

THE VOTE
Feb. 12, 1915
ONE PENNY

WOMAN SUFFRAGE TO THE FORE!

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE

VOL. X. NO. 277.

(Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper and transmissible through the post in the United Kingdom at the newspaper rate of postage but to Canada and Newfoundland at the Magazine rate.)

FRIDAY, FEB. 12, 1915.

Edited by C. DESPARD.

KVINDELIG
LÆSEFORENING

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

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS.

OUR POINT OF VIEW.
AT HEADQUARTERS: WOMAN SUFFRAGE TO THE FORE.
THE MEN WHO GOVERN US. C. Nina Boyle.
MADRE MARIE VERONE.

RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES OF THE PEOPLE. M. W. Nevinson.
WOMAN SUFFRAGE NATIONAL AID CORPS.
CAFÉ CHANTANT.
BRANCH NOTES. IN MEMORIAM.

OUR POINT OF VIEW.

"Justice."

At the Middlesex Sessions, quite recently, a man was sentenced to twelve months' hard labour for receiving a stolen threepenny bit. This is the type of sentence that brings judges into contempt. The recent sentence on Mrs. Thompson will not add to the lustre of the judges who grace that Bench. A young married woman, found guilty of obtaining by fraud from the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association the paltry sum of £2 15s., has been sentenced to four months' imprisonment, regardless of the fact that (a) she is a first offender, and bears a previously excellent character; (b) she is the wife of a Scots Guardsman, home from the front with dreadful injuries to his feet through frost-bite; (c) she has four quite little children, with whom the sick man is left to deal. There was a terribly affecting scene in Court when the sentence was announced—husband and children breaking down painfully. A member of the Freedom League called at the home, and whatever can be done by willing sympathisers will be done to help the family through its trouble. An appeal will also be made to the Home Secretary to reduce the sentence; and if there be any reality in all the talk of benevolence which has gushed from the Home Office about the need for showing special consideration to soldiers' wives who may be tempted to show signs of deviation from the paths of "worthiness," now is the time for Mr. McKenna to prove it.

The Church.

Mr. J. Willis Bund, of Worcester, is a representative of Churchmen in the House of Laymen. The Lower House of Canterbury Convocation discussed last Tuesday "The Church and the War." Mr. Bund moved a resolution protesting against the State recognition and allowances for mar-

ried and unmarried women and their children being absolutely alike. It is sickening to find how ready people are to strike at women through their so-called Christianity. Regardless of the example set by the Founder of the Church, who reserved His severest censure for the greed, cruelty and oppression of men, and not for the frailty of women, these gentlemen lose no opportunity in the course of their Church work to pillory the unfortunate woman. Mr. Bund failed to carry his point; we suggest that he should move a resolution demanding that the State shall deal on a different basis with the pay of the men who live with married or unmarried women. Thus and thus only will the moral balance be preserved.

Press Impertinence.

We call pointed attention to an impudent paragraph in the *Daily News and Leader* of last Saturday. The allusion was to the presence in the West London Police Court of some members of the Women Police Volunteer Corps. "When," writes the person responsible for the paragraph, "they were about to leave at the approach of certain cases at which women are not supposed to be present (the italics are ours) his Worship requested an officer to fetch them back, observing that they were "entitled to remain." His Worship also added that there was no power to exclude women from the Court, but they should be warned of the nature of the case, as perhaps they would not wish to hear it. This is a great improvement on the general attitude of the police court magistrate, and we respectfully congratulate the gentleman in question, who takes so proper a view of the position in the teeth of strong prejudice and established custom; but it makes the extraordinary comment of the police court reporter, which we have quoted, all the more insolent and uncalled for.

CAR & GENERAL

INSURANCE CORPORATION LIMITED,
83, PALL MALL, LONDON, S.W. (Est. 1903)

(Adjoining the Royal Automobile Club.)



INSURE YOUR MOTOR VEHICLE
with the Pioneers.

OVER £1,250,000 PAID IN CLAIMS.

A Vital and Imperative Need.

A clarion cry has gone forth from a band of devoted women which ought to rouse not only the conscience but the determined effort of the nation to see that a vital and imperative reform is carried through without delay. It is a case of unskilled labour again, but when the public realises that it is our wounded soldiers who are suffering from want of skilled nursing frequently in the most critical hours, between the time their wounds are received and the time they reach the base hospital, when life and death are often in the balance, its indignation should know no bounds until adequate reform is ensured.

The system of Voluntary Aid Detachments brings into most important and responsible position in the treatment of wounded soldiers—practically from the battlefield to the auxiliary hospital perchance in the heart of Britain—women, willing and eager to render service, but totally untrained for such work. Small wonder that the National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland protested un-animously at their annual meeting in December, 1914, against this dangerously inefficient system of nursing. The result was a request from the Director-General of the Army Medical Service for evidence. The statement sent to him appears in a recent issue of the *British Journal of Nursing*, and is signed by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, president of the National Council. It should be read by men and women alike, and in urging our readers to obtain a copy (issue of Jan. 30, 431, Oxford-st., London, W., 1d.), we acknowledge with gratitude the devotion to the national good which Mrs. Bedford Fenwick—a determined Suffragist—has shown once again in demanding the best skilled treatment for men, whose lives are risked for our defence. Again a woman's clear head is wanted at the War Office, as in Florence Nightingale's time, and in a matter that is admittedly the concern of women.

The Abnormal Woman.

Miss M. P. Willcocks, a thoughtful writer who sees well into the heart of things, has an interesting review in a London daily on Miss M. Johnson's "Witch." It is rather an unpleasant reflection, and one that we believe the unpaid sex often makes privately, that the fate of able women who dared to see with their own eyes, to think, and to express their thoughts, was not uneldom to be burned as witches. It silenced criticism effectually. When the unseen currents of human passion come to be written there will be a chapter dealing with the "fear of woman by man which darts out whenever she shows a power not frankly recognised as that of sexual attraction." We could name a House (not the House of Life) which shows much of this fear. And we agree with Miss Willcocks that "jealousy dogs a woman's footsteps when she masters a scientific secret or essays the sceptre of leadership." But why beg the question by styling able women *abnormal*? In a certain sense, *all* high capacity is abnormal. Some might reasonably contend that woman relying solely on sex attraction is an abnormal being, and that *normally* intelligence is a high attraction. We hope the office-boy put in the heading *Milton's Monstrous Regiment of Women*; the expression is due to the pure and unadulterated insolence of John Knox.

OUR READERS will be interested to know that Lady Castle-rough, who now becomes Lady Londonderry, is an active Suffragist and well known in connection with many phases of the Woman's Movement. She is prominently associated with the efforts to secure the return of women to agricultural employment; she has taken a prominent part in the organisation of the Women's Emergency Corps, and takes a great interest in the Women's Volunteer Reserve Corps raised by the Hon. Mrs. Haverfield.

Women's Freedom League.

Offices: 1, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI.

Telegrams—"TACTICS, LONDON." Telephone—6146 CITY.
Colours—GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD.
President—Mrs. C. DESPARD. Hon. Treasurer—Dr. E. KNIGHT
Hon. Organising Secretary—Miss EUNICE MURRAY.
Hon. Head of Merchandise Department—Mrs. SNOW.
Head of Political and Militant Department—Miss C. NINA BOYLE.
Secretary—Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD.

HEADQUARTER NOTES.

Woman Suffrage to the Fore.

The Branches of the Women's Freedom League have agreed to postpone the Annual Conference until the Autumn, or later in the year, and to extend its scope by inviting members of other women's organisations to confer with their delegates on the general situation as it affects women. The Branches have also agreed that the present officials and committee shall remain in office until this Conference takes place.

At a recent meeting of the National Executive Committee the following resolution was passed unanimously:—

"The National Executive Committee of the Women's Freedom League, feeling that it is absolutely necessary, in the interests of the Women's Movement and of the country, to keep the question of Woman's Suffrage before the Government and the public at the present time, calls upon all members to lose no opportunity of putting forward the Suffrage point of view, and of refuting the suggestion that at the present time Suffrage propaganda should be kept in the background. To desert the Cause because the situation has become peculiarly difficult is betrayal of the basest description."

Wednesday Afternoons at the Suffrage Club, 3, York Street, Jermyn Street, Piccadilly.

Next Wednesday, Feb. 17, the speakers will be Mrs. Baillie, B.Sc., on "New Values," and Miss Anna Munro, and the following Wednesday Mr. Laurence Housman has promised to give an address on "Home Truths in War Time." The chair is taken each Wednesday afternoon at 3.30, and admission is free.

Discussion Meeting.

Next Friday evening, Feb. 19, Mr. W. L. George will speak on "The Break-up of the Home," and members of the audience will be invited to take part in the discussion following this lecture. Those who wish to be present are urged to make early application for tickets from the W.F.L. office, 1, Robert-st., Adelphi, W.C., the prices being 1/- (reserved) and 6d. (unreserved). F. A. UNDERWOOD.

A Powerful Novel.

"THE SUFFRAGE & LORD LAXTON,"

By LESLIE KEENE. (DIGBY & LONG).

The Bookman says: "The story grips by its sheer realism, its charming humour, and its many dramatic touches. . . . A powerful plot, and the characters strikingly human."

Irish Independent: "The story and its telling are fascinating."

Scotsman: "Excellent observation and writing."

Times: "(The heroine) is a character of great dignity and charm."

THE MEN WHO GOVERN US.

What has come over the men who govern us? It is difficult to account for the change in them, except with reference to the touchstone of war, and the sudden blinding revelation which this has flashed upon them, of their dependence on the women of the nation. Woman is no longer a creature to be alluded to with mock indulgence or contemptuous indifference. She is an important factor in recruiting (for men, strange as it must appear to legislators, are not willing to leave wife and sweetheart to the tender mercies of the poor-law and the charitable societies); she is a possible *locum tenens*; an industrial asset; an agricultural possibility; something to be roped in and no longer to be jostled out of the professional, commercial and industrial life of the community. No longer do we hear the sentimental bleat "woman's place is the home"; her place, it appears, is the consulting-room, the shop, the farm and the field, and the factory. Times are indeed changed when our Penny Dreadful, the *Times*, instead of ridiculing the pretensions of her sex, wails in reproachful agony "Where are the women doctors?" and calls for female agricultural labour; and when a responsible member of the Government looks to the weaker sex to save the situation. But the change has come, odd and entertaining as it is; and we duly chronicle the event and point its moral.

The *Times* deplores the fact that women doctors are not available in their multitudes as substitutes for men who have gone to the colours. It grieves that professional women so frequently took paid appointments, rather than the private practice from which, starved and abject as the result of the particular attitude which the *Times* and *hoc genus omne* assume towards the independent woman, they could now be rescued at sweated salaries to replace better paid men. We are glad the women doctors have had the ability to secure the paid appointments and are not waiting in shoals to snap at the bait dangled by the *Times* in its tardy and not disinterested repentance. We are glad there is not an unlimited supply of girls anxious to be dairy maids. We remember the time when this class of worker was slowly exterminated, inexorably forced out by a wage of from £4 to £6 a year. In some parts of the British Isles the women kept their work and increased their wages; but for the most part the woman farm-hand has disappeared, and will not be lured back except at a decent wage. Now we have Mr. Tennant pleading with the trades unions to secure the extended employment of women. He actually speaks of trades "where women's work seems to be more desirable than men's, so that nearly all male labour . . . should be dispensed with and replaced by women's labour." And this in a speech in which for almost the first time on record "persons" were alluded to as "he" or "she," and as "taking his or her part in doing real service to the country" and "adapted to do the work for which he or she may be fitted." This is a revolution.

Things of this sort make the study of Hansard a real joy. There are other things, too, which make pleasant reading and are very instructive. Sir John Rees, who said no word whatever when the unholy and totally illegal "agreement" to deprive women of their rights in regard to hotels and licensed premises was entered into by Sir Edward Henry and the licensed trade, with the benediction of the Home Secretary, lifts up his voice in a gush of anguish over the wrong to the publican in having the custom of male persons interfered with. In one place, he told a not unmoved House, licensed houses

must close at 9 p.m., and men in uniform might only be served at stated hours. We could tell the hon. gentlemen of many places, including London, where similar inconvenience has been inflicted on women regardless of uniform; and as to whom no member has thought it worth while to raise a protest. Licensed victuallers, however, have votes; and so have men in the army; hence the tears of Sir John Rees. It may be instructive to note the end of his tale. A "high military official," visiting his district, found himself under the drastic order imposed by his subordinate—the commanding officer—unable to take his meals in his usual fashion; and so the limitation as to serving men in uniform was withdrawn! No one has withdrawn the orders as to serving women. Sir John D. Rees please notice. C. NINA BOYLE.

MAITRE MARIE VÉRONE.

It is not often that London has the advantage of the presence of so distinguished a French Feminist as Madame Marie Vérone, the brilliant barrister of the Court of Appeal. During her short visit, just ended, she spoke to a large audience at the Kingsway Hall under the auspices of the National Union, and was the guest of the Lyceum Club at an afternoon "At Home," with the President, Lady Frances Balfour, and the Vice-President, Lady Strachey, as hostesses. Her eloquence, her confidence, and her charm aroused great enthusiasm in all who heard her. She had much to tell that was of special interest. She described with vivacious humour the change of men's attitude towards the work women could do for the nation. Just before the war, "impossible" was the word applied to the suggestion that they should be conductors on the "Metro" and the tramways and omnibuses; immediately after the war was declared women proved that they could do the work well, and they are still doing it! In the villages they have done the harvesting and other agricultural work; in shops and also in Government offices women are keeping the nation going in the absence of the men in the fighting line. What will the men say when they return? "Ah," replied Madame, "they will see that we have done well, that we are grateful to them; they, too, will be grateful to us! They will listen to our just demand for the rights of citizenship!" No man, she added, dares to oppose Woman Suffrage in public; they know what good service the women render to the nation. Maitre Marie Vérone—to give her the correct legal title—has interested herself very much in the question of children brought before the Courts. She was a member of a commission appointed to compile a Children's Code; she takes a leading part in the work for "Les Droits de la Femme," and since the war began has been the presiding genius of a number of workrooms which employ women, including many professionals, even operatic singers, thrown out of work. "It is not always easy to make a friend in England owing to difference of temperament," she said, "but once made it is a friendship for always!"

EVERYONE just now is interested in French Women, who have come forward so bravely in the present crisis, and Suffragists will welcome the opportunity of hearing French lectures by a very cultured and able Frenchwoman—a victim of the war—Mlle. Le Grand, given every Tuesday at 3.30 in the rooms of the Brompton School of Languages, 55, Brompton-rd., S.W. The subject for Feb. 16 will be "Madame Roland et les Femmes et la Terreur." Tickets 1/6 each (10s. for ten) can be obtained from the Secretary at the above address.

THE VOTE.

Proprietors—THE MINERVA PUBLISHING Co., Ltd.,
2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

FRIDAY, February 12th, 1915.

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

Offices: 2, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI, W.C.

EDITORIAL.

The Editor is responsible for unsigned articles only. Articles, paragraphs or cuttings dealing with matters of interest to women generally will be welcomed. Every effort will be made to return unsuitable MSS. if a stamped addressed envelope be enclosed, but the Editor cannot be responsible in case of loss.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE.

At Home and Abroad ... 6/6 per annum, post free.
"THE VOTE" may be obtained through all Newsagents and at the Bookstalls of Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son.

RIGHTS & LIBERTIES OF THE PEOPLE.

Not for the first time by strange irony of fate it is the House of Lords which appeals to a Liberal Government for the rights of the people under Magna Charta, and attempts to make some salvage of our liberties wrested from us by the Defence of the Realm Act, 1914. This remarkable piece of panic legislation violates the ancient right of Englishmen to be tried by their Peers in a Civil Court (women have never been allowed the right, of course), and as after six months of warfare the Courts are still sitting, it seems unnecessary to over-burden soldiers, whose business is to fight, with the business of civilians whose business is to judge.

Lord Parmoor's clear and able speech seems to have convinced the Government, and we are promised a Bill restoring the rights of British subjects; aliens only will come under the military Courts, and martial law will only be proclaimed in case of invasion.

That sounds rather vague and unsatisfactory; the French still keep their civil Courts going, and the judges have met and given judgment, even at Rheims, with the thunder of guns around them; so may it be with us.

We remember with sorrow that most pathetic class of alien enemy—British women married to foreigners—and we regret to leave their fate to military rule, to the tyro and unskilled. As the *Manchester Guardian* sympathetically observes: "One of the established points of domestic policy in war time appears to be that any disabilities that are going shall fall on women."

Our liberties will still be left chiefly to the taste and fancy of the police, especially if we belong to that "third estate" or pariah class—soldiers' and sailors' wives. It is still left to the police to decide if they are "worthy" to receive any money whilst the breadwinner faces the terrors of the trenches, and if arrested, they in their turn will have to endure the terrors of the spiritual ministrations of the "copper" upon whom the Army Council have conferred a species of bastard orders as State chaplains "for women only." That no theological training or special learning is required speaks for the cheapness of the woman's soul.

It is still left to the police to classify the moral status of women in the neighbourhood of camps, very often a danger to the virtuous woman, and our hours of drinking are still restricted as a warning to men, though we understand, with the ready wit of their sex, a new profession has been created in some neighbourhoods—that of "beer fetcher."

The Church has taken the cue from its partner

the State, and probably for the first time in history the women of England found themselves restricted not only in their hours of drinking but their hours of prayer. "Men only will be admitted to the Cathedral after 9 p.m." ran the abominable notice, in the *Times*, of the day of twenty-four hours' intercession at St. Paul's on December 16. A church, like a common, is a public place, and the Bishop of London and his evangelistic council tacitly gave up their illegal order as some women entered and remained in the Cathedral all night without being "chucked out" by these reverend gentlemen. Some of us, however, were too sick at heart to go, and we shall not lightly forget the insult put upon us. The Church can never again be a mother to us but a step-father (the evangelistic council are men only) who failed the daughters of Britain in their hour of anguish and suspense.

Whilst ancient liberties are being taken from us by the Army Council, new improvements of women's sad position under the Bastardy Laws are dying still-born. The Affiliation Orders Act, (31 July, 1914) provides that an officer of the Court shall be appointed to act as collector to receive the payments of affiliation orders as may be directed to be made to him by the justices, and he is to pay them forthwith to the mother of the child. This is a reform for which women and men have worked for years. On September 5, 1914, to the credit of the Home Office, time was found to send out notices to every bench of magistrates to acquaint them with this order, but there seems to be a shrewd suspicion amongst those who know, that very few police court or poor-law officials have paid any attention, or even seem to have heard of the change in the law. Let every Suffragist woman enquire in her own neighbourhood, and interesting statistics might be collected.

We have heard much lately about the war England is waging for liberty and democracy against Prussian militarism, and we listen a little sad at heart and with something of a wry smile. Perhaps it is good to have a sense of humour or we might cry, like Figaro: *Je me dépêche de rire de tout de peur d'être obligé d'en pleurer.*

MARGARET WYNNE NEVINSON.

IMPORTANT.

TO ALL OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS.
In this time of stress we are determined to keep our Suffrage Flag flying and our Flagstaff is—

"THE VOTE."

We must have without delay a sum of £500

We make a definite appeal for donations and promises of regular subscriptions from pounds to pence; also for increased sales of the paper and support of our Merchandise Department which helps to support us.

A determined effort must be made if THE VOTE is to continue. In making this clear statement I rely on the co-operation of all who know the national importance of the Cause we have at heart. Cheques and postal orders may be made payable to me at 2, Robert-street, Adelphi, London, W.C. A list of contributions will appear each week in THE VOTE.

C. DESPARD, Editor.

Amount previously received ...	£145 17 0
Mrs. Tritton (monthly donation) ...	5 0
Mrs. Mactaggart ...	2 2 0
Mrs. Carey (monthly donation) ...	5 0 0
Miss Lena Heath ...	1 0 0
Miss Nellie Baker ...	5 6
Miss Haffenden ...	2 6
Total	£154 12 0

OUR "WEDNESDAYS" AT THE SUFFRAGE CLUB.

With Mrs. Nevinson and Mrs. Despard as the speakers on Feb. 3, an interesting afternoon was assured, and the enthusiasm of the large audience testified to the pleasure and profit with which the speeches of the veteran Suffrage workers were heard. Mrs. Nevinson, who had been announced to speak on news of the war from first-hand letters, brought its reality home to her hearers by showing them a shell from the battlefield. In all languages and in all countries, she said, one word was applied to the war, and that was "hell," and it was only alleviated by great acts of courage. No one was ready for the slaughter of the first period of the war, but organisation has improved and arrangements for the wounded are now working much better. She told of the various hospitals and of the way in which British women doctors had at last won recognition from the British Government by demonstrating their capabilities in a way that could not be denied. "What for should we be wanting men doctors here?" said a Highlander to a new comer, who asked where the men doctors were, in the hospital run by Dr. L. Garrett Anderson and Dr. Flora Murray at Wimereux, "they would be in the way." She also told of the magnificent work done by another unit at its own cost. A specially interesting part of Mrs. Nevinson's story was the tribute to the splendid and calm courage of the nuns who continued their religious services and their constant care for the soldiers without heeding the bursting shells. Nearly two hundred of them have been decorated with the Cross of the Legion of Honour. The priests and clergy of all denominations did splendid and courageous work among the men, irrespective of creed. War, said Mrs. Nevinson, had become more and more horrible, the wonders of science were used to take life, but people had become more and more humane and took greater care of wounded men and animals. Yet no one could feel anything but disgust that war still continued, and contempt for diplomatists who made it. The peoples did not want to fight; women, she declared, would not have their sons killed in this horrible manner.

Mrs. Despard, in a moving speech, pointed out that all the glamour had now gone from war; it was seen in its hideous reality and suffering. The spirit of domination and of pride engendered war, and it would not cease until, in a true democracy, men and women stood together as equals, and the nation, not the diplomatists, made treaties. There was no hatred among the peoples, but, she added, we loathe and execrate the military system. We do not despair, we hold together, and we work for the time when these horrors will be impossible. A special interest attached to Mrs. Despard's presence as she was on the eve of leaving for France to take a message of goodwill and sympathy to French women. On the proposal of Miss Underwood, who ably fulfilled the duties of chairman, the meeting agreed with enthusiasm that Mrs. Despard should be the bearer of its sympathy, and also its admiration for the work French women are doing.

CAFÉ CHANTANT.

We again appeal to our readers to assist us in making this Café Chantant at Caxton Hall, March 4 and 12, a great success. We need at least £500 clear profit for the many and varied activities of the Women's Freedom League, and it would relieve our hon. treasurer of much anxiety if our friends would send her at once donations for the expenses of this enterprise. Mrs. Fisher appeals for contributions in money, cakes or anything suit-

able for tea and supper, so that no expense may be incurred for the refreshments, and she would be specially grateful for postcards giving particulars of what is promised.

Our Croydon Branch will collect home produce for our provisions stalls, and Harrow has undertaken to supply overalls and underclothing. We want other Branches and readers to help us to furnish stalls with house and table linen, cushions, blouses, flowers, plants and vegetables; and there will, of course, be a "white elephant" stall. Those who remember our Belgian Party will realise that during the two days of this Café Chantant there will not be a dull half-hour at the Caxton Hall.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE NATIONAL AID CORPS.

Distribution of Clothes from Overseas.

The clothes sent from New Zealand were distributed to the following societies: The Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association in Hammersmith and Stoke Newington, the Officers' Families Fund, School for Mothers at Stepney, also sackfuls to Mrs. Despard, Miss Maud and Miss Brouneau for distribution, and to the St. Paul's-road L.C.C. School, Stepney. The sack of baby clothes from Mount Forest, Canada, has been distributed with the garments for the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association, the Officers' Families Fund, and the School for Mothers at Stepney; there are still some left over. Out of the eleven cases from South Australia there are still five cases to open. So far, they have been divided as follows: Men's under-clothing to Mrs. Despard and Mrs. Huntsman for distribution at Nine Elms and Harrow, sackfuls to the Given Wilson Institute, Fulham School for Mothers, and the Society for the Assistance of Ladies in Distress, Dr. Barnardo's Homes, and the Waifs and Strays Society. Parcels of clothes have been given to Mrs. Prest, Mrs. Sickinger, Miss Bussé, Mrs. Smith, Miss Bateman and Mrs. Conyng-ham, whose cases were brought to our notice.

Jumble Sale.

The Hon. Mrs. Forbes is in need of more workers for Saturday afternoon, Feb. 20, to help with her jumble sale, and would be glad to have names before Feb. 15.

Nine Elms Vegetarian Restaurant.

Mrs. Tippett desires to thank very warmly Miss Benett for marmalade and tea; Mrs. Clark for a large packet of candied peel; Mrs. Corner for a bag of peas; and Miss Spriggs for two tea-cloths. She is still in urgent need of apples and raisins; also of floor-cloths and dusters.

Mrs. Tippett is glad to let members and friends know that the work of the Restaurant is being developed and that on Monday, Feb. 15, it will be opened every evening from 6 to 8 o'clock as a Children's Play Club. She earnestly begs for helpers who will promise one night a week for this interesting work; also toys, games and a gramophone.

MEMBERS' MEETING. BE READY!

Suffrage to the Fore! This was the dominant note of the members' meeting at Headquarters on Feb. 8. It was struck by Miss Adams, hon. sec. of the East London Branch of the League, who presided. Clergymen, she said, might as well say it is no time to preach Christianity as for Suffragists to say that their Cause must sink into the background. Every kind of work that needed to be done could be done through the Freedom League. Mrs. Tippett continued the same note in her touching account of the work done at the Nine Elms Restaurant, which is known as "The Suffragettes' Cook 'ouse!" She appealed very earnestly for a third helper in the Restaurant who will live there and share the duties, also for volunteers to work the Children's Play Club, to be opened every evening from 6 to 8 o'clock, beginning on Monday, Feb. 15. Its aim is to bring new interests and happiness into the children's lives and to give them a more comfortable place than damp dismal streets for their evenings. Miss Boyle continued the Suffrage note by declaring that those who were willing to hide their Suffrage light under a bushel were really deserters. She gave interesting and amusing incidents of her recent tour and showed how railway journeys afford excellent opportunities for Suffrage propaganda, especially among the khaki men. To show some understanding of their grievances is a good way to ensure sympathy with the grievances of women. Mrs. Huntsman's appeal for the War Emergency Fund completed the Suffrage chord, with excellent results in enthusiasm and determination.

BRANCH NOTES.

Brighton and Hove.

At the annual meeting held on Feb. 4 at "Nürnberg," by the kindness of Mrs. Budd, the resignation of Miss White from the post of hon. treas. was read. Hearty thanks are due to her for her services to the League in that capacity. Miss Susie Slatter (53, Sackville-rd.) agreed to undertake the work for a year, and was unanimously elected. THE VOTE organisation has also changed hands; we are most grateful to Miss K. Close for having stepped into the breach, and wish Miss Phillips (96a, Western-rd., Hove) success in working up the circulation of our paper. A successful year's work was reported on by the hon. sec., including a large number of meetings of all sorts, the part played by W.F.L. in forming (a) the Woman Suffrage National Aid Corps, and (b) Women Police Volunteers, both of which have proved of great value to the Suffrage Movement and have brought us a number of new members. An enlightening address was given by Miss Hare, as local chief of W.P.V., on the work done by the Corps in Brighton since its formation two months ago, and invited enquiries to call at the office (3, Connaught Chambers, 41, North-st.). Miss Trott presided, and received a satisfactory response to her appeal to the members to increase their support of THE VOTE. New members were also enrolled. All members and friends are urged to keep free the evening of Friday, March 5, for the public meeting which Miss Eunice Murray will address in the Theosophical Rooms (19, Norfolk-terrace), at 8 o'clock, and to make it widely known. Please apply for handbills at 8, San Remo, and assist in achieving another success.

Cardiff.

A most successful drawing-room meeting, to enable friends to meet Mrs. Despard, was held at the house of our Secretary, Mrs. Whale, 33, Stacey-road, on Feb. 2. Mrs. Whale presided, and Mrs. Despard gave a splendid address on the work of the League and the Woman Suffrage National Aid Corps. During tea a good collection was taken, and THE VOTE, merchandise and literature sold well; also four new members were enrolled. In the evening the I.L.P. Women's Guild gave our President a hearty welcome at the Ruskin Institute; Mrs. Despard made a stirring appeal for Woman Suffrage. On Feb. 2 Miss Barrs gave an address to the Cogan Branch of the Railway Women's Guild on the "Economic Position of Women." A social evening was held last Friday at the Ruskin Institute for the women of the Co-operative and Railway Women's Guild. Many thanks are due to Miss Uppington and friend, Miss Johanson, Miss Brend and Mrs. Wallace, who provided the excellent musical entertainment; the talent displayed was greatly appreciated by the audience. The speakers included Miss Williams and Mrs. Keating Hill; Mrs. Thomas was admirable in the chair. The refreshments were contributed by members and friends, the remainder was sold, the profits, with the collection, went towards the expenses. Five new members were enrolled. THE VOTE and merchandise sold well. We desire to thank all those who helped to make the evening so successful. By kind permission of the organiser, THE VOTE was on sale outside the I.L.P. meeting on Sunday evening. Ten dozen have been sold in Cardiff this week.

Clapham.

We had a most successful jumble sale last Saturday afternoon at Morris Hall, lent to us free of charge by the I.L.P., to whose committee we offer our warm thanks. The net proceeds of this sale amounted to £6 12s. 9d., which sum Mrs. Corner is handing over to the Woman Suffrage National Aid Corps to be divided equally between the Nine Elms Restaurant and the Women's Hospital at Bromley. We are very grateful to our numerous friends who supplied us with such suitable saleable goods, and cordially thank Mrs. Fisher, Mrs. Bookham, Miss White, Miss Madeley and Dr. Knight for their kindness in coming to our assistance on the day of the sale. Will Clapham members kindly note that our next Branch meeting has been postponed until Monday evening, Feb. 22?

Croydon—Offices 32a, The Arcade, High Street.

Our third whist drive to assist the funds of the Woman Suffrage National Aid Corps took place on Feb. 6, and proved quite the usual success. Our thanks are due to Miss Allbright, Miss Dickson, Misses M. and K. Stericker, Miss Jessett, Miss Wilmot, Miss Grover and Miss Foster for contributions towards refreshments. A sale of children's garments will be held at one of the elementary schools on Feb. 9.

Dundee.

Our "At Home" at Lamb's Hotel afforded a large number of members and friends the pleasure of meeting Miss Boyle and hearing her very interesting address on woman's work in the national crisis. She spoke of the many-sided relief work that the League is doing under the Woman Suffrage banner, and protested against the attempted infringements on the liberty of women. She declared that it is the want of women at the War Office

to deal with food and clothing which is responsible for the present confusion and waste. She spoke also of the Women Police Volunteers, their training and their work. Great interest and enthusiasm were aroused. Miss Husband was, as always, an excellent chairman.

Edinburgh Suffrage Shop.—90, Lothian Road.

At the public meeting held in the Oddfellows' Hall on Feb. 2, excellent speeches were delivered by the Rev. Dr. Drummond (chairman), Miss Nina Boyle and Lady Ramsay. All three dealt with the attacks made upon women since the war began, and Miss Boyle, in addition, gave a short and interesting account of the work of the Woman Suffrage National Aid Corps. Miss A. B. Jack described the work of the Edinburgh Branch, and her appeal for the Work-room Fund met with a good response. Miss Boyle's pamphlet and THE VOTE had a good sale.

Ipswich

We had a good attendance at our last hospital afternoon, two or three non-members joining us. Tea will be provided on these occasions, and profits will go to the funds. We are also to have a Roll of Honour in our club-room with the names of all Suffragists who are working in connection with the war and our Woman Suffrage National Aid Corps. The last history lecture was better attended. The subject of the next is "Germany"; and please wear your badges!

Kilmarnock.

A meeting was held on Feb. 4 at which Mrs. Crawford presided, and Miss Boyle and Miss Eunice Murray spoke. Miss Boyle dealt with woman's position during the war, and insisted that she must not sit down under injustice and oppression. Miss Murray showed that it was more necessary than ever to keep the Suffrage flag flying; any consideration women had received, such as the proposed increase in the pensions for soldiers' and sailors' widows, was the direct outcome of the Suffrage agitation.

Middlesbrough. Suffrage Centre—231a, The Arcade, Linthorpe-road.

At a business meeting on Feb. 1 Mrs. Barrett gave a report on the financial position of the Branch; Miss A. Mahony reported on the sales of merchandise in the shop; Miss Hayton reported on the street sales of THE VOTE, and asked for a special VOTE subscription. Mrs. Rees reported on subscriptions received for the Suffrage Centre, and Miss L. Mahony gave a report of the work done by the Children's

LADIES' TAILOR
& FURRIER.

By a Cutter and Fitter

from

MARSHALL

and

SNELGROVE,
LTD.

Maison Dore
DE PARIS. SALE NOW ON.

COSTUMES

From £3 13s. 6d.

Coat Lined Silk.

5, OLD QUEBEC STREET,
OXFORD STREET, W.

(5 Doors from Marble Arch

DRESSMAKER

Tube Station).

FORTHCOMING EVENTS : W.F.L.

LONDON AND SUBURBS.

DARE TO BE
FREE.

mission 1/- (reserved seats) and 6d.; tickets from the W.F.L. Office, 1, Robert-st., Adelphi.

Saturday, February 20.—W.S.N.A.C. JUMBLE SALE; N. Kensington Baptist Church, Cornwall-rd.; 2 p.m.

Monday, February 22.—CLAPHAM BRANCH MEETING; 1, Imperial Mansions, Bromells-rd.; 8 p.m.

Wednesday, February 24.—PUBLIC MEETING; Suffrage Club, 3, York-st., Jermyn-st., Piccadilly, W.; 3.30 p.m.; speakers, Mr. Laurence Housman, "Home Truths in War Time," and Miss Nina Boyle.

Wednesday, March 3.—PUBLIC MEETING; Suffrage Club, 3, York-st., Jermyn-st., Piccadilly, W.; 3.30 p.m.; speakers, Lady Muir Mackenzie, "Mrs. St. Clair Stobart's Hospital," and Miss Anna Munro.

Thursday, March 4.—PUBLIC MEETING; Wirtemberg Hall, Wirtemberg-st., near The Plough, Clapham; speakers, Mrs. Despard and Miss Boyle; chair, Miss St. Clair; 3.30 p.m.

Friday and Saturday, March 11 & 12.—Caxton Hall, Cafe Chantant, 3.30 till 10 p.m.

PROVINCES.

Monday, February 15.—MIDDLESBROUGH; Public Meeting; 8 p.m.; speakers, Mrs. Coates-Hansen and Mr. J. C. Allen, on "The Housing Problem."

Tuesday, February 16.—SOUTHSEA; Members' Meeting; 17, Lombard-st., 7.30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 17.—MIDDLESBROUGH; Whist Drive; Suffrage Centre; 7.30 p.m.; tickets, 6d. SOUTHSEA; Sewing Meeting; 17, Duncan-rd.; hostess, Mrs. Speck.

Thursday, February 18.—READING BRANCH MEETING; Palmer Hall (Parlour); 8 p.m.; Mrs. Guy, on "Some Heroines of History"; chair, Miss E. Clark.

Monday, February 22.—MIDDLESBROUGH; Public Meeting; 8 p.m.; speaker, Mr. A. B. Crow, subject "A Scheme for Political and International Re-construction."

Wednesday, February 24.—PORTSMOUTH; Suffrage Tea; Suffrage Rooms, Kent-rd.; 4 to 5 p.m.; guest, Mrs. Despard. PORTSMOUTH; Public Meeting; Portsea Parish Institute; 8 p.m.; speaker, Mrs. Despard; chair, Mrs. Whetton.

Monday, March 1.—MIDDLESBROUGH; Business Meeting; Suffrage Centre; 8 p.m.

Monday, March 1.—BOURNEMOUTH; Open-air Meeting; Miss Eunice Murray; 3.30 p.m. MIDDLESBROUGH; Business Meeting; Suffrage Centre; 8 p.m.

Tuesday, March 2.—BOURNEMOUTH; Public Meeting; Freedom Hall, Loughtonhurst, West Cliff Gardens; Miss Eunice Murray; 3 p.m.

Wednesday, March 3.—SOUTHAMPTON; Public Meeting; Morris Hall; Miss Eunice Murray; 8 p.m.

Friday, March 5.—BRIGHTON; Public Meeting; Miss Eunice Murray.

Monday, March 8.—MIDDLESBROUGH; "At Home"; Miss Winifred M. Jones will read her new Play, "The Inexorable Truth"; musical programme, arranged by Miss Jessie Ward; 8 p.m.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Sunday, February 14.—KINGSTON HUMANITARIAN SOCY.; Fife Hall, Fife-rd., Kingston-on-Thames; 7 p.m.; Miss Nina Boyle, subject "Women and War."

Wednesday, March 3.—FULHAM GROUP OF INDIVIDUALISTS; Tynholm Hall; 8.30; Miss Anna Munro, "Women's Outlook on Peace and War."

Thursday, March 4.—WOMEN'S CO-OPERATIVE GUILD MEETING; Friends' Meeting House, Station-rd., Wood Green; 2.30 p.m.; Miss Anna Munro.

Make the home bright by using
William CLARKE & SON'S
COAL.
SPLENDID VALUE.
Prices on Application.

341, Gray's Inn Road, King's Cross, W.C. Phone 3650 North.

BRANCH NOTES—continued from page 498.

Clothing Committee. Last Saturday, in spite of the bad weather which prevented street selling earlier in the day, Miss Hayton sold a good number of VOTES in Stockton, before the darkness made further sales impossible. (No lights are now allowed in the streets of the towns in the vicinity of the N.E. coast.) We hope to have a good attendance at the Suffrage Centre next Monday, when representatives from the Housing Council—Mrs. Coates Hansen and Mr. J. C. Allen—will speak. As a special enquiry by the Local Government Board is being held this week on the question of housing in Middlesbrough, this meeting should be of particular interest to our members.

Paisley.

A public meeting was held in the Lesser Central Hall on Feb. 1, at which Miss Eunice Murray presided and spoke of the work done by the Woman Suffrage National Aid Corps. Miss Nina Boyle gave a stimulating and informative address, emphasising the duty of Suffragists to keep their Cause before the country; she spoke strongly against the injustices meted out to women during the national crisis. Her witty remarks were highly appreciated by the audience. Three new members were enrolled. THE VOTE was sold and a good collection taken. On Jan. 22 we held a social meeting in the Central Hall. Miss Allison presided and gave a short account of the work done by Dr. Ross, our Branch president, on the Continent. Miss Shennan gave an interesting address. Tea was provided, and a musical programme was rendered by Messrs. Jack and Hugh Young and Master Cheyne. The Rev. Walter Spencer, in proposing a vote of thanks, spoke on the need of enfranchising women.

Portsmouth and Gosport.

To enable members and friends to meet Mrs. Despard, when she visits Portsmouth on Feb. 24, a Suffrage tea has been arranged at the Suffrage Rooms, Kent-road. Tickets will be served from 4 to 5 o'clock, after which Mrs. Despard will make a short speech. For particulars of the evening meeting see Forthcoming Events.

Reading.

A well-attended and thoroughly enjoyable social was held on Feb. 2 in the Lodge-room, Palmer Hall. Miss Dorothy Brudenell was responsible for a capital programme, the following friends taking part:—Miss Baker, songs; Mrs. Ray, pianoforte solos; Miss Ray, 'cello solos; Miss Brudenell, recitations; Master Willie Strange, pianoforte solos; Mr. Grigg, songs. Mr. Percy White kindly accompanied

THE NEW MODEL
ROYAL STANDARD
TYPEWRITER No. 10.

The No. 10 ROYAL is the latest development in Typewriter achievement.

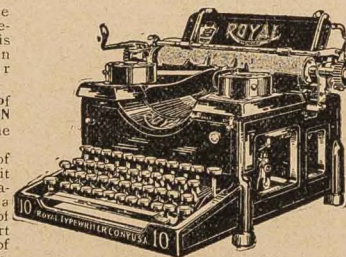
We claim for it ABSOLUTE PRE-EMINENCE in the following essential details of the Modern Visible Writing Machine.

1st. SPEED.
It is capable of faster operation than is possible on any other make.

2nd. EASE OF OPERATION
Owing to the extreme lightness of the touch it can be operated with a minimum of manual effort on the part of its operator.

3rd. STENCIL CUTTING.
As a cutter of beautiful stencils it has no equal on the market.

4th. MANI- FOLDING.
The most powerful manifold. Twenty copies can be made at one operation.



On the above claims we challenge comparison with any and all of our competitors.

If you contemplate improving your typewriter equipment, send for a ROYAL No. 10 for a week's free trial.

VISIBLE WRITING MACHINE Co., Ltd.,
75a Queen Victoria St., London, E.C.

Telephone—CITY 7892.

THE VOTE

Organ of the Women's Freedom League.

the songs and 'cello solos. We are much indebted to Mrs. Lines for so ably undertaking the refreshment part in addition to the literature, merchandise and VOTE sales; also our best thanks are due to Mrs. Arthur Broadley for presiding, and to the friends who sold tickets.

West Hampstead.

A drawing-room meeting was held on Feb. 3 at 33, Minster-road, by kind permission of Mrs. Copey. Miss Underwood and Miss A. A. Smith were the speakers, and Miss Copey ably presided. Miss Underwood gave a charming address on the methods and work of the League, and emphasised the value of our Branches and their help to Headquarters. Miss A. A. Smith spoke of the scheme for organising "The Despard Arms" in Camden Town, originated by the N. London Branches. It is proposed to open a novel public-house for men and women for rest, refreshments and cheap meals; magazines, games, etc., will be provided. Considerable enthusiasm was aroused by this scheme, and four new members were obtained for West Hampstead.

"IN MY JUDGMENT, EQUAL SUFFRAGE IS THE GREATEST MOVEMENT ON EARTH TO-DAY," declared the Rev. E. Ellsworth Shumaker, before a recent meeting of the Congregational ministers, in Pilgrim Hall, Boston, U.S.A. "Equal Suffrage for men and women is greater than all the other humanitarian movements," he added, "not excepting temperance, the social service or the conservation of child life, for there is nothing so promising for the conservation of human life as Woman Suffrage."

THE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

BRITISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL UNIT FOR SERBIA.

MEETING at the KENSINGTON TOWN HALL,
FRIDAY, 12th FEBRUARY, 1915, 3 p.m.
Speakers: Mrs. ST. CLAIR STOBART and Mrs. J. L. CATHER.
Chair: Mr. F. SHERWELL COOPER.

TICKETS: Reserved 2/6; Unreserved 1/6 and 6d.; may be obtained from C.L.W.S. Office, 6, York Building, Adelphi, W.C.; and the Women's Imperial Service League, 39, St. James's Street, W.

WAR

From the Land where Women have Votes.

"VUNDI"

The great Australian Cure for Rheumatism, Lumbago, Gout, Sciatica and all Uric Acid Troubles. The whole of the profits have been handed to us during the war for the benefit of the Women Suffrage National Aid Corps.

See Circulars and help NOW.

Price for cream or tablets 1/1½ and 2/9 plus postage.

If you suffer in the way indicated send a trial order to—

THE VUNDI REMEDIES CO.,
c/o The Women's Suffrage National Aid Corps,
2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

Islington Dental Surgery.

60, UPPER STREET, N.

Mr. CHODWICK BROWN, Surgeon Dentist,

Mr. Fredk. G. Boucher, Assistant Dental Surgeon.
Established 35 Years.

Gas Administered Daily by qualified Medical Man, Fee 7/6.
Nurse in attendance. Mechanical Work in all its Branches.
Send Postcard for Pamphlet. N.B.—No Showcase at door.
CONSULTATIONS FREE. Telephone 3795 North.

SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES' MEETINGS.

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE hold PUBLIC MEETINGS at THE SUFFRAGE CLUB, 3, York Street, Jermyn Street, Piccadilly, every Wednesday afternoon. Speakers: Feb. 17, Mrs. Baillie, B.Sc., on "New Values," and Miss Anna Munro. Admission free. Collection. Buy THE VOTE, 1d. weekly.

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE announce a DISCUSSION MEETING at the Suffrage Club, 3, York-st., Jermyn-st., Piccadilly, on Friday, Feb. 19, at 8 p.m. Speaker: Mr. W. L. George. Subject: "The Break-up of the Home." Discussion. Admission: 1/- (reserved) and 6d. Tickets from Women's Freedom League Office, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C.

BOARD-RESIDENCE. Rooms, Holiday Homes, &c.

AT THE STRAND IMPERIAL HOTEL, opposite Gaiety Theatre, Strand, London. — Absolute Privacy, Quietude and Refinement.—Ladies will find the freshest, warmest, daintiest, cosiest quarters. Sumptuous Bedroom with h. and c. water fitted. Breakfast, Bath, Attendance and Lights, from 5s. 6d. En pension, 9s. For long stays, special terms. Finest English provisions.—MANAGERESS, 4788 Gerrard

MISCELLANEOUS.

UNDERCLOTHING (by hand or machine), BLOUSES, etc., properly and strongly MADE at Most Reasonable Prices. Ladies' Own Material Made Up, or patterns submitted. All kinds of mending undertaken.—Mrs. S., care of THE MINERVA PUBLISHING CO., LTD., 2, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C.

IN MEMORIAM.

Many members of the League will regret exceedingly to hear of the death of Mrs. Patrick Grant. She was one of the first members of Edinburgh Branch; during the "split" she was hon. secretary, and by her wise guidance brought every member out on the side of democracy. She was also secretary during the Great March of Scottish Women, who in their thousands marched from the King's Park to the Synod Hall, where was held the largest Suffrage meeting Edinburgh has ever seen. For health reasons, the South of England was her home the past three years, but being anxious to brace herself, if possible, she determined to try this winter amongst us. She was keenly interested in our workroom, and did excellent service for the Red Cross, but the rigours of our northern climate proved too severe for her, and she succumbed last week to her old enemy, bronchitis. We shall miss her very much; to all of us she was a good friend and to the League a very valuable member.

A. B. J. (Edinburgh).

Many London members will learn with deep regret of the death of Mrs. Crummev. Both she and her late husband were staunch supporters of our Cause in the early days of our League, and on February 18, 1909, Mrs. Crummev was sentenced to one month's imprisonment for attempting to take a resolution from Caxton Hall to the Prime Minister urging that votes for women should be included in the King's speech. To Mrs. Crummev's daughters and son we would express our heartfelt sympathy in the loss they have sustained.

WOMEN WHO WORK **MAPLETON'S**
with hand or head need in their food the maximum of nourishment with the minimum of trouble. Send for our new list, with food tables, &c., post free on request from (Mention this paper.)
MAPLETON'S. GARSTON, LIVERPOOL.



Arthur's Stores, 120, Westbourne Grove, W,
FOR GENERAL PROVISIONS AND HIGH CLASS CONFECTIONERY.

All cakes and pastries made of the finest ingredients by our own bakers. TRIAL EARNESTLY SOLICITED.

Our Motors deliver daily in the following neighbourhoods: Hampstead, Golder's Green, Hendon, Mill Hill, Garden City Hampstead, Cannon's Park, Putney, Barnes, Kew and Bedford Park.

Holland House Laundry,

BURMESTER ROAD, LOWER TOOTING.

Mrs. PIPER, Proprietress. Telephone: Wimbledon 504.

A FAMILY LAUNDRY, under Distinguished Patronage
MY PRICES ARE MODERATE.

Customers of over 20 years' standing.

TO LET.

FURNISHED BEDROOM; breakfast, bath, and attendance; 18s. per week.—Apply, after 1.30, 9, Museum Chambers, Bury-st., W.C.

TEA.—Everyone appreciates a good Cup of Afternoon Tea. We now have a very special brand, fragrant and digestive. Price 1/7 a lb. Send for a trial ¼-lb., which will be sent post free as an advertisement.—The Minerva Publishing Co., Ltd., 2, Robert-st., Adelphi, W.C.

HASLUCK'S ACADEMY, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C. Elocution, Public Speaking, Acting, Stage and Ball-room Dancing, Singing. Evening Classes, from 7/6 per quarter. Day, £1/1/- Private Lessons, 3 for £1/1/- Call, write or 'phone (2383 Gerrard).—SAM L. HASLUCK, Director.