

Men's League for Women's Suffrage.

MONTHLY PAPER.

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No. 17.

Price to Non-Members, 1d. monthly (including postage).

FEBRUARY, 1911.

NOTE THESE DATES.

FEBRUARY 4th.

**SOCIAL GATHERING OF
MEMBERS AND FRIENDS.**

AT

CRITERION RESTAURANT

(GRAND HALL.) 2.30-5.

FEBRUARY 20th.

GREAT DEMONSTRATION

AT

QUEEN'S HALL, LONDON.

THE SITUATION.

NEXT Monday the new Parliament will set about the business of its first Session. We cannot say accurately how many of the members are genuinely in favour of extending the just right of citizenship and the consequent recognition of personality to women. The number has been estimated at 407, but nominal supporters vary considerably in zeal, if not in honesty, and we fear that this figure must include some small proportion of the traitors who are found in all movements, protesting their belief in the cause, but doing their utmost to ruin any practicable proposal. They shelter themselves under some vamped up excuse, or call upon the name of democracy to cover them; but their real object is either to defeat the movement at all costs, or to cling to their seats and maintain their narrow and unrepresentative party in power.

Yet, no matter what deduction must be made for obvious traitors or weak-kneed supporters, there is no doubt a great majority of the House of Commons who are genuinely in favour of granting women the vote on such terms as members of both sides of the House will approve. If we were really governed by a representative assembly, that would be sufficient. But, as every one knows, we are governed by a secret and self-appointed Cabal of Ministers, to whom women as well as men are forced to pay large salaries. It is this Cabal which arranges the course of legislation and the business of Parliament, and unless a measure is introduced by one of their number, its chances of even

gaining a hearing are small. It is believed that even the eight nights to which private members have a customary right in a session, are to be taken from them this year. Whether this new infringement of democratic principles is due to the growth of the Cabal's tyranny or to their embittered dread of another Suffrage debate, we do not know.

Till Mr. Asquith makes his statement or answers questions upon the subject, we cannot tell what chance of success may await the Conciliation Bill, or some similar measure. All voters should call upon their representatives to ballot for it. But if the Government persists in depriving every representative but themselves of his rights, we must wait our opportunity. It may come quite unexpectedly, as it came last year. The readiness is all, and members of the Conciliation Committee must receive every possible support and encouragement.

Meantime, as we noticed last month, the Government's own programme will almost certainly include Payment of Members, and probably the abolition of Plural Voting, and some scheme for Invalidity Insurance. We do not wish to limit women's interests to what are called home affairs. Their interests are bound up in such measures as the Veto Bill and Home Rule, to say nothing of foreign politics. But these three measures that we mentioned certainly affect women very closely. Insurance will touch their housekeeping money. To abolish Plural Voting is to introduce a new Reform Bill, in which they must have part. And how members of Parliament will consent to live on money filched out of women's pockets without their leave or consent passes our sense of decent honesty.

For all these special reasons, besides the general arguments of justice and self-government, we call upon the men of the country to come forward in active support of the most vital issue now demanding legislation. We invite them to work through the Men's League as their instrument. And for immediate assistance, let them come to our assembly at the Criterion on Saturday, February 4th, at 2.30, and, above all, let them make a point of attending the Queen's Hall meeting on Monday, February 20th, at 8. It is hoped that distinguished members of Parliament from all parties will speak on that occasion, and it is a good omen that we have already secured two new and most promising Members in Sir Harry Verney (Liberal) and Mr. George Lansbury (Labour).

We deeply regret that to the death of Mrs. Pankhurst's sister, Mrs. Mary Clarke, we have now to add the death of Miss Henria Williams as a loss to the cause. In Sir Charles Dilke Women's Suffrage has also lost a genuine supporter. It was he who introduced the clause conferring the municipal franchise on women ratepayers in 1869, and in that sense he may be called the originator of the present Conciliation Bill, which follows the main lines of the municipal franchise. We believe also that Dr. John Paton of Nottingham, founder of the Lingfield Industrial Colony, and many other schemes for social progress, was strongly in favour of our movement. He died on the same day as Sir Charles Dilke.

H. W. N.

THE WORK OF THE LEAGUE.

WE are now in the new offices at Westminster, the League having outgrown its old home in Museum Street. Of course we expect an increase of members with the increase of work, and we are not going to be disappointed. There are enormous numbers of men who are unattached Suffragists, and these can be brought into the camp of the Men's League if our members are alert. We are near the end of this great agitation, and it depends a good deal on the pressure men bring to bear on members of Parliament how soon the end is to come. The stronger the Men's League the greater the pressure, and the earlier the date when women will be enfranchised. Therefore get members for the League and hasten the passing into law of a Suffrage Bill.

WHAT MEMBERS CAN DO.

A GOOD many of our members are content to pay their shilling or more a year and leave the League to go its way. Now this really won't do at all. It is absurd that the work of an organization like ours should be left to—let us say, 50 or 100 men. Our country members in solitary places might get up Suffrage meetings, and ask us to send a speaker. Our London members could form local groups and rope in outsiders. The average man is now quite favourable to Women's Suffrage, and the business of the Men's League is to make this favourable public opinion effective in the constituencies. Keep Women's Suffrage before the attention of your M.P. Never let him forget that voters want this question settled. The natural modesty of the male must be overcome, and the Men's Leaguers are the people to set the pace.

PLATFORM WORK.

IN another column can be seen what our speakers are doing. The list is not complete, but it gives some idea of the amount of platform work done by members of the League. Our speakers are always at the call of other Suffrage Societies, and are equally ready to champion "votes for women" in political clubs and debating societies. But to meet the demand we need a larger supply, and I hope those of our members who can speak, and whose names are not in the list, will write at once to the office. One or two of our speakers have done practically no platform work in the last 12 months; now is the time for them to send in their names, so that when applications for speakers come in we can tell where to turn.

WHO WILL PAY ?

THE removal has run the League into a good deal of unavoidable expense, and an excellent opportunity now offers for members and friends to pay for some of these items:—

Telephone	£6 10 0
Telegraphic address	1 1 0
Office screen	2 8 0
Furniture—chairs and tables	2 16 0
Desk and more chairs	4 10 0
Type-writer (second-hand)	5 5 0
Shelves	1 13 0
Various Carpenter's work	1 0 0

Please choose the article you would like to pay for and send the money along. If you call at the office (hours 10 to 6, Saturdays 10 to 1) you will see the things for yourself, and be satisfied of the value for your money.

THE QUEEN'S HALL MEETING.

THE annual Queen's Hall Meeting is fixed for February 20th, and the great thing is to make this as far as possible a Men's Demonstration. Why shouldn't every London member make a point of securing the attendance of one other man at least—especially an unconverted or indifferent person? At the same time, of course, the meeting is not confined to men only. The speakers are not definitely fixed yet, but invitations have been sent to Lord Selborne, and to a number of Members of Parliament: including Sir J. Rolleston, W. Roch, G. A. Touche, E. H. Pickersgill, W. Redmond, George Lansbury, Ellis Griffith W. Ormsby-Gore, and Sir Harry Verney. The Rev. Ivory Cripps and the Dean of Norwich have also been asked to speak, and we hope Miss Ethel Clegg will sing 'The Awakening' before the speeches are made. Tickets, handbills, and posters will be ready

this week, and should be applied for at once. Stewards will be required for the meeting, and Mr. Malcolm Mitchell asks for volunteers for this important part of the proceedings.

THE SOCIAL GATHERING ON FEB. 4.

MR. REGINALD POTT and the General Purposes Committee of the League are inviting members and friends to a social gathering in the Grand Hall, of the Criterion Restaurant (Piccadilly Circus) next Saturday afternoon, February 4th. There is a general feeling that we don't meet often enough, and that we ought to know each other better. All the members of the Executive hope to be present, and short speeches will be made by Mr. Nevinson, Mr. Brailsford, and the Honorary Secretaries. We expect a good muster for this, and we particularly want non-members to be brought as guests. It's a first-rate chance for making the work and character of the League known to sympathetic male Suffragists and no less to unsympathetic Antis. So bring them along. The doors open at 2.30, tea will be provided (without charge) at 4.15, and smoking will be allowed. What more can we say?

THE MONTHLY PAPER.

OUR monthly paper is the organ of the League, but it can be sent to non-members, and we welcome additional subscribers. The price is only 1s. post free for a year, and the notices of events are worth the money alone. Besides, it's a good thing to let as many people as possible know what men are doing for Women's Suffrage. Members who are too shy for platform work, and shrink from publicity, can at least order the monthly paper, and some of the pamphlets mentioned on the last page, to be sent to their friends who may be doubtful on the question, or to clubs and reading-rooms. Please think of any one you know, and let us have names and addresses, with a shilling or two for the literature.

To make this monthly paper as useful as possible, will members kindly notify to us their changes of address; and date and place of any meetings they may be speaking at. Also will they send us cuttings from local papers giving reports of Suffrage meetings, or letters to editors, so that we may be able to publish a fairly complete record every month of what the League is doing.

ADVERTISEMENTS FOR THE PAPER.

WHILST we are mentioning the monthly paper it is as well to say something about advertisements. We are quite willing to fill the last page with special standing advertisements at a cheap rate: 12 insertions, 1 in. for 21s., or 6 insertions for 12s. 6d. In a paper like this the advertisements get read, and it ought not to be a difficult matter to find 20 items for insertion. One of our members, a Scotsman, a graduate, and a certificated teacher, who is thinking of opening a private school some time this year, has taken the first space in the present number, and we commend his example to all our friends.

SPECIAL ARTICLES.

AS the advertisements encroach on our space, we have decided to publish every month—on a separate sheet, in leaflet form—a special article by one of the many writers attached to the Suffrage Movement. There is a brilliant array of literary talent and genius in the ranks of the Suffrage Army—we have only to mention such names as Israel Zangwill and Laurence Housman—both active Men's Leaguers—and Edward Carpenter, R. B. Cunningham Graham, Thomas Hardy, John Masefield, William de Morgan, Eden Philpotts, W. Pett Ridge, Henry Salt, and a host of sympathizers, to realize this, and we can promise our readers that these articles will be worthy of the writers. It is to the credit of the men of letters in England—novelists, playwrights, poets, and essayists,—that with very few exceptions they all stand firm for Women's Suffrage; and this atones in some way for the misrepresentations and other shortcomings of the press. Excluding *The Manchester Guardian*, *The Nation*, *The Morning Post*, and *The Christian Commonwealth*, it is hard to find any fair or adequate account of the Suffrage Movement in our leading dailies and weeklies. This monthly sheet of ours will at least describe what the Men's League is doing, and our readers must buy one of the women's papers—*Votes for Women*, *Common Cause*, and *The Vote*, 1d. each weekly, for the rest of the story. J. C.

THE ACTIVITIES OF OUR MEMBERS.

MEETINGS ADDRESSED BY MEN'S LEAGUE SPEAKERS IN JANUARY.

JAN. 18.	New Constitutional Society.	Cecil Chapman, J.P.
" 18.	" " "	Cholmeley, R.F.
" 23.	Windsor N.U.	"
" 19.	Wimbledon, W.S.P.U.	Clayton, Joseph
" 19.	Caxton Hall, W.F.L.	Cockburn, Sir John
" 30.	Church League for Women's Suffrage.	"
" 19.	Chiswick, W.S.P.U. (Debate).	East, H.
" 25.	Chesham, N.U.	Kennedy, James
" 24.	Muswell Hill N.U.	Mitchell, J. Malcolm
" 31.	Canonbury Prog. Labour Party.	"
" 6.	Actresses' Franchise League.	Nevinson, H. W.
" 25.	Kensington W.S.P.U.	"
" 7.	Redhill, W.S.P.U.	Pott, R. H.
" 20.	Hassocks N.U.	"
" 25.	Woking Village Institute.	"

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS.

FEB. 1.	Kensington, W.S.P.U.	Clayton, Joseph
" 2.	Holloway Ethical Society, Debate.	Gugenheim, Th.
" 18.	Tunbridge Wells N.U.	Kennedy, J. Y.
" 9.	Caxton Hall, W.F.L.	Mitchell, J. Malcolm
" 4.	Criterion, Men's League.	Nevinson, H. W.
" 9.	Stepney I.L.P.	Pott, R. H.

IN addition to these meetings several of our members are engaged in Suffrage work in other societies.

Mr. H. N. Brailsford is always at work with his Parliamentary Conciliation Committee.

Mr. Frank Rutter, Mr. Victor Duval, Mr. Cameron-Swan, Mr. J. and Mr. F. R. Henderson are the moving spirits in the Men's Political Union, and the Rev. Claud Hinscliff is the indefatigable secretary of the Church League for Women's Suffrage.

Capt. Gonne is energetic in the Committee for Justice to Women, but there is no room to mention all Capt. Gonne's activities.

Mr. Laurence Housman has been reading his censored play 'Pains and Penalties' for the Men's League in Liverpool and elsewhere, and Mr. Frank Witty, the Assistant Secretary, has been singing his inimitable Suffrage songs at various W.S.P.U. entertainments.

THE TREASURY.

WE have received the following sums for the League from January 1st to 26th, the time for going to press.

SPECIAL DONATIONS.	
Lieut. J. L. Cather, R.N.	£1 0 0
Miss Rosalind Paget	0 10 0
R. H. Pott (for new offices)	25 0 0
Stuart Woodham	0 5 0
Max Bellows	0 2 0
Jacob Wood	1 1 0
G. H. Hooper (new offices)	5 0 0
Transferred from I.L.P.	0 12 0
J. MacDonald	0 2 6
	33 12 6
Members' Subscriptions	6 0 6
Sale of Literature	1 4 0
Monthly Paper—Subscriptions	0 1 6
Monthly Paper—Advertisements	0 12 6
	£41 11 0

WE ought to get a marked advance all round—donations, subscriptions, and literature sales—next month to meet the increase of expenditure.

GOLDFINCH BATE, *Hon. Treasurer.*

THE COMPETITION.

THE sheet enclosed with this monthly paper is not a cross between Form 4 and a census paper.

But there are three equally good reasons why you should take the necessary pains to fill it up, or some of it, and for our sakes do it in good time.

Firstly, we hope to put your answers to excellent use; some selections at once, others at suitable intervals.

Secondly, the effort we ask of you will be good for your own powder and shot—no need to keep the powder too dry!

Thirdly, it will show that you mean to encourage these experiments and give us real help in this and other ways.

Some may feel that sending the shilling or a larger sum at this juncture will be the greater part of the service. That really is not so. The member who offered us the prizes set the example of giving us far more than five-and-twenty shillings of work (on a Cradley Heath wage calculation), and only provided the prizes so as to give the scheme a pleasant fillip and encourage every member to get in touch with the Head Office.

We have been asked what sort of comment we expect in the third column. Well! there is scope for talent! We lay down no rule. Perhaps the comment will be explanatory or rhetorical, perhaps humorous, perhaps antifid: for unconscious humour the type of answer an Anti-Suffragist would make, or perhaps has made, on various phases of the Votes for Women question is hard to beat. In the sheets eventually prepared for distribution this comment-column will still be blank, so that we may all tempt our Anti friends, or wobblers, or sympathisers, to make their own remarks there at leisure, and perhaps sign the membership form on the back.

The cases will in some way suggest their source, and will be moderate in price so that members may get friends to buy them.

As, however, our opponents always give their case away, some of us may well feel we can hardly do less.

On no account forget the shilling; and don't be nervous about sending more. It will be well expended. R. H. P.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB.

WE must congratulate the International Women's Franchise Club on opening its new premises in No. 9, Grafton Street (close to Dover Street Tube Station). The Club consists of two large and two smaller club-rooms, together with kitchen and cloak-rooms. Lord Lytton is the President, Mr. Goldfinch Bate the hon. treasurer, and Miss Cicely Corbett the hon. secretary. We also wish to remind our readers that the League's offices are now removed to 159, St. Stephen's House (close to Westminster Bridge) and that Mr. Joseph Clayton is at work there during office hours as Hon. Organizing Secretary.

"Votes for Women would lead to happier marriages."—*R. H. Pott* at Hassocks.

Mr. Joseph Clayton is contributing a series of articles on 'Militant Methods in History' to "Votes for Women."

TEACHER, experienced, Certificated M.A. of Edinburgh. Deeply interested in W.S. movement, would like to OPEN SMALL PRIVATE BOARDING and DAY SCHOOL. People interested in this will receive particulars and Prospectus on application to "No. 17," MEN'S LEAGUE OFFICES, 159, St. Stephen's House, Westminster, S.W.—[ADVT.]

G R E A T

Men's League Demonstration

AT

QUEEN'S HALL, Langham Place.

FEBRUARY 20th, 1911.

SPEAKERS INVITED:

ELLIS GRIFFITH, M.P.	G. A. TOUCHE, M.P.
RIGHT HON. VISCOUNT SELBORNE.	
E. H. PICKERSGILL, M.P.	W. ORMSBY-GORE, M.P.
G. LANSBURY, M.P.	STEPHEN GWYNN, M.P.
	W. REDMOND, M.P.
SIR HARRY VERNEY, M.P.	W. ROCH, M.P.
LORD ROBERT CECIL.	REV. J. IVORY CRIPPS.
THE VERY REV. RUSSELL WAKEFIELD, DEAN OF NORWICH.	

Tickets, 5s., 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d.

Full particulars on Handbills.

Write to the Men's League Office for Tickets.

Circulate these Men's League

PAMPHLETS.

THE CONCILIATION BILL: An Explanation and Defence. By H. N. BRAILSFORD. 1d.

QUEEN'S HALL MEETING. Speeches by W. H. DICKINSON, M.P., EARL RUSSELL, I. ZANGWILL, Rev. R. J. CAMPBELL, and CANON HICKS (Bishop of Lincoln). 1d.

QUEEN'S HALL MEETING, Speeches by Sir JOHN COCKBURN, SILVESTER HORNE, M.P., H. W. NEVINSON, Mrs. PHILIP SNOWDEN, Sir VICTOR HORSLEY, and H. Y. STANGER, M.P. 1d.

AN OPEN LETTER TO MR. ASQUITH. Full of Facts and Figures concerning the Movement. 1d.

THE DECLARATION OF REPRESENTATIVE MEN IN SUPPORT OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE. Contains the Testimony of more than 300 representative Public Men. 1d.

WHY MEN SHOULD HELP WOMEN IN THEIR CLAIM FOR ENFRANCHISEMENT. By C. V. DRYSDALE, D.Sc. 1d. each. 9d. a dozen. 1s. 3d. for 25. 2s. for 50. 3s. 6d. for 100.

ALL POST FREE.

OTHER LITERATURE.

SUBJECTION OF WOMEN. By JOHN STUART MILL. 6d. net.

ARTICLES OF FAITH. By LAURENCE HOUSMAN. 6d. net.

THE SWORD AND THE SPIRIT. By ISRAEL ZANGWILL. 1d.

WOMAN'S VOTE AND MEN. By HENRY W. NEVINSON. 1d.

MY FAITH IN WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE. By JOHN MASEFIELD. 1d.

EMANCIPATION OF WOMANHOOD. By Rev. J. M. LLOYD THOMAS. 1d.

THE EARL OF LYTTON ON VOTES FOR WOMEN. 1d.

FOR FREEDOM'S CAUSE. An Appeal to Working Men. By RONALD H. KIDD.

ALL POST FREE.