

THE VOTE

(THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE).

VOL. III, No. 58.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1910.

ONE PENNY.

NOTICE.

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

Offices: 148, HOLBORN BARS, E.C.
Telephone: HOLBORN 6191.

Published by W. SPEAIGHT & SONS, 98 & 99, Fetter Lane, E.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 RATES.

United Kingdom ... 6/6 per annum, post free.
Foreign Countries ... 8/8 " " "

"THE VOTE" may be obtained through all Newsagents and at the Bookstalls of Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son.

WHAT WE THINK.

Sops to Cerberus.

The difficulty of acting like a statesman is that it is only a statesman who will understand your point of view. The vulgar herd have an unfortunate trick of expecting the statesman to understand their point of view, and that is why the recent statesmanlike promises of the Government, through the voice of Mr. Asquith, have not met with the success which the originator expected. Cerberus, instead of licking the hand that threw him sops, has shown an unexpected desire to bite as well as bark. The Labour Party are supremely disappointed with the efforts made to mollify them; the Suffragists are, with the exception of those within the precincts of the devoted Women's Liberal Federation, looking with grave suspicion at a promise of legislation which is couched in terms as liable to different meanings as the utterances of the Delphic oracle; and, last but not least, the only people who seem able to be convinced that Mr. Asquith means what we want him to mean, are his opponents and ours. The anti-Suffragists and Mr. F. E. Smith both see danger ahead in the Premier's cryptic promises—both see the Empire rocking, the homes of England lying desolate, while Women's Suffrage, a dread carrion-bird, looms over it all, waiting for its prey. The result will be that Mr. Asquith will have a dangerous time during the General Election—a supper with the Borgias would be less risky in its after-effects.

The Ethics of Interruptions.

As is shown by Mr. Frank Rutter's letter which we publish in this issue, the Chancellor of the Exchequer will only tolerate interruptions and questions which please himself. When Mr. Lloyd George was speaking on Saturday in Scotland, he worked up the feelings of the canny ones against the Peers by saying, "Well, now, why should they think you are incapable of governing yourselves?" At this point, we are told, a lad in the pit shouted, "Why should you think women incapable of governing themselves?" and the proceedings were temporarily stopped while

the boy was thrown out of the building. At this meeting there were many interruptions of the kind that Mr. Lloyd George likes, intensely complimentary to himself, and the interrupters were, of course, encouraged by the small man's appreciation. Mr. Winston Churchill, speaking in Bradford, had also favourable and unfavourable interruptions. Describing the wreckage by the House of Lords of all Bills dealing with great controversial issues between the parties, the Home Secretary was reminded of his own attempt at wrecking, and the author of the reminder was summarily ejected. We also learn that one Alfred Hawkins, who took part in the Suffragist demonstration, "was seized by the stewards, and while he was being ejected down the stairs his ejectors fell on him, with the result that his leg was badly broken." If interruptions are at all allowable, they ought not to be punishable by throwing out or breaking the legs of those whose interruptions one does not like.

The Church and Votes.

To those who deprecate the part taken by Church of England and Congregational clergy in furthering "the cause," the amended prayer recommended by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York to be used during the General Election may be of interest:—

"Most gracious God, we humbly beseech Thee, as for this kingdom in general, so especially at this time for all electors of Members of Parliament, that, remembering their vote to be a trust from Thee, they may faithfully and wisely make choice of fit persons to serve in the great Council of the nation, to the advancement of Thy glory, the good of Thy Church, the safety, honour and welfare of our Sovereign and his dominions."

If the Parliamentary vote is a trust from the Almighty, we see no reason why it should not also—like other Divine trusts—be reposed in us.

More Memorials.

Under the Conciliation Bill, as everybody knows, a woman graduate, *qua* graduate, will not have a vote, yet a memorial has been addressed to Mr. Runciman, President of the Board of Education, by the London Graduates' Union for Women's Suffrage, representing 702 graduates of the University of London, pointing out that they regard the removal of the sex disability as of such paramount importance that they are prepared for the sacrifice entailed on the women graduates by the Bill, and asking that a deputation be received. This memorial has many important signatures, among them Dr. Louisa B. Aldrich-Blake, Dr. Garrett Anderson, Sir J. A. Cockburn, Miss Beatrice Harraden, Sir Victor A. H. Horsley, Mr. Arthur R. Ingpen, Mr. Karl Pearson, Dr. Mary A. D. Scharlieb, and Mr. Israel Zangwill. A memorial from 407 medical women has also been sent to the Prime Minister urging early attention to the claims of the Conciliation Bill. They point out that as they undertake responsible public and private work—fully recognised by the State—they should be enabled to influence legislation "on questions about which their special knowledge particularly fits them to hold an opinion."

MADAM STEER, Theatrical Costumier
and Wig Maker,
22, MAIDEN LANE, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.
Factory: 5, WATERLOO ROAD, S.E.

FANCY COSTUMES Made to Order or Lent on Hire.
THEATRICAL BOOTS AND SHOES MADE TO ORDER.

**WE DON'T THINK,
WE KNOW.**

ROYAL WORCESTER KID FITTING CORSETS are the most perfect in shape and most comfortable in wear, and give that indefinable smartness to the figure which is so charming. For name and address of nearest agent and booklet write to ROYAL WORCESTER WAREHOUSE CO., 19 & 21, Great Portland-street, London, W.

THE LONDON ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

London has a message for Parliament. London demands fair play for the women. It is no use for the politicians, shouting their war-cries, to imagine that they can overcome and silence the voices which call for equal rights and equal justice for women. The Tories are abandoning reluctantly their claims for hereditary right and hereditary rule; the Radicals are clamouring for the rights of democracy. It is time that both parties abandoned their claims for sex-domination, for sex-rule, and recognised that the rights of democracy include the rights of women, and that a democracy which leaves its women disfranchised and outside is a sham, from which no good can come.

This truth must be proclaimed in every corner of London, for now, when politics are in the air, we must see that the simple justice and common-sense of our cause is brought home to every thinking man and woman. This is the seed-time for the new political faith, and we must now sow the seed widely and well. They are wrong who doubt the tremendous force of ideas, and there are no clearer or more logical ideas in the political world of to-day than that women are citizens and should enjoy all the rights and privileges and perform all the duties of citizenship, and that sex should be no barrier to justice. It is these ideas that have sent Mr. Hilaire Belloc and Sir John Rees scurrying out of their seats, and have left Mr. John Massie complaining in the cold. Many another reactionary and pseudo-Liberal will feel the effect at this election; for, whichever side fails, we, at any rate, are going to win.

Thus we advance to the fight for London, to secure the support of London women and London men in our great campaign. We hope to carry the fight into many constituencies, provided we receive the support and assistance the cause demands, and we are already concentrating in several, notably in Battersea and the Hoxton division of Shoreditch.

In Battersea our committee rooms are at 316, Battersea Park-road, and one of our most devoted and most capable workers, Mrs. Taplin, late secretary of the Central London Branch, is our lieutenant. The campaign is being waged against the famous ex-democrat, ex-outlaw, and ex-champion of the working-class, Mr. John Burns, who will find a very active and tireless attack facing him. There is plenty of enthusiasm in Battersea, and we intend to send a message to Parliament and the Government which will cause them to realise that we will not wait until the Greek Kalends for fair play. "Justice delayed is justice denied."

In Hoxton we are fighting the Government's candidate, Dr. C. Addison, who voted against the Conciliation Bill. Here our committee rooms are at 9, Hoxton-street, Shoreditch, and Miss Madge Turner, who worked so well at Walthamstow, sends the following report: "We have opened our campaign with rousing and enthusiastic open-air meetings, attended by large crowds. The members of the Hackney Branch have responded nobly to the appeal for help, cleaning and furnishing the shop in a short time. To-day (Saturday) Miss Bennett, Miss Guttridge, Miss Norris, Miss Eggatt, and Mr. Wilks have spoken at meetings. We poll here on Saturday next, so I appeal for many helpers and speakers for Friday and Saturday. The Hoxton electors are keen and energetic politicians. Please help us with money and personal service; neither will be wasted."

Other Constituencies. Every Branch is working locally, and every branch will receive all the support we can give. The candidates must be visited and interrogated. Canvassing must be done and meetings held, and at every polling booth our slogan, "Keep out the Government's nominee!" must be heard.

Branch secretaries are asked to send reports of their activities for publication in this column.

B. BORRMANN WELLS.

OUR TREASURY.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Amount previously acknowledged	4,228	5	0	Collected	0	7	6
Anonymous	50	0	0	Per General Election—			
Tite, Miss C.	20	0	0	Vulliamy, Mrs.	10	0	0
Gilchrist, Miss Mc.	0	10	0	Battersea	0	2	6
Gilchrist	10	0	0	McGregor, Miss E.			
Hyland, Mrs. R.	5	0	0	Per Office Expenses—			
Fitzsimons, Miss M.	5	0	0	Boxall, Mr.	1	0	0
Balfour, Mrs. S.	5	0	0	Murray, Mrs.	1	0	0
Sidley, J. W., Esq.	3	0	0	Finlayson Gauld,			
Anderson, Miss M.	1	0	0	Mrs. E.	1	0	0
Unna, Mrs. E.	1	0	0	Wood, Miss M. A.	1	0	0
Potter, Miss A.	1	0	0	Per Edinburgh Branch—			
Morgan Browne, Mrs. L.	1	0	0	Affiliation fees	1	0	0
Woolf, Miss J.	0	2	6	Pass Along Form	0	2	0
Mitchell, Mrs. E.	0	16	0	Donation	10	0	0
Duval, Mrs.	0	10	0	Per Miss Fenning's—			
Phillips, Miss R.	0	1	0	Peters, Mr. & Mrs.	0	10	6
Woodward, Miss	0	5	0	Per Mrs. How Mar-			
Branch (affiliation fee)	0	5	0	ty—			
Sargeant, Miss G.	0	5	0	Brighton & Hove			
Hance	0	2	0	Branch	0	3	6
Gentry, Miss A.	0	2	0	Herne Hill Branch	0	5	0
Turton, Miss O.	0	2	6	Stamford Hill			
Murray, Miss E.	0	8	0	Branch	0	10	0
Scattered Members' Branch (affiliation fee)	0	5	0	Per Mrs. Billington Greig—			
De G. Sinel, Mrs. M.	0	4	0	Hay, Mr. & Mrs. E.	0	10	0
Nicholson, Mrs.	0	2	0	Per Mrs. Despard			
Layton, Miss E. C.	0	1	0	(lecture fee)	1	3	6
Sutherland, Mrs.	0	1	0	Per Miss Manning			
Todd, Miss	0	1	0	(Miss E. Murray's Campaign)—			
C.T.O., per Miss Alder	0	2	11	Murray, Miss E.	1	0	0
C.T.O., per Miss King	0	10	6	Dodds, Mrs.	0	10	0
C.T.O., per Miss Vincent	0	1	11	Sale Branch	0	14	0
Per Walthamstow Bye-election—				Manchester Branch	0	3	11
"M.G.Y."	1	0	0	Eccles Branch	0	3	11
Per Miss M. Turner—				Organisation	0	17	8
Arklay, Mrs.	0	5	0	Manning, Miss E.	0	0	6
Bernard K. Jenkins, Mrs.	0	10	6	Per Miss B. Spencer	0	0	8
Wilks, Dr.	0	15	0	Collections and Sales—			
				London	38	14	0
				Manchester—			
				Collection	2	1	4
				Gaskell Hall Meeting (per Mrs. Clegg & Mrs. Wilmott)	2	6	4
				Total	24,410	13	8

I should like to remind our readers that our work during the General Election must be thoroughly well done if it is to produce any result, and for that we need money, every penny that can be spared. Many enthusiastic helpers volunteer for every sort of work, but we must have committee-rooms and shops and advertising, &c., if their energy is to be as effective as it should be, and therefore I beg everyone who sympathises with our cause to contribute to the fund. Every effort is being made to avoid overlapping with other societies and to work in constituencies where our activity will be most felt, and it is hoped that the General Election will be another great advance along the road to enfranchisement.

CONSTANCE TITE.

WELSH CAMPAIGN.

This week has been a record one, even for our campaign in Wales. Every meeting has been thoroughly successful. At Carnarvon, on Monday night, we had a most attentive hearing, and each speaker received a round of applause.

On Tuesday we travelled down to Newtown for the first of the series of indoor meetings which Miss Alix Minnie Clark so kindly arranged for us. Here the large Public Hall was filled to overflowing. Gangways, stage, corridors, ante-rooms—all were crowded with people anxious to hear about our work; nearly as many were turned away from the doors as were able to gain an entrance. *The Montgomery County Times* commented on the immense crowd which assembled to hear us.

At Llanfyllin I was in the chair, and made a clear, definite statement of the policy of the Women's Freedom League, satisfying some of the prominent Radicals, who were largely responsible for the disturbance which took place on the occasion of the last Freedom League meeting in the town, as to our attitude at this critical juncture. Miss Clark made an eloquent plea for Votes for Women.

The next day was Fair day in Llanfyllin, so we took

advantage of this opportunity to hold a most successful open-air meeting before proceeding to Montgomery. Here, again, a large hall was well filled with an expectant and interested audience.

The last of the series of meetings in the Montgomery Boroughs was held on Friday night at Welshpool, where the great Assembly Rooms accommodated over a thousand persons. When we all arrived in the various towns, a little chalking, town-crying, and canvassing put the finishing touch to the splendid work Miss Clark had done for us, and set everyone talking of the Suffragette meeting.

One very good result of these five meetings is this: the Liberal candidate for Montgomery Boroughs, whose views on Woman's Suffrage were distinctly hazy, opened his first speech in the constituency as follows: "He said they would be fighting on the old register, and he would have liked to have had the register put forward so as to get some of those boys up in the gallery in. (Applause.) He would also like to see the hands of the clock put forward in the shape of a Women's Enfranchisement Bill." Saturday found us at Aberdare again, where Miss Jenny Phillips had arranged a second woman's gathering for us. We had a splendid meeting and formed our Aberdare branch, which we hope will do splendid work for us all through the Aberdare Valley.

MARY McLEOD CLEEVE, Hon. Organiser.

CAXTON HALL AT HOME. THE CELLAR FULL OF POLICE.

Westminster is full of nerves since Parliament opened, and the result is seen in the number of police who have been drafted into this district—a state of things which must prove very satisfactory for burglars and enterprising malefactors in other parts of London. Whilst the Caxton Hall meeting was in progress the cellar of the Hall was filled with police "in case they should be wanted," and a visit to the lower regions on the part of some inquiring Suffragists disclosed these guardians of the law indulging in quiet games of bridge until such time as the warning would be given to them by their brethren and inspectors who were on guard upstairs.

But in the Council Chamber there was peace, and the addresses of the afternoon—promised prior to Mr. Asquith's pronouncement—dealt with the question on general grounds. Miss C. V. Tite was in the chair, and the speakers were Mrs. Sudd Brown and Miss Cicely Hamilton.

Mrs. Sudd Brown addressed the meeting on "The Vote from the View Point of the Liberal Woman." In giving her experiences in the Liberal "camp" and the reasons why she left it, Mrs. Brown said she entered the speakers' ranks when very young, and she could remember feeling quite as a child that woman's position was wrong. The first thing in which she saw there was hope for women was in the Women's Liberal Association. She became, after she married, secretary to one of the local women's Liberal associations in London. Then there came the Suffragists, who had an ideal, and they all worked hard for it. Their ideal was to prevent the Women's Liberal Federation from sending organisers down and helping into Parliament men who did not agree with the Women's Suffrage movement. They carried that in the Liberal Federation, and when they carried it they made a great mistake—they thought their work was done and that they could rest on their oars.

The Red Coats of the Militants.

They were just realising the fatal error they had made, when there came the red coats of the militants. Their magnificent resolutions declining to work for the party, either in by-elections or in general government, were thrown on one side, and most of the Federation decided that they would work for the party as they had done hitherto. She, being a woman's woman, could no longer stand it, and she left the party before the last General Election. The Federation had got hide-bound. They had put the cloak of party right round them, and they could not see beyond. But all great reforms, all changes, were evolved from one stage to another, and she

believed that the Liberal Federation and Liberal women had been one stage for the Suffrage movement to pass through.

Disappearance of the "Tin God."

Miss Cicely Hamilton took as her text a phrase from Mr. F. E. Smith's anti-Suffrage speech during the debate on the Conciliation Bill. He said: "If Sappho had never sung, if Joan of Arc had never fought, if Siddons had never played, if George Eliot had never written, the sum of human happiness to which woman has contributed by her womanly faculties would not have been affected." By "human" Mr. Smith had really meant "male" happiness, and therein lay the superficial justice of what he said. They had got to tell the men that they had ceased to satisfy woman's entire existence and no longer filled her life. They had to tell someone who had been their little tin god that they no longer worshipped him, and they must do it as politely and as courteously as they could. They had to tell him that even his kindness and chivalry was not of so much account to them as it was, and that they infinitely preferred to do some things for themselves. They must realise how entirely false had been the conception of the relation of woman to man. It had been assumed that no woman's life was complete until she married, but it was a colossal piece of impudence to say that a human being that the Almighty had put into this world was not finished until the Almighty had called in a man to assist. * * * A full report of Miss Hamilton's address will appear in a future issue.

DUNDEE ELECTION.

Mr. Winston Churchill has promised to receive a deputation from the Women's Freedom League when he arrives for his campaign.

A joint deputation from all Suffrage societies was first requested, but Mr. Churchill evidently had no time to reply. Miss Clunas then wrote on behalf of the League, and received a reply by return of post! Possibly the prompt acceptance was due to the twenty-two letters Miss Clunas wrote ere he agreed to the first deputation. Be that as it may, within the next few days Miss Husband, of the school board and parish council; Miss Grant, of the parish council; and Miss Clunas, will lay our point of view before the Home Secretary, and hear his. Meanwhile, we have started our campaign against him. Our committee rooms are at the Gilfillan Hall. Open-air meetings all day and evening in every part of the constituency, and two large hall meetings, December 2nd, Y.M.C.A., when Mrs. Billington-Greig will speak, and December 6th, Gilfillan Hall, where we hope to have Mrs. Despard.

Good open-air meetings have already been held, but in order to do effective work we must have more workers. A good example has been set by Miss Jack, of Edinburgh, who is giving us her week-ends, and by Mrs. Euan Murray, who comes on Thursday until the election day. Those who cannot come can help financially. Already received: Edinburgh Branch, £5; Miss Janie Allan, £5; Dundee Branch, £7.

67, Murraygate, Dundee. ANNA MUNRO.
Thursday 8th, polling day. Everyone wanted to "man" the polls and demonstrate.

186,
REGENT ST., W.
Naud Barbado
ARTISTIC and
ORIGINAL DRESS
for all occasions.
HAND EMBROIDERIES.
DJIBBAHS, COATS, HATS.

MISS EVA MOORE.

When Miss Eva Moore "came on" at the recent Actresses' and Writers' matinee in the Woman's Pageant as Maria Theresa—one of the fairest amongst many fair women—there was a murmur of admiration and welcome through the Aldwych. The Actresses' Franchise League, of which Miss Moore and her sister, Miss Decima Moore, are prominent members, has done yeoman service in the cause. Besides the readiness with which the members of the League come forward to assist with side-shows wherever there is a big Suffrage fair or bazaar in view, they keep the flag flying by their Thursday meetings at the "Cri," and the brave way they carry their banners in the great processions. The ordinary man in the crowd, whether he confesses it or no, is impressed by the sight of some well-known stage favourite exquisitely dressed, belying every Suffrage caricature and poster, and bravely carrying her own banner, with the rose and green ensigns of the A.F.L., from Cleopatra's Needle to the Albert Hall. Miss Eva Moore long ago won her way into the hearts of theatre-goers by her wit and her beauty, and when she sacrifices her leisure, when she ought to be resting for her evening performance, in these long marches, she does it because it is the only way open to the actress who has not the time to be militant, to demonstrate. To a VOTE representative she talked Suffrage and "shop" recently in her charming dressing-room at the Kingsway, where she was making up for her part of Mrs. George in *Company for George*.

"What led me to take up Suffrage?" said Miss Moore, in answer to a question. "I think I must have been always a Suffragist at heart, but the militants woke me up to the fact first. When militancy first began we all said how dreadful and unnecessary it was, and how we hated it. And the more we talked about it the less we thought it unnecessary and dreadful, and the less we disliked it. There had been quiet Suffrage work going on for forty years, but most of us had never heard of it—it was so largely a movement amongst the intellectuals and the college women, and then this disturbing element came in, and those of us who had hitherto taken no part in Suffrage movements began to group ourselves into new societies, which represented our views and our powers of expressing them."

"You obtained a long list of signatures from actor-managers for the Conciliation Bill?"

"Yes; when the petitions were being got up I went round in a 'taxi' one evening from 7.30 to 11.30, from theatre to theatre, with a petition, getting signatures; and to the credit of our well-known actors and actor-managers, be it said, there were very few refusals. Sir Charles Wyndham was one of the first to sign, and everywhere I met with the greatest sympathy with our demand that this Bill should have its fighting chance. We all know it's not the best Bill for any of us, but we also know that it's the only Bill that has the approval of Suffragists of all sections of the House, and that it is



MISS EVA MOORE (Mrs. H. V. Esmond).

the only likely Bill to get through the House of Lords."

"Everybody has some particular point which is their strong reason for desiring enfranchisement—what is yours, Miss Moore?"

"I want to see justice done to maternity. I'm a mother first of all" (Miss Eva Moore in private life is Mrs. H. V. Esmond, wife of the well-known playwright, and the mother of two beautiful children, "Jack and Jill"), "and I think it is disgraceful the way the State ignores the mother. A father's feelings towards his children may be strong, but Nature, of whom the 'anti's' talk so much, gives the mother prior claims, which the law denies. In the daily papers one constantly reads of the courts handing over custody of the children to their father against the claim of the mother. I should like to see anyone take my children from me!"

"But the fact that the State ignores the claims of the mother is merely a part of the general attitude of Government towards women—that attitude which makes many women sorry to be women."

"There is no need to be sorry for being a woman now; even if the Government still maintains its position of differential treatment, it is bound to change under the pressure that is being brought to bear upon it. In the early Victorian era one had, more or less, to apologise for one's sex, and the mother of many girls was apologetic. But I think this point of view has not been prevalent, unless in isolated cases, for many years. I am one of ten girls, and when the ninth, Decima, was born, my mother said, 'Thank God it's a girl.'"

"But a woman who has to earn her own living hasn't begun to regard her sex as a blessing yet?"

"Perhaps not. I began to earn my own living at fifteen, and I think the woman who has to do this knows a good deal more about life than the plush-bracket people will learn in the whole of their existence, and she realises that

she is handicapped as against her male competitors."

"Plush-bracket people?"

"You know the kind of people I mean—who put hideous, common china cups and saucers on plush brackets away out of reach as if they were something precious; people with a wrong point of view who condemn the unusual on the sole grounds that it has not come into their lives or that of any of their relatives; people who quote always a dead uncle or aunt's opinion who lived in a remote age previous to the incidents that are astounding them. These are 'plush-bracket' people. Women who have to earn their own living very quickly realise that there is not the same amount to be got out of life for them as for a man who used the same exertion. Perhaps my own profession is the one notable exception to the rule that prevails in other careers of less pay for the same work. On the stage a woman is paid according to the desire of the public to see her, and there may sometimes be so great a desire from the other side of the curtain that her salary will be considerably in excess of

the men she is working with. It is the only case where supply and demand are exactly and immediately registered. In other professions the male employer can say that a woman is worth less than a man, and that therefore he pays her less, and he can say this with impunity because the proof is locked in his ledgers, and his employee has not the same power of having her worth known to other employers in the way that the full or empty house tells other managers."

"And women are now amongst the best of our playwrights?"

"Some of the most popular plays that are at present running have been written or adapted by women. It is only comparatively recently that women realised that men were not the only people who had powers, and that a difference in sex did not necessarily mark a difference in mentality."

"Do you read all the MSS. that budding playwrights send in to you?" (There was a pile of neat typewritten MSS. on Miss Moore's writing-table that appeared to be hungering for perusal.)

"Yes, everything. The 'great unacted' always get read, though they are inclined to think they don't because they don't always get accepted. No one can afford not to read the plays that are sent in for fear of missing something quite good. Only recently, in Glasgow, I was trying a short play at one of the halls that came in to me in this way, and I shall appear in it presently, in London. The great fault with most of the plays that are sent in to us is that the writers are absolutely ignorant of stage technique and consequently construct impossible situations."

"When did you first become an actress, Miss Moore?"

"I began with J. L. Toole, and was a leading lady right off in some of his repertoire plays. We used to have a 'triple bill,' and it was a splendid training. Perhaps it was a trifle galling sometimes—the triple bill I mean. One came on as the dashing heroine in one piece and was the 'darling of the boys,' and in the next one might be a grubby servant girl."

"Your favourite parts?"

"Katie in *Old Heidelberg*, and 'Mabel Vaughan' in Mr. Esmond's *The Wilderness*; but I like most of my parts. 'Mrs. George' is a change. I've been playing aggrieved wives for quite a long time past, and I think my audience have forgotten that I have dimples."

"But anyone who has seen 'Mrs. George's' dimples could not easily forget them. They were looking particularly attractive at that moment reflected in the mirror as 'Mrs. George' put on her charming blue ear-rings preparatory to answering the call-boy's demand for her presence at breakfast."

"Is the breakfast real, Miss Moore? The tea looks so good."

"Yes, it's quite real and the tea is good! Sometimes we have splendid meals on the stage. In *Killicrankie* we had a four-course dinner, and the only drawback to it was that every course was sponge-cake!"

And with a final look at her delightful reflection in the glass, Miss Moore "went on" to make laughter for her insatiable public.

MARY O. KENNEDY.

ELECTION NOTES.

Sir Victor Horsley's Views.

Sir Victor Horsley, who is a well-known member of the Men's League, has been asked to stand for the University of London. In the course of his reply, accepting, Sir Victor gave a full and clear statement of his views on the affairs of the day. He says, concerning our cause: "The question of the political enfranchisement of women, which affects so directly the interests of many graduates of the University, is one which is before the electorate, and, in fact, time for its consideration in the next Parliament has already been promised by the Government. I shall strenuously support any measure which will help to bring about this much-needed social reform."

South Salford.

With his election address the Hon. Charles Russell has sent the following satisfactory letter to the electors:—

Gentlemen,—I understand that the South Salford Women's Suffrage Association wish to hear from me my views as to the Women's Suffrage question.

1. I am in favour of Women's Suffrage.
2. I am prepared to vote for the Conciliation Bill or any other Bill giving votes to women on equal terms with men.
3. I will use my best endeavour to bring about the early consideration of these questions in the first session of the new Parliament, and I should have been pleased to mention the matter in my address had I known any considerable number of residents in the constituency had the matter at heart.—I am, your obedient servant.

(Signed) CHARLES RUSSELL.

Parliamentary Suffrage Candidates.

As a Women's Suffrage Liberal, Mr. Herbert Jacobs, chairman of the Men's League for Women's Suffrage, is standing for East St. Pancras.

In Glasgow Mr. Merriless (Conservative) is also standing as a Suffrage candidate.

Beddalls Ltd



Special Purchase of 250 SMART TWEED COATS

(as per sketch), in light or dark good quality Tweeds, semi-fitting back; collar can be worn as shown, or down with large lapels.

Price

21/9

Well worth 32/9

Also limited quantity in Sporting Raglan shape. Same quality Tweeds.

21/9

KENTISH TOWN ROAD,
LONDON, N.W.

THE VOTE.

Proprietors—THE MINERVA PUBLISHING CO., Ltd., 148, Holborn Bars.
Secretary—Miss M. E. RIDLER.
Directors—Mrs. C. DESPARD, Mrs. E. HOW MARTYN, B.Sc.
Mrs. J. E. SNOW, Mrs. L. THOMSON-PRICE, Miss MARIE LAWSON.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1910.

THE PRE-ELECTION PLEDGE.

The Prime Minister has spoken. He has stated to Mr. Keir Hardie in the House of Commons that in the event of his return to power by the verdict of the electors he is prepared to pledge the Government to provide full facilities for a Woman Suffrage Bill, so drafted as to be open to free amendment in the Committee stage. So far so good. But this utterance is not satisfactory to us. We want something more, and something more we must have. Yet we have to admit frankly that this is the best we have so far received from any responsible Minister of the Crown. It is the last of the wonderful series of progressive statements which, adding point to point, have been wrung from Mr. Asquith, each one stronger than the other, each one showing more clearly the inevitable approach of the end.

Why then are we dissatisfied? Because a statement may be the best yet made while being far from the best possible. This statement fails of our requirements in two important particulars: it leaves certain imperative issues utterly undefined. While it marks the final abandonment of the Government attempt to postpone Woman Suffrage to the day of a General Reform Bill, while it marks equally the end of the recent Cabinet effort to confine full facilities to a measure of the terms of which the Cabinet Members themselves approve, it leaves the crucial question of time unsettled, and leaves open a door of danger by not specially naming the Conciliation Bill. It is upon these two points especially that we base our dissatisfaction.

We hold fast to the pledge of full facilities, but we demand those facilities in the first session of 1911. We do not intend to give acceptance to a promise which may be fulfilled any time during the next five years. 1911 is latest date we will consider. If this is not granted then we must return again to militancy. Again we demand that the Conciliation Committee's Bill shall be specially named. The reason for this is obvious. Some other Bill, containing within itself the seeds of dissension and destruction may be deliberately promoted, juggled into the House in advance of the Conciliation Bill, and so employed as to rob it of its claim to full facilities. Against this danger we must have some guarantee. These two points are emphatic and essential. We could not accept as satisfactory a pledge wanting them under the most ordinary circumstances, and a pre-election pledge without them is outside the arena of consideration. The anti-Government campaign, planned for this General Election, must go steadily on in the constituencies while these two points are undefined.

In one further way is this pledge of Mr. Asquith's unsatisfactory. No other inference can be drawn from the Prime Minister's words than that the Cabinet has at last decided to remove the veto and to abide by the expressed will of the House in this matter. Whatever amendments are moved, carried or defeated, the Government is pledged by this statement to provide full facilities for the measure. There can be no return to the infantile and unjust attitude of "We don't like the Bill so we won't give it a chance." The Government, in stipulating for a Bill capable of free amendment by the House, has given over the choice into the hands of the House, has bound itself in honour to accept the House of Commons' decision whether its particular terms are pleasing or displeasing to Ministers. In exchange for the right of free amendment the Bill is to enjoy the right of a free passage. So much is patent and on the surface. But it is not stated in plain words. It is an unavoidable inference, but it is not a statement. And under the

circumstances we claim that it is essential that this important point shall not be left to an inference, however clear and undoubted. We want a definite statement on this point, too, before we can say that we are satisfied.

There is no doubt that it is never easy to get leading politicians to eat their own words. The public, generally speaking, has to be satisfied to see the old qualifications and conditions left out as a movement progresses, and to repeat the dictum that a statement without conditions is an unconditional statement. But Suffragists must be very chary of taking this optimistic ground. When in a movement like ours conditions and qualifications have been previously made there is a danger of their re-appearing unless they are specifically abandoned. It is on this account that we desire to have drawn from the Prime Minister a definite statement that the full facilities promised are entirely independent of the form the Suffrage Bill may finally take in the House, that they are to be granted whether or not the Bill meets the particular personal or party prejudices of the Ministry. In brief the old conditions about the nature of the measure to which the Government can grant facilities must be abandoned in some form of words upon which we can take our stand. To whatever terms of enfranchisement the House gives its authority, for these terms the Government must provide free passage. This we must have stated in plain terms.

Meanwhile we have again to repeat that we are not satisfied. We must repeat this in every constituency in which we are fighting a nominee of the Government who has opposed the Conciliation Bill. We must show this by our questioning of local candidates, who must be won not only to ballot for the Conciliation Bill and to pledge themselves to vote for it, but to declare themselves determined to give us every assistance in their power to win Votes for Women during 1911. It is our immediate and imperative duty to send back the Members of the House of Commons of whatever party pledged in such terms as to make any evasion of settlement quite impossible. Where we have a special campaign the work will follow the regular lines of opposition. Where we have no special campaign we must concentrate upon the questioning of candidates, upon letters and resolutions to them, upon the activity of men electors in getting them pledged up to the hilt in arranging deputations, and indeed in employing every device to make certain the enfranchisement of women in 1911.

This work does not carry with it the sense of dramatic satisfaction, the advertisement, nor the personal sacrifice that would be involved in immediate recourse to drastic militancy, but it is work demanding mental alertness and enthusiasm, and work that at this stage in the development of the Woman Suffrage movement cannot be too highly valued. If the House is sent back wearing a determined front, the end is sure. If the House is allowed to show signs of wavering and doubt, it will almost as certainly be taken advantage of to our serious loss. This work of winning the most clearly defined pledge, signed, and stated at public meetings, is the most important work for us at this juncture. If to this strengthening of the new House we add the removal of some few known foes from the Government ranks we shall have done the best possible work towards the realisation of our goal.

But throughout the whole of the election campaign we must not omit to give special prominence to the questioning of the Prime Minister and his colleagues. Every one of the points of weakness in the official statement should be seized upon, queries based upon it should be addressed to the Ministers at public meetings, when they address constituents of the general public, and when they can be won to receive deputations. This political work is of the gravest import. By means of it we may yet be able to complete our Suffrage agitation in 1911 by a legislative victory.

TERESA BILLINGTON-GREIG.



Debenham & Freebody
Wigmore Street,
(Covendish Square) London, W.

Famous for over a Century
for Taste for Quality for Value

EVENING FROCKS

We have in stock a very large selection of Ready-to-Wear Evening Frocks at prices ranging from 98/6 to 30 guineas. These Frocks are ready made in name only. They have the style and appearance of the best Paris Gowns, of which in most cases they are excellent reproductions. Customers requiring a simple frock, or an exclusive ball or restaurant gown, can rely on being suited from stock. The under-mentioned is a typical example:

Evening Gown (as sketch), in good quality ninon over soft satin, tunic and bodice trimmed bugle embroidery; high waist, with gold girdle. In ivory, royal blue, emerald, cerise, and all the newest colourings. Exceptional value.

98/6

CATALOGUE POSTFREE

BRANCH NOTES.

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

Crystal Palace and Anerley.—Miss FENNINGS, 149, Croydon-road.

On November 21, at Melvin-road Hall, Miss Fennings spoke on Woman's Suffrage to the members of the C.E.M.S. and their friends. The chair was taken by the Vicar, Rev. Worthington Atkin. The audience was most interested and asked a great many questions. A resolution was put by the chairman in favour of the principle, and was carried by 20 votes to 3. THE VOTE and other literature was sold. On the 22nd, when Miss Jessie Fennings was selling our paper outside the Conservative Club, the new Unionist candidate bought a copy, remarking he was quite in favour!

Northern Heights.—Miss MITCHELL, Merok, Great North-road. The usual fortnightly meeting was held on November 16, at Spears Memorial Hall, Highgate-hill. Mrs. Betham gave a most interesting address on "Jane Eyre" and its Relations to the Woman Question." She showed from various passages how Charlotte Bronte, speaking through "Jane Eyre," realised that a woman of her intelligence was capable of something higher than knitting and washing dishes.

A collection of 7s. 9d. was taken, and 5s. 6d. in literature sold. This series will close on December 14.

Stamford-hill.—Mrs. A. CUNNINGHAM, 114, Holmleigh-road. Three very successful open-air meetings have been held this week, conducted by Miss Bennett, Miss Norris, and Mr. Hammond. Both Parliamentary candidates have kindly consented to receive deputations from our branch that we may hear their views on Women's Enfranchisement, &c.

Central London Branch.—Mrs. TRITTON, 1, Northcote-avenue, Ealing.

As we are having two special meetings this week, and because help is wanted from all of us during the General Election, our ordinary fortnightly branch meeting will not be held on the first Tuesday, December 6. The next one will be notified, as usual, in THE VOTE.—E. G. T.

Herne Hill and Norwood.—Miss B. Spencer, 32, Geneva-road, Brixton, S.W.

On Wednesday, November 16, a very successful drawing-room meeting was held at 28, Carson-road, West Dulwich.

The meeting commenced with the delightful rendering by Miss Lucie Jenks of the women's Marching Song.

Dr. Alice Vickery presided, and Mrs. How Martyn gave a very instructive and interesting address, which was followed with the closest attention by all present. For the first time, she said, in the history of Women's Suffrage, a Bill had been drafted that was intended to pass. There had been more meetings held, speeches made, and resolutions passed in favour of the Conciliation Bill than for any other that had been before Parliament. A good collection was taken, and some literature sold, and two new members joined our branch.

On Tuesday, November 29, at 3 p.m., a drawing-room meeting will be held at 172, Tulse-hill, when Mrs. Duval will speak. All members are requested to attend and bring friends.—B. SPENCER.

Hampstead.—Miss Lucas, 21, Gayton-road.

At the last committee meeting of the branch it was felt that the distance between some parts of Hampstead made it difficult for the members to keep in touch with the branch. Mrs. Van Raalte, 23, Pandora-road, West Hampstead, has very kindly offered to try to form a group in West Hampstead. Will people in the district be good enough to send her their names, and do what they can to help in this new effort?

Portsmouth and Gosport.—S. Whetton, 64, Devonshire-avenue, Southsea.

The chief feature of the election will be a big meeting in the Albert Hall on Friday, December 2, at which Mrs. Despard will be the speaker. In spite of the stress of electioneering, we shall hold a reception for Mrs. Despard from 3.30 to 5.30 p.m., at St. Austell, 23, Green-road, as this has been arranged for some time and invitations have been sent out. Members and friends are heartily invited to meet our beloved President.—S. WHETTON.

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.—Hon. Organiser: Miss MANNING, B.A., Harper-hill, Sale, Cheshire.

Eccles.—Miss J. HEYES, Newholme, Hazelhurst, Worsley.

Liverpool.—Mrs. EVANS, 49, Kimberley-drive, Crosby.

Manchester District.

Our campaign in South Salford has fallen through owing to the withdrawal of Mr. Hilaire Belloc and the substitution of a Liberal candidate, the Hon. C. Russell, who has not merely declared himself in favour of women's suffrage, but has placed it first in his election address. The anti-Government policy is, however, being applied in the Southport division. Our centre will be Waterloo, and members are asked to volunteer work and funds for the campaign. In all constituencies candidates must be questioned at their meetings and members unable to leave their own district can do good political work in this way.

Sale.

The campaign in the Sale district came to an end on Wednesday, and the Government candidate being a member of the Conciliation Committee no election work will be undertaken in this constituency. Will members do their best to make the ratepayers' meeting in Sale Free Library on Friday, December 2, a success? Mrs. Bridges Adams will speak on the feeding of school children, and the branch will be represented by Miss Manning. A resolution calling upon the Cheshire County Council to enforce the Act in this district will be proposed. Tickets, 6d. each, can be had from Miss Geike, Thornlea, Wardle-road. Some seats are free.

Sale activities this week included a lecture on Monday, November 21, on Florence Nightingale, a concert on Tuesday, arranged by Miss Hines, and the branch meeting on Wednesday, when Mrs. Manning and Mrs. Gothard were chief speakers.

All the meetings were well attended, and those who came to the concert on Tuesday had an exceptional treat. Our artistes, Miss Mary Agnew, Miss Booth, Miss Burrows, Miss Elsie Frost, and Mrs. Bamber generously gave us of their professional assistance, which the audience evidently appreciated to the full. The concert had added a substantial sum to the bank balance of the branch.

On Monday also Mrs. Gothard, by invitation of Mrs. Joseph Johnson, addressed an afternoon meeting of women at the Congregational school.

Urmston.

A branch meeting was held on Wednesday, at which Miss Heyes was speaker, and plans for educating Sir George Pollard on the Suffrage question were discussed.

Ainsworth.

A good meeting was held on Monday in connection with the Independent Methodist Debating Society, at Ainsworth, at which Miss Heyes spoke. The speech was followed by an excellent debate, and we think the nucleus of a new branch formed.

Waterloo.

On Friday a members' meeting, small, but keenly alive to the importance of the General Election campaign, was held at Mrs. Watkins' house on Friday night. Miss Heyes acted as deputy organiser, and provisional arrangements were made for the campaign against Mr. Page Woodcock.—M. E. MANNING.

Chester.—13, Abbey-square.

Our branch has more than doubled its membership since August. During November two debates have taken place, one being opened by Miss Nellie Smith. On both occasions the feeble attempts to oppose "Votes for Women" were easily dealt with and a good majority gained in support.

Both opponents and the secretary of the Chester Debating

Society announced afterwards that they were converted and several men (including the President of the Society and the President of the Irish organisation) have since joined as associates.

Caldicot.

We have started with renewed vigour on our winter campaign. Working parties are held fortnightly, and we are looking forward to having Mrs. D. A. Thomas and Miss Sidley with us on Monday evening, November 28, to speak at a big social gathering at Ivy Lodge. Everything points to a most successful meeting. Several friends are coming forward to help in music, &c. Thanks to the keenness of our members in taking collecting boxes, we have been able to forward a donation of £5 to headquarters.—J. CORBEN.

Sunderland.

A deputation from the Sunderland Branch W.F.L., consisting of Mrs. Potts (president), Mrs. Snowall, Miss Mail, and Miss Clark (secretary) waited upon Mr. Knott, M.P., junior member for Sunderland, in connection with his attitude when once more the Conciliation Bill will come before Parliament.

We were received courteously, and greeted with the words, "Oh, you are the fighters." The answer to that was, "We are, sir—a fighting force to be reckoned with." From the conversation we gathered that Mr. Knott had previously voted for the Bill, but on hearing Mr. Philip Snowden's explanation in the House of Commons that the Bill would enfranchise working women, &c., he found it would be against the best interests of his party to vote, either to send the Bill to Grand Committee or any other place, and, as he very dramatically declared, he would be placing the Government of the country in the hands of a pack of Labour and Socialistic women.

SCOTTISH NOTES.

Glasgow: Suffrage Centre, 302, SAUCHIEHALL STREET.
Suffrage Centre Manageress: MISS K. McARTHUR.
Hon. Secretary: MISS B. S. SEMPLE.
Hon. Treasurer: MISS JANET L. BUNTON.
Telegrams: "Tactics," Glasgow. Nat. Telephone: 495 Douglas.
Edinburgh: Suffrage Shop, 33, Forrest-road.
Hon. Secretary: Miss A. B. JACK, 21, Buccleuch-place.
Hon. Treasurer: Miss M. A. WOOD, 67, Great King-street.
Hon. Shop Secretary: Mrs. THOMSON, 39, Rosslyn-crescent.

The week began with a joint debate with the Jewish Literary Society on the subject of Women's Suffrage. There was a very large attendance of members of both Societies, and it speaks volumes for the leadership of Miss A. B. Jack in the affirmative that out of this audience only seven voted for the negative. There was really no serious opposition.

At the branch meeting on Wednesday, Parish Councillor J. Dan Easson spoke on John Stuart Mill. Miss Sara Munro presided over a good attendance. It was agreed to send £10 to headquarters to cover capitation fee should that be decided on; and as the fight against Mr. Winston Churchill is the only special Scottish campaign, a grant of £5 was made to Dundee.

On Saturday a big protest meeting was held outside the King's Theatre while Mr. Lloyd George was speaking within. Mrs. Finlayson Gould and Miss McLachlan spoke, and it was noticeable that the crowd—almost all loyal supporters of the Chancellor—though inclined at first to resent our "lesson in democracy," listened towards the end with attention and even sympathy. Miss McLachlan took another big meeting at Castle-terrace in the evening. All our VOTES, and a number of pamphlets on the Conciliation Bill, were sold during the day. Hearty thanks are due to the members who made this result possible.

Questions have been sent to all the candidates, and a number of replies have been received. Members are specially requested to meet at the Shop at 6.30 every evening until polling day, December 6. Lanterns, umbrellas, &c., are to be carried in procession to our open-air pitches, and it is hoped to hold at least two meetings every night.—HELEN McLACHLAN.

Glasgow.

Arts and Crafts Exhibition from December 12 till 24, 1910, from 10 p.m. to 6 p.m. Buy your Christmas gifts at the Suffrage centre: pictures, metal work, painted glass and china, jewellery, Russian work, and leather work for sale. Tea served daily as usual. Admission free.

"VOTE"—LONDON SALES.

Miss Fennings has been appointed Organiser of THE VOTE Department in London. The great success which Miss Fennings and her sisters have had in selling THE VOTE to the public is well known and appreciated in the League, and under her able guidance we feel sure that the sales from the London office will soon be doubled. Will all members who can give Miss Fennings any help please apply at the office between ten and one o'clock. She may also be seen at the Caxton Hall December 1, and at 1, Robert-street, all day Friday.

** Correspondence Column held over till next week.

WILLIAM OWEN.



"SAVOY."

Useful Wrap (as sketch), in Cream, Black, and all medium and dark shades, of Blanket Cloth, Collar and Cuffs trimmed Velour, 54in. long, a typical example of the value we offer.

32/6

CARRIAGE PAID.

Any Garment sent on Approval.



"RONA."

Charming Restaurant or Theatre Coat, in fine quality Venetian Cloth, lined silk throughout, and interlined. The Garment is made in Black and all colours, 52 in. long, and really wonderful value at the price, viz.,

35/9

CARRIAGE PAID.

WILLIAM OWEN, LTD., Westbourne Grove, London, W.

THE UNITED VACUUM CLEANER COMPANY, Ltd.,

48, Palace St., Westminster, S.W.,

CLEAN EVERYTHING.

DRESSES, BLOUSES, FEATHERS &c., CLEANED OR DYED.

Satisfactory Results Guaranteed.

Carpets, Curtains, and Furniture cleaned at your own house without removal, or collected, cleaned at our works, and delivered within 24 hours.

ESTIMATES FREE.

Telephone 4320 } Gerrard.
1774 }

COMMENTS ON MR. ASQUITH'S PROMISE.

Lord Lytton's Views: Failure to Satisfy the Conciliation Committee.

The Earl of Lytton, Chairman of the Conciliation Committee, has authorised *The Manchester Guardian* (Wednesday, November 23) to publish the following statement of his views on the reply given by the Prime Minister to Mr. Keir Hardie on the previous day:—

A Bill—Not Our Bill.

In two vital particulars the undertaking fails to satisfy the request of the Conciliation Committee. In the first place, Mr. Asquith's promise applies not to our Bill specifically, but generally to a Bill so framed as to admit of free amendments. The Conciliation Committee has already undertaken to make its Bill to conform to this condition by giving it a general title. But Mr. Asquith's promise would apply to almost any Suffrage Bill, even to an Adult Suffrage Bill. It would be open to any private member, without consulting Suffragists of other parties or the women's societies, to introduce a Bill which would command no wide support, and if facilities were given for the defeat of such a Bill the pledge would be fulfilled.

Some Session—Not Next Session.

We had asked for a promise for our Bill in the next Session. The answer is a promise for some Bill in some Session of the next Parliament. No Government can control what the Prime Minister has called "the dim and speculative future." A similar pledge was given to allow a women's suffrage amendment to be moved to a Reform Bill in the late Parliament, yet it was dissolved before a Reform Bill had been introduced. After the long and bitter struggle of recent years it is inevitable that women should regard a pledge that relates to some Bill unspecified in some future undated with disappointment and suspicion.

Vagueness Probably Unintentional.

It is possible that the vagueness of this pledge is unintentional, and that further questions may elicit a clearer pronouncement. I deplore the hasty action of the Women's Social and Political Union in resuming militant tactics before Suffragists in the House had exhausted the resources of negotiation. However intelligible their exasperation may be, this method of expressing it makes the task of their friends needlessly difficult.

Conciliation Committee's Resolutions.

The Conciliation Committee for Woman Suffrage passed the following resolutions at a meeting held on Tuesday afternoon, November 22, in the House of Commons:—

- (1) That this committee deeply regrets the action of certain women of the Women's Social and Political Union, who yesterday committed acts of violence; it entirely disapproves of such conduct, and points out that it can only make more difficult the work in Parliament of members who are endeavouring to secure facilities for dealing effectively with the question next Session.
- (2) This committee, accepting the reply of the Prime Minister as an undertaking to grant facilities to its Bill in the next Parliament, pledges itself to do its utmost to secure these facilities next Session under the conditions specified by the Prime Minister.
- (3) That in order to secure the passing of such a measure next Session, this committee calls on all women to endeavour to secure the election of members pledged to ballot and vote for the Conciliation Bill.

Lord Lytton: Serious Objections to Wording.

Lord Lytton, speaking on Thursday evening, under the auspices of the Scottish Federation of Women's Suffrage Societies, at St. Andrew's Hall, Glasgow, said:—

It was the grossest hypocrisy to talk of "representative government in all its fulness" and the "real enfranchisement of the people," so long as they denied half the population, merely because they happened to be women, any voice in the choosing of representatives. (Applause.) . . . In the next Parliament they would not have a Government Women's Suffrage Bill. It was obvious it was to be a private member who was to get the credit of passing this reform. If it was to be a private member's Bill it must be a Bill which would meet with the approval and consent of all sections of Suffragist opinion in the House of Commons. (Applause.)

Adult Suffrage Bill Inopportune.

Whatever might be the merits of adult suffrage, an Adult Suffrage Bill at this moment would not meet these conditions. It must then be a limited Bill, which was fair to all classes. He contended that the Bill for which the Conciliation Committee was responsible was a Bill which fulfilled all those conditions. (Applause.) There were two serious objections to the wording of Mr. Asquith's statement in the House of Commons on Tuesday afternoon. In the first place, he said time would be given in the next Parliament. That might mean any time in the next five years. Some more definite assurance than that was absolutely necessary. The second objection was that

Mr. Asquith referred to a Bill and not to their Bill. Lord Lytton did not say that it was the deliberate intention of the Government to give them an answer that meant nothing at all. He was quite ready to believe that it was the intention of this Government if returned to power to give an opportunity for the question to be settled once and for all in the next Parliament. All he said was they got no guarantee of that in the statement of the Prime Minister.

Recent Outbreak Deplored.

Lord Lytton went on to say: The scenes of last Friday and Tuesday night made their work almost impossible. It was extremely difficult while these sort of things were going on to approach the Government at all in a negotiating spirit. He deplored these scenes, because they imposed an immediate barrier in work the Conciliation Committee was trying to do. . . . To disapprove of militant tactics was no excuse for hanging back as many did at this moment. The more they deplored these tactics the more necessary it was for them to take off their coats and show without resorting to these means there was real serious, genuine work to be done. (Applause.) Conciliation and militancy could not go hand in hand. When the Conciliation Committee was at work it was incumbent on the women to trust their friends in Parliament. What was so humiliating in this fresh outbreak was that it implied that they had failed—"No!"—and they had not failed. He also deplored the outbreak because it introduced bitterness into discussion of the question just when the dawn of their hopes was beginning to brighten, and because there was no justification for the outbreak.

Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D.: Good, but Not Good Enough.

Speaking at the same meeting, Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D., said:—

Referring to Mr. Asquith's statement in the House of Commons on Tuesday night, it was good, but not good enough. They must press on from that point to expect and to urge and to claim that they get something better. They must press for all they were worth for an early consideration of the Woman's Suffrage Bill. She compared Mr. Asquith to the position of an infant who was just learning to speak. The fond parent could detect the slightest improvement on previous efforts, whereas the mere outsider was inclined to look on that effort as unintelligible gibberish. (Laughter.) They had watched Mr. Asquith's progress with very great interest and attention, and they did perceive a decided advance in his present position from any he had occupied before.

Lancashire and Cheshire Women Liberals' Appreciation and Gratification.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Lancashire and Cheshire Union of Women's Liberal Associations, held on Wednesday, November 23, the following resolution was passed unanimously:—

That this committee desire to express to the Prime Minister their sense of appreciation and gratification at his statement yesterday in the House of Commons with regard to Women's Suffrage should his Government be again returned to power, and believe that the effect of his statement will be to stimulate still further the efforts of Liberal women in Lancashire and Cheshire on behalf of the Liberal candidates.

"The Times" (Nov. 24): "A Mandate by Implication."

In the course of a pusillanimous leader, brought to a conclusion by an inappropriate quotation from Rudyard Kipling, *The Times* says:—

The significance of the Prime Minister's statement on Tuesday of the Government's intentions respecting a Woman's Suffrage Bill in the next Parliament has not yet been fully realised.

Thus, after the election, if the present position of parties is stereotyped, the new Parliament will be entitled, not necessarily by the intention, but with the permission of the Government, to make a stupendous change which will fundamentally alter the basis of the electorate. In other words, woman suffrage, and woman suffrage on a democratic basis, is an issue at this election, and if the election confirms the Government in power the new Parliament will be considered to have received a mandate on the subject of woman suffrage. . . . But, despite the public indifference, it has now become a vital fact that the new Parliament may, by implication, receive a mandate to change the basis of the electorate by granting woman suffrage on a democratic basis. The proposals submitted by the Opposition in the House of Lords for settling the Constitutional question would necessitate the taking of a specific Referendum on this grave issue. If the Government's Veto policy were enacted, however, such a change could be enacted automatically in two or three years.

"The Daily News" (Nov. 23rd.): "Mr. Asquith could be Persuaded."

Most people will think that Mr. Asquith has made a concession of real value. The Women Suffragists cannot complain because

the Government insists that the Bill should be capable of amendment; in other words, capable of conversion into a democratic measure. They cannot complain because the Government holds out no hope of making a Woman's Suffrage Bill a Government measure. . . . So far as can be gathered, the real complaint against Mr. Asquith's statement was that he spoke of next Parliament. The phrase admittedly covers an indefinite period, but we have little doubt that Mr. Asquith could be persuaded to appoint, subject of course to unforeseen contingencies, a Session for the discussion of the Bill. The women who demonstrated yesterday apparently demand next Session; but next Session is obviously heavily mortgaged in advance.

"Manchester Guardian": The Point Gained.

The great point gained is that when facilities are next given it will not be for the second reading only but for the whole Bill. When Mr. Asquith spoke of "a Bill which is so framed as to permit of free amendment" he was understood to refer to the Conciliation Bill. We certainly so understood him, and the Conciliation Committee in their resolution adopted yesterday state they that so understood him.

MR. FRANK RUTTER ANSWERS MR. LLOYD GEORGE'S SLANDERS

Open letter to the Rt. Hon. David Lloyd George, M.P., P.C. (a copy has already been sent to Mr. Lloyd George):—

13, Buckingham-street, Strand, W.C.

November 22nd, 1910.

SIR,—I am one of the two men who, outside Gatti's Restaurant, on the night of Monday, the 21st inst., told you what we thought of your contemptible slandering of our brother workers for the great cause of Votes for Women.

On the 21st inst., at the Paragon Music Hall, after one of our members had been brutally ejected from your meeting for reminding you that women pay taxes as well as men, you had the impudence to remark, "There are many ways of earning a living, and I think that is one of the most disgraceful." This is the third time you have given utterance to a shameful and baseless innuendo

with regard to myself and my Suffragist friends. The first time was at Newcastle, the second at the Queen's Hall, London, last year.

For the third time I demand that you substantiate this unwarrantable assertion or admit yourself to be the foul slanderer you are.

As Hon. Treasurer of the Men's Political Union for Women's Enfranchisement, I certify that not one of our members who interrupted you last night received a penny from this Union or any other Suffrage Society. Our members, whether they are working men or relatives of your own Ministerial colleagues—as you know at least one of them to be—are all of them voluntary workers and there is not one salaried official in our Union.

You have called us "hirelings" before now, and when I asked you to substantiate or withdraw the statement you replied that you would be happy to withdraw it if I could prove that our members were unpaid. Is it your habit, then, to make reckless assertions and claim them to be true unless you have proof of a negative?

When we come to your meetings to denounce your hypocrisy and your betrayal of the woman's cause, we expect to receive injuries from your hirelings. Your stewards (*sic*) have ruptured one of my friends, broken the two wrists of another, fractured the shoulder-blade of a third, dragged women about by their hair, struck their fists into the faces of defenceless men whose arms and legs were held by other of the cowards who frequent your meetings, and committed other barbarities innumerable. These injuries we suffer gladly for the cause so dear to us, but we will no longer brook to have added to them your insulting imputation that we are actuated by mercenary motives. Produce one man who for gold will submit to be treated as your "stewards" have treated us, and we will believe that you are at least sincere in your groundless accusation.

Or can it be—horrid thought!—that you judge others by yourself, and was it your "way of earning a

living" to protest at what you pronounced to be the injustice of the Boer War? I, at any rate, gave you credit for being genuine at that time, and I regret to remember that in that belief I shook your hand at the banquet to Ben Viljoen. It is in memory of these days that I ask you to withdraw your unscrupulous statements.—I have the honour to be, yours, &c.,

FRANK RUTTER, B.A., Cantab.

From Messrs. James Henderson and A. S. Ballantine we have received an account of Mr. Lloyd George's evasion of questions at the meeting at St. Pancras Baths, and of their resolve, much as they dislike doing so, to question him when speaking.

RECENT RAIDS.

Since the preliminary militant action on the part of the W.S.P.U. last week, and the unexpected decision of the Home Secretary, the Cabinet has had the persistent attention of militant Suffragists, both as to their persons and to their residences. All during the week there were a continual succession of raids and arrests. Mr. Asquith and Mr. Birrell were mobbed in the street, and the latter sprained his ankle in the endeavour to show a clean pair of heels. Parties of women marched—some of them in the small hours of the morning—to the houses of Sir Edward Grey, Mr. Churchill and Mr. Burns. The "mercy" that, for reasons best known to himself, Mr. Churchill extended to the ladies was suspended towards the end of the week, and those who broke windows were left to the mercy of Sir Albert de Rutzen, receiving what *The Express* described as "satisfactory" sentences. On Wednesday of last week 137 Suffragists were set free, no evidence being offered. Sir Albert de Rutzen described their discharge as "an incentive to further violence," and Mr. Muskett (representing the Commissioner of Police) said: "I have no opinion that I am entitled to express, otherwise I should do so very quickly." However, when later in the week adjourned cases and new ones of window-smashing came on, sentences of one month's imprisonment were imposed on a number of women, and later in the week two months without the option of a fine.

In the House on Wednesday.
Replying to a question in the House of Commons, Mr. Churchill said there had been instructions for some time that the police should as far as possible avoid making arrests. Some of the women who desired to be arrested made repeated efforts, and no doubt a few of them had exhausted themselves; several of them certainly used a good deal of force, and six policemen were reported injured. He was sorry that the arrest of those who violated the law was in some cases so long delayed. His intention was that the arrest should be made as soon as there was lawful reason.

Mr. Keir Hardie: Were not the injuries caused by the police breaking up flagstuffs?

Mr. Churchill: I do not see how a scratch could be caused by breaking up flagstuffs—certainly not a bite. (Laughter.)

A FEW INTERRUPTIONS.

In the course of his speech at St. Pancras Baths, on the 23rd inst., Mr. Lloyd George was interrupted many times. We give a selection of the interruptions and the discriminating reception they met with.

MR. LLOYD GEORGE: "Our home and foreign trade has improved enormously."

A VOICE: "The building trade?" (Cheers.)
MR. LLOYD GEORGE: "Yes, and the building trade as well. . . I have to be very careful what I say about the Lords."

A VOICE: "Give 'em socks." (Laughter.)
MR. LLOYD GEORGE: "You can say anything you like about Liberal Ministers of the Crown. You can call them thieves and robbers and traitors—"

A VOICE: "And Welshers." (Laughter.)
MR. LLOYD GEORGE: "If you venture to criticise the British aristocracy, if you venture to suggest that you have not as high an opinion of them as they have of themselves, then you outrage every snob in Great Britain."

A FEMALE VOICE: "Votes for Women." (Hubbub. "Turn her out.")
MR. LLOYD GEORGE: "Take no notice of that cat mewing." (Laughter and cheers.) "What is the claim of the poets? Their claim is this: that 600 men, not chosen for their merit or any qualification they possess—"

A FEMALE VOICE (upon the roof): "And not chosen by the women." Up roar. "Turn her out.")

Turkish Bath Talks.



This is the time of the year when I grow insistent about the merits of Turkish Bathing in general, and my Gem Turkish Bath Cabinet in particular. Last year, instead of making ponderous, stilted, and bombastic statements about my Turkish Bath Cabinet, I decided to talk frankly to every reader—just as I would talk to him if he came to my showroom, or if we met socially.

I have a speciality to sell which has sheer merit—downright honest merit—in it for all who want to husband their health. I want everyone to know this, and so adopt a plain, straightforward method of telling my business story.

I am an advertiser and I have something to sell. You are the best judge of the value to you of what I have to sell. If you buy, I make a profit. But in making that profit I maintain that I sell something that you ought not to be without.

There are some men, and women too, who read an advertisement and say: "The usual story; it is my money he wants." And that is true of every advertiser. Granted that I want your money, what you have to consider is—whether I am prepared to give you real value for your cash when you spend it.

This is what I have to sell—the Gem Turkish Bath Cabinet. It is a portable, foldable Turkish Bath for use in the home, complete in itself, always ready for use, and including the necessary heating apparatus.

It is made of a durable antiseptic material in my own little factory in London. It takes up little or no room. It lasts a lifetime. It can be made ready in a minute in any room in your house. It gives all the benefits to be derived from the public Turkish Bath.

A Turkish Bath in the ordinary way costs 2s. 6d. or 3s. 6d. for one bath—and small gratuities are expected. One Turkish Bath a week at 2s. 6d. per time would cost you £6 10s. a year. My Gem Cabinet costs 30s., and you can take as many Turkish Baths as you like for years. The only extra cost is a matter of pence for spirit to feed the heating apparatus.

The Turkish Bath is a necessity if perfect health is to be maintained; it is also a cure for much ill-health. Health depends on a free action of the pores of the skin—which means that every one of hundreds of thousands of pores must do its work of eliminating the poisons which are cast into the blood by the wear and tear of the tissue of the body—the building and rebuilding process which is always going on. Without Turkish Bathing these pores become clogged with the poisons exhaled by the skin, with the grease of soap, with dust and dirt. A Turkish Bath keeps the pores open.

Much ill-health is due to poisons in the system—in the blood. Rheumatism, Sciatica, Lumbago, Gout, are all symptoms of uric-acid poisoning. Headache, Neuralgia, Nervousness, and all the kindred symptoms of nervous trouble are due to a poisoned life-stream. Susceptibility to cold and influenza is due to a lowering of the tone of the system. The tired feeling which comes to many, exhaustion, sleeplessness, and all the minor troubles which are expressed by the phrase "under par" are due to the simple fact that the blood is flagging and impure.

Now, Turkish Bathing keeps the blood pure. In the cure of all the above diseases it helps Nature to take the first step; it is a step that must be taken before people can be well. There is no doubt that Turkish Bathing will keep you well, if you are well—will you help to get better, if you are ill. It is not a matter of what I say because I want your money. It is so! It is a fact that everyone knows who has studied the circulation of the blood.

When you use the Gem Turkish Bath, what happens is this: You get home tired. Perhaps there is a twinge of the old enemy—rheumatism. Your muscles ache. You are bodily weary. You sit in the Cabinet for half an hour. The warmth speedily acts on your skin. You begin to perspire gradually. As the temperature rises you perspire freely. A few minutes of free perspiration works a wonder. You open the Turkish Bath, wash in tepid water, complete with a cold sponge—and you will be a new man or woman. You will feel better, brighter, stronger—refreshed as if you had risen from a dreamless slumber.

Don't bother about whether I want your money. You can have the Bath, and can test every word of the statement on your own system. If you say that the Bath is not worth the money to you—does not do what say it will do—send the Bath back.

These are my terms. The Bath costs 30s. You can pay in one sum in cash on my guarantee that the Gem Bath will do what I say it does, and if it does not, and you say so within ten days, I return you 30s. You can make an initial payment of 10s., and pay me five monthly instalments of 4s. 6d. By this method of easy payment I do not give a free trial, and the Bath costs you 32s. 6d., but it is worth every penny of it. I cannot make you a fairer offer. I am a trader, and want a profit on what I sell. But if you test the thing itself and think it unsatisfactory, I will refund your money. The winter season approaches, and you need this Bath. It is going to be a comfort to you—a source of protection, a watch-dog against disease. Don't shelve the matter, but at least let me send you my 100 pp. Booklet, post free.

Money orders and cheques should be made payable to my company, The B Gem Supplies Company, Limited, 22, Peartree-street, Goswell-road (near Gas Office), London, E.C.

THE TURKISH BATH MAN.

A PROFUSION OF DAINY CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

Some examples are quoted here. Write to-day for Special Catalogue.



No. VX 1. Novelty in Dog Knife Reels. In Silver-plate, 3/6 per pair. In solid Silver, 19/6



No. VX 2. Floral and engine turned—Silver Hair Brush .. 26/9
" Hand Mirror .. 35/6
" Velvet Brush .. 14/3
" Cloth .. 14/9
Silver-mounted Comb .. 9/6
If floral border without engine turning—
Silver Hair Brush .. 22/6
" Hand Mirror .. 29/6
" Velvet Brush .. 12/9
" Cloth .. 13/6
Silver-mounted Comb .. 7/6



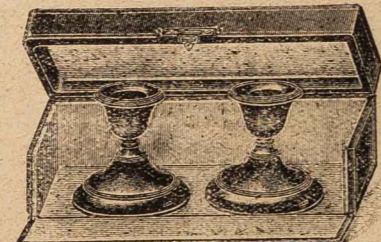
No. VX 3. Handsome Silver Sugar or Sweetmeat Dish. Blue Lining, 4 1/2 in., 30/6



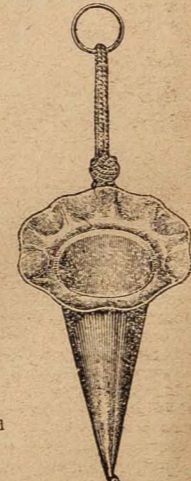
No. VX 4. Silver and Enamelled Ink Bottle, in three sizes 7/6 12/9 16/9



No. VX 6. Silver and Enamelled Buttons and Clasp, 14/3



No. VX 7. Pair Solid Silver Candlesticks, in satin-lined case, complete for 12/9. Candlesticks only, 9/6



No. VX 8. New Pattern Silver Hair Tidy, with ribbon and ring, extreme length 9 1/2 in., 9/6

No. VX 5. The Famous Autotherm Flask. 1 pint, Black Japanned, 6/6. 1 quart, Black Japanned, 15/6
Other qualities—
1 pint size Brown Leather Nickel Refills Canvas Covered Plated 10/6 15/6 19/6 5/-
1 quart size 18/- 24/- 27/- 7/6

Free daily delivery by our vans and motors in London and Suburbs.

SPIERS & POND'S STORES,
QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Telegrams: "SPIERPON, LONDON."

Telephone: HOLBORN 2360

Annual Illustrated Catalogue of 1,000 pages sent free on request.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

LONDON.



DARE TO BE FREE.

Thurs., Dec. 1.—Caxton Hall, "At Home," 3 p.m. Miss Muriel Matters, Mr. G. E. O'Dell, Mrs. Francis. London Branches Council meeting cancelled owing to election campaigns. I.L.P. Hall, Hoxton, at 3 p.m. Public Baths, Hoxton. Mrs. Despard, at 8 p.m. Pitfield-st. Baths, Sp.m. Mrs. Despard. Highbury, Miss Pennings.

Fri., Dec. 2.—Members' meeting cancelled owing to election campaigns. Battersea Branch meeting, 37, Park-road, Wandsworth. Vestry Mission Hall, Hoxton, St. John's-road, 3 p.m. Mrs. Nevinson.

Thurs., Dec. 8.—Caxton Hall. "At Home," 3 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 17.—1, Robert-street, National Executive Committee Meeting.

Meetings daily in Hoxton (Committee Rooms, 9, Hoxton-street, Shoreditch) and **in Battersea** (Committee Rooms, 316, Battersea Park-road).

PORTSMOUTH.

Fri., Dec. 2.—3.30 p.m., Reception. Mrs. Despard, St. Austell, 23, Green-road, Albert Hall, 8 p.m. Mrs. Despard.

GLASGOW.

SCOTLAND.

"At Home" in Suffrage Centre, 302, Sauchiehall-street. Speaker: Mr. Joseph McCabe. Hostess: Miss White. Exhibition of Glasgow Women Artists' Work in Suffrage Centre from December 12 till December 24, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Thurs., Dec. 1.—8 p.m., St. George's Co-Operative Women's Guild, St. Andrew's Pillar Hall. Speaker: Miss Eunice Murray.

DUNDEE.

Thurs., Dec. 1.—Gillfillan Hall, 8 p.m., Mr. Stirton. Protest meeting at King's Theatre, 7.15 p.m. A. Munro.

Caird Fountain, 8 p.m. A. Munro. Baxter's Works, 2.40 p.m. A. Munro. **Fri., Dec. 2.**—Y.M.C.A., 8 p.m. Mrs. Billington-Greig, Miss Jack, Miss Eunice Murray, Miss Anna Munro, High School Gate, 7.30 p.m. A. Munro, Miss Jack.

Sat., Dec. 3.—Caird's Works, 12 noon. Miss Jack. Baxter's Works, 12 noon. Miss Murray. Walker's Works, 12 noon. Miss Munro. High School Gate, 3 p.m. Miss Murray. Green Market, 3 p.m. Miss Jack. High School Gate, 7.30 p.m. Miss Munro and Miss Murray.

Mon., Dec. 5.—Caird's Fountain, 7.30 p.m. Miss Jack. Lochee, Courthouse-square, 7.30 p.m. High School Gate, 8 p.m. Miss Murray. Foot of Hill Town, 7.30 p.m. Miss Munro. Krillar's Works, 12 noon.

Tues., Dec. 6.—Gillfillan Hall, 8 p.m. Mrs. Despard, Miss Murray, Miss Husband, Miss Munro. High School Gate, 7.30 p.m. Caird's Fountain, 7.30 p.m. Baxter's Works, 12 noon. Docks, 12 noon.

EDINBURGH.

Thurs., Dec. 1, to Mon., Dec. 5.—Meet at Suffrage Shop 33, Forrest-road, for procession, open-air meetings, &c.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

Owing to the General Election the date of the next meeting of the National Executive Council has been altered from December 10 to December 17. Branch secretaries have therefore been notified that resolutions for the Annual Conference, and Nominations for officers and Committee may be sent in to reach this office by December 13 instead of the 6th.—EDITH HOW MARTYN, Hon. Sec. W.F.L., 1, Robert-street, Adelphi.

Another Dog-whip for Winston.

Mr. Churchill, returning from Bradford on Saturday night, encountered Mr. Hugh Franklin, a member of the Men's Political Union for Women's Enfranchisement, who, incensed at the Home Secretary's conduct, went for him with a dog-whip. The "shadows" from Scotland Yard saved Mr. Churchill—for the time being—from his well-merited castigation. When charged at Bow-street on Monday, the case was adjourned for a week and bail was refused.

Make - - -

A Real Blaze

on the Home Hearth, and help the Suffrage cause at the same time, by buying

OUR COAL.

We are constant advertisers in "THE VOTE," thus helping to support your paper. Reciprocate by giving us

A TRIAL ORDER.

We will see that you don't regret it!

Stove Cobbles ...	19/6	Large Kitchen... ..	20/6
Roaster Nuts ...	21/-	Best Household ...	23/6
Special House... ..	23/6	Silkstone	26/-

William CLARKE & SON,

341, GRAY'S INN ROAD, KING'S CROSS, W.C.
95, QUEEN'S ROAD, BAYSWATER, W.

Phones: 628 North, 1502 North, 720 Western, 565 Paddington, &c., &c. DELIVERIES EVERYWHERE.

The SHAMROCK COSTUME and IRISH INDUSTRY CO.

PATRONISED BY ROYALTY.

All Newest Serges, Tweeds, Flannels, Friezes, Blanketing, &c., NOW ON VIEW, from the OULD COUNTRY.

OLD FURS BOUGHT AND EXCHANGED FOR NEW, ALSO RENOVATED.

GARMENTS RENOVATED EQUAL TO NEW.

All Productions guaranteed IRISH. Materials sold by the yard. Patterns sent on application.

12, SLOANE STREET, BELGRAVIA, LONDON, S.W.

THE BACHELOR GIRLS' COOKERY BOOK,

By MAY HENRY & JEANNETTE HALFORD,

Is a veritable treasure to all who wish to do their own cooking with as little trouble and expense as possible.

Not only the bachelor girl, but the harassed housewife, the week-end cottager, the college girl, the camper and the caravanner will find it of inestimable value in the preparation of tasty and quite inexpensive meals. One of the special features of the book is a "List of Quickly-made Dishes."

Awarded Silver Medal at the Food and Cookery Exhibition, London, 1910.

GET A COPY AT ONCE. Price 1s. net. Postage 2d. extra. On Sale at all Bookstalls, or direct from the Publishers.

GARDEN CITY PRESS, Letchworth, and 6, York Buildings, Adelphi, W.C.

Floral Artists to
H.R.H. The Princess Christian.

CHARLES WOOD & SON

(Successor CHAS. H. W. WOOD),
23, HIGH STREET, MANCHESTER SQUARE, LONDON, W.

Every Variety of Floral Work in Town or Country. The Choicest Selection of Cut Flowers and Plants.

Orders by post receive prompt attention.

Phone 2324 Adelphi.

Estab. 1850.

Window Boxes, &c.

Estimates Free.

Mrs. Garroud is holding a free display of jiu-jitsu on Saturday, December 3, at 3 o'clock, at 9, Argyll-place, Regent-street, W., and will send invitations to anyone desiring them.