

PIRATE RECRUIT (MR. RAPH...L) (kaving deserted the service of Woman Suffrage and donned the colours of Mr. Asquith's gang of anti-suffrage pirates): "I fear the waves may drown me ere I reach the Liberal barque."



CONTENTS. 465 or to the other of the remaining candidates. Our Cartoon Dedication Outlook Elements of the Woman Suffrage Demand-Chapter V. By F. W. Pethick Lawrence . The Signs of the Times-Part II. By Elizabeth Robins Announcements ... Programme of Events Programme of Events Mr. Geoffrey Howard's Reform Bill Meeting in the Albert Hall Treasurer's Note The Woman's Exhibition The Deputation to Mr. Asquith on March 30. By Emmeline Release of Twenty-Six Prisoners ... e Croydon Bye-Election The Campaign Throughout the Country ... Dress in the Colours ... Local Notes

MARCH 26, 1909.

Articles and news contributed for insertion in "Votes for Women" should be sent to the Editors at the earliest possible date, and in no case later than first post Monday morning prior to the publication of the paper.

" Votes for Women," 4, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C.

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DEDICATION.

dom: to the noble women who all down the ages kept the for a precisely similar offence received two months. flag flying and looked forward to this day without seeing it: to all women all over the world, of whatever race, or creed, or calling, whether they be with us or against us in this fight, we dedicate this paper.

THE OUTLOOK.

to by the speakers.

The Croydon Fight.

The W.S.P.U. simply ask the electors of Croydon to vote earlier than usual.

against Mr. Raphael, the Liberal; they are quite indifferent as to whether the result of this action is to give votes to one PAGE.

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

484

The audience which gathered at the Queen's Hall, London, on Monday afternoon last listened with rapt attention to the speech delivered by Miss Elizabeth Robins, who explained in that, including promises of all kinds, a figure of £8,000 was the intention of the Union of raising £50,000 for the fight. Mrs. Pankhurst, who arrived in the course of the meeting from Croydon, gave a stirring address, which was heartily

468 469 409 her own graphic way what prison really means to the women
470 who go there on behalf of their principles. Again, on the 471 evening of Tuesday a great meeting came together in the same 473 hall. Miss Christabel Pankhurst, who took the chair, dealt 474 with Mr. Geoffrey Howard's Bill and also with the Croydon 474 bye-election. Miss Mary Gawthorpe delighted the audience 475 with her sarcastic references to the present Government. Mr. 475 Pethick Lawrence announced the result of the Self-Denial 475 Week, showing that the self-denial collecting cards had reached 475 the figure of £1,200, as compared with £700 last year; and 475 476 available for the campaign of the ensuing year. He announced 476 477 473 480 received.

On the following morning a crowd assembled at Holloway to welcome the prisoners who were released, and conducted them in procession to the Inns of Court Hotel, where a private breakfast was given them. There are now still two members of the Women's Social and Political Union in prison-Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, who is serving a sentence of two months, and Miss Gye, who is serving a sentence of six weeks. Particu-Subscriptions to the paper should be sent to The Publisher lars as to the arrangements for the welcome on their release will be found elsewhere, p. 475. Looking back over the history of the agitation, we find prisoners sometimes sentenced to long, sometimes to short, terms; leaders and second offenders sometimes given the same, sometimes longer, sentences than their fellows; women sometimes put into the second class, sometimes into the first. There has been no rule nor method in the treatment; even the same Manager, " Votes for Women," 4, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C. magistrates sitting on the same occasion give sentences quite at random, as, for instance, the disparity between the sentence of Mrs. Despard, who was a second offender and a leader of one deputation, who received the outrageously long To the brave women who to-day are fighting for free- sentence of one month, and of Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, who

As we went to press on Wednesday evening a dinner was being given at the Inns of Court Hotel to the released prisoners in London, in Manchester Mrs. Pankhurst was addressing a great meeting in the Free Trade Hall, and a Lancashire deputation was being formed to wait upon Mr. Asquith. The women The past week has been crowded with events bearing on taking part in this deputation will come to London on Saturday Woman Suffrage. On Friday last came the second reading of Mr. Geoffrey Howard's Bill in the House of Commons. Though again at the Queen's Hall on Monday. On the following afterthe measure is on totally different lines from that advocated noon the Lancashire women, in conjunction with others from by the Suffrage societies, the discussion furnished many points London and elsewhere, will march from the Caxton Hall to the of interest for women, and the position and influence of the House of Commons. Whether Mr. Asquith will see them on Women's Social and Political Union were frequently referred this occasion, or whother he will repeat his tactics of February 24, time alone can show.

During the week the situation in Croydon has developed, Among the special features of this issue is the second half owing to the entrance into the contest of a third candidate in of the article by Elizabeth Robins dealing with the Signs of the person of Mr. Frank Smith, the Labour nominee. The the Times, which will strike home to the hearts of many of Women's Social and Political Union are pursuing with vigour our readers. Mr. Pearse again contributes a special cartoon. their usual anti-Government policy. It is true that Mr. Mr. Pethick Lawrence writes on the Constitutional Demand Raphael, the Liberal, and Mr. Smith profess themselves for Woman Suffrage, Miss Christabel Pankhurst on Mr. friendly, while Sir R. Hermon-Hedge declares himself opposed Geoffrey Howard's Bill. Owing to pressure en our space, many to Woman Suffrage. But the Union has learnt that the per- of the usual features have had to be omitted. Next week the sonal opinions of the candidates are of no consequence, the issue of the paper will be extended to thirty-two pages, to policy of the Government being the all-important matter. include a special dialogue written by Miss Beatrice Harraden, A private member of Parliament is simply a counter in the entitled, "Lady Geraldine's Speech." We hope that all hands of his leader in the House of Commons. Whatever Mr. our readers will make a point of buying extra copies of Raphael may profess, if he were returned as a member of this issue in order to introduce it to their friends. The fol-Parliament he would do exactly what he was told by Mr. lowing week, being the week before Easter, the paper will be Asquith ; and Lowever boldly Sir R. Hermon-Hodge may now published on Thursday, the day before Good Friday. Conproclaim his views, he will act as Mr. Balfour bids him. tributors are asked, therefore, to send in their matter a day

The Prisoners. 083

Another Deputation.

Special Features.

VOTES FUR WOMEN

MARCH 26, 1909.

VOTES FOR WOMEN

THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES. By ELIZABETH ROBINS.-PART II.

By F. W. Pethick Lawrence.-Chapter V.-The Constitutional Demand.

ELEMENTS OF THE WOMAN SUFFRAGE DEMAND

The Suffragettes are frequently accused of being impatient. House on its merits. This request the Right Hon. W. E. Their critics forget that the virtue of patience exists only in Gladstone unceremoniously refused, saying that the Governmoderation. When great causes are at stake the continued ment would disclaim all responsibility for the County Franexercise of patience after it has been proved to be of no avail chise Bill if the Woman Suffrage Amendment was carried ceases to be a virtue, and becomes a vice. To be inactive when Accordingly, when the vote was taken a large number of action is demanded in the interests of humanity is to commit Liberal members pledged to support Woman Suffrage voted the crime of negligence-a crime as heinous and as deadly as against the amendment, including Mr. John Morley (now any of those active crimes which are punished by the codes Lord Morley), who justified his action on the ground that, of nations or anathematised by the teachings of the religions though he was prepared to support Woman Suffrage as an of the world.

When the Suffragettes commenced their vigorous action the time for patience had long gone by. If anyone doubts it, let him ponder on the facts of the following historical survey

The modern agitation for the franchise dates from 1866, when the women found a champion of their cause in John Stuart Mill. This was the time when the Household Franchise Bill was under discussion, and John Stuart mentary business that the Bill never came on for discussion Mill determined to move an amendment to that measure. A petition was immediately got together, and in the course of a fortnight the signatures of 1,500 women were obtained, prominent among the number being the names of Frances Power Cobbe, Harriet Martineau, Florence Davenport Hill, and Mrs. Josephine Butler.

John Stuart Mill's amendment expressly including women voters was defeated, but in the Act the word "man" was used in place of the words "male person," which had occurred in the Act of 1832. In view of Lord Brougham's Act, by which it had been decided that the word man should invariably be taken to include woman, unless the contrary were specifically stated, it was thought by many people that women were therefore now enfranchised. Accordingly, in various parts of the country women sought to be put upon the register. How great was the demand for their enfranchisement may be seen from a canvass which was carried on in Manchester and the surrounding districts. In that constituency, out of a total number of 4,215 possible women electors, 3,924, or about 92 per cent., sent in claims. The case, however, was decided against the women in the Law Courts-Chorlton v. Lings-and the desire of women to be placed upon the register was frustrated.

Fifteen Years' Strenuous Work.

It was therefore decided to commence a vigorous constitutional agitation. Miss Lydia Becker was at the head of the movement, and she and those with her did exceedingly active work. Great public meetings were held and enormous petitions were presented. Thus in 1873 919 petitions with 329,206 signatures were presented to the House of Commons in support of the Women's Bill. In 1874 there were 1,404 petitions with 430,343 signatures. In 1875 1,273 petitions with 415,622 signatures. In all between 1866 and 1879 it is computed that the number of petitions amounted to 9,563, and that the signatures numbered over three millions!

The agitation by public meeting was on an equally extensive scale, and between 1,300 and 1,400 such meetings (an enormous number for those days) were held to promote the cause.

Among these were nine great demonstrations in the largest halls in the principal towns in the country. These were as follows

1. Manchester		Feb. 8, 1880.
2. London	St. James's Hall	May, 6, 1880.
3. Bristol		
4. Birmingham	Town Hall	
5. Bradford		
6. Nottingham		
7. Sheffield	Albert Hall	Feb. 27, 1882
8. Glasgow		
0 Edinburgh	Hall of H.D. Cuned	

In every case the audience, with few exceptions, was confined to women, and immense enthusiasm was evoked, the support for Woman Suffrage being practically unanimous. The campaign was kept up until 1884, when the County Franchise Bill was under discussion. It was understood that there was a majority of the House of Commons in favour of Woman Suffrage, and, the Liberal Government being in power, a memorial was addressed to the Prime Minister asking that the Government would allow the Woman Suffrage amendment to be submitted to the free and unbiassed consideration of the

independent measure, he was not prepared to support its inclusion in the Government Reform Bill.

Supporters of Woman Suffrage then pinned their faith to an independent measure, but the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone succeeded in thwarting this proposal also, for though he gave an undertaking that he would not interfere with the discretion of private members on this occasion, he so arranged Parlia-

After Constitutional Effort failed.

It was at this stage of the proceedings that the leaders of the Woman Suffragists failed to see that the limits of patience were exhausted, and that the time to act had come. A constitutional agitation of magnificent proportions had been carried on; the demand for the vote had been expressed by women all over the country; it had been supported by prominent men and by the Councils of leading municipalities. Nevertheles it had been defeated by the direct intervention of the Liberal Prime Minister, Mr. Gladstone. There was now no cours open to self-respecting women but to take up immediately ; spirited policy of opposition to the Liberal Government. Had they done this they would undoubtedly have compelled action from one or other of the political parties. Instead of this, however, they contented themselves with a mild protest, and with vain regrets at the unfaithfulness of their nominal friends.

The effect upon the movement was immediate. Women who had worked actively in hope now gave up the corflict in despair. The astuteness of the Liberal Premier suggested to him the advisability of keeping women politicians busy by giving them a small amount of political influence inside the ranks of the party. The Women's Liberal Association was formed, with Mrs. W. E. Gladstone as its president, and obtained a large number of recruits from the Woman Suffrage ranks. Another large section of women devoted themselves to individual causes, leaving the ranks of the Suffrage army The residue that remained, disheartened by failure and by the death of their leader, Miss Becker, put up a pitifully small show of resistance. Meanwhile, inside the House of Commons the Woman Suffrage cause languished, and for some years the Bill never reached a second reading division. began to be understood that as with the connivance of the leaders of both political parties the question of Woman Suffrage had been burked before, so it would be again; and private members were content to give pledges at election times to women, knowing that when once in the House they would find a means of escaping from their obligation

In 1897 a final effort in the line of constitutional agitation was carried out in the shape of a monster memorial to members of Parliament containing the names of 257,000 women in favour of the extension of the Suffrage. But though this memorial was actually introduced, very little notice was taken of it beyond a cursory mention in the House of Commons and in the Press.*

From that date till the year 1905 the movement retrogressed in vitality and public esteem. Politicians ridiculed it, the man in the street forgot it, women were ashamed to belong to it. Woman Suffrage meetings were attended by a handful of people only, and among these there was no life nor hope.

The fact was that the day for peaceful agitation was past; politicians had turned a deaf ear to the claim for justice. They had to be forced to listen by very different means.

(To be continued.)

*It is now admitted (see the Liberal "Year-Book ") that petitions and memorials weigh very little with members of Parliament. They are now regarded as signs of successful organisation rather than of enthusiasm or living interest.

There are those who, when they " see a cloud rise out of the wind and the rain, she knows ! She was under no compulsion west, straightway say, 'There cometh a shower,'"; and so it is. to share the heavy knowledge of the hard-pressed. She must And when the south wind blows they say, "There will be be buoyed up by some strange power unknown to the petty heat; and it cometh to pass." But as in the old days, those offender. who "can discern the face of the sky and of the earth," can- What power? Let us listen and find out. not discern "the signs of the times."

prison, they can discern no meaning.

tell you). "But we are no longer stirred, and hardly even done by all the academic elequence in the world. shocked."

indifferent.

But they are wrong. The public is anything but indifferent. And this is why.

Prison is *real* to the toiling millions.

MARCH 26, 1909.

realise that going to prison is a ghastly business.

Justice is the stepmother of the poor. They know the credible as a concomitant of twentieth century progress.

forgetfulness of the fortitude possible to the human soul!

Say to your neighbour at a dinner party, "those women seem rather to like it." But don't dare say that to the people at the polls. There will be those who know better.

times must remember that the comfortable person's paraded indifference to women's imprisonment is offset by the enermously greater number who are not blind to the significance of hundreds of women voluntarily entering the gates of Holloway. Anyone who doubts this has only to watch the to denounce their appearance as "a cheap electioncering manslaughter. dodge." If it were really so "cheap," if it were not in truth very costly, it would not have its invariable effect upon the voters. The reason it is so potent is, as I say, that in the great the fierce pinch of prison days. The effect of that sacrifice upon the masses is enormous. It is incalculable. They look morial Woman—the burden bearer of the world? Prison! What evil there can visit her that will not pale at these delicate women, and say: "She knows!" Very few by the side of evil women bear outside those walls?

The perhaps too common silence of the Suffragette as to perience; they know all about the strain on the nerves and the courage, the unconquerable sickness at sight of the food, the windows that cannot admit gir. In their dumb way some of these people, too, have felt the atmosphere, not to be shut out, that penetrates the prison walls. The "Geist der all hope of understanding or of betterment, that harshly represses every natural human emotion.

And because they are able to deaden what human the price she has paid, does not here make for misunderstandsympathy they have-because they can look on unmoved ing. These people have seen the cowed and beaten look while women suffer-the public, too, they think, is equally many a prisoner has brought out of the same sort of ex-In the great body of the electorate, there are people who stols verneint" is in possession there. The spirit that denies

Who that heard will ever forget the tone and haunted look heaviness of her hand. Few great aggregations of the popu-of that prisoner who once admitted the acid-like corresion lace where there is not some one who has been caught in our wrought upon the mind by the "warder-voice." And she exclumsy municipal machinery—some one who has suffered and cused the warders—"Not their fault," she said, "that the only been torn. Those who have not first-hand knowledge have people who may speak to you have a special voice for priheard. Prison for them is not a thing to shrug the shoulders soners. A voice that isn't human," she said, with trembling at; neither lurid legend nor queer anachronism, scarce lips, "a voice of iron." Such kindness as, in spite of all. creeps into the relation must be hidden like a felony. Some of us remembered the Suffrage prisoners when we read the Prison is real to the poor. In the person of some relation other day that Sir Walter Scott once quoted an opinion that or friend it has been a horrible fact. No danger of their women go mad seldomer than men. "I fancy," he said, " if sharing the illusion of the middle-class woman, entrenched this be true, it is in some degree owing to the little manual in her comfortable ignorance, leaning back against her works in which they are constantly employed, which regulate cushions and saying : "Holloway can't be so bad, or the Suf- in some degree the current of ideas, as the pendulum of the fragettes could never get so many people to go there." Strange timepiece. I do not know if this is sense or nonsense; but I am sensible that if I were in solitary confinement without either the power of taking exercise or employing myself in study, six months would make me a madman or an idiot.'

When he came over to lecture for the Berlitz School a few weeks ago M. Richepin told us how the poet Verlaine, after Mon and women who would understand the signs of the trying to kill his friend by shooting him, was sent to prison for two years. But Verlaine was given all the books he asked In those two years he taught himself English. He read Shakespeare, so the lecturer said, from end to end before he had finished his term. What would not some of the imprisoned Suffragettes give for a chance to occupy their minds to that extent? But they, so far from having injured their electric effect of the coming of a relay of newly-released friends, have not even tried to injure their enemies. Yet prisoners into the field during a byc-election. Easy enough they are less well treated than a French citizen convicted of

"Ye say .

to-day : for the sky is red and lowering." Does it tell men nothing that some of the Suffrage prisoners before they tried going to Holloway had grown grey working mixed crowds that gather round the public speakers at election among the poor and the lost? And some of the prisoners are time are always these people who know. Even for them-at young-full of a generous fire as illuminating as experience, no time used to much creature comfort-even for them, har- lighting up the Wrong that could never touch them, but dened to harsh treatment and sordid environment, some of which they have pledged themselves to banish out of the them-(enough to make actual the women's savrifice)-know world. A few weeks of prison! Can you not realise that the woman bearing that may see in herself a type of the Imme-

of the gentlefolk know. That woman standing there in the One seems to hear the prisoner in her darkest hour represent

By going to prison the Suffragette has done two things. In the symbol offered them by the woman who goes to She has proved her faith to those who know the harsher side of life; and she has brought herself through suffering We were a little stirred as well as shocked at first " (they into more direct relation with the masses than she could have

. in the morning, It will be foul weather

Wed 3

Fri.

Sat.

Many

Apri

May

her heart as the Greek hero did : "Endure, my heart, far Sat. 27 worse hast thou endured."

She will come out smiling, do you say? Yes. Her smiling is a symbol of her faith. But you may believe that as she sits alone there in her narrow cell

"tears

Are in her eyes; and in her ears The murmur of a thousand years."

I do not ask on behalf of those women what they do not ask for themselves. They do not ask for sympathy. They went to prison for "a sign." The question is : Can you read Sun.23 Mon.29 it? Can you even discern the two strange and unexpected things that have come out of women's going to prison in the cause of Suffrage? This fact that through their suffering and voluntary acceptance of the badge of humiliation they have come close to the poor ; and, most difficult, most precious gain of all, the poor have come close to them. In a democratic country this is a fact of the first magnitude. It might well give the most astute statesman pause to reflect that there is no body of educated men in Europe to day in such close touch with the hard-pressed, disinherited millions as the women who have gone to prison for conscience' sake.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The most important event of the coming week is the deputation Tue.30 to the Prime Minister on Tuesday next, March 30. The proceedings will be commenced at the meeting in the Caxton Hall at 3 p.m., and from there the deputation will proceed to the House of Commons. Tickets for the meeting can be obtained, price 1s. and 6d. from the Ticket Secretary, N.W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C. Women intending to join the deputation should communicate with Miss Christabel Pankhurst.

Release of Miss Gye.

On Thursday next Miss Gye will be released from Holloway at 8 s.m. Friends are invited to meet her at the prison gates and form up in procession to take her to the Inns of Court Hotel, where a private breakfast will be given her. In the evening Miss Gye will be present at the St. James's Hall, and it is hoped a large number will be there to give her a welcome

The Release of Mrs. Pethick Law ence.

The release of Mrs. Pethick Lawrence is due on Friday, April 16. It is arranged to meet her at the prison gates, and give her a hearty welcome. She will then drive to a London noter, where breakfast April fast will be served at 8.45 o'clock. Tickets for the breakfast April Thu. welcome. She will then drive to a London hotel, where a breakcan be obtained, price 2s. each. On the following day (Saturday) a meeting will be held, particulars with regard to which will be announced later.

The Albert Hall Meeting.

A special feature of the great Albert Hall meeting on Thursday, April 29, will be the presentation to all those members of the N.W.S.P.U. who have suffered imprisonment for the cause of Woman Suffrage. Will any member who has not received a letter referring to the arrangements kindly communicate with Miss Isabel Seymour, N.W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS.

		and the second sec	
rch	T	A STATE AND A STAT	1 100 5
. 26	Birmingham, 14, Ethel Street		12 n
	Sloane Square	Miss Naylor	12 n
	Bristol, St. George's Hall	Miss Ball	3.30 p
	W. Kensington, 8. Edith Road	Exhibition Sewing Party	3-6 p
	Aberdeen, At Home, 411,	Miss Flatman	5 p.:
	Union Street		
	Putney, Weimar Street, Open-	and the second second second second	6 p.:
	air meeting	and the second sec	
1	Bristol, Open-air Meeting, Horse Fair		7.30 p
	Aberdeen, Speakers' Class, 411, Union Street	Miss Flatman	8 p.1
Series	Croydon, Public Hall	Dalar I Di an an	
- 21	Croydon, r done man	Released Prisoners, F. W.	8 p.1
12 3		Pethick Lawrence, Esq.;	
1	Ealing, Montagu Rooms	Chair-Miss H. Lightman	1000
al.	Banng, Montagu Rooms	Miss Christabel Pankhurst,	8 p.1
23		Miss Isabel Seymour ; Chair	
12.00	Lavender Hill, S.W., Stanley	-Miss Wallace Dunlop	
22	Hall	Miss Cameron, Miss Annie Ainsworth	8 p.1
2.24	Nottingham, Mechanics' Hall	Mrs. Pankhurst	
Sie is	Brighton, The Dome	Miss Ogston	8 p.1
	Glasgow, At Home, 141, Bath	Miss Evelyn Sharp; Chair-	8 p.1
121	Street	Miss Conolan	8 p.1
715	Manchester Teachers' Asso-	Miss Mary Gawthorpe	
	ciation, Portico Library	miss mary Gawthorpe	8 p.r
1	Crouch End, Ye China Cup.	Hornsey W.S.P.U.	0
	Park Road	Hornsey W.D.F.U.	8 p.r
23	Stechford, Council Schools	Miss Gladice Keevil	0
121-1	Pimlico, Orange Square	Miss Barry, Miss Sheppard	8 p.r
1	Manchester, At Home, On-	Lancashire Delegates	8p.1
-	ward Buildings, Deansgate		8-10 I
100	Barnes, Byfield Hall		
		and the second	

			and the second
0	Manchester, London Road Station	and the second second second second	8.30 a.m.
	Manchester Bristol Dinner hour Macting	"Votes Corps"	11 a.m. 3 & 6 p.m.
-	Bristol, Dinner-hour Meeting, Portman Square Croydon, Procession of Brakes	Miss Ball Start Thornton Heath	3 & 6 p.m. 1.15 p.m.
-	Glasgow, At Home, Charing Cross Hall	Start Thornton Heath Miss Evelyn Sharp; Chair- Miss Conolan	2 p.m. 3 p.m.
100	Southport, At Home, Assem- bly Rooms	Miss Marsden, B.A.	3 p.m.
	Bradford, Open-air meeting	Miss Marsh	3.30 p.m.
	Croydon, Empire Theatre	Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Chris- tabel Pankhurst, Miss Mary	3.30 p.m. 3.30 p.m.
-	Rochdale, At Home, 84, York-	Gawthorpe	7.30 p.m.
1	shire Street Chelsea, World's End	Miss Haig	8 p.m.
3	Wimslow, St. Bartholomew's Croydon, Polling Day	Miss Haig Miss Williamson Committee Rooms, 125, North	8 a.m. to
	Chelsea, Sloane Square	End	8 p.m. 12 noon
-	Stirling, At Home, Y.M.C.A. Hall	Miss Evelyn Sharp; Chair- Miss Conolan	3 p.m.
	Bristol, At Home, Victoria Rooms London, At Home, Queen's	Miss Annie Kenney and others Miss Christabel Bankhungt	3.30 p.m,
	Hall W. Kensington, 8. Edith Road	Miss Christabel Pankhurst, Lancashire Delegates Miss Blanche Smith	3-5 p.m.
	Bradford, Workers' meeting, 61, Manningham Lane	Miss Marsh	8 p.m. 8 p.m.
	Manchester, Lecture, On- ward Buildings, Deansgate Bristol, Horfield Tavern	Mrs. Duncan	8 p.m.
	Bristol, Horfield Tavern Chelsea, 4, Trafalgar Studios.	Miss Ball Miss W. Mayo	8 p.m. 8.45 p.m.
	Chelsea, 4, Trafalgar Studios, Beginners' Elocution Class Weston-super-Mare, At Home,	Miss Vera Wentworth	arro p.m.
	North Street Hall Birmingham, Sparkhill	Miss Gladice Keevil Miss	
	Paisley, Y.M.C.A. Hall	Saxelby, Miss Jennings Miss Conolan, Miss Evelyn Sharp; Chair—Dr. Kather-	
	Printel Director	Sharp; Chair—Dr. Kather- ine Chapman Miss Ball	
	Bristol, Dinner-hour Meeting, Tilton Laundry		
	London, Caxton Hall Manchester Memorial Hall,	Deputation to the House of Commons	3 p.m.
3	Albert Square Birmingham, Midland Hotel	Miss Mary Gawthorpe, Mr. Forbes Robertson	3 p.m.
1		Miss Gladice Keevil, Miss G. M. Hazel Miss Ball	3.30 p.m.
-	Bristol, Fishponds Hall Liverpool, At Home, 48, Mount Pleasant	Miss Mary Gawthorpe	3.30 p.m. 3-5 & 8-10
	Bristol, Open-air Meeting.	Miss Gladice Keevil Miss Ball	7.30 p.m. 7.30 p.m.
	Horfield Broadway	Miss G. M. Hazel	p.m.
1	Aston Literary Club Newcastle-on-Tyne, At Home, Crosby's Café, Northumber-	Miss New	3 & 8 p.m.
	Sou h Kensington, Mrs. Gan-	Mrs. Pankhurst	4 p.m.
	dell's Drawing-room meet- ing, Earl's Court Square	and and the states	1
	Aberdeen, At Home, 411,	Miss Mary Neal, Miss C. Boyd Miss Adela Pankhurst, Miss	46 p.m. 8 p.m.
1	Union Street Wolverhampton, St. Peter's	Flatman Dr. Helena Jones	8 p m.
1	Inst. Edinburgh, Ardmillan Hall, Dalry, Social meeting	Miss Macaulay, Mrs. Tod, Miss C. W. Haig	8 p.m.
	Dalry, Social meeting Formby, Local Union mtg. Bristol, Assembly Rooms,	Miss C. W. Haig Miss Mary Gawthorpe Miss Ball	8 p.m. 8 p.m.
1	Stokes Croft	Chelsea W.S.P.U.	8.30 p.m.
and the second	Chelsea, 93, Oakley Street Wardle, Nut Food Society	Miss Williamson, B.A.	The Luni
-	Holloway Bristol, Open-air Meeting, Tilton Common	Release of Miss Elsa Lye Miss Ball	8 a.m. 3 p.m.
	Edinburgh, At Home, Society	Miss Conolan, Miss Macaulay	3.30 p.m.
	of Arts Hall, 117, George St. West Kensington, 8, Edith	Exhibition Sewing Party	3-6 p.m.
1	Road London, At Home, St. James'	Miss Christabel Pankhurst	8 p.m.
	Hall Bristol, small Victoria Rooms	Miss Gye	8 p.m.
	Coventry At How Drive	ture on "Shall Women Work." Miss Gladice Keevil	9 m m
	Coventry, At Home, Priory Rooms Edinburgh Marshall St. Hall		8 p.m.
	Edinburgh, Marshall St. Hall Hythe, Debate, Conservative and Unionist Associat on	Miss Conolan, Miss Macaulay Miss Isabel Seymour	8 p.m.
Contraction of the	Wood Green, Unity Hall Paignton, Masonic Hall Bristol, Women's Meeting,	Bowes Park W.S.P.U.	
	Bristol, Women's Meeting, Horfield Tavern	Miss Ball	3.30 p.m.
	ing Bishopstone, Open-air Meet-	Miss Ball	7.30 p.m.
	Manchester, At Home, On- ward Buildings, Deansgate		8 p.m.
11	Fulham, 20, Churchfield Man- sions, New King's Road Glasgow, At Home, 141, Bath	General meeting	8 p.m.
	DULGED	Miss Conolan, Miss Paxton	
2	Manchester, 164, Oxford Road	Lancashire Votes For Women Week	10 a.m.
-	Aberdeen, At Home, Kenna- way's Tea Rooms Slasgow, At Home, 141, Bath	Miss Adela Pankhurst, Miss Flatman	8 p.m.
(Glasgow, At Home, 141, Bath Street	Miss Conolan, Miss Hunter	
2	additional meetings as	re held every day in C	roydon
		uded in above list.	20 12 -
IMPORTANT FUTURE EVENTS.			
I	Bradford Miss Christabel Pankhurst		

MARCH 26, 1000.

Mrs. Pethick Law-	Miss Christabel Pankhurst
Temperance Hall d Hall Victoria Rooms,	Mrs. Pankhurst Mrs. Pethick Lawrence Mrs. Pethick Lawrence
lbert Hall	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence
am, Town Hall kating Rink	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence Exhibition and Sale of Work

MARCH 26, 1909.

MR. GEOFFREY HOWARD'S REFORM BILL.

reading of his Representation of the People Bill. This Bill would entitle "every person" (male or female) to be registered as a Parliamentary voter who is of full age and not subject to any legal incapacity and has resided in the constituency during the three months immediately preceding the 15th of July in any year. The Bill would also abolish plural voting. It was specially noticeable that, compared with last year, the debate was lifeless and uninteresting. This was due to the extravagant magnitude of Mr. Howard's proposals and to the of parties, but it would materially affect the trend of legislation repudiation of his measure by all the suffrage societies. The and secure a more generous appreciation of the needs of women, and Women's Social and Political Union came in for direct mention especially of those and they numbered half the women in the by a great number of the speakers, Sir Charles M'Laren referring to its strength and potency at bye-elections, and Mr. Dickinson urging that there was some excuse for the adoption of militant tactics in the procrastination of Parliament in dealing with the question. Mr. Asquith's final pronouncement was adroitly intrived to leave the situation exactly where it had been before. He refused, however, to support the Bill, on the ground that such proposals ought only to emanate from a responsible Government-an argument which throws into relief the irreremember and angular the second secon elf as willing to adopt.

Details of the Debate.

Mr. Howard said it was hardly possible to bring in an Electoral Reform Bill now without facing the question of women's suffrage. That question had been pressed in the House and in the country non-party lines, but his view was that it would only be carried by being attached to one or other of the great parties. He urged that if women were enfranchised without any alteration being made n the basis of the franchize we should not be enfranchising the same class among women as among men. The mere removal of the sex disqualification would not enable working married women to get on the register unless where the husband owned a house of the rly value of £20. A working married woman, as a rule, would be able to look forward to obtaining her qualification on the lay she became a widow. A Bill which aimed merely at the rease the facility for creating faggot votes and property votes. Mr. Howard explained in detail the provisions of his Bill, saying that he had no hope of carrying it into law, but merely of clearing the air for the Bill promised by the Government.

Sir Charles M'Laren (L-Bosworth), in seconding the motion for the second reading, said the supporters of the Bill had been blamed in many quarters for mixing up women's suffrage with adult sufirage. But those who had promoted the cause for many years had had to consider the position in which the question had been placed by the statement which the Prime Minister made last year. They also felt that, as the House had frequently adopted by large majorities the principle of women's suffrage, it would be useless to invite of woman suffrage he admitted that there were many women who did not want the vote, and that the anti-suffrage petition presented that morning deserved some consideration. It was worth noting, however, that after months of strenuous effort the Anti-Suffrage Society had only managed to secure 243,000 signatures. A Unionist member : More than you've gct.

£20,000 for the W.S.P.U.

Sir Charles M'Laren : Oh, I admit that. I don't suppose a single petition in favour of this Bill has been presented. (Cheers.) But that is because the time for petitions has long gone by, (Laughter.) The House of Commons does not care for petitions; it cares for arguments and for votes. Speaking of the intensity of the agitation for the cuffrage, he said he had seen it stated that the most active of the suffragist societies had an income of £20,000 a year raised among women themselves for the purpose of forcing on the agitation. That society-he referred to the "Suffragettes" -was forcing it on, too, in a way which was no doubt most unpalatable to members of the House. (Laughter.) But when these women were able to raise no less than £20,000 a year for the purposes of agitation the question had reached a position beyond ridicule. It had reached a position where it demanded solution. (Cheers.) This Bill was intended to help the Government to come to some decision as to the manner in which they would deal with it next year. He believed these women had had very great influence at all the bye-elections. It was difficult to say what turned a vote, but it was a fact that these intelligent, eloquent, and attrac-

Mr. Howard remarked that the members of the society to which the hon, gentleman referred invariably opposed Liberals and supported Conservatives. Mr. Forster would prefer to say not that they supported Consorvatives, but that they were violently hostile to Liberals. There was no demand for the Bill. Not a score of members put the que: tion of adult suffrage before the people at the last election, and there was no evidence in the interval of the growth of that volume removal of the sex disqualification would accentuate some of our of public opinion without which such a movement could not succeed. resent difficulties-the plural voter, for example. It would also He maintained that suffrage and seats must be dealt with together, and that the Bill would involve a scheme of redistribution

Opinions as to Methods.

Mr. E. S. Montagu (L-Chesterton), in the course of his re-marks, referred to the W.S.P.U. as follows :--" The hon. member for Sevenoaks dealt with the opposition which has notoriously been raised to this Bill by the Women's Social and Political Union. The hon, member must know that there are a great many people chocking different methods for the advancement of the cause of woman sufirage. The Women's Social and Political Union adopt their own peculiar methods-the methods which commend themselves to them I should be the last to condemn any method for the propagation of the House to discuss the same question again, especially in face of an object in which I am sincerely interested. The fact that their the Prime Minister's specific declaration. On the general question methods differ from ours matters very little. They are, if I may cay so, entirely ignorant of the exigencies of Parliamentary life. They do not understand the difficulties experienced in obtaining the passage of a women's enfranchizement Bill.

Mr. Snowden (Lab-Blackburn) stated that the women's suffrage societies without exception repudiated this Bill. (Cheers.) The members of these societies differed very much in their opinions en certain questions, but they were absolutely united in their opinion as to what was the best policy to adopt in order to bring about the speedy enfranchipement of women. The demand for the enfranchisement of women on the same terms as men was simple and understandable. It secured also the largest common measure of support. For instance, a considerable number of members on the Conservative benches supported the Bill of last year, but he did not think a single one of them would be disposed to support this Bil. (Hear, hear.) The last annual Conference of Concervative Associations also expressed approval of the principle that the franchise should be conferred on women on the same terms as on men If the removal of the cex disability was to wait until every adult man had obtained the vote the demand would be indefinitely port poned. (Cheers.) In the course of an extensive experience of public meetings in this country he did not remember that this question of adult suffrage had ever been raised. But there was a strong demand for the enfranchisement of women.

Mr. Bertram (L-Hitchin) objected to the extension of the franchise to women at any time or under any circumstances. It was quite certain that the men electors of this country were opposed to women's suffrage, and if this had been a dominating issue at the tive women-(laughter)-because the "Suffragettes" had many last election he did not think there would now he in the House #

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

On Friday last Mr. Geoffrey Howard moved the second admirable qualities besides that of fanaticism-(laughter)-going to all these bye-elections, and consistently, ruthlessly, and mercilessly opposing the Government candidate, had had a very great effect on public opinion. Turning to the Bill itself, Sir Charles admitted that there was great force in the objection to having a Parliament elected by a majority of women, and if the Bill went into Committee he should certainly support certain restrictive amendments to obviate that very undesirable result. In particular, he would favour the exclusion of domestic servants. He did not believe the admission of women would materially affect the balance country-who earned their own living. (Applause.)

47I

Mr. H. W. Ferster (U-Sevenoaks), who moved the rejection of the Bill, said it dealt with three distinct subjects-(1) a giganite extension of the franchise; (2) the abolition of plural voting; and (3) women's enfranchisement. Of course, the Bill would not the Covernment might baptise the babe, but they would not confirm the child. Our present electoral system was based on the representation of localities, by and through the votes of these who were qualified by Parliamentary sanction to give it. This Bill substituted for that principle the right of the individual to a vote. not on the ground of sex deny to one individual the right they gave to another; but they must go further. The voter did not cease o be an individual if he happened to find himself in a minority. Therefore they must provide for minority representation. He noticed that some of the highly organised militant bodies who voiced the opinions of women in favour of enfranchisement were exceedingly hostile to the Bill

single supporter of this.so-called reform. The great mass of the women of the country were entirely indifferent on this question.

Earl Percy (U-South Kensington) had never been able to take the view that women as a whole were less qualified intellectually than men to exercise the suffrage, or to express virile views on important questions. His objection always had been that once women's suffrage was introduced he did not see where it would ctop. He would like a vote of a special character conferred upon women, but as no such proposal had been put into practical shape, he saw no alternative but to vote against every measure dealing with women's suffrage which did not offer some promise of a final settlement of the question, and which did not receive the assent of both the great political parties.

Mr. Stanger (L-West Kensington) defended his action in supporting the present Bill, saying that as the principle of woman suffrage had been carried last year by a 3 to 1 majority (on the second reading of his own Bill), he now felt prepared to include that principle in a Bill along the lines which Mr. Asquith demanded.

Mr. Massie (I .- Cricklade) said that whatever might be the secondary features of the Bill, the head and front was the extension of the franchise and of sovereign authority to women. The present Parliament had no moral authority whatever to make such a revolu tion. From some investigations he had himself made, he found that out of the 670 members of the House only thirteen spoke of adult suffrage and only forty-eight referred to Women's Suffrage at the general election. It was, therefore, absurd even to pretend that either at the last election or at any previous election Women's Suffrage was a live issue. (Cheers.) The verdict of experience and acquaintanceship with the bye-elections went to show that the militant Suffragists counted for very little in the result. The latent opposition on the part of women to the movement had recently taken to itself a body, and the question, Did women want their sex to be the governing sex ? was being slowly but surely answered. He had himself presented to the House that day a petition from 243,000 women, representing all sections of society, praying that the vote should not be granted to women. There was evidence from all quarters and all classes that the apathy which prevailed before Women's Suffrage came into the region of practical politics was now passing away, and that the country was now awaking to the danger of conceding such a demand. If the House, by passing the Bill, anticipated that awakening by irrevocably extending the government of the country to women, it would be a piece of sharp practice on the part of the House.

Sex Disqualification Sound.

The Women's Suffrage societies were hostile to the Bill, because it went athwart their practical policy of abolishing sex disqualification. He agreed that the Suffragists were wise from their point of view. When once sex disgualification was abolished, everything that they desired followed-ad ilt suffrage, seats in Parliament, sharps in office under the Crown, and possibly a woman Speaker. Sex disqualification was sound because it was on a natural basis which no artificiality and no unnaturalness could upset, and to disregard nature must necessarily end in doing an irreparable wrong to any nation. The ultimate basis of authority was physical force, and that force was characteristically male. Women had to be guarded rather than attacked, and protection implied inequality for rposes of government.

Mr. W. H. Dickirson (L-St. Pancras) defended the form of Mr. Geoffrey Howard's Bill, which he believed to be of the only kind acceptable to the Liberal Party. He then dealt with the general question of women's enfranchisement, in the course of which he said :- " You may say that women are not fitted for the vote and you may point in support of that contention to some recent events. I do not propose to criticise or to judge the action of anybody outside ; I think some of them have been mistaken. Some of them have done more harm to their cause than good, but we must bear in mind that the women who have been carrying on this method of procedure have only constituted a very small fraction of the women of the country. Side by side with them are a large number of responsible and sensible women, who deprecate these methods, and who have advocated the cause with every reasonable argument pertinaciously for many years. We ought not to allow their case to be damaged by what we think the mistaken tactics of certain Suffrage associations. But, after all, can we not also recognise that they were to a certain extent justified? They have read history, and they know the methods that were used in former years. They have tried pacific persuasion, and they got some 400 hon. members of this House to declare in their favour. Since then, they have taken strong steps, which some of us deplore; but also some of us realize that, under the circumstances, they were inevitable. They have brought the question to the forefront Their methods have shown that they were in earnest in what they were doing. None of us has failed to realize that these ladies who are going to prison did so with no particular desire for advertisement or from any hysteria. That which has moved them to take this action is an earnest and convinced belief in a great cause. I believe this House would make cussed in the House.

no greater mistake than by thinking that this movement is a partial movement. It will grow. The women believe, and I believe-and they rightly believe-that their demand for justice cannot be refused permanently. They say :- 'Your principle has been to place your trust in the pecple. Why trust one half only? Cannot you trust the whole of the people?' I believe that principle will in the

Mr. Hicks-Beach (U-Tewkesbury) argued that this was not a Bill which ought to have been brought forward by a private mem ber, and ought not to be passed until the general sense of the electorate had been taken on i

Mr. J. M. Robertson (L-Tyneside) supported the Bill.

Mr. Rees (L-Montgomery Boroughs), in the course of a speech of an offensive character, said the last speaker had compl ignored the one and only ground on which women should not have the vote-the ground of sex. The great difficulty in dealing with the subject was that the moment they came to actual facts they were accused of being frivolous. But he would again ask in all seriousness-Was there any member who would openly say, however clever, able, and capable was his own wife, that he was proud to be under petticoat government? There was not one. (Laughter.) Rather would the husband of the most capable lady say with Byron

"Oh, you lords of ladies intellectual,

Confess it truly, have not they henpecked you all?"

-(Laughter.) How could it possibly be good that the State, which was but an aggregate of families, should live not only subject t that influence, but under a state of affairs in which the majority of the electors would actually belong to the female cex?

The Prime Minister.

Mr. Asquith (Prime Minister), rising at five minutes to five o'clock, said: It has been often stated and is well known that on the issue whether women should have the suffrage the members of the present Government are not altogther of one opinion, and throughout this Parliament that has never been made a Government question. The situation in that respect is unchanged, and entirely unaffected by the introduction of the Bill now before the House. But this Bill raises other and much wider issues. It pro poses to extend the franchise to all adults of either sex, subject to the condition of three months' residence. I myself, and I believe all my colleagues, whatever may be our opinions on women' suffrage, are strongly in favour of a reform upon a wide scale of the existing frachise-(cheers)-the abolition of plural voting-(cheers)-the dicappearance of the artificial and illogical distinction between occupiers and lodgers--(cheers)-a material shortening of the period of qualification-(cheers)-and a thoroughgoing simpl fication of the machinery of registration. (Cheers.) Apart from the question of sex-as to which I do not recede from but reaffirm what I have previously said as to what the Government contemplate and intend-and not committing myself so far as men are concerned to the precise propocals of my hon. friend, I wish to see a large relo on the lines I have indicated. But, I must add, any measure of the kind ought, in my opinion, if it is to take its place on the Statute book, to proceed from the responsible Government of the day-(cheers)-and to be carefully moulded out of the stress of deliberat and prolonged Parliamentary discussion. (Cheers.) I understand the promoters of this Bill are quite willing, if it is read a second time the Bill should be committed to a Committee of the whole House-a course which I think to be a wise one for them to take. (Cheers.) But it seems to me, apart from all other considerations, that the reasons I have given are sufficient reasons why I at any rate and my colleagues should not vote at this moment for the second reading of the Bill.

When Mr. Asquith resumed his seat several Conservative members rose to continue the debate, but Mr. Howard moved the closure This motion was accepted by the Speaker, and carried by 158 votes to 124.

The House then divided on the amendment for the rejection of the Bill, and there voted :--

For the	Bill	157
Against		122

Majority for the Bill The Bill was then read the second time without a division and committed to a Committee of the whole House.

ANOTHER BILL.

Mr. Philip Snowden has introduced a bill along straightforward lines for conferring the Parliamentary franchise on women. It consists of a single clause, which enacts that

" in all Acts relating to the qualifications and registrations of voters or persons entitled or claiming to be registered and to vote in the election of members of Parliament, wherever words occur which import the mascu-ling gender the same shall be held to include women for all purposes connected with and having reference to the right to be registered 35 voters and to vote in such elections."

It is backed by other members of the Labour party, but unloss special time is allotted to it by the Government, it cannot be dis-

EXTRACTS FROM THE PRESS.

The "Times."

MARCH 26, 1909.

The proceedings of yesterday afternoon in the House of Commons at tend to strengthen the confidence of the nation in the pacity of the present Parliament to deal seriously with its des-At a moment when the thoughts of every responsible en are deeply preoccupied with the menace of the naval situation attention of the House of Commons has been diverted to a tic measure of franchice reform, of which the alleged importhas been repudiated by most of the prospective beneficiarics. It is true that the extravagant diversity of the proposal? ted in the Bill is largely to be ascribed to the attitude of the vernment in declaring that the extension to women of the Parnentary franchise would only be considered by it as part of a al scheme of electoral reform. Even where a demand is profd co extravagantly as that of the more vehement claimants of Suffrage, some measure of firm and responsible statesmanshould be apparent in the response; but the refusal of the t issue which was involved in the preliminary attitude of the Government towards this question has only been exceeded by its equivocal policy as declared by the Prime Minister at the close of

The "Manchester Guardian."

That the Bill should have been carried by a majority of 157 to 122, in spite of the opposition of the Conservatives as a body and f a good many Liberals who are supporters of Women's Suffrage, bat who regard this Bill as a red-herring drawn across the path, a remarkable evidence alike of the strength of the Women's Suffrage nt and of the growing feeling in favour of a wide extension the basis of the franchice. So far as the Liberal party is conred these two currents to a large extent run together, and it is now pretty plain that if women are ever to be enfranchized by a ral Government it must be on the basis not of the existing but wider franchice. We may take it that if and when-a large doubtful hypothesis-the Government introduce a Reform Bill will permit the sense of the House to be taken on the quesof including women in the enlarged franchise. The franchise women will be the same as for men, but it will be an enlarged, democratic," one. What is meant by this Mr. Asquith went way last night towards explaining. He and all the other ters of the Cabinet are, he tells us, "strongly in favour of a m upon a wide scale of the existing franchise," and by this eans "the abolition of plural voting, the disappearance of the ificial and illogical distinction between occupiers and lodgers, a material shortening of the period of qualification, and a thoroughgoing simplification of the machinery of registration "-that is, other words, adult suffrage; and it is therefore under an Adult Suffrage Bill alone that Mr. Asquith will consent to allow the sion of women to be left to the unfettered discretion of his followers and of the House of Commons. Are we likely to see such a Bill during the lifetime of the present Parliament? On this vital uestion Mr. Asquith threw no light. In part, at least, the decision with the Liberals themselves, and it is for them to make their voices heard. It would be a sorry thing for the party if it should have made no effort in the day of its strength to enlarge the rights of citizenship and to respond to the last and greatest demand addressed to it for political enfranchisement, this time not for a class merely, but for the whole cex.

The "Dai y News."

The debate was memorable in two respects. The Prime Minister said that any measure of the kind brought forward by Mr. Howard, if it was to take its place on the Statute-book, must proceed from responsible Government of the day. This would seem to involve the admission that Weman's Suffrage also must be so treated, and that it can no longer be regarded as a matter on which the opinion of the private member qua private member is of great consequence. The Government, and the Government alone, can deal with it. second point to which we alluded was Sir Charles McLaren's frank statement of the influence of the women's organisations on the McLaren said, the women have turned a considerable quantity of many of them-if only their rights as citizens were fully acknowledged-would gladly turn into more fruitful channels. The conrift in the forces of the Party of reform at a moment when all its of persuasion and reiteration. strength is needed to combat the powers of privilege and reaction.

The matter must, before it is settled, be taken up by the Government, as was admitted on all sides to-day. Delay means the reenactment of scenes painful to all concerned, and a disgrace to the country. The majority of the Cabinet is known to be in favour. An immense majority of the House is pledged to this reform. The Government must choose how this reform is to be carried out. There are other means of doing it than either by the limited Bill or by Mr. Howard's Bill-measures more democratic than the one and less revolutionary than the other. Mr. Dickinson's Bill removing the sex disability and at the same time enfranchising married women might be a satisfactory solution, and we should be glad to see the Government adopting that. One thing is clear. If we do not grant a democratic franchise to women, the Tories, when they come into office will grant an undemocratic one.

Before members of Parliament could settle down yesterday to a pleasant afternoon talk about women's suffrage the bread had been taken from their mouths by the ladies chiefly interested in the discussion. Mr. Geoffrey Howard's Adult Suffrage Bill had been blessed, on behalf of the Women's Liberal Federal Federation, by Lady Carlisle. . . . In a closely argued letter which we printed yesterday the Anti-Suffrage League prenounces vigorously against any sort of tampering with the existing distinction of the sexes. The Bill has been excommunicated by the very women to whom Lady Jersey and her friends are specially opposed-the promoters

of a limited female suffrage. Lady Knightley of Fawsley has protected in the name of the Concervative and Unionist advocates of a limited enfranchisement. In this, if in nothing else, she is backed by the more prominent agitators. They are broken into two groups. There is the physical force section, led Mics Pankhurst, which breaks windows, flourishes dogwhips, and otherwise makes itself obnoxiously ridiculcus. Then there is the Parliamentary party, under Mrs. Faw-cett and Lady Frances Balfour, which deplores the methods of the militants, but is not above prefiting by them. These two sections unite in repudiating Mr. Geoffrey Howard.

Members were, of course, fully conscious of the unreality of the discussion, and most of those who went down to St. Stephen's yesterday spent their time elsewhere than in the debating chamber. The attendance was so meagre at one time that a count-out was attempted, though the ringing of the electric bells and the shouts of "Count." along the corridors soon secured a quorum

The Adult Suffrage Bill (men and women) was read a second time yesterday by a majority of 35 (157 to 122). The figures are interesting, for Mr. Stanger's more restricted Women's Suffrage Bill last session was carried in a larger House by a majority of 179 (2/1 to 92). This may or may not indicate some failing off in the popularity of the idea in the House of Commons. On the present occasion the issue was complicated by the sweeping nature of the reforms proposed.

As Mr. Asquith said, no such measure orght to be introduced except by a responsible Government. That was what was wrong with Mr. Howard's Bill from a debating point of view. No one could be expected to take scriously such a Bill, introduced by a private member, in a form in which it was obviously incapable of being taken up by the Government. Even Mr. Howard did not take t seriously. He said he did not expect it to be passed.

The air of the week has been again greatly agitated by the move-ment for Women's Suffrage. From the standpoint of a vulgar world, the conduct of Lady Constance Lytton in refusing any prison favours denied to her sister prisoners is hailed as a r-aragon of sacrifice. As a matter of fact, this young heroine is merely showing a sense of justice and chivalry which is surely not uncommon in this year of grace. At any rate, the cause for which Lady Constance Lytton bye-elections. Owing to the fact that quiet and successful meetings and the other specimens of pure and unselfish womanhood are lookare less frequently reported in the Press than those which are ing through prison bars is making steady and substantial progress. interrupted, the public has not understood that, as Sir Char'es As men, we may think that the militant methods have already cleared the way to victory at the earliest possible moment. The votes. . . . It is very urgent that a satisfactory solution of this field is ripe for the harvest. But we are not in the least surprised problem should be found as soon as possible. At present all the that so many thousands of women are not of the same opinion. progressive movements in the country-and the Liberal Party not Personally, we could not act shoulder to shoulder with the women east-are losing much of the help and support of women, who are that oppose Mr. J. E. Raphael at Croy-lon, who is as active a being forced to devote to mere political agitation the energies which worker for Women's Suffrage as he is for the Liberal cause. But we cannot account it an unpardonable offence that these militant women should prolong the aggressive policy, which in three years tinuance of the present situation means the existence of a dangerous has brought them nearer to success than the previous three centuries (Extracts relating to Croydon appear on page 479.)

The "Standard."

"Morning Post."

"Daily Chronicle."

"Morning Advertiser."

"Hereford Times."

of hers when she flashes straight from the abstract to the and concise, of what is going to be brought to the attention of humorously concrete, remarked from the chair at the Queen's Mr. Asquith by the deputation of Lancashire women who are Hall on Tuesday evening that "Politicians may lie about in heaps suffering from influenza, but we go gaily on our way, influenza or no influenza." And the sight of that packed hall, painted purple, white, and green with enthusiasm, explained why it was that ours, probably, was the only audience in London Mr. Dickenson, Mr. Stanger, and Mr. Geoffrey Howard, and on Tuesday evening that was not decimated by the prevailing they will justify from this the demand of the Union for a epidemic. The only thing that causes gaps in the ranks of the Suffragettes is a call to work elsewhere ; and if any friends were absent from the annual meeting of our Union, this was only because these was a bye-election to be fought at Croydon, and a Cabinet Minister to be fought at Sion College. And even the finely expressed sorrow for a Cabinet that has not the political ubiquitous Suffragette has not yet learnt how to be in two imagination to take the political chance of a lifetime; and the places at once.

474

But there were no very obvious gaps in our ranks on Tuesday, and our forces had mustered well to hear the account of trying to get votes by methods which never yet won a vote for the year's work. This was no meeting for "the unconverted or the stranger. For once we were out for a frolic, just to shake one another by the hand before separating for another year's campaign; and it was very pleasant to look round and see, here a woman whom one last saw as she vanished into Cannon Row between two arms of the law; there another whom one last met (speedily to part again) at a political meeting packed with Liberal stewards and a carefully selected portion of the years ago the leaders of it would have been burnt for witch Liberal Party. If there were any strangers present, they pro- craft. He then proceeded to evoke the witchcraft by the cred bably felt that the gay and cheery women round them could not be very strenuous campaigners after all. And then, directly after, those gay and cheery campaigners raised another thousand pounds among themselves. That is the sort of little thing the Union does when it is out for a frolic.

Miss Christabel Pankhurst.

The speakers played up well, of course. In her speech from the chair Miss Christabel Pankhurst was delightfully charac- the fun began on Tuesday evening; and by the time the meetteristic of herself, touching generously on the past, scornfully on the present, inspiringly on the future. With a fine tribute to the women who had raised £20,000 during the past year, she then described Mrs. Pethick Lawrence as one who stands in the very front "as a friend, as a leader, as a fighter for womanhood." There was great applause when she declared that "no Pankhurst arrived fresh from the Croydon battle-field in time society ever had or ever will have a treasurer like ours," followed by understanding laughter when she added, whimsically, "For this we excite the envy of the whole political the pace for the whole country in the race for Votes for world." Becoming suddenly serious she spoke of the willingness of women to bear the enormous burden put upon them by the Government, because they realise that the vote must be paid for in money, in strength-in life, possibly. "What we do complain of," she went on in righteous scorn, "is that the elsewhere. They would at all events have realised the futility Government will name no limit to the price that is to be paid. of trying any longer to stem a relentless, incoming tide. Hercules was happy compared to us; he at least knew what was expected of him !" Passing from a cutting criticism of the attitude shown towards Woman Suffrage by Sir W. Robson, "who, though eminent, has not vet reached sufficient eminence to induce us to attend his meetings," the speaker touched on the advantages gained from the Adult Suffrage debate in Parliament, which she described as "an advertisement for the W.S.P.U.," and she wound up with a fine peroration, calling gates the militant policy will be expounded; it will be shown why on the present Government not to leave our question to be settled by the Tories : "Better for us to get our vote from them it means saving Liberalism from disgrace and dishonour."

Miss Mary Gawthorpe.

Miss Mary Gawthorpe, who had the big reception she deserves sive. An amusing account of the audiences to which she is that arrangements may be made for the presentations.

Miss Christabel Pankhurst, in one of those happy moments accustomed in Lancashire was followed by a summary, clever to wait upon him next week-that is if he consents to see them. They are going to ask him to be just before he is generous, to remove the disability of sex before talking about adult suffrage ; they will put before him the failure of private members to deal with this question by enumerating the unsuccessful attempts of Government pledge. " If you say that these gentlemen in the House of Commons have done their best, you give away the whole situation ; for that is precisely why we refuse to lay down our arms for anything short of a Government promise," was a sentence that produced much applause. So did the speaker's whole audience wildly appreciated her concluding remark : "Militant methods are not unconstitutional. Those who are anybody-they are unconstitutional, and I wash my hands of them !

MARCH 26, 1909.

£8.00 '-for Self-Denial Week.

Mr. Pethick Lawrence, receiving his well-deserved ovation as soon as he got upon his feet, very amusingly referred to the black origin" that is attributed to the funds of the Union Ly the enemy, and touching upon the finer influences at work in the movement, raised laughter by saying that a few hundred tion of a scoring board on the platform; and the scene that followed would certainly have hurried most of those that took part in it to the stake on Wednesday morning, had Cabinet Ministers to-day the powers possessed by authorities in the past. The score stood at £29,000, to start with; money already received for Self-denial Week speedily sent it up to £36,404, amid cheers. Any ordinary political society not under a spell would have left it at that. But it was only here that ing broke up the score had mounted up to over £37,000. And nobody even smiled, or seemed surprised, when the five baskets, in the shape of collecting boxes, were sent round the audience to gather up the fragments that remained.

Mr.:. Pankhurst.

Just to put a tidy finish to the meeting, as it were, Mrs. to receive an immense ovation, and to tell us that, great as Lancashire has been in the past, London is now going to set Women ; also that, before another annual meeting comes round, we shall have won the race. I think that much desired limit would speedily be set to the price demanded of us for our vote, if Cabinet Ministers had attended our meeting on Tuesday evening, instead of turning women out of their own meetings

THE ALBERT HALL MEETING, APRIL 29.

England has been described as the storm-centre of the women's movement, and on April 29 the delegates to the International Congress, who are meeting in London this year, have received a special invitation to be present on the platform at the Great Albert Hall meeting arranged by the W.S.P.U. For the benefit of the dele this policy is necessary, and the way in which it has been carried out will be described. Another interesting feature of the meeting now, because it means no more delay; better for them, because suffered imprisonment in the cause of women's political enfranwill be the presentation to all the members of the Union who have chisement. These women are invited to occupy seats on the platform. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence will be in the chair, and the speaker will include Mrs. Pankhurst and Miss Christabel Pankhurst Miss for her plucky work in the North, was both witty and impres-Isabel Seymour, 4, Clements Inn, W.C., will be glad to have the

MARCH 26, 1909.

THE TREASURER'S NOTE.

I congratulate the Women's Social and Political Union on the plendid result of the Self-denial Week of 1909, which will enable the ampaign to be extended during the year, and carried out with increased effect.

Self-Denial Cards.

Over a thousand Self-denial cards have been returned to the Treasurer, containing a total sum of £1,206 8s, 5d. This large figure has been made up by amounts, great and small, from many generous iends, ranging from the collection of the London City Union which totalled £29 17s. 10d., to some containing only a few shillings, put together by the loving thought and sacrifice of those who have the cause at heart. Self-Denial Subscriptions.

Apart from the collecting cards, the sum sent in in Self-denial criptions and in collections, etc., amounted to £1,771 11s. 8d. some of this represented large sums, others were careful ngs of those to whom it was good to be able to give, becauce they loved so well. It is impossible to act, even for a short while, s Treasurer of this Union, without realising how much is meant by ery shilling that forms part of the great fund, and it is good to not a penny is wasted on unnecessary or unprofitable outlay.

Promises for the Exhibi ion.

Another large work of the Self-denial Week this year has been the tive preparation for the Lx55bition in promises of stalls and goods. The total of all these is no less a sum than £4,120.

At the Queen's Hall,

The final part of the Self-denial fund was raised on Tuesday night at the Queen's Hall. Money and promises were handed up from all parts of the building. Mrs. Hertha Ayrton contributed £200, Miss Garrett Anderson, M.D., promised £50, Mrs. Budgett £50. Miss Dorothy Pethick £47 10s., Mrs. Cohen £40, Hon. Mrs. Haverfield £25. These with other sums and the collection totalled about £1,000, bringing up the final figure for Self-denial to £8,000-a

when I go to see her in Holloway, as I expect shortly to be able to do. She will appreciate how well every member of the Union has worked in her absence, and she will understand how much they ave cared for its progress.

ressure on space has rendered it impossible. Next week this mission will be repaired. F. W. P. L.

MRS. PETHICK LAWRENCE'S RELEASE.

We want all members and friends of the W.S.P.U. to keep April 16 free, making a note in their diary, and looking for further announcement in VOTES FOR WOMEN next week. On April 16. at 8 o'clock, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence is expected to be released from followay Gaol after her long sentence of two months. She will be met at the gates by members and friends of the Union, and will drive to one of the hotels, where a complimentary breakfast will be served. Tickets, price 2s., will be ready shortly. For the following day (Saturday) special arrangements are being made, must, however, find a place this week which will be announced next week.

MISS GYE'S RELEASE.

Miss Elsa Gye, who in default of being bound over went to prison for six weeks for her share in the deputation to the Prime Minister on April 24, will be released on April 1. Miss Gye's work in connection with the N.W.S.P.U., and especially at bye-election imes, is well known, and it is confidently expected that she will be met at Holloway Gates at 8 o'clock in the morning by a large muster of friends, and a procession will conduct her to the Inns of Court Hotel, where she will be entertained to breakfast privately by the Committee and a few personal friends. In the evening the usual Thursday at Home will take the form of a public meeting, at which Miss Gye will be present, and a specially large rally of members and friends of the Union will be expected

THE DEPUTATION ON MARCH 30.

When Mrs. Clarke was released from Holloway for her shere in the attempt to interview the Prime Minister at Downing Street during the sitting of the Cabinet Council two months ago, she brought with her a message from Mrs. Pethick Lawrence to the down the country, and had presented more petitions in the cauce she wanted the number of women prepared to undergo imprisonment for the sake of political freedom to exceed that of any other oody-for example, the Chartists.

women who feel themselves free to take militant action against the will gladly supply dolls for this purpose.

Government which persistently refuses to attend to the women's claims. Next Tuesday another attempt will be made to interview the Prime Minister, and to lay before him the case for Women's Enfranchisement. On this occasion a special contingent from Lancashire will take part, and any other women who feel that they can serve the W.S.P.U. by taking action in this way should remember that their names should be sent in to Miss Christabel Pankhurst, 4. Clements Inn, W.C., without delay. On this occasion the preliminary meeting in the Caxton Hall will take place at 3 o'clock

in the afternoon, the deputation setting out shortly after its com

Tickets for the meeting are 1s., and 6d., and may be obtained from the Ticket Secretary, N.W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

THE PRESENTATION MOTOR-CAR.

In last week's issue of Votes for Women a letter appeared from

the pen of Mrs. Pankhurst, suggesting that members of the W.S.P.U. (who would, she was sure, desire to find some way, however inadequate, of letting Mrs. Pethick Lawrence know how much her work and sacrifice in going to prison for the women's cause is valued by the Union), should unite in presenting her with a know that the same loving care is used in the expenditure, so that motor-car, decorated with the Union colours. The National Committee's work, Mrs. Pankhurst pointed out, is now of such magnitude that a conveyance for constant use has become a necessity, and would be a real economy of time and money. Many members and friends of the Union have already responded to the suggestion, and are subscribing to present to their Honorary Treasurer, for the service of the W.S.P.U., the motor-car for which she has so long felt the need. At Queen's Hall, on Monday afternoon and Tuesday evening, various sums were handed up to the platform, and altogether £50 has so far been received in money and promises. Mrs. Tuke asks that all money for this purpose should be sent direct to her at 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

WOMEN TEACHERS AT MORECAMBE. In shall be delighted to tell Mrs. Lawrence of this splendid result the held at Morecambe at Easter, and Miss Mary Gawthorpe, an exteacher and member of the W.S.P.U., will be present for the purpose of bringing VOTES FOR WOMEN to the notice of the women delegates. Miss Gawthorpe hopes for the co-operation of the other members of the teaching profession belonging to the W.S.P.U. who I had hoped to be able to give a subscription list this week, but are intending to be present at the conference, in order that they may join forces with her. Letters should be addressed to 164, Oxford Road, Manchester.

THE WOMAN'S EXHIBITION. Prince's Skating Rink, May 13-26, 1909. Communications to be addressed : Exhibition Secretary, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

Owing to great press of matter this week, we are able to devote only a small portion of our space to the Exhibition, and a great many interesting details must be held over. The following letter from Mirs Isabel Seymour, hon. secretary of the Flower Stall, and Mrs. E. K. Marshall, hon. secretary of the Farm Produce Stall,

So as not to engender "unseemly rivalry" the farm and garden produce stall have decided to enter into partnership with the flower stall. We are sure this friendly relationship is worthy of support. Promises of flowers, plants, vegetables, sulads, etc., are urgently needed in order that we may have a freeh oupply daily. We gratefully acknowledge £1 from Mrs. Littlejohn, and 12s. 6d. from Miss Fargus, towards the prizes for the competition; and Miss Rose Barnard promises £2 towards the flower stall, as she is not sure whether she will be able to send flowers or not; a very sensible way of looking at the matter from our point of view. O si sic omnes! ISABEL SEYMOUR and E. K. MARSHALL, Hon. Sees.

Further details as to competitions will be announced next week. The Exhibition Secretary wishes also to thank very heartily Mis. Baillie Guthrie for her kind offer to help the Refreshment Stall by taking charge of an Ice-Cream Soda Fountain. This is a novelty to English people, and should prove very popular. All promises of help should be sent in as soon as possible to the Exhibition Secretary, 4, Clements Inn. The Pageant.

A very novel suggestion has been made, viz., that the cartoone by Mr. Alfred Pearse, which have become during the last few weeks such a feature of Votes for Women, should be reproduced in a Cartoon Pageant at the Exhibition. So attractive a feature the Exhibition Committee felt to be too alluring to be set aside, effect that just as the W.S.P.U. had held more meetings up and and on consultation with the artists who have offered their assistance for the pageant on the lines announced last week, it was of enfranchisement than any other body fighting for their rights, so definitely decided to substitute a Cartoon Pageant for the less novel scheme. Those workers who generously gave in their names as willing to help in the historical pageant may perhaps like to dress dolls in historical and other characters; and if they will Within the next week another opportunity will be given to those write to Mrs. Taylor, of Chipchase Castle, Wark-on-Tyne, she

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

An Interesting Partnership.

476

MARCH 26, 1909.

MARCH 26, 1909.

claim. What he had to say amounts to this: Upon Woman

inaction, means, for all practical purposes, that they are as a

body opposed to Woman Suffrage. But where the question of

see a comprehensive measure of electoral reform carried into-

law. It requires very little penetration to see that the Govern-

ment are prepared, if hard pressed by the militant agitation,

to establish Manhood Suffrage as a barrier to Votes for Women.

Mrs. Wolstenholme Elmy and other Suffrage pioneers have

from the first foreseen that a Liberal Government might

attempt by this means to postpone for a generation or more the

nfranchisement of women Mr. Asquith has now shown that

f women. The Prime Minister's speech had one good effect

at least. It has served as a warning to Suffragists that they

ast not rely upon getting a Votes for Women amendment in-

uded in a Reform Bill, but that they must domand the

immediate concession of votes to those women at present dis-

The anti-Government policy affords the only pos-

M Laren drew attention to the power which such a

policy gives to the Suffrage movement. Speaking of the

Women's Social and Political Union, he said : "There is one

society alone, the most active of all these agitating societies,

which has secured an income of no less than £20,000 a year,

raised amongst women, for the purpose of forcing on this agita-

tion, and forcing it on in a way most unpalatable to members

of this House. . . . I believe that these women have had very

great influence in recent bye-elections. It is difficult to say

what will turn a vote or what will not, but I believe the fact

f intelligent, eloquent, and attractive women-because the

Suffragettes have very admirable qualities besides that of

fanaticism-going down at byo-elections, and consistently and

ruthlessly opposing every Government candidate, has had a

At the moment of writing, the Union is engaged in a cam-

paign against the Government in Croydon, with the object of

their Woman Suffrage policy is unpopular in the country.

his personal belief in Woman Suffrage, while one of his oppo-

Notwithstanding the fact that the Liberal candidate declares

ts confesses himself an Anti-Suffragist, the Union is not to

be drawn aside from its policy of holding the Government, and

the Government alone, responsible for giving or refusing Votes

for Women. If Mr. Raphael is returned, the result will be hailed

as a victory for the Government, and as a sign that their policy

has the approval of the electorate-such a result it is in the

interest of our cause to prevent. We have everything to lose

and nothing to gain by the election of Mr. Raphael for Crov-

cause as Mr. Geoffrey Howard admitted himself to be when.

n the House of Commons last Friday, he said : "We must

frankly confess that we are unable to force this Government

But it must always be remembered that the virtue of the bye-

election policy depend: upon the fact that women themselves

are doing and daring for this cause. Because women are ready

to face denunciation, rough usage, and imprisonment in the

Once in Parliament, he will be as powerless to serve our

lucing the Liberal vote, and proving to the Government that

means of enforcing that demand. Sir Charles

qualified solely on the ground of sex.

very great effect on public opinion."

to take up the question as their own."

true to their cause."

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

The following prisoners were released from Holloway on Wed-Turning to Mr. Asquith's speech, we find in it new evi- nesday morning :- Lady Constance Lytton, Miss Daisy Solomon, dence, if that were needed, of the Government's hostility to our Mrs. Frank Corbett, Miss Una Dugdale, Mrs. Madeline Petre, Miss E. H. Chesshire, Mrs. Caprina Fahey, Miss M. Barnet, Miss Suffrage the Government are disunited, which, since it involves M. Davis Colley, Miss Margaret Rodgers, Miss Mary Allen, Miss Ellen Pitman, Miss Maud Freeman, Miss Catherine Richmond, Miss Mary Lethune, Miss M. M. Roberts, Miss Leslie Lawless, votes for men is concerned they are united, and they wish to Miss Caroline Townsend, Mrs. Tyson, Miss Tyson, Mrs. Lamartine Yates, Miss-Sarah Carwin, Miss Ainsworth, Miss Thompson, Miss Walsh, and Miss Kirkpatrick Watts. By 7.30 the prison authorities were able to witness the now familiar sight of Suffragettes, wearing their colours, and groups of friends and interested onlookers rapidly gathering in the thorough fares around the prison gates. The scene was further enlivened by the arrival of the seven draped and decorated carriages and pairs for the released prisoners, and the horsewomen appointed to lead the cavalcade. Meanwhile Bryer's well-known band was playhe is considering this method of escape from the political claims ing lively airs.

As eight o'clock drew near the crowd began to close in around the gates, an avenue of approach being kept by the police. At about a quarter past eight the small door in the prison gates was thrown open, and the band struck up "The Marseillaise" as the first of the released prisoners appeared, some of them running down towards the gates. They were at once surrounded by the cheering crowd and greeted warmly by their friends and relations. After the greetings and congratulations were over they took their places in the carriages, and the procession was then formed up in

the following order :tricolour flags.

The route chosen was Camden Road, Hampstead Road, Tottenham Court Road, New Oxford Street, and High Holborn. An amusing incident occurred in Camden Road, where the driver of a heavily loaded dray begged or borrowed a large tricolour flag, fixed it to the top of his dray, and constituted himself part of the procession. The procession was cheered again and again, in many cases handkerchiefs being waved from windows or sometimes the Union scarves, bunting, or tricolour flags. At about a quarter to ten the procession reached the Inns of

Court Hotel, where the prisoners were entertained privately to breakfast by the Committee of the Union, after which most of them proceeded to their home Their public reception took place in the evening at 7.30, at the

Inns of Court Hotel, where they were welcomed to dinner by a large gathering over which Miss Pankhurst presided. Several in teresting speeches were made. A report of these proceedings will appear in our issue of next week

written expressly for the paper by MISS BEATRICE HARRADEN.

earnestly debated in the House of Commons, and passed the second reading by a majority of 179, the debate on Mr. Howard's Bill was admittedly unreal and apathetic in character, and was conducted in a very thin House (at one moment the presence of the necessary forty members was in doubt), and the second reading was carried by 35 votes only. As the Daily Chronicle Lobby correspondent said : "The business before the House was of an even more academic character than is usual on Fridays. Mr. Howard's Bill would add about 15,000,000 voters to the present electorate, 12,000,000 of whom would be women. This was a pretty tall order, even for the present House of Commens. . . . It is unnecessary to say much about the debate, which was carried on in a listless House." A leading article in the same paper, comparing the voting upon the Adult Suffrage Bill and last year's Women's Enfranchice ment Bill, observes that "on the present occasion the issue was complicated by the sweeping nature of the reforms proposed." Friday's debate proves, therefore, that the right policy is to deal with Woman Suffrage by means of a separate measure, to be carried into law before any other questions of electoral reform are raised at all.

Mr. Geoffrey Howard's speech in support of the Adult is "almost impossible to deal with the reform of the franchise without at the same time dealing with the question of Woman Suffrage." This statement we know to be contrary to historical It is estimated that when this claim has been conceded, about a fact. Into the Reform Bill of 1832, a provision excluding women from the operation of the Bill was deliberately introduced. John Stuart Mill's amendment to the County Franchise The Women's Social and Political Union claim that a simple Bill of 1884 met with the same fate. The present Government measure, giving the vote to women on these terms, shall be passed have shown that the inclusion of Woman Suffrage in a measure of general franchise reform is very far from being a matter of course, for they have established in South Africa a Constitution which gives votes to men only.

Mr. Geoffrey Howard's further contention was that "it is, with a democratic Parliament, almost impossible to deal with the question of women's enfranchisement without at the same time making some alteration in the existing franchise laws." As I have pointed out, the division upon his Bill proved that there is more support in the present House of Commons for Woman Suffrage pure and simple than there is for Woman Suffrage plus other alterations in the franchise.

To Mr. Howard's claim that the present franchise is not good ever bad it may be, it is better than nothing, and, in the second action to improve the existing franchise laws.

That the Liberal rank and file in the House of Commons have decided to support, or at least to condone, the plan of sidetracking the movement by raising the issue of Adult Suffrage,

The Unionist contributors to the debate, Earl Percy and Mr. Forster, did not fail to draw attention to the fact that such a measure as Mr. Howard's Bill is a hindrance to Woman Suffrage.

Liberals may retort that the Unionist members took this line because they object to a democratic franchise, but they can make no such criticism of Mr. Philip Snowden's attitude. No one will suggest that he, a member of the Labour Party, is less friendly than are the Liberals to a wide measure of electoral reform, yet he gave it as his deliberate opinion that if the removal of the sex disability is to wait until every adult man the last three years," said Mr. Snowden, "he has, along with Events have utterly destroyed this excuse, for whereas the myself, been a joint secretary of the Parliamentary Committee

The National Women's Social & Political Union.

OFFICE .

4, CLEMENTS INN, STRAND, W.C.

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

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

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

million and a quarter women will possess the vote, in addition to the seven and a half million men who are at present enfranchised.

immediately.

THE DEPUTATION TO MR. ASQUITH ON MARCH 30th.

Dear Members and Friends of the W.S.P.U.,

It has been a great joy to us all to welcome back to our midst the women just released from Holloway Gaol. By their courageous action on February 24, by their steadfast determination to suffer any term of imprisonment meted out to them rather than betray the honour of our cause, they have won for all time our admiration. But there is also another side to enough for women, we reply, in the first place, that howthe picture. The Goverment must be made to understand that we cannot remain quiet in the face of their place, that men and women electors can later on take joint refusal to deal with our question this Session. Militant action is again forced upon us, and so strong is the indignation of our women that, in addition to our London members. others are coming from Lancashire on Tuesday next to join yet another deputation. This will start from the Caxton Hall appears from the fact that none of them spoke in support of a to the House of Commons at three o'clock, once again to genuine Woman Suffrage policy. demand an interview with the Prime Minister, in order that the urgency of our case may be laid before him in unmistakable terms.

Emmeline Pankhurst.

THE ADULT SUFFRAGE BILL.

When Mr. Geoffrey Howard decided to introduce an Adult Suffrage Bill instead of a measure simply removing the disability of sex, all the Woman Suffrage Sccieties united in condemning his action. Mr. Howard and other supporters of an has obtained the vote, the realisation of that demand will be Adult Suffrage policy defended themselves against this attack indefinitely postponed, and he expressed his great regret that by saying that in the present House of Commons an Adult Mr. Howard should, by introducing an Adult Suffrage Bill, Suffrage measure would command greater support than would have departed from the policy he formerly advocated. "For a Women's Enfranchisement Bill.

Women's Enfranchisement Bill was last year vigorously and for the Enfranchisement of Women, and I think the Woman

pursuit of their rights, the electors are moved to make Votes for Women the issue which shall decide their attitude towards the Government. Because women themselves are paving so heavy a price, men electors are prepared to vote for their cause at the ballot-box.

Those who are to go in deputation to the Prime Minister next Tuesday have their courage and determination redoubled by the knowledge that such action, by winning the respect of the voters, strikes at the very foundations of the Government's power to withhold the vote from women

Christabel Pankhurst.

477

Suffrage Societies had a right to expect that he would remain **RELEASE OF TWENTY-SIX PRISONERS.**

First came Miss Daisy Dugdale bearing the tricolour, imme diately succeeded by Miss Christabel Pankhurst, Miss Annie Kenney, Mrs. Tuke, and other well-known members of the Union. Then came the band, followed by a group of rembers dressed in becoming costumes representing the four national divisions of the kingdom, England being represented by Miss Joan Dugdale, Scot-land by Miss McLeod, Wales by Miss Rachel Barratt, and Ireland by Miss Maguire. The well-known Kensington banner, with Mr. Laurence Housman's design, came next, and then came nine women riders on white horses, first Miss Douglas Smith, dressed in a handsome purple uniform, then Miss Joachim, Miss G. Löwy, Mrs. Diplock, Mrs. Higgins, Miss V. Holme, Miss A. G. Shep pard, Mrs. Masters, and Mrs. Freeman, all wearing the Union regalia. After these came the seven carriages bearing the released prisoners, with friends and members of the Union following on foot with a fine display of flying colours. Finally came a long line of cabs, motor-cars, and private carriages, all draped or decorated in some way with the colours, and most of them flying

The Issue of

"VOTES FOR WOMEN"

for APRIL 2 will be

A SPECIAL NUMBER OF 32 PAGES,

to include a Dialogue, entitled

LADY GERALDINE'S SPEECH.

THE CROYDON BYE-ELECTION.

Sir Robert Hermon-Hodge. Conservative Liberal Labour. Mr. J. E. Raphael. Mr. F. Smith. Committee Rooms: 125, North End, Croydon.

478

22. The Payement, Thornton Heath. Polling Day: March 29.

The figures at the last election were :- Rt. Hon. Hugh Oakeley Arnold Forster (Con.) \$,248; H. C. Somers Somerset (Lib.), 7,241; Sidney Stranks (Lab), 4,1 12.

MEETINGS ARRANGED:

Friday, March 26, 3 p.m.-St. Michael's Hall.
, March 26, 8 p.m.-Large Public Hall, F. W. Pethick Lawrence, Esq., and Prisorets.

and Prisoners. March 26, 8 p.m. – Norbury Public Hall, Miss C. Pankhurst. March 26, 8 p.m. – Large Public Hall, Mr. Pethick Lawrence and Prisoners Saturday, March 27, 3 p.m. – Empire Theatre, Mrs. Paukhurst, Miss C. Pank-hurst, and Mrs. Drummond.

March 27, 8 p.m. - Stanley Hall, South Norwood, Mrs. Pankhurst

March 27, 8 p.m. - Small Public Hall, Miss Christabel Pankhurst.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

It was, of course, only natural that the first thing I saw on leaving Croydon Station was a W.S.P.U. trap, decorated in the colours, trotting gaily along with an effective announcement, through a megaphone, of the afternoon meeting; and that the last picture I carried away was that of the crowd round the W.S.P.U. motor-car being moved along outside the Committee Rooms by four local policemen, whose patience was being a little bit tried because the interest of the electors in the Suffragettes was causing a temporary stoppage in the electric tram traffic.

Croydon indeed is thoroughly interested, and, what is more, sympathetic toward the attitude of the W.S.P.U. in its opposition to the Government nominee. The Croydon Guardian (Conservative) publishes a full official statement of the policy of the W.S.P.U. and remarks that the Liberal cause, already "absolutely hopelecs," owing to the inappreciable headway made by the Liberal candidate during the twelve months he has been nursing the constitu further troubled by the "disturbing knowledge that the W.S.P.U. are waging bitter war against him as supporter of a Government which has promised them much and given them nothing.'

Mrs. Drummond declares that the constituency is "alive with interest," and "really go-ahead," and that the people show a genuine desire to understand the fundamentals of the militant movement. The Committee Rooms at 125, North End, Croydon, as well as those at Thornton Heath, are constantly becet by inquirers, and the windows, most effectively decorated in the colours, have all along drawn a steadily increasing crowd. Even the flower-sellers, quite early in the campaign, were heard pushing their violets and snowdrops as "Suffrageite colours, penny a bunch," and the most fashionable draper in the district was chowing bands and rosettes of purple, green, and white for sale in his windows. The whole attitude of Croydon is friendly interest, and there is an entire absence of hostility.

All the workers are kept busy till 10 at night with numerous meetings; these are well attended, and the sale of badges and literature is very brisk. It is meetings, meetings all the day-big meetings in public halls and in the theatres, smaller ones in local halls, outdoor meetings at street corners, and indoor meetings for working men and women

A Typical Day.

My first visit was paid on Saturday, and I found the workers returning from pavement chalking and from distributing literature in order to take part in the public meeting at three o'clock, while for the evening a number of outdoor meetings were on the programme. "It's a curious thing," said one, "that all the people who accept our leaflets have pleasant and happy faces, and that the few who refuse are invariably cour or miserable-looking."

Many meetings had been held every day during the week, including special meetings for women only every afternoon in the Friends' Adult School, purposely arranged for those who have to get back in time to make their husbands' tea-a thoughtful announcement by Mrs. Drummond, which is evidently appreciated by the men. And now the Empire Theatre was well filled at 3 o'clock, and the audience was interested and sympathetic, and evidently grasped the political position. A significant fact was the demand for literature, which was on sale at the door.

Miss Christabel Pankhurst appealed to the electors of Croydon, asking them to lend their votes. If women showed that they could turn the scale at bye-elections and at general elections the Government would be forced to listen to their reasonable demands. If men had been denied votes, as women had, we should have had an armed revolution. Sir Charles Maclaren had admitted that the Liberal Party has lost thousands of votes at bye-elections through women's influence. The Government must be given another lesson Clock Tower, and will tour through the constituency until 3.30, when Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, and Miss Mary just. but because the country told them to. The electors should Gawthorpe (who are the speakers at the Empire Theatre), the mem-

vote against the Liberal, and should then write and tell Mr. Asquith why they had done so. In a few words Miss Pankhurst explained why women did not support Mr. Geoffrey Howard's Bill, which she described as nothing less than a red herring. Mr. Asquith was ready to please men, who already had the vote, by giving them more votes, and then it would be harder still for women to obtain their rights. Let the women's question be settled first. Miss Pankhurst also dealt with the issues before the House of Commons issues which the Liberals themselves refuse to follow up-and showed that the question of women's enfranchisement, this rightin of a tremendous wrong, this placing at the country's disposal of th energy of women, was by far the most important issue before th country.

Her speech, which was enthusiastically received, and her apt answers to the questions which followed, seemed to make clear t the audience the logical and persistent policy of the W.S.P.U. fighting the Government which will not give votes to women, and its wicdom in not being side-tracked by any candidate's worthless declaration that he perconally is on the women's side. Next Mrs. Drummond impressed her heavers by explaining that

patient methods had been tried long enough, and asking whether the militant methods had not amply justified themselves by the success; and she aroused laughter and applauce by her account of Cabinet Ministers' subterfuges to escape from the Suffragettes and her declaration that the women are the better fighters of the two.

She asserted that if women did not get the vote this Session the whole country would demand it next Session. "If you are goin to demand it at Croydon, and show Mr. Asquith that he canno English women any longer, now is your opportunity. We suffer and go to prison; we ask you only to vote for us.'

Very telling, too, was Mirs Douglas Smith's assertion that men had never been able to forget all their differences and combine in one great cause, as the members of the W.S.P.U. were doing, which was the secret of their great strength.

Croydon is having a good lesson, and whichever way the election goes, it cannot fail to profit by it.

Another enthusiastic meeting took place on Monday evening at the Public Hall. The room was full and enthusiasm very evident, and the number of questions asked showed that the audience had grasped the political situation and understood the opposition of the W.S.P.U. to the Liberal candidate, although he perconally is in favour of votes for women, and why they are not opposing the Conservative candidate, who stated in his election address that he is in direct opposition to their claim. It was suggested by someone present that the majority of women did not want the vote. The feeling of the meeting was therefore tested on this point, with the result that almost every woman in the hall held up her hand, and only two or three voied against.

On Tuesday evening Mrs. Pankhurst addressed a large audience in the Thornton Heath Public Baths, while Miss Annie Kenney spoke to a great overflow meeting outside. Other meetings were held in St. Michael's Hall, the Art Gallery, and the Canterbury Road School Hall, while to-night (Friday), at 8 o'clock, a meeting will be addressed by Mr. Pethick Lawrence and the ex-prisoners in the large Public Hall.

Let no one say, even during the few remaining hours before the poll, "I suppose they have enough workers at Croydon now. There are never enough workers for the work to be done at byeelections. Women who can speak at public meetings, large or small women who can canvass, women who can chalk pavements and distribute literature, or help in a dozen other ways, will be welcome up to polling day. So come down to Croydon, 125, North End, and offer your services to Miss Cameron, who will either set you to work herself or cend you to Miss McClolland at Thornton Heath. The time is short, and every minute must be utilised.

Saturday's Arrangements.

The arrangements for Saturday are now complete. This is practically the final day before the poll, and it has been arranged that a procession shall go through the length and breadth of the constituency. In addition to the prisoners released from Holloway on Wednesday, members of the deputation to the Prime Minister on March 30 will be present, and it is hoped that as many other members of the W.S.P.U. as possible will also take part. In addition to the London and other members of the deputation, the Lancashire contingent will join in, travelling to London on Saturday for the purpose. The Lancashire women will be met at Euston Station by London members of the deputation, and will be conveyed in a motor-'bus to Thornton Heath, which is at the northern end of the constituency. They will arrive at the Clock Tower shortly before 2 o'clock, and at 2 p.m. the procession will start from the

bers of the deputation, and the prisoners will alight, and a meeting ers of the deputation, and the prisoners will alight, and a meeting will be held. While this is in progress the remainder of the pro-ession will drive round the constituency holding open-air meet-ons en route. Brakes will be provided without charge, but in order o make provision for seating accommodation, it is advisable that he names of those intending to take part in the procession should e sent in to Miss Jessie Kenney, at 4, Clements Inn, not dret than the first post on Saturday morning. We shall aim at roviding accommodation for unexpected arrivals, but seats cannot e guaranteed to any who have not sent in their names. However, here will be plenty of other work for those who cannot take part a the procession. It is suggested that any ex-prisoners and other embers of the W.S.P.U. who can do so should go down to the committee-rooms, 125, North End, Croydon, early in the day, but hose who cannot do so should leave Victoria Station not later than .5, arriving at Thornton Heath at 1.36.

MARCH 26, 1909.

is particularly important that a large number of open-air gs chould be held on Friday night and Saturday, and those meetings should be held on Friday night and Saturday, and those who are able to help in speaking, advertising the meetings, selling literature, or in any other way, are acked to go to the Committee Rooms, 125. North End, where instructions will be given to them. On Friday night workers should be at the Committee Rooms by 6 o'clock, or earlier if possible, and on Saturday morning Mias Cameron will be glad to see helpers at any time after 9.30 a.m.

Cameron will be glad to see helpers at any time after 9,30 a.m. A large number of workers will be wanted for polling day, Mon-ay, the 29th. The polling stations are open from 8 o'clock, and it is mportant to have ceveral workers ready to go on duty at 7.45, or as soon as possible afterwards. Those who cannot be at the Com-nitee Rooms at quite such an early hour will be able to relieve hose who can go on duty carly, by arriving later in the day, and all will be welcome up to 8 p.m.

PRESS EXTRACTS.

"Morning Post." THE PREDOMINANT PARTNER.

THE PERDOMINANT PARTNER. THE PERDOMINANT PARTNER. This election woman is making a bold bid for the position of where the fractions, in Croydon they are foremosed in the fract-fraction of the procession of the procession of the fractions of the procession of Holloway, in the second degree, will play a connection with the the procession of the procession of the procession of the procession of Holloway, in the second degree, will play a connection with the the procession of the procession of the procession of the procession of Holloway, in the second degree, will play a connection of the the procession of the procession of the procession of the procession of Holloway, in the second degree, will play a connection of the the procession of the procession where the procession will be further be procession will be further be proved banners and bands of music, and the procession will be further be when the procession will be further be procession will be further be proved banners and bands of music, and the procession will be further be when the procession will be procession will be further be when the procession will be further be procession will be further be procession with the procession will be further be when the procession will be further be procession will be further be when the procession will be procession will be further be when the procession will be procession will be further be when the procession will be procession will be further be when the procession will be procession will be procession will

The "Times."

The "Times." After the tariff reformers, as usual, the woman Suffragists are the ext most zealous workers in the election. Their expenses here must pproach those of a Parliamentary candidate, for they print a great cal of matter, run committee rooms, hire public halls, and move bout the constituency in a large number of motor-cars. Most of hem oppose the Liberal candidate, who seeks in vain to placate them y advocating their cause; but the section known as the National mion of Women's Suffrage Societies favours the Liberal and Labour addidates impartially and concentrates its hostility upon the infoints, who is an opponent of woman suffrage. It is a curious ucumstance that the woman workers on the Unionist side, notwith-tanding the strong declaration by Sir Robert Hermon-Hodge against be enfranchisement of women, far outnumber those on the Liberal data and excel them also in enthusiasm. It is reported that Sir Robert has lost a few of the woman workers by his attitude on the auffrage question; but the number remaining is still conspicuously ultrage question; but the number remaining is still conspicuously arge. Though many of the Liberal women are working zealously or the Liberal candidate, Mr. Raphacl is obviously enduring the enalty of the present unpopularity of the Government among bolitical women generally. "Telegraph."

' Daily Graphic."

Were it not for those stormy petrels of politics, the Suffragists, the Croydon campaign would be rather a tame affair. "Standard."

The ladies are setting a splendid example to the men. Perha never in all its political history has Croydon been invaded by many female politicians. They are ubiquitous, untiring.

Evening Standard.

Nothing is likely to outshine the extraordinary virility shown by women who have entered on the campaign.

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Several members of the W.S.P.U. attended the annual meeting of the Post Office Total Abstinence Society at Sion College on Tuesday night, when Mr. Buxton was the speaker. All the women were asked to sign a pledge that they would not interrupt the meeting. Those who arrived early refused to do so, and, addressing the audience previous to Mr. Buxton's arrival, explained the reason of the protests they intended to make. Two or three women arriving later signed the pledge, and accordingly remained silent during Mr. Buxton's speech. At the close of the meeting, however, they interrogated Mr. Buxton on the intentions of the Government with regard to women's enfranchisement. He accused them of breaking a pledge. This, however, as they explained to him, they had not done, having remained absolutely silent throughout his speech. Some of the women were very roughly handled by stewards.

Mrs. Pankhurst's tour through Lancashire from Thursday, March 18, to Wednesday, March 24, was a record of triumphs. The first meeting was held in the Rochdale Town Hall on Thursday evening, when a very large audience assembled. Previous to the meeting a pianoforte recital was given by Miss K. Ratcliffe, of Manchester. Miss Mary Gawthorpe was in the chair, and moved the following

Mrs. Pankhurst, on rising to second the resolution, had an enthusiastic reception, and her speech, dealing with the present political situation, was received with the greatest sympathy and enthusi

On Friday a Women's Parliament was held in the Sun Hall, Liverpool, when Mrs. Pankhurst again had an enthusiastic reception from a very large audience. Miss Mary Gawthorpe was in the chair, and Mrs. Pankhurst moved a similar resolution to that passed at Rochdale the previous evening. The motion was seconded by Miss Mary Phillips, and, after brief speeches from the volunteers

for the deputation to the Prime Minister on March 30, the resolution was carried with acclamation. Similar meetings were held in the Town Hall, Southport, on Saturday; the Public Hall, Preston, on Monday; and in the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, on Wednesday evening. All these meetings were fully reported in the local Press of the various towns visited, and it is evident that the cause of women's political enfranhisement has taken deep hold upon the inhabitants of these great

industrial centres.

Samuel, to state that Lady Betty Balfour, Lady Castlereagh, Lady Midleton, Lady Willoughby de Eresby, and Mrs. Arthur Pakenham have joined the Executive Committee of this Association, which During the day the Suffragists furnish almost the only electioncer-ing life in Croydon. They dash about the narrow main thoroughfares held was one at 69, Ennismore Gardens, by invitation of Miss Mary well-appointed motor-cars, display colours, and advertise their ctings in voices which the hum of the engines of their cars decs Gurney. Among those present were Viscountess Castlereagh, drown. Mrs. Samuel Roberts. Mrs. H. Percy Boulnois was in the chair, and the speakers were Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D., Lady Harberton, Miss Clare Howard, of Columbia University, U.S.A., and Mr. Zirnan, of New Zealand A resolution to the effect that the time was now ripe for the enfranchisement of women was proposed from the chair, and carried with acclamation, to be forwarded to the leader of the Opposition. There are now about forty vice-presidents and the same numles

of lady counsellors, while the members of the Association numbers about 800.

CONSERVATIVE WOMEN'S FRANCHISE ASSOCIATION. We are asked by the Secretary of the Association, Mrs. Gilbert

CABINET MINISTERS QUESTIONED.

Mr. Runciman attended a reception at the Hotel Windsor on Friday, in connection with the League of Young Liberals. He had only been speaking about three minutes when a woman asked him when the Government was going to give votes to women; she was immediately removed, the band being requested to play in the meantime. Later in his speech, Mr. Runciman remarked, with reference to the debate in the House of Commons that day, "Well, ladies and gentlemen, they [the Suffragettes] have been occupying a good deal of our time this afternoon," whereupon a woman re torted, "Yes, Mr. Runciman, but we told you last week we did not want Mr. Geoffrey Howard's Bill; why this shifting of responsibility?" She was removed, and the band again struck up. Thereupon a man stood up and said, "Mr. Runciman, I protest against these women being thrown out." A struggle immediately followed, in the course of which the gentleman was roughly handled, the band being called upon to play in the meantime.

MRS. PANKHURST IN LANCASHIRE.

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

MARCH 26, 1909.

THE CAMPAIGN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

LONDON AND HOME COUNTIES.

480

Office: 4, Clements Inn, W.C. The attention of the organisers this week has been concentrated on the Croydon bye-election, and an account will be found on page 478. few months all to itself. It is such a large place, and there is so As this bye-election is being worked from Clements Inn it has been possible to send down a very large contingent both of organisers and voluntary workers, and the campaign is being vigorously conducted. A few days yet remain before polling-day, Monday 29, and all who can spare time to go down to Croydon and help either in speaking, advertising meetings, selling literature, or any other way will be welcome at the Committee Rcoms, 125, North End. Full details will be found on page 478, to which readers are referred.

On Tuesday the women who have served a month's imprisonment in Holloway for their share in the deputation to the Prime Minister on February 24 were released. A description of this will be found on page 477, and the great event of the week, the Queen's Hall meeting, on Tuesday evening, is also described (page 474). In order to advertise this, we had a miniature coach on Monday and Tuesday, drawn by six Shetland ponies, and well decorated with posters and the colours. This caused a great sensation as it went through the principal stro

A drum and fife band has been organised in connection with the W.S.P.U. This work is particularly suitable for the younger members of the Union. The services of an instructor have been secured, and already some members of the band are in training. More volunteers are needed, however. They should be able to give Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday evenings until the band is fully trained. They will then be called upon from time to time to play during the day.

Ealing.-The campaign here is proving most encouraging, and the shop at 11, Bond Street, Ealing, is attracting much attention. Several successful open-air meetings have been held by Miss Law and others, and to-day (Friday) Mrs. Finlay and Miss Till hold a drawing-room meeting, with Miss Canning as principal speaker.

Dover.-Miss Isabel Seymour took part in a debate of the Imperial League, Dover, on Friday. This was the first time that the question of the militant tactics had been discussed in Dover, and a very great deal of interest was roused. The tactics were fully explained, and it was evident that the attitude of the W.S.P.U. awakened the sympathy

Th D p tation on th 30th. - In order to advertise the deputation to the Prime Minister on March 30, three members of the W.S.P.U. went to Parliament Square last week with specially prepared placards, fitted with handcuffs, and these they attached to the railings of the House. One of the placards stated that the Union did not support Mr. Geoffrey Howard's Bill, and the other that a deputation would wait upon Mr. Asquith on March 30. The deputation will be on the platform at Queen's Hall on Monday afternoo

Su day Meetings - I wonder if workers realise the value of Sunday meetings in the public parks. As the weather improves we shall hope to have these every Sunday, and we are organising a group of meetings for Sunday, the 28th, for which we specially It is not necessary that these should be speakers, want workers. as a very valuable part of the work is in the selling of the paper, VOTES FOR WOMEN. As an instance of how useful this is, I may say that at the Hampstead Heath meetings it would have been possible on several occasions to sell three times as many copies if there had been more helpors. Mrs. Mosen, who presided, introduced a new standard made of laths, inside which the week's poster was fixed. Mounted on a pole, the standard attracted people from a long distance, who gathered round and listened to the speeches. Will members look down the programme of events and choose the meeting nearest to them, and take their Sunday afternoon walk in that direction? They cannot be better employed than in forwarding the cause of women's enfranchisement in this way. Although Sunday is almost the only time our workers have for rest, I am sure they will not grudge giving up an hour or so for such valuable work.

The Battersea workers ask me to state that, owing to the Croydon bye-election occupying all their time up to Monday, Miss Ains-worth's welcome to the Ceniral Hall, Battersea, which had been arranged for Saturday, has had to be postponed

Flora Drummond. WEST OF ENGLAND.

Haverfield, of Sherborne. I should like now to ask some other cation at 1s. each, and there will be a silver collection. We are

helper to subscribe another £25, and in that way we shall soon make up the sum required. The work is growing so enormously that I have decided that Plymouth must have an organiser for a much to be done. I am, therefore, aiming at giving Cornwall, Plymouth, and Cardiff an organiser for about three months to set the work going. There are splendid local workers who are ready to help, and once they are started by our organisor we shall have the work in full swing. Another appeal I made last week was for a Secretary, and I feel so confident that the £60 required will scon be forthcoming that I am taking steps to secure a worker. The work in Bristol is progressing rapidly, and in order to make it con venient to shop-girls to attend At Homes we have altered our Friday evening meetings to Wednesdays.

North Bristol .- Next week Miss Elsie Ball, with the help of local workers, is starting work in Mr. Birrell's constituency. propose to have a model election. This will be a novelty; con mittee rooms will be taken, and the constituency will be worked as for an election. Special meetings will be arranged, and helpers will be very welcome. Please write to me at 33, Queen's Road, Clifton for further details

Votes for Women Week .- Mrs. Baldock is doing most valuable work here in organising the workers, undertaking the sales of Vores FOR WOMEN, and looking after the new shop and office. With the help of local workers, 800 copies of Votes for Women were sold during the special week, March 12 to 19, in Bristol alone.

Bath .- I am glad to be able to report that under the leadership of Miss Æthel Tollemache the work here is going on well. Weekly At Homes are held every Saturday, and the stall in the market place in the afternoon and evening is always a great centre of attraction.

Plymouth and Torquay.

"Yotes for Women" Shop.-Victoria Parade, Torquay. At Homes.-Plymouth: Royal Hotel, First Friday in every month, 4 to 6 p.m. Torquay: Swiss Caté, Victoria Parade, second and fourth Thursday, 4 to 6 p.m. Paignton: Gerston Hotel, second Tuesday in month, 4 to 6 p.m.

During VOTES FOR WOMEN week we managed to sell double the usual number of papers, members proving of great assistance in this work by taking the paper to all their unconverted friends We held an excellent out-door meetand getting them to buy it. ing on Paignton Green on Wednesday, when we were fortunate in having Miss Douglas Smith for our speaker.

We are looking forward to the opening of our shop this week, Thursday being the auspicious day. Everyone who goes to the flower show at the Bath Saloons will pass by, and we are making the most of the opportunity. Some furniture is still needed, chiefly two chairs, a writing table, lockers and cupboards. We are very grateful to the members who have come forward and enabled u to start without spending anything on furniture. If any who read this will supply any of our needs, or can help in any other way, I hope they will write to me at Maskeliya, Braddon's Hill Road West, or at the shop in Victoria Parade.-[ELSIE Howey.]

Weston-super-Mare.-Our work here has prospered so greatly that it has been decided to hold weekly At Homes. These will be held in the North Street Hall, every Monday at 3.30 p.m. The first has already been held (Monday, March 22), and we want all our friends to make them known as widely as possible .-- [VERA Annie Kenney. WENTWORTH.]

LANCASHIRE.

Headquarters.-Manchester, 164, Oxford Road. Local Offices.-Preston, 41, Glover's Court. Rochdale, 84, Yorkshire Street. Liverpool: Engineers' Rooms, 48, Mt. Pleasant, Tuesdays, 3-5, 8-10. Preston: Glover's Court, Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m. Rochdale: 84, Yorkshire Street, Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m. Important Event.-Mr. Forbes Robertson's Visit, Memorial Hall, March 30.

The important events in connection with Mrs. Pankhurst's Lancashire tour are over, and a brief report appears on page 479.

May I urge upon those who have not yet decided to join the Lancashire deputation, and who have the opportunity of doing so, that Friday (26th) is the last day for advising me of that decision Already delegates are promised from Manchester, Liverpool, and Lancaster; we want both Preston and Rochdale, two of our oldest W.S.P.U. centres, to send delegates too. On Friday evening the usual At Home in the Onward Buildings, Deansgate, Manchester, will meet to do honour on this special occasion to the delegates who will leave Manchester on Saturday morning. This will be the "Lancashire Deputation At Home." On the following morning (Saturday) we shall leave London Road Station at 8.30 a.m., arriv-WEST OF ENGLAND.
Shop and Committee Rooms.-33, Queen's Road (opposite Art Gallery, Olifton. Open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
At Homes.-Bristol: Victoria Rooms, every Monday, 3.30 to 5.30. Stokes Croft: Assembly Rooms, meeting every Wednesday, 8 p.m. Bath: Beau Nash Rooms, every Saturday, 3.30.
Weston-super-Mare: North Street Hall, every Monday, 3.39 p.m. April 1, 8 o'clock, "Shall Women Work?" Tickets 2s., 1s., and 6d.
It is most en ouraging to be able to report that within a few days of my appeal for £100 for a Cornish organiser I have reprint the Hon Mrs.
We son-super days of first a promise of £25 towards that amount from the Hon Mrs.

ceived a promise of £25 towards that amount from the Hon. Mrs. on Tuesday, March 30, at 3 p.m. Seats will be reserved on appli-

nen's cause for another day in May for the Liverpool district. Votes for Women Week .- Owing to our activities in connec 1 with the Lancashire Campaign, we were quite unable to take VOTES FOR WOMEN week at the same time as other centres e country. We have, therefore, fixed our VOTES FOR WOMEN Manchester, Liverpool, Rochdale, Preston, and Southport om Saturday, April 3, to Saturday, April 10, inclusive. Further

MARCH 26, 1909.

ee stalls, and members must canvass vigorously for promises he Guarantee Fund in each case, and so that the Bazaar Comtees may make special arrangements for the investment of small ums, and for the redeeming of pledges given in connection with etual good:

Liverpool .- Preparations for Mrs. Pankhurst's visit took the form parades, and a carriage full of women in prison dress made proof parades, and a cating such attention, and receiving excel-press notices. The label, "Mr. Asquith's Prisoners," seemed to the public fancy greatly. The "Women's Parliament," at which Pankhurst was the chief speaker, was most successful. Women minated in the large audience, which filled the Sun Hall. had an enthusiastic reception, and her speech, as well as that is Gawthorpe, who presided, was punctuated by applause and spressions of approval. Miss Patricia Woodlock, Mrs. Morris Miss Broughton, three of the delegates in the forthcoming depuof Lancashire women to the Prime Minister, gave brief ies of their reasons for taking this step. Liverpool is heartily be congratulated on this, the second, great Votes for Women de-onstration held within a month. We hope to have a substantial offit towards our Lancashire campaign. [MARY PHILLIPS.]

Preston.-In order to arouse interest in Mrs. Pankhurst's meetousands of handbills and little discs the size of a half-crown advertising the meeting have been distributed in the streets, outside cotton-mills, electrical engineering works, etc. A number of shopkeepers, newsagents, and also private people owing small posters in our colours in their windows, and the posters are well distributed all over the town. An advertising announcing our meeting paraded the streets all Saturday Monday. But the greatest sensation of all was created by the orated wagonette containing five Suffragettes wearing regalia and lding up a very striking banner. In an open space outside the ison we addressed the crowd, and gave away handbills. On Saturmorning we paraded the principal streets on foot, with the ner, with sandwich boards, and a small corps selling VOTES FOR MEN. The President and Secretary of the Women's Liberal ciation were present at our At Home, and had a long argument us on our attitude towards the Government. Our Marketmeetings are a great success, and have had good reports in the

Financial Report.-Per Dr. Letitia Fairfield (lecture fee), 10s. r Miss Broadsmith, S.D., 2s. 6d.; per Miss Lawton, S.D., 2s. 6d. Sympathicer, per Miss Marks, £2; G. H. Lyster, Esq., S.D., £1 A Simplified, per lines Marks, 22; 6; 11. Lyster, E.d., S.D., E1; Mrs. Roze Hyland, S.D., £25; Miss Fitzsimmons, S.D., £3; Mrs. Hoy, £1; collection "At Heme," 9s.—total, £33 4s. Week ending March 20:—Mrs. Marie Clegg, Liverpool, £5; E. Tennicon Smith, Esq., Manchester, £1; Mrs. Yates, Manchester, £2 2.; collection "At Home," 9s. 10d.; Miss Segallen (promise card), 10s. 6d.—total, £9 2.; 4d. Grand total, £42 6s. 4d. Mary E. Gawthorpe.

MIDLANDS.

MIDLANDS. Offices and Committee Rooms: 14, Ethel Street, Birmingham. At Homes.-Birmingham: Midland Hotel, Tuesdays, 3.30; Priory Rooms, Old Square, Tuesdays, 7.30. Wolverhampton: 51. Peter's Institute, Wednesdays, 8 p.m. Coventry: Priory Rooms, Thursday, 7.30. Important Future Event.-Birmingham Town Hall, May 7, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence.

The welcome visit of Mrs. Pankhurst is now past, leaving us with still more enthusiasm and determination to work hard and Gur Tuesday afternoon At Home had been changed into a re was not room for a single additional person. Mrs. Pankhurst's expenses to Stoney Middleton; 3s., collections. rring address roused the greatest sympathy, and when I appealed elp for an assistant organiser the generous response of the udience was most encouraging. In promises and collection the plendid sum of £32 was realised. In the evening Mrs. Pankhurst warmly welcomed by a large number of members and friends t the Priory Rooms, when again a number of new members joined. Miss Margaret Smith, B.A., has volunteered to join the deputation on March 30. Her splendid example will, we feel sure, be followed by many of our members when the Midlands send their we are sending out a mid-day corps. We still want more helpers, penses from Mrs. Atkinson; being a total of £8 2s. 6d. and I would ask those members who can possibly give one hour or two between 12 and 2 on Friday mornings to send in their names, as there is no more important work. Our success was most gratifying on Friday last, close on a hundred copies being sold. Malvern.-My visit was a very great success. In the afternoon.

CART THE ...

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

hoping to procure an additional promise from this good friend of owing to the kindness of Miss Shaw, I addressed a large drawingroom meeting; in the evening Dr. Helena Jones joined me, and w spoke to a large audience in the Lyttleton Rooms. The Antis had paved the way for us here, as they so often do in other towns, and the newspapers next day reported our two meetings as "A Counterblast.' They certainly were, not a single hand being held up against our motion in favour of Women's Suffrage at the evening meeting. Later on we hope to have a still larger meeting in the articulars next week. Exhibition.—There are only seven weeks to fulfil our undertaking meetings, and offers of voluntary work in Birmingham were made.

Wolverhampton .- Dr. Helena Jones will speak at the next Wednesday At Home instead of last Wednesday, as announced last week. This alteration is owing to the unexpected visit of Miss Margaret Smith, B.A., who is very kindly speaking for us this week. Mrs. Percy Jones, who is in charge of the Exhibition work in this town, is arranging to give an At Home, at which will be exhibited the work of Wolverhampton members and friends before sending it up to London. I think this plan might be adopted in other districts, as it will no doubt roase a great deal of interest. I may have announcements to make regarding a big meeting in Wolverhampton shortly. Please watch next week's report

Coventry .- Everyone was delighted with Mrs. Pankhurst's address at the Baths Assembly Hall. The audience was attentive and sympathetic. On Wednesday evening the Coventry members are giving an At Home in the Priory Rooms at 7.30, when I shall give an address, and plans for future work will then be announced. Mrs. Richardson Rice, Gosford Green, Coventry, has kindly taken charge of the Exhibition work. Will all members and friends who are helping please let her know the value of the articles they will send in

Financial Report.-Mrs. Walter Crosbee, £1 1s.; Miss Rhoda Earl, £1; A Friend, per Mrs. Kerwood, £5; Miss Mary Floyd, £5; Anon., £5; Miss Kirby, 10s. towards organizer fund; collec tions, £11 5s. 8d. and £2 9s. 4d.; street collecting, £1 7s. 8d.; travelling expenses (Dr. Jones), 2s. 6d.; ditto (Miss Keevil), 16s. 6d.; lecture fee, 16s.; total, £34 7s. 8d.

Everyone will be glad to know that in April cur work is to have the great encouragement of a visit from Miss Elizabeth Robins, who will lecture in Leeds and Bradford. Mrs. Clarke is still with us, and has spoken at meetings in Leeds,

volunteers for the Yorkshire deputation to Mr. Asquith. Miss G. Brackenbury has also been in the district, and addressed meeting at the Leeds Arts Club arranged by Miss Davids and friends and at an At Home in Bradford given by Miss Gregson and Mrs. Hardy Behrens. A successful drawing-room meeting was also held in Bradford at Mrs. Arthur Briggs', when Miss Kitson, of Scarborough, and Mrs. Clarke were the speakers. On Sunday we held a good meeting on Woodhouse Moor, Leeds, and a number of

copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN were sold. By the time this is published the Leeds Coliseum meeting will be over, and we shall have begun to concentrate on the Bradford meeting, where Miss Christabel Pankhurst is to speak on Wednesday, April 7. Tickets, 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d., may be had at 61, Manningham April 1. Treffers, 25. Od., 15., and Od., may be had at 61, Manningham Lane. On Saturday, 20th, some of our members, wearing placards, cycled in the principal streets of Leeds to advertise the Coliseum meeting. They were followed by women distributing bills, and a great deal of interest was aroused by the decorated bicycles.

This week we have had a present of a megaphone, which will be useful on many occa I have sent the Treasurer :- £1 1s., Mrs. Briggs' meeting (colleceception, the number of guests present exceeding even our most tion); £2 7s. 4d., Miss Gregcon and Mrs. Behrens' At Home (collec-inguine expectations, and long before the speaking commenced tion); 5s.; Mrs. I. Smith, S.D.; £2 2s., Mrs. Goodison, S.D.; 10s.,

Headquarters.-38, Ryc Hill. At Homes.-Crosby's Cafe, Northumberland Street, Wednesdays, 3-5 and 8-10. We are delighted with the results of Sclf-denial Week, which prove that the W.S.P.U. is making great way in the North. We have sent to the treasurer £27 17s. 3d., and this, with £2 3s. already sent direct to headquarters by the collectors, makes the very substantial sum of £30 0s. 3d.

We are sending to the treasurer this week 6s. for membership deputation. The special effort for VOTES FOR WOMEN week re-solved itself into the formation of a most effective corps. For some subscription for motor-boat; £2 18s. 112d., in collections; 5s. 7d., time we have been selling the paper outside the theatres, and now returned on railway ticket; 17s. 114d., returned bye-election ex-

If there are any more members who feel they would like to give a certain sum weekly while Mrs. Pethick Lawrence is imprisoned will they please communicate with me at the At Homes, or at 38,

Rve Hill

Gladice G. Keevil. YORKSHIRE.

Headquarters. - Bradford: 61, Manningham Lane. At Homes. - Bradford: 61, Manningham Lane, Mondays, 8 p.m. Leeds : Arts Club, Blenheim Terrace, Woodhouse Lane. Workers Meeting, Wed., 8 p.m. Important Events. - Bradford: St. George's Hall, M'ss C. Pankhurst, Wed-nesday, April 7, at 8 p.m.

Bradford, and Huddersfield, urging women to come forward as

C. A. L. Marsh.

NEWCASTLE.

Among the meetings of the week, two worthy of special mention

Mr. Forbes Robertson will be in Newcastle during the first week in April, and we shall look forward to announcing the date on which he will speak for us in next week's issue.

Will the lady who sent a postal order to Miss Phillips for cartoon by Hon. Mrs. Parsons please communicate with me at 38, Rye Hill. Edith New.

SCOTLAND. Glasgow.

Office: 141, Bath Street. At Homes.—141, Bath Street, Friday, 8 p.m. Charing Cross Hall, Saturday, 3 p.m. The result of Votes for Women week has been to encourage us

greatly in our work. Miss Underwood, assisted by Mr. Craig and the street sellers, invaded fresh districts, arousing much interest and disposing of large numbers of copies. Miss Levenon had been instrumental in gaining many new subscribers, in introducing the paper on to the table of two or three reading-rooms, in making it known as an advertising medium, and in arranging for it to be on sale at several newsagents. Help in these ways is really invaluable. We are very anxious to have the names of members who can work in outlying districts. We wish again to draw attention to the fact that the evening At Home has been permanently changed from Thunday to Friday every week. We urge all our members and friends to see that they receive their copies of Votes for Women, now our main medium of communication, regularly. Mics Evelyn Sharp is the principal speaker on Friday (26th), and on Saturday The subject will be "Votes for Women in Denmark and Great Britain." This will be the last of the series arranged for February and March. During April the Saturday At Homes will be held at 141, Bath Street, except when otherwise stated. In addition to these, we hope to arrange an afternoon meeting at which Mr. Forbes Robertson has kindly consented to speak. The date will be announced shortly. Mr. Forbes Robertson will also speak at the At Home on March 27. On Tuesday, April 2, Miss Marshall has kindly arranged a concert in aid of the funds of the W.S.P.U. It will be in the Masonic Hall, West Regent Street, at 8 p.m. Tickets, price 2s., 1s., and 6d., may be obtained at 141, Bath Street, and at the At Homes.

It was mentioned last week that we intended to divide the contributions for the Glasgow stall, roughly speaking, into two sec-tions-needlework and handicraft-but all kinds of articles, curics, china, household goods, etc., will be acceptable. We hope all our members will send in their promises during the coming week, mentioning the probable value, in order that we may know how the work is progressing. These will be acknowledged in the next iscue. Paisley.—A public meeting will be held in the new hall of the Y.M.C.A., New Street, on Monday, March 29, at 8 p.m., at

which Miss Evelyn Sharp and I will speak, and Dr. Katharine Chapman will take the chair. Tickets, price 1s., 6d., and 3d., may be obtained from Miss Jean Bow, Dunscore, Paisley, Messrs. Pater son, music sellers, Gilmour Street, Paisley, and from 141, Bath Street. We should be glad to hear from any Paisley members who would act as stewards or literature sellers at this meeting.

Stirling .- The At Home arranged by the local members will be held in the hall at the Y.M.C.A. on Monday, March 29, at 3 p.m. Mrs. Manners will take the chair, and Miss Evelyn Sharp and I will be the speakers. Anyone desiring an invitation or any information concerning the work of the W.S.P.U. in Stirling is asked to communicate with Miss Ure, 37, Snowdon Place, Stirling. G. M. Conolan.

Edinburgh.

Shop: 100, Hanover Street. Social Meeting.—Ardmilan Hall, Dalry, alternate Wednesdays, 8 p.m. At Homes.—Society of Arts Hall, 117, George Street, Thursdays, 3.30 p.m.: Marshall Street Hall, Thursdays, 8 p.m.

The responses to our appeal for help in the Exhibition stall are most encouraging, and preparations are making good progress. All contributions and communications should be addressed to Mrs. Maxtone-Graham, 4, Eton Terrace, who has kindly undertaken to super-

intend the arrangements. On the occasion of Mr. Forbes Robertson's visit to Edinburgh we hope to arrange a Suffragist theatre evening, when all those in the front row of the dress circle and adjacent boxes will appear in the colours of the Union. This will be either April 14 or 15. Those vishing to take part should communicate with Miss Esson Maule

Juniper Green. Miss Adela Pankhurst spoke to a crowded hall last week at the At Home, 117, George Street, Her addience listened with great interest to her exposure of Mr. Geoffrey Howard's mock friendship. The evening At Home at the Marshall Street Hall was also packed, thanks to the unwearying efforts of Mrs. Roy Rothwell and Miss Back, who had previously spent days of patient work in writing and

Dalry .- Our first social meeting at the Ardmillan Hall was very

encouraging. Miss Haig has already received several offers of local help, and our visitors showed great interest. Mrs. Tod, who took the chair, has kindly promised to sing some Scottish songs at the

West Edinburgh .- Miss E. Cotton Haig has undertaken this

West Edinburgh.—Miss E. Cotton Haig has undertaken this district, where we hopo shortly to begin an open-air campaign, while Miss Esson Maule is managing that of Murrayfield. I am sending to the Treasurer this week the following dona-tions :—(a) To the Bye-election Fund : Miss C. Wolsely Haig, £1 1s.; a Dalry Working-man, 1s. (b) To the Self-denial Fund : Per Mrs. Roy Rothweil, 11s., from three friends; collecting cards, per Miss Macqueen, 10s. 6d.; per Miss Latta, 5s.; Ysenda Maxtone-Graham, 4s. (c) Ordinary donations : Per Miss Macgregor, A Friend, 2s. 6d.; Anon., 6d. (d) To Mrs. Pethick Lawrence's Motor-car : Mrs. Roy Rothwell, 10s. 6d. Collections, 117, George Street, £2 0s. 3d.; Marshall Street Hall, 7s. 6fd.; total, £5 13s. 9fd. **F. E. M. Macgulay.** F. E. M. Macaulay,

MARCH 26, 1909.

Aberdeen.

Office: Crown Mansions, 413, Union Street. s.—Crown Mansions, 413, Union Street, every Wednesday at 8 p.m. ay in every month at 3 and 8 p.m. April 3, At Home in Kennaway's Rooms, at 8. At Homes.

April 3, At Home in Kennaway's Rooms, at 3. We are extending our work here to various outlying places, and are meeting with a most encouraging response. We held a meeting at Degee last week, when Miss Adela Pankhurst spoke, and I occu-pied the chair. Local ladies acted as stewards, and a contingent of helpers from Aberdeen were also of great assistance. Sixty-five copies of Vorks rok Women were sold, and the way in which ques-tions were put at the close of the meeting showed how eager the people were to understand the political situation. They gave us a hearty send-off at the station, and asked us to come again, which, of course, we premised to do.

hearty send-off at the station, and asked us to come again, which, of course, we promised to do. We had another excellent meeting at Stonehaven, where Miss Aimie Grant and I spent a day canvassing, selling tickets, and generally preparing the ground. Here, too, the people were most sympathetic, and there is every prospect of good work being done. The ready response to my appeal for stewards for this meeting was most encouraging, and I am sure that come of those who helped us will join our Union and become permanent workers. At our workers' meeting on Wednesday handbills and At Home cards were taken for distribution, one lady taking as many as fifty of the latter for distribution among her friends. I am sending as Self-denial this week :--From Mrs. Bell, £1 Os. 6d.; collection, 5s. 8d. and 2s. 1d.; donation from Miss Clark, 4s. I shall be very glad to receive further donations to

Clark, 4s. I shall be very glad to receive further donations carry on our work in Aberdeen.

S. Ada Flatman.

Reckon it up

How much does washing day cost you? Reckon it up: washerwoman, her meals, your meals, coal, soap, soda, powder, wear and tear on the clothes. It's a pretty long bill.

Now reckon up the Fels-Naptha way: Fels-Naptha and cold water. That's all. Don't even reckon your own meals, because if you start washing after breakfast you will be finished before dinner.

This is the way: Soap the clothes, roll them up singly, lay them in the water, soak half an hour, rub lightly, rinse well, and they are ready for the line. If you are satisfied, it will have cost you a few coppers. If you are not, your grocer will give you your money back. So there!

Silks

Use warm or cold water; not hot. Soak and rinse ; don't rub or wring. Iron when quite dry under a damp cloth. That's all!

Fels-Naptha The soap with a Way of its own.

MARCH 26, 1909.

1

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

It is never safe to make prophecies as to the weather, but with the first day of spring over and gone, it is no wonder if one's thoughts turn to new garments. As to where to buy them there is no lack of choice; indeed, so many of the best

DRESS IN THE COLOURS.

dressmakers and milliners are laying themselves out to supply dresses and hats in the colours that there

is almost an embarrass de richesses. Our illustration shows the new Suffragetie coat, male specially for the W.S.P.U. by Mr. Charles Lee, of Wigmore Street. It is designed in serge, blanket-cloth, face-cloth, or tweed, and the two colours, purple and green, are cunningly blended; the facings on the purple coat being of green, and vice versa; while if a white coat is chosen, the facings are of purple and green. The price, graduated according to the material chosen, is from 35s. It is hoped that members of the W.S.P.U.

will wear this coat in processions and on official occasions. A shorter skirt than that shown in the sketch should, of course, be worn with the ccat, which is intended to reach to the edge of a skirt of walking length.

One of the best friends of the movement is Mrs. Oliver. of 115, New Bond Street; she is just now showing her new spring models in great variety of style, and she makes a pecial study of ladies who like to adopt their own style of dress. The colours of the W.S.P.U. can be beautifully blended in either hats or dresses, and Mrs. Oliver has excellent ideas for carrying hem out. Although the newest and most up-to-date styles from Paris are to be seen here, there are also models of hats and gowns more suited to elderly ladies. Bond Street so often frightens wouldbe customers, who imagine that it necessarily means high prices, that we wish to add that Mrs. Oliver makes coats and skirts, tea gowns, and evening dresses at most moderate cost. She is always very courteous in showing models to anyone who will pay her a visit, and no one is ever allowed to keep a thing they do not like. Another speciality of this house is evening dress for young ladies. Some delightful sets of collars and cuffs embroidered in the clours on white linen are being shown by Elizabeth, 45, South Molton Street. These are worked by hand specially for the W.S.P U., and nothing could be prettier or more dainty. Eliza-beth has also some very charming hats trimmed in the colcurs, and

ill shortly have some special shirt blouses as well as children's tton frocks Thelma, of 59, Southampton Row, who makes a speciality of

oidered and braided costumes, is prepared to carry them out n the Union colours. She also has some beautiful hats trimmed th purple and white lilac, violets, etc.

Miss Folkard, another dressmaker who has been turning her in-genuity to good effect in the W.S.P.U. colours, has some very tistic tea gowns, blouses, and over-dresses, as well as a charming oat made in purple and braided with dark green. Our representative also saw a green motor hat with a floating veil of purple gossamer, which was both novel and artistic.

Another good friend of the movement who is prepared to make resses and hats in the colours is Madame Rebecca Gordon, of Belgrave Road, where our representative saw recently some models very asily adaptable to the purple. white, and green.

Some charming coats, blouses, and hats, in the colours, are being own by William Owen, Westbourne Grove, the hats being in purple traw, with purple, green, and white scarf. Dainty pincushions, idies, etc., will also be found there, and our representative was naturally delighted with a washable tea cosy, in the colours, with Votes for Women" embroidered upon it.

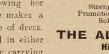
Such durable accessories as belts, chains, purse-bags, etc., are pecially made for the W.S.P.U. by Miss Roberta Mills, of 7, Stansfield Road, Brixton, who also binds any of the books sold by the Woman's Press in the colours. Miss Mills has a variety of articles suitable for the Exhibition, and will supply parcels from £1 upwards

One of the firms mentioned above, we are interested to hear. has decided to deal only with those wholesale firms who support the movement, and another is sending all her dyeing, cleaning, etc., to one of the advertisers in VOTES FOR WOMEN. A regular subscriber writes that she is transferring a considerable portion of her custom to firms who advertise in VOTES FOR WOMEN informing them of her reason for doing so; she strongly urges upon others to do the same.In this way they will be both forwarding the W.S.P.U. and helping the sale of the W.S.P.U.'s newspaper in a most effective way.













VOTES FOR WOMEN.

MARCH 26, 1909.

MARCH 20, 1909.

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

PÆONIES.-A col MICHAELMAS MISS A. BATESO

SELF-CONTAINED unfurnished : lift and Tube for all parts;

Try ' KATE RORKE' DRY the NO WATER. NO COLD Invaluable for Greasy or Fine Porter's, 86, Tottenham Co

SUFFRAGETTE wis D aged 40, no children for Plain Needlework an stairs .- Apply by letter,

HOW TO HELP Order ARTISTIC DRES (made free of cost), or for

MISS AGRESTI, 33. WANTED Known,

VV for Ladies. Mer Room, Piano, and Circu guinea yearly; may be p entrance fee.

EASTER HOLIDAY Superior board-residence rooms; tennis; highly re

MRS. W. BAKER I Guests. Special a Terms inc 109, Elgin A

ADIES- requiring D Lady Housekeeper Lady Nurses, are begged Terrace, Redcliffe Gardens posts. Hours 10.30-4.30 COMFORTABLE VE for Ladies or Gent

BEAULIEU, HANTS To let, furnished. bath; electric light; gar Hinsha

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DAYING GUESTS R

Large and small

PRIVATE APARTME Terms moderate

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TYTHE, FOLKESTONE.—Comfortably Furnished Six-roomed Villa. South aspect, sea view, near river, avenues. Golf, tennis, boating. Electric light, gas stove, piano. Low rental to careful tenant, year or less.—Apply, "SYLVA," Duncombe Hill, S.E.

HAVE YOU ANY FOOT TROUBLE ? Write at once for our new book. No charge whatever. Holden's, 4, Harewood Place, W.

HERNE BAY. "Favorita," Canterbury Road. Comfortable Board-Residence (recommended by two members of W.S.P.U.). Very near Sea, Downs, and Band-stand. Home Comforts. Books. Sunny, Airy Rooms. Late Dinner. THE MISSES DOUGLAS,

MISS INGRAM MARSHALL (The Ladies' Social and Employment Guild) Recommends Governesses, Chaperon, Nurses, &c., and all kinds of Servants.—35, Hart Street, W.C. Stamp for reply. No booking fees. $T_{itting-rooms, Four Bedrooms, Kitchen, Back Kitchen, Dairy,$ Water Supply, large Garden and Orchard; five miles from Bishops Stort-ford; lovely country.—Apply MISS BATESON, Robin Hood's Bay.

open-air meeting will be held at 6 p.m. on Friday, March 26, in Weimar ext open-air meeting will be held at 6 p.m. on Friday, March 26, in Weimar treet, Putney. A general meeting will take place at 20, Churchfield Man-ns, New King's Road (near the junction with Munster Road), at 8 p.m. a Friday, April 2 (committee meeting at 7). A whist drive, with interval or short speeches ard refreshments, is being organised for Tuesday, pril 20, at Kelvedon Hall, Fulham. The secretaries (Mrs. Roberts, 26, St. ohn's Road, Putney, and Miss Cutten, 43, St. Maur Road, Fulham) will be lad to supply tickets (1s. each), on "cale or return," to any members. Miss enation, 26, St. John's Road, Putney, has kindly offered to act as Exhibi-convertigent and where undertaken to provide 625 worth of activities to activities. secretary, and we have undertaken to provide £25 worth of articles t Exhibition. The gift of a flag from Mrs. Roberts, our Putney secre-tary, is a most acceptable present, and we shall now be "well and truly escated at the next big meeting. L. CUTTEN.

Richmond W.S.P.U.-We have done rather well during Votes For chmond W.S.P.U.-We have done rather well during Vorgs For EN week, as the Mins Stevensons and Miss Barneit have been selling in streets daily. Misses Barneit and Archibald visited Kingston on Thurs-and created a good deal of interest. We shall be very glad if any help be given to us at our working parties by friends living in the neighbour-We are now having three parties a week, either at 22, Park Road or houses of one or other of the committee. Those who have no time hp might send money, which we should be very grateful to receive, how-small the amount. E. M. WARD.

the very small the amount. E. W. WARD. Stoke-on-Trent W.S.P.U. - Since my last report I have removed to Oak Hill from Perkville Street. I am hoping to arouse new interest in our movement both at Oak Hill and the adjoining villages of Trent Vale and Penk-hull. Last week several of our members and friends attended a meeting at my new address, when I spoke on the importance of the vote and sold Vorrss ros WOMEN. I am doing all I can to extend the sale of our paper. As regards the "Exhibition in the Colours," I visited a local firm the other day to see the chira tea service, Crown Derby, which is being got ready, and which Miss Whalley and I are giving. It is valued, at £2 10s., and we desire it to be catalogued on the stall as representing the Poiteries. With this stipulation this contribution, and any other which may follow, is to the Birmingham stall. In conclusion, I may udd that Mrs. Lawton and myself have been invited to speak at the Y.M.C.A. (Hanley), under the ampless of the British Women's Temperance Association on April 1. I shall be pleased to hear from anyone who is interested in our cause, or to receive contributions in money or kind from friends who would like to see our local Union well represented at the Exhibition. Will all members and friends, therefore, kindly note my new address, 19. Grosvenor Avenue, Oak Hill, Stoke-on-Trent, to which all communications should be sent. ADELINE REDFERN-WILDE.

THE ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

ADELINE REDFERN-WILDE.

meeting will take place in the Grand Hall of the Criterion Friday, April 2, from 2 to 4 p.m., when the hostesses will be as Eva Moore and Mrs. Frederick Mouillot. Speeches will be ered by Lady Grove, Lady Strachey, and Miss Frances Stirling. the hall holds only 600, in order to prevent disappointment, ad-sion will be by invitation of the League. All members and their friends are, however, welcome.

QUESTION IN THE HOUSE. PRISONS (WOMEN INSPECTORS).

PRISONS (WOMEN INSPECTORS). If. Snowden asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department on denesday last week how many women inspectors of pricons there are; how any prison medical officers are women; and whether, in view of the propor-ne of women prisoners. he will consider the appointment of additional additional lifed women to act in each of the capacities mentioned? If. Herbert Samuel: There is one woman inspector, who is well able to charge all the duties of an inspector in relation to prisons where women be detained. None of the prison medical officers are women, but the woman pector has medical qualifications. If Snowden: Will the right hon, gentleman answer the latter part of the stillional qualified women to act in each of the capacities mentioned? If. Herbert Samuel: So far as women inspectors are concerned, I have cady stated that one woman inspect, and a further increase of the staff is necessary. With regard to women medical officers of prisons, the point thereas it is proved on the staff is an example to prison the duties an excessary.

With regard to women medical officers of prisons, the point

Fstablished BIRKBECK BANK. Established 1851. 1851. SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C. 2 PER CENT. INTEREST PER CENT. INTEREST Allowed on Deposit Accounts. Repayable on Demand. On Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book. ALL GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS TRANSACTED ALMANACK, with full particulars. POST FREE. C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

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MISS INGRAM MARSHALL

LOCAL NOTES.

COUCAL COUCAL COUCAL

 Moseley, Birmingham.
 ELIZABETH REDFERST.
 Boxyes W.S.P.U. — We were successful in raising 22 10s. by the Self-denial tea. Considering the weather, this was a capital result. Miss Joan Dugda's was the speaker, and Mrs. Mitchell, of Harringay, occupied the chair at the meeting which followed the tea. 216 0s. 6d. has been forwarded as the collective effort of some of the members. Others preferred to send individually. Vorus FOR WOMEN week has not been forgotten. New agents have been secured, flags displayed, and we hope the work will continue after the special effort. Agents and private individuals will be appreached both by the special effort. special effort. Agents and private individuals will be appreciated bein by the literature secretary and by members. An interesting feature in our Union's work is the fact that one of our members has induced fifteen women in her Co-operative Guild to work for the Bowes Park contribution of £25 (or more) to the Exhibition, and most willingly have these members taken up the work. RACHEL NEAL, HOR. S

RACHEL NEAL Hon. Sec. **Brighton and Hove W.S.P.U.** — On Wednesday, 17th, Miss Hare spoke on the front to a large crowd, and we sold a number of VoTES FOR WOMEN. Friday, 19th, Miss Agnes Kelly had a large and appreciative audience at Preston Circus in the evening, as also on Saturday afternoon on the Front. We are all very busy preparing for the Dome meeting on Friday, 26th, at 8 p.m. Anyone wanting tickste Cas, 1s. 6d. and 3d., please apply at office, 8, North Street Quadrant. We shall have extra meetings all the week. On Thursday, 25th, and Friday, 25th, we shall have carriage and bicycle parades. Anyone wiching to join in these, please come to the offices at 10.30 and 3 o'clock sharp. Some of our members have been pushing the sale of VoTES FOR WOMEN, and have got additional subscribers and adver-tisers. I hear from Miss Davis, Exhibition secretary, that promises for our stall are coming in well. I G. McKrows.

stall are coming in well. I. G. MCKFOWN. Brixton W.S.P.U.-A very pleasant and well-attended drawing-room meeting was held at Miss Gamble's, 9, Mervan Road, on Friday lack. I had to act as speaker in the unavoidable absence of Miss Cameron, who is busy at Croydon. Tickets and literature sold well, and many promises of help for the Exhibition were received. Several of our members promised to help "keep the Liberal out" at Croydon.

"keep the Liberal out" at Croydon. K. S. TANNER. Camberwell and Peckham W.S.P.U.-At a preliminary meeting of this newly formed Union, held at the Samuel Bowly Coffee Tavern, 74. Peckham Rye, goods to the value of £11 were promised for the exhibition. The next meeting will be held at the same place on Wednesday, March 31. at 7.39 p.m. Future meetings will be announced in VOTES FOR WOMEN. Mem-bers and friends in the district who are not yet in touch with the local secretary are cordially invited to come and bring friends. Communications should be addressed to Miss C. Dawson, 5. Borland Road, Newlands, Peckham Rye, S.E.

Chelsea W.S.P.U.-Several of our members have been to Croydon to help **Chelsea W.S.P.U.**—Several of our members have been to Croydon to help at the bye-election. Croydon is such an easy distance from Clapham Junc-tion and the train service so good (return fare, i.s. 3d.), that we hope all who have not already done so will make an effort to be there during the few days that remain. At our weekly At Home Mrs. Mayer was kind enough to speak for us. She nave a most interesting address, telling us of her varied experience at bye-elections and at Cabinet Ministers' meetings, and finished by asking those present to support Miss Cameron, so that we were at once able to fix times for going to Croydon. Now that Self-denial and VORS FOR WOMEN weeks are over, we hope our workers will concentrate the?" energies on the Exhibition; there are not many more weeks before our work will have to be ready. On Tuesday afternoon Miss Lloyd is holding a work mark at 0s. Oxford Street, and will welcome anyone who can give her ass'with inset to brandy. Street, and will welcome anyone who can give her assig-tance. Promises of gifts are still coming in. Miss L. G. Williams is sending a bronze statuette from Rome, and Miss A, Fraser a contribution of vortous artistic things to the value of £4 10s. CHARLOTE BLACKLOCK.

artistic things to the value of 44 105. CHARLOTTE BLACKLOCK. Forest Gate and Wanstead W.S.P.U.—We were able to send up £6 as the result of our Self-denial effort. Will members and friends note that instead of our usual monthly meeting in April we are presenting a humorous sketch, "Trial of a Suffragette," in Eartham (Large) Hall on Tuecday. April 6, at 8 o'clock. Admission free, reserved seats 6d. We are putting aside Saturday, April 3, for advertising this, and want everybody who can possibly help to do so. A conveyance will be decorated in the colours, and we hope to visit almost every street in the neighbourhood. See Vorts for WOMEN next week for further particulars re time and place for starting on our advertising tour. Hammersmith W.S.P.U.—Our members are selling increasing numbers of Vorts FOR WOMEN to the Savings Bank clerks as they leave work on

Hammersmith W.S.P.U. - Our members are selling increasing numbers of VOTES FOR WOMEN to the Savings Bank clerks as they leave work on Fridays. A newsagent in our district reports that he had not hung out the flag five minutes before the paper was asked for, and he has had an increased sale while it has been up. Our treasurer had the happy thought of asking the management of Earl's Court Exhibition to show a flag, and they accordingly arranged to receive one. F. E. Rowe.

asking the management of Earl's Court Exhibition to show a hay, and her accordingly arranged to receive one. F. E. Rowe, **Hendon W.S.P.U.**—The concert which was arranged by Mrs. Wyatt and her daughters in aid of the Exhibition was a great success, £3.3s, being in hand after all expenses were paid. We are working hard to get our paper known. Between four and five dozen copies were disposed of locally last week; we hope to have about a dozen extra regular subscribers. Will tall those desirous of obtaining VoTES FOR WOMEN order it from their works, but a constraining to the term their wholesale agents. Our hand after all expenses were paid. We are working hard to get our paper known. Between four and five dozen copies were disposed of locally last week; we hope to have about a dozen extra regular subscribers. Will value those desirous of obtaining VORES FOR WOMEN order it from their own newsagents, who can easily get it from their wholesale agents. Our

Hull W.S.P.U.- On Saturday, March 20, Miss Little and I went to the Boulevard Football Ground, and in a short time we had sold out all our copies of VORES FOR WOMEN. Names and addresses of volunteers to he'p in this work should be sent in to me at 14. Welbeck Street, Hull, Mr. Forbes Robertson and Miss Gertrude Elliott are to be in Hull this week, and several members have booked stal's at the Grand Theatre, and intend to make a brave show of Suffragette colours on Friday night, 26th inst. M. HARRISON

M. HARRISON. HIGORD W.S.P.U. - We held our third public meeting at Loxford Hall a Monday, the 22nd. Miss Evelyn Sharp gave a most convincing address to good audience, many of whom were newcomers. At the close there were several questions asked, all of them cleverly answered by Miss Sharp. Copie of Vores FOR WOMEN and a quantity of literature were sold. Our next bi meeting is at Loxford Hall en April 26. M. HARVEX.

of Vorts For WOMEN and a quantity of literature were sold. Our next big meeting is at Loxford Hall ca April 26. M. HARVET. **Kensington W. S.P.U.**—Our members worked together cplendidly to make the Ladbroke Hall meeting known. Mrs. Hartley Withers addressed 2,000 envelopes, and distributors were found for these and for 5.000 handblik. Some got our posters displayed, and others canvassed streets of houses and interested many new people and sold them tickets. Announcements of the meeting were chalked everywhere, and eight of our boldest members tied on the posters and paraded Baywater and North Kensington on Thursday morn-ing and afternoon and Friday morning. Their efforts were rewarded by a hall filled to overflowing, and an interested and enthusiastic audience for Miss Christabel Pankhurc's speech, which came first, 25 she had to hurry away to Croydon. Miss Garret Anderson, M.D., who was in the chair, and Miss Joachim then spoke on the need for the vote, and were followed by Mr. Nevinson, who spoke of women in war time. Miss Evelyn Shany oused the women present with an appeal for personal service for the cause. Many questions were put and answered, and a recolution calling for the immediate enfranchisement of women was carried with acclamation. The special thanks of the committee are due to Miss Morrison, who undertook all the secretarial and organising work in connection with the meeting, and under whose super-intendence everything went as if by cleckwork. The claims of Vorts roa WOMEN week were not forgotter; thanks to many willing hands, we made a record sale. It must be our aim to keep the scale up to this high figure. This week some of our members are going to help at Croydon, and others will begin canvassing for goods for our Exhibition stalls. Mrs. Harry Sliver, the hon, sec. of the general scall, will be giad to receive postcards from their gifts for the Kensington stall. Mrs. Mills would like to know definitely what jewellery will be fortheoming for her cpecial section of the stall, and Mrs. Reginald Church Street, Kensington, and selection and approximate money value, of the donor, names of articles promised, and approximate money value. Mrs. Mayer and Miss Ferguson spoke at the At Home last week; this week Dr. Christine Marrell and Mrs. Charle's Cape are our cytokers; and next week Miss Mary Neal has consented to come and address us. Louise M. EATES.

Dr. Christine Morreli and Miss Christian Galf Galf Science and Address us. LOUISE M. EATES. Lowisham W.S.P.U.—A successful business meeting was held, and sevenal new members enrolled, on Tuesday, March 16. As Lewisham is the second largest borough in London, and some districts in it have not yet been worked, it was decided to increase our committee by eight additional mem-bers, and to endervour to work the whole district by forming ward com-mittees. On Thursday we welceme Miss C. Townsend, of Brockley on her release from Hollowry by a public meeting in the Brockley Presbyterian Hall, Miss Helen Caston, B.S.c., being the openker for us. We hope to largely increase our membership, and have acked Miss Campbell, who is now on the executive committee, to enrol members after the meetings and to undertake the responsibility of the Brockley Ward of the Lewisham Union. The attention of members and friends is called to the necessity of concen-trating on Exhibition work after the 25th. March 17, Miss Dorothy

The attention of memory and there is 25th. (Mrs.) LIZZE MCKENZE. **Nottingham W.S.P.U.**—On Wednesday, March 17, Miss Dorothy Pethick came from Mansfield to speak at a meeting of members and friends, and we all appreciated her impiring address on "Citizenship," which she treated in special connection with the women's movement of to-day. Not-tingham members will work all the harder for having listened to Miss Pethick On Friday Mrs. P.nkhurst speaks here. Preparations are going on busily, and the meeting promises to be a splendid one. The theatre party List Friday was very successful—the two front rows of the upper circle were reserved, through the kindness of the manager, and filled by Suffrageties and friends, and all the house seemed to know that the Suffrageties were there. A laurel wreath tied with the colours was presented by the local Union to Mr. Forbes Robertson, while the local Suffrage Society gave a botque to Mrs. Forbes Robertson, will all members who have. sold tickets for the meeting on March 30. We hope that evening, after the business is over, to have a discussion on Mr. Howard's Bill. **C** H. BURGE.

Putney and Fulham W.S.P.U .- The following list of meetings alrea

484

485.
lection of 12 Japanese, sweet-scented Pæonies, on shades, 9s. doz. DAISIES.—Best new sorts, 6s. doz. Packed Plant catalogue on application. N, Nurseries, NEW-MILTON, HANTS.
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hes to Recommend a Respectable Widow, n, daughter of an old family servant (Suff.), nd Alterations, Simple Cooking; in flat; no R. V., 30, Belsize Park Gardens, N.W.
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aily or Resident Governesses, Companions, rs, Matrons, Secretaries, Nurse-Companions, to call or write.—Miss Gedney, 4, Coleherne s, S.W., who always has gentlewomen requiring
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