

# THE WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT

Published by the WORKERS' SUFFRAGE FEDERATION

Vol. IV.—No. 2

SATURDAY, APRIL 7th, 1917

Price One Penny

## EAST LONDON WOMEN AND LORD DEVONPORT

The food deputation appointed from the public meeting held in Bow Baths, under the auspices of the W.S.F., was received by Lord Devonport on Monday, April 2nd, at Grosvenor House.

As the deputation awaited Lord Devonport in the Committee Room, a gentleman from one of the newsagencies who is giving spare-time National Service in the shape of reporting deputations, made a plan of the table with names and addresses of those sitting around it, for Lord Devonport's guidance, assuring the deputation that everything is done in businesslike style at the Food Controller's office. "You'll know when he comes in," he said, "for Lord Devonport always enters at that door." Presently the door opened and the reporter rose and bawled out "Lord Devonport" at the top of his voice like a town crier. Then Lord Devonport came in with his retinue. Having glanced at his plan he asked Miss Sylvia Pankhurst to open the proceedings. She handed him the following resolutions and memorandum:

"This meeting views with concern the growing acute scarcity of food and the appallingly high prices, and demands that (1) private trading in food shall cease, and that the food supply shall be administered by the town and county councils, which shall use the existing shops as distributing agencies, paying the owners and employees of such shops a suitable salary on the lines of the system adopted by the Belgian Relief Commission; (2) that to ensure a sufficiency of food supply for every family, a rationing system be introduced, and that not merely the staple foods of poor people, but all kinds and qualities of food shall be included and distributed according to their caloric value; (3) that peace negotiations be entered into as speedily as possible, for as long as War continues the food scarcity is bound to increase; (4) that all the adult men and women of the country be enfranchised without delay."

"We urge that there should be:

"1. National buying for the civilian population as there is for the military population. We suggest that this should be done by a Commission containing representatives of the local governing bodies, Trade Unions and women's working-class organisations.

"2. County councils to control flour, milling, food preserving, etc., which are carried on on a wholesale scale, paying the miller or manufacturer a salary for managing the business and the workers at a trade union rate. County councils to be empowered to open mills, etc., on their own account where necessary.

"3. Municipal distribution of food (a) ticket system of rationing, tickets to be distributed by means of a house-to-house canvass and register of inhabitants taken by local authorities; (b) The existing shops, restaurants, bakeries, etc., to be taken over by municipalities and owners and workers to be paid salaries. Shopkeepers, etc., to account for their stock by the tickets for which they exchange it. Municipalities should also have the power to open shops, restaurants, bakeries, etc., on their own account."

Miss Pankhurst declared that the present position was intolerable; women had to wait in the queues two and three hours for potatoes, sometimes they had to wait in the same way for bread, and if the scarcity of commodities should increase and the present haphazard methods continued they would have to wait for other commodities also. Those who were ill or obliged to work could not stand by the hour in a queue, and those who could were not sure of getting anything in the end. The deputation and those who had sent it there were of opinion that compulsory rationing and food tickets would be better than this, but the rationing must apply equally all round. The high price of substitutes increased the hardships occasioned by the potato shortage. The people would never be satisfied until private profit in food was abolished. The deputation recommended that whilst County and Borough Councils should not be debarred from opening depôts on their own account, that the existing shops, etc., should be taken over and the owners and employees paid salaries for doing the work, both in order that the people already engaged in the food industry should not suffer unduly and in order that there should not be the congestion and dislocation which might arise if an entirely new distributive system were undertaken at a moment's notice. Miss Pankhurst suggested that the maximum salary to be paid to managers might be £400 a year, the same as that of a Member of Parliament, but added that probably Lord Devonport might think this too low.

Mrs. Drake advocated communal kitchens for the use of factory workers and the school feeding of all the children attending the elementary schools. She said that her husband, who earned 35s. 6d. a week, could not afford, as things are to-day, to go to a restaurant for his dinner, but bought 2oz. of corned beef and some bread. She had given her four children for that day's dinner soup, which consisted of the water in which a

swede had been boiled yesterday, and a few carrots. On Saturday, when she had to do her shopping, she went out and came in and went out and came in again, not knowing what to buy with the money at her disposal. The meat, which would have served for dinner for her family before the War would have cost her 6d. if she bought frozen meat. Last week she had to pay 4s. for the same amount: it was English meat, because she could not get frozen meat.

Mrs. Boyce said she was anxious that high prices should not drive the working woman, who knew how to cook, to go to soup kitchens where food might be provided by people who did not know how to cook.

Mrs. Harris said that she had been waiting in the bread queue with 200 others, the loaves were steaming hot and the baker dared not sell them. The people were saying that they would break in

Lord Devonport looked uncomfortable, he began to reply without waiting to hear Mrs. Mason. He said that the lavish display of sugared cakes would be stopped, but that was a small matter. The trouble was that the submarines were sinking the sugar ships. The scarcity of commodities must become more and more acute for this reason. He urged that the deputation must not think that he did not sympathise with or understand working people: indeed, he did; for a considerable time he had represented a purely industrial constituency, and as Chairman of the Port of London Authority he had— But his words tailed off into nothingness. Mrs. Carter was laughing nervously, and all the women looked very grim.

"You talk about profiteering," said Lord Devonport. "I admit there has been some of that, but not as much as you might think.



A POTATO QUEUE IN EAST LONDON

and get them, but she said, "Wait, we are going to see Lord Devonport to ask him to help us." The baker had thanked her for saving his shop windows.

Lord Devonport interrupted: "But why can't you get bread? Is there more bread eaten than there used to be?"

Mrs. Carter explained that when potatoes are scarce and haricot beans are 10d. a pint, the people are obliged to fall back on bread, and the bakers, who may not sell bread which is less than 12 hours' old cannot cope with the demand. When you could give the children a potato and a little gravy they were satisfied, and, she said, "You can't give the children rice every day, they will not eat it. My little girl says, 'Mummie, don't give me rice.'" She had heard that to refuse to sell sugar except when a certain quantity of other goods were bought was no longer allowed, but the practice was still going on.

Lord Devonport challenged this statement, but all the women supported it with detailed information.

"And when we left here last Monday," said Mrs. Drake, "the cakes covered with sugar in Lyons' and the A.B.C. made us sick: we none of us had a bit to put in our tea for days. 'No, not one of us,'" the other women assented.

Mrs. Carter continued that last Saturday she had waited the entire morning in the potato queue, and all her scrubbing and cleaning was neglected. "No work done!" said her husband when he came in to his dinner. Her little son had told her that the clergyman had asked him to join a lads' brigade: she had said, "Tell him you want some food in your inside." "If I don't give him a good inside now," she said, with a tremble in her voice, "What will he be when he's fourteen?"

Freight has had much to do with it —"

"But that is profiteering," and "The Government could deal with that," the deputation urged.

"You must remember," said Lord Devonport, "that I only took charge at the end of January. It was in 1915 that prices ought to have been controlled."

"We went to see Mr. Runciman to ask for Government control of food and shipping in October, 1914," said Miss Pankhurst.

"But you mustn't blame me for what happened before I came," he protested, and went on to explain that he had been able to control the price of tea and coffee because the stocks were in the country, but they could not control such things as haricot beans because they were sold by Americans in this country. "It isn't simple," he said.

"No," said Miss Pankhurst, "and you will never be able to cope with the situation until you nationalise the food supply."

"You want us to nationalise the food supply and sweep the shop-keepers on one side," he said excitedly.

"Pay them a salary to do the work," she answered.

"Well, I tell you straight to your face, it will never happen," he said, starting up.

"It will happen sooner than you think or else there will be trouble."

"Is that a threat?"

"No, it is what I foresee!"

For a moment the atmosphere had been somewhat tense. Then Lord Devonport explained that this was a question for the Prime Minister. He had not the power to enter into such questions of "high politics."

"But wouldn't it assist you to have power to

(Continued on page 719.)

SYMPATHY. If I were only a little puppy, not your baby, mother dear, would you say 'No' to me if I tried to eat from your dish? ... Then go, mother, go! I will never come to you when you call me, and never let you feed me any more.

THE WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT

Published by the Workers' Suffrage Federation 400 OLD FORD ROAD, LONDON, E.

Annual Subscription: 10/- Post free, 6s. 6d. ADVERTISEMENT RATES

Miscellaneous advertisements (id. a word, minimum 10 words). Per inch 2s. 6d. Per column 10s. 6d. Per half-page 5s. 6d.

Vol. IV, No. 2 Sat., April 7th, 1917

"HUSH"

Whilst the Speaker's Conference was in session the Parliamentarian wire-pullers put up a metaphorical "hush" notice and told us all not to agitate on the suffrage question, not to hold meetings, not to canvass Members of Parliament, but to wait in patience. We knew the advice to be bad; we knew that every hour was needed for propaganda, for the adult suffragists had before them the task of converting the vast majority of the House of Commons, from preparedness to accept votes for some women, to preparedness to accept votes for all women.

straightforward dealing, they are trying to erect the "hush" notice once more. Indeed, it is important that men and women who are accustomed to speak only that which they mean, should realise that the wire-pulling politicians, to whom they may turn for aid, are rather more likely to be wire-pulling them than to be managing other politicians. The next move of the "Hush" Party is to demand that there shall be no amendments to the Government Bill, which will embody the Speaker's Conference proposals.

for sex equality to which they are pledged, and the enactment of which we believe they have at least a good chance of securing, if they will but stand firm. If this Bill were wrecked because an amendment to widen it were accepted, a better Bill would be introduced next time, and that next time cannot be very long delayed.

THE WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT

IN PARLIAMENT

On March 28th Mr. Asquith moved a resolution calling for legislation on the lines of the Speaker's Conference Report. He said the conference had been one of the most remarkable concordances in our political history.

THE "ANTI" AMENDMENT

Mr. Salter moved an amendment that the House should only legislate to provide an immediate register and means of voting for electors absent on naval and military service.

THE EAST LONDON PEACE DEMONSTRATION

Everyone in East London has heard by this time of the Peace demonstration which is to take place on April 15th in Victoria Park.

PEACE DEMONSTRATION

Victoria Park, London, E. SUNDAY, APRIL 15th, 1917. Supported by East London Trades Councils, The Workers' Suffrage Federation, Branches of the I.L.P. and B.S.P. and other Organisations.

MR. WALTER LONG

Mr. Walter Long (U.) made a particularly absurd speech, saying that the passage of this Bill would be "a great service to the Empire, and therefore to the world."

THE WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT

THE FRANCHISE SITUATION

forming those tasks which are closely connected with Government," but he still believed "it would be better that the franchise should not be granted to women."

WIDENING AMENDMENTS

Mr. Shortt (L.), made an ominous statement which may show the way the wind is blowing in regard to widening amendments. He said that if an amendment were moved of which I entirely approved and which suggests matters which I long to see introduced, then I should feel bound to vote against it.

MR. CLYNES, M.P., AND THE SUFFRAGE BILL

Dear Editor,—My reply to the question in your last issue is to ask you to distinguish between the "desire" of women suffragists and the decision of women suffragists on the recommendations of the Speaker's Conference.

MRS. BOUVIER'S CASE

Miss Sylvia Pankhurst has addressed the following letter to the Minister of Pensions:—Dear Mr. Barnes,—I wish to draw your attention to what, I think you will agree, is a very serious injustice.

RE MRS. BOUVIER'S ARREST IN HYDE PARK ON SUNDAY, MARCH 25th.

Dear Madame,—Permit me as an Englishman and a Catholic to express my sincere sympathy in the unjust and tyrannical treatment to which you have just been subjected. I was present at your meeting on Sunday, though on the edge of the crowd, and I can vouch that, whilst I was there, you used no "insulting words" worthy of a prosecution, even under the Defence of the Realm Act.

WOMANHOOD SUFFRAGE IN RUSSIA

Unfortunately there seems no doubt that the grant of Adult Suffrage for the Russian Constituent assembly applies so far to men only. On April 1st, a great demonstration demanding equal rights for women was held outside the Duma and addressed by Veraigner and other well-known women revolutionaries.

PARLIAMENT AS WE SEE IT

March 27th.—Lord R. Cecil said there had been a few deaths from starvation in Greece owing to the British blockade.

Mr. Hope (U. Min.) said German prisoners of war in a certain quarry refused to work without higher pay and larger rations.

March 29th.—Ireland and the food question, as usual occupied the greater part of question time.

Mr. Nugent (I.N.) alleged that a superintendent of the Dublin Metropolitan Police asked a sergeant into a public-house, and there conspired with him to dismiss certain constables; also that constables are threatened with punishment for failure to bring more summonses against innocent persons.

Colonel Sir M. Wilson (U.) asked for the establishment of communal kitchens in the East End. Captain Bathurst said that this is being done by the War Savings Committee and that he is also writing to the municipalities on this question.

OFFICER BAYONETS CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR.

Sir William Byles (L.) stated that conscientious objectors at Wimal Camp, Winchester, were maltreated by their officers, J. P. Key being wounded three times by a bayonet handed by an officer, and a sergeant having taken a rifle from one of the officers.

In reply to Mr. O'Shaughnessy (N.), Sir A. Griffith-Boscawen said that Private Joseph Cosgrove, who was wounded in both legs at Mons and had one amputated foot, was brought to this country in a private ambulance.

Mr. Byrne (N.) asked who was responsible for the £67,795, 10s. taken from Miss Julia Hannon by a Dublin police detective and deposited in the Bridewell Police Station, which was not returned to her when she was proved innocent.

Mr. Francis (L.) asked the Prime Minister if the Government intended to compensate those responsible for the sale of non-intoxicating food, the import or manufacture of which is prohibited or restricted in the same way as it compensates those engaged in the liquor trade.

Mr. Hayes Fisher (U. Min.) in reply to Mr. Jacobson and Mr. Pringle, said that any municipality, county council, urban district or parish council wishing, without statutory power, to undertake the distribution of coal, food, &c., would have to take the consequences of their action, unless the Government decided that the intervention of local authorities was desirable.

THE BLOCKADE.

On the Consolidated Bill there was a grim discussion as to whether all that can be done to starve the workers of Germany is being done.

It was asked whether the Coal Controller is doing? Mr. Roberts (Lab. Min.) replied that he did not yet know much about the matter, but that young able-bodied miners are still being taken for the Army.

LORD MILNER'S VISIT TO RUSSIA.

Mr. Dillon (I.N.) exposed the appalling hypocrisy of the British Government's conduct in regard to the Russian revolution. Lord Milner had recently spent three weeks in Russia as agent for the Government.

Lord Milner returned to this country on March 25th, and next day the "Times" reported on Lord Milner's authority that it was largely owing to the Czar that his mission had been so satisfactory.

There appears to be reason to believe that Lord Milner was sent to Russia to assure the Czar and his Government that if they would only persevere with the War they could count on the support of the British Government in dealing with popular unrest later on.

could count on the support of the British Government in dealing with popular unrest later on.

Mr. Dillon (N.) said that last year 60,000 British troops in Salonika were stricken with "perhaps the most malignant form of malaria in the world."

THE COST OF THE WAR. Major Godfrey Collins (L.) moved an amendment expressing the urgent need for greater control of finance by the House of Commons and the Treasury.

Mr. Fisher (U.) said The War ended now the result would be that our debts would cause us to "face for all time a Peace Budget of 500 millions a year."

Mr. Baldwin (U.), Lord of the Treasury, replied that the House of Commons would not see any expenditure during the War, and that it had increased expenditure by pressing for wages and pensions to be raised.

On the Army (Annual) Bill, Mr. King (L.) moved an amendment that no soldier of the Regular forces shall be entitled to be discharged who is suffering from venereal disease.

General Ivor Phillips moved an amendment to establish a Military Appeal Court to which officers who considered themselves unjustly sentenced might appeal for redress.

CONSCRIPTION OF CRIPPLES BILL.

The Military Service (Review of Exceptions) Bill was read a second time. The Parliamentary Secretary to Food Controller, replied that it was not in the public interest to give information concerning the prices paid for wheat in different parts of the Empire.

Mr. Bonar Law (U. Min.) recommended the Bill by the usual story of military necessity. The submarine menace, he said, had made it imperative to build more ships and to produce more home-grown food.

April 2nd.—Lord Henry Cavendish Bentinck (U.) drew attention to the delay—sometimes five or six months—in obtaining an answer from the Ministry of Munitions with regard to issuing permits for building lavatory and cloak-room accommodation in factories.

Mr. A. Williams (L.) asked: "In the event of this country falling short of food who is going to be hanged for it?"

Mr. Bonar Law (U. Min.) said the Government recognises the urgency of considering the constitution and powers of the Second Chamber.

Mr. Hogg (L.) moved, and Mr. Pringle seconded, an amendment desiring to proceed with the Bill till the Government agreed to a pension for all disabled soldiers. The movers and seconders both urged that the House ought to consider whether it would not be better to abandon the Bill.

Mr. P. Billing (Ind.) pressed for an early secret session.

PENSIONS APPEAL COURT PROMISED.

Mr. Bonar Law promised a much more careful medical examination. Later he conceded the point that as there was a fear that some men who ought to receive pensions would only get gratuities, the Government would consider whether an independent tribunal could be set up to review such cases.

Mr. Caradoc Rees (L.) and Sir Henry Dalziel urged the conscription of all the friendly aliens in this country. Colonel Burn (U.) wanted 100,000 men from Ireland.

Mr. Philip Snowden (U.) attacked the Bill, not merely for the reason given in the pension amendment, but as one of the Conscription Acts. It had been said that it was not the Government, but the nation, which desired to secure another 100,000 men for the Army.

March 30th.—Mr. Hogg (L.) tried to get from the Pensions Minister the scale drawn up before March 6th to be paid to disabled men who are to be given gratuities in exceptional cases of not less than £150.

During the usual string of food questions, Mr. Outwaite drew attention to the fact that wheat purchased in Australia is to be paid for at 49s. a quarter, and after paying 15s. a quarter freightage is sold at 65s. a quarter here.

Mr. Outwaite (L.) asked whether bread and wheat are cheaper in France than in Britain?

Mr. Bonar Law (U. Min.) said that civilians injured by enemy air raids will not be compensated, because of "considerations which cannot be given in answer to a question."

THE AFTERNOON was mainly spent in moving amendments to this Bill, most of which were resisted by representatives of the Government and either withdrawn or negatived without a division.

Mr. A. Williams (L.) asked: "In the event of this country falling short of food who is going to be hanged for it?"

Mr. Bonar Law (U. Min.) said the Government recognises the urgency of considering the constitution and powers of the Second Chamber.

Mr. Hogg (L.) moved, and Mr. Pringle seconded, an amendment desiring to proceed with the Bill till the Government agreed to a pension for all disabled soldiers.

Mr. P. Billing (Ind.) pressed for an early secret session.

In reply to Mr. Gilbar (L.), Mr. Stephen Walsh (Lab.) said that for National Service in Great Britain 2,000 Commissioners at a salary of £500, two Deputy Commissioners at £300, 38 Sub-Deputy Commissioners at £250, two at £200, and one at £150 per annum, mostly from the land agent class, and 224 District Commissioners, who were volunteers, and eight loaned from other Government Departments, had been appointed.

PROHIBITION OR NATIONALISATION OF DRINK

The Prime Minister has announced that the Government is considering whether prohibition or nationalisation of the liquor trade is most feasible and likely to assure the greatest measure of assent.

The annual report of the Registrar-General shows a marked increase of tuberculosis amongst men, and a slight increase amongst women. And yet we are told that tuberclosis cannot be contracted at the War, and the broken men who suffer from it are refused pensions.

THE PRICE OF BREAD

A baker in East London writes:—"I should like to say for your guidance in the campaign you are conducting against increasing food prices that anything above 10d. for the 4 lb. loaf is unwarranted."

WORK FOR DISABLED SOLDIERS

A certain Mr. Rothband, of Albion Works, Manchester, is busy organizing that a Royal Appeal should be sent out to employers of labour to inscribe their names on a National Roll pledging each firm to find work for at least one disabled soldier or sailor, and have no doubt that they shall have, as long as they exist, more than one.

QUESTIONS OF THE DAY

Mr. Austin Chamberlain, the Secretary of State for India, has announced that he is in correspondence with the Viceroy in regard to "The selection of two gentlemen who are to accompany the Secretary of State in his capacity of representative of India at the meetings of the War Cabinet."

INDIA

The formal recognition by his Majesty's Government of the great assistance rendered by India in the War and of her position in the Empire will give great satisfaction in India and will be well received in the self-governing Dominions.

As to the latter point, Mr. Chamberlain should not be too sure: the self-governing Dominions know too much of genuine independence of Westminster, to be impressed by sham "recognition."

£5 MATERNITY BENEFIT

It is announced that the maternity benefit is to be raised to £5. This is the sum which has long been granted for maternity in the Overseas Dominions, where women vote.

THE ALBERT HALL MEETING

The following resolution was passed at the Albert Hall meeting:—"This meeting sends joyful congratulations to the democracy of Russia, and calls upon the Governments of Great Britain and of every country, neutral and belligerent alike, to follow the Russian example by establishing industrial freedom, freedom of speech and the Press, the abolition of social, religious, and national inequalities, an immediate amnesty for political and religious offences, and universal suffrage."

STATE PURCHASE OF THE LIQUOR TRADE

State purchase of the liquor trade is said to be under consideration. Though some lingers must attach to the placing of this trade in the hands of a State controlled by capitalist interests, we nevertheless believe that State ownership of liquor, even under our present flagrant

PRUSSIANISM COMES NORTH: By P. J. Dollan

We have been experiencing a new form of military oppression in Scotland which, if allowed to pass without protest and to develop will prove a serious menace to trade union progress. The oppression has taken place under the new order empowering the military authorities or the police to enter any meeting, private or otherwise, and take note of the proceedings or search those present.

Two of the raids took place at the Hairdressers' branch of the Shop Assistants' Union, and at the very hour when the members were discussing the course of action they should adopt in view of the refusal of the employers to grant an increase of 6s. per week.

Are these raids to continue on workers' meetings—they are not inflicted on meetings of employers—without one protest from the Labour Party? If the raids were due to "military necessity" we could see the force for the Labour Party's inactivity.

What the diplomatic Under-Secretary failed to explain was how the "officer responsible" came to know of the meeting. Someone must have told him about the meeting or he could not have

imperfect Government, must prove an improvement on private ownership. We therefore support the proposal.

Miss Damer Dawson, a commandant of the Women's Police Service, says: "If there is one thing which the work of the streets proves more clearly than another it is that the only persons who are arrested for soliciting are women. We have tried to obtain the conviction of men for molesting and soliciting and have failed. The police bring in the charge as that of drunkenness, and the magistrate dismisses them."

FOOD CONTROLLER'S ASSISTANT

Mrs. Pember Reeves, author of "Round About a Pound a Week," has been appointed as an assistant to Lord Devonport, the Food Controller. Will she see that the woman with "Round About a Pound a Week" is able to preserve herself and her family from the pangs of hunger?

HOW THE MATTER CONCERNS US

Labour is concerned because the number of new teachers tends to decline owing to the miserable salaries, and the education of the workers' children will consequently suffer. London's Education Committee is about the worst in the country, and their attitude in this matter is in keeping with their general reactionary policy.

It is announced that the maternity benefit is to be raised to £5. This is the sum which has long been granted for maternity in the Overseas Dominions, where women vote.

THE ALBERT HALL MEETING

The following resolution was passed at the Albert Hall meeting:—"This meeting sends joyful congratulations to the democracy of Russia, and calls upon the Governments of Great Britain and of every country, neutral and belligerent alike, to follow the Russian example by establishing industrial freedom, freedom of speech and the Press, the abolition of social, religious, and national inequalities, an immediate amnesty for political and religious offences, and universal suffrage."

STATE PURCHASE OF THE LIQUOR TRADE

State purchase of the liquor trade is said to be under consideration. Though some lingers must attach to the placing of this trade in the hands of a State controlled by capitalist interests, we nevertheless believe that State ownership of liquor, even under our present flagrant

be protected against the militarism. The Labour Party will stand by the Government exempted to the last man and the last farthing. As for the shop assistants and other humble souls, they will have to protect themselves and they had better set about it without delay.

(continued from front page)

do it?" said Mrs. Drake. "Don't you think it the only way?"

"You mustn't put such leading questions to me, I cannot answer them," said Lord Devonport. "What prospect is there of our being able to get enough to eat in the future?" said Mrs. Drake.

Lord Devonport could not say. One of his satellites then suggested that other organisations should also be asked to join the committee.

Lord Devonport agreed. He would write to Miss Pankhurst and tell her more about it. He felt sure it would be most useful.

The deputation was not so sure about the matter. Its members were thinking that they must go from the Food Controller who has no power to the Prime Minister who has.

In the evening the deputation reported progress to another food meeting convened at 400 Old Ford Road. The meeting decided that the Prime Minister must be approached.

BOOK THE DATE!

WORKERS' SUFFRAGE FEDERATION. Members and Friends of the Levton Branch "AT HOME" to Sylvia Pankhurst AT WANSTEAD SLIP LIBERAL CLUB (178 High Road, Leytonstone, near "Thatched House") FRIDAY, APRIL 13th, 1917, at 7.30 p.m.

COLLECTION FOR BRANCH FUNDS. Admission Free by cards to be obtained from Miss Lynch, 400 Old Ford Road, E.3.

THE WORKERS' SUFFRAGE FEDERATION

To secure Human Suffrage, namely, a Vote for every Woman and Man of full age, and to win Social and Economic Freedom for the People.

Entrance Fee ... 1d. Minimum Subscription... 1d. a month I wish to become a Member of the W.S.F. and entrance fee for.....subscription and entrance fee for.....months. Name..... Address.....

WHAT'S ON? W.S.F. FIXTURES OUTDOOR

FRIDAY, APRIL 6th. O d Ford Road, Bonner Lane, 11.30 a.m., Mrs. Boyce. SATURDAY, APRIL 7th. "Peacock," Canning Town, 6 p.m., Mrs. Boyce. SUNDAY, APRIL 8th. "Whitehouse," Canning Town, 11.30 a.m., Miss Price. MONDAY, APRIL 9th. Beckton Road, Canning Town, 6 p.m., Mrs. Boyce. TUESDAY, APRIL 10th. Osborn Street, 11.30 a.m., Mrs. Boyce. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11th. Roman Road, 2.30 p.m., Mrs. Boyce and others. THURSDAY, APRIL 12th. O d Ford Road, Bonner Lane, 11.30 a.m., Armagh Road, 11.30 a.m., Mile End Road, 11.30 a.m., Miss Price. FRIDAY, APRIL 13th. White Cross Street, 1 p.m., Mrs. Boyce. SATURDAY, APRIL 14th. Custom House, 12 (noon), "Abbey Arms," Canning Town, 6 p.m., Mrs. Boyce, Miss Price. "AT HOMES." Chandos Hall, 21a Maiden Lane, of Bedford Street, Strand, W.C., Saturdays at 3.30 p.m. PUBLIC MEETINGS IN THE BOW WOMEN'S HALL, 400 OLD FORD ROAD, SUNDAYS, 7 p.m.

MEMORIAL HALL FARRINGTON STREET. TUESDAY APRIL 17th. At 8 p.m. Doors open 7.30 p.m. JUDGE NEIL of Chicago will lecture on "MOTHERS' PENSIONS" Other speakers— Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Dr. Barbara Tchaykovsky Chair: Sylvia Pankhurst

OTHER ORGANISATIONS At Kingsley Hall, Bow, on Sunday next, April 8th, at 8.15 p.m., John Scurr will speak. Discussion 9.30 p.m. All Societies are cordially invited to send in notices of forthcoming events for our "What's On" column. Fee, 1s. 6d. for twenty words and 3d. per word after.

Phone: Central 3820 TOYE & Co., Established 1855 57 Theobalds Road, London, W.C. Sole Manufacturers of Banners and Flags for Demonstrations. Metal and Enamelled Badges for all Societies. Medals Celluloid and Buttons. WRITE FOR CATALOGUE, DESIGN AND QUOTATION

Deal with our Advertisers, and mention the "Dreadnought."

W.S.F. BRANCHES ARE YOU AN ACTIVE WORKING MEMBER?

LONDON BARKING.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Langford, Ailsa Craig, 97 Essex Road. Bow.—400 Old Ford Road, E. Hon. Secretary: Miss Stevens. Branch meetings are held every second and fourth Monday. DREADNOUGHT sales week ending March 31st, 60s; Miss Harriet, 349; Miss O'Brien, 125; Mrs. M. Holloway, 80; Mrs. Greer, 12; Mrs. Bouvier, 12; general, 27. BROMLEY.—53 St. Leonard's Street. Hon. Secs.: Mrs. Lansbury, Mrs. Wood. CANNING TOWN.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Parsons, 94 Ravenscroft Road. CENTRAL LONDON.—Hon. Sec.: Miss Casey, 29b Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C. DREADNOUGHTS sold, 52. Branch meeting Wednesday, April 11th, 7 p.m. ENTFIELD AND EDMONTON.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Beavis, 171 Church Street, Lower Edmonton. LEYTON.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Hart, 73 Calderon Road. DREADNOUGHTS sold, 26. POPLAR.—Hon. Sec.: Miss E. Lagsding, 20 Railway Street. DREADNOUGHTS sold, 10s; per Mrs. Shlette, 70; general, 35. TIDAL BASIN.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Drake, 49 Crediton Road. DREADNOUGHT sales average 36. ST. PANCRAS.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Redgrove, B.S.P. Hall, 44 Malden Road, Kentish Town. DREADNOUGHTS sold, 13. VILLENDES.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Sheppard, 141 Villiers Road. DREADNOUGHTS sold, 12.

PROVINCES BIRMINGHAM.—Hon. Sec.: Miss A. F. Boden, 10 Sandhurst Road, Moseley. Saturday, April 21st, 3 p.m., W.S.F. Conference on Mothers' Pensions. Speaker: Judge Neil. Saturday, April 21st, 8 p.m., W.S.F. and Labour Church, The Institute, Stirchley, Public Meeting. Judge Neil. BRADFORD.—Hon. Sec.: Miss McHale, 12 Ajredale College Terrace, DREADNOUGHTS sold, 26. BRIGHOUSE.—Hon. Sec.: Miss Woodhead, Wood View, Shelf, near Halifax. BRYNMAWR AND NANTYGLO.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Hayward, Coedcae, Gairn Park. BURNLEY.—Hon. Sec. pro tem.: Mrs. Mortimer Holden, The Nurseries, Acrlington. CHESTER-LE-STREET.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Harrison, 14 Hilda Terrace, South Pelaw, Chester-le-Street. CHOPWELL.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Bell, 62 Forth Street. Fortnightly meetings are to be held to discuss such books as "Woman and Economics," "Woman and Labour," etc. DREADNOUGHTS sold, 12. CORNSAY AND OBERG.—Hon. Sec. pro tem.: Miss Ellis, Dundalk House, Neville's Cross. Branch meeting, Monday, at 197 High Street, Cornsay. DREADNOUGHTS sold, 30. DONCASTER.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Kent, 32 St. Sepulchre Gate. FENYHILL.—Hon. Sec.: Miss Ruby Stoddart, 12 Hackworth Street, Dean Bank. DREADNOUGHTS sold, 12. HUDDERSFIELD.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Key, Bradford Road. LEEDS.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Hunter, 7 Sugdenfold, Armlay. DREADNOUGHTS sold, 72. LEICESTER.—Hon. Sec.: Miss Helen Bakewell, 28 Macdonald Street, Balgrave. DREADNOUGHTS sold, 13. Branch meeting, April 2nd. MANCHESTER.—Hon. Sec.: Miss F. Wassilevski, 18 Broughton Street, N. DREADNOUGHTS sold, 26. MEDONSELY.—Hon. Sec.: Tom Orr, Esq., 6 Derwent Cottages, Durham. DREADNOUGHTS sold, 24. NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Hon. Sec.: Mr. Nicholson, 19 Alexandra Road, North Heaton. BRIDHOPE-ON-TYNE.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Parks, 4 Riding Terrace, Mickley Square. DREADNOUGHTS sold, 8. PORTSMOUTH.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Clarges, 200 Westfield Road, E. Southsea. DREADNOUGHTS sold, 39. Joint Public Meeting with Trades and Labour Council and I.L.P., Trades Hall, Fratton Road, Wednesday, April 18th, 8 p.m. Judge Neil on "Mothers' Pensions"; Miss Sylvia Pankhurst. Chair, Mr. G. Roberts. ROTHERHAM, WAKEFIELD.—Organiser: Miss Stephen, 33 Hopwood Street, Hull. SHEFFIELD.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Manoin, 98 Gell Street. DREADNOUGHTS sold, 104. Joint Public Meeting with Trades and Labour Council, Temperance Hall, Townhead Street, Thursday, April 26th, 7.30 p.m. Judge Neil on "Mothers' Pensions"; Miss Sylvia Pankhurst. Chair, Mr. Fletcher. SOUTHAMPTON.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Samuel, 33, Mount Street. DREADNOUGHTS sold, 12. STIRCHLEY.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. M. Henson, 85 Watford Road, King's Norton, Birmingham; Assistant Sec.: Miss Shepley. YORK.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Hall, 43 Lowther Street.

SCOTLAND GLASGOW.—Hon. Sec.: Lachlan Smith, Esq., 126 Bothwell Street. FUNCTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH ANNUAL CONFERENCE Sunday, May 27th, 3 p.m., Bow Women's Hall, Annual Conference (1st session). Sunday, May 27th, 7 p.m., Chandos Hall, Public Meeting. Monday, May 28th, 3 p.m., Bow Women's Hall, Annual Conference (2nd session). Monday, May 28th, 7 p.m., Bow Women's Hall, Social.

W.S.F. DRAW COMPETITION The drawing of tickets for the gold watch, umbrella, alarm clock, and bound volume of the DREADNOUGHT took place at Casey's Concert. Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, who was in the chair, suggested that Casey should draw the tickets. The audience agreed, and Casey drew the following numbers—1st, 19,331; 2nd, 672; 3rd, 671; 4th, 673. Those who hold the counterfoils should send them to the Draw Secretary, Mrs. Drake, 49 Crediton Road, Tidal Basin, E.

ST. STEPHEN'S SHOP 85 HOXTON STREET Friends and members please note that this shop is open for sale of Labour, Suffrage and all kinds of reform literature. If you deal with us, you will help the funds.

DON'T STAY AWAY FROM THE NATIONAL SERVICE MEETINGS. BE THERE TO TELL THOSE PRESENT WHAT YOU THINK!

Donations to be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Dr. Tchaykovsky, or to the Hon. Financial Secretary, Miss N. L. Smyth, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E. All parcels to 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED

GENERAL FUND.—G. L. Tharp, Esq., £5; Irene, per Mrs. Drake (weekly), £1; Miss Friedheim (Peace Banners), 10s.; Mrs. Brimley, 1s. COLLECTIONS: L.S.A. Polishing Dept., 11s. 8d.; Bow Baths, 7s.; Mrs. Boyce, 7s.; Mrs. Walker, 4s. 11d.; Miss Stephen, 3s. "DREADNOUGHT" FUND.—Per Mrs. Drake (Draw Books), £5; G. T. Jones, Esq., 14s.; A. D. (Libel), 4s.; Miss Newsome (monthly), 1s. MILK AND GENERAL DISTRESS.—Mrs. Fox, £3; Will Crooks, Esq., M.P., £1; Nurse Hebbes (weekly), 12s.; Mrs. Richmond (fortnightly), 10s.; Five Northern Friends (monthly), 6s.; Miss C. Beatrice Chisholm, 5s.; Miss Clemence Housman, 3s.; Rathmell Wilson, Esq., 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Mason, 1s.; Mrs. Underwood, 6d. COLLECTIONS: L.S.A. Tool Room, 1 15s. 0d.; Misses E. Lagsding and L. Barker (Green's Yard), 11s. 0d.; Miss Mackay (Churn), 10s. 3d.; Misses K. Lagsding and T. Barker (Cubitt Town), 5s. 8d.; Esme Lansbury (farming collection), 4s. 1d.; Mrs. Cottrell, 2s.; Trades and Labour Club, per Mrs. Clarges, 1s. 2d. CLOTHES, &c.—Mrs. White, Mrs. Davies, Anon, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. and Miss Tarrant, Anon, Mrs. Crosland Taylor, Mrs. Biggie, per Mrs. Sudd Brown. GROCERIES.—Hampstead National Food Fund. EGGS.—Lady Margaret Sackville, Mr. Lawton.

MOTHERS AND BABIES

The Mothers' Arms, 438 Old Ford Road, Bow. Day nursery from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Doctor's consultation and baby-weighing, Mondays, 2.30 p.m. Mothers and babies can consult Nurse at any time. Health Talks for Mothers are held the first and third Fridays in the month at 3 p.m., at the Mothers' Arms. Dental Clinic, April 4th, 2.15 p.m. 20 Railway Street, Poplar. (opposite South Bromley Station). Doctor's consultation and baby-weighing, Tuesdays, 2.30 p.m. Nurse may be seen at any time. 53 St. Leonard's Street, Bromley-by-Bow. Doctor's consultation and baby-weighing, Wednesdays, 2 p.m. All mothers and children are welcome. Cost Price Restaurants at 400 Old Ford Road, and 20 Railway Street. Dinners from 12 till 2 p.m. daily.

WANTS. Broken men, discharged with insufficient pension, constantly ask our help for their wives and children. The rising price of food is causing grave distress amongst poor families. Help us to provide the milk, nourishment and necessary clothing, without which doctoring is of small avail. Send a subscription to the Treasurer of our Distress Fund, Dr. BARBARA TCHAYKOVSKY, 400 Old Ford Road, E., or a parcel to Miss NORAH SMYTH at the same address.

MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS

FAMILY LIMITATION DOCTRINE. Post free, 14d. —Malthusian League, Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster. HAND-MADE UNDERCLOTHING. Sold by the wife, good needlewoman, desires work to do at home; good references. Women's nightdresses made from 2s. 6d.; babies' gowns from 1s. Mending and darning also undertaken.—Apply Box 20. SUFFRAGE WORKERS should spend their holidays at "Sea View," Victoria Road, Brighton. Hostess, Miss Turner. HALL TO LET, for meetings, etc. Holds 60. Terms moderate.—Apply, Miss Beamish, St. Stephen's Shop, 85 Hoxton Street, N. WANTED, COMPANION-HELP; three in family; cook and gardener kept.—W., c/o this Office.

TO READERS AND SYMPATHISERS

In view of the shortage of paper and the various difficulties which war measures put in our way we ask our friends to make sure of the WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT by using one of these coupons. If you desire popular liberty to have a staunch defender, hasten to give the DREADNOUGHT all the support you can. To the WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT, 400 Old Ford Road, London, E. 3. Please send ..... copies weekly of the WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT. Name ..... Address ..... Enclosed ..... subscription. To Your Newsgagent. Please order from 400 Old Ford Road, London, E. 3, or from your wholesaler ..... copies of the WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT weekly, and deliver same to Name ..... Address .....

Printed by the Blackfriars Press Ltd., 74 Swinton St., London, W.C. and Published by the Workers' Suffrage Federation, at their Offices 400 Old Ford Rd., Bow, E. Printed by T.U. labour in all departments (48 hour week), on Trade Union Made Paper.