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THE VOTE.  
March 6, 1914.  
ONE PENNY.

HONOURS FOR WOMEN.

# THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

VOL. IX. No. 228.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 1914.

Edited by C. DESPARD.

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

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## OUR POINT OF VIEW.

### Honours for Women.

We welcome the sensible and suggestive letter from Lady Townsend on the subject of Honours for Women—a matter on which we have often expressed ourselves strongly—and which *The Gentlewoman* reopened recently. Lady Townsend expresses the amazement that will be felt by many women on learning of the ignoble traffic in "Honours," and alludes to the services rendered every year to the State by women "before which the labours of the House of Commons pale into insignificance." And she claims, unequivocally, Royal recognition for these services. We like Lady Townsend's position far better than that taken up by Lady Butler, Mrs. Cadbury, Lady Hawarden, Lady Glenconner, and others. With that sentimentality of which some women are unable to divest themselves in dealing with the work of women, these ladies advance the following objections (in *The Daily News*):—

"I certainly do not think it worthy of our dignity to ask for the distinction." "I should regret the change of ideal that would be inevitable in much voluntary work if tangible reward were expected." "I should be quite content to leave the bits of ribbon and the titles to men." "It has so long been woman's privilege to work and give of her best without any thought of reward that I see no reason for any change." Lady Hawarden goes the length of saying:—

"The titles would be conferred by men, and would invariably be given to only young and pretty women. I should advise the female sex to lie low for a bit, to regain the respect of the sex that *must* have the rule over them whether they wish it or not."

Now, why does this good lady imagine that the female sex requires to "regain" the respect of the other sex? Did they ever have it? Was it worth having? Is not the respect of women better worth winning? And how was it forfeited? Is it possible that her ladyship is referring to the militant movement, and wishes us to understand that our sex is thereby more degraded than by the swarms of parasite women, of prostitute women, of women who make a living by doing suggestive dances and singing suggestive songs and wearing suggestive clothes—whose existence for the pleasure of men never appears to have shocked her? And why should one wish for the respect of people who will only confer titles upon "young and pretty women," or upon party men with long purses? We hope Lady Hawarden will reply. Meanwhile we note that nearly all the opponents of honours for women are Anti-suffragists.

### "The Innate Honesty of Women."

We commend to Miss Mabel Smith, who put the anti-suffrage view before the St. Albans Debating Society recently, the following quotation from *The Tacoma Tribune*. Miss Smith feels that business and finance may safely be entrusted to men legislators, as women are incompetent, untrustworthy, and unable to judge or grasp such abstruse subjects. American business men, among the keenest business men in the world, range themselves on the side of the women. Says *The Tribune*:—

Business men long ago learned that they could repose implicit confidence in women cashiers and other fiduciary positions. Their honesty and faithfulness in discharging their duties and accounting for funds in their keeping have been observed in so many cases that their high standard in these matters is well attested. Attorney-General McReynolds explained his appointment of a woman as land commissioner on the ground of the superior standard of honesty maintained by women in positions of trust.

### The Moors and the Women.

Two things have delighted us recently in our enforced rummaging in the public press—a depressing and afflicting task! The general level of matter is dull and betokens a low level of intelligence in those who write and those for whom they write. Some gleams

of brightness, however, obtrude occasionally; and one of these is the visit of the Moorish Chiefs to the House of Commons. With great joy this event was hailed by a haggard press, ever on the watch for some new thing.

The Moorish gentlemen, it appears, were struck, in the House of Commons, with "a curious link with home." The appearance of English ladies behind the grille appealed to them forcefully. It was like the way Moorish ladies were treated! One picturesque version audaciously declares that the chiefs believed it at first to be the Speaker's zenana; in any case, they felt it to be a fitting and proper tribute to his greatness and Britain's good sense. We wonder whether any of the British gentlemen in the House felt ashamed when they read or heard of the misunderstanding; and whether, with that singular joy that afflicts some of them, when they win the approbation of savages and subject peoples by a lowering of civilised standards, they felt pleased and complacent—even proud. And how do Mrs. Humphry Ward and the "Anti" ladies feel about it?

### Sir Thomas Dewar and the "Masai."

Even more pleasing is the statement of Sir Thomas Dewar. He and his lions have been almost as much boomed as "Teddy" Roosevelt or the late Lord Randolph; and his ethics and observations appear almost as profound as theirs. He discourses of "the Masai tribe," and says of them:—"They never work. . . . The men are absolutely lazy, and even allow their wives to build their homes for them." This sweet trait is by no means confined to the Masai tribe; it prevails among the majority of African tribes; but what we are concerned to know is—*which* is really "the tribe?" The men who don't work, or the women who do? Quite unconsciously, Sir Thomas Dewar has confirmed in his various interviews with the various representatives of various papers, the masculine idea of "the people," who are never women, to a man; it is only the men who count! Masculine morality, too, in vindicated anew; Sir Thomas expatiates on the sublime "morality" of the naked Kavironda and informs us that "If a wife is detected in misconduct she is instantly killed amidst the approval of the community." This is indeed inspiring. It is a pity Sir Thomas does not tell us what happens to a husband who offends. And it is a still greater pity that, while he was about it, he did not manage to distinguish between "morality" and the property instinct!

### ITEMS OF INTEREST.

CICELY HAMILTON'S WELL-KNOWN SUFFRAGE PLAY, *How the Vote was Won*, has been played at the Künstlerhaus Theatre, Berlin, this week, by the German Suffragists. Well-known society women, actresses, and Suffrage leaders took part. This was the first attempt of the German Suffragists to win adherents to the Cause through the drama.

"OBEY."—The crusade against "Obey" continues, and, according to the latest declarations by the learned, "if a change to equally-worded vows were to be made it would be in the direction of what appears to be the older and certainly the more universal practice of Christendom." The word, it is stated, did not appear in any Christian service whatever, either in the East or the West, except in England, and in the English service book it never appeared until the fourteenth century, so that it has neither antiquity nor universality in its favour.

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## WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

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### MILITANT POLICY OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

The question is frequently asked, What is the actual policy of the Women's Freedom League, and how do we stand with regard to militancy? It may be well at this critical moment to make our position perfectly clear.

We are militant, and in so far our methods differ from those of the constitutional Suffragists. We believe that there have been moments in the history of every nation when laws had to be broken in order to prove that they harked behind the conscience of the people. That the law which prevents woman from taking her place as a citizen is unjust and tyrannous we believe, and therefore we are in rebellion against a Government that refuses to give the nation an opportunity to redress that injustice. Therefore, we resist taxation, we refuse to submit to the Insurance Act, we make protests in public places against the orders of authorities; we do everything we can to emphasize our conviction that we are being treated as outlaws.

But we use no violence, and we do not, at any time or in any way, either damage private property or inflict suffering and loss on our fellow citizens.

This, briefly, is our policy. I wish also to make it perfectly clear that it is adopted by the whole of the League, and has not been imposed upon it by its leaders. Over and over again, in our yearly conferences, two resolutions have been passed by large majorities—that we ourselves shall abstain from violence, and that we shall not criticise those who follow other methods.

C. DESPARD.

### ORGANISERS' FUND—APPEAL FOR £500.

The success of the Women's Freedom League in Bethnal Green and Poplar has been continued at Leith Burghs. Leith Burghs has the advantage of being near Edinburgh, where a very strong Branch keeps up unremitting Suffrage propaganda.

With additional organisers the strength and enthusiasm of other Branches will quickly increase, new ones will appear, and all parts of the country will show similar successes.

We therefore again appeal to our members and friends to help us to complete the £500 wanted for this purpose.

E. KNIGHT.

F. A. UNDERWOOD.

### AT HEADQUARTERS.

**Caxton Hall Meetings.**—This evening (Friday) we are holding a special political meeting at Caxton Hall, the speakers being Miss Nina Boyle, Mrs. Tanner, and Mr. George Lansbury. The chair will be taken at 8 o'clock by Mrs. Schofield Coates. Admission is free, and a cordial invitation is extended to all men and women.

**Wednesday afternoon, March 11,** we shall have the pleasure of listening to Mrs. Nevinson, who will speak on "The Past, Present, and Future of the Woman's Movement." We hope to see a great number of friends at this meeting, which will be of special interest. Miss Constance Andrews will also speak, and the chair will be taken at 3.30 p.m. by Miss A. A. Smith.

F. A. UNDERWOOD.

## POLITICAL NEWS.

### Deportees' Message of Sympathy to the Women's Freedom League.

The energy and alertness of Miss E. J. Read, and those who are helping her in organising at Grays and Tilbury, secured a message of goodwill and sympathy with the Woman Suffrage Movement from the Deportees, even before they landed on British soil. We congratulate our members on the success of their spirited enterprise in being the first Suffragists to speak to the Deportees, and in receiving so sympathetic a message. We certainly will do our part in making effective Mr. Poutsma's desire to come into close touch with the Movement. From Miss Read we have received the following interesting account of what took place.

At the close of our meeting at Tilbury Dock gates, we ferried across to Gravesend and from there chartered a boat to the *Umgeni*, to convey a message from the Women's Freedom League to the Deportees: "Good luck! Stick to your guns!" On reaching the ship, we were told that a consultation as to their legal position was being held, but in spite of this, Mr. H. J. Poutsma immediately came on deck and very courteously thanked us for the message, adding: "I am in full sympathy with your movement and hope very soon to come in close touch with the leaders!" *The Evening News*, reporting our interview as "Two Suffragettes charter a boat to the *Umgeni*," but informed its readers that very little notice was taken of us. So much for Press reports.

### Leith Burghs—and After.

The defeat of the Liberal candidate last week at Leith Burghs is a staggering blow to the Government. For the first time since 1832 Leith is now represented by a Tory. An ancient Liberal stronghold has fallen. Leith and Midlothian have always been regarded as so solidly entrenched in Liberalism as to be unassailable; now both are in possession of the enemy. Scotland, considering its traditional devotion to the Liberal party, is doing well in showing the Prime Minister that he cannot trample with impunity on the Scottish thistle. We congratulate our Edinburgh Branch on the successful campaign they waged against a Government which applies its Liberalism only to men, and refuses to do justice to women. The message of the Northern men is "getting home." More power to their elbow and may their example be followed in South, East, and West! We appeal to all our members and friends to be ready for the unexpected. In the political arena anything may happen, and a General Election may be upon us at any moment. We must be prepared with a fighting organisation and well-filled war-chest. The call to arms is sounding out in many directions; we hope the fight will not come before our Conference, but we must each be ready to take our place and present a determined front to the enemy, so that a Government will be returned pledged to bring in a measure for Woman Suffrage.

Mr. G. W. Currie (C.)	..	..	..	5,159
Mr. M. Smith (L.)	..	..	..	5,143
Mr. J. N. Bell (Lab.)	..	..	..	3,346

Conservative majority	..	..	..	16
Result, December, 1910, Liberal majority,	..	..	..	1785.

Our Organiser writes: The by-election campaign has been a splendid success. A very large number of dinner-hour and evening meetings have been held throughout the whole of the Constituency. On all sides the interest aroused has been most marked.

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### MILITANCY. A DIALOGUE.

We had chatted in a desultory way of many things, when he said to me carelessly:—

"Are you a Suffragette?"

"Of course I am," I replied briskly.

He looked surprised. "I should not have thought it," he said. "But may I ask why the 'of course'?"

"Why! because nearly all thinking women are," I answered rather unguardedly.

He looked at me earnestly. "Do you really suppose that the majority of women support the Suffragettes?" he said.

"No, I don't," I replied promptly. "I have lived long enough to know that most people, whether men or women, would do anything rather than think. But, I said *thinking* women, and I do consider that the majority of thinking women, women who have thought seriously over the matter, and have studied the conditions of social life even perfunctorily, are in favour of the Cause."

"Mrs. Humphry Ward!" he suggested mischievously.

"Yes," I said, "I know. But we are speaking of the majority, and I suppose a majority implies a minority."

He laughed. "Well," he said, "at any rate you do not approve of militancy?"

"What do you mean by militancy?" I asked.

"Oh, breaking windows, and knocking off policemen's helmets," he replied.

"I never assaulted a policeman in my life," I answered laughing, "nor broke a window."

He looked at me rather queerly.

"No," he said quietly, "I did not suspect you of it. But, tell me, do you approve of others doing so?"

"That is a fair question, and demands a fair answer," I said gravely. "But the question is so involved, that I hardly know how to answer."

"It does not present much difficulty to my mind," he said.

"Doesn't it?" I asked briefly. Then after a short pause, as he did not answer, I went on.

"Militancy is an appeal to force, that is to say, it is warfare. Before I answer your question, I must first decide whether an appeal to force is ever justifiable under any circumstances, and whether there has ever been any justification for the death and destruction which have been caused on the earth through all ages by mankind's continual warfare. It is not such an easy matter to decide. If you ask me whether I approve of Cain killing Abel, from motives of jealousy, I answer without hesitation, that I do not, but if you ask me whether I think all the bloodshed and destruction of property that must inevitably have taken place when the Israelites took possession of the Promised Land, was justifiable, the matter is not so simple. Neither does it help me at all to say it was lawful under the Old Testament régime, but that we are living under the New Testament law of love, for though we know the Jews were bidden to pay tribute to Cæsar, it was after they had laid down their arms and done homage to their conquerors, and I think we should all pause and hesitate a long time before deciding what Christ's action would have been during a period of active resistance to an invading force."

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"You are saying," said he, "that it is the motive we must judge and not the action."

"No," I replied, "I am going deeper than that. I am asking whether warfare is ever justifiable under any circumstances and from any motive. And not until that question has been satisfactorily answered can I tell you whether or not I approve of militancy."

There was a long pause while we sat gazing absently across the sunlit expanse of grass in front of us.

"Of course," I said at last, relieved to break the silence, for the strain of abstract thought is too great to be borne for long. "Of course, if you put it on the ground of expediency, I can answer at once without any difficulty that I do approve. But I understood you as taking higher ground than mere expediency."

He smiled. "Do you really think," he said, "that anything has been gained by the adoption of militant tactics?"

"Yes, I do," I said. "This is an age of advertisement; and very little can be done without it."

"There is such a thing as unenviable notoriety," he said.

"There is," I said. "But do you think, if the Suffragists had not been militant, we should have been sitting here in the sun discussing the ethics of warfare?"

He laughed. "No, I don't think we should," he said as he rose to his feet.

"Well," I said later, as we parted, "do you approve of militancy?"

He smiled a long slow smile with a glimmer of mischief behind it.

"I reserve my judgment," he said.

H. S.

### SCIENCE UP TO THE VERY LATEST.

A delightful contribution has been made to science, which we hail with unfeigned and especial joy, not unmingled with hilarity. The New woman, and eke the Old, will join with us in the cry of *Vive Chantemesse*. Chantemesse is a professor; a potent, grave and reverend signor who has just made a Report to that august body, the Academy of Medecine of Paris, on the poisoning fatality that overtook a bride, a bridegroom, and many of the guests at a double wedding recently. The poison was traced to the custards, the custards to the cook; and the cook turns out to be—the tale is a strange one, and we do not accept it without hesitation, in spite of the exhibition afforded us of the genius of Professor Chantemesse—a person swarming with a virulent microbe from whose attacks she herself was immune. Professor Chantemesse has much to say about Cook, in a general way, in the course of his report. What we would like, and the lack of it leaves a felt want, is to hear Cook on Professor Chantemesse.

A long and exhaustive inquiry has enabled this learned gentleman, not only to embody the painful fact of the microbe obsession in his report, but to couple it with the following recommendations. Our old friend Cook will be gratified. Cooks should, he states, wash their hands with soap and a brush—a brush, mark you! We hope he will not be dogmatic about the brush—before preparing cream or custard (other food, apparently, does not matter), and "wear white gloves when handling batter and dough." We confess we should enjoy seeing Cook "handle" batter in white gloves. The mere thought of it gives a thrill. Only we are not sure we should care to partake of it afterwards, even if scientifically free from poison.

There are other precautions, continues the Professor, becoming in his turn precautions, that "might be useful." We are glad he has said "might." Custards, he has discovered in the course of his research work, should only be made with freshly boiled milk, and perfectly fresh eggs (we should never have suspected this); and the yolks should be added when the milk is as near boiling-point as possible. This will be a revelation to Cook. We can see her honest face aglow

with rapture. "Alone I did it!" she will cry, thinking of the countless generations of her race who practised this priceless truth before there were any professors to assure them of its scientific security. But the Professor has not yet done. Gravely he instructs the Academy that "other ingredients to be added," should be boiled in water (not, you will observe, in oil), or washed in boiling water; the astonishing results to be derived from this in the case of the only "other ingredients" for custard that we can think of, to wit: castor sugar, flavoured essence, finger-biscuits, and shredded lemon peel—are omitted, for some unexplained reason, by the Professor. But we are further told that the "batter" of the whites of eggs—by which we believe him to mean the stiff whipped froth, which we thankfully gather, we need not boil—should only be put on when the custard is perfectly cold—again, he does not explain how this dodge will baffle the wily microbe—and the custard must be kept in a very cool place till served. Cook will be pleased! All this laboriously-acquired wisdom piled up to prove that her old-world kitchen superstitions had a bedrock foundation in strict science, is enough to turn her head, and will certainly gladden her heart, even if her microbic hands still bewray her. Arrayed in her new white gloves, she will give glorious utterance to the old truths, and will instruct budding Professors Chantemesse in how to poach and how to boil, and how to clear the soup with eggs, and even, perchance, how to teach their grandmothers to suck them; and then Chantemesse may write us another Report. It is much more amusing than learning it from Cook in the old dull way; but—is it what we pay professors for? C. NINA BOYLE.

### FLORENTINE WOMEN: THEIR POSITION IN CIVIC LIFE IN THE MIDDLE AGES.

In the far back days of the dark ages Florence was the home of the three sisters: art, science, and literature. Her citizens, so violent in political quarrels, so refined in culture, were first and foremost a nation of shrewd business men. The advantages of co-operation were early apparent to the Florentines, and their Guilds were famous in the Middle Ages. As early as the year 825 we can trace the beginning of the Guilds; in that year the heads of trades were first known as ruling Councillors, and shared in the government of the city. Florence, from early days, was a commercial city; she raised her own taxes; she was responsible for her own defences. Her markets attracted dealers and adventurers from every land; her industries, workers and apprentices. Florence laid the foundation of the only Free Government possible in the Middle Ages—that of the Commune. Her fame was world-wide, she was a bright and shining light to all the other cities of Europe.

One of the earliest rulers to bring her renown, and one who did much to establish her Guilds, was Matilda, daughter of Bonifazio III., Marquis of Tuscany, who died in 1075. Matilda, who succeeded him, was known as the "Great Countess"; she was beloved and esteemed by all for her wisdom and ability. She lived at Lucca, but held frequent Courts at Florence when not engaged, sword in hand, on the field of battle. Matilda was renowned for her strict administration of justice; she presided in person in the "Court of Pleas," aided by her assessors, whom she chose among the Grandi, or leading citizens. She greatly encouraged the industries and the commerce of the Commune, and at the same time she sanctioned the warlike expeditions of the traders against the aggressive nobles of the Empire. She divided Florence into six wards, and placed each under the presidency of a magistrate, whom she chose from the Grandi. The magistrate's duty was to administer justice, govern the people, and command the armed men of his ward. In 1101 the Countess made a prolonged stay in Florence; she busied herself with the affairs of her people, and called together a council,

composed of the Anziani, or Ancients, the heads of the Grandi families, and also the Popolari, or heads of the trades. She formed a constitution for the government of the Commune, she also changed the name magistrate to that of Consul. After the death of Matilda, in 1115, no one took her place as ruler of Florence, so the government was carried on by the six Consuls, who became the rulers of the Commune.

Through the pages of history we can trace the growth of the Guilds under fixed rules and duly elected officers. The prosperity of Florence was amazing; the Commune flourished even amidst constant political disturbances; the city became the centre of such high mental culture as has not its equal in the world's history. This culture was a democratic characteristic, not the exclusive possession of the few. The common people were metaphysicians, diplomatists, and rulers, and it was accounted a fit punishment for an unworthy citizen that he should be ennobled, for then he had little or no administrative power. So keen was the interest displayed in everything that made for greater knowledge and ability in the prosecution of the various crafts, that all teachers had large and attentive classes. From historians we learn "that Tailors left their benches to attend Greek lectures, Blacksmiths laid aside their hammers for the study of history, Woolcarders studied law, Barbers sought the chair of poetry, Butchers strayed in the fields of literature, and so forth." "There was no one in Florence," says Dino Compagni, "who could not read; even the donkey boys sang verses out of Dante."

The object of the Guilds was to protect the common interests of men of like tastes and occupations. Each Guild was furnished with a staff of duly qualified and legally appointed teachers, who instructed the apprentices in the duties and responsibilities of craftsmanship. Every man and boy of sixteen years of age was obliged to become a member of a Guild. Anyone who failed to do so was known as a "Loafer," and had no voice in the city's affairs. He was a bye-word, and laughed at by everyone; he was kicked and abused, and as often as not was taken up and placed in confinement as being a useless person and a disgrace to the city. Moreover, his family lost caste in whatever circle it was, and was fined for possessing such a good-for-nothing fellow. The following conditions had to be fulfilled to enter a guild:

1. To be a native born Florentine.
2. To have two sponsors for family and personal character.
3. Never to have been before the magistrates for any misdemeanour.
4. To be possessed of a property qualification—either his own or accruing at the death of his father.
5. To pay a tax of silver to the State by way of caution money.
6. To pay an entrance-fee to the particular Guild.

The payment of the silver tax conferred immediate political rights upon the payee. That women were not disqualified by their sex from enjoying the rights of membership in the Guilds is proved by many entries in the articles of matriculation and the words of association.

In 1294 Donna Danta wished to be admitted as a worker into "The Company of Belt and Girdle-makers." She states that she paid £3 to the treasurer of the Guild; then, with the full approval of the Council, she swears to observe all the statutes and regulations of the Guild, and the Rector duly admits her to full membership.

Even the judges and notaries had a Guild of their own. Membership of this Guild was sought by the sons of noble families and of the influential merchant citizens. Whilst in theory all members of the Guild were equal, in all public business priority of position was accorded to the judges, and we read of constant friction and jealousy on the part of the notaries at their apparent inferior position. Women, to judge by a great number of legal enactments, gave the authorities much trouble. They were absolutely forbidden to enter a Court of Justice, and judges were warned not to give ear to their complaints. A statute of 1294 gives

the following caution: "Women are a sex to be looked upon as dangerous in disturbing the course of justice." So we see that although women had a certain amount of power in the Guilds, they were handicapped and were unable to make their influence felt except under very exceptional circumstances, as they had no economic independence. Then, as now, political and economic independence went hand in hand. E. G. M.

#### A TRIPLE BILL IN AID OF THE "NINE ELMS" SCHOOL CLINIC.

The M. C. H. Dramatic Society produced three charming playlets at the Cripplegate Institute last Tuesday evening. In *Madame Marcelle*, by Constance Maud, we had a bright little scene in a Parisian hat shop. Louisa, an English girl, had been brought by her cousin to choose a hat; but Louisa's ideas about millinery were as bewildering to Madame and Madame's assistant as her persistent attempts to converse with them in French. In *Courage*, by Kate Harvey, we had a clever little sketch of a Dutch family. The scene was laid in a Dutch kitchen. The mother was worried and nervous because her husband was called away to work near a distant dyke one stormy night. She told the children a story of their ancestress who, by her marvellous courage and presence of mind, had once saved the country from Spanish domination. Later, when she was alone in the house, with a young and sick baby and a little girl, the flashlights warned her that a dyke had burst, and she knew that her husband was in great peril. She was unable to leave

the house, but sent her little girl to warn her father, dispelling the child's fears by reminding her of her great ancestress. The picturesque costumes and quaint Dutch dance by the children all added to the delight which this play gave to the audience.

In *The Maker of Dreams* Oliphant Down gave us an exquisite little fantasy. Pierrette found her love for Pierrot unreturned by him. She ministered to his needs, consoled with him in misfortune, but he scarcely ever noticed her, became gloomy over imaginary wrongs, and grumbled about things which did not matter. One evening, when Pierrette was more than usually sad, she was visited by a weird little old lady, in whom she rather grudgingly confided her sorrows. Presently Pierrot returned, and when they were alone the old lady told him she was the Maker of Dreams; she wove them out of the colour of flowers and other seemingly impossible material. They were not like the dreams which Pierrot made for himself. They were truer and travelled farther. Gradually Pierrot lost conceit of himself, and when he was alone with Pierrette he realised for the first time that his faithful companion was beautiful, her voice was soft and musical, that she was indeed the lady of his dreams.

The acting throughout was on a very high level, and we offer our warmest congratulations to the Misses Moore, Chick, and Harvey for the successes which they scored on this programme. F. A. U.

#### "WHAT TO DO WITH HIM."

We are very glad to publish the following letter from our member Dr. Patch, adding simply that we shall watch with real interest the outcome of this distressing case, and that heartily support her desire for the extension of "Little Commonwealths."

Dear Madam,—May I be allowed the rare experience of upholding judicial action or rather inaction? I do not think from the comments in THE VOTE on the letter signed "Mary Anderson" in last week's issue that Mr. Jeffreys' position has been fully appreciated. On hearing that the boy brought before him was certified as mentally defective, he realised the obvious fact that it was not the province of a magistrate to deal with a case of defective brain development, any more than the case of a paralysed child for whom an overburdened working mother could not adequately care. As a humane man he did his best to find out how the medical care such children need can be procured. He discovered that under present conditions such care can only be obtained for those who cannot pay for it by application to the Guardians. Though inadequate accommodation in most Poor Law institutions makes due classification of the inmates impossible, yet in all the London Unions there are wards reserved for children, and special provision is made for the mentally defective and mentally diseased. In none of the London Unions are untrained attendants employed in the infirmaries. The nurses do not compare unfavourably with those of the voluntary hospitals. In conclusion, may I say that I hope THE VOTE takes too gloomy a view of the inmates of Truant and Industrial Schools? My own view is that the majority of these children are normal children who have been living under abnormal conditions, but who have naturally all the instincts of an ordinary healthy child. For this reason, I hope that many more experiments may be made on the lines of the Little Commonwealth, and that eventually Truant and Industrial Schools, as we now know them, may disappear and be replaced by institutions of this type.—Yours very truly,

W. S. PATCH, M.D., B.S.

#### THE ILLNESS OF MISS JENKINS.

We are sure that our readers will hear with deep regret of the severe illness of Miss Jenkins, who has worked so indefatigably to make our Merchandise Department a success, and will join in wishing her speedy restoration to health. The Merchandise Committee—Mrs. Snow, Dr. Knight, and Mrs. Huntsman—hope that all our members will do their utmost to support this Department by continuing their orders for butter, eggs, vegetarian foods, tea, etc., so that no financial loss may accrue after so much time and energy has been expended upon it, and good success achieved.

#### LITERATURE DEPARTMENT.

NOW READY.—*Be Law-Abiding*. By Laurence Housman (being a reprint of the famous lecture given at St. Peter's Hall, Bournemouth). Price 1d., post free 1½d.

So urgent has been the demand for "Liberal Cant," by Eunice Murray, that the fourth edition is now being printed, the last edition having been sold out in three days.



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#### ON OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Reminiscences of My Life*. By Henry Holiday. (Heinemann. 15s.)

This is a delightful and fascinating book. Its principal charm lies in the record it gives us of a life peculiarly happy, full of living, lasting work, and prosperous in the truest sense of the word. Very early, when he was still a boy, Henry Holiday chose his career. He was then, as he is now, an ardent lover of beauty, and his was the privilege of being so circumstanced that he could obtain the training and enjoy the experiences necessary for the full development of the artist.

We follow him with rapt interest through his childhood, noting how keenly even then he was impressed by anything rare, quaint or beautiful that came his way, through his student-days, when, in the midst of his diligent work with delightful interludes of play, he made lasting friendships amongst the men and women who have since written their names indelibly in the art and literature of the age, on to the days when important work and public recognition came to him, and he was able to win as his wife the woman he loved—the woman to whom he dedicates this book, *Reminiscences of a Happy and Busy Life*.

The book contains exquisite illustrations of some of his decorative work, "Apollo and the Muses," a frieze in Clifton Cathedral; Shakespeare, a frieze in Nottingham Theatre; and "The Garden of the Muses," most dainty and beautiful, designed in Florence. He had been busy studying the treasures of art in churches and galleries there, "necessarily receptive for nine weeks," and on his twenty-eighth birthday he gave himself a treat in doing some original work. The result was this lovely picture which he elaborated later.

In the meantime, as he tells us in a chapter which he calls "A Digression," his mind was working on the relation of art with the social problems of the day. He saw that all art "has suffered from the crushing power of commercialism and greed for money." He felt deeply the tragedy of our modern era—the fatal divorce between Beauty and Work. "Beauty," he says, "is naturally sought and enjoyed by men under healthy conditions," and he proceeds to show how this divine gift has been abused: "Huge fortunes were amassed by Capitalists, while life was made a long, miserable, soul-destroying drudgery to millions of working people. Beauty could not and did not live in such a poisonous atmosphere." But—"there are signs of an awakening. When Wisdom and Humanity are established as the basis of our social life, instead of greed for money, then Beauty will be re-born and her life will be even nobler than in any past age."

Over-work and severe strain, with the uncomfortable conditions of a manufacturing town where he was doing some of his art work, brought on a brief illness, on his recovery from which an unexpected piece of good luck came his way. Some time before he had been privileged to visit one of the great Observatories and to make drawings of the moon's surface. He had acquired the aptitude of drawing while one of his eyes was actually observing through the telescope. This was known to Sir Norman Lockyer, who in the month of September, 1871, was preparing his expedition to India to observe the Solar Eclipse, due in the winter of that year. The friends met incidentally at Baker-street Station. They exchanged greetings. "Would you care to go to Ceylon?" said Sir Norman Lockyer, as he took his seat. "Yes; for how long?" was the answer. "Three or four months," and the train moved off.

The result of this, as it must have seemed to Mr. Holiday, dream-like episode, was that he took part in the Eclipse Expedition, an account of which is given in this book.

It would be impossible, in the space of a brief review, to follow this full, productive and happy life through its many episodes. Lecturing, writing for the Press, musical composition, and politics entered into its activities. After a variety of changes, the little family—mother, father, and one daughter, established themselves in Oak-Tree House, built for Mr. Holiday on a site near Hampstead Heath. In the beautiful garden of that house, which I have had the privilege of visiting, where, indeed, I have spoken for the Woman's Movement, and in the fine studio all sorts of wonderful things have happened. Concerts were organised, and some of the most distinguished musicians of the day gave their services. Mr. Holiday had discovered that concert-halls are far too large for chamber-music. To hear Brahms' magnificent Scherzo in F Minor under proper conditions was a revelation.

In the early eighties politics seems to have engrossed him strongly. In 1880 he wrote an exhaustive pamphlet on the Afghan Wars, which, with the bitter sacrifice they entailed, were the result, as is so often the case in our party-ridden Empire, of something worse than mismanagement. To this pamphlet Mr. Gladstone wrote a preface. There had already sprung up a close friendship between Mr. Holiday and the great Liberal leader. "I was with him," writes the author, "at his house in Harley-street, before he travelled down to begin that Midlothian campaign which preceded the sweeping victory of 1880."

Later we find him, convinced through his study of history that Home Rule for Ireland was a just demand, enrolling himself a member of the Irish National League, on the very day when it was "proclaimed as an illegal society." After this we cannot wonder at the attitude taken by Mr. Holiday on the Woman's question. It could not be otherwise. Right through this useful and, in the deepest sense, interesting life, those who can read between the lines will feel the free, liberty-loving artist nature

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moving. It is that which makes it so entrancing to me. I find in it a prophecy of what will be, when the motto, emblazoned on our Freedom League banners, "Dare to be Free," is accepted by all sane men and women as a mandate.

I close with the words that bring these Reminiscences to a conclusion, adding to them the prayer that they may be soon published in a less costly edition, so that they may be accessible to a much larger public:—

"I have a vision of an industrial community which shall be a national partnership, where each in benefiting himself will benefit others, where none can gain by another's loss, where the influence of the community shall ennoble the individual—where the guiding spirit shall be such as will lead none into temptation, but will deliver from evil. While I have strength I will strive to portray that vision of the Reign of Humanity, and to do what one unit may to make 'Peace on earth, goodwill toward men,' a reality." C. DESPARD.

#### WOMAN SUFFRAGE AND POPULATION

Mrs. Tritton presided at the Discussion Meeting last Monday evening, and, introducing Dr. C. V. Drysdale as one of the staunchest friends of the cause of Woman Suffrage, she said that the Women's Freedom League was prepared to discuss all subjects worthy of discussion and invited experts to speak on those which they had specially made their own at these Monday evening meetings. The subject chosen by Dr. Drysdale was "Woman Suffrage and the Population Question." He considered that this question was a practical one in relation to Woman Suffrage. Men had boasted that Government rested on physical force; why had not women claimed that the life force which they controlled was infinitely more important. The lecturer said he was a rigid follower of Malthus, and believed we should never get rid of poverty and social evils until we had established the custom of universal early marriage, and the limitation of families. Over and over again it had been proved that a low birth-rate was accompanied by a low death-rate. It was not more children the country wanted, but more healthy survivals. Dr. Drysdale said that English Suffragists were behind the times in this matter. On the Continent, in Holland especially, neo-Malthusians had worked hand in hand with Suffragists for the emancipation of women. An interesting discussion followed in which Fraulein Rosika Schwimmer, Mrs. Huntsman, Mrs. Cunningham, Mrs. Cubley, Miss Underwood and others took part, and the meeting closed with a very cordial vote of thanks to Dr. Drysdale.

**A GRAND COUNCIL OF WOMEN—AND MEN.**  
No invitation has been received by the Women's Freedom League to join the Grand Council which Mrs. Humphry Ward is said to be organising, but we give our readers the latest information on the subject, as it appears in *The New Statesman* this week:

We hear that there is a great conspiracy brewing in the anti-Suffrage camp. By way of a reply to the recent decision of the National Union of Women Workers in favour of Votes for Women, Mrs. Humphry Ward is preparing a "Grand Council" with a network of local committees, designed not merely to supersede the National Union of Women Workers, but to dish the whole of the Women's Suffrage movement! The said Grand Council is to consist of ladies nominated by Mrs. Ward, and is to sit permanently at Westminster with such individual Conservative and Liberal M.P.s as can be persuaded to offer their services. Round a table in one of the committee rooms the Council, with its masculine assessors, is to ponder over all Bills or Motions relating to women and children, to draft amendments or even to initiate new Parliamentary action on all such questions as are fit for the female intelligence. It is suggested that this Grand Council should be habitually consulted by the Government of the day, and that its President should be occasionally invited to Cabinet meetings and should be included by the Prime Minister—even by Mr. Asquith—in his official dinner parties! Meanwhile local committees—of which the anti-Suffrage ladies of each district will form the nucleus—are to collect information to be sent up to the House of Ladies sitting in Westminster Palace. So far as we have been able to discover, no distinguished member of any Suffrage organisation has been invited to join or has been made aware of the proposal, though it is part and parcel of the scheme that it should include Suffragists and anti-Suffragists. But it is said that certain male legislators—even tried friends of the Women's movement—have, in a fit of absent-mindedness or with a deficient sense of humour, yielded to Mrs. Humphry Ward's persuasive tones. We will not betray them by giving their names.

**Is it Prophetic?**

Miss Martin, a Woman's Suffrage and independent candidate, was returned at the head of the poll at a mock election amongst undergraduates at Birmingham University on February 27. Four candidates offered themselves for election, and the voting was by ballot. The result was as follows:—Mr. E. S. Hawkins (Liberal) 19, Mr. H. W. Ehrhardt (Unionist) 31, Mr. G. Martin (Labour) 24, Miss Martin (Suffrage and Independent) 70. Previous to the election all the candidates made speeches.

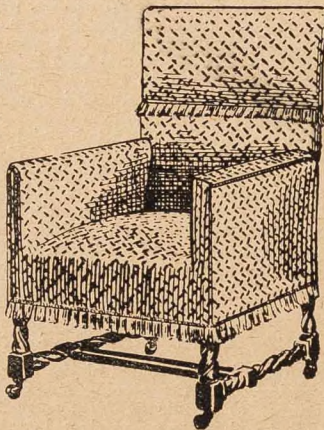
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	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Amount previously acknowledged	..	..	..	345	14	7
<b>Special Levy for General Election—</b>						
Miss Florence Corbett	..	..	10	0	0	
Mrs. E. D. Fox Bourne	..	..	8	0	0	
Miss E. Fox Bourne	..	..	5	0	0	
Letchworth Branch	..	..	5	0	0	
Per Miss Eunice Murray—						
Mrs. Murray	..	..	10	0	0	
Miss Eunice Murray	..	..	10	0	0	
Miss K. Cochrane	..	..	6	0	0	
Mrs. E. Scott	..	..	4	0	0	
Mrs. McIntosh	..	..	2	6	0	
Miss Ritchie	..	..	2	6	0	
Miss Angus	..	..	2	0	0	
Mrs. Cooper	..	..	2	0	0	
Miss Lena McIntosh	..	..	1	0	0	
				3	8	0
<b>Political and Militant Fund—</b>						
Mr. and Mrs. James	..	..	1	10	0	
Mrs. Fisher	..	..	1	0	0	
				2	10	0
<b>By-Election Fund—</b>						
Mrs. M. Sargant Florence	..	..	3	3	0	
Mrs. Tippet	..	..	1	0	0	
				4	3	0
Miss M. R. R. McGilchrist Gilchrist	..	..	16	0	0	
"Sympathisers," per Mrs. Cecilia Knapp (Homerton Campaign)	..	..	2	1	6	
"A Friend"	..	..	1	0	0	
Mrs. E. Grove	..	..	10	6	0	
Mrs. Duncan	..	..	10	0	0	
Miss Dick	..	..	5	0	0	
Miss P. A. Elliott	..	..	5	0	0	
Mrs. Counter	..	..	2	6	0	
Miss E. M. Perry	..	..	2	6	0	
"B."	..	..	1	0	0	
Miss G. Collingridge	..	..	1	0	0	
Mrs. Cubley	..	..	1	0	0	
Miss Esther Dünckel	..	..	1	0	0	
Dr. B. P. Lindup	..	..	1	0	0	
"T."	..	..	1	0	0	
W. J. Wise, Esq.	..	..	1	0	0	
Collections	..	..	5	4	0	
Office Sales	..	..	12	1	0	
<b>Branches—</b>						
Southampton	..	..	3	3	0	
Winchester	..	..	5	6	0	
<b>Capitation Fees—</b>						
Bournemouth	..	..	1	0	0	
Burnage	..	..	15	0	0	
Hartlepool	..	..	2	0	0	
<b>Glasgow Branch—Income for November and December.</b>						
Previously acknowledged in THE VOTE	..	..	153	13	9	
Miss Buntin	..	..	10	0	0	
Mrs. Wilson	..	..	6	2	0	
Mrs. Brown	..	..	10	0	0	
Miss Janet Semple	..	..	5	0	0	
Miss Ritchie (Hillhead)	..	..	2	6	0	
Miss Herriot	..	..	2	1	0	
Miss Johnstone	..	..	2	1	0	
James Christie, Esq.	..	..	2	0	0	
Mrs. Love	..	..	2	0	0	
Miss Mary Forbes	..	..	1	0	0	
—Riddell, Esq.	..	..	1	0	0	
Membership Fees	..	..	1	6	0	
Miss Findlay's Whist Drive	..	..	5	0	0	
Prize Drawing, per Mrs. Macleod and Miss Gentles	..	..	3	14	0	
Cake and Candy Sale	..	..	24	8	10	
Jumble Sale	..	..	26	2	11½	
Income from Tea Room	..	..	8	0½		
Lending Library	..	..	2	11		
Literature Profit, per Miss Dickie	..	..	10	0	0	
Office Sales	..	..	16	7		
Collections at Branch Meetings	..	..	1	2	3	
				244	5	0
				£628	7	5

Cheques to be made payable to the Women's Freedom League and crossed "London and South Western Bank, Ltd." To BRANCH TREASURERS.—In future, Branch and District Funds will be added to the National Fund, and for this purpose a list should be sent monthly to me.

E. KNIGHT, Hon. Treasurer

ALL ROADS LEAD TO—ARTHURS' STORES.—"Take one of them" is the advice of members of the Freedom League who have already paid a visit to the well-known Stores. "You will have to go again," says one of our members, "everything is so good; the only difficulty is where to begin, for the word 'grocery' has to be stretched to its utmost limits to include all the good things you find at 114-118, Westbourne-grove. I began with fruit and vegetables, and soon added a general grocery order, including excellent bottled fruit. Then I found the china and ironmongery irresistible for good value to be obtained, but before I had finished I was glad to refresh mind and body in the well-appointed restaurant. I look forward every week to a happy day at Arthurs' Stores—it ensures happy days at home as a result."

**JUSTICE!**

Some time ago we called attention to the fact that a man, responsible through his brutal neglect for the deaths of seven of his twelve children, was summoned for neglect of the other five, but that no charge was laid against him for the death of the seven. How differently a mother, who is not the "legal" parent, and from whom her children may be taken by the man that owns them, is treated, may be seen in the February 21 issue of the *Kent Messenger*, which furnishes several illuminating instances of Mr. Justice Bray's sense of justice. —Susan Yalden, unmarried, was mother of four children. The father appears to have made no contribution to their support. Susan worked in a laundry, and went hopping-picking. One child was tuberculous, and was described by the doctor at the Medway workhouse as delicate and very difficult to rear. It had diseased glands. It was brought back to the workhouse in a verminous condition, both lungs affected, and died. The mother, toiling to maintain these children, two of whom were twins, was charged with the manslaughter of the child, and though acquitted, was lectured on the iniquity of not going into the workhouse, if she could not support them. *She was already in prison on a police-court verdict for neglect*; but no mention was made of the man who should have helped to support the children.

The *Daily Mail*, February 25, also tells us of Priscilla Botting, of Croydon, whose 18-months old son died from bronchial pneumonia, brought on by neglect. She got twelve months at the Surrey Assizes. We will "wait and see" whether such a sentence can be secured for a neglectful father.

Some time ago, I am informed, *Votes for Women* gave an account of an incident in which a man seized a woman violently and abusively, and in shaking and maltreating her, dropped her into the water where she was drowned. He got twelve months, for manslaughter. At the Kent Assizes, a poacher who did not kill a keeper, but who narrowly missed him when letting off his gun, got twenty-one months.

Some time ago, a coloured doctor, who three times running drugged a young girl in his employ and criminally assaulted her, nearly costing her her life when an infant was born, was made to pay £350 damages, but was not further punished for his criminal action. The *Sunday Chronicle*, however, gives us half a column headed "A Danger to Society" showing how one John Bryson, at the Glasgow Circuit, found guilty of drugging the drink of one William Fraser (who incautiously went to drink with him in a public house) and then robbed him of money and property to the value of about £100, was given ten years' penal servitude. There were previous convictions for theft, and "assault and robbery" against this gentleman, but in none of them was he merely sentenced to pay damages! For "assault and robbery" he was previously sentenced to seven years; we wonder why the coloured doctor did not get seven, or ten, years for the "assault and robbery" of which he was guilty? We would also point out that to take advantage of a young girl who believes herself to be in honest employment in a person's house, is infinitely more criminal than to take advantage of a confiding idiot who goes to have drinks with a total stranger!

One last example of the vagaries of "justice." The new judge, Mr. Atherley-Jones, is the hero. An impudent action, brought by a discharged cook who "complained" that he had been thrown out without notice, was based on the following incident, exposing some of the vileness of trade customs:—The cook, finding that green-pea soup was ordered and having only yellow-pea soup in hand, put green colouring matter into the soap to cheat customers. A huge lump of green colouring matter was found by the customer in his soup. The cook appears to have thought it a matter of no consequence that "customers left in a huff." He said, "he could not help it." He, "as a cook of sixteen years' experience, understood these matters," and explained it to the customer. We are hardly surprised

to find that the customer was "not satisfied," and that the proprietor threw the cook out. What we are surprised at is that Judge Atherley-Jones took the cook's part, and "found for the plaintiff" that he should not have been discharged without notice!

It is our opinion that a criminal prosecution should be taken against such unscrupulous tampering with food; and that the law should so far protect those guilty as to allow them to bring, and win, such an action, in very truth amazing. We recall, in this instance, how members of the militant suffrage body, in Dublin, who brought an action against their own society for wrongful expulsion, were snubbed by the judge and told of their impudence in bringing such an action when they themselves as well as the defending society were all in a conspiracy which was illegal. If these women had their complaint dismissed because their actions were supposed to be improper, why does the same principle not apply to the dishonest cook who supplies dyed soup to his master's customers? Or, if the master was supposed to be in the secret, and only annoyed at the clumsiness which "gave the show away," why was not he told, also, what the Dublin militants were told?

We cannot come to an end of the scandalous favouritism and inequality of the administration of the law; but there are not wanting signs that public feeling is roused and is on the alert.

C. NINA BOYLE

**THE "PROTECTED" SEX.**

**Killed.**

Annie Rowe, of Alphington, found poisoned in field near Exeter, with Faulkner White, a married man living apart from his wife, who left him because of his violence. A letter showed that the meeting and the suicide were premeditated.—*Sunday Chronicle*, March 1.

**Murderous Assault.**

Muriel Oakes, aged 15, Darnhall, pursued by John Prince on January 12 when cycling home at night. Struck on the head, knocked off her bicycle, again struck with an iron bar on head and body and pushed across a field towards some pits. Attempt at criminal assault. One finger broken twice with blows as she tried to protect her head. Man went off after striking her again, saying, "There, I will leave you to die." To his credit, Mr. Justice Ivory, at the Chester Assizes, said: "Owing to a foolish defect in the law I am not able to order as part of your punishment that which would be most appropriate, that you should be flogged in order to teach you and to teach such men as you that you cannot abuse the strength with which you have been endowed to commit outrages of this kind upon helpless women and girls. For this crime you have committed you must go into penal servitude for fifteen years."—*Reynolds*, March 1.

Mrs. Evered, Camden Town, found in a back room bleeding from severe wounds in throat. Her husband fetched the police and gave himself up, showing the knife with which he alleged he had committed the deed. Accused his wife of having left him to live with another man.—*Reynolds*, March 1.

Mary Walsh, Chester, stabbed with knife. Husband charged. Drink alleged.—*Sunday Chronicle*, March 1.

**Criminal Assault.**

Pretoria Maud Hall (case mentioned in *VOTE* before), criminally assaulted by man who was a trusted friend of the family, on several occasions. General testimony that accused was "most respectable," and Judge bullied the mother for not having "taken better care" of her daughter! Girl was twelve years of age, and an infant had been born. Judge's remarks were:—"He had committed a grave offence on a girl of only twelve years of age, and was liable to a long term of penal servitude. He was sorry for the girl, who bore a very good character. He dared say that prisoner was subjected to some temptation, but there should not have been temptation with a child of that age. Having heard all that had been said for the accused he was not going to send him to penal servitude, but the punishment must be substantial. Prisoner must go to gaol for twelve months."

Compare: William Macdonald, breaking into a church and stealing 1s. 7d. from the offertory box, and confessing to having done it on many other occasions (no evidence of which was brought by the prosecution), eighteen months.

Dorothy Saffery, Chatham, stopped by William Barham one Sunday, demanding money with threats. Attempted criminal assault, tearing her clothes. Three previous convictions. Twelve months.

Compare: Florence Helen Daniels, obtaining money by false pretences, pretending she had a dead child whom she could not afford to bury. Got £1 10s. Long list of previous convictions, having once got the church bell tolled and a grave dug for her "dead" husband, who is a respectable man in good work. Convicted in 1912, given 12 months, but certified insane and transferred from prison to Barming Heath Asylum. In spite of which, Mr. Justice Bray sentenced her to twelve months!

Above cases from same issue of *Kent Messenger*, relating to cases tried at the Kent Assizes by Mr. Justice Bray.

## THE VOTE.

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Secretary—Miss H. HOLMAN.

FRIDAY, March 6, 1914.

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

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## A DANGEROUS DOCTRINE.

Amongst the many and imminent dangers that at the present moment threaten society, none looms larger than that which, in a former issue, we called "Master Morality—the rule of the Overman—which, by a new philosophical school, has been exalted into a cult."

Since these words were written we have had abundant evidence of the fact that our fear was no vain chimera. The Overman, alive to the consciousness that he is himself faced by certain perils, is taking stock of the situation. In Great Britain, being not quite sure of his ground, except in the case of women, who, as he still believes, in spite of many recent happenings, were brought into being to serve his purposes, he does not as yet venture to assert himself openly. By and by, if his cult prospers, that will come. Meanwhile he puts on a disguise. He talks loftily of Empire, and falls upon the humble folk, by their patriotism, to defend it. But when in the outskirts of the Empire those humble folk are flouted, scorned, and illegally treated, he ceases to be an Imperialist; he fails, that is, to see that, wherever the British flag flies, British subjects have a right to State protection. Why? Because the god of the Overman—Money—with all that money means in power, dignity, ease, and luxury, stands in the way of action. "We have no time for the British working man," said a pro-consul overseas to one who came before him to voice the grievances of his fellow-workers.

We wish our brothers in the great world of Labour would not only assert their indignation by meetings, by processions, by demonstrations, by the shouting of many voices, but that they would "mark, digest and learn" the lessons which are being thrust upon them.

No time for the British working man in South Africa! Little time for the British worker at home. For women—surprise, anger and punishment if they venture to ask for any time at all!

Says the Overman in possession: "How inconsiderate it is to try and force our hand! We have our party measures to carry through; we have the great exigencies of party strife to provide against—Labour men, who presume to be independent on the one hand; reactionaries on the other—we have to consider the interests of those who can, who do, support us: bankers, brewers, railway magnates, landed proprietors."

This, it should be understood, is the under-current. Those who serve the modern Master-Morality do not speak of these things openly. Yet, now and then, at moments when, as we may suppose, they are taken unawares, the truth slips out, and doctrines not only false, but anti-social in the last degree, are given to the world as truths.

Such an incident happened in the last election at Leith, and one of our fellow-workers there recorded it. Mr. Samuel, the notorious anti-Suffragist, had been speaking at an open-air meeting. Our correspondent—Miss McLachlan—writes: "We stayed and heckled him, and he got a bit wild; but the point to which I wish to refer was as follows. A man asked, 'Do

you believe that taxation and representation should go together?' He answered in the affirmative; and added that women in each class were represented by the men of that class. As an instance he gave the apparent victory of the Pit Brow Lassies." [We know that efforts to dislodge these girls have recently been successful at the New Charlston Colliery. Would this have happened had they been voters? Surely not.] "They came to London," continued Mr. Samuel, "with a doctor, who proved that the work was not bad for them physically, and a clergyman who proved that allegations against their moral character were false."

Miss McLachlan asked: "How did it happen that such slanderous allegations were made, and why was it necessary to disprove them? Would such methods have been used against voters?" Mr. Samuel had the audacity to answer: "Because the morals of the woman are of more importance to the country than the morals of the man."

That is the most arrant lie that was ever spoken, and the sooner it is nailed to the mast the better. It is insolent; it is dangerous; if it were generally accepted it would be fatal to our civilisation.

Take it from the political point of view. To be moral—what does that mean? Surely, like that much misunderstood word Temperance, it means the capacity for holding the body in control; literally, mastery over the machinery of passion and appetite. Even a tyro in mental science knows that to entrust the education and training of one child to a person who has no self-control is a fatal mistake. Many a hopeful human life has been blighted at its outset by the lack of this true morality in parents and teachers. Yet these men of the anti-Suffrage type who protest that it is for them to rule, and for women to obey, have the loathsome hypocrisy to say in the same breath that morality is not so necessary to them as it is to those whom they govern.

That is the broader aspect. When we look more closely at this ignorant and wicked assertion, when we narrow it down to the meaning which, we presume, was in Mr. Samuel's mind when he spoke, it becomes even more hateful and dangerous. Who are the women, to begin with, whose morality is of so much more importance to the nation than the morality of the men.

"Wives and mothers," he would doubtless answer. Has he nothing to say about the host of women outside that magic circle? Let us imagine that Mr. Samuel's aspirations were granted, for if morality in women is so important to the nation, he must desire more and more of this good thing, until all women may be, in his sense, moral. Would that satisfy the master moralist? Is it indeed for such a state of things that he is working?

We know perfectly well that it is not. In heaven's name, then, let us have an end of this pernicious trifling! Mr. Samuel and his confrères cannot fail to know that while we have a fatherhood as well as a motherhood, while men, no less than women, have their share in the life of the family, it is essential to the well-being, nay, to the safety of the family, that they should be able to exercise self-control.

We of the Woman's Movement demand imperatively the recognition of an equal moral standard for men and women. But if it were ever a question of relative importance, we should be inclined to say that self-mastery for men was even more important than for women. And we believe that until the mean and false sentiment, indulged in unfortunately by women as well as by men, that under certain circumstances men ought to be excused for lapses from morality be repudiated by society, we shall never have a sane, healthy generation.

Towards that we are moving: the ladder of spiritual evolution is at our feet. Political freedom and economic independence are our two first steps into the light, strongly, persistently and fearlessly we climb, "yearning ever after the human ideal," and for its sake passionately rejecting the false doctrines that, as a paltry excuse for their do-nothing policy, politicians of both parties are thrusting upon us.

C. DESPARD.

## The Sign-Post.

### "THE NEW WOMAN."

We are told of an angry Cardinal in Boston, whose Sunday sermon consisted of an attack on woman—her dress, deportment, conversation and conduct.

"Something," he says, "is passing in the heart and mind of the woman of to-day which is leaving them hard and unwomanly."

Truly something *is* passing in the hearts and minds of the women of to-day. There we are in complete agreement with our lecturer. Very broadly speaking,

### Women are awakened, aroused.

Many still sleep, many still prefer to turn from any awakening. They are "at ease," and calmly murmur: "All's well with the world!" But rowers who hug the banks, or drift into a back-water, do not count in a race, and

### It is the awakened women who count,

even if they are still in a minority.

In the hearts and minds of the awakened woman has been born a wider love and deeper caring than that which is confined to her own immediate circle and her own particular home.

Florence Nightingale cared for the sick and wounded who were very far off. Elizabeth Fry sought the comfortless outside her own family. They, too,

### Passed through the fire of criticism.

They, too, were called "unwomanly." The first women doctors made the way clear and smooth for the successful woman doctor of to-day, but not without running the gauntlet of

### Stern reproach and opposition.

So it has ever been, and the spirit of the Pioneers, now aroused in the hearts and minds of many women, makes them seek, in many ways, the betterment of woman's lot—more freedom, more power, justice and equality.

But not without reproach—

### Not without conflict.

Is it not hard to lay at the door of these "New Women," as the Cardinal calls them, the sins and sillinesses of her fashionable or frivolous sisters—which are not new!

Indiscretions in "dress, deportment, conversation and conduct" are

### Not new traits in women—nor in men either!

The fashions which cause our other clerical accuser—*vide The Times*—so deep an annoyance, can scarcely be called "new." Fashion plates of the latter end of the eighteenth century show a great resemblance to the present modes. We are not excusing them, but they have nothing to do with the Awakened or New Woman!

That the unfortunate clergyman finds his modesty attacked by the sight of a young girl in a 'bus with a somewhat low-necked blouse, or too great license in other directions at the theatre, is sad, but

### The remedy is obvious.

Still may the modern St. Anthony find sheltering seclusion. One wonders how he would have fared in the "good old days," when, according to "Country Merry-Makings," a very plentiful display of neck was by no means unusual, and plays were of the broadest! Are there no greater evils rampant in this world that these doughty parsons may be up and attacking, than the dress and morals of women—even the fashionable and frivolous ones?

"Hard and unwomanly" are they?—these "New Women."

"God spare us from any further development of the abnormal creatures!" cries the Cardinal.

Will they pause and consider, these irate parsons, whom they are condemning and

### Not confuse issues so terribly?

Is it the doctors, the would-be (and will-be) lawyers, the guardians, the inspectors and officials? These are the "New Women," if there are any; for the writers, the actresses, nurses and philanthropists have been with us for a long time, though their work, too, is now influenced by the new spirit. Are these the "abnormal creatures"? Or, can it be the

### Political woman to whom they object?

But, she is as old as the hills! Truly she has been obliged to use the back-stairs! All we politely ask is, that she shall

### Walk in openly at the front door.

We, too, may pray that "the eyes of the blind may be opened," and that the Church militant may turn its attention to the "White Slavers," sweaters of women, and assaulters of children.

### Those are evils needing its sword.

MARY MAUD.

## OUR INTERNATIONAL COLUMN.

Head of International Department: MRS. HARVEY,  
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### FRANCE.

#### Madame Remember.

Lauréat et Membre Fondateur de la Société Nationale d'Encouragement au Bien, Directrice-Fondatrice du Journal, *Le Féminisme Intégral*.

Madame Remember prétend que le but principal de la vie doit être le travail et non pas l'amour. Elle est passionnée pour les choses qui offrent un intérêt à son esprit et à son cœur. Avant de mettre cette énergie et cette passion au service du féminisme, c'est-à-dire, de la justice elle les avait dirigées vers la philanthropie, c'est-à-dire vers la bonté. A l'âge où la plupart des femmes de sa classe s'occupent surtout de mondantés et de chiffons, Madame Remember se prodiguait pour soulager la misère. Elle fonda en 1880 une "Œuvre de Bienfaisance" pour le travail des femmes et consacrait, en outre, une bonne part de sa fortune et de sa vie à la prospérité d'autres œuvres. Mais la plus importante des sociétés humanitaires qui sollicitèrent sa générosité fut la "Société Nationale d'Encouragement au Bien," fondée il y a une cinquantaine d'années par M. Arnoul, Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur, société qui fut plus tard reconnue d'utilité publique.

En 1913 elle fonda le *Féminisme Intégral*, dont la publication lui demande une activité énorme et continue, quoiqu'elle ait plus de soixante ans, couronnée, d'ailleurs, par un succès qui a dépassé ses espérances, pour les services qu'il rend à la cause.

Dans ce journal, Madame Remember, combat sans merci, avec autant de vigueur que de finesse, les vices de l'homme, cause première de la dépravation des mœurs et de l'iniquité des lois envers la femme. Elle y fait place à toutes les revendications qui relèvent du féminisme. Elle y a donné, en outre, un bel exemple de solidarité féminine en y ouvrant, sous le titre un peu pompeux d'*Apothéose de la Femme*, une intéressante galerie de portraits; galerie dans laquelle n'ont encore défilé que des types d'intellectuelles et de "bourgeoises," mais où elle espère voir figurer un jour des représentantes de la classe ouvrière méritant, à un titre quelconque, d'être mises en évidence. Nous le souhaitons avec elle.

MARBEL, *Le Féminisme Intégral*.

#### That Awful Suffragette!

The Niçois have been enjoying themselves! The English Suffragette, as represented on their Carnival car, carries fire and blood in all directions! Nothing stops her ardour—neither the policeman whom she thrashes nor the fireman who turns jets of water on her from the hose. She even throws a bomb that bursts! "This fine composition of M. Tordo's has been much admired."—From *L'Eclair* de Nice.

#### Honour to Whom Honour is Overdue.

Madame Sarah Bernhardt has been admitted to the Legion of Honour. Paris held a demonstration of congratulation.

#### Madame—as Lawyer.

Mme. Verone is a lawyer and married to a lawyer. He pleaded last week for her vote before the Juge de Paix. He still remains a Suffragist though wedded to one! Mme. Verone has a good practice at the Palais de Justice, principally in children's cases, which bulk largely in criminal business. In a few weeks children's courts will be opened in France, and Mme. Miropolsky, also a lawyer, who began her career by pleading children's cases, has expressed her satisfaction that they will be closed to all save those who have business there. In the

past there has been much contamination. The little playmates of the prisoners have come to gloat over their notoriety, and the culprits have experienced all the glow of hero-worship. Only parents and journalists will now be allowed in the Court.

#### Madame—as Book-keeper.

The immaculate lady who sits enthroned behind the large open book of figures in every café and restaurant in Paris and in most of the shops has revolted. Madame la Caissière thinks she should be represented on the Labour Council, as are work-girls, and has applied for the privilege to the Minister of Labour. The claim is not excessive, and if she gets it, there will then be only two women on a board containing seventy men!—From *The Observer*.

#### AN AVALANCHE IN CHICAGO.

#### A Triumph of Women, for Women, by Women!

Such is the record of the registration of over 158,000 women for the primary elections on February 24, women rich and poor, women with babies in their arms and women in rich furs and Parisian gowns who put their limousines at the disposal of the women workers, and themselves helped to bring the women to the booths. Master and man, mistress and maid were all

In Aid of the "NINE ELMS" School Clinic.

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ANNOUNCE A

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FRIDAY, MARCH 6th, 8 p.m.

SPEAKERS—

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sworn in together! Here's to the vote, the leveller of sex and society!

The new order in Illinois makes room for women on both sides of the table at the polls, on the one side stands this army ready, eager to vote, and vote intelligently; on the other sit 700 women as election officers. Women watchers frustrated scores of frauds, caused two registration officials to be sentenced to gaol, prosecuted others and took evidence against scores of repeaters. A woman inspector was placed in every registration place; a few days before the registration books were opened, representatives of the Municipal Citizenship Committee visited every registration place in the city, and when they found one in an undesirable location complaint was made to the election authorities, with the result that a new booth was chosen. Thus, no woman had to go into disagreeable surroundings to register. Woman, the born cleaner, is out for a clean and corruptionless Chicago! It came as a surprise to those who had foretold that evil would come of Woman Suffrage, the matter-of-fact way in which the women performed their new duties. They seemed to know what was expected of them as well as the more experienced male voters. They occasioned little trouble to the election officials, and the majority of them took no more time in getting their names upon the poll books than did the men. A day of triumph truly. A triumph of hard work, careful forethought, stern sense of duty and other qualities, so far conspicuous by their absence from political fields. Alas! for Washington! In the same week, at a House Democratic Caucus, a resolution was adopted, by a vote of 123 to 57, declaring that the question of Woman Suffrage is a State and not a national question!—From *The Woman's Journal*.

#### Did Chivalry Die?

Not even demoted dames paddling in puddles of political pollution could kill it! It survived and revived. Prophecies of evil proved false. Instead, the men who served as election officials and party workers and who registered as voters showed that the polling-place has a more chivalrous atmosphere than the street car; they showed the courtesies that are considered typical of the drawing-room. The men seemed eager to prove that the new voters were welcome to participate in the settlement of public questions and the management of public affairs.

#### "Bang Goes Saxpence."

"Women do not want to vote," we are assured and re-assured by the "Antis" with "damnable iteration." Possibly not. But women are essentially self-sacrificing. When the call of duty sounds in their ears, it meets an instinctive response. They may not want to vote, but they will vote just as soon as it becomes an obligation of their citizenship. With the news of the hundred and fifty thousand names of women on the registration books in Chicago, "bang" goes another Anti "saxpence"!—*The Independent*.

#### The Vote—and Dinner.

A coloured cook was offered a half-holiday so that she might take her time about voting. "No, ma'am, no holiday for me on election day. Not much, I ain't goin' to let my doin's prove all them silly folks right what have said that the women would neglect their house and their children, and their work, to go and vote! Not much, ma'am! I'm goin' to put in a good full day of work, I am, and come back and git dinner, just the same as I allus do—and vote, besides!" S. SOLOMONS.

#### History Repeats Itself.

The following might be the description of one of our own Suffrage processions: The Dutch Women's Suffrage Association has resolved to send a petition, with many thousand signatures, to the Government, asking for equal political rights for men and women, to convince the Prime Minister, to whom, according to his own words, the will of the people is law, that the people really wish for Woman Suffrage. In order to inaugurate the work for this petition the Women's Suffrage Association organised a procession and mass meeting on February 15. Both were a splendid success. From north, south, east and west, from towns and tiny villages, came women—and men—to join the procession. It was a wonderful and exhilarating sight—so many beautiful banners, so many happy, enthusiastic faces. The streets, along which the procession passed, were lined with a most sympathetic crowd.

The Assembly Hall, the largest one in Amsterdam, holding nearly 3,000 persons, was full to overflowing for the meeting. Splendid speeches were made, and a resolution, asking for equal political rights for men and women, was unanimously carried, and the topic of the day—in public and in private throughout the country—Woman Suffrage. It has been a most hopeful and inspiring beginning, and everywhere women have taken up the work with great spirit.

J. P. VAN LANSHOR HULRECHS.

#### Women's Suffrage in the United States.

A Central News cable from Washington on March 2 says that the Senate decided by forty-seven votes to fourteen to consider immediately a resolution in favour of a Women's Suffrage amendment to the Constitution.

#### Britons Behindhand.

A Reuter telegram from Victoria, British Columbia, says that a Woman Suffrage Bill was defeated in the Legislature on February 27, by twenty-three votes to ten.

Next Week: NORWAY.

#### TOWARDS STILL GREATER SUCCESS.

"A Sanctuary for Suffragists!" Thus did the Earl of Lytton describe the International Women's Franchise Club, when presiding at the annual dinner, on February 26, at the Criterion Restaurant. He also told of a new acquisition, Vice-presidents, including men and women of many nationalities, creeds and professions, demonstrating that the object of the Club is to unite all for the greatest social and political aim of this age. The names include Mrs. Chapman Catt, president of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance; Sir John Cockburn, K.C.M.G., so powerfully instrumental in enfranchising South Australian women; Miss Annie Furuhjelm, M.P. in Finland; the Duchess of Marlborough, to the fore in every object for the welfare of women; the Bishop of Kensington; Sir J. Forbes-Robertson; Dr. Aletha Jacobs (Holland). The Club has now achieved and exceeded its first goal—a membership of one thousand, and is in a sound financial position. The large company assembled at the dinner warmly supported the remark of the hon. treasurer, Mr. Goldfinch Bate, that it will soon be not only the best Club in London but the best in the world.

Responding to the toast of the Vice-presidents, Lady St. Davids, in an excellent speech, emphasised her belief that woman must co-operate with man for the uplifting of the world; the same appeal, she said, is coming from all quarters of the globe, and already the enfranchised countries form a girdle round the world. Her rendering of Portia's words, "The quality of *Courtesy* is not strained," made an effective appeal. Supporting Lady St. Davids, Sir Alfred Mond declared that it was as futile to try to sweep back the tide of the Atlantic as to try to stop the development of womanhood. He assured the audience that, though the movement is far above party politics, it is only by party that its aim can be achieved. In a humorous speech, proposing the toast of the cause and International Friendship, Lady Betty Balfour said that when the fight for the vote was won, those who now are "Antis" will say that the vote is a most womanly thing: only for women to sit in Parliament will remain unwomanly!

Mme. Jeanne Schmahl spoke of Margaret Brett, who in the seventeenth century demanded the vote for her ownership of estates in Maryland. Work in France, she added, is still carried on by individual effort, and suggested that England, always a leader in reforms, should send missionaries thither, anticipating a ripe harvest. Miss Rosika Schwimmer, in a speech in excellent English, full of her characteristic wit and wisdom, said that success in England will mean success all the world over, and the strengthening of international friendship.

To our President, Lord Lytton paid warm tribute, which was heartily endorsed by the whole company. In proposing the toast of the Club, Mrs. Despard said that the Suffrage movement has already refuted the old idea of a woman being simply a social butterfly or a household drudge, and emphasised her belief that international friendship will be the means of superseding war by arbitration. The Rev. Dr. J. Hochmann spoke of the influence of such clubs in achieving political victories. Realising this truth as regards the woman's movement, the unanimous wishes of the company for the International Women's Franchise Club may be summed up in the words: "Speed on thy mission, valiant, kindly one . . . thy flag unfurled, thy colours to the mast!" K. T.

#### "THE DAUGHTERS OF ISHMAEL."

We owe a debt of gratitude to the Pioneer Players for their courageous presentation of a dramatized version of "The Daughters of Ishmael" at King's Hall last Sunday evening. The production was in six episodes dealing with the betrayal of an American country girl, Mary Denbigh, her life at a house of ill-fame, her vain attempts to get "honest" work after her escape, her final despair as she realized "the life had got hold" of her and escape was impossible, though she lacked sufficient courage to find for herself a watery grave and was paralysed by the fear of certain starvation. In marked contrast was the life of Marian Lennox, a college girl, with a passion for reforming people. She marries Wesley Dyker, a plausible, scheming politician, who had been a frequent visitor at the house where Mary had been entrapped. Mrs. Dyker knew something of Mary's past, but agreed to give her a chance to retrieve her position by offering her a place as housemaid in her own house. When her husband discovered this, he drove her from the place with insult and execration. At once Marian's suspicions were aroused and she came to doubt him and the whole world. With platitudes he tried to allay her distrust, told her that the world was ruled by men's faith in women and women's trust in men!

"The Daughters of Ishmael" can hardly be called a problem play—it is a realistic presentation of a very sordid part of our social system. Poverty, the grinding poverty which means monotony of toil, which produces the irritable, narrow-minded woman who is always tired and the man who is usually brutal, was responsible for Mary running away from home, responsible, too, for the choice of this life by her fellow victims. But, after all, had they any choice? The greed of those who made money out of their broken lives made the way of descent easy.

The part of Mary Denbigh was powerfully acted by Marjorie Patterson, of Marian Lennox by Olive Nobb, and of Wesley Dyker by Harvey Braban. To Janette Steer, as Madame Legère, the mistress of "The House" we offer our warmest congratulations. This part could not have been acted better. F. A. U.

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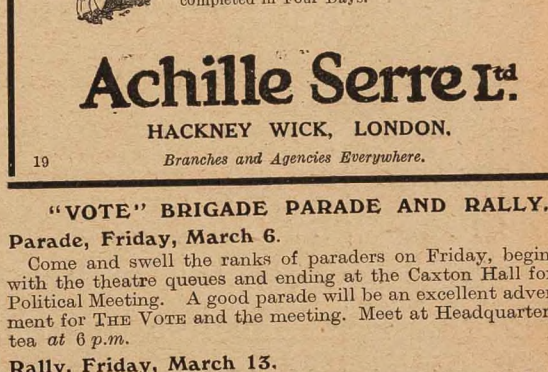
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#### "VOTE" BRIGADE PARADE AND RALLY.

##### Parade, Friday, March 6.

Come and swell the ranks of paraders on Friday, beginning with the theatre queues and ending at the Caxton Hall for the Political Meeting. A good parade will be an excellent advertisement for THE VOTE and the meeting. Meet at Headquarters for tea at 6 p.m.

##### Rally, Friday, March 13.

Mrs. Despard will be glad to welcome the Brigade in force at the next Rally on Friday, March 13, at 7.30 p.m. We specially urge new members to take advantage of this opportunity of meeting our Captain and the rest of the rankers.

P. LEAHY, VOTE Street Sales Organiser.

WHAT'S IN A NAME? A great deal when you are dealing with Messrs. William Clarke & Sons, Coal Merchants, 341, Gray's Inn-road, King's-cross. Be sure to put the correct name and address when ordering, then you will be sure to receive coal which will give satisfaction. Mention THE VOTE, for Messrs. William Clarke & Sons have long been supporters of THE VOTE, and are magicians in brightening the home through their excellent coal.

### CAXTON HALL "WEDNESDAYS." MRS. CUNNINGHAM ON RACE-BEARERS AND THE FALLING BIRTH-RATE IN FRANCE

Out of her personal experiences gained during a long residence in France, Mrs. Cunningham gave, on February 25, what she aptly termed a "cinematographical" lecture on her impressions of the Feminist Movement, and particulars—without statistics—of the falling birth-rate in that country. Having a reputation as a witty and informing lecturer, a large audience gathered to hear her. A recent honour conferred upon Mrs. Cunningham is that she is the first woman invited by the Director of the Public Free Library and Museum at Brighton to lecture on science; she will speak on Madame Curie (who is a personal friend) and the discovery of radium.

Mrs. Cunningham explained that the position of woman is relatively good in France, a fact which she puts down to the "dot" system securely tied by law on the woman; but the Suffrage Movement cannot be in France as in England; no street meetings are allowed, and even men's political associations, as we know them, do not exist. Yet France, she declared, is in dire need of the aid of her women in managing women's affairs. Her politicians only see eye to eye on one subject—the raising of their salaries—while a gallant captain, on being appealed to for a solution as to how women should salute the flag, declared, without circumlocution: "They should give birth to as many males as possible!" The falling birth-rate in France has even reached the fowls—new laid eggs cost 3d. each! The necessities of life are three times as dear as they were twenty years ago, and for a woman adequately to nourish children on an average wage is now an impossibility. "French deputies," she said, "are too busy forcing long years of conscription on their boys because a big gun firm has engineered a war scare, too busy collecting payment for a pack of cards in a house while sewage pours down the street, and typhoid and diphtheria are rife, to stop the waste of child life. To do something practical would cost money; it is easier to let the children die, and blame women for not having more! France," she added, "is being crushed by taxation." Mrs. Cunningham gave interesting facts about the position of women in various professions, and told how, under the law for Children's Courts, lawyers of both sexes may make the supplementary inquiry. Madame Verone, a lawyer, has been appointed member of the Extra Parliamentary Committee to draft a Bill for Child Protection.

With regard to recent legislation hailed as a sign of justice to women, Mrs. Cunningham was severely critical; the legislation of one sex on matters which concern both, presses hardly on women. In the research of paternity by unmarried mothers, the man has the right to proceed against the woman for damages should she not prove her case. The French woman, she observed, knows that she is the arbiter of her destiny, and will not be a machine for producing beings foredoomed to a life of privation; the wife of the artisan puts the limit at one child brought up in fair comfort; the middle-class couple may "be resigned to three"; the wealthy prefer three servants, two motors, one child. The number of girls who enter convents must be remembered, as also the loss of children by illegal operations—50,000 annually according to a doctor writing recently in *Le Matin*. What is France doing to remedy the falling birth-rate?

Chapter 14.

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S.H.B.

A Commission of one hundred men has been sitting for a considerable time; they are prepared to spend £1,000 on the report. They have decided to remove old fortifications in Paris and build houses that will hold large families. But Government employés, married men, receive £4 a month; their rent in Paris is not less than 30 francs a month; the Garde Nationale, picked men, may not marry. "In surroundings unfit for baby to live," said Mrs. Cunningham, "his mother is lectured on how to manage him. The massacre of the innocents still goes on in France, because one sex tries to legislate for two. The modern Herod is Hydra-headed: Syphilis, Consumption, and Alcoholism is his name. These three giant evils," she said in conclusion, "are the causes the State ought to remove before lecturing women about their duty, while men, usurping all the power, neglect theirs." Dr. Drysdale and Dr. Alice Vickery made interesting speeches largely in agreement with the lecturer.

### WOMAN'S POLITICAL NULLITY AN ANACHRONISM

The solitary anti-Suffrage employée outside the Kingsway Hall on Thursday evening, February 26, would have felt smaller and more negligible than he looked if he had peeped inside the Hall during the meeting organised by the "Votes for Women Fellowship" to protest against the omission from the King's Speech of any reference to Woman Suffrage, and to express indignation at the barbarous treatment of Women Suffrage prisoners.

Enthusiasm reigned supreme, and an exciting tinge was imparted by Sir Harry Johnston condemning militancy and other speakers upholding it. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence spoke from the chair in her usual clear and trenchant style, and evoked loud applause by reading a characteristic message from Olive Schreiner, who expressed great joy at the way in which men were fighting in the great Cause of woman's emancipation. Mrs. Lawrence spoke at some length on the difficulties and cruel position of widowed mothers among the women workers in this country, of which an example has been so recently before the public, and she made a strong plea for cohesion among Suffragists.

Sir Harry Johnston, noted explorer and Colonial Governor, said that he put Woman Suffrage in the first place among Social Reforms. He insisted that many of the laws now being passed lack the claim for support which they should command, owing to their want of consideration for women; although he deplored the waste of workers by martyrdom, women's political nullity was, he said, such an anachronism that one could well understand the desire to cut the Gordian knot of tergiversation by violence. The speaker was witty and humorous on the subject of women "Antis," and put it to the audience that living bores did more good than dead martyrs.

Miss Lena Ashwell spoke of the causes and evils of the "White Slave Traffic," and gave some terrible details of the scandalous rates of pay of women workers. She suggested that after 150 years' fighting it was not too much to desire an immediate granting of Parliamentary Suffrage to women. Mr. George Lansbury, who met with a rousing reception, castigated the Government for its differentiation in treatment of prisoners, and spoke of the present laws as not judge-made, but police-made and Home Office-made laws.

Mr. Pethick Lawrence, the last of the speakers, said that as the Government obviously intended to do nothing for women, there was nothing left but to turn them out, as Mr. Masterman had been turned out of Bethnal Green. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence announced that over £256 had been collected. N. G. A.

### THE W.F.L. IN REGENT'S PARK.

Bright sunshine drew crowds to the Park on Sunday, and hundreds mustered round our platform. The International character of the movement, and the true significance of woman's work was specially dwelt on by Mrs. Hyde and Miss Trott. An "Anti" in the crowd said afterwards that he had attended a meeting of another society a few days before without being at all impressed, but was quite converted at our meeting! As we may not sell THE VOTE in the Park, will someone volunteer to do so at Gloucester-gate?

### CYNTHIA SMILES AGAIN.

Cynthia was troubled; a dark cloud banished the wonted smile from her face. She was a practical and careful personage, despite her cheeriness and optimism, and it was rare to see her despondent. The fact was, she was trying to make six pence do the work of twelve, and was also trying to reduce her needs by half. The task seemed hopeless till THE VOTE came to the rescue with Friday morning's breakfast. "I'm off on important business," she announced to her family. "When I come back I'll tell you what it is." As quickly as tube and 'bus would take her, she hurried to William Owen's, Westbourne-grove, where the dark cloud vanished in the blouse department, for there she found bargains to her heart's content. Voile and lawn blouses, finely tufted, in the latest styles, from 3s. 11d.; Japanese silk at 4s. 9d., and crepe de chine in most artistic colourings at 10s. 11d. The value she obtained for her slender resources was quite astonishing. And there was a sequel: the next day a merry party was seen emerging from the well-known establishment, rejoicing over their acquisitions in the blouse and other departments; those who were going in began to wonder whether any bargains would be left. "Lose no time in going to look for them," was Cynthia's advice.

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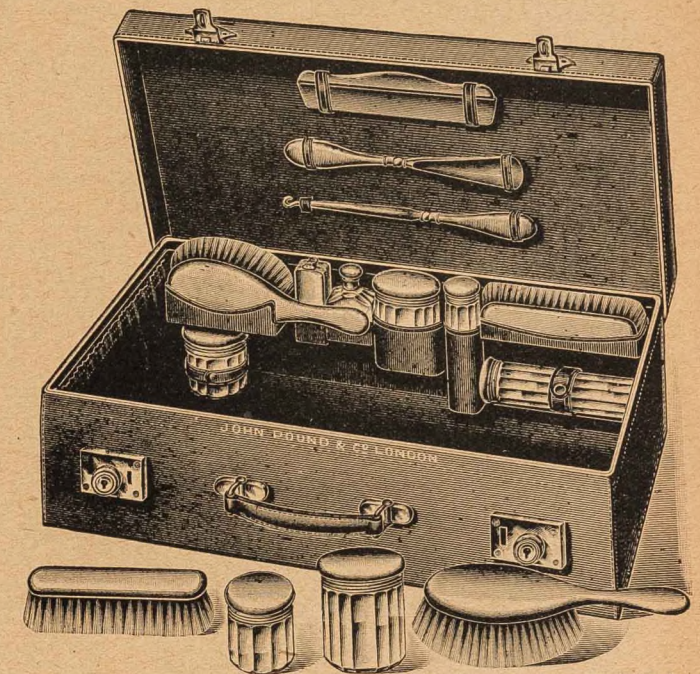
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### MONTGOMERY BOROUGH'S CAMPAIGN.

#### CONTINUED SUCCESS AND ENTHUSIASM.

On Monday, February 23, we continued the Welsh campaign, beginning at Abermule, where we received great assistance from the schoolmaster, Mr. Williams, who had well advertised our meeting. The hall was crowded, Miss Alex. M. Clark presided, and Miss Munro gave an exposition of the Woman's Movement. Questions were asked, a good collection taken, THE VOTE sold well, and new members were enrolled. We then journeyed to Pennant Hall, the residence of our honoured President, Mrs. Scott, who, owing to the cold weather, was unable to accompany us to the meetings, but who makes up for her absence in so many other substantial ways. On Tuesday our meeting was held in the Assembly Rooms, Berriew. Miss Munro's brilliant speech won over a large number of people who had come with the definite purpose of squashing the women. The hecklers, however, found themselves dealt with in a manner which they did not expect, and the result was that the audience left the hall in complete sympathy with the Woman's Cause. This was really the first Suffrage meeting held in Berriew. New members were enrolled, and the flag is now flying there with the help of enthusiastic new recruits. The success of this meeting is due to the preliminary work of our member, Miss Katie Pritchard.

On Wednesday we crossed the border and landed in Oswestry to hold an open-air meeting in the Market Place. Miss Clark announced the meeting by ringing a bell through the town, which attracted a large crowd of country people, where again Miss Munro delivered an appropriate address. One hundred copies of THE VOTE were sold, which testified to the appreciation of Miss Munro's address.

Much interest was taken in the meeting at Welshpool on Thursday night; it was held in the Town Hall, and there was a large audience. Considerable interruption was caused by a body of irresponsible youths, who were severely taken to task for their senseless behaviour in the reports of the meeting in the local Press. Mr. A. P. Busch-Michell, of Crosswood, presided, and the speakers were Mrs. Nevinson, Miss Munro, and Miss Clark. Mrs. Nevinson's interesting speech covered many important points in the Woman's Movement. The Movement, she said, was, in the first place, a demand for justice; even if the vote were no good, as some said, women demanded it as their right, seeing that they paid taxes as do men. Woman's

influence was urgently needed in legislation dealing with the employment of women in factories and their wages; also in laws affecting the upbringing of children. She dealt at length with the injustice women suffer under the Insurance Act, and gave instances of its unfair working. War and drink, she added, were the great curses of the world, and women would be on the side of peace, temperance, and purity.

Friday we motored to Llarwng, quite virgin soil. The vicar announced the meeting by ringing the church bell. Slowly but surely the audience came from over the hills, valleys and dales until the hall was filled to overflowing. Miss Clark presided, and Miss Munro dealt with the Woman's Movement in simple language, from the elementary point of view. The vicar moved a eulogistic vote of thanks to Miss Clark, speaking of the great enthusiasm which she evinced in all good and just causes; it was carried with acclamation. The schoolmaster collected, and many copies of THE VOTE were sold. The audience was reluctant to leave, and when at last the speakers drove away, the people cheered till the car was out of sight.

The campaign finished on Saturday by an open-air meeting in Newtown.

We are very much indebted to Mrs. Frances Lewis, of Aberdovey, the hon. treasurer of the Branch, who has accompanied us through the campaign; her help and work and devotion to the Cause in Montgomery Boroughs is much appreciated. The result of this campaign is an increase of nearly 100 members. Miss Munro has aroused fresh enthusiasm and spirit, and the Branch feel that they cannot adequately thank her for her magnificent work and co-operation, and they are eagerly looking forward to a return visit in the near future.

ALIX MINNIE CLARK.

### BOHEMIAN EVENING.

A very successful Bohemian evening was organised by Mrs. Huntsman on behalf of the London Branches Council, at the Caxton Hall on February 27. The programme, which included music, recitations, dances, and cards, was thoroughly enjoyed by members of the Women's Freedom League and their friends. Miss Chrystal Rayne, Miss Cohen, and Mr. F. G. Threadgold delighted the audience with their songs, and Miss Julie Huntsman's excellent recitations are always sufficient to ensure the success of any gathering. A special tribute is willingly given to the friends who undertook the catering and the arrangement of the refreshments. Hopes are generally entertained that this is only the first of many such enjoyable evenings.





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**BRANCH NOTES.**

**NATIONAL OFFICES, LONDON, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C.**

**LONDON AND SUBURBS.—Bowes Park.**

A very pleasant and successful Whist Drive was given on February 2 in aid of the Branch funds. Our best thanks are due to Mrs. Dorrington, by whose kindness we were enabled to have such a delightful and helpful party. A meeting was held on February 23. Business matters regarding the public meeting in March were settled, after which a paper was given by a member on "Hindle Wakes," and a Suffrage duologue read by two others. Altogether a very enjoyable evening. The next meeting will be held at 49, Ollereton-road, New Southgate, on March 9, at 7.30 p.m. Business meeting. *Public Meeting.*—On March 23, at 7.30 p.m., a Public Meeting will be held at Avondale Hall, Palmer's-green, when Mrs. Despard will speak and Mrs. Mustard will be in the chair.

**Croydon.—Office, 32A, The Arcade, High-street.**

An excellent paper was read by Miss Becher on "Ethical Thoughts on Vivisection in Relation to the Woman's Movement" at the fortnightly meeting, held at the office on February 27. It was followed by an interesting discussion. Miss Murphy presided. On March 23 a meeting will be held in the Public Hall at 8 p.m., when Miss Boyle will be the principal speaker. Will members please call at the office for handbills and tickets for the meeting, and undertake to distribute them?

**East London.**

The next Branch meeting will be on Thursday, March 5, at 37, Wellington-buildings, Bow, at 7 p.m. Will any member willing to lend her drawing-room for a meeting please communicate with the hon. secretary? Please resolve to make one member per day during Lent.

**Hackney.**

The Hackney Branch held their annual meeting on February 25. Miss Rawlings presided. After Conference matters had been dealt with, several local items, including the reopening of a Suffrage Shop in Hackney, were discussed. Mrs. Despard then addressed the Branch on future prospects, and greatly interested her hearers by reminiscences of past campaigns. Mrs. Mustard also gave an address, and music was rendered by the Misses Skipper and M. Catmur. Literature, THE VOTE, and merchandise were sold, and a good collection taken. The thanks of the Branch are due to Mrs. Catmur for her kind hospitality, and to other members for cakes, sweets, &c.

**Mid-London.**

By the kindness of Dr. Octavia Lewin a splendidly attended "At Home" took place on February 23. Miss Cicely Hamilton gave a characteristically interesting speech on the present aspect of the Woman's Movement, and was followed by the Rev. C. Baumgarten, who made humorous references to the many and varied offices held, not altogether successfully, by the present Home Secretary. Good sales were done in THE VOTE and other Suffrage literature, and new members were enrolled. To Dr. Lewin we give hearty thanks for her hospitality.

**PROVINCES.—Brighton and Hove.**

A members' meeting was held on February 23, when the resolutions for Conference were discussed, and delegates chosen. The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 9, at 8 p.m., in the Lecture Hall, 19, Norfolk-terrace, when Miss Hare will take the chair for Mr. Baillie Weaver, who will speak on "Women as Comrades." Those who have heard him know what an interesting and deep-thinking speaker Mr. Baillie Weaver is, and it is hoped that every member will endeavour to make the meeting a very successful one. Admission is free. Will those members who have not yet paid their annual subscriptions kindly give them to Miss Hare, or to the hon. treasurer, Miss White?

**Grays.**

Organising in the district of Grays Miss Read visited Tilbury Dock gates at midday on Tuesday to hold an open-air meeting, and was successful in securing a large and very responsive audience. Mrs. Tunstall was kept busy with VOTE sales. On Thursday, by kind permission of Mrs. Gooden, a drawing-room meeting was held, at which Miss Neal spoke on the needed alteration of laws as they affect women; she also explained the policy of the League, and a very interesting discussion followed. New members joined, and we anticipate still larger additions to our ranks in Grays. On Friday evening at an open-air meeting people crowded round the platform (kindly lent by Clarion Fellowship) to hear more about Votes for Women. Miss Read spoke for an hour, and a resolution in favour of Votes for Women was passed unanimously. Our flag will be very much in evidence next week as a visit is to be made to the Grays and Tilbury Women's Co-operative Guild, Tilbury laundresses, and again to Tilbury Dock gates. On Friday we anticipate a crowded meeting at the Boys' School, Bridge-road, when Miss Munro will speak and Mrs. Tunstall will preside.

**Ipswich.**

The annual meeting was held on February 26, and was well attended. Officers were elected for the ensuing year, and subscriptions paid. The resolutions for the Conference were voted on and amendments proposed. Next week we have a paper from Doctor Baines on "The Training of Women Doctors and Dentists." On March 12 Miss Maud Webb will speak on "First Aid in the Home," with demonstrations. We shall be glad to see any friends as well as members at this meeting.

**Portsmouth and Gosport.**

The usual success attended the whist drive on February 25, and our warmest thanks are given to Miss Mottershall for so kindly entertaining us. Parcels for the jumble sale to be held on March 16 may be sent to 17, Lombard-street. A meeting for members and friends will be held on Tuesday, March 10, at 17, Lombard-street, at 7.30 p.m. Several members have promised to read short papers, after which there will be a discussion.

**Southampton.**

A debate on Women's Suffrage took place at St. John's Room, Hedge End, on February 18, by kind permission of the Men's Debating Society. Mr. Ratcliffe presided over an audience of 120 adults, in-

cluding about fifty ladies. Mrs. Leigh Rothwell, of the Southampton Branch of the Women's Freedom League, opened the discussion by proposing "That in the opinion of this meeting the time has now arrived when the Parliamentary vote should be extended to women." She made a brilliant and forceful speech, which held the audience throughout. A very interesting debate followed lasting about one hour and a-half, at the conclusion of which Mrs. Leigh Rothwell replied. The resolution being put to the meeting 43 voted in favour, and 19 against, and amid much applause the chairman declared the resolution carried. As a result of this meeting, converts—men and women—were made, and the Men's Debating Society has decided to open the "Debates" in future to both sexes on equal footing.

**WALES.—Swansea.**

A Branch meeting was held on February 25 in Dynevor-place School. Resolutions for Conference were read, and amendments considered. The question of a levy for General Election purposes was discussed, and it was decided that the Visiting and Finance Committees should call upon all members for contributions at regular intervals. Mrs. Knight then read a very interesting paper on "Municipal Nurseries," in which she indicated the great need of national care for the "older babies," those between early infancy and the age for attending the infant school. She traced the development of the crèche system in France, and showed its helpfulness to the working mother. Similar institutions in Belgium and Germany were described, also the National Society of Day Nurseries in our own country. The paper represented much careful inquiry, and opened up many interesting questions in respect to women's lives. On February 20, outside a large Liberal meeting in the Swansea Albert Hall, some of our members distributed leaflets asking men to consider the justice of Women's Enfranchisement, while others sold THE VOTE. Members are again reminded of the jumble sale before Easter.

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

A very delightful lecture on "Varying Conceptions of Womanliness" was delivered at our last branch meeting by Miss Helena Normanton, B.A. After an historical survey, dealing particularly with the fascinating subject of the position of women in the "Dark Ages," Miss Normanton concluded that virtues such as gentleness had not always been essential to the idea of womanliness—witness the respect paid to the warrior women—and that the freedom of women had always varied directly with her economic dependence or independence. The importance of the economic aspect of the present struggle was strongly insisted upon. Miss Belle Marchbank presided. Dr. Aimée Gibbs' lecture on "Our Children—How to Make Them Strong and Happy" was as successful as those preceding it. These lectures go on until the end of March, and should not be missed by anyone who is free on Tuesday afternoons.

**OTHER SOCIETIES.**

**Women's Tax Resistance League.**

A joint meeting of the Women's Tax Resistance League and Women's Freedom League, over which Miss Lee presided, was held in the Howard Hall, Letchworth, on February 21, when Miss Winifred Holiday very ably put the reasons for tax resistance to a most attentive audience, proposing the following resolution:—

"That this meeting is of opinion that women taxpayers are justified in refusing to pay all Imperial taxes till they have the same control over national expenditure as male taxpayers possess, and that until such time as women are recognised as joint law-makers with men, they are justified in their campaign against Government without consent or representation."

Miss Nina Boyle seconded the resolution, and in a most spirited speech pointed out the injustice of leaving out half the population where laws had to be made, mentioning unequal treatment in the Courts of Justice. The resolution was carried unanimously with the request that a copy be sent to the Prime Minister, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the Member of Parliament for the Division, Lord Robert Cecil.

The monthly meeting of the League was held on February 26, at 3, Gloucester-walk, Kensington, by kind permission of Miss Gertrude Eaton. Dr. Haslam presided, and many members and friends were present. Amusing letters were read from Miss Decima Moore, and Miss Metcalfe and Miss Clara Lee also dwelt on the humorous side of tax resistance. The chief business of the afternoon was "The Organisation of this Year's Sales"; suggestions and offers of help were made by those present.

**Women Teachers' Franchise Union.**

The first social of the Union was held in the small Kingsway Hall on February 21. Owing to the size of the hall the number of tickets was limited to 250, every one being sold. Non-members and men friends were welcomed, and the social was entirely successful. The president, Miss Agnes Dawson, and the committee received members and their friends at 6.30 p.m. The opportunity for social intercourse which followed was much appreciated by members, as meetings of the W.T.F.U. are usually strictly devoted to the business upon the agenda. The evening's programme included "A Chat with Mrs. Chicky," songs, the recitation of "The Prologue," by Lawrence Housman, Israel Zangwill's "Prologue," and concluded with Suffrage waxworks. Everyone joined in singing "The Women's Marseillaise" and the "Women's March."

**Australian and New Zealand Women Voters' Association.**

On February 25, Professor Bickerton, of New Zealand, lectured at 37, Collingham-place, S.W., by kind permission of Mrs. Merivale Mayer, on "The Place of Woman in History." His argument for the recognition of woman as the leading influence in the uplift of humanity was followed with deep interest by all present.

The Executive of the Association has decided to hold monthly a Sunday afternoon meeting in Hyde Park, when addresses will be given on "The Effect of Equal Suffrage in Australia and New Zealand." The help of Australian and New Zealand friends is earnestly requested. The first meeting will be held next Sunday, March 8, at 3 p.m. Speaker, Miss Margaret Hodge.

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**FORTHCOMING EVENTS: W.F.L.**

**LONDON AND SUBURBS.**

Fri., March 6.—Caxton Hall, Political Meeting, 8 p.m. Speakers, Miss Boyle, Mr. Lansbury, Mrs. Tanner, and Mrs. Schofield Coates. Admission Free. A few reserved seats at 1s. "Vote" Poster Parade. Start from Headquarters at 6 p.m.

Sun., Mar. 8.—REGENT'S PARK (weather permitting), noon. Mrs. Tippett and Miss Trotter.

Mon., Mar. 9.—NEW SOUTHGATE, 49, Oller-ton-road, BOWES-PARK. Branch Business Meeting, 7.30 p.m. CLAPHAM (corner St. Luke's-road), Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m.

Tues., Mar. 10.—CLAPHAM, 1, Imperial-man-sions, Bromells-road, Branch Meeting. Business: Instruction to Delegates for Conference.

KENSINGTON (corner Portobello-road and Blenheim-crescent), Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m.

Wed., Mar. 11.—CAXTON HALL, Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m. Mrs. Nevinsion, "The Past, Present, and Future of the Woman's Movement"; Miss C. E. Andrews, "Political Immorality." Chair: Miss A. A. Smith. Admission Free. LONDON BRANCHES' COUNCIL MEETING, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C., 6.30 p.m. PECKHAM, Hanover-park, Rye-lane, 7.30 p.m. Open-Air Meeting.

Fri., Mar. 13.—CROYDON, W.F.L. Office, Meeting, 3.30 p.m. Speaker: Miss Lawney. W.F.L. OFFICE, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C. VOTE Brigade Rally, 7.30 p.m. REGENT'S PARK, 9, Titchfield-crescent, North Gate, Drawing Room Meeting (by kind invitation of Mrs. Walter Carey), 3.30 p.m. Speakers: Miss Nina Boyle and Miss Annesley Kenealy. Chair: Mrs. Hyde.

Sun., Mar. 15.—REGENT'S-PARK (weather permitting), noon.

Mon., Mar. 16.—W.F.L. OFFICE, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, Discussion Meeting, 8 p.m. Subject: "Who are the White Slave Traffickers?" Open-air Meeting, Mr. E. B. Lloyd. Admission Free. Discussion.

Wed., Mar. 18.—CAXTON HALL, Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m. 1, ROBERT-STREET, Adelphi, Mid-London Branch Meeting, 7 p.m. Business: Instructions to Conference Delegates.

Fri., Mar. 20.—1, ROBERT-STREET, Adelphi, Mid-London Branch Meeting, 7 p.m. (if adjournment of Wednesday's meeting necessary).

Mon., Mar. 23.—PALMER'S-GREEN, Avondale Hall, Public Meeting (arranged by Bowes-park Branch), 7.30 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Despard and Mrs. Mustard. HAMPSTEAD, 129, Adelaide-road (by kind invitation Mrs. Oswald), Drawing-room Meeting, 3.30-5 p.m., to meet Miss Lind at Hageby. CROYDON, Small Public Hall, Public Meeting, 8 p.m. Speaker: Miss Nina Boyle.

Tues., Mar. 24.—CRIPPLEGATE INSTITUTE, Golden-lane, Barbican, E.C., performance of *Hianatha* by the H. C. M. Dramatic Society, 3 p.m. Admission 3s., 2s., 1s., and 6d.

Wed., Mar. 25.—CAXTON HALL, Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Baillie, B.Sc., "The Century of the Child," and others.

Fri., Mar. 27.—CROYDON OFFICE, Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m. Mrs. Cobden Sanderson.

Sat., Mar. 28.—W.F.L. ANNUAL CONFERENCE, CAXTON HALL, 10 a.m.

Sun., Mar. 29.—CAXTON HALL, Reception to Delegates, 3 p.m.-5 p.m.

Mon., Mar. 30.—W.F.L. OFFICE, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C. Discussion Meeting, 8 p.m. Miss L. H. Yates, "The Spending Sex." Admission Free. Discussion.

Wed., April 1.—CAXTON HALL, Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m. Mrs. E. M. Moore, "Woman and Freedom," and others.

**PROVINCES.**

Fri., Mar. 6.—Grays, Boys' School, Bridge-road, Public Meeting, 8 p.m. Speaker: Miss Anna Munro. Chester, Masonic Hall, Hunter-street, Public Meeting, 8 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Despard and Miss Eunice Murray.

Mon., Mar. 9.—Middlesbrough, Primitive Methodist Hall, Public Meeting, 7.45 p.m. Speakers: Miss Nina Boyle and Mr. James Reid. Chair: Mrs. Schofield Coates. Reserved seats, 6d. and 1s. Burnage, 22, South-avenue, Branch Meeting.

Thur., Mar. 12.—Ipswich, Suffrage Shop. Miss Maud Webb on "First Aid in the Home," with demonstrations.

Fri., Mar. 13.—LIVERPOOL, St. Luke's Parish Hall, Liverpool-road, Waterloo Branch Birthday Party, 7.30 p.m. Speaker: Miss Andrews.

Sat., Mar. 14.—Southampton, Morris Hall. Social Afternoon for Members and Friends, 3 to 7 p.m. Tickets 6d.

Mon., Mar. 16.—Middlesbrough, Hinton's Café. Miss Cook (West Hartlepool): "Some Thoughts on the Divine Comedy."

Thurs., Mar. 20.—Liverpool, Picton Hall, Public Meeting, 8 p.m. Mrs. Despard and Miss Nina Boyle. Chair: Rev. Herbert Dunning.

Mon., Mar. 23.—Middlesbrough, Hinton's Café. Mr. W. Harrison: "The Vote and the Physical Force Fallacy."

Thurs., Mar. 26.—Chester, Brown and Co.'s Sale Rooms, Branch Meeting, 8 p.m. Speakers will be announced later.

Mon., Mar. 30.—Middlesbrough, Hinton's Café, "At Home," 7.30 p.m. Mr. Charles Coates: "The Housing Question."

Wed., April 8.—Middlesbrough, Victoria Hall. Plays, *Noblesse Oblige*, *William the Conqueror*. Tickets 2s., 1s., and 6d.

**SCOTLAND.**

Tues., Mar. 10.—Edinburgh, Suffrage Shop, 90, Lothian-road, Lecture, 2.30. Dr. Aimeé Gibbs, "Common Ailments and Accidents: How to Prevent and Treat Them." Admission and Tea, 2d.

Wed., Mar. 11.—Edinburgh, Suffrage Shop, 90, Lothian-road, Public Meeting, 8 p.m. Rev. Raymond V. Holt, B.A.

Thurs., Mar. 19.—Dundee, Mr. George Mitchell, M.A., "Some Pages from History," with lantern illustrations.

Wed., Mar. 25.—Dunfermline, Masonic Hall, Social. Speech by Miss A. B. Jack.

**OTHER SOCIETIES.**

Sun., Mar. 8.—BROTHERHOOD CHURCH, Southgate-road, N., 3.30 p.m. Mrs. Despard, "Women's Political and Industrial Revolt." GENERAL LYING-IN HOSPITAL, York-road, Lambeth, Speech by Miss Munro at the Nurses' "Literary Hour," 9 p.m.

Thurs., Mar. 12.—EUSTACE MILES RESTAURANT (Third Floor), "At Home," 4 p.m. Lecture by Mrs. Cobden Sanderson, "Some of

the Work which Women will be Ready to Do When They Get the Vote." Admission 6d. (including tea).

Fri., Mar. 13.—BUCKHURST-HILL, Mission Hall, Meeting for Working Women, 3 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. Tanner.

Tues., Mar. 17.—CHINGFORD, Spicer Memorial Hall, Debate 8 p.m. Mrs. Nevinsion, L.L.A. (affirmative), West Essex Women's Franchise Association. NATIONAL UNION OF CLERKS, Brixton Branch Meeting, at Trade Union Hall, 30, Brixton-road, S.W., 8.45. Speaker: Mrs. Tanner.

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