsel;
Votes are not of life the sum;
Who will stay and cook the dinner
When my husband home shall come?"
But the drum
Echoed, "Come!
For our freedom is the harvest," said the solemn-sounding drum.

"What if when the bobbies blunder,
Use their bâtons, strike me dumb,
When my comrades fall around me,
Should my heart grow cold and numb?"
But the drum
Answered, "Come!
Better there in prison idle than at large a coward—come!"

Thus they answered—hoping, fearing,
Some in faith, and doubting some,
Till a trumpet voice, proclaiming,
Said, "Belovèd sisters, come!"
Then the drum,
It was dumb,
For the women of the nation loudly answered, "Lo! we come."
SPADGE.

COMMENTS OF THE PRESS.

An Inspection of Holloway.

I think the complaints made by many of the Suffragist prisoners as to insufficient ventilation are justified, and it is not unreasonable to believe that when the mutineers were put into the basement cells these would be less fresh than at the time of my visit, as the cells would have been untenanted, probably for some time, and the weather of the last few months would not have allowed much sunshine to brighten them. . . . It must be a terrible experience to be confined for successive days in such a place. The silence and loneliness must be terrifying, and it is impossible to sit without great discomfort on the block of wood provided for a seat. . . . The sanitary arrangements are most unsatisfactory. . . . There is a small peephole into the cell. This feeling that eyes may be always upon one must be maddening. . . . That some of the ladies were infected with hair vermin is undoubtedly true, and I

a punishment which is far greater than the same punishment is felt to be by the ordinary woman law-breaker. On this ground, as well as on the ground of the political motive behind their technical offence, these women ought to be placed in the first division. Secretaries of State may raise difficulties about the definition of a political offence, but there is an undoubted distinction between the offences for which these women are condemned and the more general breaches of the law. This has been recognised and acted upon in other cases, and so long as the general practice in regard to political prisoners is denied to the women Suffragists they are being treated not equally, but more cruelly than men for similar offences. —Philip Snowden in *The Christian Commonwealth*.

The Right of Petition.

The arrest of eight members of the Women's Freedom League for "obstruction" in Downing Street in the epic struggle to present their petition to Mr. Asquith, raises a constitutional point which would have moved the whole nation to passion a century



A few of Mr. Asquith's Disguises.

[By permission of the proprietors of "Punch."]

(It seems inhuman to give him away, but these are some of the methods by which the Premier contrives to elude the vigilance of the Suffragette "Pickets" at the gates of St. Stephen's.—PUNCH.)

could easily imagine that such might be possible in spite of every precaution the authorities might take. . . . We found the baths had been recently painted and renovated. But the criticisms I offered upon the closets apply also to the baths. There is no complete privacy. The doors, like those to the closets, only cover about half the doorway. . . . To sum up the impressions of my visit, I should say that there was no conscious misstatement or exaggeration in the statements made by the Suffragists as to their experiences. Some of the charges they made cannot now be examined, because no material exists to do so. . . . But punishment and cruelty is in being forcibly deprived of what has been one's ordinary course of life. The Suffragists are women of education and culture, accustomed to comfort, cleanliness, decency, and refined habits. To them the conditions which the chronic prisoner would regard as comparative luxury are cruel, indecent, and degrading. Our prison system ought not to demoralise, to lower self-respect, to expose to physical risks; but the treatment of the women Suffragists does all that. It is a terrible thing for the State to be guilty of treating women in a way which may blunt their fine feelings or their sensitiveness to indignities. The self-respect and sense of decency should be protected in all women prisoners, and where the women may have lost these things the prison treatment should be such as to revive them. Treatment as ordinary prisoners is inflicting upon the Suffragists

or two ago. The right to petition is one of the clearest privileges of a British subject. It is not confined to males. The statute of Charles II., which finally regulated it, makes it perfectly clear that a petition was then naturally regarded as a personal application. No one then contemplated that it should be sent through the post, and the law forbids the assembling of more than ten persons to present it. Blackstone's Commentary is as explicit as it can be, and winds up by declaring that any imprisonment for the exercise of the right to petition is illegal. It was indeed, on that point that the seven bishops were acquitted, and all London went into that delirium of rejoicing which Macaulay described with so much eloquence. It is no answer to the women to say that petitions are obsolete. So they are for men, because men can employ the machinery of representative institutions. Women are constitutionally in the position of the unenfranchised masses who, in every country—even in Russia—have clung to the traditional right of personal access to their rulers. —Daily News.

Women Voters in New Zealand.

The Attorney-General, speaking on the subject of women voters in New Zealand, said women were less inclined to make the home their only sphere, and their sympathies and activities were widening. He was of the opinion that when the reform of the liquor trade, for which women had long been struggling, had been achieved, their zeal would be diverted towards securing other social and political reforms. Generally, he thought their influence would be for good. —Times.

STORIES OF THE HOLLOWAY MUTINY.

Below we print two further reports from women who took part in the hunger strike in Holloway Goal. With characteristic heroism these women make light of the suffering which they endured, and in her witty account Miss Annie Bell gives a graphic picture of the humorous side of the mutiny in prison. Our readers will fill in from their imagination the other side of the picture—the long hours of solitude, the cramped conditions, and the slow starvation, and the endeavour to keep the spirit strong and triumphant with the body growing every hour weaker.

THE LIGHTER SIDE.

I was one of thirteen Suffragettes arrested on July 30 for attempting to get into Edinburgh Castle, where Mr. Lloyd George was holding a political meeting. We were bailed out for the night, and required to attend at the Thames Police Court at ten o'clock the next morning. There we were tried and sentenced to terms of imprisonment varying from one day to two months. At about three o'clock in the afternoon, just before we were packed into "Black Maria," we asked one of the officials to inquire of the magistrate what division we were to be placed in, and he replied that the Governor of Holloway had received instructions.

In "Black Maria" we made a flag of two regalia tied on the end of an umbrella; this we hoisted through a hole in the roof, and so, unnoticed by the police, we were able to display our colours all the way to Holloway.

As others have told the story of Mrs. Leigh's interview with the Governor and our refusal to go quietly to our cells, I will only say that in the end my bag was wrenched from me with such violence that it was seriously damaged, and I found myself in the clutches of two wardresses, who proceeded to drag me to my cell. Just before I was locked in, I heard a great smashing of glass, and as soon as my door closed I took off one shoe, and, mounting my chair, knocked out twelve panes of glass with the heel of it.

Then the door opened and I was dragged out. I took advantage of being in the open to shout "Votes for Women" to encourage my comrades, but I was quickly shut up in another cell. Here I seized a wooden stool, and, using it as a ramrod, tried to knock out the window. Then the door opened and the stool disappeared.

A short time afterwards the matron entered and informed me that I was to be searched. Two wardresses secured my hands, and two others stripped off my clothes. I resisted, sufficiently to show them how deeply I resented this indignity, but not with great violence, as I felt that, with the odds so much against me, it was useless. I continued my mutiny all that day, adopting all the means at my disposal to show the authorities that I refused to recognise their right to place me in the second division. Next morning the wardresses told me to get up, but I said I should not do so unless they brought me my own clothes. When they were gone I threw away my breakfast. My neighbour in the adjoining cell proved a capital companion. We also discovered another friend within earshot, and we all sang together, at intervals, "Rule, Britannia," "God Save the King," and the "Marseillaise."

On Monday, the Governor threatened to put me into some strange sort of dress, the fastenings of which he said were "padlocks"! However, I heard no more about it. The Chaplain also tried to intimidate me with dark hints of what would happen if I did not obey the prison rules. I said I could only die *once*, and that I was perfectly willing to die for the Cause if necessary. He retired saying he thought I might have a better Cause; and I saw him no more.

When dinner came up, I scratched my name on the dark paint, very effectively, with the knife (which is, I think, made of tin); it was very hard work, and when I had finished

"Annie Bell, Suffragette" the point was entirely gone. We still continued to shout and sing, and there is a remarkably fine echo in Holloway.

Next day I was seized with an inspiration. When my tea came in, I jumped out of bed, and with the aid of a little cocoa, melted down my butter into liquid form. Then dipping my finger into it, I began to write on the whitewashed wall as follows:—

"Five bold policemen now have met
The ramping, tearing Suffragette;
They do not faint, nor yet turn pale,
But grab and haul her off to gaol."

When I was in the middle of this an amusing incident occurred. The doctor came in, and as it was getting dark he didn't see the writing on the wall, but he did see the plate with something on it, and thought I was breaking my fast, so he felt my pulse and said, emphatically, "*Great improvement!*"

On the following day I got to work early (with a fresh supply of butter), and on the other side of my cell wrote:—

"Now in her cell she sits and pines,
And off thin skilly daily dines,
And still repeats as if by rote,
'I want, I want, I want a vote.'"

Then I went to bed again, and amused myself watching the faces of my different visitors. The doctor said he was glad I was taking "*thin skilly*"! But when the Governor came he was not at all pleased with me.

In the afternoon my door suddenly opened, and without warning my cell was filled with people. They were the visiting magistrates and prison officials, who had come to charge me with mutiny. I was very much annoyed at this intrusion. The following is as nearly as possible a verbatim report of my "*trial*."

Magistrate (advancing to my bedside, and addressing me in a sepulchral voice): I charge you, Annie Bell, on your arrival here, with refusing to give up your property, with refusing to wear prison clothes, with refusing to go to your cell, and since then with breaking your window, with refusing to confirm to the prison regulations, and with refusing to take your food.

Governor (sternly, pointing to the walls): And with this.

Matron (solemnly): It's done with butter.

Head Wardress (more solemnly): Yes, with butter.

I (sitting up in bed, very angry): To put me in a hole like this, and give me rags to wear, just because I tried to get into a political meeting, is a punishment absolutely and entirely out of proportion to the offence committed—if it was an offence.

Magistrate: Do you admit these charges?

(The charge was then repeated, and I acknowledged the truth of it, but said I committed the offences as a protest against being imprisoned in the second division.)

Magistrate (reproachfully, gazing into a tin can at his feet, containing some boiled cabbage and an egg): And do you *really* refuse to take this food, when it is here waiting for you?

I (still angry): Yes, I do refuse to take it, and I mean to continue to refuse.

Magistrate: Seven days' confinement to your cell.

I (laughing): Well, that's nothing new! Why, I've never been out of it.

Magistrate (reading from the wall, in a low voice): "Five bold policemen now have met," etc., etc., etc.

When he had quite finished they went out silently and left me to recover, which I did pretty quickly.

That evening I had a good deal to depress me, my friend had disappeared from next door, and there was no butter for tea! I was just trying to forget my troubles in sleep when a voice wailed out of the distance, "How many days have

you got?" "Seven," I shrieked back. "And you?" "Ten." Then I fell asleep to the distant strains of "Rule Britannia." Next morning, just to show I was still going strong, I wrote, "*Moral*" over my door, and on either side of it, "Take warning by her *awful* end, And don't to politics attend!"

In the evening the doctor came in and told me I was "*released*." I sat up and asked for my clothes. He told me I must take some milk or I should be ill, but I refused to take anything until I was dressed and on the point of starting, then I took some. I made a great noise, so that everyone might know I was going, then I went into the yard, where there was a cab waiting. I was told to get into it, and a wardress got in too. The Matron, the Head Wardress, and several other women were standing by, so I leant out and said, "Good bye." The wardress came all the way home with me, and when we parted I asked her to remember me to the Governor and tell him, if he wanted any windows repaired or cells decorated he could send for me.

Annie Bell.

MISS CAPPER'S EXPERIENCES.

On arriving at Holloway we asked to see the Governor, who allowed us the alternative of retaining our own clothes and personal luggage, with the penalty of appearing before the visiting magistrates on the following Monday. We



Miss Mabel Capper.

unanimously accepted this alternative, but refused to be placed in separate cells. We were, however, seized and thrust into the reception cells close by, the doors of which were standing open in readiness. After half an hour the Matron entered my cell and told me to remove my clothes and submit to be searched in the usual manner by officers-in-charge. I at once quoted to her the Governor's alternative proposal, which gave us the option of retaining our belongings. Her reply was that he had altered his mind owing to

our mutinous behaviour. I offered to remove my clothes if left alone in the cell, but refused to do so or be searched in the presence of the wardress. She then said force would be used, and immediately the cell was filled by powerful women, who tore my clothes off my back. I counted twelve wardresses in my cell, some of whom tried to taunt and goad me into doing something which I might regret, but I bit my lips and did not take any notice. After they had flung some of the prison clothes on to me, I was dragged across the yard, and was met by the Governor, who offered to send me to the ordinary cells on receiving a promise not to break windows.

Of course I refused to give any such promise, and he then gave orders for me to be transferred to the punishment cells, which I recognised by the descriptions given by the first batch of hunger strikers. I was struck by the intense gloom of the cell, the light coming through very thick glazed windows. Over the door the light from a gas jet outside entered by a small window, this being the only other means of illumination. I soon perceived the totally inadequate means of ventilation, and for a considerable time I tried in vain to break the windows of my cell with the heel of the heavy prison shoes. Supper was brought to me, which I left untasted, and a mattress and bedclothes were brought to the cell. These were collected the following morning from the other cells, but I was allowed to retain mine, owing to the doctor's orders, as I had injured my foot. I was thus able to remain in bed the whole of the time. Each morning the Governor visited me and inquired if I had anything to say. The Matron also came several times. The Chaplain came to my cell once, but as I had previously told the officer that I did not wish to see him, I did not hold any conversation with him. He was the only person who tried to persuade me to give in, and he tried to make me believe our action to be absurd and futile. However, I refused to discuss the question with him, so he did not come near me again. The Doctor came to feel my pulse twice every day, and food was brought regularly, which I did not rise to look at. I remained in bed the whole time, so did not put on the prison clothes, and took no food, but drank a quantity of cold water.

On Monday afternoon library books were brought round; I was not able to read much, as the light was so bad, and the books were taken from us on the Wednesday afternoon after the visit of the magistrates. Five or six of them visited each of us in the cells on Wednesday, and I was sentenced to seven days' close confinement. Late the same evening I was awakened by two officers, who told me to try and dress myself. They helped me to put on the prison clothes, and then wrapped me in a blanket and left the cell, saying they would return for me shortly. They had not told me why this should happen, but I thought it must be the order for my release. On returning they told me it was a mistake; that it was another prisoner who was to be conveyed to the hospital, and I had been mistaken for her. It was a hard blow to me, as it had already become very painful to lie down owing to the hardness of the mattress and pillow, and I had just been hoping that I had slept my last sleep on the cruel mattress. However, I spent the night on the floor for a change, and the next morning seemed very dazed, and I think I must have been in a semi-conscious state all day. I dimly remember seeing some one enter the cell and speak in a cheery manner, but I was unable to answer her. It was about 7.30 the same evening when the Doctor and Matron entered, and told me that the order for my release had come, and shortly after I found myself in the open air, and took a long breath of fresh air, the first for nearly six days.

We none of us saw our companions during the whole time, but we continually conversed with each other at the top of our voices until our strength gave out. The only day upon which I really suffered from a feeling of severe hunger was the Monday, and on that I lay with my face to the wall and would not look at the food, and sang songs all day.

I never once lost heart, because I knew that we were on the winning side and were wielding a mightier weapon than those of all the opposing army, and one before which they would be compelled to surrender.

Mabel Capper.

OUR POST BOX.

THE WIMBLEDON ELECTION.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

SIR,—Miss Bertha Mason, the chairman of Mr. Bertrand Russell's Election Committee, objects to the statements made by me in my article upon the Wimbledon bye-election, and she asks me, on reading her letter, to withdraw what I have said. Unfortunately I cannot do so, as my statements were made after careful consideration and inquiry into the facts, as I think my article itself will prove.

In the first place, Miss Mason objects to my saying that the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies chose as their candidate "a strong Liberal who was determined to make the election an opportunity for propagating his Liberal principles." She says this is "not correct." Now, I did not say in my article that the National Union's reason for choosing Mr. Bertrand Russell was that he was a strong Liberal. I merely stated that he was so as an undoubted fact. I stated also that he was determined to make the election an opportunity for propagating his Liberal principles, and the fact that he constantly advocated Liberal principles from the Suffragist platform and constantly stated that he was a general supporter of the present Government, as even Miss Mason will not deny, is a proof of this. But Miss Mason says that Mr. Russell was "willing and ready to place the cause of Women's Suffrage before his own personal party interests." If this were so, why did Mr. Russell state at the opening of the contest that had an official representative of the Liberal Party been nominated he would not under any circumstances have agreed to the N.U.W.S.S.'s invitation to stand as their candidate? This statement of his appeared broadcast in the Press, the *Daily News*, for instance, giving considerable prominence to it. Had it been untrue, either Mr. Russell himself or the committee of the N.U.W.S.S. would have repudiated it.

Miss Mason goes on to state that never once in her hearing or so far as she knows did Mr. Russell "apologise for his belief in Women's Suffrage" or "assure the electors that upon this question he was not after all so very keen," and, to round off my original sentence, "certainly no keener than many of those who were already in Parliament." I contend, however, that to say that he did so is to justly paraphrase Mr. Russell's message to the electors on the eve of the poll. This appeared in my original article immediately below the words of which Miss Mason complains, and I put it there as just one proof of their accuracy. Nevertheless, I will repeat it here:—

"I ask for the Liberal vote because I am a Liberal through and through. I am just such a Liberal as dozens of the Ministerialists in the House who are as keen as ever I can be upon the Women's Suffrage question. To those who waver about giving me their vote because they have doubts on the women's question I would say: Do you prefer Mr. Chaplin, the Protectionist and crusted Tory, to one who is at least a Free Trader and a Progressive? Such persons should remember that every vote not given to me is a vote given to my opponent."

Now, remember those are Mr. Bertrand Russell's own words. After that it is idle for Miss Mason to say that Mr. Russell "appeared before the electors primarily as a Women's Suffrage candidate," because these words of his to the electors prove that he asked them for their votes primarily as a Liberal and a Progressive.

Miss Mason objects further to my saying that the N.U.W.S.S. did not guide their candidate aright and insist upon Women's Suffrage being made the one and only issue of the election. In order to prove that I am wrong she says that "the one and only topic pressed to the front by the Suffragist speakers was the question of women's enfranchisement." Now I am not quite sure exactly to whom Miss Mason applies the term "Suffragist speakers," and in any case it is difficult to argue at this space of time exactly what was said by unreported speakers, so as this was not precisely the idea in my mind I shall not argue this particular point with her. But if the Suffragists had really been determined to guide their candidate aright and to make Women's Suffrage the sole and only issue before the electorate they would never have allowed that above-mentioned message to the electors to go forth. They would never have allowed Free Trade, the Taxation of Land Values, and other questions quite unconnected with women's enfranchisement to figure in Mr. Bertrand Russell's election address, which was in effect their own official election manifesto. Nor, having already chosen a Liberal for their candidate, would they have sought out the Liberal Party Election agent to be their agent in the election. Further proofs that, as I have said, the contest was allowed to become largely a Liberal fight are to be found in the statements made at the time of the election by Mr. Henry Chaplin and the Press.

I believe it is a fact that the only women's organisations that contributed towards the expenses of Mr. Russell's election cam-

paigned, with, of course, the exception of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies itself, were Liberal societies. In spite of all these facts Miss Mason still contends that "the election was not fought on party lines." Now I put it to her, if Mr. Bertrand Russell had not been fighting as a Liberal and a Free Trader would Mr. Whiteley, the Chief Liberal Whip, have telegraphed in support of his candidature as follows:—"Mr. Bertrand Russell is not the Liberal official candidate for Wimbledon, but anyone fighting the battle of Free Trade against Protection must have our personal sympathy and goodwill." In proof of her contention that the contest was not fought upon party lines, Miss Mason says that "members of the Unionist and Labour parties, putting aside all party considerations, worked and spoke for" Mr. Russell, but it is a fact that though a long list of Liberal members of Parliament spoke for Mr. Bertrand Russell, no Labour or Unionist member of Parliament helped him in any way; nor, as far as I know, did any prominent man connected with these latter parties. If, however, as Miss Mason says, some Unionists and adherents of the Labour Party did come forward to support Mr. Bertrand Russell, these people were indeed deserving of the N.U.W.S.S.'s gratitude, for the candidate, by his constant attacks upon the views of his political opponents, had made it terribly difficult for any but Liberals to support him. For this reason the question of Women's Suffrage had not a fair chance in the election.

In conclusion, I freely admit that numbers of the Suffragists who supported Mr. Russell at Wimbledon did so with the sole object of promoting the cause of Women's Suffrage; but I sincerely trust that women will never again be so grievously misled.—Yours, etc., SYLVIA PANKHURST.

THE W.S.P.U. MOTOR-CAR.

Mrs. Lawrence's presentation motor-car has now been over 825 miles since it left London last week, and has, so far, been behaving splendidly. The keenest interest has been taken by the people in the towns and villages we have passed through, and a good deal of propaganda work is done while the car is waiting outside the different places which our leaders have to visit. Crowds gather round asking questions of the chauffeur, and tending their good wishes for this cause and also for a safe journey. The sight of the flags is enough to make the smallest "toddler" shout "Votes for Women." The car is admired in all the garages at which we put up. The other day Mrs. Pankhurst wired to tell a lady she was calling on her in the motor-car. The lady forthwith told the maid to have tea ready for Mrs. Pankhurst—also to get some ready for the chauffeur "in the kitchen." When the car arrived, with Miss Holme driving, there was general merriment.

THE CHAUFFEUR (VERA HOLME).

DANISH WOMAN SUFFRAGIST.

An extraordinary scene took place at the opening of the session of the Danish Parliament last week, when the new Cabinet appeared before the House for the first time. A woman Suffragist, Mlle. Mary Westenholtz, who belongs to a distinguished Danish family, and who is also well known in England, succeeded in forcing her way to the tribune of the President of the Chamber. She seized the bell which he uses to call members to order, and, amid tremendous uproar, declared that M. Christensen's appointment as Minister of War was a stain on Denmark; that the members of the Folkething were only actuated by egotism and lust of power, and chafered with the welfare of the Fatherland; and that the women of Denmark despised them because they betrayed the honour of the country. Mlle. Westenholtz was removed by the Sergeant-at-Arms.

IN MEMORIAM.

W.S.P.U. members have lost a real friend by the death, on August 7, of Miss Gertrude Aldham, of Lewisham. For the last few years Miss Aldham had been an enthusiastic worker in the movement, doing propaganda work, selling *VOTES FOR WOMEN* in the streets, and, by her bright and cheerful personality, interesting many people in the cause of Woman Suffrage. During her illness all her time and thought were given to work for the movement. She busied herself with embroidery for the Exhibition at Prince's Skating Rink, and latterly for the Lewisham shop. Her great regret was that her illness prevented her, as well as her mother (who has already suffered imprisonment twice), from taking part in the last deputation to the House of Commons.

"SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER."

The women are having a long way the best of it in their conflict with the Liberal Government for the demand for their rights. Instead of answering the women, Ministers send them to prison for very shadowy offences, but they very soon have to liberate them for fear of the consequences of continued imprisonment, and thereby they are making themselves a laughing stock. The women have right on their side and they are sure to conquer.

—*Redcar and Saltburn News.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Many men and women have been brought into touch with this movement for the first time during the holidays. A cordial invitation is extended to them to attend one of the free meetings of the Union on their return to London, or wherever they may live. These meetings, or At Homes, as they are usually called, are held regularly each week. Those in London are held every Monday afternoon at the Queen's Hall, recommencing on Monday, October 4; and every Thursday evening, at the St. James's Hall, Great Portland Street, recommencing Thursday evening, September 16. Other At Homes in different parts of the country begin again about the same time, and particulars will be found in the Country Campaign pages in this and subsequent issues.

Albert Hall Meeting.

The first great ticket meeting of the autumn will be that in the Royal Albert Hall, Kensington, on Thursday evening, October 7, on which date there will be no At Home in the St. James's Hall. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence will be in the chair, and the meeting will give a send-off to Mrs. Pankhurst, who is shortly after leaving for America to conduct a lecturing tour. The tickets will be ready early next week, and can be obtained from the Ticket Secretary, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C.; stalls, 3s.; arena, 2s. 6d.; balcony, 1s.; upper orchestra, 6d.; and boxes at various prices. All the seats are numbered except the upper orchestra. As the meeting is a women's demonstration, all the seats will be reserved for women only, with the exception of the stalls, boxes, and arena. We are specially anxious that all members and friends should obtain their tickets as early as possible, as on many previous occasions there has been considerable difficulty owing to late application for tickets, which has often meant disappointment. Will those members, including the regular stewards, willing to act at the Albert Hall send in their names and addresses to Miss Hambling, 4, Clements Inn, W.C., as soon as possible?

The Scottish Demonstration.

Mrs. Pankhurst will also speak on Saturday, October 9, at the great Scottish Demonstration in Edinburgh. Preparations have been under weigh for some time for this great demonstration, and many people from different parts of Scotland are expected to take a share in it. The demonstration will commence with a procession and will end at the Waverley Market, where a meeting will be held and speeches will be made by Mrs. Pankhurst and others.

Liverpool.

As Mrs. Pankhurst sails from Liverpool on Tuesday, October 12, it is hoped to be able to arrange a great meeting on the previous night, Monday, October 11, in Liverpool, at which she will speak. The hall has not yet been taken, but it is expected that in next week's *VOTES FOR WOMEN* a more definite announcement will be able to be made.

Bristol Procession.

The procession in honour of the released prisoners in Bristol on September 4 should be attended by everyone who can by any possibility be present. It is of the utmost importance that Mrs. Dove-Wilcox and Miss Mary Allen, who, by their heroic action, have faced so much on behalf of women, should receive a welcome worthy of their sacrifices.

Holiday Campaign.

Though preparations are already being made for the autumn, a very large number of members of the W.S.P.U. are still away on their holidays, and are doing valuable propaganda work. Those who are able to help them in their campaign should consult pages 1112 and 1113 of this issue, where a holiday directory will be found. We are specially glad of any reports which reach this paper of the work which is being undertaken.

"Votes for Women."

Among the special activities of those at the holiday resorts is that of selling this paper, *VOTES FOR WOMEN*, and the names of volunteers willing to extend this work will be gladly received, either at headquarters or by those whose names appear in the local directories. Meanwhile, in London there is urgent need of sellers. Will those who are able to assist in this way call at the office some time in the morning or afternoon and inquire for Miss Mills or Miss Ainsworth? Similar assistance will be very gladly received at any of the centres throughout the country.

"The Woman's Press."

Attention is also directed to the pamphlets and leaflets, etc., published by the "Woman's Press," and to the special parcels which are being sent out for propaganda purposes. A special offer is being made to send parcels, price 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s. respectively. These are sent post free, and contain a number of pamphlets, postcards, and leaflets.

The W.S.P.U. Drum and Fife Band.

There is room for recruits for the Drum and Fife Band, and application should be made to Miss Irene Dallas at 4, Clements Inn, W.C. A band practice will take place on Wednesday, September 1, at 8 p.m., and the band will perform at Henley on Saturday, September 4. Further details will be announced next week.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS.

| | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Aug. Fri. 27 | Accrington | Miss Rona Robinson, Miss Palliser | 7 p.m. |
| | Birmingham, Bull Ring | Mrs. Bessie Smith, Miss Ainsworth, Miss Burdett | 3 p.m. |
| | Bolton, Town Hall Steps | Miss Annie Rose, Miss Tolson | 7 p.m. |
| | Brighton, Front | Mrs. Paul, Miss A. Walters | 3.30 p.m. |
| | Bristol, College Green | Mrs. Caprina Fahey, Miss Jacobs | 11.30 a.m. |
| | High Wycombe, Frogmore Gardens | Miss Stead | |
| | Llandudno, Centre | Miss Edith Drummond | 7.30 p.m. |
| | Manchester, Egerton Road, Chorlton | Miss Lee, Miss Pepper | 7.30 p.m. |
| | Manchester, Flixton | Mrs. Pankhurst | 8 p.m. |
| | Oban, Drill Hall | .. | |
| | Teignmouth | .. | |
| | Weymouth, Jubilee Clock | .. | 10.30 a.m. |
| | Worthing | .. | |
| Sat. 28 | Blackpool, Shore | Miss Rona Robinson | 3.30 p.m. |
| | Brighton, Front | .. | 3.30 p.m. |
| | Boston | .. | |
| | Llandudno, Centre | Miss Stead | |
| | Manchester, Stretford, Barton Road Corner | Miss F. Clarkson, Miss E. Drummond | 7 p.m. |
| | Manchester, "Votes" Corps Meet | 164, Oxford Road | 11 a.m. & 3 p.m. |
| | New Brighton, Beach | Miss Marks, Miss Heppel | 8 p.m. |
| | Preston, Market Place | Preston Members | 3 p.m. |
| | Southport, Shore | Miss Rona Robinson | 3.30 p.m. |
| | Stalybridge, Market Place | Miss Dora Marsden | 7 p.m. |
| | Walsall, Cycling Scouts | .. | 3 p.m. |
| | Weymouth, Jubilee Clock | .. | 10 a.m. |
| Sun. 29 | Brighton | .. | |
| | London— | .. | |
| | Putney Heath | .. | 3.30 p.m. |
| | Regent's Park | .. | 3.15 p.m. |
| | Rochdale, Town Hall Square | Miss Rona Robinson, Miss F. Clarkson | 6.30 p.m. |
| | Shirley | Mrs. Cameron Swan and others | 6.30 p.m. |
| | Weymouth, Jubilee Clock | .. | 10 a.m. |
| | Wimbledon Common | Mrs. Cullen, Mrs. Lorisignol | 6 p.m. |
| Mon. 30 | Brighton | .. | |
| | Bury, Market Place | Miss Rona Robinson | 7 p.m. |
| | Leamington, Obelisk | Miss L. Ainsworth | 12 noon |
| | Manchester, Ranelagh Terrace | Miss L. Ainsworth | 6.30 p.m. |
| | Manchester, Henrietta Street, Old Trafford | Mrs. Baines | 7.30 p.m. |
| | Manchester, Urmoston | .. | |
| | Manchester, Conran St., Croft Pwllhel | Mrs. Lee | 7.30 p.m. |
| | Smethwick, Blue Coats | Mrs. Clarkson | 7.30 p.m. |
| | Weymouth, Jubilee Clock | Miss Gladice Keevil | 8 p.m. |
| | Wigan | Mrs. B. Smith | 10 a.m. |
| Tue. 31 | Blackburn | .. | 7 p.m. |
| | Birmingham, Midland Hotel | Miss Dora Marsden | 7.30 p.m. |
| | Birmingham, Priory Rooms | .. | 3.30 p.m. |
| | Bristol, The Empire, Old Market Street | .. | 7.30 p.m. |
| | Coventry, Pool Meadows | .. | 10.30 a.m. |
| | Manchester, Alexandra Park Gates | Miss L. Ainsworth | 7.30 p.m. |
| | Manchester, Marshall's Croft Nevin | Miss Rona Robinson | 7.30 p.m. |
| | Weymouth, Jubilee Clock | Miss Clarkson | 7.30 p.m. |
| | .. | Miss Gladice Keevil, Miss L. Phillips | |
| | .. | Miss Edith Drummond | |
| Sept. Wed. 1 | Blackpool, Shore | .. | 7 p.m. |
| | Bristol, Horsefair | .. | 10 a.m. |
| | Criccieth | Miss Dora Marsden, Miss Owen | 3.30 p.m. |
| | Leamington, Obelisk | Miss Ida Walters | 11.30 a.m. |
| | Leamington, Ranelagh Terr. | Miss Gladice Keevil, Miss L. Phillips | |
| | Manchester, Westinghouse, Trafford Park | Miss L. Ainsworth | 12 noon |
| | Manchester, 164, Oxford Road | Miss L. Ainsworth | 6.30 p.m. |
| | Manchester, Irlam | Mrs. Baines | 12 noon |
| | Paignton Green | Members' Meeting, Mrs. Baines | 7.30 p.m. |
| | Stockport, Armoury Square | Miss Edith Drummond | 7.30 p.m. |
| | Weymouth, Jubilee Clock | Miss Florence Clarkson | 7.15 p.m. |
| Thur. 2 | Aintree | .. | 7 p.m. |
| | Ashton, Market Place | The Misses Harris, Stephenson, and Levy | 8 p.m. |
| | Bristol, Temple Church, Victoria Street | Miss Edith Drummond | 7 p.m. |
| | Burnley | Mrs. Barrett | 11.30 a.m. |
| | Coventry, Factory, Foleshill | .. | |
| | Coventry, Pool Meadow | Miss Dora Marsden | 7 p.m. |
| | Handsworth, Church Vale | Miss L. Ainsworth | 1 p.m. |
| | Letchworth | Miss L. Ainsworth | 7.30 p.m. |
| | Manchester, Sale | Mrs. B. Smith, Miss Dale | 7.30 p.m. |
| | Manchester, Stretford, Barton Road | Miss Lee, Mrs. Parker | 7.30 p.m. |
| | Manchester, Withington | Miss Clarkson | 7.30 p.m. |
| | Portmadoc | Miss Rona Robinson, Miss Toombs | 7.30 p.m. |
| | Weymouth, Jubilee Clock | Miss Gladice Keevil, Miss L. Phillips | 10 a.m. |

IMPORTANT FUTURE EVENTS.

| | | | |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Sept. 4 | Bristol, Temple Meads Station to Henley Grove, Henley Road. | Reception to Mrs. Dove-Wilcox and Miss Mary Allen | 3.30 p.m. |
| Sept. 7 | Cardiff, Cory Hall | Mr. Forbes-Robertson. Chair: Mrs. D. A. Thomas | 3.30 p.m. |
| Sept. 16 | London— | .. | 8 p.m. |
| Sept. 25 | St. James's Hall | .. | |
| | Coventry Demonstration | Miss M. Gawthorpe, Dr. Helena Jones, Miss Gladice Keevil | |
| Oct. 4 | London— | .. | 3 p.m. |
| Oct. 7 | Queen's Hall | .. | |
| Oct. 9 | London— | Mrs. Pankhurst | 8 p.m. |
| | Royal Albert Hall | .. | |
| Oct. 11 | Edinburgh, Great Scottish Demonstration, Waverley Market | Mrs. Pankhurst | 2.30 p.m. |
| Oct. 13 | Liverpool | .. | |
| Oct. 22 | Public Meeting at the Blackheath Concert Hall | Mrs. Pankhurst | 8 p.m. |
| Oct. 27 | Truro, Public Rooms | Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Lady Constance Lytton | 7.30 p.m. |
| | Whitfield's Tabernacle, Tottenham Court Road | Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Annie Kenney | |
| | | Miss Christabel Pankhurst | |
| | | Chair: Mr. Sylvester Horne | |

The National Women's Social & Political Union.

OFFICE:

4, CLEMENTS INN, STRAND, W.C.

Telegrams:—"WOSPOLU, LONDON." Telephone: Holborn 2724 (three lines).
Bankers: Messrs. BARCLAY & CO., Fleet Street.

Colours: Purple, White and Green.

Mrs. PANKHURST,
Founder and Hon. Sec.Mrs. PETHICK LAWRENCE,
Hon. Treasurer.Mrs. TUKE,
Joint Hon. Sec.Miss CHRISTABEL PANKHURST,
Organising Sec.

The Women's Social and Political Union are NOT asking for a vote for every woman, but simply that sex shall cease to be a disqualification for the franchise.

At present men who pay rates and taxes, who are owners, occupiers, lodgers, or have the service or university franchise possess the Parliamentary vote. The Women's Social and Political Union claim that women who fulfil the same conditions shall also enjoy the franchise.

It is estimated that when this claim has been conceded, about a million and a quarter women will possess the vote, in addition to the seven and a-half million men who are at present enfranchised.

The Women's Social and Political Union claim that a simple measure, giving the vote to women on these terms, shall be passed immediately.

THE MARCH OF EVENTS.

Events have moved very rapidly in the last few months in the matter of Woman Suffrage, and every day the struggle between the Government and women takes a new form. Criticism at new points has to be met and answered.

To-day criticism is directed against the form of protest adopted at Cabinet Ministers' meetings and against the mutiny and hunger-strike of the women in prison. According to critics of this new school, the earlier stages of the agitation are now admitted to have been well advised, but they cannot view with approbation the "riotous behaviour" inside and outside the prison. Not only is it contrary to their sense of "decorum," but they say it does not show the same willingness to "suffer patiently and quietly for the Cause" as was the case of the earlier women who went to prison.

The fundamental error of this criticism lies in the failure to understand that just as a war between hostile armies consists of moves and counter-moves, so in the struggle between women and the Government the women's actions are the counter-moves to those which the Government have adopted. In the early days of the suffrage agitation in the sixties, seventies, and early eighties, it was reasonable to suppose that arguments were required to show the justice, and numbers to prove the widespread character, of the demand. Politicians met this propaganda by pretended acquiescence, followed by a faithless breach of pledges at the dictate of the Liberal Prime Minister, Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone. Then followed the days of the later eighties and nineties, when women failed to counter-move by more vigorous methods the hypocritical subterfuges of Parliamentarians.

The first action of the W.S.P.U. was to recover the lost ground. It commenced with an attempt to obtain from members of the incoming Liberal Government a definite statement of policy on the question of woman suffrage. This statement Cabinet Ministers refused to give, preferring to have women thrown out of their meetings and to deny access by means of deputations. Such action had to be met by determined counter-action. The women persisted in going to meetings of Cabinet Ministers and in putting their questions and making their protests in accordance with the traditional policy adopted by men under like circumstances. Moreover, as they were invariably thrown out at whatever time they made their protest they decided that the Cabinet Ministers, as well as themselves, should suffer from this course, and accordingly made their protests during the delivery of the speeches.

The next move was made by Cabinet Ministers, who, unable to meet the fire of criticism from their audiences (such as women are quite willing and able to face at all

their public meetings), adopted the ignoble alternative of excluding women entirely or of demanding from them a pledge of quiet behaviour. Thus thrust out into the street women were compelled to take other means to make their protests understood, and the only means available was an address to the crowd outside the building, and an attempt at the head of the crowd to force their way in. Thus, from seeking a peaceable answer to a reasonable question, women have been driven, first, into the position of deliberate interrupters; and, secondly, into the execution of such action as was recently taken at Glasgow and Liverpool. The answer of the Government has been to have them arrested and imprisoned.

Meanwhile the refusal of Mr. Asquith to receive a deputation could not be accepted by women who claimed their constitutional right to an audience with him, and they accordingly persisted in their attempt to see him. His answer, which was to call out the police, they met by a refusal to desist from their attempt until actually prevented by force majeure. Thus, at the present time, both protests at the meetings of Cabinet Ministers and deputations to the House of Commons lead to arrest and imprisonment.

From the beginning of the struggle the Government determined to endeavour to besmirch the character of the agitation by treating the women not as political offenders, but as common brawlers, and the scene of their trial has been, with one solitary exception, in the police court. Up till recently the magistrates, at the instigation of the Government, adopted a trick to punish the women more severely than would otherwise have appeared reasonable; realising that it was contrary to the principles of the agitation for women to consent to be bound over to keep the peace they required this assurance from them, and in the alternative sent them to prison for long terms. This method of treatment the women decided, in June of the current year, to counter-move by adopting a new policy. Instead of suffering arrest for merely technical obstruction a number of them deliberately broke the windows in Whitehall, and for this offence received a term of imprisonment shorter than had been meted out to others for doing nothing. At the same time, the sentences upon their fellows, who had merely taken part in the deputation, were similarly reduced.

It has been a further part of the policy of the Government in the hope of quelling the agitation not to give the prisoners the treatment meted out to political offenders in all civilised countries of the world, but to treat them as ordinary criminals. Against this action women adopted, for a long time, all the means of dignified protest at their disposal. It fell upon the deaf ears of men either too stupid or too obstinate to be guided by the liberal traditions of the past. Accordingly women were driven to make their protest in a way which even the most foolish or obstinate opponents can be forced to understand. They determined to carry out inside the prison, in defence of the rights of political prisoners, similar militant tactics to those which they were using outside the prison in fighting for the political rights of women.

In the first place, they carried out a deliberate mutiny against all the conditions of their treatment in prison, breaking their windows, refusing to wear the prison dress, and generally rebelling against prison restrictions. Such action has had the immediate effect of calling the attention of the public to the unjustified action of the Home Secretary in treating them as common criminals, and has called forth from three prominent Liberal newspapers strong articles of protest against Mr. Gladstone.

Not content with this they have taken still further action of a kind to cause themselves severe suffering, but, nevertheless, an exceedingly powerful weapon against a perverse and dishonourable opponent. In the heroic hunger strike, which over thirty women have now carried out, they placed on record their determination to face death itself rather than submit. They thus gave Mr. Gladstone the terrible alternative of allowing them to die in prison, and thereby bringing upon himself everlasting ignominy, or of releasing them at the end of a few days' imprisonment. Mr. Gladstone adopted the latter course.

Thus have women, at enormous cost to themselves, proved that prison bars are not only incapable of subduing the spirit, but are also powerless to detain for long the bodies of those to whom freedom is a passion and liberty a possession of greater price than life itself.

F. W. Pethick Lawrence.

QUESTIONING CABINET MINISTERS.

Remarkable protests have been made at several meetings addressed by Cabinet Ministers in support of the Budget during the past week. From the reports which follow it will be gathered that, so far from the persistence of the women showing any sign of abatement, they are growing more and more determined in the pursuit of their tactics. At length the provincial Press is being driven to acknowledge that the sympathy of the crowds is with the women in their demands, a state of affairs which VOTES FOR WOMEN has long emphasised, but which has been ignored or wilfully misrepresented by the Press generally. Another outstanding feature of last week's protests is the extraordinary treatment of the women arrested at Glasgow for their protest outside Lord Crewe's meeting.

THE PEOPLE AND THE SUFFRAGETTES.

In the *Glasgow Daily Record* of Saturday, August 21, the interest of the thousands of Glasgow citizens gathered outside St. Andrew's Hall on Friday night in the women's plucky fight is again and again insisted upon. First, it is noted that Miss Paul—who, with splendid devotion, lay all night upon the roof, where she was drenched to the skin—was the recipient of the hearty approval of a group of workmen who, on her leaving the roof, greeted her with loud cheers and demanded a speech. To this she responded, in spite of the discomfort of the night through which she had just passed, and on leaving she was again heartily cheered by the men; while one, who had informed the police of her presence, afterwards apologised to her, and explained that he had imagined he was doing her a service in securing the assistance of the officers. Later in this same report, which occupies two full columns, the "extraordinary sympathy" of the crowd with the tactics of the women is commented upon, and it is stated that when the police drew their batons and used them in their own defence, fearful of the onslaught with which they were menaced by the crowds, there were cries of "Rush the police!" and "Save the women!" The *Daily News* of Saturday announced its account of the protest with a poster drawing attention to the fact that batons were used by the police. Several women were arrested during the afternoon for painting "Votes for Women" on the pavement, but were released later. In preparation for Suffragettes about 300 police were on duty, 100 of whom were inside the hall. The Suffragettes addressed a crowd outside the hall, and tried to force their way in past the police, and four were eventually arrested, viz., Adela Pankhurst (who succeeded in getting inside the hall), Lucy Burns, Alice Paul, and Margaret Smith. The charge was one of assaulting the police, except in the case of Miss A. Pankhurst, who was charged with malicious damage for breaking a window in the hall and in the court. On Saturday the bail was unjustly forfeited because the prisoners were a few minutes late; they therefore declined to give any promise to come up again, and on Tuesday, as they did not answer to their names, warrants were issued. The whole proceedings have caused a great sensation in Glasgow, and the cause of Votes for Women has become a live one to the man in the street. A vivid picture of the scene is given by Mr. Thomas A. Kerr in the article which follows.

AN ACCOUNT BY AN EYE-WITNESS.

Picture to yourself a seething, struggling, cheering multitude; an army of stewards, trembling and yelling with hysteria; a force of police with fear on their faces and batons raised in a menacing manner; and you have a dim idea of the scene outside the St. Andrew's Hall on Friday night last. In this human vortex could be seen several frail figures battling with the energy and determination of Amazons to gain an entrance to the hall.

Who were the women who sought to force their way? Were they reeling, drunken viragos? Were they unlettered vulgar bawds? No. They were women of culture and refinement, women who have obtained distinction in the domain of literature, science, and art, women yearning for their proper status in human life, who are ready to brave anything in order to wring from men their undoubted right. And what object had they in view in seeking to gain admission to a Liberal meeting? Simply to inquire of the noble Earl of Crewe why he is ignoble enough to be a party to the policy of the Government of which he is a Minister, which shuts out his own wife from the right he enjoys; viz. —to have a voice in framing the laws which determine the conditions under which they both live. But the meeting was for "gentlemen only," so the legend on the tickets ran, which legend brought back memories of a show ground with its boxing booths, fat and tattooed lady shows, when outside of all such questionable exhibitions could be read the warning, "For gentlemen only." And now, alas and alack! the great historic Liberal party being in a state of political nudity descends to the level of a showman, and parades its indecency to "gentlemen only,"

and to such ladies as have given proof of humility and docility that would entitle them to claim kinship with Uriah Heap and the first Mrs. Dombey but not with Jenny Geddes.

Coming out of the hall at 8.45 p.m., I learned that Miss Adela Pankhurst, Miss Paul, and Miss Burns had been arrested, and shortly afterwards I witnessed the arrest of Miss Margaret Smith, M.A., Stepping down from the motor-car she advanced boldly to the entrance, only to find her passage barred by policemen. Cheered by a crowd of six or seven thousand people, she endeavoured to force her way past the police, who hurled her back into the multitude. The crowd now assumed a threatening attitude, and closed round the doors with the intent of assisting Miss Smith. This was answered by the police drawing their truncheons and charging the crowd. Nothing daunted, Miss Smith again renewed her attack and, a stalwart policeman getting in her way, she promptly hit out from the shoulder, with the result that he sat down.

As this was an assault she was taken in charge, and then ensued a scene which baffles description. Eight policemen escorted her to the Western Police Station, followed by cheering and menacing thousands who made repeated efforts to release her; this called for more baton charges, knocks being given without any ceremony. Entering the Western Police Station the police were almost rushed off their feet, but managed to stick to their prisoner. At the bar Miss Smith was charged with assault, and while the charge was being entered, strange sounds were heard proceeding from one of the corridors, which, on inspection, I discovered were caused by the three ladies already incarcerated, who were keeping up a constant tattoo on the doors of their cells, being accompanied by their war cry of "Votes for Women!" a cry that was heartily taken up by Miss Smith at the bar.

To me it was a most ludicrous spectacle to hear and see a stalwart policeman over six feet high charging a girl with assault; but the charge was entered with all due gravity, and Miss Smith was on the point of being led away to the cells when I asked if bail would not be accepted, and on this being fixed at 40s. I paid the amount and left the station, after Miss Smith had been informed that she was to come up for trial on Saturday at 9 a.m. On getting into the street we had to run the gauntlet of a crowd of some thousands, who escorted us to a car, cheering Miss Smith all the way, and shortly after we reached the offices of the Women's Social and Political Union Mrs. Pankhurst arrived with the other three accused, who had also been bailed out.

Police Court Proceedings.

The sequel on Saturday morning was one of the most astonishing incidents that ever happened in a police court in Glasgow. The magistrate was punctual. The court was actually opened at five minutes to nine. Not a single Press representative was present. The public were excluded. Bailie Hunter was on the bench. On presenting my card at the door of the court the policeman locked the door and consulted with someone inside, after which the door was unlocked and I was allowed in. I was seated in the court at 9 a.m., and several cases of drunkenness had already been disposed of. Outside in the lobbies many people were waiting to be admitted, but I was alone in the court with the police and officials. Every door leading from the court to the corridors was locked, with a policeman standing guard beside it.

A High-handed Action.

At three minutes past nine the first name I was interested in was called. A policeman opened the door and called the name of Miss Burns in the corridor. There was no response. The other names were called with a like result. At five minutes past nine the court was declared over by Bailie Hunter, who agreed to the Fiscal's suggestion that bail should be forfeited and a warrant for apprehension issued. I immediately rose in the court and stated that the ladies were on the premises, and asked two minutes' leave to find them. I was told the court was closed, bail forfeited, etc. On reaching the stair I met Mrs. Pankhurst and the four accused, and we entered the court before Bailie Hunter left the bench, but we were not listened to. This is without a parallel in Glasgow police-court annals.

Well, you can imagine the feelings of the ladies when they discovered their pledges were forfeited and themselves under arrest because they happened to be five minutes late, owing to their not being well acquainted with the district. All their protestations were in vain, and even a visit to the Chief Constable by Mrs. Pankhurst and myself did not elicit much more than that the Chief Constable could only inquire into the conduct of the police in not taking the necessary steps to find out if the ladies were on the premises. The court could not wait two minutes, although I have known witnesses and accused kept waiting for two hours, only to be informed that the Sheriff was away on a shooting holiday and would not hold a court that day. The ladies, however, did not take this injustice quietly. The Fiscal tried to put the blame on to the magistrate,

who had quietly sneaked away, glad, no doubt, to escape the ordeal of being faced by intelligent women. But strange to say the Fiscal did not arrest the women after asking power to do so, but actually allowed them to go without bail, being quite content with asking them to present themselves for trial on Tuesday at 9 a.m., a rather farcical proceeding for an official who held a warrant for their arrest, showing, of course, that it was beginning to dawn on the police mind that a blunder had been perpetrated and something had to be done to smooth it over. Mrs. Pankhurst and myself as bailiffs pointed out that we had produced the accused in terms of the receipts we held for the pledges deposited, but we were told that the magistrate had ordered that bail should be forfeited in lieu of the non-appearance of the accused, although Bailie Hunter was actually on the Bench when the ladies appeared in court.

In all my experience of police-court procedure I have never heard of such a high-handed action, and it is only one more instance of how the people are tricked by their representatives. But the last has not been heard of this, and we will find out through our Labour members of Parliament if a Glasgow magistrate has power to open a court before the scheduled time, declare the court over, issue a warrant for arrest and declare bail forfeited when the parties implicated are actually coming up the court-room stairs. Not a Pressman present but was astonished, they themselves not being up to time, and even the police were only coming up the stairs after the court was over. This much I am convinced of, that proper steps were not taken to ascertain if the accused were in the vicinity of the court, or they would have discovered the ladies inquiring for the proper entrance.

Thomas A. Kerr.

PRESS COMMENTS.

In the afternoon the interior of the hall was searched exhaustively—even the grand organ was closely scrutinised—by the curator's staff, to ensure that no uninvited women guests were lurking about. Elaborate precautions were taken to deal with any disturbance both inside and outside the building, a large staff of police being on duty, besides an army of stewards. The co-operation of the audience was also solicited in the interests of peace through the medium of placards posted in the neighbourhood of the hall. The request, happily, was unnecessary. The meeting was perfectly peaceful—humdrum, in fact. . . . In the absence of enthusiasm within the listeners were constantly reminded that lively scenes were being enacted outside the hall. —Glasgow Herald.

They display strange qualities. Their inventiveness and patience are remarkable. That incident of the lady on the house-top—on the roof of St. Andrew's Hall, to wait a night and a day in order to enter by a skylight window and make the customary claim to the Colonial Secretary—reveals a courage and faith and hope worthy of a better cause. It may not be war, but it is magnificent, after its manner. The female is fairly on the warpath, and is rather troublesome. The police cannot handle her as they handle a disorderly male mortal. Still, they must be dealt with. . . . How the agitation is to end nobody can tell. —Glasgow Evening Citizen.

Miss Lucy Burns and Miss Alice Paul were the first to break through the forbearance of the police, who, seeing that a crowd—and a crowd of extraordinary sympathy with the tactics of the women—had gathered right round the great building, felt that an end must be put to the disturbance which had undoubtedly all the potentialities of a riot. . . . cries of "Rush the police" and "Save the women" resounded through the streets. —Glasgow Daily Record and Mail.

A PROTEST FROM THE ROOF.

The spirited protest made by Mrs. Leigh and others outside Mr. Haldane's Liverpool meeting on Friday has been the subject of considerable comment in the Press, not only in Lancashire, but in the London dailies, the *Daily Chronicle* of Saturday, August 21, coming out with a poster, on which the words "Suffragettes on roofs at Ministers' Meetings" were printed in large type.

"It is not so very long," says the *Liverpool Courier*, "since public interest in the visit of a Cabinet Minister was confined to the interior of a building, but times and methods have changed"; for these visits synchronise with the appearance of the Suffragettes. Reporters from the *Courier* and other papers had instructions from their chiefs to describe the occurrences outside the Sun Hall; and as an instance of Press methods, when the doings of Suffragettes are concerned, the following may be contrasted:—

It is difficult to say when the attack would have ended had not one of the officers made a dangerous scramble from the window to the roof, where the fair belligerent quietly submitted to capture. Having accomplished their object, the young women gave little trouble to the police. —*Liverpool Courier*.

The gentle being who carried out this wicked and abominable outrage, according to one of the officers who took part in the un-

pleasant and dangerous work of securing her, "fought more like a cat upon the tiles than a human being." —*Liverpool Daily Post*.

The *Courier* refers to Mrs. Leigh as "the frail figure of a little woman, peeping out from behind a chimney stack," and notes that this same frail little woman threw bricks and stones through a window of the Sun Hall "with a dexterity which was nothing short of marvellous." The signal for action was a cheer proceeding from the hall, which announced that Mr. Haldane had risen to address the meeting. At this point a woman's voice rang out through a megaphone calling attention to the women's demand for political justice. Next a brick, smashing one of the windows of the hall, punctuated the opening sentences of Mr. Haldane's speech. The shot was a good one, and the pane of glass fell in fragments; brick after brick followed, and the stewards rushed to close the windows, while Mr. Haldane attempted to cover the awkwardness of the situation by remarking: "That is a little like the arguments to which we have been listening in the House of Commons. They all come from outside and do not touch us. They only leave us with feelings of regret for those who are in outer darkness."

The police made a rush down Romer Road to the first entrance leading up to the hall. Here they found window panes falling before the unerring shots of the attack. They were unable to discover whence the shots came, but having detected the women's hiding-place, they commanded a passing window cleaner to fetch them down. His ladder, however, was too short, and the acting-sergeant sent for the fire escape. Mrs. Leigh was with great difficulty assisted in her perilous descent from the roof, and the officers commented upon the remarkable agility and daring which had enabled her to reach her unique position. The women were then conducted to the ground, where Black Maria was waiting for them, and, to the accompaniment of kindly greetings and cheers from the people, they were driven away to the central Bridewell. During the drive they sang "Rale, Britannia," with great spirit, laying particular emphasis on the words, "Britons never, never, never shall be slaves." The names of the arrested women are:—Mrs. Mary Leigh (30), Clements Inn, London; Miss Georgina Healiss (30), Liverpool; Miss Bertha Brewster (22), Droitwich; Miss Florence Clarkson (25), Manchester; Miss Mary Richards (27), London; Miss Annie O'Sullivan (25), London; Miss Rona Robinson (25), Manchester. At a late hour they were allowed out on bail, and were brought up on the following morning at the Liverpool Police Court charged with wilful damage to the Sun Hall and premises adjoining. Mrs. Leigh was further charged with assaulting a police officer. A remand was asked for by the prosecution until Tuesday, in order that necessary inquiries might be made. Eventually the women, who had refused to pay the bail, or standing-over fee of 3s. each, proceeded to the cells.

Sentences on the Women.

After carrying out a hunger strike and breaking the windows of the detention cells, the women were removed to punishment cells, where they also broke the windows. One of the prisoners sends a graphic account of her experiences. For climbing upon her bed-board (which was very dirty) to look at the green fields and the distant sea, she was threatened with removal to another cell where this would be impossible. At exercise the women asked to be allowed to walk in couples, and on refusal returned to their cells and broke the windows for fresh air. They were removed to punishment cells, and this prisoner's bag was taken from her by force. On breaking the windows again she was deprived of her shoes, and left in a cold cell with stockinged feet.

The prisoners were brought up on remand on Tuesday before the Deputy Stipendiary Magistrate, charged with breaking two windows of the Sun Hall. Mrs. Leigh was in addition charged with having assaulted a police officer. The women had taken no food since Saturday. Evidence showed that they hired a house close to the hall and stationed themselves therein, and that Mrs. Leigh climbed from a window to the roof of the house "as nimbly as a cat," said a police officer. Why she did not fall he did not know. With the assistance of her colleagues she tore slates from the roof, and hurled them through the windows of the hall. The damage to the roof was assessed at £3 9s. The women all admitted the offences charged, but explained that their object was entirely political. The magistrate said that the prisoners were not brought before him because of their political aspirations. Their conduct had probably endangered the lives of people in the hall, but fortunately there was no evidence of anyone having been injured. He sentenced Mrs. Leigh, Miss Healiss, Miss Clarkson, Miss Robinson, and Miss O'Sullivan to two months' imprisonment in the second division, and Miss Richards and Miss Brewster to one month. On the women claiming that they should be treated as male political offenders, he said: "I am treating you as though you were men." In the "Black Maria" on the way to Walton Gaol the women sang the "Marseillaise," broke the windows of the van, and pushed through the roof ventilator a flag inscribed "Votes for Women." The Governor of Walton Gaol ac-

companied the driver on the front of the van, four police officers riding on the step.

The events are thus described by one of the women taking part in them:—

I cannot adequately describe the splendid reception extended to us in that much-disturbed city, Liverpool. An influential member of the City Council remarked that Liverpool was suffering from a surfeit of religious bickerings, but that the advent of the women of the W.S.P.U. surpassed anything previously seen in the locality of the Sun Hall. Mighty cheers were repeatedly given from thousands of throats as our brave women sent volley after volley of arguments through the windows. The men sympathisers inside the meeting state that when the first window went crash Mr. Haldane looked decidedly curious, but at the second and successive fusillades he looked positively afraid, and appeared quite ready to run for cover. Possibly shades of a German invasion crossed his mind!

On the day previous to the meeting we had rented a room overlooking the side of the Sun Hall, which gave us a point of vantage. From a signal we knew Mr. Haldane was on his feet. Up to that time the police were quite unaware of our presence, and were taking things quite easily, but they had a sudden surprise, and had a bombshell dropped in their midst it could not have caused more consternation. How Mrs. Leigh managed to swing herself out of that window on to the roof amazed everybody.

During all this time the Liberal stewards were nearly frantic, as crowds of people were leaving the meeting.

PRESS COMMENTS.

The ways of the modern Suffragette are dark and mysterious, as many statesmen know to their sorrow. . . . Window-panes fell one after another before the unerring shots of the attacking force. . . . They devoted themselves to handing up bricks and stones to their comrade on the roof, and she transferred them through the windows of the Sun Hall with a dexterity which was nothing short of marvellous. . . . The officers commented upon the remarkable agility and daring which she must have displayed to reach this extraordinary position for attack. —*Liverpool Courier*.

It was, of course, the Suffragettes. They had rented for the week an empty house only separated from the hall by a narrow passage. Here they took up their quarters early this morning, feasting during the day off cakes and ginger beer. Then, when the meeting commenced, the leader, Mrs. Mary Leigh, clambered from the top window, at a height from the ground which would probably have meant death had she fallen, to an adjoining window-sill from which she gained the slope of the roof. —*Daily News*.

Seven viragos have given a lesson to the country which it will not be slow to profit by, and we trust that the arm of outraged justice will administer to them a lesson which they will not soon forget. A body which, to gratify the morbid vanity of its members, will seriously endanger the lives of hundreds of their fellow-creatures, is a nuisance and a danger which must be dealt with firmly and promptly. —*Liverpool Daily Post*.

Mr. Haldane spoke in the Sun Hall at Liverpool, but the opening sentence of his speech had not been completed before something akin to a sensation was caused by the falling of breaking glass, and the voice of a steward shouting excitedly, "They are breaking the windows!" The natural supposition that "they" referred to Suffragists proved to be correct. Outside the hall a most exciting scene was being enacted. —*Daily Telegraph*.

Special precautions had been taken by the Liverpool police in order to protect the meeting from possible attack by the Suffragettes, and to assist the stewards in case of necessity. A large posse of uniformed police were on duty at the hall, and a number of detectives, under the direction of Detective-Inspector Moore, were in the immediate neighbourhood. But even their full foresight could not anticipate the outrageous hooligan methods used. —*Liverpool Echo*.

Mr. Haldane's speech was interrupted towards the beginning by the smashing of about a dozen windows overlooking the middle gallery, the work of some militant and daring Suffragettes, seven of whom were arrested. —*Liverpool Courier*.

A PROTEST AT DERBY.

Owing to Mr. Harcourt's visit to Derby a protest meeting outside was arranged by the Suffragettes. At a quarter-to-eight a wagonette drew up to the hall and was hailed by a cheering crowd. The sounds were so audible in the hall that Mr. Harcourt said, "Don't take any notice of that chorus outside; I am followed by it wherever I go."

After a short meeting the crowd tried to help the women to get into the hall, but the police hustled them away. As soon as the police left the crowd at once helped the women back again, shouting, "Votes for Women," "This way to the Drill Hall," "Hurrah!" Again and again were they driven away, and at last, on reaching the market-place, a breathless crowd waited for a three-quarter-hour meeting, cheering at intervals. Further attempts were made by women to enter the door, two getting so near that

they were able to knock at the doors (stewards rushing to protect it), and Mr. Harcourt remarked, "If I could make my voice carry through those doors I would tell those outside that they will never get the suffrage while they make themselves insufferable."

Throughout the meeting the audience was very nervous, and on tender-hooks for fear of interruptions, and when a man called, "Mr. Harcourt I would like to ask you when you will do justice to the women of our country?" everyone rose, and there were cheers given for his protest as he was turned out of the meeting.

When Mr. Harcourt answered the vote of thanks he said, "I am afraid I am a stormy petrel; the microbe of disturbance goes with me wherever I go. But do not be afraid, the alien immigrants will leave you when I do."

As Mr. Harcourt left the hall a woman managed to reach his carriage and knock on the window, calling, "Do justice to women. Carry out your Liberal principles."

TREASURER'S NOTE.

The Women's Social and Political Union has received this week a great gift which will make glad the heart of every one of our members. It has been bestowed by a woman whose name commands respect throughout the world of science, and is deeply honoured by the awakened women of to-day. It is a gift that is worthy of a movement in which day by day women are pouring out their life with generous abandonment and whole-hearted devotion. We accept it on behalf of the womanhood of the country, just as we accept the precious offering of soul and body that is daily yielded by our members in countless ways as the price of a great liberation. We accept it reverently and with a due sense of the fresh demand made upon us all not to fall short of the high standard set by the most generous, the bravest, and the best amongst us.

Mrs. Bertha Ayrton has allocated her gift of £500 to the Legal Defence Fund. And accordingly this money will be used in the endeavour to re-establish in the law courts of the land the ancient right of subjects to petition their rulers. She hopes that many people will follow her example and will subscribe to this Fund.

Inside the law courts and outside this great fight for the liberties of the woman half of the human race will go on with ever-increasing vigour. During the month of August there has been no diminution of zeal. Untiringly the war is waged. While most people are thinking of enjoyment and rest by mountain, sea, or moor, there are women at this very moment shut up in prison cells, going through their terrible ordeal of hardship and hunger with that serenity and confidence that comes of self-conquest. Let them not be forgotten by those who walk in pleasant places. The only acknowledgment that can be made to them is in deeds, not words. No one in this movement wants sympathy; no one wants praise or admiration. One thing only is asked for, and that is practical support for the campaign which is being fought so nobly. Let the members of the Union and the readers of this paper be moved to great issues by the example and inspiration they have received. Let every kind of gift be poured into the Treasury. War funds are needed. Before October 9, when we give the founder of our Union a send-off greeting in the Albert Hall, we mean to complete our £50,000, and at that great meeting we shall be prepared to launch a new financial scheme. We have to get together £4,000 in six weeks. We shall do it.

E. P. L.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £50,000 FUND.

WEEK'S FINANCIAL RECORD £700.
August 18 to August 24.

| £ s. d. | | £ s. d. | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Already acknowledged | 45,179 5 10 | Per Miss Flatman— | |
| Miss G. Stevens | 0 2 6 | Profit on "Votes for Women" (Isle of Man) | 0 10 0 |
| Weymouth Meeting (per Miss Marshall) | 0 7 0 | Per Miss Gawthorpe | 2 10 0 |
| Miss Bina Simpson | 0 2 0 | Miss Clarke | 0 10 0 |
| Mrs. E. Murray-Rust | 0 10 6 | Miss K. Tolson | 0 6 0 |
| Anon. | 50 0 0 | H. Webster, Esq. | 0 2 0 |
| Mrs. A. M. Fergus | 1 1 0 | Nina | 0 5 0 |
| Friends in Bournville (per A. S.) | 0 7 6 | Mrs. Almond | 0 1 0 |
| Miss G. M. Caplen | 0 1 0 | Mrs. Costain | 0 2 6 |
| Miss A. M. Head | 0 2 0 | Miss McGrath (per) | 10 0 0 |
| Miss S. C. Parker | 0 2 0 | Per Miss Phillips | 1 1 0 |
| Mrs. G. M. Smith | 0 5 0 | Mrs. Turner Farley | 0 9 0 |
| Mrs. Katherine S. West | 1 1 0 | For Prisoners' Fund— | |
| Mrs. Emma Letherbrow | 1 0 0 | Miss E. Downing | 1 1 0 |
| Mr. and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence | 50 0 0 | Miss C. F. Yelf | 0 9 0 |
| Mrs. Beatrice Sanders | 2 0 0 | For Legal Defence Fund— | |
| Mrs. B. Brewster | 0 3 0 | Mrs. Bertha Ayrton | 500 0 0 |
| Miss K. Birsting | 0 10 0 | For "Precious Stones" Fund— | |
| Miss J. Whittaker (a birthday gift) | 5 0 0 | Miss Irene Turner | 0 1 0 |
| Mrs. H. Whiston | 0 10 0 | Miss C. F. Yelf | 0 1 0 |
| Miss Florence E. Cooke | 3 5 0 | Miss C. W. Haig (traveling expenses) | 0 15 9 |
| Miss Jessie Smith | 0 5 0 | Mrs. Walker | 0 2 0 |
| Albert E. Smith, Esq. | 0 5 0 | Collections and tickets, North Berwick | 20 15 9 |
| Miss Minnie Gow | 0 2 0 | Membership Entrance Fees | 1 15 0 |
| Mr. and Mrs. Florence Guddala (per Miss D. Dugdale) | 1 0 0 | Collections, etc. | 28 14 1 |
| Mrs. H. H. H. H. | 1 0 0 | | |
| Per Miss Hovey | 0 1 6 | Total | £45,868 7 11 |

THE HOLIDAY CAMPAIGN.

The efforts of the holiday workers who are devoting so much time and energy to popularising the Votes for Women movement are being richly rewarded, reports of successful meetings, increased membership, and large sales of literature being received from all parts of the kingdom. There is still room, however, for more volunteers to take the place of those whose holidays are coming to an end.

Short reports of what is being done, with a note of any specially interesting events, will be gladly welcomed by the editor of VOTES FOR WOMEN, and these should reach the office by Monday morning. In addition to the list of places appearing below, work is also being carried on at Barmouth, Baslow, Bournemouth, Cirencester, Cromer, Dover, Rhyl, Scarborough, Skegness, Skipton, Southwold, Ventnor, Westgate-on-Sea, Grange-over-Sands, Hastings, Hunstanton, Ilfracombe, Keswick, and Parkstone. The names of workers in these various localities will be supplied on application to the Holiday Secretary, 4, Clements Inn, London, W.C. A member living near Windsor sends a request for meetings in that neighbourhood, and offers hospitality to a speaker.

BEVERLEY, YORKS.

Heward, Miss V., Scarboro', Beverley.

Miss Heward is selling VOTES FOR WOMEN in the streets, and is having good assistance from Miss Sugden.

BLACKPOOL, LYTHAM AND ST. ANNE'S.

Hall, Rev. R. J., M.A., Ansdell.
Johnson, Miss, The Lytham Hydro., Lytham.
Owen, Miss, Athol House, Mount Street, Blackpool.

Applications to the Lytham and St. Anne's Urban District Council have been made for permanent pitches, and it is hoped, with the help of members whose holidays come later on in the season, to carry on more extensive work in this district. Miss Owen will be in Blackpool from August 28 to September 4, and Miss Wallwork will be there from September 11 to 18, and probably to the 25th. Will members interested please note?

BRIDGWATER.

Rowe, Mrs., Pardlestone Cottage, Holford, Bridgwater.

Mrs. Rowe's display of a VOTES FOR WOMEN poster on her gate is a great attraction to visitors, and is a means of selling a great many copies of the paper.

BRIGHTON.

Clarke, Mrs., and local workers, 8, North Street Quadrant. (Office hours, 10-1, 3-5, 7-9.)
Dugdale, the Misses, 8, San Remo, Hove.
Goldring, Miss Constance A., Woodlands, Cuckfield, Hayward's Heath.
Layton, Miss.
Stearns, Miss, Blenheim House.
Turner, Miss.

In spite of the weather the meetings on the front continue to attract large audiences every afternoon. Successful meetings have also been held at Hove and Lewes. Madame Bouvier has been spending a week in helping at Brighton, and her account of the "hunger strike" in Holloway aroused great interest. Mrs. Clarke urges all Brighton members to volunteer to sell VOTES FOR WOMEN in the streets and on the front and to call at the office daily for supplies.

BROADSTAIRS.

A meeting last week in the Rose Inn Yard was advertised shortly beforehand by means of notices chalked in prominent parts of the main road and pavements, and an able address was given by Miss Elsa Myers. During the meeting much literature was distributed by other helpers.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

Casserley, Miss E. M., The Ark, Longdown Farm, Princes Risboro'.
Clayton, Miss.
Jacobs, Miss.

A very good meeting was held in Aylesbury last week (a crowd of over 200 persons was present, although the meeting was only chalked ten minutes before it started), at the close of which the speakers, Mrs. Fahey and Miss Jacobs, were congratulated and cordially thanked. This was the first Suffragette meeting ever held in Aylesbury. A local newsagent has promised to take the paper on sale or return and also to show a poster. Other meetings have been arranged at Little Kimble and at Frogmore Gardens, High Wycombe. Mrs. Caprina Fahey has now left Buckingham, but Miss Jacobs and Miss Clayton are continuing the work.

COLWYN BAY.

Dixon, Miss Eva, Coed Myrddin, Conway Road, Colwyn Bay.
Roberts, Miss F., Ashleigh, Grove Park, Colwyn Bay.

Owing to the temporary absence of other helpers, who were holding meetings elsewhere, Dr. Helen Jones has been holding meetings by herself at Colwyn Bay, addressing large and orderly crowds, who seemed most interested, and bought all the available papers. Many more could easily have been sold had other helpers been present.

DERBY.

Dowling, Miss, Little Eaton, Derby.

Some very successful meetings have been held in the Market Place at which large audiences have shown great interest and attention.

FOLKESTONE.

Knyvett, Lady, Burlington Hotel.
Marsden, Miss Constance, Feltonfeet, Shorncliffe Road.

A large increase is reported in the sales of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

LEIGH.

Several meetings have been held at Leigh, at which Miss Mary Gawthorpe and Miss Florence Clarkson were the speakers. They were excellently received by a very large audience.

LETCHWORTH GARDEN CITY.

Brown, Miss M., "Kelfield," Norton Way.
Hare, Miss, 345, Norton Way.
Westbrook, Mrs., Icknield Way.
White, Miss, 345, Norton Way.

The subject of Votes for Women has created great interest in this place, which lives on ideas and beliefs, and many people formerly indifferent are being won over to the cause. Members and sympathisers are rallying splendidly to the meetings.

LEWES.

Clarke, Mrs., 8, North Street Quadrant, Brighton.

Another very successful meeting has been held.

LIZARD.

Hall, Mrs. St. John, 5, Kynance Terrace.

The flag has been planted on Land's End by Miss Mary Phillips. Large crowds followed the returning brake which conveyed a contingent of women from Penzance, cheering enthusiastically.

LLANDUDNO.

Jones, Dr. Helena, "Aileen Craig," Nant-y-gamar Road, Llandudno.

LLANDRINDOD WELLS.

Mrs. Hylton Dale has held two successful meetings in the Pump House Hotel, when the people were greatly interested and gave a hearty vote of thanks at the close.

LOWESTOFT.

Evans, Miss Gladys, 9, Manchester Street, Manchester Square, W.
Friedlaender, Miss V. H., c/o Mrs. Gray, 43, St. George's Road, Pakefield, near Lowestoft.
Ramsbottom, Mrs., Waveney House, Bungay.
Seymour, Miss Isate'.

The sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN has nearly doubled this week, and it is expected that many more will be sold at Dr. Rosa Ford's meeting. An opponent was overheard to say with the calmness of despair, "You can't get away from them, anyhow!" Will someone undertake that this shall be the case again in Lowestoft next week?

MARGATE.

Cloesberg, Miss Gertrude.
Leiben, The Misses.
Leunox, Miss Laura, Capitola, North Down Road, Cliftonville.

The Margate people are most sympathetic and anxious to hear of the militant methods, and are specially keen on having meetings. Many copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN have been sold, also a large number of pamphlets, badges, and postcards. On Sunday afternoon Miss Elsa Myers held a very good meeting in the hall of the Kingsley Hotel, where she has been staying, in response to an invitation from the other visitors, who were all deeply interested. She was also invited to speak at the Hereford Hotel, at which meeting a great many papers were sold. Miss Myers has now left Cliftonville.

MORECAMBE.

Billing, Miss.
Hamshaw, Miss.

VOTES FOR WOMEN is still meeting with a ready sale.

NEWQUAY.

Master, Mrs., Beacon House.
Smith, Mrs. Crosby, The Homestead.

OXFORD.

The Oxford campaign has now come to an end after a most successful course, during which several very interesting meetings were held, good collections taken, a great deal of literature sold, and new members enrolled. The campaign culminated in a meeting at the Corn Exchange, jointly organised by the N.U.W.S.S. and the W.S.P.U., the chairman (Miss Maud Roydon, N.U.W.S.S.) taking an impartial attitude, and each speaker giving his or her independent view. The speakers were Miss Helen Wodehouse, Ph.D., the Rev. W. Temple, Fellow of Queen's College, and Miss Edith Clarence. Miss Clarence has now left Oxford, but during the time she was there she did most splendid work, organising processions, open-air meetings, at many of which she spoke, and sacrificing almost all the lectures for which she had specially gone to Oxford. Miss Tollemache also rendered valuable help.

PENZANCE.

Howey, Mrs., Tregenos House.

VOTES FOR WOMEN may be obtained from Mrs. Howey, at above address, during Miss Mary Phillips's absence.

PWLLHELLI.

Barnett, Miss J.
Phillips, Miss Louisa.

PORTSLADE.

Andrews, Miss Edith M., 15, North Street.
Clarke, Mrs., 8, North Street Quadrant, Brighton.

RAMSEY, I.O.M.

Flatman, Miss S. A., 1, Queen's Drive.

Good meetings are still being held at Ramsey. Owing to some hooligan opposition an announcement was made that one of the meetings would be removed to the Market Square, whereupon the crowd left the beach and followed the Suffragettes. Before the meeting came to a close the opposition at first encountered had been entirely broken down.

SHERINGHAM.

Ayrton, Miss Phyllis A., care of Mrs. Middleton, Kingsmuir, Morris Street, Lower Sheringham.
Maguire, Miss Cynthia, care of Miss Woolley, Grove House, Beeston Road, Lower Sheringham.

A sandwich parade attracted a good deal of attention, and a good meeting was held, many copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN being sold. A second meeting was held later in the week, in spite of the drizzling rain. Miss Hume, Miss Middleton, and Miss Maguire were the speakers.

SOUTHPORT AND BIRKDALE.

Ashby, Miss, 110, Liverpool Road, Birkdale.
Rosling, Mrs., Local Corresponding Secretary, 47, Sydney Street, Southport.
Russell, Miss Jessie, c/o Mrs. Butterworth, 27, Sydney Street, Southport.

Miss Bertha Lee reports another excellent Saturday afternoon sand meeting. Miss Lillian Pallister has been helping local members in part of her holiday time, and has superintended the sale of over four hundred VOTES FOR WOMEN during the week. Many of those who in the beginning of the campaign laughed and jeered have become most helpful supporters of the cause. Several new members have been gained, and also many names of sympathisers who are almost, but not quite, convinced. Many of the boarding-house keepers have expressed their willingness to hold meetings.

TORQUAY.

Leyton, Mrs.
Mills, Miss.

Mrs. Leyton has been speaking to interested audiences at Torquay, and meetings have also been held at Dartmouth, Torre, and Paignton, all of which have been most successful.

TRURO.

Mahr, Mrs., 9, The Parade.

During Miss Mary Phillips's absence copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN may be had from Mrs. Mahr.

WEYMOUTH.

Dowell, Miss Gertrude, Brierley Wood, Wyke Regis, Weymouth.
Kendall, Miss M. E., Windsor House, Brownlow Street.
Marshall, Miss I. D., Winton Villa, Abbotsbury Road.

Some successful meetings have been held here, after one of which an American gentleman in the audience gave an address on the good results of the woman's vote in the States, a Welsh miner afterwards speaking on the subject of women's franchise from his point of view. Meetings are held at the Jubilee Clock at 10 o'clock every day.

WHITLEY BAY.

Floyd, Miss L., Beverley Hotel, Cullercoats.
Williams, Miss A., Beverley Hotel, Cullercoats.

A meeting will be held near the band stand, Whitley Bay, every Wednesday at 3 p.m.; a series of open-air evening meetings at the colliery villages near Newcastle, and Saturday afternoon meetings at the coast and riverside towns.

WHITSTABLE.

Wilkinson, Mrs. Gertrude, Belrapir, Whitstable, Kent.
Yates, Mrs. Lamartine, The Cottage, Seasalter, near Whitstable.

Mrs. Lamartine Yates is advertising the cause by means of a flag on the roof and a poster in the garden. She will be glad to hear from members willing to help.

WORTHING.

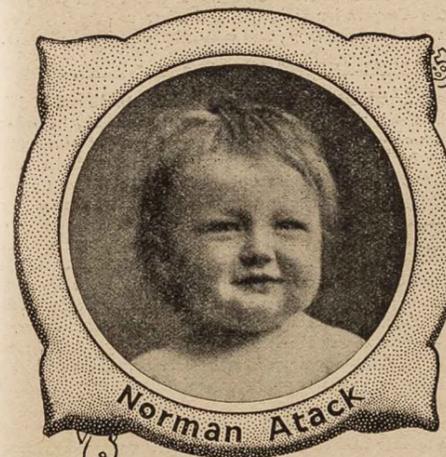
Bartels, Miss Margaret, Fernleigh, Rowlands Road.
Close, Miss E., Northdene, Boundary Road.
Kelly, Miss B. A., Fernleigh, Rowlands Road.
Shipham, Mrs. Close, Northdene, Boundary Road.

The Suffragettes have been extremely well received in Worthing, and are a popular theme of discussion. A series of most successful meetings have been held, the speakers being Mrs. Zangwill, Mrs. Clarke, Miss Agnes Kelly, and Mr. Shipham, a member of the Men's League. A very large number of copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN have been sold.

YARMOUTH.

Ford, Dr. Rosa, 60, St. Peter's Road, Great Yarmouth.
Tyson, Miss K., c/o Mrs. Leach, Stradbroke, Gorleston.
Tyson, Miss Leonora.

More speakers are wanted, and hospitality can be offered to one. Volunteers for the sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN, etc., will be gladly welcomed.



Norman Atack

Patricroft, near Manchester.

A smiling baby is, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, a healthy baby.

A fretful baby is always the reverse; in all likelihood the food is wrong.

TRY MELLIN'S FOOD.

It is the best of all possible foods, excepting mother's milk. Like mother's milk, it is free from starch and may be given from birth. Mellin's requires no cooking and is ready in a moment.

Mellin's Food

Sample and 96-Page Book FREE from Mellin's Food, Ltd., Peckham, S.E.

Please mention this paper.

THE CAMPAIGN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

London.—Mrs. Flora Drummond, 4, Clements Inn, W.C.
West of England.—Miss Annie Kenney, 37, Queen's Road (opposite Art Gallery), Clifton. Plymouth: Miss Vera Wentworth, 11, Alfred Street, The Hoe. Torquay: Miss Elsie Howey, Victoria Parade. Truro: Miss Mary Phillips, 9, The Parade.
Lancashire and North Wales.—Miss Mary Gawthorpe, 164, Oxford Road, Manchester. Liverpool: Miss S. Ada Flatman, 28, Berry Street, Preston: 41, Glover's Court. Rochdale: 84, Yorkshire Street.
Midlands and West Wales.—Miss Gladice G. Keevil, 14, Ethel Street, Birmingham. Nottingham: Miss N. Crocker, 8, East Circus Street.
Yorkshire.—Miss C. A. L. Marsh, 68, Manningham Lane, Bradford.
Newcastle.—Miss Edith New, 284, Westgate Hill.
Glasgow.—Mrs. A. K. Craig, 141, Bath Street.
Edinburgh.—Miss Florence E. M. Macaulay, 8, Melville Place, Queensferry Street; Mrs. Drummond, 63, Princes Street.
Aberdeen.—Miss Adela Pankhurst, 4½, Union Street.

The campaign throughout the country continues its successful course, and reports from all parts bear witness to the loyal and effective work that is being done. A large number of meetings have been held, at which the sales of VOTES FOR WOMEN, pamphlets and badges, etc., have been most encouraging. Other meetings arranged to take place in the near future are detailed on page 1107.

LONDON AND HOME COUNTIES.

Several very good meetings have been held in London and the vicinity, and as members are now returning from their holidays these are increasing in number. Much good work is being done, and many converts gained. A special feature has been made of the sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN in London.

WEST OF ENGLAND.

Bristol members are looking forward with eager anticipation to the pleasure of welcoming back the splendid West of England prisoners on September 4. A military band has been engaged for the procession, and altogether it is hoped that the day will be a grand success. Three large meetings have been held during the past week, one in the Horsefair on Wednesday morning, Mrs. Curtis and Miss Alice Walters being the speakers; on Thursday morning another most gratifying meeting in the Old Market Street, which was addressed by Miss Alice Walters and Mrs. Barrett, and the same evening a large crowd of enthusiastic listeners was addressed on the Downs by Mrs. Barrett and Miss Ida Walters.

Two very successful meetings have been held at Newquay, also at St. Austell, at Redruth, in the Cattle Market, Penzance (where a meeting has been asked for several weeks), and at Land's End, just before planting the colours there. This ceremony was accomplished successfully, in the presence of several interested spectators. Mrs. Master has been doing splendid work for the Union. Mrs. Tremayne, another energetic helper, is going abroad, and it behoves those who remain to work with redoubled energy. Truro is looking forward to Mrs. Pethick Lawrence's visit in October. Miss Phillips has sent out collecting cards with a special appeal to Cornish members and sympathisers to make the Cornish campaign permanently self-supporting, and she will be very glad to hear from anyone who will help in this direction.

LANCASHIRE AND NORTH WALES.

With the return of members from the seaside, and the special help of Miss Rona Robinson and Miss Dora Marsden, a tremendous revival in open-air campaigning has taken place in the Lancashire large towns and cities. Bolton, Rochdale, Bury, Stockport, Ashton, and Stalybridge are in the charge of Miss Rona Robinson, and excellent meetings have been held in these places during the week. Miss Dora Marsden has charge of Wigan, Blackburn, Burnley, Preston, Southport, etc., and here again great gatherings have been the rule. The weekly meeting in the principal open places will in the majority of these towns lead up to the special women's meetings which will be held indoors in September, and which will be addressed as part of a great "Membership Campaign" by Miss Mary Gawthorpe. In preparation for the coming of Mrs. Baines to supervise the Cabinet's Minister's protests, which are shortly expected in this district, an open-air campaign is also being planned; and members of the Manchester group will open the series of meetings next week with two meetings nightly. Later, as will be seen from the "Programme" column, this number will be doubled at least. Altogether, Lancashire in the north and south-east is to have fresh opportunity to keep in touch with the newest phases of the movement, and Miss Flatman will do the same for South Lancashire on her return from the Isle of Man. Everywhere signs are most healthy, and the attention of Manchester members particularly is drawn to the next "members' only" meeting, which will be held on Wednesday, September 1, at the offices, 164, Oxford Road. Mrs. Baines will be the speaker. Mrs. Baines writes that she wants every surrounding town to supply one militant woman. Will Southport, Preston, Bury, Stockport, Bolton, Wigan, Oldham, etc., members write to her at 3, Vicarage Road, Stockport?

The Rusholme Allotments Society's Annual Exhibition was held in the grounds of Mrs. Rose Hyland, a well-known Manchester member, on Saturday last; and by the mutual agreement of Mrs. Hyland and the Allotments Committee short speeches at different intervals were given by Miss Mary Gawthorpe and Miss Russell. A stall decorated with tricolour flags and posters attracted great attention, and good business in VOTES FOR WOMEN was done.

Liverpool and districts were kept alive during the past week with meetings in preparation for the protest at Mr. Haldane's meeting at the Sun Hall. The campaign in the Isle of Man is fast drawing to a close, and has been successful in every way. Great excitement was caused in Ramsey when Miss Flatman mounted a chair and rang a large dinner bell, announcing a meeting at the Baths on Monday evening. The water was crowded with people in small boats listening to the band, who applauded and gave three cheers for Votes for Women. The announcement concluded with another loud peal, in imitation of the town crier. Some individuals came to the meeting quite plainly on mischief bent, and yelled, beat drums, and blew whistles until the close. Some of these people are well-known in Liverpool, where they are regarded as respectable citizens, but on the night of the meeting they were worse than the most depraved hooligans, some admitting the next morning that they were "out for fun," and presumably thinking they were justified in getting it at the expense of the Suffragettes. But through their rowdyism many converts were made and much sympathy obtained. Preparations for opening the Liverpool shop are proceeding apace. Miss Jessica Walker is painting the frieze, and the opening day will be September 25. Cushions, tablecloths, and curtains are wanted in the colours, and also some wicker chairs and a desk. Promises to be sent to Miss Edith Dunn, Clare Mount, Wallasey.

In North Wales Mrs. Herbert Duncan and Miss Lillian Williamson had an excellent week, winning much sympathy and always a good hearing. Welshmen, resenting questions at the Welsh Eisteddfod, were unable to wreck the meetings, and finally seemed won to a silent listening. Additional meetings were held after the arrival of Dr. Helena Jones at Deganwy and Colwyn Bay. Collections are forbidden on the beach, but meetings were held and "donations" asked for with excellent results. A rather interesting fact about the prohibited meetings is that the foreshore is the property of Lord Mostyn, while the portion between high-water mark and the ordinary tide is within the jurisdiction of the Corporation, who do not allow meetings. Good educational work has been done, and sympathy won for the tactics.

MIDLANDS AND WEST COAST OF WALES.

An excellent first meeting was held on the Barmouth sands, Miss Hooper in the chair, with Miss Gladice Keevil as the chief speaker. The audience were delighted to have an opportunity of hearing the case for Votes for Women. Kindly words of sympathy and admiration for "Suffragette pluck" were expressed at the close. A meeting at Dolgelly was looked forward to with some curiosity, as the large audience were almost entirely Welsh, and there appeared to be every possibility of a troublesome time. But the reverse was the case, the large crowd listening with the keenest attention to Miss Keevil's address and answers to questions. All the literature was sold, cheers given, and the women afterwards crowded round the speakers, shaking hands with them, and thanking them again and again. A meeting at Harlech was attended by several members of the Fabian Society from the Summer School at Llanbedr, close by, who gave splendid support to the speakers. Miss Kathleen Brown gave a clear and interesting account of her recent "hunger strike." On Friday Miss Keevil and Miss Phillips addressed a very large audience at Barmouth. The speeches were convincing, as was shown by the attitude of the listeners. The fishermen were all on the side of the women and delighted with the clear answers to their questions. Miss Hooper, Miss Lea, and Miss Young have been most energetic in disposing of large quantities of literature.

A total sale of 300 VOTES FOR WOMEN has been reached in Nottingham and in outlying districts during the holidays, independently of any meetings. The local workers, organised by Miss Helen Watts, have had eager requests for meetings the while, and have opened up opportunities which will be eagerly seized. Very zealous and valuable work has been done. Miss Gladys Roberts is helping with the campaign. Those members who have returned from holiday will be cordially welcomed at No. 6, Carlton Street, on Saturday, 28th, at six o'clock.

During the past week the caravan has been working at Warwick, Leamington, and Kenilworth. At Warwick a good meeting was held, with Mrs. Fewins as speaker. On Saturday Miss Agnes Kelly arrived from London and held an excellent meeting in Kenilworth. Further meetings at Leamington are in prospect, with Evesham to follow.

NEWCASTLE.

Good meetings were held during the week, although the persistent rain hindered some. Afternoon and evening meetings were held in Whitley Bay on Saturday, the speakers being Mrs. Atkinson, Miss Brook (Liverpool), and Miss Violet Taylor. A meeting was held in Walker on Saturday afternoon, the speakers being Misses Atkinson, Balls, and New, at which interesting questions were asked and copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN sold. A meeting was held in Wark on Wednesday evening, arranged by Mrs. Taylor, who was in the chair, the speakers being Miss New and Miss Violet Taylor. A good amount of literature was sold, and the audience was greatly interested. A meeting of members and friends was held in Crosby's Café on Thursday night. Miss Davison very kindly came and gave an account of her experiences in prison as a "hunger-striker." The audience was much interested, and it is matter for regret that so many members were away on holiday and unable to hear this interesting speech. Miss New has left Newcastle to work in the Scottish demonstration, and pending the arrival of another organiser an appeal is made to the members to keep the work going, and the sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN especially. Mrs. Atkinson will act as treasurer, and will be glad of offers of help and new members. Will those who want information, or who wish to help please apply to Mrs. Atkinson, 2, Devonshire Terrace? Those who wish to assist in the sale of literature please communicate with Miss Nora Brown, 88, Elswick Road, Newcastle, who has kindly taken charge of this department.

EDINBURGH.

Miss Macaulay has now returned to Edinburgh, and the shop and office at 8, Melville Place have been re-opened. There will be no At Homes until Thursday, September 23, when they will be resumed at 3.30 and 8 p.m., at 8, Melville Place as before.

Mrs. Pankhurst addressed a meeting for ladies only in the committee room of the Albert Hall, Stirling, on Monday, and though many people are away on holiday, the attendance was most gratifying, the room being full to overflowing, even the doorway and passage being occupied by those who could not get any farther in. Mrs. Fraser-Smith presided, and introduced Mrs. Pankhurst, who was listened to with profound interest and attention. Several questions were asked, most of them familiar ones. In the evening a dense crowd again gathered to hear Mrs. Pankhurst, the Arcade Hall being full long before 8 o'clock. The reserved seats at 1s. each were all occupied, and the other parts were equally well filled, many would-be hearers being unable to gain admission. Miss D. D. Fraser-Smith, M.A., was in the chair, supported by the local committee. A good collection was taken at both meetings, and many copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN sold. Mrs. Brailsford reports that General Drummond has captured a border stronghold. Berwick-on-Tweed has been taken by surprise, and it looks as if the conquest would be a permanent one. Two Suffragettes had arrived quietly, and were sapping and mining long before the decorous little town was aware of their presence. Miss Roberts and Miss Thomson, both from Edinburgh, had but a few days in which to prepare for the General's coming. They only reached Berwick on Tuesday, and when Mrs. Drummond arrived on Saturday she was able to hold two excellent meetings. At that in the afternoon, held in the Long Room of the Corn Exchange, over a hundred and fifty of the best-known people in Berwick were present, and as only three of these were already members, the gathering was of great educational value. The chair was taken by a local member, Mrs. Gillies, of Edington Mills, and Mrs. Dickenson presented Mrs. Drummond with a beautiful purple and green bouquet from Berwick sympathisers. Flowers in the colours, lavishly sent by various kind friends, brightened up the little hall, and Mrs. Drummond had a most enthusiastic reception. Immediately on the close of the address a "Berwick banner" for the October demonstration was promised by Miss Hay, of St. Abbs, who also, with other ladies, became a member of the W.S.P.U. Quite as successful in a different way was the big outdoor meeting held the same evening. The people of Berwick are very good listeners, but not too easily roused either to laughter or emotion. But there was no resisting the General's wit and vigour. Old weather-beaten fishermen twinkled with delight and interest, and men of all classes and ages applauded and cheered. There can be no doubt that Berwick is ready for the Suffragettes. The audiences at the meetings held before the General's arrival were attentive and interested. Curiosity brought the crowd together, but interest made it stay. Miss Alice Paul has now arrived to tell about the Hunger Strike and her experiences in Glasgow.

The War Chest.

In spite of the prevailing quietness, due to the holiday season, Miss Flatman has been able to send £13 7s. 6d. to the treasurer, while Miss New sends nearly £12 in subscriptions and collections from Newcastle. Miss Mary Phillips, the Cornwall organiser, forwards £10, the gift of Mrs. Turner Farley, whose sympathy and

generous support have been such a help throughout the Cornish campaign, and who, to the great regret of all who know her, is shortly leaving for New Zealand.

THE SCOTTISH DEMONSTRATION, OCTOBER 9.

The central offices for the demonstration are at 63, Princes Street, Edinburgh, and "General" Drummond is in charge of a comprehensive plan of campaign. She has the help of Miss Adela Pankhurst, Miss Macaulay, Miss Conolan, Miss Cameron, and other Scottish organisers. Voluntary workers in every town of Scotland are needed, and those who can help are requested to put themselves in communication with Mrs. Drummond at once.

In addition to the Edinburgh offices, temporary offices or shops will be taken in several towns. The expenses of printing, rent of halls, and railway fares must be met, and the country districts have to be reached by motor cars. The procession, which will be organised on an impressive scale, will entail considerable cost, and contribution forms, which should be filled up and sent immediately to one of the three joint treasurers of the Scottish Demonstration fund, as well as collecting cards, can be obtained from either of the treasurers or from Mrs. Drummond. The treasurers are: Mrs. Ivory, Laverockdale House, Colinton, N.B.; Miss Burnet, 2, St. James's Place, Hillhead, Glasgow; and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, 4, Clements Inn, London, W.C.

The campaign will culminate in a great procession and Women's Demonstration, to be held in the Waverley Market, Edinburgh, on October 9. A mass meeting will take place at 2.30 on that day, at which Scottish and English leaders of the Votes for Women movement will speak.

MRS. PANKHURST'S VISIT TO AMERICA.

The question has arisen as to whether Mrs. Pankhurst, the Suffragette leader, is barred under the immigration regulations from landing in America, owing to her terms of imprisonment in England.

The authorities regard her imprisonments as entirely political, and, therefore, the regulations do not apply. The question was settled in Washington recently in the case of Mrs. Cobden Sander-son.

The suffrage movement has gained considerably lately, and it is a remarkable fact that many of the advocates who have been in favour of quiet methods of propaganda up to now have been converted to more active measures by trips to England this summer.

—Daily News.

Mrs. Blatch, a Suffragist leader, elicited from the immigration authorities the statement that Mrs. Pankhurst, the leader of the aggressive party in England, will have no obstacles put in the way of her landing in New York on account of her terms of imprisonment in Holloway Gaol. It has been decided to regard her assault on the police at Westminster and her convictions as political offences, which are not a bar to admission to America, provided that the other regulations are complied with.

Suffragists are eagerly awaiting the arrival of Mrs. Pankhurst, as a large section of them are desirous of adopting militant tactics on this side. Suffragists have lately done a good deal to raise their movement from its present position, in which it is merely a matter of amusement to the average American onlooker. In several States governors and other prominent men have agreed to preside at their meetings.

—Manchester Guardian.

Mrs. Pankhurst, the leader of the English Suffragettes, is coming to America this fall, under the auspices of the New York Equality League of Self-Supporting Women.

As leader of the Women's Social and Political Union, Mrs. Pankhurst has invented most of the ingenious and daring devices of the militant Suffragettes which have stirred up so much discussion throughout the civilised world during the past three years. These tactics, instead of being random outbursts of emotional hysteria, have been the successive steps of a coolly-thought-out and deliberately planned campaign. Mrs. Pankhurst is as truly a general as Napoleon, and is said to be almost as truly an autocrat. Unlike Napoleon's, however, her army is made up not of conscripts but wholly of volunteers. They follow her with enthusiasm because they believe that she is able to lead them to victory. There is no woman in England to-day who is so hated and feared by the politicians, or who is regarded with intense enthusiasm and devotion by so many women. Literally thousands of them are ready to rush to do her slightest bidding. Hundreds have already gone to prison, and not a few would be willing to lay down their lives. Mrs. Pankhurst is certainly one of the most remarkable personalities of modern times.

She and her methods have been grossly misrepresented in the Press. The caricatures and distorted reports that have filled the American papers are likely now to prove a boomerang for the anti-Suffragists by increasing the curiosity to see Mrs. Pankhurst. We hope that this curiosity may draw great audiences, and that those who come to scoff will remain to pray.

—Woman's Journal (Boston).

LOCAL NOTES.

CROYDON W.S.P.U.—Our meetings at Purley on the 15th and Duppas Hill on the 22nd were very successful. The collections taken were good, and the crowds, which were inclined to be hostile at first, ended by becoming enthusiastic. Also three new members were enrolled. Mrs. Rose very kindly provided the lorry. Our next meeting is at Shirley on Sunday, 29th, at 6.30 p.m.—G. CAMERON-SWAN.

HORNSEY W.S.P.U.—The Hornsey meetings will begin again this week. Finsbury Park had its first meeting on Thursday, August 26, at 7 o'clock. Crouch End Clock Tower will be on Saturday, August 28, at 7 o'clock. Will all helpers and friends please be in full attendance, so that Miss Bonwick may receive a good report of Hornsey work when she returns.—KATE JACKSON.

MARYLEBONE W.S.P.U.—We are to have the pleasure of hearing Mrs. McKeown (from Brighton) in Regent's Park next Sunday. These meetings will in future be held at 3.15 p.m. Will friends please take notice that we shall be having a jumble sale in the autumn, for which every kind of article, dress or otherwise, will be gratefully received. I want to take this opportunity of thanking our three speakers, Miss Auerbach, Miss Dixon, and Miss Barton, for their valuable help in keeping our meetings going on right through the holidays.—LILY NOTRSH.

RICHMOND AND KEW W.S.P.U.—Particularly good have been the attendances at our recent open-air meetings on Saturday mornings. On August 14 and 21 Miss Williams took the chair, and Mrs. Wheatley was the speaker. A meeting will be held on Saturday, August 28, as usual at 11.30 a.m. at Heron Court. On Sunday afternoon, August 29, we shall have an open-air meeting at Kew; and on Friday, September 3, there will be an At Home to local members at "Glengariff," Kew Road, where there will be an opportunity for making suggestions towards ways and means for opening a shop in the neighbourhood, etc.—CLARA T. CLAYTON, Hon. Sec.

RICHMOND W.S.P.U. (Literature Secretary's Report).—Nearly six dozen copies of the paper have been sold this week, three dozen of them at our open-air meeting at Richmond on Saturday last. Will the lady from Isleworth who spoke to one of our sellers in Hill Street on the 14th inst., and who said that she sold the paper in Isleworth, communicate with Miss Barnett, 4, Queen's Gardens, Richmond?

STREATHAM AND DISTRICT W.S.P.U.—Miss M. Brackenbury and Mrs. Duval spoke to a large and most attentive audience last Sunday on Streatham Common. Our meeting was again most satisfactory, and all our papers were sold out. Owing to the fact that speaking must cease on the Common at sunset, we have decided to retard the time of starting by a quarter of an hour every week, and shall therefore begin at 5.30 next Sunday. Miss Pitfield and Mrs. Duval will be our speakers.—LEONORA TYSON, Hon. Sec.

WIMBLEDON W.S.P.U.—The Wimbledon Local Union held its usual meeting on the Common on Sunday afternoon. An interesting discussion followed Miss Wylie's able address, several members of the audience taking part in it. Mrs. Lorisignol took the chair. Mrs. Cullen will speak for us on the 29th, when the meeting will be at 6 o'clock.—B. L. (for M. GRANT).

WEARING THE BADGE.

The importance of wearing the badge in addition to the colours of the W.S.P.U. has been proved by Mrs. East (Hon. Treasurer of the Chiswick W.S.P.U.), who writes:—Last year, while on my holidays, it was the means of bringing in several new members, and of interesting people, who afterwards helped considerably with articles for our Exhibition. This year I have never once appeared anywhere without my badge, and it has been the means of opening conversation, putting in the "word in season," and enlightening many people on various points on which they were in doubt, and in putting before them a different view of our whole movement from that which they get in the daily press. I have also been able to get people to promise to subscribe to VOTES FOR WOMEN. I wish all our members would faithfully wear the badge; in fact, with any one of our friends in prison I should be ashamed to go without it.

CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST WOMEN'S FRANCHISE ASSOCIATION.

This Association has recently brought out a leaflet on "Women's Suffrage: In the Best Interests of the Country," by Miss Rosaline Maason. The leaflet, after dealing with the anomaly brought about by sex disqualification, gives an interesting account of the way in which men have helped the women in their struggle for liberty. The leaflet can be obtained from the Honorary Secretary, Mrs. Gilbert Samue, 48, Dover Street, Piccadilly, W.

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

For nearly two months members of the Women's Freedom League have maintained an unbroken vigil at the entrance to St. Stephen's Hall during the time that Parliament has been sitting, in spite of almost tropical heat, days of heavy rain, and the strain entailed by all night sittings. Special interest attaches to the delegates on account of their representative character, being composed one day of university women, on another of hospital nurses, on another of working women, and so on. Each member of the deputation is supplied with a copy of the petition which it is hoped will be received by Mr. Asquith. Members of the League have also been keeping watch on the different entrances to the Premier's official residence in Downing Street, and since the beginning of the picket eighteen women have been arrested on a charge of obstruction. These are Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Cobden Sanderson, Mrs. Cranstoun, Miss Boileau, Miss I. Tillard, Mrs. Hicks, Miss Janet Bunten, Mrs. Marianne Hyde, Miss Law, Miss Cummin, Miss Clumas, Miss Semple, Miss Johnson, Miss Hicks, Miss Burleigh, Mrs. Mackenzie, Miss Scott, M.A., and Miss A. Scott, M.A. An undertaking has been given to remove the pickets from Downing Street for the present, but those outside the House of Commons are prepared to wait until Christmas if necessary, unless Mr. Asquith should receive the deputation sooner, although Mrs. Despard has expressed her belief that more drastic methods must be adopted before their end is attained. The adjourned hearing of the charges against Mrs. Despard and others takes place to-day.

QUESTIONS IN THE HOUSE. Imprisoned Suffragists.

Mr. George Roberts, in the House of Commons on August 17, asked the Home Secretary if his attention had been directed by the Suffragists' Vigilance League to the case of Miss A. C. Laws, who was charged on July 9 with police obstruction and sentenced to three weeks' imprisonment in the second division; whether he was aware that this lady was convicted on the evidence of an inspector, who stated that she carried a scroll of paper in her hand bearing the word "petition" on it, and that it was denied by Miss Laws and the hon. secretary of the Women's Freedom League that such a scroll was ever used by them; and whether he would cause an inquiry to be made with a view to seeing if a miscarriage of justice had occurred in this case?

Mr. Gladstone: My attention has been called to this case by the Suffragists' Vigilance League. I have made inquiry and have seen the evidence. The inspector stated that Miss Hicks and Miss Cummins carried a petition which they wished to present to the Prime Minister, but he made no statement as to Miss Laws carrying anything. I see no reason to doubt the justice of Miss Laws' conviction.

Mr. P. Snowden: Are we to understand that these ladies were convicted and imprisoned for carrying a scroll?

Mr. Gladstone: I have answered the question on the paper.

Women's Freedom League, Picketing and Police.

Mr. Philip Snowden, in the House of Commons on August 19, asked the Home Secretary a question of which he had given private notice. Was he aware that for the last twenty-four hours three members of the Women's Freedom League had been on picket duty in Downing Street; that they had not been interfered with by the police; and that on July 9, 16, and 23, ladies belonging to this organisation were arrested by the police, and afterwards were convicted for exactly the same conduct; and could he say if the reason why the ladies were now left alone by the police was because the police action on the three dates mentioned was illegal, and, if so, did he propose to give the convicted ladies compensation for wrongful imprisonment?

Mr. Herbert Gladstone: I understand that members of the Women's Freedom League, sometimes two, sometimes four, stood at 10, Downing Street from 2.45 till a little after midnight yesterday. They were not removed by the police. There is nothing in this to cast any doubt upon the propriety of the action of the police upon the other dates mentioned by the hon. member, or upon the justice of the convictions which followed. It is necessary for the police on each occasion to decide according to the best of their judgment whether there is or is not obstruction, and if they act on the view that there is obstruction, their action is subject to the review of the Court before which the cases may be brought.

Mr. Snowden: Seeing that since my notice was handed in these ladies have been arrested, can the right hon. gentleman say how it is that an obstruction was caused something like twenty-four hours after the picketing began?

Mr. Gladstone: I was not on duty myself, and, as I have said, it is really a matter for the police to decide whether there is or is not an obstruction.

Mr. W. Thorne: Is the right hon. gentleman aware that a number of ladies are waiting at the gates of this House to see the Prime Minister; and can he inform the House how the Prime Minister gets out without being seen? May I have a reply to that question?

Mr. Gladstone: I can only refer the hon. gentleman to the ladies themselves as to whether they are sufficiently vigilant.

Mr. W. Thorne: I want to know how the Prime Minister gets out of the House.

The So th Africa Union Bill.

In the House of Commons on August 19 Mr. Kerr Hardie moved to leave out the words "European male adults," and to insert instead thereof the word "voters." He said: I wish to enter a protest against membership of the Parliament being based upon European "male" adults. Surely in this connection at least the claims of the white woman in South Africa might have been considered.

Col. Seely: I do not think that we can here attempt to force upon South Africa a reform which we have not yet introduced into this country. I should think that, *prima facie*, an Englishwoman looking after her husband's interests on an African farm had no time for such extravagances.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn. Mr. Snowden: I beg to move, after the word "persons," to insert the words "either male or female." I have put it down in order to ascertain whether, under the provisions of this clause, the Union Parliament will have power to make alterations in the basis of the franchise in future? Will they be able by an ordinary majority vote to extend the franchise to women?

Sir W. Robson: I think the construction of the word "persons" in Clause 35 would include males or females. The female suffrage might be granted by a local Parliament forthwith.

Mr. Snowden: I take it, on the statement of the Attorney-General, that the Union Parliament will have at any time, under the powers conferred by this Act, the right to extend the franchise to women by a majority vote. I beg leave to withdraw the amendment.

Imprisonment of Suffragettes.

Mr. Byles (L., Salford, North) asked the Home Secretary on Tuesday, August 24, how many ladies had been sent to prison for offences in connection with the Suffrage agitation, differentiating between those who had been sent for refusing to enter into recognisances for good behaviour or for attending unlawful assemblies, and those who had been sentenced for acts of violence, such as assaulting the police or breaking windows.

Mr. Gladstone gave the following figures:—
For refusing to enter into recognisances for good behaviour, or for attending unlawful assemblies 150
For acts of violence, such as assaulting the police or breaking windows 195

Total 351
These numbers were the totals of committals. In many cases the same person had been committed more than once.

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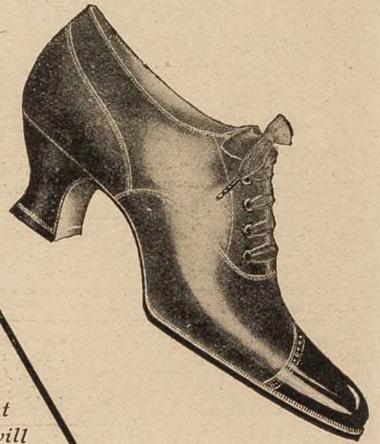
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